

***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**

**PARISH CENSUS – THANK YOU (AND FINAL PLEA)**

Thank you to those who have completed and handed in our parish census forms. If you have not yet managed to do so, there are copies at the back of the church, and you can also download a copy from the *News* page of our website. We ask you to please fill in one sheet per household, mark them for the attention of the PPC and *drop them off through the presbytery letterbox as soon as possible. Please do not leave them in the church.* Thank you for your help.

**SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY**

The second collection is for Bamenda, when we celebrate our Diocesan link with the Archdiocese of Bamenda, Cameroon. Please pray for peace in Bamenda and for the priests we have on loan here from the Archdiocese. Our second collection is the main source of annual income for the various projects the Bamenda Committee will support. Please be as generous as you can to support our sisters and brothers in Bamenda in these very challenging times. You can give your offering **after** Mass in the boxes which will be available as you leave the church or donate securely online via the link on the *News* page of our website where there is also more information.

**HELP NEEDED**

We are looking for volunteers to help clear up around the Church grounds. If you can help, please come along on Sat 12<sup>th</sup> November at 1.30pm. Please contact David Stretton-Smith for more info, 07803 497872. Many thanks.

**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.

**Week 32 in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday 6 Nov**

8.45am Mass (Abbey Wilson RIP)  
10.15am Mass (Private Intention)  
2.00pm Mass in Polish  
6.30m Mass (Kate Trafford RIP)

**Monday 7 Nov**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (Paterson Family Intentions)

**Tuesday 8 Nov**

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 9 Nov Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Bridget Dyjak RIP)

**Thursday 10 Nov St Leo the Great**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass (Carmel O' Rourke RIP)

**Friday 11 Nov St Martin of Tours**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Rose Langridge Intentions)

**Saturday 12 Nov St Josaphat**

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass (Special Intention)

**BLESSING OF GRAVES**

Fr Jamie will bless graves this Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November here at Our Lady & St Edmund's at 10.00am and then at the Spring Road cemetery at 1.00pm.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2023

There will be a meeting, in the Church on **THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER AT 7.30pm**, for parents to enrol their children on the 2023 programme. It is essential that parents attend the meeting to receive enrolment forms and a copy of the programme and lesson dates. If you have any enquiries, please contact Hilary Webb by email at [humwebb53@gmail.com](mailto:humwebb53@gmail.com).

## UPDATE ON OUR LENTEN PROJECT

There has been impressive progress in building the new classrooms and latrines for St. Monica's Primary in Malawi. Despite an initial delay in getting materials, Fr. Charlie now reports that things are moving quickly. He has sent photos showing the walls and roof supports of the classrooms are in place, as are the latrine blocks, and it is hoped that everything will be finished by the end of November, assuming the fuel situation improves. Fr. Charlie and the school once again thank parishioners, who have made all this possible. Please see recent photographs on the Parish Blog.

## MOTHERS PRAYERS

Mothers Prayers is restarting in the Church on the first Saturday of each month. We use the prayers of the international Catholic movement to pray for our children and grandchildren. Any mother or grandmother is most welcome to come and join us. We meet in the Lady Chapel 10.15 – 11am and the first meeting will be on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Or do ring Clare on 847804

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We hope to restart this soon, during the first part of the 10.15 mass. We need some volunteers to help during the sessions, on a rota. If you are interested in helping this restart, please ring Clare 847804 or email [clare@claresimpson.com](mailto:clare@claresimpson.com)

## ARE YOU IN NEED?

If you are in need or know someone who is, do contact our parish SVP group (St Vincent de Paul Society) via the parish office and we will see what we can do to help. We always maintain confidentiality. Our members meet every fortnight on a Wednesday evening.

## ANNUAL BEREAVEMENT SERVICE

This years' service will be taking place this Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 3pm at Christ Church, Northcourt Road, Abingdon, in liaison with the *Footprints Bereavement Group* at Christ Church. All are welcome to attend the service.

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP

For 18-35s at Holy Rood Church on Abingdon Road. Our next meeting is Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of November at 19:30 with Fr Kelvin, OCD talking on prayer in the letters of St Paul. We begin with a talk at 19:30, have a discussion and end with prayer by 21:00. Contact Kate on 07933765367 if you have any questions. All are welcome.

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF) at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Tuesday:** Mother's Prayers in French in parish centre 8pm
- **Wednesday:** : Parish Lunch, 12.30pm in Parish Centre. All welcome.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF) at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Parish Youth Groups activities in the parish centre 3.30-5pm. School years 3 upwards welcome.

## CAFOD – A Family Fast Day Thank You

“Thank you for your prayers and for holding a collection in your parish this Family Fast Day. Please pass on our thanks to all your parishioners for your parish's donation of £1394 which we received recently to our World Food Crisis Appeal”.

## FLAME 23 YOUTH GATHERING

This will take place on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March** and is open to young people in Year 9 or above, at College, or Uni, or a young adult. Tickets to attend *Flame 23* are now on sale at the early bird price of £24 and should be purchased through the Diocese by emailing [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Clothing bearing the Diocesan logo and transport from Portsmouth Cathedral are also available for purchase. Please book without delay as the tickets will be snapped up very quickly!

## YOU WILL BE MY WITNESS

A few weeks ago, we heard Bishop Philip's Pastoral letter '*You will be my Witness*' when he revealed his vision for the Diocese, and the draft of his strategic plan for our feedback. Please read this either in hard copy, if you took one, or on the website. We will be inviting as many of you as possible to offer feedback, that we can then forward to Portsmouth as they finalise the plan for us by summer 2023.

## WE PRAY FOR:

- Justin Gosling RIP
- John 'Leslie' Birkbeck, RIP
- John Nelson, RIP
- Fr. Robin Sanders RIP