

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

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

## **REFLECTION**

Generally speaking, people welcome the light. But St John says that when the light of Christ came into the world there were those who did not welcome it. Why not? Because their deeds were evil, and they were afraid the light would expose them. Alas, we too often find ourselves in the shadows. We do not always welcome the light of Christ and live joyfully in it. In Christ there is no trace of darkness. His truth shows up our lies. His integrity shows up our falseness. Therefore, we should not be surprised if we sometimes feel uncomfortable in his presence. We do not always follow his light. We follow other lights – flares in the night, candles in the wind. When these lights go out, the darkness is greater than if they had never shone.

Christ, radiant Light of the World, Messenger of the Father's love, guide our steps in the way of truth. Lead us through the gloom of this world until the Father's eternal light shines upon us.

## **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

Almighty and eternal God, in your unfailing love you provide shepherds for the flock. We pray for those whom you call to serve the Church in our Diocese and beyond. Inspire in them a generous response. Grant them courage and vision to serve your people. May their lives call your people to respond to the presence of your Spirit among us, that, faithful to the Gospel, we may announce glad tidings to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives, set prisoners free and renew the face of the earth. Amen.

## **LENTEN PROJECTS 2024**

We are supporting two charities. *Friends of the Holy Land*, supporting our Christian brothers and sisters in Palestine in the Holy Land and *Helen & Douglas House*, our local hospice for children, living with life-limiting and terminal conditions. More information is available on noticeboard and on our parish website in the *What's On* section, where you can also make donations online. *Please think of ways you can raise money and let the PPC know through the parish office. Thank you.*

## **Fourth week of Lent: Cycle 2 (B)**

### **Sunday 10 March**

|         |                |  |
|---------|----------------|--|
| 8.45am  | Mass           | <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b><br>(Pat & Wendy Cox, RIP) |
| 10.15am | Mass           | (Betty Hemmings, RIP)                                  |
| 2.00pm  | Mass in Polish |  |
| 6.30pm  | Mass           | (John Joe Delaney, RIP)                                |

### **Monday 11 March**

|        |        |                         |
|--------|--------|-------------------------|
| 8.30am | Rosary |                         |
| 9.00am | Mass   | (John Joe Delaney, RIP) |

### **Tuesday 12 March**

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 13 March**

|        |        |                     |
|--------|--------|---------------------|
| 6.30pm | Rosary |                     |
| 7.00pm | Mass   | (Joy Stafford, RIP) |

### **Thursday 14 March**

|        |        |                          |
|--------|--------|--------------------------|
| 9.00am | Rosary |                          |
| 9.30am | Mass   | (Bernadette Holmes, RIP) |

### **Friday 15 March**

|        |                       |                              |
|--------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 6.00pm | Stations of the Cross |                              |
| 6.30pm | Rosary                |                              |
| 7.00pm | Mass                  | ( <i>Special intention</i> ) |

### **Saturday 16 March**

|            |                                    |                              |
|------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 11am       | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |                              |
| 11-11.30am | Confessions                        |                              |
| 12pm       | Mass                               | ( <i>Special intention</i> ) |

## **SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY**

The second collection this *Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March* is for the *Clergy Assistance Fund*.

## **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

During Lent we will celebrate the Stations of the Cross each Friday evening at 6pm.

## THANK YOU!

Many, many thanks to all those who supported our *Big Breakfast and Produce Sale* Lenten fundraising effort last Sunday. Special thanks to the chefs who also supplied the food, and to all those who brought in goodies for sale. The produce sale raised £338.40, and the breakfast raised £428.27, giving a total of £766.67.

## PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MALTA & GOZO

A couple of spaces have become available on this pilgrimage from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> June. If interested, please contact Barbara on 07960 718632 by Monday this week.

## INSTRUCTIONAL MASS FOR LENT

During Lent this year I will be offering a series of "instructional Masses". I will celebrate these Masses at 5pm on Saturday evening – so they satisfy your Sunday Mass intention. The ideal number of participants will be 8 – 10 people at each Mass. Therefore, you will need to 'sign up' in advance. Remaining dates are: 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Please take advantage of this opportunity using the sign-up sheets on the table at the back of church. *Fr. Jamie*

## CURRY NIGHT

In aid of the two charities we are supporting for Lent, we are having a CURRY NIGHT on *Wednesday 13th March* from 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. We will have a selection of curries, including vegetarian. *So that we know how many to cater for, please sign-up to the evening using the form at the back of the church as soon as possible. This Sunday is your last chance to do so!* Donations will be welcome on the night. Please feel free to bring your own beer or wine. If you would like to get involved and perhaps make a curry for the evening, please contact Debbie on 01865 432423.

## LENTEN PROJECT CYCLE RIDE

One of our parishioners, David Porter, is doing a sponsored cycle ride from Preston to Abingdon (215 miles!) over three days in April, to raise funds for our Lenten charities. Please find the sponsor form on the table at the back of the church. You might like to sponsor per day, or just a total amount, and the money can be given to Fr Jamie or will be collected on the last weekend in April. Thank you for your support.

## GOLF DAY AT DRAYTON GOLF CLUB

A date for your diary - our regular fundraiser for the Lenten projects will take place on *Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April*. Once again, a big thank you to Mary McKenna for letting us hold this event at no cost. We will be meeting up from 8.30am for tea/coffee and bacon roll. First time is 9.32am. There will be the usual format of 4 players per team with best 2 to score on each hole, and prizes for the best two teams plus prizes for the nearest the pins on 3 holes. The price to join in is £25. Please contact Terry Murphy on 07584 248169 or 01235 527597 or email [terry.murphy62@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:terry.murphy62@yahoo.co.uk)

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 10.30am to 2.30pm.
- **Wednesday:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Wednesday:** *Curry Night* from 7.30pm in the parish centre, in aid of our Lenten fundraising.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.
- **Friday:** *St Patrick's Day* celebrations in the parish centre from 6.30-10pm.
- **Friday:** Stations of the Cross at 6pm in our church.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Catholic Grandparents Association (CGA) talk in the parish centre at 2pm. All welcome.
- **Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Apr:** *Golf Day* fundraising event at Drayton Park Golf Club from 8.30am.

## ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

*Friday 15th March*, 6.30pm-10pm in the parish centre. Enjoy an evening of Irish music, song, dance and food to help raise money for the Lenten project. Tickets £17.50 per adult and £7.50 per child to include Irish stew and selection of deserts, vegan option also. Tickets available on Sunday 10th March after 10.15am Mass, or email Laura to reserve tickets: [lauraashleycarter@btinternet.com](mailto:lauraashleycarter@btinternet.com) or Bernadette: [bernadette.m.osullivan@gmail.com](mailto:bernadette.m.osullivan@gmail.com) or phone Laura on 07947 178394. Drinks available on the night or bring your own. Great raffle on the night. We look forward to seeing you there! Tea and cake after 10.15am Mass on St Patrick's Day too.

## LIVE SIMPLY PARISH

One of the commitments of being a *LiveSimply* parish is to reduce our waste production. *Abingdon Carbon Cutters* has produced a useful anonymous *Challenges and Survey* which would help us to do this. The link to the Challenges and the Survey is available on the *News* page of our parish website. Replies, if possible, by 15th March.

## ST THÉRÈSE - FAITH IN THE FAMILY

An open invitation for all our parish to listen to parishioner Joanne Mosley give a talk on *St Thérèse of Lisieux, Faith in the Family*, on Wednesday 20th March at 2pm in the parish centre.

## WE PRAY FOR

Dearlean (Dee) Wright. RIP. Funeral Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 10am.