

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

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

**MASSES:**

Thank you for helping to keep each other safe by continuing to wear face masks/coverings, for sanitising your hands as you enter the church, and for maintaining a reasonable distance from others where feasible.

**OFFICE CLOSURE**

The office will be closed from 24<sup>th</sup> December until Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

**NEWSLETTERS**

Items for the newsletters of the weeks beginning 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. and 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan. should be sent to the office not later than Wednesday. 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec. please. Thank you.

**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS**

As we rejoice in once again celebrating Christmas with our loved ones, let us spread our joy around the world by having a CAFOD World Gift under the tree. From energy saving stoves to weatherproof crops to emergency shelters, CAFOD's virtual charity gifts help transform the lives of families living in poverty. Buy online at [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts) or pick up a catalogue in church.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

Please generously give a donation in thanks and praise this Christmas celebrating and thanking Fr Jamie for all the dedication, guidance and care he gives in our parish and pastoral area. Our Christmas Collection on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> December supports Father Jamie in his vocation and mission: bringing people closer to Jesus Christ, through His Church. You can also make a donation online on the *Home* page of our website or in the *News* section.

**4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent**

**Sunday 19 Dec.**

8.45am Mass (Private Intention)  
10.15am Mass (Mary Duncan RIP)  
2.00pm Mass in Polish  
6.30pm Mass (*Special Intention*)

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Monday 20 Dec.**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (Joan & Leslie Ashton RIP)

**Tuesday 21 Dec.**

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 Dec.**

6.30pm Rosary  
7pm Mass (John Stephen Brady RIP)

**Thursday 23 Dec.**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass (Doreen Domoney & Max Bregazzi RIP)

**Friday 24 Dec.**

6.00pm Mass  
8.30pm Mass (*The Nativity of the Lord*  
(Jim & Matthew Carey RIP)  
(Private Intention )

**Saturday 25 Dec.**

8.45am Mass  
10.15am Mass  
12pm Mass  
2.00pm Mass in Polish (*The Nativity of the Lord*  
(Christina Hicks 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday)  
(Special Intention)  
(Sheila Delany RIP)

**EMMAUS COLLECTION – THANK YOU**

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the collection last Sunday for Emmaus, who help the homeless to rebuild their lives. The total received was £1,680.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

**Christmas Eve:** 6.00pm & 8.30pm

**Christmas Day:** 8.45am; 10.15am & 12.00pm

Due to the current situation with Covid, you are also able, and may prefer, to follow the Masses on our live stream. If you attend in person, please dress warmly!

## LENT 2022 PARISH CHARITY FUNDRAISING

During the season of Advent, the PPC ask you to think about charities which we could sponsor during Lent 2022. We would ideally like to fundraise for 2 charities, one local/UK based and one worldwide. Please give this some consideration and send your suggestions for the charities to the parish office by **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2022.**

## ABINGDON FOOD BANK

Please remember the foodbank!

### **Urgent items needed are:**

- Long life cow's milk (semi-skimmed or whole); ● Sugar; ● Bottles of squash; ● Tinned meat for hot meals – mince, stews, meatballs; ● Instant coffee; ● Cleaning spray; ● J cloths (other brands are available!); ● Bleach; ● Dried chickpeas and couscous.

### **Christmas hampers**

Last Christmas they gave out Christmas hampers to over 200 local households. This year, they are doing the same and so are asking for donations of the items below, with *best before dates of 26th December or later:*

|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Tins of ham               | Tins of salmon      |
| Tins of potatoes          | Tins of carrots     |
| Tins of peas              | Gravy granules      |
| Cranberry sauce           | Stuffing            |
| Christmas puddings        | Tins of custard     |
| Mince pies                | Tins of fruit       |
| Jars of pickles/chutney   | Crackers for cheese |
| Sweet biscuits            | Seasonal cakes      |
| Sweets                    | Chocolates          |
| Crisps and savoury snacks | Toiletries          |

**Donations can be dropped off at the Foodbank on Northcourt Road on Tuesdays and Fridays between 11am and 1pm.**

## CHRISTMAS DAY GIFT BAG

Thank you so much for all your donations and help, both beforehand and next Saturday. We are all set to deliver 100 Gift Bags and have a chat on the doorstep, if they wish, on Christmas Day to those on their own who have been referred to us. Please pray for the deliverers and the recipients. There are some photos on our website of the contents of the bag and some parishioners packing the bags.

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the Parish Centre after the 10.15am Mass.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Jan:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.
- **Mon 10<sup>th</sup> Jan:** JTIF (Journeying Together in Faith), 7.30pm to 9pm in the parish centre. All welcome.

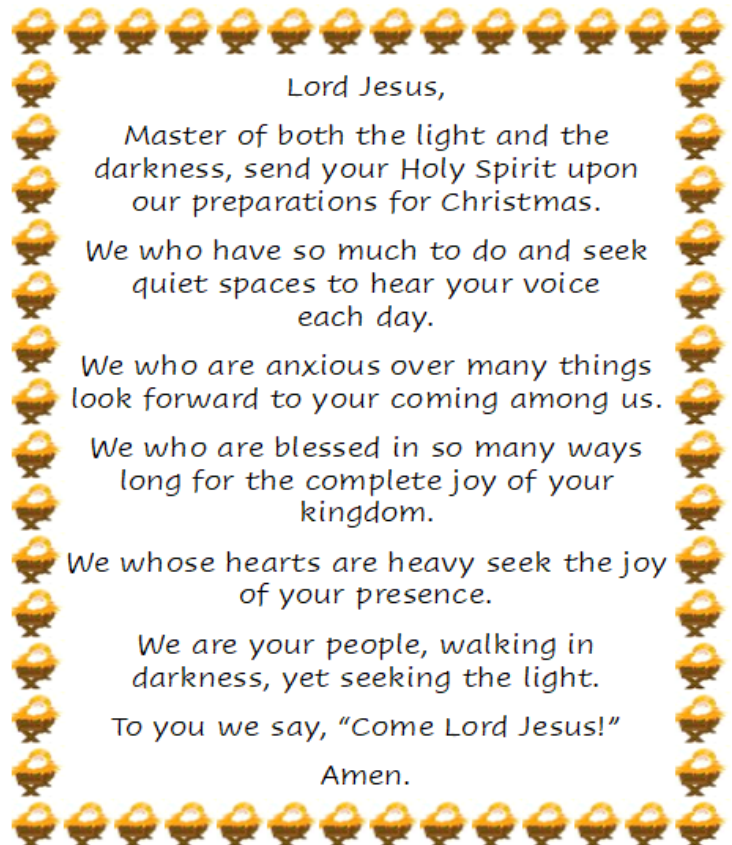
## JTiF - JOURNEYING TOGETHER IN FAITH

Sessions will resume in the parish centre from 7.30pm to 9pm, on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January. All welcome.

## CAFOD APPEAL

CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Advent, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives. You can donate on the CAFOD website: [cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal](http://cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal) and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

## ADVENT PRAYER - WEEK 4



## WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

Nora McMurtrie RIP, Funeral on Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Dec at 11.30am.

Ewart Hemmings RIP

Margaret Birks RIP