

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

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

REFLECTION

Seeing that the people were hungry Christ fed them, and did so with generosity. Most of us have experienced momentary hunger, but not long-term hunger. But there are many people in the world who are dying of hunger and malnutrition at this very moment. They are our brothers and sisters. We must feel active solidarity with them.

Mother Teresa tells how once in India she came across a family that hadn't eaten for days. It was a Hindu family. So she took a small quantity of rice, and gave it to that family. What happened surprised her. Before she knew where she was the mother of the family had divided the rice into two halves. Then she took the other half to the family next door, which happened to be a Muslim family. Seeing this she turned to the mother and asked "How much will you have left over? Surely you've enough people to feed here?" And the women replied simply "But they haven't eaten for days either." That takes greatness. And her greatness consists in being able to see beyond her needs.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Loving God, you call those 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 you as Priests, Brothers and religious Sisters. By their way of life may they provide a convincing sign of your kingdom for the church and the whole world. Open the hearts of many, raise up faithful servants of the gospel, dedicated ones who will spend themselves for the people and their needs. Bless those who are serving now with courage and perseverance. Grant that many will be inspired by their example of faith. Fill the hearts of our young people with the Holy Spirit that they may have listening hearts and the courage to respond to you. Give them that desire to make the world a better place by serving you in our neighbour. Amen.

Week 17 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 28 July

8.45am Mass (Stanislaw Dyjak RIP)
10.15am Mass (Grandparents & Elderly Day
In Thanksgiving)
6.30pm Mass (John Carey RIP)

Monday 29 July

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Jim Harrington RIP)

Ss Martha, Mary & Lazarus

Tuesday 30 July

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

Wednesday 31 July

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

St Ignatius of Loyola

Thursday 1 August

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Private Intention)

St Alphonsus Ligouri

Friday 2 August

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

Saturday 3 August

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

St Ethelwold

PARISH DAY - THANK YOU

We give thanks to God for the blessing of our Parish Day last Sunday. God was smiling on us and the weather was ideal. My thanks to ALL who made the day such a success and a generous witness to our sense of community Fr. Jamie

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

We desperately need fresh volunteers to come forward. Firstly, our Baby & Toddler group on a Friday morning needs some help. Karen has to move on for personal reasons (a huge thanks to her for her dedication over the past years). It would be great to get some help to bring the toys from the garage and clear them away at the end. If you can help, please contact the office or speak to Fr. Jamie directly.

Also, we failed to re-launch Children's Liturgy at the 10.15am Mass after the pandemic. Again, this would help the children greatly to have their own Liturgy of the Word for 20-25 minutes and rejoin the congregation for the Eucharistic Prayer. We really need some young mums and dads to try this. We have books and aids for the sessions. Again, please contact the office or speak to Fr. Jamie.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND - THANK YOU

Friends of the Holy Land would like to thank all parishioners for the donations as part of the Lenten Project events and church collections of £6,750.00, for Christians in the Holy Land. Your donation will help us to support the most vulnerable at this very challenging time. Please continue to pray for the Holy Land and a peaceful resolution.

HELEN & DOUGLAS HOUSE - THANK YOU

A huge thank you from everyone at *Helen & Douglas House* for all the incredible fundraising during the Lenten Project. You all raised a staggering £6,750 which could fund the costs to maintain our sensory and therapeutic garden throughout a whole year, ensuring it's an engaging and calming environment for children and their families. Thank you so much for your support.

CATHY'S MOBILE CAR WASH

Parishioner Cathy Castle runs her own mobile vehicle cleaning service, and she is asking for your support to raise £1000 to roof a church in Africa which is getting damaged due to rain. This church is close to her heart and her family has helped to look after this parish since before she was even born. She will start this Sunday the 28th of July before the 8.45am Mass, and continue until September, in the car park. If you are interested, you could drop your car from 7.45am or you could book in advance by phoning her on 07511 505469. As she is mobile, she covers a wide local area, so please do give her details to others. Thank you for your support.

OPEN DOORS

During the summer school holidays, *Open Doors* will run fortnightly, with sessions on Monday 5th August and Monday 19th August. There will be **no sessions** on Monday 29th July, Monday 12th August or Monday 26th August. Weekly sessions will then resume on Monday 2nd September.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.

FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 5th Aug:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Wed 14th Aug:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Tue 24th Sept:** *Alpha* course begins in the parish centre from 7pm to 9.30pm.

ALPHA COURSE

Alpha is for everyone. If you want to know more about Jesus, this might be the course for you. It will take place in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9.30pm for 11 weeks, beginning on **24th September**. The format of the evening will begin with a sit-down dinner, followed by a short video (approx. 30mins) and then a very relaxed small group discussion. Everyone is welcome and it is free! The full programme can be seen on the poster on our parish noticeboard, in the parish centre, and on our parish website, where you can also download it. Flyers are also available at the back of the church.

We are looking for a team of people to cook, to serve food, setting up and clearing up the parish centre during the *Alpha* course please. We have a small group of willing volunteers already but would like more names on our list.

If you have any questions or can let us know that you will volunteer your help, please email either Jimena: jimena.belmonte@gmail.com or Sandar: sandarwade@yahoo.co.uk

VACANCY AT ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL

Our caring, Catholic school has been described as one which 'inspires pupils with determination to change the world' (Ofsted 2020). Now St Edmund's school is looking to welcome an enthusiastic, dynamic and committed part time *Teaching Assistant*, supportive of our school mission and Catholic ethos to join our happy, motivated children.

Please visit the School Website <https://st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk/> for further details of the vacancy.

Closing date: Monday 2nd September 2024 at 12.00 noon.

PAX CHRISTI

There are copies of the current July/August edition of the *Justpeace* newsletter on the table at the back of church. Please take a copy.

PARISH OFFICE

The parish office will be closed from Tuesday 13th to Tuesday 27th August. The office will also be closed on Tuesday 3rd September.