

# ***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: 8.15am - 12.15pm Tuesday to Friday  
Office Email: [abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

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

## **REFLECTION**

A rich young man of excellent character came to Christ wanting to live a better life. But when Christ told him that if he wished to be a disciple of his he would have to give up his wealth, he went away sad. None of us following Christ as closely as we should. There is something preventing us from doing so. That something is probably different for each one of us. We should try to identify that. Jesus looked at the rich young man with love. Yet even he failed to touch the man's heart. So, he returned to his old life sad. Yet Jesus did succeed in touching the heart of a corrupt tax collector Zachaeus and got him to give half his goods to poor. And the night before he died, he turned and looked at Peter who had denied him three times, and what happened? When Peter felt those eyes looking at him, he realised that he had betrayed a friend, and he wept bitterly. It is a glance that falls on us too, a glance that comforts and disturbs, heals and probes, blesses and beckons at the same time. What is he saying to me with that look? That he loves me.

## **VOCATIONS**

Loving God, you call all who believe in you to grow perfect in love by following in the footsteps of Christ your son. Call from among us more men and women who will serve as Priests and Religious. By their way of life, may they be a sign of your kingdom to the world. Help the men and women of our own parish to hear the call to service in the church. Our needs are great, and our people thirst for your presence. Open the hearts of many, raise up faithful servants of the Gospel who will send themselves for your people. Bless those serving already and grant that others will be inspired by their example. Amen.

## **SECOND COLLECTION**

The second collection next **Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> October** is for Foreign Missions. There are envelopes and prayer cards which you can pick up from the table at the back of the church.

## **Week 28 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)**

### **Sunday 13 October**

8.45am Mass (Paul, Stella & Simon Worrallo RIP)  
10.15am Mass (Marie Tierney RIP)  
6.30pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

### **Monday 14 October**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (Geoffrey Dean RIP)

### **Tuesday 15 October St Teresa of Avila**

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 16 October**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Eileen McCarthy RIP)

### **Thursday 17 October St Ignatius of Antioch**

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

### **Friday 18 October St Luke**

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

### **Saturday 19 October**

11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass (Lisa & Alexandra Paterson Intentions)

## **THANK YOU**

Our parish St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) group thanks everyone who so generously contributed to our funds to help those who are in need. Thank you!

## **PARISH OFFICE**

The parish office will be closed on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd October.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

There will be a meeting in the Parish Centre, on **THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER AT 7.30pm**, for parents who wish to enrol their children in the 2025 preparation programme. It is ESSENTIAL that parents attend this meeting to receive enrolment forms and a copy of the programme. If you have any queries, please contact Hilary Webb at [humwebb53@gmail.com](mailto:humwebb53@gmail.com)

## LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

Today we welcome Fr Thomas, who is making a short visit to the UK and will be in Abingdon, celebrating all three Masses today. He is not seeking to raise funds on this occasion, but he will provide an update on the work of the charity and the current situation in India.

## OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE ROSARY

The Rosary draws its mysteries from the New Testament and is centred on the great events of the Incarnation and Redemption, with each decade referring to an event in the life of Jesus and Mary. Why not join in praying the Rosary with others, 30 minutes before all weekday Masses in our church. By praying the Rosary, we can draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

## RUNAWAY FAIR

The Abingdon Runaway Fair is a smaller funfair that takes place on the Monday following the October Michaelmas Fair. The origin lies in the tradition of championing the rights of the common man. It was held for farmworkers and others who had been hired the week before but whose master proved to be cruel or conditions intolerable. They could quite literally ‘run away’ and try finding more suitable work before winter set in.

## ABINGDON FOOD BANK

Abingdon Food Bank needs our support more than ever now, with the increasing cost of living adversely affecting those already struggling to make ends meet. A typical food parcel might contain cereal, soup, pasta, rice, tinned tomatoes/pasta sauce, lentils, beans and pulses, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tea/coffee, tinned fruit, biscuits, UHT milk, fruit juice. Also, toiletries, nappies and household cleaning items are welcomed. Donations can be taken to the places listed below. Financial donations are also welcome. Thank you.

LOCATION OF FOOD DONATION POINT	OPENING HOURS
Waitrose Abingdon, Abbey Close, OX143HL	7.30am to 9pm (8pm Sat)
North Foodbank, Christ Church, Northcourt Rd, OX14 1PL	Tues to Fri – 10am to 1pm
South Foodbank, Preston Road Community Centre, OX14 5NR	Wed – 1pm to 2:30pm

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Tuesday:** *Alpha* course in the parish centre from 7pm to 9.30pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.

## PAX CHRISTI

*Pax Christi* is the international Catholic movement for peace. There are copies of the current *Justpeace* newsletter on the table at the back of church. Please take one if you wish. This edition celebrates 50 years of *Justpeace* with a wide selection of articles on the work of Pax Christi over the last 50 years.

## “CLERGY SWAP”

Our new Pastoral Area is called “English Martyrs, Vale of White Horse”. It is a large geographical area comprising 10 separate praying communities. As an exercise in ‘getting to know’ each other better some of the clergy will swap pulpits on a Sunday. Therefore, on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October we will welcome to Abingdon Fr. Claro Conde and I will serve the parish of FARINGDON that day. *Fr. Jamie.*

## BIBLE ALIVE

*Bible Alive* is a Catholic scripture magazine with daily reflections from the Bible which can help us to draw life, strength and power to live the Christian life. Limited copies for £3 each are available at the back of the church.

## TRAINING AND FORMATION DAY FOR READERS

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October** 10.30-2pm at St Bede’s, Basingstoke. Led by Fr. Anthony Fyk, Director of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. This is a wonderful opportunity for all our readers at Mass. Please register at [liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## CHRISTMAS DAY 2024

For a number of years churches in Abingdon have welcomed people who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day. This year we will be inviting 60 people to have a two-course lunch for free with us at Peachcroft Christian Centre. We need a number of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer and to find out more please email [Christmaslunch24@peachcroftcc.org](mailto:Christmaslunch24@peachcroftcc.org) as soon as possible. Many thanks.