

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
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

Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment

MASSES:

Thank you for helping to keep each other safe by continuing to wear face masks/coverings, for sanitising your hands as you enter the church, and for maintaining a reasonable distance from others where feasible.

OFFICE CLOSURE

The office will be closed from 24th December until Tues 4th January.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

As we rejoice in once again celebrating Christmas with our loved ones, let us spread our joy around the world by having a CAFOD World Gift under the tree. From energy saving stoves to weatherproof crops to emergency shelters, CAFOD's virtual charity gifts help transform the lives of families living in poverty. Buy online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or pick up a catalogue in church.

THE CHURCH SYNOD

Pope Francis is gathering the entire Church to a 'synod' to unpack the question: *'What changes need to be made – in myself, in our parish and in the Diocese – to make the church's mission today more vibrant and effective?'* We are all invited and encouraged to take part. There is a form available at the back of the church to put down your contact details and meeting preference (physical or virtual using Zoom). Once completed, please put your form in the red box labelled 'Synod'. Thank you for doing this **by Sunday 12th December**.

NEWSLETTERS

Please take newsletters home with you rather than leave them in the church. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: 6.00pm & 8.30pm
Christmas Day: 8.45am; 10.15am & 12.00pm

2nd Week of Advent

Sunday 5 Dec.

8.45am Mass
10.15am Mass
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass

Second Sunday of Advent

(George Jacob RIP)
(Patrick McCarthy RIP)
(*Special Intention*)

Monday 6 Dec.

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass
(Isabella Paterson Intentions
3rd Birthday)

Tuesday 7 Dec.

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

Wednesday 8 Dec.

6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass

Immaculate Conception

(*Special Intentions*)

Thursday 9 Dec.

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass
Intentions
(Leslie & Mary Birkbeck
60th Wedding Anniversary)

Friday 10 Dec.

6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass

(*Special Intentions*)

Saturday 11 Dec.

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass

(*Special Intentions*)

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS ON OUR WEBSITE

There is an interactive Advent calendar on our website *Home* page, video reflections in the *What's On* section, and activities for primary school children in the *Youth* section. The *News* page also contains weekly prayers.

CHRISTMAS DAY HAMPERS TO THOSE ALONE

Many thanks for your donations and offers of help. We ideally just need a couple more people who can spend an hour delivering 6 hampers. Please could any further donations be given in the next week so that we can budget for the gifts. Please put donations through the presbytery letterbox or contact clare@claresimpson.com or telephone 847804.

LENT 2022 PARISH CHARITY FUNDRAISING

During the season of Advent, the PPC ask you to think about charities which we could sponsor during Lent 2022. We would ideally like to fundraise for 2 charities, one local/UK based and one worldwide. Please give this some consideration and send your suggestions for the charities to the parish office by **Friday 7th January 2022**.

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Universe Catholic Weekly is thrilled to announce that they have launched their new online newspaper with the full support of their first subscriber none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order your digital copy by going to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call them on 0743661 7650 and ask for Michelle. Special offer: Only £20 for 3 months.

CHRISTMAS POST

Abingdon Scouts & Guides are back! A Christmas postal service run by the Scouts & Guides for delivery in Abingdon, Radley & Shippon only. Guaranteed delivery by Christmas Eve. Costs 30p per card and these may be deposited in the box at the back of the church. Collections from 13th November to 12th December. All proceeds to Scout & Guide funds to provide additional facilities for young people. Thank you for your support.

ADVENT COLLECTION FOR THE EMMAUS HOME

During the season of Advent we think about those less fortunate than ourselves in our local community. On the third Sunday of Advent, **12th December**, we will have a collection for the *Emmaus Home* in Oxford, for homelessness and rehabilitation. A sincere thank you to all those people in our parish who have made donations so far. Please see our website for more on Emmaus.

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH

This is on Sunday 12th December. Please put your name on the list at the back of the church if you would like to attend or ring Mary 534873 or Jo 520171. Helpers on the day are also needed. Raffle prizes also welcome.

BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Please note that the Baby & Toddler group will be closed on Friday 17th December and will be open again on Friday 7th January. All welcome.

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

- Hazel Richardson, RIP. Funeral 8th December, 11am.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the Parish Centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** JTiF (Journeying Together in Faith), 7.30pm to 9pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time. Last session this term on Friday 10th December, starting up again on Friday 7th January.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sun 12th Dec:** Parish Christmas lunch in the parish centre. Please ring Mary 534873 or Jo 526177 if you would like to attend.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND CHRISTMAS CARDS

A huge thank you from Friends of the Holy Land for raising £1,000 from the sale of Christmas cards and donations.

CI A CAROL SERVICE

The Church in Abingdon is planning a Carol Service in the Market Place on **Saturday 18 December from 11.00am - 12.00pm**. The aim is not to collect money but to hand out leaflets about Christmas services in Abingdon churches. We hope that Our Lady & St Edmund's will be represented at the event. If you would like to take part, and/or if you're interested in helping the choir to lead, please let Margaret Hancox know. (01235 524534 or margaretdhancox@gmail.com)

ABINGDON FOOD BANK

Please remember the foodbank!

Regular items needed are:

- Tinned soup; • Sauces for rice - e.g. curry, sweet & sour, etc.; • Small tinned baked beans or spaghetti hoops, etc.; • Shampoo; • Shower gel for men; • Sturdy carrier bags; • Washing up liquid; • Cartons of long life fruit juice; • Bottles of squash.

Urgent items needed are:

- Long life cow's milk (semi-skimmed or whole); • Sugar; • Bottles of squash; • Tinned meat for hot meals - mince, stews, meatballs; • Instant coffee; • Cleaning spray; • J cloths (other brands are available!); • Bleach; • Dried chickpeas and couscous.

Donations can be dropped off at the Foodbank on Northcourt Road on Tuesdays and Fridays between 11am and 1pm.

ADVENT PRAYER - WEEK 2

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.