

# ***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  
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*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 – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

We know how badly Peter acted on the night of the Lord's passion; how he denied his master, not once, but three times. Yet in today's gospel we see how Christ restored him to where he was before and confirmed him as chief shepherd of his flock. We remember times perhaps when we have written off other people. Christ does not write us off. He gives us a chance to cancel out our failures by love. The stranger on the shore got them to say, "We caught nothing – we failed!" If we can say these words in the presence of someone we trust, then suddenly failure loses its power over us. It is sometimes easier to say them to a sympathetic stranger than to a friend. Then the stranger told them to let down the net once more. They did so and made a large catch of fish. This shows when Christ is only a shadowy figure on the margins of our lives, we are still okay if we do what he says. But once Peter recognised the stranger, he wanted to encounter him, he wanted to be near him. There is a world of difference between those who have encountered the risen Lord, and those who obey a stranger. The Risen Lord nourishes those who encounter him, and he gives them a task; "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep".

### **VOCATIONS PRAYER**

Dear Lord. I come before you, acknowledging your sovereignty over all things. Guide our youth with your gentle hand. May your voice be the one they hear amidst the clamour of this world, calling them to a life of service and devotion. Grant them courage, O lord, to embrace your will for them. May their hearts be open and their minds receptive to your call. In moments of doubt or confusion, give them your wisdom. Lead them, Father, to walk in right paths. Give them strength and perseverance to follow their calling and instil in them a spirit of humility to serve you faithfully and selflessly. May they find joy in the journey of their vocation, knowing in each step they are doing your will. We entrust our youth to the Lord. Amen.

### **Third Week of Easter: Cycle 1 (C)**

#### **Sunday 4 May**

8.45am Mass  
10.15am Mass  
6.30pm Mass

#### **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

(Ted Kelly RIP)  
(Florence Young RIP)  
(Tereza Cole-Morgan RIP)

#### **Monday 5 May**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass

(Alberto Incarbona RIP)

#### **Tuesday 6 May**

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 7 May**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass

(Mike Paterson Intentions)

#### **Thursday 8 May**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass

(Florence Young RIP)

#### **Friday 9 May**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass

(Florence Young RIP)

#### **Saturday 10 May**

11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass

### **SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK**

The second/retiring collection on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May** will be for the *Clergy Training Fund*.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN

Please also pray for the 30 children who will be making their First Holy Communion on 10th and 11th May, and please pray for their families as well.

## LENTEN FUNDRAISING - THANK YOU

Thank you to the young people of our parish who raised £252 for our Lenten projects from the car washing they did last Sunday. Our appeal is now closed, and we have raised something in the region of £12,369 for our two charities, but with gift aid still to be added. The PPC will announce the full total in due course. Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our Lenten fundraising.

## CALLING ALL FAMILIES

We will be celebrating our next Children's Mass at 10.15am on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**. We will be asking children to help us with welcoming, the offertory procession, the collection and singing, and would also like some children to read the First and Second Readings (taken from the Lectionary for Masses with Children) and the Bidding Prayers. If your child would like to read a reading or prayer at this Mass, then please email Fiona Semple at [reception@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:reception@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk) and she will send you the words so that your child can practise. Thank you in advance for your support!

## ABINGDON FOOD BANK

As a parish, we encourage you to please continue to support the Abingdon Food Bank, especially as an increasing number of people need access to this service. For practical reasons, and because nearly all supermarkets now have collection points as you leave their premises (making it easier for you to place your donations), please do not leave your contributions in our church.

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE

CHARIS Portsmouth is arranging a new Life in the Spirit course online on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm, starting Thursday 8th May. There are seven sessions (with a week off over half-term at the end of May) and a Holy Spirit Day live at English Martyrs Church in Reading on Saturday 7th June. You can register for the course using the link on the *News* page of our parish website.

## OPEN DOORS

There will be **no** Open Doors sessions on the following dates as we don't meet on Bank Holidays: 5<sup>th</sup> May (May Day) and 26<sup>th</sup> May (Late May Bank Holiday).

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Tuesday:** JTiF (*Journeying Together in Faith*) final session in the parish centre at 7.30pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am **in term time**.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Mon 12<sup>th</sup> May:** Open Doors in the parish centre from 10.30am to 2.30pm.

## JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

## PRAYER FOR THE CONCLAVE

Heavenly Father, we pray in union with the whole Church for the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Cardinals. May the Princes of the Church listen attentively to Your Spirit during the conclave. Almighty God, we pray that the conclave brings us a Pope who pleases You by guiding Your Church to grow in faithfulness to You. We pray together with the intercession of our Mother Mary and all the Saints. Please Lord, protect and guide your Church during this time of transition. Amen.

## 25 YEARS of CHURCH TWINNING

To celebrate, we will be hosting visitors from our twin towns of St Niklaas, Schongau and Argentan from Thurs 12 - Mon 16 June. We will organize a programme of daily events, but we are looking for hosts to offer accommodation for the 4 nights or provide an evening meal for one or two guests on the Saturday. All the guests speak good English, so there will be no language problems. If you can help or need more details, please contact Pat Warren: [patwarren14@hotmail.com](mailto:patwarren14@hotmail.com) 07526 0033715 or Anne Dodd: [peteranne@aol.com](mailto:peteranne@aol.com) 01235 525997.

## WE PRAY FOR:

- Florence Young, RIP. Funeral Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm.
- Tereza Cole-Morgan, RIP. Funeral Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon.