

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:

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 24th December until Tuesday 4th January.

NEWSLETTERS

Items for the newsletters of week beginning 26th Dec. and 2nd Jan. should be sent to the office not later than Wednesday. 22nd 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 or pick up a catalogue in church.

THE CHURCH SYNOD

Pope Francis is gathering the entire Church to a 'synod' to unpack the question: *'What changes need to be made – in myself, in our parish and in the Diocese – to make the church's mission today more vibrant and effective?'* We are all invited and encouraged to take part. There is a form available at the back of the church to put down your contact details and meeting preference (physical or virtual using Zoom). Once completed, please put your form in the red box labelled 'Synod'. Thank you for doing this **by THIS Sunday 12th December**.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: 6.00pm & 8.30pm
Christmas Day: 8.45am; 10.15am & 12.00pm

3rd Week of Advent

Sunday 12 Dec.

8.45am Mass

10.15am Mass

2.00pm Mass in Polish

6.30pm Mass

Third Sunday of Advent

(Jo & Graham Sanderson
60th Wedding Anniversary)

(Marguerite Innes &
Mary Glynn RIP)

(Private Intention)

Monday 13 Dec.

8.30am Rosary

9.00am Mass

St Lucy

(*Special Intention*)

Tuesday 14 Dec.

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

St John of the Cross

Wednesday 15 Dec.

6.30pm Rosary

7pm Mass

(*Special Intention*)

Thursday 16 Dec.

9.00am Rosary

9.30am Mass

(*Special Intention*)

Friday 17 Dec.

6.30pm Rosary

7pm Mass

(*Special Intention*)

Saturday 18 Dec.

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

11-11.30am Confessions

12pm Mass

(*Special Intention*)

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS ON OUR WEBSITE

There is an interactive Advent calendar on our website *Home* page, video reflections in the *What's On* section, and activities for primary school children in the *Youth* section. The *News* page also contains weekly prayers.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE 10.15am MASS

Please note that this Sunday (12th December) there will be no refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass, due to preparations for the parish lunch

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 7th Jan. 2022.**

ABINGDON FOOD BANK

Please remember the foodbank!

Regular items needed are:

● Tinned soup; ● Sauces for rice - e.g. curry, sweet & sour, etc.; ● Small tinned baked beans or spaghetti hoops, etc.; ● Shampoo; ● Shower gel for men; ● Sturdy carrier bags; ● Washing up liquid; ● Cartons of long life fruit juice; ● Bottles of squash.

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.

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

- Nora McMurtrie RIP, Funeral on Wed 29th Dec at 11.30am
- Maria Gimigliano. Funeral on Fri 17th Dec at 11am.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Parish Christmas lunch in the parish centre for those who have already signed up.
- **Monday:** JTiF (Journeying Together in Faith), 7.30pm to 9pm in the parish centre. All welcome.
- **Thursday:** Grandparents' Association meeting in the parish centre at 2.30pm. All welcome.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sun 19th Dec:** Refreshments in the Parish Centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Fri 7th Jan:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

CIA CAROL SERVICE

The Church in Abingdon is planning a Carol Service in the Market Place on **Saturday 18 December from 11.00am - 12.00pm.** The aim is not to collect money but to hand out leaflets about Christmas services in Abingdon churches. We hope that Our Lady & St Edmund's will be represented at the event. If you would like to take part, and/or if you're interested in helping the choir to lead, please let Margaret Hancox know. (01235 524534 or margaretdhancox@gmail.com)

SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY

Emmaus Oxford offers homeless people in our local area accommodation, support and work. Emmaus believes that those who are homeless need more than a roof over their head to change their lives for the better. Their motto is "give people a bed, and a reason to get out of it." They take a long-term approach getting to know and support each person living and working with them, preparing individuals for life outside the community and helping them to get ready for paid employment. A sincere thank you to all those people in our parish who have made donations of many and various items to the Emmaus shop in Cowley, and to the parish community of Our Lady and St Edmund of Abingdon for donating one of your advent collections to Emmaus this year.

GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The next meeting of the Grandparents' Association is on the 16 December at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre. This will be our third meeting. They have been interesting get togethers, enjoyed by those present and providing an interesting exchange of experiences of being grandparents. New members are welcome.

ADVENT PRAYER - WEEK 3

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. May this Advent continue to be a time of spiritual awakening and renewal for us as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Saviour of the World. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.