

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

In this Sunday's gospel we meet a man who brought back to his master everything he had been given, and yet was censored. He was blamed not for misusing the gifts he had been given, but rather for not having used them at all. Which of us could say in all truth that we always do our best? Do we not all bury at least some of our talents? A miser melted down his hoard of gold into a single lump which he then secretly buried in a field. Every day he went to look at it. But one of his servants discovered his secret and came by night to steal the gold. The miser was inconsolable. A friend said 'Don't take it so badly. Just put a brick in the hole and take a look at it every day. You won't be any worse off than before, for even when you had the gold you never used it. We all bury some of our talent which we don't use or develop. It is not only the man with one talent who buries it, but people who had been given five or ten talents. Instead of reaping double, they become cautious or just plain lazy, and bury their talents. And what is buried is of no earthly use to anyone.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Jesus, Lord and Master, you transform the lives of men and women. In your strength we can do all things and please our sovereign God. Tame our natures Lord, mould us to your need, fashion us to your taste, and conform us to your will. Enable us and all who hear your call to ministry to give ourselves to your service. Send us workers into the church and into the world. Amen.

ST EDMUNDS SCHOOL

We are looking to welcome an enthusiastic and committed part time Teacher, a Higher Level Teaching Assistant and a Teaching Assistant, supportive of the school mission and Catholic ethos. Please contact The School Business Manager (Ab. 521558 or email clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk) to request further details and an application pack. **Closing date: Thurs 30th Nov at 12noon.**

Week 33 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)

Sunday 19 Nov.

8.45am Mass (William Seery RIP)
10.15am Mass (John Wingfield RIP)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (Rosemary Mullin RIP)

Monday 20 Nov.

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Gertrude Mullin RIP)

Tuesday 21 Nov.

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Wednesday 22 Nov.

St Cecilia

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Monica Fitzsimons RIP)

Thursday 23 Nov.

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (David Bland RIP)

Friday 24 Nov.

St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (In Thanksgiving)

Saturday 25 Nov.

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass (Christina Hicks Intentions)

BAMENDA COLLECTION - THANK YOU

The collection for Bamenda raised £1,165.17 so far, with a further £347 pledged by sponsors, which will go directly to the Portsmouth Bamenda account. Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH AGM

Our Parish AGM takes place this **Sunday 19th November** at 7.30pm in the parish centre. All parishioners are invited to attend.

HELP NEEDED ON CHRISTMAS DAY

For a number of years churches in Abingdon, including our own, have welcomed people who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day. This year on Christmas Day we will be inviting 60 people to have a two-course lunch for free with us at Peachcroft Christian Centre. We need a number of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer please email jay.elliott@peachcroftcc.org as soon as possible. More information on the help needed is available on the *News* page of our parish website.

CHILDRENS' MASSES

10.15am Mass on Sunday 3rd December (1st Sunday of Advent) will be a Children's Mass. Some of the children of our Parish will be leading us in the readings and prayers, and we will be inviting all of the children present to come up and sit on the Sanctuary steps during the Liturgy of the Word. Fr Jamie will be addressing his Homily to the children (but we will let the adults listen in too...). We are looking forward to welcoming you to this Mass, and we intend to continue holding a Children's Mass on the first Sunday of every month during term-time. We hope to see many of you there!

WELCOMING THE WORD - ADVENT RETREATS

The season of Advent is fast approaching, and the Carmelite friars at Boars Hill are offering us **free** Advent retreats, to which everyone is invited to join in. For more details and to register your interest, please use the link on the *News* page of our website.

BREAD & STARLIGHT - A PLAY FOR ADVENT

The locally based Christian theatre company, *The LAMPS Collective*, is presenting this play for Advent at the Unicorn Theatre on Friday 1st December at 2pm and 7.30pm. Tickets are £10.00 each and available from *The Bookstore*, or online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/lamps-collective>

THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS GIVING

If you have already begun your Christmas shopping – or are thinking about doing so – why not pick up the *CAFOD* booklet of *World Gifts* from the back of the church and in the porch. Every gift you buy helps real people and makes a massive positive difference.

A SIMPLE, SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS

We are a *LiveSimply* Parish and, in the spirit of living more simply and sustainably as individuals and as a parish, we hope to share suggestions at the beginning of Advent for celebrating a simpler Christmas this year. Please send suggestions, big or small to carolesawyers27@gmail.com or put them in an envelope marked *Simple Christmas* and drop it into the presbytery.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Sunday:** Parish AGM at 7.30pm in the parish centre.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11.30am to 2.30pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sun 19th Nov:** Parish AGM at 7.30pm in the parish centre.
- **Sat. 9th Dec:** Christmas party for young people aged 7 and above, from 3.30-5pm in the parish centre.
- **Sat 16th Dec:** Christmas High Tea in the parish centre from 2.30-4.30pm. For info, please ring Ab. 534873.

SUPPORTING THE HOMELESS

Our Advent collection this year will be supporting the homeless through the work of *Emmaus Oxford*. We will begin our collection at the start of Advent **on Sunday 3rd December and will end on Wednesday 13th December**. A list of items which would be welcomed is available at the back of the church, on the noticeboard outside, and on the *News* page of our website. From 3rd December, a box will be available at the back of the church for you to put in your contributions. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

There will be a wreath demonstration - and you can make your own Christmas wreath – at St Michael's Church Hall, Park Rd, Abingdon OX14 1DS on **Saturday 2nd December** from 10am to 2pm. The tickets are £20 which includes the materials and lunch. Tickets are available from Anne Green (01235 520171) or through the link on the *News* page of our parish website.

ABINGDON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Abingdon Church Twinning Association have produced Christmas cards again this year, with snowy scenes of Abingdon. Packs of 10 cards for £4.50 will be available for sale after all Masses on **26th November**, or contact Pat Warren 07526 033715, or Anne Dodd 07732 829624

WORLD YOUTH DAY

The youth from our parish will be celebrating WYD next Sunday, participating in the 6.30pm Mass and then inviting everyone who would like you join them for refreshments in the parish centre afterwards, where slides from the recent event in Lisbon will be shown.

WE PRAY FOR:

- Errol Midwinter, RIP. Funeral Fri 24th Nov. at 1.30pm