

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-12pm Monday to Friday
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
We live stream most services (the 10.15am Mass on the first Sunday of every month is not live streamed).
Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230
Visits at JR Hospital: Fr Pius 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

Parish Life

PARISH OFFICE: will now be closed until the end of April. More details will follow.

BIBLE ALIVE: The Easter issue is now available. If you live locally and would like a copy dropped through your letter box, please email your name and address to: contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk

FOODBANKS: The Foodbank at Northcourt Road is open on Tuesday and Friday Mornings. Donations can be brought there between 9.30 and 1.00 pm, and parcels can be collected between 11.00 and 1.00 pm. On Wednesday the South Abingdon Foodbank is open between 1.00 and 2.30 at Preston Road Community Centre.

CATHOLIC PAPERS: Due to the Coronavirus, many of the UK Catholic Diocesan newspapers are now on one website (www.ChurchPaper.co.uk) so parishioners can stay in contact with their Church and their community. The website, www.ChurchPaper.co.uk, contains over 600 editions of newspapers.

MARRIAGE CARE: In line with current Government and Public Health guidance regarding the Coronavirus Marriage Care is now providing all Marriage Preparation and Relationship Counselling services online, via secure webcam, and ceasing all face to face service provision for the time being. Counselling and marriage preparation sessions can still be booked via our appointments phone line - 0800 389 3801 - or by emailing appointments@marriagecare.org.uk We know that support for marriages and relationships at this time will be more vital than ever so we would like to assure you that our services are still available and online access is simple and easy to use. More information about Marriage Care and our services can be found at our website - www.marriagecare.org.uk/

EASTER

All these Masses are live streamed only

Sunday 12 April - Easter Sunday

11.30am Mass (Special Intention)

Monday 13 April

9am Mass (Joseph Fogarty RIP)

Tuesday 14 April

NO Mass See: www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/thames-isis-pastoral-area for other masses

Wednesday 15 April

7pm Mass (John Smith RIP)

Thursday 16 April

9.30am Mass (Kelly & Moffat family RIP)

Friday 17 April

7pm Mass (Special Intention)

Saturday 18 April

9am Mass (Nicola Arnold & John Pedro Int.)

SEEKING HELP: There are a number of people in the parish who are able to, and already do, offer some support and help to those who need it. This includes telephone conversations, shopping, collection of prescriptions. If you are in need of help or you know somebody who needs help, you can give us the details using the **form on the 'News' page of our website** or emailing: contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk You can also let us know if you are willing and able to offer any help using these same communication methods.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER DURING MASS:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

PRAYER DURING THE PANDEMIC (Pope Francis)

O Mary,

you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

EASTER REFLECTION

After his resurrection, Jesus addresses the following words to the sceptical disciple, Thomas: "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe." The resurrection of Jesus is a matter of faith: the empty tomb is a consequence of his being risen, not a proof – Mary Magdalene will later challenge the risen Jesus himself about removing the body.

The resurrection of Jesus is different from the raising of Lazarus: it is more than his being restored to life, and the appearance stories will emphasise that Jesus now lives a glorified life; the empty tomb tells us that it is the same person who was crucified who is now risen.

The Easter event is the core of our Christian faith. When we read the Gospel according to John (*John 20:1-9*), we find little, if any ethical teaching: there is no Sermon on the Mount, and the one beatitude he gives is precisely that of believing without seeing. The essence of the Christian life is believing in Jesus and having a living, personal relationship with him.

At Easter, we are invited to renew our baptismal promises and to profess our faith anew. Hopefully this is the culmination of the joyful season of Lent, in which we have looked at ourselves and how we are trying to live as best we can as disciples of Jesus. May we be truly blessed as those who have not seen and yet believe.

Parish Events for the Week

NO EVENTS IN THE PARISH CENTRE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

N.B. All take place in the Parish Centre unless specified

Future Diary Dates

None available at this time.

Youth Events

YOUTH GROUPS

The Saturday youth groups will stop meeting for now as a precaution. We will let you know when they resume through our parish newsletter.

Reminders of future events are always included in the parish weekly newsletter and the full programme can be viewed in the youth section on our parish website at:

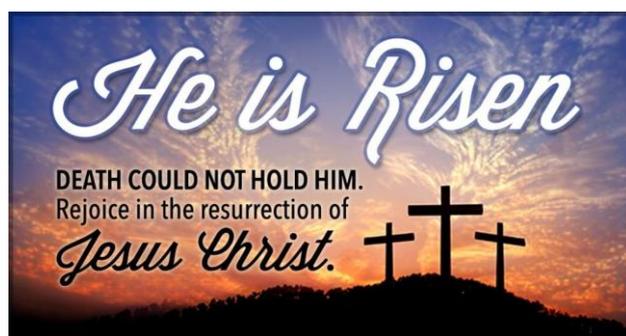
www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/events

More info: bhabayeb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

LENTEN FUNDRAISING DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- All events are postponed.

If you have a fundraising idea or plan to organise an event please inform Hilary Webb: 01235 525928 or Debbie Brooks: 01865 432423



WISHING YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER

Fr Jamie

Money Matters: If you are willing and able to set up a Standing Order to continue your support during this pandemic period, you can find the necessary form on our website in the 'About Us' section and then 'Giving'. Thank you.