

# ***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](http://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](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment**

## **REFLECTION**

Pentecost saw the birth of a new community, the new People of God. Today then is the day the apostles left the upper room where they had been hiding for fear of the Jews and went out fearlessly to preach the gospel. Today the Church is born. But they could not have done this without the “power from on High”, that is the Holy Spirit. We too need the Holy Spirit in order to live as Christians in the world today. He comes to us not just as individuals but as a community, the Church. If you want to be free you must let yourselves be guided not by the Spirit of self-indulgence but by the Spirit of God. Look at the legacy self-indulgence produces: bad temper, fighting, jealousy, cruelty, meanness, revenge, idolatry and drunkenness. These are ugly things. They make life miserable and make slaves of us. Besides, those who live like this do not belong in the Kingdom of God. But consider the legacy the Spirit brings: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. These are beautiful things. They make life worthwhile, and those who live like this are free agents. They already belong to the Kingdom of God, but what they enjoy now is only a foretaste of the joys to come. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

## **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

Loving and generous God, you call us by name and ask us to follow where you have gone before. Help us to grow in love and service of our church today Give us the energy and courage of the apostles at Pentecost through the power from on High. Grant us faith filled leaders who will embrace Christ's mission of justice and peace. Bless our church by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends who will serve your people in different forms of ministry – open our hearts to hear your call: “Come and See”. Amen

## **Week 7 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)**

### **Sunday 19 May**

8.45am Mass  
10.15am Mass  
2pm Mass in Polish  
6.30pm Mass

### **PENTECOST SUNDAY**

(Geoff Castle Intentions)  
(*Special Intention*)  
(Norah Connell RIP)

### **Monday 20 May**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass

### **Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church**

(*Special Intention*)

### **Tuesday 21 May**

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

### **Wednesday 22 May**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass

(*Special Intention*)

### **Thursday 23 May**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass

### **Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest**

(*Special Intention*)

### **Friday 24 May**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass

(*Special Intention*)

### **Saturday 25 May**

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

### **St Bede**

(Kathleen Walsh RIP)

## **MONTH OF MAY**

The month of May is traditionally known as ‘Mary’s Month’. Why not join other parishioners before the weekday Masses to pray the Rosary together?

## NEW PRAYER GROUP

Join us for the inaugural gathering of our new prayer group, starting on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm in the parish centre. This monthly gathering offers a meaningful journey to enrich our faith through prayer. Each session will last 1 hour and 30 minutes, exploring various prayer methods, followed by short discussions and a light meal. Our inaugural theme focuses on the spirit of thanksgiving, titled 'Praying to Thank Our Lord.' All Welcome! Please contact Sabina – 07449 825161.

## DEMENTIA INFORMATION SESSION

Caritas Portsmouth is hosting an online Dementia Friends Information Session on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 7pm for anyone interested in supporting people with Dementia in their parishes, community or family. Everyone welcome. Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/4ysur27w>

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE

Experience the Life-Changing power of the Holy Spirit! The Seminars are being organised by our Diocese, and Bishop Philip hopes we all take advantage of this opportunity. The meetings are on Zoom every Thursday evening 7.30 to 9 pm for 7 weeks starting on 6<sup>th</sup> June. There will also be an In-Person Holy Spirit Day on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am at St Bede's Church Basingstoke. Please register for the Seminars on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/u8pfmafww>

## CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please remember in your prayers the young people from our parish who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral last week. Please also pray for the children who will be making their First Holy Communion this weekend and pray for their families as well.

## ABINGDON PASSION PLAY

This will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> June in the Abbey Gardens. There will be two performances: 12 noon & 5 pm. Want to get involved? We are still looking for the following: stewards, actors (to play temple guards, soldiers and crowd) and general helpers on the day. For more information, please see the website, [www.abingdonpassionplay.co.uk](http://www.abingdonpassionplay.co.uk) or contact Ralph on 07790 498718 or Anne Green 01235 520171 or [annegreenabingdon@yahoo.com](mailto:annegreenabingdon@yahoo.com)

## HOSTS NEEDED IN JUNE

A number of people from churches in Abingdon's twin town of Sint Niklaas in Belgium and possibly Argentan in France will be coming for the weekend of Abingdon's Passion Play. Hosts are needed for their stay from Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> to Mon 24<sup>th</sup> June. There is a full programme arranged. For further details and/or offers to host please contact Anne Dodd 07938526762 or Pat Warren 07526033715

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Wednesday:** Mothers' prayers in French in the parish centre at 8pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am *in term time*.
- **Friday:** Prayer group meeting at 7.30pm in the parish centre.
- **Saturday:** Mothers' prayers in English at 10am in the church.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Wed 12<sup>th</sup> June:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> June:** Parish pilgrimage to Malta & Gozo. Please keep the group in your prayers, as you will be in our prayers.

## PAX CHRISTI

Copies of the Annual Report 2023 - 24 are on the table at the back of church. Please help yourself to a copy. Pax Christi is the International Catholic Movement for Peace.

## MOTHERS' PRAYERS DAY

A Mothers' Prayers Day is being organised at the Sacred Heart Church, High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 7AH from 11am till 3.30pm on 25<sup>th</sup> May. Tea/coffee provided. Please bring a packed lunch. Mothers' prayers booklets and materials will be available. Limited Free parking in the Church grounds. For information please contact: Pat Connolly 07854566735 [patcon60@gmail.com](mailto:patcon60@gmail.com)

## TAIZÉ PRAYER

You are invited to St Helen's Church in Abingdon to join in Taizé prayer at 5.30pm on 9<sup>th</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> July.

## CAFOD

Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church next Sun 26<sup>th</sup> May or [atcafod.org.uk/sudanappeal](http://atcafod.org.uk/sudanappeal). Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

## DON BOSCO BOYS' CAMP

Sun 28<sup>th</sup> July to Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> August for boys of secondary school age (leaving Yr6 to leaving Yr11) at St. Cassian's, Kintbury. There will be plenty of sport, outings, competitions, and games to ensure that boys will have a fantastic week. For more information please email: [dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)