

# ***Our Lady & St Edmund of Abingdon*** ***1 Radley Rd, Abingdon on Thames, Oxon, OX14 3PL***

Parish Priest: Fr. Jamie McGrath Tel: 01235 520375  
Parish Secretary: Lisa Paterson Tel: 01235 520375  
Office Hours: 9am-12pm Monday to Friday  
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk  
*We live stream most services (the 10.15am Mass on the first Sunday of every month is not live streamed).*  
Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230  
Visits at JR Hospital: Fr Pius 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: 11.00 - 11.30am or by appointment**

## **Parish Life**

**A New Year's Prayer.** *Lord, you make all things new. You bring hope alive in our hearts and cause our spirits to be born again. Thank you for the New Year of 2020 and for all the potential it holds. Come and kindle in us a mighty flame so that many will see the wonders of God and live forever to praise your holy name. Amen*

**NEXT SUNDAY** there will be a second collection for the White Flower Appeal.

**CHRISTMAS IN OUR PARISH** You can view scenes from the Christmas celebrations in our church on our website blog at:

<https://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/parish-blog>

**Thank you** to everyone for donations given at our Tea and Mince Pie morning after Mass on the 22nd December. We collected £150 for the O'Hanlon House for the homeless in Oxford.

**BIBLE ALIVE** - This booklet is an excellent aid to reading and understanding the Holy Scriptures. The January edition is now available at the back of the church (only £2.50).

**Parish Lunch** this coming Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 12.30pm in Parish Centre.

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 4 Rawlings Grove. 7:45-9pm. All welcome! Info Ab 528528.

**CAKE & CONVERSATION** resumes this Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January from 9.30 to 11am in the parish centre. Anyone whose first language is not English is warmly welcome to this friendly informal group.

**The Baby and Toddler group** reopens this Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January in our parish centre on Oxford road at 9.30am.

## **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

### **Sunday 5 January**

8.45am	Mass	Tony Miles RIP
10.15am	Mass	Geoff Wyatt RIP
4.30pm	Polish Mass	
6.30pm	Mass	Fr. Phil Carroll Intentions

### **Monday 6 January**

8.30am	Rosary	
9am	Mass	Patrick & Teresa O'Brien RIP

### **Tuesday 7 January**

NO Mass See: [www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/thames-isis-pastoral-area](http://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/thames-isis-pastoral-area) for other masses

### **Wednesday 8 January**

6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	John Mead RIP

### **Thursday 9 January**

9am	Rosary	
9.30am	Mass	Naughton Family Intentions

### **Friday 10 January**

11.30am	Requiem Mass	Elizabeth Alder RIP
6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	David Lloyd RIP

### **Saturday 11 January**

8.50-10.15am	FHC (Session 1)	
10.15	Mothers Prayers	
11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
11-11.30am	Confessions	
12 noon	Mass	Private Intention

**Parish Lent Project 2020** Looking ahead to the Lent Project 2020, do you wish to propose a charity? Please think about whom you would like the parish to help through our next Lent Project and send your proposal to the Parish Council, through the parish office by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. Many thanks.

We will be running the **Alpha Course** again next term, on Tuesday evenings, starting mid January. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore the Christian faith in a relaxed and safe way. Great for both those new to faith and those who are wanting to look at faith again. [www.alpha.org.uk](http://www.alpha.org.uk). Please contact [clare@claresimpson.com](mailto:clare@claresimpson.com) for more details.

The monthly **Healing Mass** will be taking place at the Carmelite Priory, Boars Hill, on Tuesday 7th January at 7pm. Several parishioners go regularly and you will be made very welcome.

Everyone is welcome to join **Mothers' Prayers** which will be meeting in the Church, by Our Lady's statue, on Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Jan 10.15am - 10.45am. This is a wonderful chance to pray for our children, grandchildren, godchildren using a little booklet of prayers. We have experienced so many wonderful answers to prayer. We come together to offer all our burdens in the safe hands of God. There is also a Mothers Prayers group in Spanish - please contact the Parish Office for more information

**JOURNEYING TOGETHER IN FAITH (JTIF)** This course, suitable for anybody with an enquiring mind who would like to grow their faith, resumes on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Jan at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. All very welcome. Information on the content of the programme available on pink sheet on table at back of the church.

In mid-January, we will be running an 8 week course on the **Bible**, called *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible*. It gives the big picture of the Bible and God's unfailing love for us. 30 min DVD presentation then discussion and sharing. It will run on Thursday mornings and possibly another day/time. Please contact [clare@claresimpson.com](mailto:clare@claresimpson.com) if you are interested.

**The God Who Speaks** Coming to our parish Lent 2020 - *Sycamore* - What is *Sycamore*? How can we find happiness? What is the meaning of life? Is there a God? *Sycamore* is an informal set of films about the Christian faith and its relevance today. Each *Sycamore* session involves a short film with some time for discussion in an atmosphere that builds a real sense of community, and a spirit of trust and friendship. We have used the *Sycamore* films as part of *RCIA* in the parish over the last four years and it has proved to be an overwhelming joy for many people, it has enabled them to open their hearts and to share their faith in ways they never imagined possible. Many people who were reluctant to speak about faith openly, have gained confidence and trust through participation in the discussion topics, and have been amazed at the difference it makes to their prayer life, to their understanding of scripture, and to their desire to develop a personal relationship with Jesus.

## Parish Events for the Week

**TODAY** Refreshments at 10.15am Mass

**Wednesday** Cake & Conversation 9.30am  
Parish Lunch 12.30pm

**Friday** Baby & Toddler Group 9.30am

**N.B. All take place in the Parish Centre unless specified**

## Future Diary Dates

**12<sup>th</sup> Jan** White Flower Appeal, Church

**14<sup>th</sup> Jan** RCIA resumes 7.30, Parish Centre

**15<sup>th</sup> Jan** Journeying Together in Faith (JTIF) resumes, 7.30pm Parish Centre

## Youth Events

### SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

\* *Children of Our Lady (COOL)* group meets from 3.30 to 5.00pm in the Parish Centre (primary school years 3 to 6 are all invited).

\* *St Edmund's Knights* meet from 3.30-5.00pm in the Parish Centre (young people in secondary school are all invited).

Reminders of future events are always included in the parish weekly newsletter and the full programme can be viewed in the youth section on our parish website at: [www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/events](http://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/events)

More info: [bhabayeb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:bhabayeb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

*Sycamore* was produced and written by Fr Stephen Wang, a priest of the Westminster Diocese, who has his own particular style and who enjoys introducing people to the amazing riches of our Catholic culture and history. To introduce us to the theme of Celebrating, Living and Sharing God's Word, and to prepare us for the *Sycamore* films, Fr Richard Ounsworth O.P. a Dominican priest from Oxford, will open our Lenten sessions with a talk on Monday 2nd March. Dates and title of sessions to follow. All sessions will take place in the parish centre on Monday evenings 7.00pm

## We pray for:

- The repose of the soul of Elizabeth Alder RIP. Requiem Mass Fri 10<sup>th</sup> Jan at 11.30am.

**Money Matters:** 29<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
Envelopes £247.65 Loose Plate £608.37  
Average weekly Gift Aid Standing Orders £995  
Many thanks

**Counters:** D. & B. Stacey, J. Dowling

**Cleaners:** W. O'Brien