

# ***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](mailto: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**

“Speak Lord your servant is listening”. We will hear these words in the first reading this Sunday. They remind us that we are here to listen to God. In the gospel we will hear Jesus say to his first disciples “Come and See”. They accepted his invitation and had a wonderful encounter with him, after which their lives were never the same again. Here we too can encounter Christ, our Saviour. God’s call is mysterious – it comes in the darkness of faith. It is so fine, so subtle, that it is only with deepest silence within us that we can hear it. Any yet, nothing is surer or stronger, nothing is so decisive and overpowering as that call. This call is uninterrupted; God is always calling us. May we never allow Christ to pass us by. May we not confine him to the margins of our life. May we rather invite him into our lives. May he become our Friend our brother, and our companion on the road to the Fathers Kingdom.

## **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

Almighty and Eternal God, in your unfailing love you provide ministers for your Church. We pray for those whom you call to serve the Church as priests and deacons. 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 and hope of Jesus Christ we may announce glad tidings to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives, set prisoners free and renew the face of the earth.

## **PEACE SUNDAY**

This Sunday is designated by the Bishops of England and Wales as the Sunday to promote the Pope’s Message for the World Day of Peace. There will also be a collection for Pax Christi, the International Catholic Movement for Peace <http://www.paxchristi.org.uk>

## **Week 2 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)**

### **Sunday 14 Jan.**

8.45am Mass (Joe Lardner intentions)  
10.15am Mass (*Special intention*)  
2.00pm Mass in Polish  
6.30pm Mass (Yosi Monahan RIP)

### **Monday 15 Jan.**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (sean Jenkins RIP)

### **Tuesday 16 Jan.**

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 17 Jan.**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (*Special intention*)

### **Thursday 18 Jan.**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass (Nicole Allsopp)

### **Friday 19 Jan.**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (In Thanksgiving  
Evaoghene Phoebe Ogbalor  
2nd birthday)

### **Saturday 20 Jan.**

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass (*Special intention*)

## **COLLECTION FOR THE CATHEDRAL**

Next Sunday (21<sup>st</sup> January) our second collection is for our Diocesan Cathedral – St John’s in Portsmouth.

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Church in Abingdon (CiA) welcomes everyone to participate in a 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity' with the theme of 'Caring for our Planet'. This year the united service will take place at our own church - Our Lady & St Edmund's - next *Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January* between 4-5pm with a talk which it is anticipated will prove very interesting by speakers Martin and Margot Hodson. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service. From Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January there will be each day a series of talks, conversations and prayer with a number of different speakers at St Nicholas' Church from 12 to 1pm. We do hope that you will be able to attend some or all of these events. The full programme in detail can be viewed on the *News* page of our parish website, but here is a synopsis:

- *Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January* - 'EcoCurch - a way of mobilising congregations to care for creation' led by Dale/Olivia Warburton, Christchurch
- *Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January* - 'Plastic Pollution and what we can do about it' led by Anne Smart Abingdon Carbon Cutters 'Eco Cleaning' led by Kim Jones Abingdon Carbon Cutters
- *Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January* - 'Reducing your transport footprint' led by Robin Tucker Abingdon Liveable Streets.
- *Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January* - 'Climate Change and biodiversity' led by Martin Hodson, John Ray Initiative
- *Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January* - 'For their futures: One Planet Climate Emergency Climate Centre and the work we are doing with young people' led by Michelle Charlesworth, OPACEC

## MARY'S MEALS FUNDRAISER 2024

*Oxford Gospel Choir* will perform in a concert in aid of *Mary's Meals* on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm at Our Lady and St Edmund's Church.

Tickets available after Sunday Masses:

- £10 adults
- £5 children under 12

*Double the Love* is now extended until 31<sup>st</sup> January, so all monies raised will now be doubled! Thank you all in anticipation for your support. Please contact Sue Richards on 07598 315375 for more information.

## CAFOD SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in your local Catholic schools by delivering an assembly or a workshop? Supported by CAFOD with training and all resources provided please consider the role of CAFOD school volunteer. For more information contact Jo Lewry [jlewry@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jlewry@cafod.org.uk) or phone 07710 094447.

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Sunday:** United Service in our church for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, at 4pm.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 10.30am to 2.30pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time
- **Saturday:** *Mary's Meals* fundraiser at 7pm in our church with the *Oxford Gospel Choir*.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Jan:** *Mary's Meals* fundraiser at 7pm in our church with the *Oxford Gospel Choir*.

## BURNS NIGHT

Celebrating Burns Night on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm, Conduit Centre Trinity Church Abingdon OX14 1DB. Tickets are £25 including meal and drinks and are available from *Abingdon Bookstore* and via [www.abingdonpassionplay.co.uk](http://www.abingdonpassionplay.co.uk) or Anne Green Ab. 520171 and Mary Mulqueen Ab. 534873. Proceeds are in aid of *Abingdon Passion Play* which takes place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024.

## NEW TO THE PARISH - OR RECENTLY CHANGED ADDRESS?

We warmly welcome all new parishioners who have joined our parish. Please do make yourselves known if you have not already done so, so that we can be in touch with you. If you have already registered with us, but have changed your address or contact details, please also let us know. Registration forms and other information are available on our website and are also available in the porch at our church. Thank you.

## LIGHT FOR THE BLIND - FATHER THOMAS

Fr Thomas is well and is working hard and making plans for his hospices in India. He sends his blessings and best wishes for 2024 to all his friends in Abingdon. Regular supporters should have received a copy of the annual *Light for the Blind* newsletter. If you have not received one there are extra copies on the table at the back of church.

*Abingdon Trustees*

## THANK-YOU

Sincere thanks to all the helpers who, week after week, prepare and serve out lunches on a Monday at Warm Spaces/ Open Doors and at the Parish Lunch each month. It is very much appreciated. Thank you and God Bless. Brian and Doreen Keane.