

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

Many times as Christians we are faced with difficult decisions. But we have been given an inner voice to guide us, namely the voice of conscience. How well do we listen to this voice? Am I at peace with my conscience right now? Eichmann was responsible for the deaths of millions of Jews in Hitler's concentration camps. Yet, when he was brought to trial, he absolved himself from all personal responsibility, by claiming that he was merely carrying out orders. But he was deceiving himself. We are all responsible for what we do, even though we may try to hide behind others. Eichmann has millions of followers today. Millions of us sell our souls, if not to an individual, than to a party, or company, or institution. Yet, in the course of so called duty, people lose themselves and their souls, and whatever they do or achieve will be worthless. Would that every Christian could say what Thomas More said: "I die the King's good servant, but God's first".

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

God of every aspect of our lives, help us to hear clearly what you are asking of us each day, whatever situation we find ourselves in. You are the God who calls us to stay where we are or to move at your bidding: to seek and speak courageously, sharing your love, defending the vulnerable and bringing dignity to those who have no voice. Help us sense your presence, in perseverance and in hope in those everyday places which can be continuously renewed by your grace. Amen

CLOSER TO CHRIST

Last Sunday we launched the Parish Phase of 'Closer to Christ Campaign'. This was timed with the mailing of further information to all parishioners on our records. If you did not receive the mailing there are copies on the table containing information and invitation to pledge to the campaign if you are in a position to help. Please take a copy this Sunday. *Fr. Jamie*

Week 29 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)

Sunday 22 Oct.

8.45am Mass (Tony Cooney RIP)
10.15am Mass (Ann Moriarty RIP)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (Pat & Mary Mulqueen
50th Wedding Anniversary)

Monday 23 Oct.

Diocesan Day of Prayer & Reparation for Life

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (*Special Intention*)

Tuesday 24 Oct.

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

Wednesday 25 Oct.

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Pat & Mary Mulqueen
50th Wedding Anniversary)

Thursday 26 Oct.

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Pat & Mary Mulqueen
50th Wedding Anniversary)

Friday 27 Oct.

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

Saturday 28 Oct.

Saints Simon & Jude

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

PARISH OFFICE

Please see new parish office opening hours are now 8.15am until 12.15pm Tuesday to Friday.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY (22nd OCT)

The second collection for **this Sunday** is for **FOREIGN MISSIONS**. Through our donations on World Mission Sunday, we can support our Church family overseas through:

- Faith and Outreach projects which restore the dignity and hope of vulnerable children and families in need of our care.
- Supporting Catholic missionaries who give their lives to share God's mercy and compassion with those most in need.
- Building New churches to be beacons of hope for those seeking a place to pray and to celebrate God's love for us.

Please use the envelope available at the back of the church from this Sunday or use the electronic device at the back of the church, or give online at mission.org.uk/donate. Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

There will be a meeting in the Parish Centre, on **THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER AT 8pm**, for parents who wish to enrol their children in the 2024 preparation programme. It is essential that parents attend this meeting to receive enrolment forms and a copy of the programme. If you have any queries, please contact Hilary Webb at humwebb53@gmail.com

OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE ROSARY

The Rosary draws its mysteries from the New Testament and is centred on the great events of the Incarnation and Redemption, with each decade referring to an event in the life of Jesus and Mary. Why not join in praying the Rosary with others, 30 minutes before all weekday Masses in our church. By praying the rosary, we can draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND (FHL)

FHL representatives will be speaking at the Masses on Sunday 29th October.

ANNUAL BEREAVEMENT SERVICE

The Churches in Abingdon will come together on **Sunday 5th November** for the *Annual Bereavement Service*. This year it will take place at Christ Church, Northcourt Road, Abingdon at **3pm**. All Welcome.

PAX CHRISTI

There are copies of the most recent newsletter from the International Catholic Movement for Peace on the table at the back of church. Please take a copy if you wish.

TALK ON THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Joanna Bogle, writer, broadcaster and historian will speak about the church's calendar in the run-up to Advent and Christmas. This will take place on **Tues 7th November** at 7pm in the Parish Centre.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **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 5th Nov:** CiA Annual Bereavement service at 3pm – this year at Christ Church, Northcourt Road.
- **Wed 8th Nov:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Thu 16th Nov:** Meeting in the parish centre at 8pm for parents who wish to enrol their children in the 2024 First Holy Communion programme.

TWO VACANCIES AT ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL

Our caring, Catholic school has been described as one which *'inspires pupils with determination to change the world'* (*Ofsted 2020*). Now St Edmund's school is looking to welcome a **part-time Administrative Assistant**, supportive of our school mission and Catholic ethos to join our happy, motivated children.

Our school also currently has a vacancy for a **part-time Teaching Assistant**.

Please contact The School Business Manager (01235 521558 or clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk) to request an application pack. **Closing date: Friday 27th October at 12.00 noon.**

CHURCH TWINNING – BARN DANCE

This will be on Saturday 18th November. Come and join us for a Barn Dance with a difference at Trinity Church Hall, Conduit Rd featuring French 'Bourree' and English Barn Dancing, accompanied by Natalan, a ceilidh band from Argentan in Normandy. We will start at 5.30pm with a workshop to learn the Bourree dance steps followed by refreshments. The Barn Dance proper starts with the Bourree dance session from 7.30 to 8.30pm, followed by refreshments, finishing with an English Barn Dance from 9 to 10pm. Tickets are £10 a person (children free) and there are a limited number. For more details or to book tickets, please contact Anne Dodd (peteranne@aol.com) or Pat Warren (patwarren14@hotmail.com)

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES

Will take place next month on Sunday 5th November. 10.15am in our churchyard, and 1pm at Spring Road.

WE PRAY FOR:

Maria Fleming RIP. Funeral Wed 8th November at 12noon.