

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: 8.15am - 12.15pm Tuesday to Friday
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

We live stream all services

Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230
Visits Oxford Hospitals: Priest/Chaplain 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

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No 1199568 www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment

REFLECTION

For some people life at times becomes so full of failure and disappointment that they just do not want to live anymore. It is comforting to know that even the Saints knew such moments. In the Old Testament today we see the great prophet Elijah experience such a moment. But God sends him help and he is able to continue. Like a fruit tree, we all know our seasons. In Spring the tree is full of buds and blossoms so at times our lives are full of hope. In Summer the tree is full of leaves. Our lives at times are like that full of joy and contentment. In autumn the tree becomes a feast of colour and is full of ripe fruit. At times our lives are like that, full of meaning and achievement. But in winter the tree is stripped bare. So too, winter can hit our lives. We are in the grip of a pain and depression that robs us of everything, even the will to live. It is on that day we need the visit of an angel to be with me on my journey. Lord, I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. The fact that I think I am doing your will doesn't mean that I'm actually doing it. But I believe that the desire to please, does in fact please you, and I do have this desire.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

God knows me and calls me by name. God has created me to do him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. I have my mission.... I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. Somehow, I am necessary for His purposes... I have a part in this great work; I am a link in the chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught I shall do good. I shall do his work. (St John Henry Newman)

PARISH OFFICE

The parish office will be closed from Tuesday 13th to Tuesday 27th August, and also on Tuesday 3rd Sept.

Week 19 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 11 August

8.45am Mass (Antonio Da Costa Gomes RIP)
10.15am Mass (Anthony O. Koko RIP)
6.30pm Mass (Keaney Family Intentions)

Monday 12 August

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (*Special Intention*)

Tuesday 13 August

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

Wednesday 14 August St Maximilian Maria Kolbe

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Thursday 15 August ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (*Special Intention*)
7.00pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Friday 16 August

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Saturday 17 August

11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass (Carol & David Webster In Thanksgiving)

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION – MASS TIMES

The feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is on Thursday this week, and as this is a holy day, Masses will be at 9am and 7pm.

PILGRIMAGE TO CARMELITE PRIORY, BOARS HILL

The Friday prayer group are planning to organise a pilgrimage to the Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill, with the theme of *Praying with the angels for the new pastoral area of Oxfordshire*. This is planned to take place on **Saturday 14th September** from about 2.30pm to 6.00pm. The pilgrimage journey from our church to Boars Hill is open to everybody and can be undertaken on foot, by bus, by bike or by car, with prayer integrated into the journey. Participants will engage in communal prayer at designated stops along the way, ensuring that the spiritual experience is combined with the physical journey.

Proposed times for each group will be:

- Walking group leaves at 2.30pm;
- Cycling group leaves at 4.00pm;
- Travel by bus group leaves at 3.15pm;
- Travel by car group leaves at 4.25 pm;
- Home-based spiritual companions pray from 4.30pm at home.

More details will be available nearer the time, including the opportunity to register your interest.

PRAYER MINISTRY AFTER THE 10.15am MASS

Mike & Maria Pia Oliver will be offering prayer for healing on a periodic basis. Fr Jamie will introduce them at the end of the 10.15 am Mass and give them a blessing, following which they will remain in Our Lady's chapel, available to pray with anyone who is in need of prayer. Mike & Maria Pia have been in the Healing Ministry for many years, and before the pandemic they ministered regularly in our church.

CATHY'S MOBILE CAR WASH

Parishioner Cathy Castle runs her own mobile vehicle cleaning service, and she is asking for your support to raise £1000 to roof a church in Africa which is getting damaged due to rain. This church is close to her heart and her family has helped to look after this parish since before she was even born. She will be in the car park before the 8.45am Mass, and continue until September. If you are interested, you could drop your car from 7.45am or you could book in advance by phoning her on 07511 505469. As she is mobile, she covers a wide local area, so please do give her details to others. Thank you for your support.

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

We desperately need fresh volunteers to come forward. Firstly, our Baby & Toddler group on a Friday morning needs some help to bring the toys from the garage and clear them away at the end. If you can help, please contact the office or speak to Fr Jamie directly.

Also, in order to re-launch Children's Liturgy at the 10.15am Mass for 20-25 minutes and rejoin the congregation for the Eucharistic Prayer, we really need some young mums and dads to try this. We have books and aids for the sessions. Again, please contact the office or speak to Fr Jamie.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Wednesday:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.

FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 19th Aug:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Sat 14th Sept:** Pilgrimage to Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill from 2.30pm.
- **Tue 24th Sept:** *Alpha* course begins in the parish centre from 7pm to 9.30pm.

ALPHA COURSE

Alpha is for everyone. If you want to know more about Jesus, this might be the course for you. It will take place in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9.30pm for 11 weeks, beginning on **24th September**. The format of the evening will begin with a sit-down dinner, followed by a short video (approx. 30mins) and then a very relaxed small group discussion. Everyone is welcome and it is free! The full programme can be seen on the poster on our parish noticeboard, in the parish centre, and on our parish website, where you can also download it. Flyers are also available at the back of the church.

We are looking for a team of people to cook, to serve food, setting up and clearing up the parish centre during the *Alpha* course please. We have a small group of willing volunteers already but would like more names on our list.

If you have any questions or can let us know that you will volunteer your help, please email either Jimena: jimena.belmonte@gmail.com or Sandar: sandarwade@yahoo.co.uk

VACANCY AT ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL

Our caring, Catholic school has been described as one which 'inspires pupils with determination to change the world' (Ofsted 2020). Now St Edmund's school is looking to welcome an enthusiastic, dynamic and committed part time *Teaching Assistant*, supportive of our school mission and Catholic ethos to join our happy, motivated children.

Please visit the School Website <https://st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk/> for further details of the vacancy.

Closing date: Monday 2nd September 2024 at 12.00 noon.

OPEN DOORS

During the summer school holidays, *Open Doors* will run fortnightly, with the next session on Monday 19th August. There will be **no sessions** on Monday 12th August or Monday 26th August. Weekly sessions will then resume on Monday 2nd September.