

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 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 meet a woman who really had no right to come to Christ asking for a favour. She was an outsider and a pagan. But she had the most extraordinary faith in him, and that faith was rewarded.

Week after week we come to Mass where we meet Christ our Saviour. Do we pour out our needs to him with confidence?

None of us can see into the depths of another person, or even into our own depths. Only God can. He knows us through and through, yet he does not tire of us or reject us. He helps us to believe in ourselves, and to draw out all that is hidden in our depths, good things we ourselves are not even aware of.

"Humility consists in being precisely the person you are before God." (Thomas Merton)

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Loving father, you call each one of us by name and ask us to follow you. Bless your Church by raising up dedicated and generous workers from our families and friends, who will serve your people as Priests, Sisters, Brothers, Deacons and Lay leaders. Open the hearts of many; raise up faithful servants of the Gospel who will give themselves for your people and their needs. Grant that many will be inspired by their example and Faith.

BIBLE ALIVE

This monthly booklet provides a short and useful aid to reflecting on the daily Gospel. Limited copies are available on the table at the back of the church.

WORLD YOUTH DAY – FEEDBACK

The three young people from our parish who attended the World Youth Day which took place in Lisbon from 1st – 6th August, have returned safely. Short accounts of the memorable moments of the event for them can be read on the *News* page of our parish website.

Week 20 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)

Sunday 20 August

8.45am Mass (Fay family, intentions)
10.15am Mass (Georgina Pounds, intentions)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (John Quinn, RIP)

Monday 21 August St Pius X

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Private intention)

Tuesday 22 August The Queenship of Mary

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

Wednesday 23 August

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Gertrude O'Riordan, RIP)

Thursday 24 August St Bartholomew

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Private intention)

Friday 25 August

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

Saturday 26 August

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass (Constance Bourgeois, intentions)

PARISH OFFICE

Please note that the parish office will be closed until **Tuesday 29th August**.

CLOSER TO CHRIST CAMPAIGN

The *Closer to Christ Campaign* is a fundraising initiative for the Diocese of Portsmouth. This will build upon the mission of our church, enabling us to continue our journey to become ever more outward facing and evangelistic, while meeting the immediate financial priorities of parishes, who are the backbone of our Church. Our parish is now part of this campaign and Bishop Philip has sent us a letter, which was read at last Sunday's Masses and which you can read on the *News* page of our parish website.

RCIA/JOURNEY IN FAITH SESSIONS – VIA ZOOM

What is Love? What is Happiness? What is the meaning of my Life? Who is Jesus? Who do they say that I am? I am with you always. Peace be with you. Do not be afraid. Come and see. You might wish to find out more about Jesus, would like to receive baptism, become a Catholic, or may be a Catholic but not confirmed? If so, RCIA/Journey in Faith could be for you. "Come and See" the way we welcome new people into the Catholic Church with an introduction to RCIA on **Tuesday 12th September at 7.30pm**. Sessions begin on **19th September at 7.30pm**.

If you are interested, please contact Pauline Hanley email: pehanley@hotmail.com or Tel: 07506 753085 for further information and meeting link.

SVP – CASH4COINS

Going away on holiday or returning? Please consider keeping any remaining cash to donate for the work of our parish SVP group. We will be collecting any donations in the Autumn on **Sunday 24th September**. Sterling currency will also be welcomed. Thank you.

VACANCY AT ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL

St Edmund's school is looking to welcome an enthusiastic, dynamic and committed **Teaching Assistant**, supportive of our school mission and Catholic ethos to join our happy, motivated children. Please contact The School Business Manager (01235 521558 or clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk) to request an application pack.

Closing date: **12 noon on Friday 1st September 2023**.

FREE CRY HEART TESTING

The mission of the charity *CRY* is to identify those youth that are at risk from sudden cardiac death. A *CRY* screening will take place on Wednesday 13 September 2023 at Peachcroft Christian Centre, Abingdon, OX14 2RT. This event is for anyone aged 14-35 years. The screening will only take a few minutes to complete and is performed by qualified cardiac physiologists. Booking is required and places are limited. To book an appointment, go to: www.testmyheart.org.uk/private/ use the password **Adam23** and then search for **Abingdon, Oxfordshire 13 Sept 2023**

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11.30am to 2.30pm.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sun 10th Sept:** *Creation Walk* 3pm to 4pm. More details in next week's newsletter.
- **Tue 12th Sept:** RCIA introduction session at 7.30pm. See message on main body of this newsletter for information.

CHRISTIAN WALKING CLUB

Sheena, from our parish, is organising a walk through the *Christian Walking Club*. It is an 11.5 mile circular walk from Dorchester. The walk passes Dyke Hills before climbing up Wittenham Clumps, legendary for a poem tree and excellent views. We then make our way to Wallingford, passing Wallingford Castle, before making our way back to Dorchester Abbey along the beautiful River Thames.

To join, please contact her: sheenaleeCWC@gmail.com

OPEN DOORS – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Open Doors is a warm and welcoming space for those in the Parish and local community who are on their own or who would like more company and is run by a team of volunteers from the Parish. We offer tea/coffee, lunch and conversation most Mondays from 11.30 am to 2.30 pm in the Parish Centre. We are looking for more volunteers, who can spare a few hours on a rota basis, to join our team. We would also be grateful to anyone who can offer to cook meals at home (again on a rota basis approximately once every 4 -6 weeks) and bring them along to the Parish Centre. If you are able to help, please contact Berny Pratt on 01235 525257. Many thanks.

ABINGDON FOODBANK

Please continue to support the Abingdon Food Bank. However, please do not leave your contributions in our church. The collection points are at:

LOCATION OF FOOD DONATION POINT	OPENING HOURS
Waitrose Abingdon, Abbey Close, OX14 3HL	7.30am to 9pm (8pm Sat)
North Foodbank, Christ Church, Northcourt Rd, OX14 1PL	Tues & Fri 10am to 1pm
South Foodbank, Preston Road community Centre, OX14 5NR	Weds 1pm to 2.30pm