

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: 10.30am-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
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

Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment

MASSES:

In consideration for others, the government strongly recommends that face masks/coverings continue to be worn in indoor public spaces. Thank you for helping to keep each other safe by doing this, for sanitising your hands as you enter the church, and for maintaining a reasonable distance from others where feasible.

Please note that there will be no Mass on Thursday 9th September.

SUNDAY MESSAGE

For now, the online version of the *Sunday Message*. will be available on The *News* page of our website.

NEWSLETTERS

Items for the newsletter should be sent to the parish office by the Wednesday of each week please.

Please do not return newsletters to the basket or table in the church, or leave them on the benches – kindly take them home with you. Thank you.



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Our **Parish Day**, is planned for **Sunday 12th September**, all being well. This will be a wonderful opportunity to welcome and meet new parishioners and to re-establish contact with existing ones after this long pandemic period. **Please note that there will be only one morning Mass on that day – at 10.30am in the outdoor area behind the parish centre.** Evening Mass at 6.30pm will take place as usual.

This year there will be no catering, so we invite you to bring your own picnic lunch and enjoy your time in the company of other parishioners after Mass. Limited seating will be available for those who need it, so please feel free to bring your own chairs or rugs to sit on. We pray that plans for this day will be fruitful.

23rd Week of Ordinary Time (Year B)

Sunday 5 September

8.45am Mass (The Beck family, RIP)
10.15am Mass (Private intention)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (*Special intention*)

Monday 6 September

8.30am Rosary
9am Mass (Helen Birkbeck, RIP)

Tuesday 7 September

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

Wednesday 8 September *Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass (Paddy Rowley, RIP)

Thursday 9 September

9.00am Rosary
9.30am No Mass today

Friday 10 September

6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass (*Special intention*)

Saturday 11 September

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

BIBLE ALIVE

This monthly booklet is available for sale in the church. It is an excellent resource, with short reflections on the daily Gospel readings. Do consider taking a copy.

BABY & TODDLER GROUP

This group will be restarting on **Friday 10th September from 9.30am to 11.15am** at the parish centre and will run during term time only. It is a friendly drop-in group providing opportunity for play, crafts, singing and refreshments for £1 per family per week. Please come along if you are the parent, grandparent or carer of a baby or preschool child, even if English is not your first language. Newcomers are always very welcome.

SEASON OF CREATION

The *Season of Creation* runs from 1 September (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4 October (the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) each year. This ecumenical season is dedicated to prayer and action for the protection of creation. It is a time to renew our relationships with God our Creator, and with all creation, as we join together in prayer. Inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Laudato Si'* - Care for our Common Home - we give thanks for all that God has made, repent for the damage that we have caused and commit ourselves to take action to protect the earth our common home.

A Prayer for the Earth (from *Laudato Si'*)

All- powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned
and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,

that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty not pollution and destruction.

Amen.

JOURNEYING TOGETHER IN FAITH (JTIF)

We will be starting a new programme on **Monday 6th September**. All sessions take place in the Parish Centre on Mondays from **7.30pm to 9pm**. These sessions are suitable for any adult with an enquiring mind who wishes to journey further in their faith. It is also suitable for anyone who has completed the RCIA course.

Everyone is welcome to attend any or all of the sessions. The sessions will comprise of a video, reflection, discussion, prayer, and a chance to socialise, with refreshments. Please feel free to invite others to these sessions. The full programme can be viewed on our parish website in the *News* section or in the *Groups* section/*Faith Development*. The first session will be a light supper and a chance to meet each other and talk about the programme.

PARISH GRANDPARENTS ASSOCIATION

Exciting News for Grandparents – *'The Treasures of family Life'*

Calling all new and experienced grandparents in the parish!! You are warmly invited to the first meeting of our new *Catholic Grandparents Association*, on **Wednesday 22nd September at 2.30pm in the parish centre**. This is an opportunity not to be missed; meet up with like-minded grandparents to socialise and share experiences; to pray together; and to support each other in our role as grandparents. Afternoon tea and cakes will be served, and a warm welcome awaits you.

PARISH LUNCH

The next Parish Lunch will be on **Wednesday 8th September at 12.30pm**. Please contact Mary Ab. 534873 or Jo Ab. 526177

SUNDAY MASS BIDDING PRAYERS

The bidding prayers are written by a small team of parishioners. There is now a need for more to join this team. With sufficient people we normally only need to write the prayers once every couple of months. If you are interested in joining the team to compose these prayers, please contact Pat Mulqueen (e-mail: patjmul1949@gmail.com)

YOUTH GROUPS

Our two youth groups will resume meeting in the parish centre on most alternative Saturdays during school term time, beginning on **Saturday 18th September, from 3.30pm to 5pm**. All children in years 3 to 6 are invited to come along and join in the activities for the **"COOL" Children of Our Lady group**. Young people in Secondary School are invited to come along and join in with the **St Edmund's Knights** activities.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Memorial Service is being held for Ann Goodwill on **September 14th at 2.00pm**. Members of the Parish are welcome at the service subject to the Covid guidelines in place at the time. Therefore, please would you contact Richard or Sue Wales on 01235 529133 by September 6th if you would like to attend.

LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

With thanks to Fr Jamie, the Abingdon trustees of Light for the Blind, Peter Dodd, Peter Hendricks and Paul Tierney, will hold an appeal for funds on **Sunday 26th September** in support of Fr Thomas's wonderful work in giving succour and comfort to the abandoned dying destitute street people of Southern India. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated, without which Fr. Thomas could not continue to fulfil God's word - *"Whatsoever you do to one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me."*