

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-12pm Monday to Friday
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
We live stream most services (the 10.15am Mass on the first Sunday of every month is not live streamed).
Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230
Visits at JR Hospital: Fr Pius 01865 221732
Visits and Help: Society of Vincent de Paul Group, contact via Parish Office
Parish Website: 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

PARISH OFFICE: The Parish Office is closed until further notice. More information as we get it.

MONEY MATTERS: If you are willing and able to set up a Standing Order to continue your support for our church during this pandemic period, you can find the necessary form on our website in the 'About Us' section and then 'Giving'. Many thanks for all your contributions.
Fr Jamie

MONTH OF MAY: Pope Francis reminds us that this is a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family - especially during these days when we cannot do so in church. Pope Francis points out that by praying the Rosary, we may become even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. His letter on this subject and the accompanying two prayers he asks us to pray, can be downloaded from the 'News' or 'Parish Blog' pages on our website. Jesus said that: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." If you would like to join in praying the Rosary with other parishioners, please email: contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk and we will send you information on how you can do this.

FOODBANKS: The Foodbank at Northcourt Road is open on Tuesday and Friday Mornings. Donations can be brought there between 9.30 and 1.00 pm, and parcels can be collected between 11.00 and 1.00 pm. On Wednesday the South Abingdon Foodbank is open between 1.00 and 2.30 at Preston Road Community Centre.

The Foodbank is particularly short of long life milk, tinned meat and tinned vegetables including potatoes, tinned spaghetti hoops, small bags of sugar and bottles of fruit squash but any of the items shown on the 'News' page of our website are also welcome. You can either drop donations off at Northcourt Road or contact us to pick them up from your doorstep by emailing: contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk

FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER

All these Masses are live streamed only

Sunday 3 May (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

10.15am Mass (Ross Hannon, RIP)

Monday 4 May (The English Martyrs)

9am Mass (Laurence Turner, RIP)

Tuesday 5 May

NO Mass See: www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/thames-isis-pastoral-area for other masses

Wednesday 6 May

7pm Mass (Raimondo Raimondi, RIP)

Thursday 7 May

9.30am Mass (Michael Patterson, special intention)

Friday 8 May

7pm Mass (Sayce family, intentions)

Saturday 9 May

9am Mass (John Clubb, RIP)

ABINGDON COMMUNITY FRIDGE: The Health & Wellbeing Centre, Audlett Drive, is open each weekday 10.30 - 11.30 am. It distributes surplus food from supermarkets.

SEEKING HELP: There are a number of people in the parish who are able to, and already do, offer some support and help to those who need it. This includes telephone conversations, shopping, collection of prescriptions. If you are in need of help or you know somebody who needs help, you can give us the details using the **form on the 'News' page of our website** or emailing: contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk You can also let us know if you are willing and able to offer any help using these same communication methods.

THE PRAYER AND LISTENING SERVICE:

Sometimes it is difficult to pray when we are exhausted or in stressful situations or by ourselves. The diocese has created a team with experience in both praying with others and in spiritual listening. All of the volunteers are trained in this service and have been through the essential safeguarding training and other requirements. We are offering a service where people fill in a short form on the diocese website requesting a phone call, of 10-15 minutes usually. Additionally, we are asking key workers if they would like to give us their name and work place and we will pray for them by name each day. Please go to the home page of the diocese website and under "Coronavirus" you can click on a box called "Prayer Support".

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER DURING MASS:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

WORKING AND PRAYING TOGETHER:

- Praying the Rosary together begins on 1st May for the whole month. For information on how to join in, email: contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk
- Two parish Faith Courses continue to be available online and anyone is most welcome to join. It is a wonderful chance to share and grow in our faith as a community. We will show a 30 minute video and then break up people into small discussion groups online, using *Zoom Pro*. On Tuesday mornings from 9.30am to 11.00am, a course on Mary called "**Let it Be**". On Thursday mornings from 9.30am to 11.00am, a course on the Mass, called "**This is My Body**". Please email clare@claresimpson.com to receive the link. You do not need to have *Zoom* on your computer - you just need audio and ideally a camera.
- *Mothers' Prayers* also continues through video conferencing or social networking. Email clare@claresimpson.com if you would like to join in. For *Mothers' Prayers* in **Spanish** on Mondays at 11.30am, please email mamakolb@gmail.com
- There is a new page on our website for this year of "**The God Who Speaks**". From there you are able to access ten *Sycamore* videos made by Fr Stephen Wang. *Sycamore* is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It gives you space to explore your beliefs, and think about questions that really matter. The page can be found in the 'What's On' section.
- There are volunteers in our parish who regularly phone those living on their own or who are in isolation, some do shopping, others collect and deliver prescriptions. Some, who have registered as volunteer NHS responders, also work beyond our own parishioners as and when a call for help comes in.

Parish Events for the Week

NO EVENTS IN THE PARISH CENTRE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Future Diary Dates

None available at this time.

Youth Events

YOUTH GROUPS

The Saturday youth groups will stop meeting for now as a precaution. We will let you know when they resume through our parish newsletter.

Reminders of future events are always included in the parish weekly newsletter and the full programme can be viewed in the youth section on our parish website at:

www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/events

More info: bhabayeb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

LENTEN FUNDRAISING DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- All events are postponed.

If you have a fundraising idea or plan to organise an event please inform Hilary Webb: 01235 525928 or Debbie Brooks: 01865 432423

WE PRAY FOR:

The repose of the souls of:

- Raimondo Raimondi
- Richard Claridge
- Michael & Mary Haughton
- Patrick (Pat) Cox
- Ann Goodwill
- Brenda Furze
- Conor O'Dwyer
- John Cronin
- John Keyes

We also pray for the families of the recently deceased



CAFOD SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Could you inspire young people to make a difference? Could YOU be a *CAFOD* school volunteer?

Schools Volunteers are a vital part of our work bringing Catholic social teaching to the next generation – but there is a shortage in Portsmouth Diocese and we need your help. By becoming a *CAFOD* School Volunteer you will have the opportunity to be part of a global movement building a fairer world, inspiring young people to get involved. It only takes a few hours a week to visit schools, and with that time, you can help make an impact on future generations. Training and support is provided. For more information please contact Jo Lewry at portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or call 07710 094447.