

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

We are all very much influenced by what others think and say about us. We all like to be well thought of by others. There is a danger here. We might make popularity the goal of our lives, and we might forget the only thing that matters – the reality of who and what I am. No matter what others may think of me, God thinks well of me, because I am his child. Each of us can say that. “Faith without good works is dead”. So says the Apostle James in one of the most important sayings of the New Testament. A watch that has a gold chain, but which does not tell the time is worthless. A fruit tree which in Spring is full of blossoms and leaves, but when autumn comes has no fruit is false and is only taking up space. It is the same with faith. A faith that does not lead to works of love - such as compassion, kindness, forgiveness – is fake and useless and dead. Mother Teresa puts it like this “If we believe, we will love. If we love we will serve”.

PARENTS PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Almighty and eternal God, in your unfailing love you provide ministers for your Church. We pray today for those whom you call to serve the Church as priests. Inspire in them a generous response. Grant them courage and vision to serve your people. May their lives and service 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.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

- The second collection today, Sunday 15th September is for *Home Missions*.
- The second collection for next Sunday, 22nd September is for the work of our parish *St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)*.

Week 24 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 15 Sept.

8.45am Mass (Anthony McDonald Intentions)
10.15am Mass (Sheila Hales In Thanksgiving)
6.30pm Mass (Allen Aldridge Intentions)

Monday 16 Sept.

St Cornelius & St Cyprian

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

Tuesday 17 Sept.

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

Wednesday 18 Sept.

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

Thursday 19 Sept.

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Hugh McCormack RIP)

Friday 20 Sept.

St Andrew Kim Taegon, St Paul Chong Hasang & Companions

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

Saturday 21 Sept.

St Matthew

11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12pm Mass (Sr. Veronica Intentions)

MASS AND CONFESSIONS

Please note that as Fr Jamie will be away, there will be no Masses on Monday, Wednesday and Friday this week. There will also be no Confessions on Saturday. No Mass also on Monday 23rd and Wednesday 25th September. Back to normal after that.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY

This Sunday is known as *Evangelii Gaudium Sunday*, an opportunity to reflect on the great mandate we have been given by the Risen Lord to evangelise the whole world. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations," the Lord commissions, as we hear in Matthew 28:19. Inspired by our ongoing Synodal process, Scripture, and Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, the Bishops Conference have chosen the theme 'Growing as missionary disciples'. Today, we can encourage the faithful to pray for our parish communities, that they would become intentionally missionary in their life and witness. There are links on the *News* page of our parish website to help you find out more.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC: RCIA SESSIONS

Do you want to find out more about Jesus? Would you like to become a Catholic, be baptised or confirmed into the Catholic Church? Our weekly sessions begin on **Wed 18th September** at 7.30pm-9.00pm via zoom. If you would like to meet the RCIA team before we begin, you are invited for coffee and cake on Sunday 15th September after 10.15 am Mass in the parish centre. For further details and zoom link please email Pauline Hanley: pehanley@hotmail.com

MARIAN PRAYER

Fr. Claro and Faringdon Parish invite you to Marian Prayer on **Saturday 12th October** at 4pm. Followed by a shared supper (Please bring a dish but avoid nuts in case of allergies).

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

We desperately need fresh volunteers to come forward. Firstly, our Baby & Toddler group on a Friday morning needs some help to bring the toys from the garage and clear them away at the end. If you can help, please contact the office or speak to Fr Jamie directly. Also, in order to re-launch Children's Liturgy at the 10.15am Mass for 20-25 minutes and rejoin the congregation for the Eucharistic Prayer, we really need some young mums and dads to try this. Again, please contact the office or speak to Fr Jamie.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT DEMONSTRATION

A wonderful flower arrangement demonstration by Elizabeth Wait is taking place at St Mary Magdalene church in Shippon on **Thursday 3rd October** at 7.30pm. If you would like a ticket, please contact David or Daphne Tonks on 01235 523859.

MISSIO RED BOXES

It is that time of year when we need to collect and count the MISSIO Red Boxes. If you have a box and it is full, please call Clare on 01235 524861 or Wendy on 01235 534873, and they will arrange collection. Thank you.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Wednesday:** RCIA sessions begin at 7.30pm via Zoom. See information in newsletter.
- **Wednesday:** Mothers' Prayers in French at 8pm in the parish centre. All welcome.

FUTURE DATES

- **Tue 24th Sept:** *Alpha* course begins in the parish centre from 7pm to 9.30pm.
- **Fri 4th Oct:** CAFOD family fast day.

SEASON OF CREATION

The message from Pope Francis and other resources for the Season of Creation, can be viewed on the *News* page of our parish website.

ALPHA COURSE

Alpha is for **everyone and anyone**. If you want to know more about Jesus, this is the course for you. It will take place in the **Parish Centre** on **Tuesday evenings** from **7pm to 9.30pm** for **11 weeks**, **beginning on 24th September**.

The format of the evening will begin with a supper, followed by a short video (approx. 30mins) and then a very relaxed small group discussion. All welcome and **it is free!** The full programme can be seen on handouts at the back of church or downloaded from our parish website.

If you have any questions or want to let us know you are coming, please email either Jimena: jimena.belmonte@gmail.com or Sandar: sandarwade@yahoo.co.uk.

TRAINING AND FORMATION DAY FOR READERS

Saturday 19th October 10.30-2pm at St Bede's, Basingstoke. Led by Fr. Anthony Fyk, Director of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. This is a wonderful opportunity for all our readers at Mass. Please register at liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

TRAINING AND FORMATION DAY FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS IN OUR PASTORAL AREA

Saturday 12th October at English Martyrs, Didcot. The day led by Sr. Judith. Please register with Fr. Dominic in Didcot: office@didcotandwallingfordcatholicchurches.org.uk
A wonderful opportunity for our Eucharistic Ministers.