

**Our Lady & St Edmund of Abingdon**  
**1 Radley Rd, Abingdon on Thames, Oxon, OX14 3PL**

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](mailto: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](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: 11.00 - 11.30am or by appointment**

### Parish Life

**TODAY** there will be a second collection for the White Flower Appeal.

**BIBLE ALIVE** – This booklet is an excellent aid to reading and understanding the Holy Scriptures. The January edition is now available at the back of the church (only £2.50).

**Parish Lent Project 2020** Looking ahead to the Lent Project 2020, do you wish to propose a charity? Please think about whom you would like the parish to help through our next Lent Project and send your proposal to the Parish Council, through the parish office by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. Many thanks.

We will be running the **Alpha Course** again next term, on Tuesday evenings, starting mid-January. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore the Christian faith in a relaxed and safe way. Great for both those new to faith and those who are wanting to look at faith again. [www.alpha.org.uk](http://www.alpha.org.uk). Please contact [clare@claresimpson.com](mailto:clare@claresimpson.com) for more details.

**JOURNEYING TOGETHER IN FAITH (JTIF)** This course, suitable for anybody with an enquiring mind who would like to grow their faith, resumes this Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. All very welcome. Information on the content of the programme available on pink sheet on table at back of the church.

**PEACE SUNDAY** Next Sunday 19th Jan is the Sunday chosen by the Bishops of England and Wales to hear news of the Pope's Message for World Peace Day. Envelopes will also be distributed for contributions to the work of *Pax Christi*, the International Catholic Peace Movement.

### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

#### Sunday 12 January

8.45am	Mass	Houghton & Dunne Families RIP
10.15am	Mass	Nora & Michael Igoe RIP
6.30pm	Mass	Private Intention

#### Monday 13 January BEGINNING OF ORDINARY TIME

8.30am	Rosary	
9am	Mass	Hilde Martin RIP

#### Tuesday 14 January

NO Mass See: [www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/thames-isis-pastoral-area](http://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/thames-isis-pastoral-area) for other masses

#### Wednesday 15 January

6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	Diane McKenna RIP

#### Thursday 16 January

9am	Rosary	
9.30am	Mass	Mrs Elizabeth Alder RIP

#### Friday 17 January St Anthony of Egypt

6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	Patrick Kinsella RIP
2pm	Funeral Service	Frank Tracey RIP

#### Saturday 18 January

11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
11-11.30am	Confessions	
12 noon	Mass	Rita McCarthy RIP

In mid-January, we will be running an 8 week course on the **Bible**, called Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible. It gives the big picture of the Bible and God's unfailing love for us. 30 min DVD presentation then discussion and sharing.

It will run on Thursday mornings and possibly another day/time. Please contact [clare@claresimpson.com](mailto:clare@claresimpson.com) if you are interested.

**The God Who Speaks** Coming to our parish Lent 2020 – *Sycamore* – What is *Sycamore*? How can we find happiness? What is the meaning of life? Is there a God? *Sycamore* is an informal set of films about the Christian faith and its relevance today. Each *Sycamore* session involves a short film with some time for discussion in an atmosphere that builds a real sense of community, and a spirit of trust and friendship. We have used the *Sycamore* films as part of *RCIA* in the parish over the last four years and it has proved to be an overwhelming joy for many people, it has enabled them to open their hearts and to share their faith in ways they never imaged possible. Many people who were reluctant to speak about faith openly, have gained confidence and trust through participation in the discussion topics, and have been amazed at the difference it makes to their prayer life, to their understanding of scripture, and to their desire to develop a personal relationship with Jesus.

*Sycamore* was produced and written by Fr Stephen Wang, a priest of the Westminster Diocese, who has his own particular style and who enjoys introducing people to the amazing riches of our Catholic culture and history. To introduce us to the theme of Celebrating, Living and Sharing God's Word, and to prepare us for the *Sycamore* films, Fr Richard Ounsworth O.P. a Dominican priest from Oxford, will open our Lenten sessions with a talk on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Dates and title of sessions to follow. All sessions will take place in the parish centre on Monday evenings 7.00pm.

### Faith Development

**POPE FRANCIS** speaks about baptism: "Faith isn't something learned by studying the Catechism but is a gift passed on to children by the example of their parents. The important thing is to transmit the faith with your life of faith: that they see love between parents, that they see peace at home, that they see Jesus is there. Keep the memory of your own baptism alive, there you will find the roots of our life in God; the roots of our eternal life that Jesus has given us through his incarnation, passion, death and resurrection. Our roots are in baptism."

**THE TWO POPES** This critically - acclaimed film about Pope Benedict and Pope Francis, starring Anthony Hopkins and Jonathan Pryce, will be showing at the Abbey Cinema, Abingdon this afternoon at 4pm. It will also be shown tomorrow (13<sup>th</sup>) at 1pm. Details on the website [www.abbey.ac](http://www.abbey.ac)

**CAFOD Update Meeting** Sat 1<sup>st</sup> February at St Luke's Church Theale RG7 4AG from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. Everyone is welcome so please let me know if you are coming by emailing [portsmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk) or call 01252 329385. Jo Lewry CPC CAFOD Portsmouth

## Parish Events for the Week

**TODAY** Refreshments at 10.15am Mass

**Tuesday** RCIA 7.30pm

**Wednesday** Cake & Conversation 9.30am  
Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF) 7.30pm  
Taize Prayer Group, Side Chapel 7.30pm

**Friday** Baby & Toddler Group 9.30am

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

### Future Diary Dates

**12<sup>th</sup> Feb** Parish Lunch, 12.30pm, Parish Centre  
**26<sup>th</sup> Feb** Soup Supper 7.30pm, Parish Centre  
**8<sup>th</sup> March** Big Breakfast (more details to follow)

### Youth Events

#### **SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY**

\* *Children of Our Lady (COOL)* group meets from 3.30 to 5.00pm in the Parish Centre (primary school years 3 to 6 are all invited).

\* *St Edmund's Knights* meet from 3.30-5.00pm in the Parish Centre (young people in secondary school are all invited).

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](http://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/events)  
More info: [bhabayeb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bhabayeb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 19-25 January

United Service, Sunday 19 Jan, Christ Church, Northcourt Road, 3 pm, led by Revd Paul Smith. There will be refreshments and an exhibition of CiA task groups after the service.  
Midday prayers, Monday 20 – Friday 24 January, St Nics, 12 noon. These sessions will be based on the pre-prepared material from the CTBI, and will be followed by refreshments and fellowship. Clergy will lead the sessions.  
Inter-church quiz, Friday 24 January, St Michael's Church, 7.30 pm. For more information, contact Hilary Clare at [hilarymclare@gmail.com](mailto:hilarymclare@gmail.com).

### Antiphons for Year II, Week I Ordinary Time

EA: Upon a lofty throne, I saw a man seated, whom a host of angels adore, singing in unison: Behold him, the name of whose empire is eternal.  
CA: I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly, says the Lord.

**Money Matters:** 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
Envelopes £377.98 Loose Plate £620.62  
Average weekly Gift Aid Standing Orders £995  
Many thanks

**Counters:** M. Knott, M. & M. Martin  
**Cleaners:** S. Nelson, J. Lardner