

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

The Eucharist which we are to celebrate is a banquet given by the Heavenly Father. The central guest is Christ his Son. Why are we here? Because we are worthy? No, but because we have been invited by Christ, our Brother, and we have accepted his invitation. Above all in communion we draw close to Christ. And having received him here we bring him out with us into life. We can, therefore, make our own the lovely prayer: *Christ be near at either hand, Christ behind, before me stand. Christ with me where'er I go, Christ around, above, below. Christ be in my heart and mind, Christ within my soul enshrined, Christ control my wayward heart, Christ abide and ne'er depart. Christ my life and only way, Christ my lantern night and day. Christ be my unchanging friend, Guide and Shepherd to the end.*

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep his commandments and serve him in my calling. Therefore, I will trust Him. Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness my sickness may serve Him. In perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him. My sickness or perplexity or sorrow may be necessary causes of some great end, which is quite beyond us. He does nothing in vain. He may prolong life, He may shorten it, he knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers, He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide the future from me. Still, He knows what he is about. Let me be Thy blind instrument. I ask not to see – I ask not to know – I ask simply to be used. *(Saint John Henry Newman.)*

Week 20 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 18 August

8.45am Mass (Kate Clipperton RIP)
10.15am Mass (Anthony O. Koko RIP)
6.30pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Monday 19 August

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Fay Veronica McDonald RIP
1st Anniversary)

Tuesday 20 August St Bernard

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

Wednesday 21 August St Pius X

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Miraj Doga RIP)

Thursday 22 August The Queenship of Mary

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Pat & Geoff Castle Intentions)

Friday 23 August

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Sarah Cowling Intentions)

Saturday 24 August St Bartholomew

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

PARISH OFFICE

The parish office is now closed until Tuesday 27th August, and again on Tuesday 3rd September.

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.

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.

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 10.15am 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.

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.

FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 2nd Sept:** *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.