

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 THIS WEEK

Fr Jamie will be away after Mass on Monday and until 1st August. Fr Peter will celebrate Mass on Thursday, and Fr Thomas next Sunday. On the other occasions, if there is no Mass, then we will have the service of the Word and Holy Communion. No Confessions on Saturday 30th July.

FR THOMAS – LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

We are pleased to announce that Fr Thomas is coming to the UK later this month and will be making an appeal for funds here at each Mass on Sunday 31st July. He sends his love and good wishes to all parishioners and supporters of his charity, giving succour and comfort to the abandoned dying destitute street people of South India, and is looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible after an absence of two years.

Your continued generosity will be greatly appreciated, without which Fr Thomas could not continue to fulfil God's word - *"Whatsoever you do to one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me."*

After the 10.15am Mass on Sunday 31st July, Father Thomas and his colleague from India, Father Sebastian, will be in the Parish Centre where we will be serving coffee, tea, cold drinks and Indian snacks. Do come along to meet them to find out more about their work in India and for them to answer any questions that you may have.

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 17 of Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (C)

Sunday 24 July

8.45am Mass (Mr & Mrs John Healey RIP)
10.15am Mass (Daniel & Mary Quigley
65th Wedding Anniversary)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30m Mass (*Special Intention*)

Monday 25 July

8.30am Rosary **St James**
9.00am Mass (Jeremiah & Edith Collins RIP)

Tuesday 26 July

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

Wednesday 27 July

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Thursday 28 July

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Michael Carden RIP)

Friday 29 July

Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus
6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Service of the Word & Holy Communion

Saturday 30 July

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
12pm Service of the Word & Holy Communion

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Our parish **St Vincent de Paul Society group (SVP)** are here to help wherever possible. If you are lonely or know someone who is and would like a visit, do get in touch via the parish office. We are also able to offer some practical help where this is feasible – just get in touch with us via the parish office and we will see what we can do to help.

GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Grandparents, Great Aunts and Great Uncles are all invited and most welcome to come to our next gathering on **Thursday 28th July** in the Parish Centre at 2.30pm – it includes tea and cake! If you would like more information, please contact Clare on 524861 or Mary on 534873.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS

The Holy Father has written a message for the Second World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly, that is to be held today (Sunday 24th July). Its theme is “*In old age they will still bear fruit*” (Psalm 92: 15). You can read the message on the *News* page of our website.

Lord God almighty, bless our grandparents with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in your love and be living signs of your presence to their children and grandchildren. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SUMMER CAMP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The annual summer camp is run by The Dominican Sisters of St. Joseph and an experienced team of volunteers who have been running *Fanning the Flame* events for over 20 years. The camp is for young people aged 11 to 21 years, and it will take place again at the Priory this year from **15th -19th August**. More information and booking forms can be found via this link <https://www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/summer-camp>

SYNOD – NATIONAL SYNTHESIS DOCUMENT

The diocesan reports were submitted to the Bishops' Conference just before Holy Week, and since then, the National Synthesis Team has produced the “National Synthesis” – reflecting on the reports received, discerning the main themes that have emerged from the listening conversations, and collating them together to give a picture of the synodal process in England and Wales. You can read the National Synthesis document, which will be sent to Rome, by using the link on the *News* page of our website.

CAFOD

Did you know that CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, helps some of the poorest and most marginalised people across the world? We can reach so many people because we are a member of *Caritas Internationalis*, the Catholic Church network with a presence in 165 countries. Our local experts work with people over the long-term, helping them to have the right skills, tools and opportunities to live with dignity and support their families. For example, in South Sudan we are helping families learn how to farm better as the climate gets hotter, so that they can cope better in the future when things get even more difficult. Thank you for your support. Why not consider volunteering for CAFOD? We are looking for school volunteers to deliver assemblies and workshops please contact Jo on portsmouth@cafod.org.uk for more information.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.

FUTURE DATES

- **Thu 28th July:** Grandparents' Association gathering in the parish centre at 2.30pm.
- **Fri 9th Sept:** Baby & Toddler group resumes.

FLAME YOUTH GATHERING

This is taking place on **Saturday 4th March** next year, and is an awesome and inspiring experience for 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 it is expected that they will be snapped up quickly, so act soon if you would like any, by contacting the Diocese by email: youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Clothing bearing the Diocesan logo and transport from Portsmouth Cathedral are also available for purchase.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

If you are going to be aged 16 or above by July 2023, you are invited to join with like-minded young people from across the diocese to journey on pilgrimage to Lisbon for World Youth Day in the Summer of 2023. This is a life changing experience for all those who accept the invitation and this pilgrimage, led by Bishop Philip, is set to be the best one yet! Spaces are limited! Please find out more and register your interest **ASAP** using the links on the *News* page of our website.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO PATMOS

A pilgrimage to the beautiful Greek island of Patmos, is planned for **7th to 14th June next year**. Keep this date in your diary!

Patmos is the island that St John (Apostle and Evangelist) was exiled to as a result of anti-Christian persecution in Ephesus (where he was at the time) under the Roman emperor Domitian. Patmos was the setting of a vision of Jesus by the Apostle John which led to the writing of the book of Revelation. This tiny island in the Greek Aegean sea is a unique blend of natural beauty and the hum of ancient piety. We will visit the cave where St John met the Glorified Christ, take part in guided tours of this historic island, have free time to explore – and much more.

An information evening will be organised in our parish centre in early September – details to follow.

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

- Michael Ellwood (son of Jane Ellwood).
- Eamonn Drummond. Funeral Wed 3rd August at 11am.
- David Tetlow