

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

For Christians, there is no day that compares with Easter Day. This is truly 'The Day of the Lord'. This day, Christ our brother was victorious over the powers of death. But it is meant to be our day too, for Christ wants to share with us the fruits of his victory. And which of us would not wish to share in so great a victory. We ask the risen Christ to set us free from the chains of sin.

As we go through life, we all experience little deaths. We get a foretaste of death when we live in bitterness, sadness and despair – we seem to have one foot in the grave. But we also experience little resurrections when we know love, acceptance and forgiveness. When we open our hearts to others and to life, the world opens up and we emerge from the tomb.

Lord, may the splendour of your resurrection scatter the shadows of death and enable us to walk in radiant hope towards the Kingdom where there are no more shattered hopes or broken dreams.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Loving and generous God, it is you who call us by name and ask us to follow you. Help us to grow in the love and service of your Church. Give us the energy and courage of your spirit to shape its future. Inspire us to know you better and open our hearts to hear your call. We ask this through Christ our lord. Amen.

EASTER COLLECTION

The Easter Collection is an opportunity for us to give thanks to God for the ministry of our priest, Fr Jamie. Please be generous with your donation at any of the Easter Masses – or you can make your donation online using the link on the *Home* page of our parish website. You can also use the card payment facility at the back of the church. Thank you.

EASTER: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 31 March

8.00am	Mass	EASTER SUNDAY (Gabby Dover, RIP)
9.30am	Mass	(Sean Brady, RIP)
11.30am	Mass	(Jadzia & Steve Stevens, 60 th wedding anniversary)
2.00pm	Mass in Polish	

Monday 1 April

9.30am	Rosary	
10.00am	Mass	(Lisa Paterson, intentions)

Tuesday 2 April

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

Wednesday 3 April

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

Thursday 4 April

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

Friday 5 April

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

Saturday 6 April

11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
12pm	Mass	(Constance Isabella Pole, RIP)

THIS WEEK

Easter Monday: Mass will be at 10am.

Wednesday to Friday: There will be no Masses.

Saturday: Please note that there will be no confessions this Saturday.

NEW GIFT AID ENVELOPES STARTING 7 APRIL

If you use gift aid envelopes for weekly giving the new boxes are available for you to collect at the back of church. There are also white envelopes at the back of church for those who use the special collection gift aid envelopes. There are fewer special collection envelopes this year as some of the special collections are no longer eligible for gift aid. Donations can be made in the boxes after Mass or through the card machine at the back of church when the special collection is not eligible for gift aid.

LENTEN PROJECTS 2024

We are supporting two charities. *Friends of the Holy Land*, helping our Christian brothers and sisters in Palestine in the Holy Land and *Helen & Douglas House*, our local hospice for children coping with life-limiting and terminal conditions. More information is available on the noticeboard and on our parish website, where you can also make donations online. So far, we have raised about £7,446.28 – but we still have a long way to go! *Please think of ways you can raise money and let the PPC know through the parish office. Thank you.*

OPEN DOORS / WARM SPACES

Our last Warm Space session will be on Monday, 25th March. Open Doors will recommence on Monday, 8th April from 11am to 2pm in the Parish Centre (**please note no session on Easter Monday, 1st April**) and run every Monday, except Bank Holidays. We offer tea/coffee, lunch and friendly conversation to anyone in the Parish or local community who is on their own or would like more company.

We need more volunteers to help at our Open Doors sessions. If you can spare a few hours on Monday on a rota basis please contact Berny Pratt on 01235 525257.

LENTEN PROJECT CYCLE RIDE

One of our parishioners, David Porter, is doing a sponsored cycle ride from Preston to Abingdon (215 miles!) over three days in April, to raise funds for our Lenten charities. Please find the sponsor form on the table at the back of the church. You might like to sponsor per day, or just a total amount, and the money can be given to Fr Jamie or will be collected on the last weekend in April. Thank you for your support.

GOLF DAY AT DRAYTON GOLF CLUB

A date for your diary - our regular fundraiser for the Lenten projects will take place on *Monday 8th April*. Once again, a big thank you to Mary McKenna for letting us hold this event at no cost. We will be meeting up from 8.30am for tea/coffee and bacon roll. First time is 9.32am. There will be the usual format of 4 players per team with best 2 to score on each hole, and prizes for the best two teams plus prizes for the nearest the pins on 3 holes. The price to join in is £25. Please contact Terry Murphy on 07584 248169 or 01235 527597 or email terry.murphy62@yahoo.co.uk

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Wednesday:** Mothers' Prayers in French at 8pm in the parish centre.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am *in term time*.

FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 8th Apr:** *Golf Day* fundraising event at Drayton Park Golf Club from 8.30am.
- **Mon 8th Apr:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.

PAX CHRISTI

Copies of the current newsletter *Justpeace* are on the table at the back of church. The theme of the newsletter is Young People in Prayer, Study and Action for Peace. Please take a copy if you wish.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Canon PJ Smith, Episcopal Vicar for Education and Pilgrimage Director invites you to join this year's Pilgrimage to Lourdes from *Monday 22nd – Friday 26th July 2024*. If you would like to know more please email: lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or you can book using the booking form link on the *News* page of our parish website.



*May you rejoice in the triumph of the
resurrected Christ at Easter and
always, and may his resurrection fill
you with hope and peace.*

Fr Jamie

WE PRAY FOR

- John Logan, RIP. Funeral Friday 26th April - time to be confirmed.