

# ***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 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](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: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment**

## **YOU WILL BE MY WITNESS**

A few weeks ago, we heard Bishop Philip's Pastoral letter 'You will be my Witness' when he revealed his vision for the Diocese, and the draft of his strategic plan for our feedback. Please read this either in hard copy, if you took one, or on our website *News* page.

We are now inviting as many of you as possible to offer feedback that we as a parish can then forward to Portsmouth as they finalise the plan for us by summer 2023. If you would like to do this, please collect a copy of the feedback form from the table at the back of the church, or download it from the *News* page of our website. You do not need to complete each section of the form if you feel unable to.

We ask you to return your completed form **not later than Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December** and invite you to a discussion for this stage of the Bishop's plan **in the parish centre at 7pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**. Thank you.

## **HELP THE MINI VINNIES AT ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL**

The *Mini Vinnies* (children's branch of the *SVP*) have chosen to support the homeless and vulnerable, through *Emmaus*, as their 'Christmas Project'.

If you would like to contribute, we will have a box available in the church from Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November until Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> December.

The following items are especially welcomed (for men and for women, but mostly for men):

- Warm hats,
- new pants,
- new socks,
- gloves,
- scarves,
- torches,
- *Greggs* gift food vouchers,
- chocolates.

Thank you for your support.

## **Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

### **Sunday 20 Nov**

8.45am	Mass	<b>Christ the King</b> (William Seery RIP)
10.15am	Mass	(Kathleen Fox RIP)
2.00pm	Mass in Polish	
6.30m	Mass	(Private Intention)

### **Monday 21 Nov**

8.30am	Rosary	<b>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
9.00am	Mass	( <i>Special Intention</i> )

### **Tuesday 22 Nov**

NO Mass	See: <a href="http://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/english-martyrs-vale-of-white-horse">www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/english-martyrs-vale-of-white-horse</a>	<b>St Cecilia</b>
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### **Wednesday 23 Nov**

6.30pm	Rosary	
7.00pm	Service of the Word & Holy Communion	

### **Thursday 24 Nov**

9.00am	Rosary	<b>St Andrew Dung-Lac &amp; Companions</b>
9.30am	Mass	( <i>Special Intention</i> )

### **Friday 25 Nov**

6.30pm	Rosary	
7.00pm	Service of the Word & Holy Communion	

### **Saturday 26 Nov**

11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
12pm	Mass	(Rose Cronin RIP)

## **CELEBRATING HIS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Fr Jamie celebrates his 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ordination as a priest on 18<sup>th</sup> December, and this week he travels to Rome with other jubilarians as a guest of the Venerable English College in Rome. We wish him every blessing for his journey and his time in Rome.

## CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Grandparents, great aunts and great uncles are warmly invited the next CGA gathering on **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm** in the parish centre. If you have any transport needs, please contact Clare on 524861 or Mary on 534873.

A big thank you to all for your generosity with the second collection for the **outdoor crib**, which raised £420.19.

## CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

**Give a gift of hope this Christmas.** In Advent, let's share the promise of hope that has been made to us with our sisters and brothers around the world. You can buy CAFOD's World Gifts for family and friends this Christmas online at <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/> or pick up a catalogue which are available in the church and the church porch.

## SEASON OF ADVENT

The season of Advent begins next **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November**. Advent is a season of self-preparation for directing our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. While we typically regard Advent as a joyous season, it is also intended to be a period of preparation through prayer and penance.

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

During November 2022, we join the Holy Father in praying for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection. You can view his video message on the *News* page of our website. The Pope also has a new film, *The Letter – a message for our Earth*, which you can view via the link on our website.

## REMEMBERING OUR ENVIRONMENT

COP27 is with us! Have you measured your carbon footprint recently? If not, give it a try online at: <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

## 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.

## ST NICOLAS CHURCH

The Extravaganza is happening in Abingdon next Saturday (26<sup>th</sup>) for the first time since Covid! We in St Nicolas' church are taking part with a bookstall, Tea / coffee and cake, Christmas raffle, Abingdon's heritage, children's craft activities and a tombola between 10.30 and 4.30. All are welcome.

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

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

## FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF) at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec:** Parish Youth Groups activities in the parish centre 3.30-5pm. School years 3 upwards welcome.
- **Sun. 4<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Parish AGM in the parish centre after the 6.30pm Mass.
- **Tue. 6<sup>th</sup> Dec:** *You Will Be My Witnesses* meeting at 7pm in the parish centre.
- **Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Parish Christmas lunch for seniors.

## LEBANON APPEAL

We would like to thank you for all those who supported our Lebanon appeal. We collected £1200 and over 3211kg of medication/baby formula. Thank you for your generosity and support. All goods and funds were given to a hospital in Beirut, run by nuns.

## THANK YOU

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped tidy-up the grounds last Saturday. It was very much appreciated.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We hope to restart this soon, during the first part of the 10.15 mass. We need some volunteers to help during the sessions, on a rota. If you are interested in helping this restart, please ring Clare 847804 or email [clare@claresimpson.com](mailto:clare@claresimpson.com)

## MARY'S MEALS – DOUBLE THE LOVE

From 1 Nov 2022 to 31 Jan 2023, donations made to *Mary's Meals* will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.5million. Today, we face some of our greatest challenges yet in a world devastated by conflict, food insecurity and the cost-of-living crisis, which we know is affecting people here in the UK as well as in the countries where we work. With *Double the Love*, your donation will be matched, and your kindness will go even further – meaning we can reach even more desperately hungry children with a life-changing school meal. There are many ways to get involved, find out more at [marysmeals.org.uk](http://marysmeals.org.uk)

## WE PRAY FOR:

- Justin Gosling RIP. Funeral Tue. 6 Dec. at 10.30am
- Fr Robin Sanders RIP. Funeral Mass with Bishop Philip at Holy Rood, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec at 3pm.