

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
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: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment

A BIG ABINGDON WELCOME

We welcome the Diocesan Vocations Team who will be speaking at all Masses this Sunday 4th December. They will be led by Fr John Cooke.

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 5th December** and invite you to a discussion for this stage of the Bishop's plan **in the parish centre at 7pm on Tuesday 6th 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 have a box available in the church until this Sunday the 4th December.

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

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

Thank you for your support.

2nd Week of Advent (Year A)

Sunday 4 Dec

8.45am Mass
10.15am Mass

2nd Sunday of Advent

(Frances James RIP)
(Marguerite Innes & Mary Glynn RIP)

2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30m Mass

(Private Intention)

Monday 5 Dec

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass

(*Special Intention*)

Tuesday 6 Dec

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

Wednesday 7 Dec

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass

St Ambrose

(Isabella Paterson Intentions
4th Birthday)

Thursday 8 Dec

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass

The Immaculate Conception

(Paterson Family Intentions)

Friday 9 Dec

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass

(Birkbeck Family Intentions)

Saturday 10 Dec

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass

(Teresa Monica Fee RIP)

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR SENIORS

The Christmas lunch for seniors will take place on **Sunday 11th December** in the parish centre. For catering purposes, please could you sign up on the form which is on the table at the back of the church. Raffle prizes welcome and helpers needed also. Please contact Mary 534873 or Jo 526177. We look forward to seeing you.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS RETREAT DAY

The Dominican sisters will be running a retreat day for all existing and prospective Eucharistic Ministers on **Saturday 21st January from 10am to 3pm**. Please save this date in your diary as, importantly, it will also be an opportunity to renew or gain your faculty.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Give a gift of hope this Christmas. 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.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS ON OUR WEBSITE

Check out the Advent calendar on our *Home* page and reflection in the *What's On* section.

FOR THE JOY OF IT!

Churches in Abingdon welcome everyone to join in with the **carol singing** in the Market Place at **10am on Saturday 17th December**.

ABINGDON FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

Donations of the items listed below are welcomed. Please take your donations to one of the collection points by 9th December, and make sure the best before dates are for 26th December or later. Thank you.

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| * Large tins of ham | * Tins of fruit |
| * Tins of salmon | * Crisps and savoury snacks |
| * Tins of potatoes | * Jars of pickles/chutney |
| * Tins of carrots | * Crackers for cheese |
| * Tins of peas | * Sweet biscuits |
| * Gravy granules | * Cakes |
| * Cranberry sauce | * Sweets |
| * Stuffing mix | * Tins of custard |
| * Soft drinks | * Jars of jam/chocolate spread |
| * Toiletry gift sets | * Christmas puds (standard size) |

Collection points are at:

- Waitrose Abingdon, Abbey Close
- North Foodbank, Christ Church, Northcourt Rd
- South Foodbank, Preston Road Community Centre

PARISH AGM

All are invited to the AGM on Sunday 4th December at 7.30 pm (after evening mass) in the parish centre. This the first opportunity since 2019, to meet together and to look at our emerging parish life since the lockdown. **ALL ARE WARMLY INVITED TO ATTEND.**

LENT CHARITY FUND RAISING 2023

During the season of Advent, the PPC ask you to think about charities which we could sponsor during Lent 2023. We would ideally like to fundraise for 2 charities, one local/UK based and one world- wide. Please give this some consideration and send suggestions to the parish office **by Monday 10th January 2023**.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Sunday:** Parish AGM in the parish centre after the 6.30pm Mass.
- **Monday:** Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF) at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Tuesday:** *You Will Be My Witnesses* meeting at 7pm in the parish centre.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sun 11th Dec:** Parish Christmas lunch for seniors.
- **Mon 12th Dec:** Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF) at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Sat 17th Dec:** Youth groups meet in the parish centre from 3.30 to 5pm. All in year 3 or above are welcome.
- **Sun 18th Dec:** Celebration of Fr Jamie's 40th anniversary of ordination, in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass. All welcome.

CHRISTMAS DAY DELIVERY GIFT BAGS

This is happening again, led this year by Peachcroft Christian Centre. We visit those on their own on Christmas Day, have a little chat on the doorstep, and give them a bag of gifts, including Christmas Cards made by St. Edmund's Primary School and a table decoration made by pupils at OLA. There are two different opportunities to be involved. 1) Packing the bags on Sat 17 Dec at 2pm for 1 – 2 hours at Peachcroft. 2) Delivery of the bags on Christmas Day which we do by car, two people doing it (we can put people together). Usually takes one hour, and exact timings up to you but usually late morning to early afternoon. There is a short safeguarding recruitment process for this role. Please contact Jay at jay.elliott@peachcroftcc.org

ADVENT – WEEK 2 PRAYER

Lord God, this Advent, help us to reflect on the things we do or don't do, so that we may always think, say and act according to Your will, for Your greater glory. Amen.

WE PRAY FOR:

Justin Gosling RIP. Funeral Tue. 6 Dec. at 10.30am. The Committal will take place immediately afterwards. During this time, tea and coffee will be served in the Parish Centre. All Justin's many friends are then warmly invited to join the family there for refreshments and reminiscences.