

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

In today's Gospel we see how Christ cared about people as a good shepherd cares for his sheep. How do we know? Because he put himself out for them. Every Christian ought to be a person who cares about others. We sometimes tell people we care about them, yet we fail to prove it by our deeds. A caring Christ is the kind of Christ we encounter here in the Eucharist. We can always trust him and come to him with confidence. With Christ there is nothing we shall want. You guide us along the right path, and in your House we shall dwell forever. Christ looked at the people and seeing them like sheep without a shepherd he had pity on them. Lord look upon us and take pity. Help us to follow you even if it means leaving the crowd and walking a lonely path. Lead us from death to life, from error to truth, from despair to hope, from fear to trust, from hate to love, from war to peace. Help us to listen to your voice, to trust you and to follow you. You carry all our hopes and dreams. You alone can give us what we hunger and thirst for – our heavenly Father's love and eternal life in his Kingdom.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus, please grant me the grace to know my true vocation. In Baptism I was signed in your name and have grown to share in the work of bringing the Father's love to the world. May I respond to the special life's work to which you are calling me. I ask that many will hear the particular call to serve in the church as priests, religious and consecrated lay people. To whatever you ask of me, may I freely, courageously and lovingly respond. Strengthen me, as well as my brothers and sisters, with the courage and generosity we need Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Week 16 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 21 July

10:30am Mass (Mike & Maria Pia Oliver Wedding Anniversary)
6.30pm Mass (Pat & Geoff Castle 62nd Wedding Anniversary)

Monday 22 July

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Kelly Family Intentions)

St Mary Magdalene

Tuesday 23 July

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

St Bridget of Sweden

Wednesday 24 July

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Aedrin De Silva Intentions)

Thursday 25 July

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Margaret Beeby RIP)

St James, Apostle

Friday 26 July

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Jeremiah & Edith Collins RIP)

St Joachim & St Anne

Saturday 27 July

11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass (Ted Kelly RIP)

PARISH DAY

Welcome to our annual Parish Open Day. Here we celebrate our community and parish life. We present our Lenten charity cheques. We renew our covenant with the poor and enjoy our BBQ together. HAPPY FEAST.

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.

ABINGDON PASSION PLAY - THANK YOU

On behalf of the APP committee; thank you so much for your generosity and spontaneity throughout the preparation of the event and the performance itself. Our Lady & St Edmund's parishioners gave throughout with their contribution to the fund raising and making available the church centre for rehearsals and providing stewards on the day of the two performances.

NEWS FROM FR THOMAS & LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

Father Thomas is well and sends his greetings to all his supporters in Abingdon and the UK. Following on from his heart problems last year, he has not travelled outside India so could not make his usual July visit to UK this year. Although being told to take it easy, he is keeping busy, and every week makes appeals at most Sunday masses in different parishes in his area of India which are proving to be very successful in raising awareness of the charity and in attracting donors. Due to a temporary problem in transferring money via the bank in India, we the Trustees, decided not to make an appeal on behalf of the charity this year. The situation should be clarified by December, and we will let everyone know the updated position in the annual newsletter at Christmas.

Trustees: Light for the Blind

MOTHERS' PRAYERS

Mothers' Prayers is a prayer group for mothers and grandmothers who wish to pray together for their children and grandchildren. The group uses a specific booklet of prayers that are used by mothers throughout the world. We meet again on Wednesday this week at 8pm in the parish centre to pray in French and on Saturday this week at 10.15am in the church to pray in English. All are welcome.

MASS STEWARDS

There will be a training meeting for all Mass Stewards from 9.30am to 10.30am on Saturday 27th July in the church.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Parish Day Mass at 10.30am, outdoors by the parish centre.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Wednesday:** Mothers' Prayers in French in the parish centre at 8pm. All welcome.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am *in term time*.
- **Saturday:** Mothers' Prayers in English in the church at 10.15am. All welcome.

FUTURE DATES

- **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

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 OFFICE

The parish office will be closed from Tuesday 13th to Tuesday 27th August.