

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 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

PEACE SUNDAY

This Sunday (15th) is the date designated by the Bishops to pray and reflect on Pope Francis' Message for the World *Day of Peace*. There will also be an opportunity **after** all Masses to donate to *Pax Christi*, the International Catholic Movement for Peace – or you can make your donation online using the link on the *News* page of our parish website, where you can also access further information and the full message from Pope Francis.

CREATING WARM SPACES

We have now started A WARM SPACE in our parish centre every MONDAY until the end of March (11am – 4pm).

Who do you know who would appreciate coming for a hot lunch, heated rooms, conversation, games? Please think about your neighbours, friends and contacts, and mention it to them. We have lots of volunteers but concerned we won't have guests! There are also flyers at the back of church, with details of all the Churches' warm spaces. Do ring Clare 847804

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS RETREAT DAY

The Dominican sisters will be running a retreat day for all existing and prospective Eucharistic Ministers on **Saturday 21st January from 10am to 3pm in our parish centre. Refreshments will be provided, but please bring your own packed lunch.**

Please save this date in your diary as, importantly, it will also be an opportunity to renew or gain your faculty.

GENTLE REMINDERS

If you would like something to be entered into our newsletter or website, please submit it by 12.30pm on Wednesdays for inclusion for the following week.

To help us to keep our church and parish centre tidy, lost property will be permanently removed from the basket in the porch after 2 weeks. Leaflets and other items left will be sorted frequently, as appropriate. Many thanks.

Week 2 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)

Sunday 15 Jan

8.45am Mass (Patricia Connor Intentions)
10.15am Mass (Private Intention)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Monday 16 Jan

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (*Special Intention*)

Tuesday 17 Jan

St Anthony of Egypt

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

Wednesday 18 Jan

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Thursday 19 Jan

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (*Special Intention*)

Friday 20 Jan

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Saturday 21 Jan

St Agnes

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

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY

The second collection on Sunday 22nd January is for St John's Cathedral in Portsmouth.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Next **Wednesday 18th January** sees the start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which takes place from 18th to 25th January as follows:

- Midday Prayers at St Nicolas' Church at 12 midday from Monday 23 to Friday 27 January.
- Inter-church Quiz on Friday 20th January at 7pm at Peachcroft Christian Centre. To register please contact Marion Haynes on emjay@gmail.com
- United Service on Sunday 22nd January 2023 at 3pm at Abingdon Baptist Church.

Bishop Philip encourages us to join with the other Christians in our community during this week, to celebrate what we **do** share – our love for Jesus and His love for all of us.

ABINGDON PASSION PLAY

There is a meeting on **Sunday 15th January 2023** at 7pm at Trinity Church (Conduit Centre) to discuss the next production in June 2024 to which all who would like to be involved are welcome! Alternatively, please contact David Pope at davidpope@mac.com or John Clare at johnclare.blunsdon@gmail.com

LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

Supporters of Light for the Blind should have received a copy of the annual newsletter. If you did not receive one there are some extra copies at the back of Church so, please take one and if you think you have been missed off the list please let Peter Dodd know on 01235 525997 peteranne@aol.com

Anybody else who is interested in the wonderful work that Fr Thomas is doing in India please pick up a newsletter.

OUR LADY'S ABINGDON SCHOOL

Casual exam invigilators sought. Applicants should be happy to work as part of a team and be able to follow and adhere to regulatory rules and regulations. No experience is necessary as full training will be provided. Ideally starting in February 2023. For further details please contact Mrs Julie Braley at headspa@ola.org.uk or call 01235 524658

ARE YOU IN NEED?

If you are in need or know someone who is, do contact our parish SVP group (St Vincent de Paul Society) via the parish office and we will see what we can do to help. We always maintain confidentiality. Our members meet every fortnight on a Wednesday evening.

CALLED TO BE MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

Alastair Emblem, Core Group Leader at *Alton Day of Renewal* invites you to join them for this spiritual mini-retreat via Zoom, on **Saturday 28th January** from 10.00am-1.00pm. You can register for this event and view the programme, by visiting the *News* page of our parish website and using the link available there.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Warm Space* in the parish centre from 11am to 4pm.
- **Monday:** *Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF)* at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Friday:** *Baby & Toddler* group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.
- **Saturday:** Eucharistic Ministers Retreat 10am to 3pm in the parish centre.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sat 28th Jan:** FHC preparation, Session 2, 8.50am to 10am, in the church.
- **Sat 28th Jan:** Youth groups meet in the parish centre from 3.30 to 5pm. All in year 3 or above are welcome.
- **Wed 8th Feb:** Parish Lunch, 12.30pm in Parish Centre. All welcome.
- **Tue 14th Feb:** Mothers' prayers, in French, in the parish centre at 8pm

CAFOD

There will be a *CAFOD* meeting on Saturday 28th January from 10.30am to 12.30pm at St William of York Church, Upper Redlands Road, Reading RG1 5JT. You are invited to come and learn how your donations make a difference to the communities that we work with. There will also be an update on our work tackling climate change in Bangladesh, as that is our focus story for Lent Fast Day.

Please contact Jo Lewry for more details and to book your place, by emailing jlewarty@cafod.org.uk or calling 07710 094447.

REFLECTION

One great lesson from John the Baptist is that he wanted the people to pay attention to Jesus, not himself. When we do our own mission, let us always know that we 'work in the vineyard' to give glory to God, not to get attention for ourselves. Like John, we need to recognise the presence of Jesus in our midst. We can only do this through the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Like John, we need to always fix our eyes on Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, and we need to go into the 'desert' from time to time – find that quiet place and be in the presence of the Lord – in order to refresh our hunger and thirst for the presence of God – whose grace is abundantly available if we remain humble enough to ask for it.

WE PRAY FOR

- Julie Lardner, RIP. Funeral Friday 27th Jan. 11am.
- Emily Gibbens, RIP. Funeral Friday 3rd Feb. 11am.