

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

"My House is a house of prayer," so says the Lord. It is only we who can make of this Church a true house of prayer. We come here each Sunday to pray, not just individually, but collectively as members of a family should. Let us reflect on the attitude we bring with us to church. Here we should draw close to the Father in prayer. We pray first of all by being here. Then we pray with our lips. But most of all we pray with our heart. Unless our heart is behind what we say, then our words are no better than a gong booming or cymbal clashing.

Here we also draw close to one another as members of a family. The quality of our prayer depends on the bond that exists between us. If we are united in heart and mind our prayer will ascend to heaven like fragrant incense. But if we are not reconciled with one another our prayer will be like a choir singing out of tune.

Lord Jesus, help us to make this house a true house of prayer.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Father, we are your people, the work of your hands. So precious are we in your sight that you sent your Son Jesus. Jesus calls us to heal the broken hearted, to dry the tears of those who mourn, to give hope to those who despair, and to rejoice in your steadfast love.

We, the baptised, realise our call to serve. Help us to know how. Call forth from among us, priests, sisters, brothers and lay ministers. You continue to love your people through our hearts. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

LENTEN PROJECTS 2024

We are supporting two charities. *Friends of the Holy Land*, supporting our Christian brothers and sisters in Palestine in the Holy Land and *Helen & Douglas House*, our local hospice for children, living with life-limiting and terminal conditions. More information is available on noticeboard and on our parish website in the *What's On* section, where you can also make donations online.

Third week of Lent: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 3 March

8.45am Mass
10.15am Mass

2.00pm Mass in Polish
6.30pm Mass

Third Sunday of Lent

(Private intention)
(Tom, Helen & Finbar Hurley, RIP)

(Nuala Lardner, RIP)

Monday 4 March

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass

(Joe Lardner, intentions)

Tuesday 5 March

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

Wednesday 6 March

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

Thursday 7 March

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass

(Dee Wright, RIP)

Friday 8 March

6.00pm Stations of the Cross
6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass

(*Special intention*)

Saturday 9 March

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

(*Special intention*)

WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH

Please note that there will be no Mass on this date.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY

The second collection on *Sunday 10th March* is for the *Clergy Assistance Fund*.

BIG BREAKFAST AND PRODUCE SALE

This takes place this *Sunday 3rd March* after the 8.45am and 10.15am Masses. Come along and enjoy a bacon, sausage or vegetarian roll, tea, or coffee, and to aid our Lent Fundraising effort. Cakes, and other edible items and goodies can be dropped off at the Parish Centre any time after 8.30am this Sunday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent we will celebrate the Stations of the Cross each Friday evening at 6pm.

INSTRUCTIONAL MASS FOR LENT

During Lent this year I will be offering a series of "instructional Masses". I will celebrate these Masses at 5pm on Saturday evening – so they satisfy your Sunday Mass intention. The ideal number of participants will be 8 – 10 people at each Mass. Therefore, you will need to 'sign up' in advance. We began on Saturday 24th Feb, and other dates are: 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd March. Please take advantage of this opportunity using the sign-up sheets on the table at the back of church. *Fr. Jamie*

CURRY NIGHT

In aid of the two charities we are supporting for Lent, we are having a CURRY NIGHT on *Wednesday 13th March* from 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. We will have a selection of curries, including vegetarian, so please do come along and join us. *So that we know how many to cater for, please sign-up to the evening using the form at the back of the church as soon as possible.* Donations will be welcome on the night. If you would like to get involved and perhaps make a curry for the evening, please contact Debbie Brooks on 01865 432423.

GOLF DAY AT DRAYTON GOLF CLUB

A date for your diary - our regular fundraiser for the Lenten projects will take place on *Monday 8th April*. Once again, a big thank you to Mary McKenna for letting us hold this event at no cost. We will be meeting up from 8.30am for tea/coffee and bacon roll. First time is 9.32am. There will be the usual format of 4 players per team with best 2 to score on each hole, and prizes for the best two teams plus prizes for the nearest the pins on 3 holes. The price to join in is £25. We usually get terrific support from our golfers for this very worthy event. Please contact Terry Murphy on 07584 248169 or 01235 527597 or email terry.murphy62@yahoo.co.uk

LENTEN PRAYER INVITATION

The webpage for Ignatian Spirituality offers amazing opportunities to grow and deepen spiritually during Lent. I would recommend "*Through Lent with Pope Francis*". There is also a booklet that goes with it. You can preview the book and order. It complements our reflections on the Year of Prayer. Please visit www.iscglasgow.co.uk

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Big Breakfast and Produce sale in the parish centre after both morning Masses.
- **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.
- **Friday:** Stations of the Cross at 6pm in our church.
- **Saturday:** Mothers' Prayers in English at 10.15am in the church.

FUTURE DATES

- **Wed 13th Mar:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Wed 13th Mar:** *Curry Night* from 7.30pm in the parish centre, in aid of our Lenten fundraising.
- **Fri 15th Mar:** *St Patrick's Day* celebrations in the parish centre from 6.30-10pm.
- **Wed 20th Mar:** Catholic Grandparents Association (CGA) meeting in the parish centre at 2pm. All welcome.
- **Mon 8th Apr:** *Golf Day* fundraising event at Drayton Park Golf Club from 8.30am.

ST PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Friday 15th March, 6.30pm-10pm in the parish centre. Enjoy an evening of Irish music, song, dance and food to help raise money for the Lenten project. Tickets £17.50 per adult and £7.50 per child to include Irish stew and selection of deserts, vegan option also. Tickets available on Sunday 3rd and 10th March after 10.15am Mass, or email Laura to reserve tickets: lauraashleycarter@btinternet.com or Bernadette: bernadette.m.osullivan@gmail.com or phone Laura on 07947 178394. Drinks available on the night or bring your own. Great raffle on the night. We look forward to seeing you there! Tea and cake after 10.15am Mass on St Patrick's Day too.

DIOCESAN LITURGY PROJECT

The Diocese now have a Liturgy website, which provides reflection, guidance and a chance to ask questions. You can access this via the *News* page of our parish website.

Two training days are also being offered - one for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and one for readers. These will be held at St Bede's Church and Hall in Basingstoke as follows:

- Day for EMHC – Saturday 4th May
- Day for Readers – Saturday 19th October

Again, more information is available on the News page of our parish website.

WE PRAY FOR

Dearlean (Dee) Wright. RIP. Funeral Wednesday 13th March at 10am.