

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

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

## **LENT ON OUR WEBSITE**

Visit our website for weekly reflections, videos and prayers to help you during Lent. Look in the *What's On* section. There is also a page for children in the *Youth* section, with many activities added every week.

## **PARISH LENTEN REFLECTIONS**

We invite you to join our parish 2022 Lenten Prayer and Reflections, *'Knowing Jesus; the emotional Jesus'*, by Zoom. The course is hosted by the parish RCIA team and will continue every Thursday evening throughout Lent from 7.30pm to 8.15pm and everyone is welcome to join all or any of the sessions. Please contact Pauline on 07506 753085 or email [pehanley@hotmail.com](mailto:pehanley@hotmail.com) for the Zoom link.

## **OFFICE CLOSURE**

The office will be closed on Tue. 29<sup>th</sup> March.

## **SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY**

Our Second Collection this Sunday is for the *Clergy Assistance Fund*, which resources the invaluable work of the Department for Clergy Team. The Team is responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, from the early days of ordination all the way into retirement. You can also make your donation online using the link on the *News* page of our parish website.

## **PRAYER FOR UKRAINE**

**Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine,  
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 for all the world. Amen.**

## **Fourth week of Lent: Cycle 2 (C)**

### **Sunday 27 March**

8.45am Mass (Pat & Wendy Cox RIP)  
10.15am Mass (Mike McKenna RIP)  
2.00pm Mass in Polish  
6.30pm Mass (Rob & Carol Doody Intentions)

### **Monday 28 March**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (Special Intention)

### **Tuesday 29 March**

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 30 March**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Lardner Family Intentions)

### **Thursday 31 March**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass (Special Intention)

### **Friday 1 April**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Sean Brady RIP)

### **Saturday 2 April**

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

## **GIFT AID BOXES/ENVELOPES**

Gift Aid boxes, for those who have registered for them, will be available at the back of the church. *Please kindly collect your box as soon as possible.* If there is not a box for you and you were expecting one, please contact Carole Sawyers on: [accounts.abi@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:accounts.abi@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or drop a note into the parish office. Many thanks.

## MOTHERING SUNDAY

This Sunday we pray for our mothers and grandmothers too, who have given us life and love, that we may show them reverence and love; for mothers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them; for mothers who have died, that God may bring them into the joy of his kingdom. We ask our Blessed Mother to carry our prayers to the Lord.

## UNITING TOGETHER TO PRAY FOR PEACE

War, oppression and suffering are never very far away. Currently, about 24 countries are experiencing conflict! Our Lord says *"I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them."* (Matthew 18:19-20) Bishop Philip also reminds us that Our Lady, at Fatima *'called on everyone to take up spiritual weapons to re-establish peace in the world. She asked us every day to pray the Rosary, a most powerful prayer that unites us with Christ Her Son.'*

At our church, we pray the Rosary before **all weekday Masses** and **online on three evenings**. If you come to a weekday Mass, why not come 30 minutes before the start to pray the Rosary. Or why not gather on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays (or any one of those days) at 8pm online using Zoom to pray the Rosary in **unison**. Email [contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk](mailto:contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk) for the link.

## HELPING REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE

Caritas is coordinating the Diocesan response to the situation in Ukraine and you can find out a lot more about what you can do to help them by visiting the Caritas website. You can find the link on the News page of our website.

Prayer is also powerful – and needed! See above about praying the Rosary together.

## REMEMBERING POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE FOR LENT

In his message, Pope Francis invites the faithful to sow seeds of goodness, so that we might reap a harvest of salvation for ourselves and others. He bases the Message on a passage from St Paul's Letter to the Galatians, *"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all" (6:9-10)*. Beginning with the image of sowing and reaping, the Holy Father points out that *"Lent invites us to conversion, to a change in mindset, so that life's truth and beauty may be found not so much in possessing as in giving, not so much in accumulating as in sowing and sharing goodness."*

## GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Grandparents' Association will be held on **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March** at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre. The Parish Association continues to grow and new members can be assured of a warm welcome.

## 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.
- **Thursday:** Grandparents' Association meet in the parish centre at 2.30pm. All welcome.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.
- **Saturday:** FHC preparation, session 6, in the church from 8.50am to 10am for those registered.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Apr:** Golf Day at Drayton Park – Lenten project event.
- **Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Apr:** FHC preparation, session 7, in the church from 8.50am to 10am for those registered.

## LENTEN PROJECT RUNNING TOTAL

The car wash last Sunday raised **£460** and the coffee and cakes after the 10.15am Mass another **£230**. Sales from Patti Boulaye's book raised just over **£80**. This means that so far we have raised **£1952.91** from our 'events'. Put together with the donations made online amounting to **£1215**, we now have about **£3167.91** for St Monica's School. Thank you for your generosity this far. However, we still have a long way to go if we are to provide meaningful help to this school in Malawi! So please consider running some fundraising event(s) yourself – and generously supporting events that are being organised. You are also able to make contributions online on our website – just visit the News page or look in the *What's On* section.

## HAVE A CLEAR OUT TO RAISE MONEY!

Clean out your drawers and cupboards and raise money for our Lenten Charity! Please collect up all your old wires and leads - it doesn't matter if they are broken or damaged. If you have old electricals simply cut off the lead. Pack them in a bag and leave them under the table at the back of our church (during Lent only). Any queries contact Linda 07934 766305 or [famgelens@gmail.com](mailto:famgelens@gmail.com)

## GOLF DAY – 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL

This will be on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April** at Drayton Park. Once again, a big thank you to Mary McKenna for letting us hold the event at Drayton free of charge. The cost will be £25 for the day. We usually get terrific support from our golfers for this very worthy project! Please contact Terry Murphy on either 01235 527597, 07584 248169, or by email: [terry.murphy62@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:terry.murphy62@yahoo.co.uk)

## WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

- Debbie Gaughan, RIP. Funeral 11am Wed 6<sup>th</sup> April
- Celia Holmes, RIP