

# ***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](http://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](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

## **REFLECTION**

The crucifixion of Christ was a sin and a terrible crime. Today's liturgy doesn't deny this, yet it says that from it God drew a great good. Indeed, it even suggests it was somehow necessary. Through it we have forgiveness of sins. Our sins cost Christ his life. But he died only because he cared for us. Those who care about others pick up a lot of wounds. There may be no great wounds, only a multiplicity of little ones – a host of scratches, wrinkles and welts. But there can also be a lot of invisible wounds: the furrows left on the mind and the heart by hardship, worry and anxiety, disappointments, ingratitude, and betrayal. These wounds are not things to be ashamed of. They are badges of honour. They are the proof of our love. Jesus didn't hide his wounds. Neither should we. By His wounds we are healed.

## **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

Almighty and Eternal God, in your unfailing love you provide shepherds for the flock. We pray for those who you call to serve the church in our Diocese of Portsmouth as Priests, Deacons, brothers and sisters and all lay faithful. Inspire in them a generous response. Grant them courage and vision to save your people. May their lives and service call your faithful to respond to the presence of your Spirit among us so that we may announce glad tidings to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives, set prisoners free, and renew the face of the earth.

## **THANK YOU**

Special thanks to all who helped in any way in making our Easter feasts so wonderful. From those who prepared the Church by cleaning and decorating beautifully, to all the readers and ministers, and particularly our choirs and musicians – first class! My thanks as ever for your kindness to me in your Easter offerings. It is very much appreciated.

*Fr Jamie*

## **THIRD WEEK OF EASTER: Cycle 2 (B)**

### **Sunday 14 April**

8.45am	Mass	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> (Gillian Stanley RIP)
10.15am	Mass	(Bishop Declan Long Intentions)
2pm	Mass in Polish	
6.30pm	Mass	(Pat & Geoff Castle Intentions)

### **Monday 15 April**

8.30am	Rosary	
9.00am	Mass	(Mary Walsh Intentions)

### **Tuesday 16 April**

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 April**

6.30pm	Rosary	
7.00pm	Mass	( <i>Special Intention</i> )

### **Thursday 18 April**

9.00am	Rosary	
9.30am	Mass	( <i>Special Intention</i> )

### **Friday 19 April**

6.30pm	Rosary	
7.00pm	Mass	( <i>Special Intention</i> )

### **Saturday 20 April**

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

## **SECOND COLLECTION ON SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL**

The second collection next Sunday is for the *Clergy Training Fund*.

## NEW GIFT AID ENVELOPES STARTING 7 APRIL

If you use gift aid envelopes for weekly giving the new boxes are available for you to collect at the back of church. There are also white envelopes at the back of church for those who use the special collection gift aid envelopes. There are fewer special collection envelopes this year as some of the special collections are no longer eligible for gift aid. Donations can be made in the boxes after Mass or through the card machine at the back of church when the special collection is not eligible for gift aid.

## LENTEN PROJECTS 2024

There is still time to contribute to our two Lenten projects for this year. Our online donating facility, which is available on our website, is open until 18<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you.

## NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you have joined our parish in the last year or so, you are warmly invited to a festive evening to welcome you, on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May** at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Do come along and share a meal with some entertainment (music and songs). You will have the opportunity to meet other parishioners and hear about the different activities and groups we run in our church. Please contact Eliane by 20<sup>th</sup> of April on 07932350951 so that we can cater for numbers.

## GOLF DAY - THANK YOU

The golf day for this year's Lenten Project was a great success. We were blessed on the day with glorious weather, and were looked after very well by Mary and Ian at Drayton Park. We would like to thank the 27 golfers who played and also the people that could not play but made contributions. We made £600 for the charities we are supporting - and we had a really enjoyable day. Thanks all round. With fond memories of Les Birkbeck who was the originator of this event. *Terry Murphy.*

## CAR WASHING FOR OUR LENTEN PROJECTS

The Confirmation group will be washing cars to raise money for the Lenten projects. This will take place in the OLA car park on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April** during the 10.15am Mass.

## LENTEN PROJECT CYCLE RIDE

One of our parishioners, David Porter, is doing a sponsored cycle ride from Preston to Abingdon (215 miles!) over three days in April, to raise funds for our Lenten charities. You might like to sponsor per day, or just a total amount, and the money can be given to Fr Jamie or will be collected on the last weekend in April. Thank you for your support.

## 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.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am *in term time.*

## FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.

## DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Canon PJ Smith, Episcopal Vicar for Education and Pilgrimage Director invites you to join this year's Pilgrimage to Lourdes from *Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024*. If you would like to know more please email: [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or you can book using the booking form link on the *News* page of our parish website.

*Calling the young People of our Diocese. Have you just finished your A-levels? Or about to finish Uni for the Summer...? Why not give something back by joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes? You could help by assisting some of our pilgrims by pushing wheelchairs, offering a steadying arm and a warm smile! The pilgrim fare is £780 but there is the potential for funding. You can contact [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) for more details of this from the Diocese. The Catenians in our parish are also offering a bursary, and you can get information on how to contact them from the leaflets at the back of our church.*

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

Pope Francis' monthly prayer intention this April is for "the role of women." In *The Pope Video* for April, which you can view on the *News* page of our parish website, the Holy Father insists on the steps today's society needs to take and asks Christians to join him in prayer "that the dignity and worth of women be recognised in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world."

## WE PRAY FOR

- John Logan, RIP. Funeral Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 11am.