

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

Today's gospel talks about some people who refused an invitation to a wedding feast, and others who accepted it. We are here because God in his love has invited us, and we have accepted his invitation. But we presume love is not enough. Very important is the Spirit in which we come. We should come in a spirit of thankfulness and joy. Today is a banquet of truth and goodness, a banquet of holiness and grace, a banquet of justice, love and peace. Vincent van Gogh once wrote "My only anxiety is how I can be of use in the world. But one feels a terrible discouragement, one feels an emptiness where there might be friendships, and one exclaims: "How long God?" There may be a great fire in our souls, but no one ever comes to warm himself beside it, and the passerby sees only a wisp of smoke coming through the chimney and pass on their way. So, what must one do? We must go on tending the inner fire and wait patiently for the hour when somebody will come and sit down near it to stay there maybe. Let those who believe in God wait for that hour, for it will come sooner or later".

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

God who calls us all to contribute to this Kingdom, take our insecurities and vulnerability and weave them through with your holy confidence which always reassures us that we have something to offer. As we explore what you are asking of us, we pray for integrity of heart, clarity of mind and yearning to love and serve others wherever that may take us. We pray for deep peace about our next step, and for God's light in our eyes. Amen.

CLOSER TO CHRIST

This weekend we launch the Parish Phase of Closer to Christ, the Diocesan wide fundraising campaign each parish is invited to support. In Abingdon we began last month, but this Sunday marks the same invitation to all parishioners. (I will say more on Sunday from the pulpit).

Fr. Jamie

Week 28 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 1 (A)

Sunday 15 Oct.

8.45am Mass (Private Intention)
10.15am Mass (Paul, Stella & Simon Worrallo RIP)
2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass (Mary Conway-Behan RIP)

Monday 16 Oct.

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Paterson Family Intentions)

Tuesday 17 Oct.

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

Wednesday 18 Oct.

St Luke (Evangelist)
6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Ned Moriarty RIP)

Thursday 19 Oct.

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (Private Intention)

Friday 20 Oct.

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass (Private Intention)

Saturday 21 Oct.

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass (Maria Loretta Harvey RIP)

PARISH OFFICE

Please see new parish office opening hours are now 8.15am until 12.15pm Tuesday to Friday.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY (22nd OCT)

The second collection for next Sunday (22nd October) is for **FOREIGN MISSIONS**. Through our donations on World Mission Sunday, we can support our Church family overseas through:

- Faith and Outreach projects which restore the dignity and hope of vulnerable children and families in need of our care.
- Supporting Catholic missionaries who give their lives to share God's mercy and compassion with those most in need.
- Building New churches to be beacons of hope for those seeking a place to pray and to celebrate God's love for us.

Please use the envelope available at the back of the church from this Sunday or use the electronic device at the back of the church, or give online at mission.org.uk/donate. Thank you.

OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE ROSARY

The Rosary draws its mysteries from the New Testament and is centred on the great events of the Incarnation and Redemption, with each decade referring to an event in the life of Jesus and Mary. Why not join in praying the Rosary with others, 30 minutes before all weekday Masses in our church. By praying the rosary, we can draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND (FHL)

FHL will be selling Christmas cards at church in the weeks leading up to Christmas. Do bear this in mind before you buy your Christmas cards elsewhere, as your contributions will help FHL to support the Christians living in the Holy Land through their mission to secure a resilient and enduring community for Christians in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan. FHL representatives will be speaking at the Masses on Sunday 29th October. In the meantime, please pray for peace in this very troubled area.

NEW TO THE PARISH? OR CHANGED ADDRESS?

We warmly welcome all new parishioners who have joined our parish in the last year. Please do make yourselves known if you have not already done so, and also let us know if you would like to contribute to parish life in any way. If you have already registered with us, but have changed your address or contact details, please also let us know. Forms and other information are available on our website and are also available in the porch at our church. Also, it would be very helpful if any family or household is moving away, or leaving the parish, would please let us know. Otherwise, it's very difficult to keep our records current. Many thanks.

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11.30am to 2.30pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

FUTURE DATES

- **Wed 8th Nov:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Thu 16th Nov:** Meeting in the parish centre at 8pm for parents who wish to enrol their children in the 2024 First Holy Communion programme.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

We meet on-line every second & fourth Wednesday evening at 8 pm for an informal hour of praising Our Lord, reading and meditating on Holy Scripture, plus intercessory prayer. For more details, please contact Mike & Maria Pia Oliver on Ab. 528528 or via the Parish Office. *'Come and see'* (John 1:39)

TWO VACANCIES AT ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL

Our caring, Catholic school has been described as one which *'inspires pupils with determination to change the world'* (Ofsted 2020). Now St Edmund's school is looking to welcome a **part-time Administrative Assistant**, supportive of our school mission and Catholic ethos to join our happy, motivated children.

Our school also currently has a vacancy for a **part-time Teaching Assistant**.

Please contact The School Business Manager (01235 521558 or clomas2266@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk) to request an application pack. **Closing date: Friday 27th October at 12.00 noon.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

There will be a meeting in the Parish Centre, on **THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER AT 8pm**, for parents who wish to enrol their children in the 2024 preparation programme. It is **ESSENTIAL** that parents attend this meeting to receive enrolment forms and a copy of the programme. If you have any queries, please contact Hilary Webb at humwebb53@gmail.com

SVP

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVP) would like to thank all parishioners and friends that give their generous support to our conference so we can extend their love to those in more need in our community.

WE PRAY FOR:

Eileen Alexander, RIP