

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

MASSES:

In consideration for others, the government strongly recommends that face masks/coverings continue to be worn in indoor public spaces. Thank you for helping to keep each other safe by doing this, for sanitising your hands as you enter the church, and for maintaining a reasonable distance from others where feasible.

COP26

This weekend, please pray for an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on the political leaders meeting at COP26 in November, that God will provide them with the courage necessary to take action on behalf of the environment and the world's poorest.

Loving God,

We praise your name with all you have created.

*You are present in the whole universe,
and in the smallest of creatures.*

We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us as stewards of your creation.

May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 as they seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society.

Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable, and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home. We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son. Amen

LIGHT FOR THE BLIND NEWS

The trustees of Light for the Blind met in Leeds recently and Father Thomas joined us on a video link from India. He looked and sounded very well and is currently working on the building of his sixth hospice on donated land in North Chennai. He is proud to say that not one person in any of the hospices has contracted coronavirus which shows the tight and efficient way in which the hospices are being managed. He and the trustees are very grateful for the generous donations received from Abingdon as a result of the recent appeal - about £5000 - and he is planning to come to Abingdon next year - probably July - to see us all.

31st Week of Ordinary Time (Year B)

Sunday 31 October

ALL SAINTS

8.45am Mass (Abbey Wilson RIP)
10.15am Mass (Mary Kelly Intentions)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (Maria Loretta Harvey RIP)

Monday 1 November

8.30am Rosary
9am Mass (Private Intention)

Tuesday 2 November ALL SOULS

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

Wednesday 3 November

6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass (Kathleen Brady RIP)

Thursday 4 November St Charles Borromeo

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Sheila Finch RIP)

Friday 5 November

6.30pm Rosary
7pm Mass (In Thanksgiving)

Saturday 6 November Our Lady on Saturday

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

BAMENDA SUNDAY

This will be on **Sunday 7th November**. There will be an opportunity to make a donation in Church or online via the *News* page of our website. Whilst we pray for the diocese of Bamenda, they will also be praying for our own diocese. Thank you for your support and do come and enjoy refreshments in the parish centre after 10.15am Mass.

CHRISTMAS DAY OUT-REACH

Our Lady and St Edmund's will be organising this year's **Abingdon Christmas Day out-reach**. It used to be run by Peachcroft Church, but is now a Church in Abingdon supported project, which can be run by different churches. This year we are going to take Christmas Hampers to the doorstep of 100 people who are on their own on Christmas Day and would appreciate some gifts and a short chat on the doorstep. We are looking for some parishioners to help, whether for a few hours or regularly over the next 8 weeks. Firstly, some people who can help Clare Simpson prepare by buying contents for the hamper, contact possible recipients using last year's database and ringing various organisations, and help with some artwork or crocheting a gift or writing the cards. Secondly, we need some volunteers for Christmas Day morning, to deliver about 6 bags each (you are put into pairs and all very organised!) which would take about one hour. Thirdly, if anyone would like to make a financial contribution, to add to the funding we should get from local bodies, we would be most grateful. Please contact clare@claresimpson.com or tel 847804

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND (FHL)

There will be a sale of Christmas cards after Mass for the next few weeks. If you would like to order some please ring Mary Mulqueen 534873 or Anne Green on 520171.

CELEBRATE DOES PARENTING FOR FAITH

CELEBRATE are running the fantastic *Parenting for Faith* eight week course online on Zoom on Tuesday evenings from 20:00 - 21:15, starting on 2nd November, 2021. The goal of the course is to help parents discover that they are perfectly positioned to show their children the reality of a life with God and to empower them to have their own vibrant two-way relationship with Him.

Dates:

Block one: 2nd, 9th, 16th, & 23rd November 2021

Optional evening: 30th November 2021 with Rachel Turner, Parenting for Faith Pioneer

Block two: 11th, 18th, 25th January & 1st February 2022

Everyone is welcome. For more info and to sign up: www.celebratetrust.org/parentingforfaith

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022

There will be a meeting, **in the church on Thursday 18th November at 7.30pm**, for parents to enrol their children on the 2022 programme. It is **essential** that parents attend the meeting to receive enrolment forms and a copy of the programme, which may need to be adapted depending on numbers. If you have any enquiries, please contact Errol Midwinter on 01235 522679.

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

- Doreen Domoney, RIP. Funeral on 3 Nov. at 12.30pm.
- Margaret Cotterell, RIP. Funeral on 4 Nov. at 2pm.
- Nicola Kerry, RIP. Funeral on 18 Nov. at 11am.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the Parish Centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Thursday:** Online course on *Let Us Dream* by Pope Francis, 7pm to 8pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 8th Nov:** JTiF (Journeying Together in Faith), 7.30pm to 9pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Wed 10th Nov:** Parish lunch, 12.30pm in the parish centre.
- **Sat 13th Nov:** Youth groups 3.30pm to 5pm, in the parish centre.
- **Thurs 18th Nov:** FHC parents' meeting in the church at 7.30pm.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN MISSION TEAM COURSES

- **Passing on love for the Eucharist to our Children**

Four online sessions for parents, grandparents, catechists, teachers and everyone passionate about passing on love for the Eucharist to our children, led by Sr Hyacinthe and Angela Wood, with practical advice, discussions, testimonies and prayer, finishing each session with a Adoration. The sessions will run on **Mondays, from the 22nd November to the 13th December at 7.00pm.**

- **Workshops for Parish Readers**

Two workshops to equip parish readers will be offered on **Saturdays 4th and 11th of December, from 10am to 1pm.** The first workshop covers an introduction to the Liturgy of the Church, with a specific focus on the Liturgy of the Word, as well as the Reading Skills necessary for parish readers. The second workshop offers a general introduction to the Bible as well as a set of keys to understand any biblical texts. Both workshops are led by a diocesan team: Deacon Martin McElroy from Winchester, Claire Tickell from Southampton and Sr Hyacinthe from the Lymington Dominican Sisters. To complete the training, awarded with a diocesan *Recognitio*, a reading practice with a diocesan listener is required.

- **Wednesday Communion**

The Dominican Sisters are launching a new initiative this Advent, to mark the Year of the Eucharist, called Wednesday Communion. They hope that you'll take this opportunity to join us whenever you can on Wednesday and hope this will be a precious time of fellowship and prayer, in communion with Jesus present in his Word and Sacrament.

Further information and how to register on any of these courses is available on the News page of our website.