

Our Lady & St Edmund of Abingdon
1 Radley Rd, Abingdon on Thames, Oxon, OX14 3PL

Parish Priest:	Fr. Jamie McGrath	Tel: 01235 520375
Assistant Priest	Fr. Rob Stewart	Tel: 01235 520375
Parish Secretary:	Lisa Paterson	Tel: 01235 520375
Office Hours:	9am-12pm Monday to Friday	
Office Email:	abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	
<i>We live stream most services (the 10.15am Mass on the first Sunday of every month is not live streamed).</i>		
Youth Worker:	Melanie Parris-Dollar E: tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	Tel.07470 094818
Safeguarding Team:	Tel. 07572 935 230	
Visits at JR Hospital:	Fr Pius 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: 11.00 - 11.30am or by appointment

Parish Life

FOLLOW ADVENT THROUGH OUR WEBSITE

- Daily reflections for adults on the Advent calendar in the 'What's On' section.
- Daily reflections, information and activities for young people in the 'Youth' section.
- Further reflections in the Blog on the 'News' section.

Parish Office is now closed until Thurs 27th December.

Elizabeth and Janet Millikin would sincerely like to thank everyone who expressed their sympathies at the Requiem Mass and shared their memories for their mother, Nola during the refreshments afterwards. Nola was a parishioner at St Edmunds for about thirty years. Their particular appreciation goes to Fr Jamie, who guided them though a very difficult time and to Ben Tonks who, as funeral director, was extremely patient and managed to execute the funeral arrangement in a very gentle manner.

Message from Mary's Meals "A very big 'thank you' for again allowing Mary's Meals to have its Rags to Riches collection at the Catholic Church of Our Lady and St Edmund last Sunday. We are delighted to say that the parish managed to give 695 kg of unwanted clothes; there were also cash donations of £326.00 making a total contribution of £694.35. Please let the parish know how grateful Mary's Meals is for its support – this is an excellent result! The amount raised will feed 49 children who will not only get fed one good, nutritious meal every school day for a whole year, but they will get an education too."

PAX CHRISTI - INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC PEACE MOVEMENT Copies of the Dec/Jan edition of Justpeace are on the table at the back of church. Please take a copy. The theme of this edition is Ethical Investment. Peace Sunday is on the horizon - 20th January - which gives us all a chance to hear what Pope Francis has to say about our vocation as peacemakers.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 23 December

8.45am	Mass	Billy & Betty Fleetwood RIP
10.15am	Mass	John Stephen Brady RIP (Anniversary)
6.30pm	Mass	Gayle Belcher RIP

Monday 24 December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

6pm	First Mass of Christmas	Matthew, Winifred & Hubert Carey RIP
8.30pm for 9pm	Christmas Vigil with Carols	

Tuesday 25 December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8am	Mass	Richard Son Intentions
9.30am	Mass	John McCann RIP
11.30am	Mass	Philip Snoxall RIP

Wednesday 26 December ST STEPHEN

12noon	Mass	Isabella Rose Paterson Intentions
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N.B No evening Mass

Thursday 27 December ST JOHN

9am	Rosary	
9.30am	Mass	Private Intention

Friday 28 December THE HOLY INNOCENTS

6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	Private Intention

Saturday 29 December ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
11-11.30am	Confessions	
12 noon	Mass	In Thanksgiving Andres Kolb

Advent Collection for the Homeless This Advent we are collecting the following items for **Advent Collection for the Homeless** This Advent we are collecting the following items for the homeless in Oxford SHAMPOO, TOOTHPASTE, SOAP, NEW SOCKS
The items will be delivered weekly to a hostel for the homeless in Oxford. There is a box for your donations at the back of the Church. With Grateful Thanks.

The Alpha Course returns to our Parish this January 2019. If you are interested in attending or you know someone who might be interested, please contact Maeve on 01865 321179. The Course will be running at my home in Kennington, commencing Thursday 24th of January from 11am - 12.30 pm. All are welcome.

Parish Lent Project 2019 Looking ahead to the Lent Project 2019, do you wish to propose a charity? While thinking this Advent and Christmas season about those who are less fortunate than we are, please think about whom you would like the parish to help through our next Lent Project and send your proposal to the Parish Council, through the parish office by Friday 4th January 2019. Many thanks.

The RCIA Group resumes on 15th January.

Faith Development

Everyone is invited to join in The traditional Christian Aid New Year's Day Walk on 1st January 2019 from 10am Meeting place Peachcroft Christian Centre Route Sunningwell / Bayworth Distance 6 miles or 9.5K Refreshments at Bayworth Baptist Chapel. The route map still costs just £1 available on the day. If you wish to be sponsored please contact anyone on the Christian Aid Committee or refer to Christian Aid website for a sponsorship form.

Emmaus Oxford Emmaus Oxford is open every day of the year, and Christmas day is no exception. We give homeless people a place to live, meaningful work and a purpose. As our Companion Terry told us, "Emmaus is there for everyone, every day of the year". You can help us to make Christmas a happier time for homeless people by donating at www.emmaus.org.uk/oxford

Abingdon Passion Play Following the very enjoyable and successful New Year's Eve Party in 2015; now, three years on, the event will be repeated this year on December 31st at Trinity Church Hall (Conduit Rd, Abingdon) 8:30pm to 1:00am to raise funds for the Abingdon Passion Play that will take place on the 6th April 2019 in the Abbey Grounds. The Party, offering a 3 Course Meal + Celebratory Drink, Entertainment and Dancing all for £20 per person. Tickets, available from Anne Green Ab. 520171, The Bookshop in the Precinct Abingdon, or on-line at www.abingdonpassionplay.org.uk, must be purchased in advance.

Parish Events for the Week

TODAY Refreshments after 10.15am Mass

N.B. All take place in the Parish Centre unless specified

Future Diary Dates

31st Dec and 1st Jan Parish Office closed

9th Jan Cake & Conversation resumes 9.30am, Parish Centre

11th Jan Baby & Toddler Group resumes 9.30am Parish Centre

Youth Events

More info: tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Association of Christian Counsellors Annual Conference: Embodied Hope. If you are a student or qualified counsellor or working pastorally with people (including in spiritual direction or supervision roles), then this conference will offer a rich programme covering a mix of psychological, spiritual and Christian perspectives on a wide variety of different topics relevant to counselling and pastoral care. You will also find opportunities for personal development and restoration, creative practices and worship. The conference programme is split into the following streams - and it is possible to mix and match over the four days from 8 to 11 February 2019: Counselling Practice Skills & Knowledge; Hope, Faith & Spirituality; Body Work Psychotherapy; Working with diversity: LGBT+; Pastoral Care; Self-Development, Retreat & Restoration. For further information and to book, go to www.acc-uk.org.

Money Matters: 16th December 2018
Envelopes: £309.84 Loose Plate £584.86 Many thanks

Counters: C. Macfarlane, T. Murphy, G. Brady

Cleaners: M. Kelly, P. Moriarty