

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

Everyone knows that if you plant an acorn in the ground, given time it will grow into an oak tree. Yet no one knows how. And how extraordinary that a huge oak should have such humble origins. Jesus says this is how it is with the reign of God in our lives and in our world. It begins in a small way, but given time it grows into something great. Is this growth happening in my life? Am I growing into a more loving, compassionate, Christ like person? On many an idle day have I grieved over lost time? But it is never lost Lord. You have taken every moment of my life in your own hands. Hidden in the heart of things you are nourishing seeds into sprouts, buds into blossoms, and ripening flowers into fruitfulness. I was tired and sleeping on my idle bed, and imagining all work had closed. In the morning I woke up, and found my garden full with wonderful flowers.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Holy and provident Father, you are the Lord of the vineyard and the harvest you give each a just reward for their work. In your design of love you call men and women to work with you for the salvation of souls. We thank you for Jesus Christ, your living Word who has redeemed us from our sins and is among us to assist us in our poverty. Guide the flock to which you have promised possession of the Kingdom. Send new workers into your harvest and set in the heart of pastors' fruitfulness to your plan of salvation, perseverance in their vocation and holiness of life. Christ Jesus who on the shores of the sea of Galilee called the apostles and made them the foundation of the Church and bearers of your Gospel in our day, sustain your people on it's journey, *Amen*.
(Prayer of Pope John Paul II)

HAPPY FATHERS DAY

Today we celebrate FATHERS DAY. Let us that God for all Fathers in our community and may God's blessing grant them health and strength.

Week 11 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 16 June

8.45am Mass *(Special Intention)*
10.15am Mass *(Special Intention)*
6.30pm Mass *(Special Intention)*

Monday 17 June

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass *(Helen Birkbeck RIP)*

Tuesday 18 June

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

Wednesday 19 June

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass *(Deceased Knights & widows RIP)*

Thursday 20 June

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass *(Special Intention)*

Friday 21 June

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass *(Louise Studds RIP)*

St Aloysius Gonzaga

Saturday 22 June

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

St John Fisher & St Thomas More

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

Today is designated as the "Day for Life". This year's theme is "The Lord is my Shepherd – compassion and hope at the end of Life" We reflect and pray on end-of-life care in the midst of national debates on assisted suicide. Read the Holy Father's Special Blessing on the Diocesan E-news. The collection today is to support this work.

CONSULTATION CLOSES THIS WEEK

The Church has been pressing for many years for the lifting of the 50% cap, which limits the number of children from faith backgrounds attending new schools. Currently the government are running a public consultation, and the success of the consultation depends on all Catholics taking part. It closes this coming week on 20th June so please ensure you have taken the opportunity to give your feedback. You will find links on our website and the Diocesan website. Thank you.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE

Experience the Life-Changing power of the Holy Spirit! The Seminars are being organised by our Diocese, and Bishop Philip hopes we all take advantage of this opportunity. The meetings are on Zoom every Thursday evening 7.30 to 9 pm for 7 weeks starting on 6th June and ending on 18th July. There will also be an In-Person Holy Spirit Day on Saturday 29th June at 10.30am at St Bede's Church Basingstoke. Please register for the Seminars on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/u8pfmafww>

SAVE THE DATE!

Our Parish Day this year will be celebrated on **Sunday 21st July**, with the morning Mass at 10.30am in the 'garden' behind the parish centre. This will be followed by a barbecue and there will be activities for children as well. Cheques will also be presented to representatives from our Lenten projects – Friends of the Holy Land and Helen & Douglas House – and you will please to know that we managed to raise a total of £13,112.03 to be shared between these two charities.

ABINGDON PASSION PLAY

This will take place on **Saturday 22nd June** in the Abbey Gardens. There will be two performances: 12 noon & 5 pm. Want to get involved? For more information, please see the website, www.abingdonpassionplay.co.uk or contact Ralph on 07790 498718 or Anne Green 01235 520171 or annegreenabingdon@yahoo.com

TAIZÉ PRAYER

You are invited to St Helen's Church in Abingdon to join in Taizé prayer at 5.30pm on 14th July.

SUMMER CONCERT

Abingdon Chorale is delighted to present their first ever Summer Concert in aid of *The Abingdon Bridge*. Join them for an hour of gorgeous music, followed by refreshments. They will sing a selection of songs on a Shakespearean theme, with a few jazzy numbers thrown in for good measure! Tickets £10 (£2.50 for under 16s) St Michael & All Angels Church, Park Road, Abingdon, OX14 1DS on Sunday 14th July at 8.00pm.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Wednesday:** Mothers Prayers in French from 8pm in the parish centre
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am *in term time*.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sun 21st July:** Parish Day, with outdoor morning Mass at 10.30am.

CHURCH TWINNING

Our Lady & St Edmund's is hosting the short farewell service for the 11 visitors from the churches in Sint Niklaas in Belgium who are coming for the Passion Play weekend. The short service will be next Sunday 23rd June at 7.30pm and everyone is welcome.

GUIDE FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION

As Catholics, we know that tackling poverty and injustice are among the most important issues politicians should act on. The Bishops' Conference have created a webpage about some of the issues and proposed legislation, which you can access at: www.cbcew.org.uk/election24 The Bishop's Conference have also produced a web page for Catholics to use their general election preparations.

The Church in Abingdon invite everyone to Pre-Election Hustings for Oxford West and Abingdon at the Abingdon Baptist church 35 Ock Street OX14 5AG on Friday 21st June 2024 between 7.30pm to 9.30pm. It is our chance to meet the candidates and find out about their policies and local priorities. If you want to put a question to the candidates, please email: helenmac930@gmail.com or drop your question off the reception at the Baptist Church by 19th June 2024.

CARITAS PORTSMOUTH – REFUGEE WEEK

The theme for Refugee Week is 'Our Home' and Caritas are holding an online networking event on **Tuesday 18th June from 12:30-1pm** to hear from a parish project working with refugees and asylum seekers. Everyone welcome. Please register via their website <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk>

BISHOP ARNOLD (SALFORD)

Bishop Arnold has written a marvellous letter on climate change in the run up to the general election. Please access this via the Diocesan E-news.

We pray for:

- Pat Belcher RIP.