

**Our Lady & St Edmund of Abingdon**  
**1 Radley Rd, Abingdon on Thames, Oxon, OX14 3PL**

We are a **LiveSimply** parish aiming to live Simply, Sustainably and in Solidarity with the Poor

Parish Priest: Fr. Jamie McGrath Tel: 01235 520375  
Parish Secretary: Lisa Paterson Tel: 01235 520375  
Office Hours: 9am - 12.30pm Tuesday to Friday  
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

*We live stream all services*

Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230  
Visits at JR Hospital: Priest/Chaplain 01865 221732  
Visits and Help: Society of Vincent de Paul Group, contact via Parish Office  
Parish Website: [www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk](http://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk)  
Primary School: St. Edmund's School, Radley Road, Abingdon, OX14 3PP Tel 521558

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No 246871 [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment**

**ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

*"...the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name..." (Luke 1:49).* What a perfect example Mary sets for us! She takes no credit for anything and instead points to what God has done for her. She also continued to serve the Church founded by her Son. Pope Pius XII in his dogma, stated: *"the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."* As such, Mary's death or burial is not specified as an article of faith in the dogma. The feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is the celebration of our hope of reaching heaven after death. Jesus received the body and soul of His mother Mary, and, as He promised, He is waiting for us to fulfil our mission so that He can receive us in heaven too. Jesus will raise us from the dead and present us to His Father in heaven at His second coming. So much to hope and live for!

**WE'RE HERE TO HELP!**

Our parish **St Vincent de Paul Society group (SVP)** are here to help wherever possible. If you are lonely or know someone who is and would like a visit, do get in touch via the parish office. We are also able to offer some practical help where this is feasible – just get in touch with us via the parish office and we will see what we can do to help. Or get in touch with us if you would like to know more about the SVP.

**PRAYER FOR UKRAINE AND RUSSIA**

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine and Russia,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and  
wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world, that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters  
in need.

May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine and Russia  
and for all the world. Amen.

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Cycle 2 (C)**

**Sunday 14 August**

8.45am	Mass	<b>Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> (special intention)
10.15am	Mass	(special intention)
2.00pm	Mass in Polish	
6.30m	Mass	(Khodor Harake, RIP)

**Monday 15 August**

8.30am	Rosary	
9.00am	Mass	(special intention)

**Tuesday 16 August**

NO Mass See: [www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/english-martyrs-vale-of-white-horse](http://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/english-martyrs-vale-of-white-horse) for other Masses

**Wednesday 17 August**

6.30pm	Rosary	
7.00pm	Mass	(special intention)

**Thursday 18 August**

9.00am	Rosary	
9.30am	Mass	(Mike Moriarty, RIP - anniver.)

**Friday 19 August**

6.30pm	Rosary	
7.00pm	Mass	(special intention)

**Saturday 20 August St Bernard**

11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
11-11.30am	Confessions	
12pm	Mass	(special intention)

**DAY OF PRAYER FOR UKRAINE**

The Bishop's Conference has asked that Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September is a day of prayer for Ukraine across the continent.

## BISHOPS' DISCERNMENT OF SYNOD DOCUMENT

The national Synthesis of the recent Synodal process has now been submitted by the Bishops Conference of England and Wales to the Synod office in Rome. Meanwhile, following the process decreed, the Bishops have issued a response to the document. It is called *Seeking our Hearts' Desire*, and you can read the text using the link on the *News* page of our website.

## 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY AS BISHOP!

The Cathedral Chapter would like to organise a Thanksgiving Mass on the occasion of Bishop Philip's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as Bishop of our Diocese. It will be held on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 12:00** followed by a reception in the Cathedral centre.

Please would you email Kirsten McGuire on: [kmcguire@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:kmcguire@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to say if you can come and join the Bishop for this Mass.

## YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES

After various consultations and discussions with clergy and with the laity over the last three years, the draft of the new diocesan Mission Strategy document is published, called *You will be My Witnesses*, and Bishop Philip wishes to hear what we think and how we can be involved. You can download a copy using the link on the News page of our website, and he asks that if you spot anything that needs correcting, improving or developing, you can email the planning team by using a special email address: [missionplan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:missionplan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) A shorter version of the Mission Plan in printed form will be available in September. The key message of *You will be My Witnesses* is the need for personal conversion and holiness of life. Feedbacks can be made to the special email address but must be submitted by the cut-off date of 15<sup>th</sup> December. The aim is that in the New Year, the (new) Pastoral Areas can begin developing local plans.

## HOLY COMMUNION FROM THE CHALICE

The Bishops Conference have looked into the possible resumption of the reception of Holy Communion under both kinds to the congregation. Having taken advice from Professor Jim McManus, it was thought that it would not be prudent to resume this now, but that this would be kept under review as further research becomes available.

## CARETAKER – ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL

St Edmund's School wish to appoint a self-motivated, organised and adaptable person to take on the role of part-time Caretaker. The successful candidate will be responsible for maintenance, security, carrying out compliance checks, general caretaking duties and for the unlocking and locking of the school premises.

Calls to discuss this position further with our Headteacher, Mrs Maria Delany-White are encouraged and warmly welcomed. Please contact The School Business Manager (01235 521558 or [clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)) to request an application pack. **Closing date:** Wednesday 31st August 2022 at 4.00pm.

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Baby & Toddler group resumes.

## CHURCH ON THE WAY

In his prayer intention for the month of August, the Holy Father invites everyone to work for a transformation of the Church - a work that begins with *"a reform of ourselves"* through an experience of prayer, charity and service, inspired by the Holy Spirit. In his video message, Pope Francis reminds the faithful that *"the vocation of the Church is evangelization,"* and even more, *"the Church's identity is evangelization."* He reflects on the situation of the Church, its vocation and its identity, and calls us to renew it *"by discerning God's will in our daily life,"* and *"embarking on a transformation guided by the Holy Spirit."* Concluding the video message, the Holy Father invites us all to pray for the Church, *"that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel."* The video message can be viewed on the *News* page of our website.

## HELP STOP ABORTION COERCION

*The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)* says that a recent BBC poll found that 15% of British women had experienced pressure or coercion to have an abortion that they did not want. This abuse must be stopped. Please consider signing *SPUC's* petition calling on the Health Secretary to urgently commission research into the area of abortion coercion, and in so doing recognise coerced abortion as a priority for health and social policy moving forward, by going to this website: [www.spuc.org.uk/coercion](http://www.spuc.org.uk/coercion)

## PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO PATMOS

A pilgrimage to the beautiful Greek island of Patmos, is planned for **7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June next year**. Keep this date in your diary! Patmos is the island that St John (Apostle and Evangelist) was exiled to as a result of anti-Christian persecution in Ephesus, and was the setting of a vision of Jesus which led to the writing the book of Revelation. This tiny island in the Greek Aegean sea is a unique blend of natural beauty and the hum of ancient piety. We will visit the cave where St John met the Glorified Christ, take part in guided tours of this historic island, have free time to explore – and much more.

An information evening will be organised in our parish centre in early September – details to follow.

## WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

- Dean Jeacock, RIP
- Frances Williams, RIP. Funeral 30<sup>th</sup> Aug at 12pm at South Oxfordshire Crematorium
- Marilyn Lenaghan. Funeral Thu 8<sup>th</sup> Sep at 11.00am.