

**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: 9am - 12.30pm Tuesday to Friday  
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

*We live stream all services*

Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230  
Visits at JR Hospital: 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

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No 246871 [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Confessions: Saturdays 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment**

**FR THOMAS – LIGHT FOR THE BLIND**

We are pleased to announce that Fr Thomas is coming to the UK later this month and will be making an appeal for funds here at each Mass on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July. He sends his love and good wishes to all parishioners and supporters of his charity, giving succour and comfort to the abandoned dying destitute street people of South India, and is looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible after an absence of two years.

Your continued generosity will be greatly appreciated, without which Fr Thomas could not continue to fulfil God's word - *"Whatsoever you do to one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me."*

**GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Grandparents, Great Aunts and Great Uncles are all invited and most welcome to come to our next gathering on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July** in the Parish Centre at 2.30pm – it includes tea and cake! If you would like more information, please contact Clare on 524861 or Mary on 534873.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS**

The Holy Father has written a message for the Second World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly, that is to be held on 24th July. Its theme is *"In old age they will still bear fruit"* (Psalm 92: 15). You can read the message on the *News* page of our website.

**PRAYER FOR UKRAINE AND RUSSIA**

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine and Russia,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and  
wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world, that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters  
in need.

May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine and Russia  
and for all the world. Amen.

**Week 16 of Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (C)**

**Sunday 17 July**

8.45am Mass (Gerard Hannigan RIP)  
10.15am Mass (Paddy McKenna RIP)  
2.00pm Mass in Polish  
6.30m Mass (*Special Intention*)

**Monday 18 July**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (Stanislaw Dyjak RIP)

**Tuesday 19 July**

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 20 July**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (Eamon Donnelly RIP)

**Thursday 21 July**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass (Pat & Geoff Castle Intentions  
60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)

**Friday 22 July**

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

**Saturday 23 July**

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass (Roy Topp RIP)

**St Mary Magdalene**

**St Bridget of Sweden**

**BIBLE ALIVE**

Limited copies of the July and August editions of this helpful daily reflection are available on the table at the back of the church.

## UPDATE ON ST MONICA'S SCHOOL IN MALAWI

A few days ago, the school bought 2,000 exercise books for MK 500,000, which is around £400. You can see a picture of the children with their books on the *News* page of our website.

The head teacher has met with all the local chiefs a couple of days ago, who were very excited to hear the news that the school will get extra facilities. They have given their full support and have given permission for the school to collect river sand and rocks for the foundation. The school committee will meet soon to organise a programme for people to give a helping hand in collecting these materials. Meanwhile next week the school will hire a lorry to collect other materials needed such as quarry stones, bricks etc. They hope to have all the materials on the spot so that in August the contractor and his team can immediately begin work. A block of 2 classrooms with each classroom also having an office or store will be built and also 6 toilets: 3 for the boys and 3 for the girls.

## SUMMER CAMP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The annual summer camp is run by The Dominican Sisters of St. Joseph and an experienced team of volunteers who have been running *Fanning the Flame* events for over 20 years. The camp is for young people aged 11 to 21 years, and it will take place again at the Priory this year from **15th -19th August**. More information and booking forms can be found via this link <https://www.fanningtheflame.co.uk/summer-camp>

## SYNOD – NATIONAL SYNTHESIS DOCUMENT

The diocesan reports were submitted to the Bishops' Conference just before Holy Week, and since then, the National Synthesis Team has produced the "National Synthesis" – reflecting on the reports received, discerning the main themes that have emerged from the listening conversations, and collating them together to give a picture of the synodal process in England and Wales. You can read the National Synthesis document, which will be sent to Rome, by using the link on the *News* page of our website.

## BISHOP PHILIP HONOURS ERROL

Last Sunday, Fr Jamie presented a certificate and medal from the Bishop to Errol Midwinter, in recognition and thanks for his great contribution over many years to the children preparing for their First Holy Communion and also for his voluntary work at St Edmund's School.

## PARISH YOUTH GROUPS

Our two parish youth groups – *Children of Our Lady (COOL)* for children in Years 3 and above in primary school, and *St Edmund's Knights* for young people in secondary school, will be reconvening again from September. ***We need of adult volunteers to help. If you would like to join us on this lively and worthwhile enterprise, please speak to Barbara or contact her via the presbytery office before the end of July. Thank you.***

## PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Thu 28<sup>th</sup> July:** Grandparents' Association gathering in the parish centre at 2.30pm.
- **Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Baby & Toddler group resumes.

## FLAME YOUTH GATHERING

This is taking place on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March** next year, and is an awesome and inspiring experience for young people in Year 9 or above, at College, or Uni, or a young adult. Tickets to attend *Flame 23* are now on sale at the early bird price of £24 and it is expected that they will be snapped up quickly, so act soon if you would like any, by contacting the Diocese by email: [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Clothing bearing the Diocesan logo and transport from Portsmouth Cathedral are also available for purchase.

## DOMINICAN SISTERS OFFER COURSES

The sisters are inviting all catechists, seasoned and new, and all children's Liturgy leaders and helpers to attend their **Diocesan Day for Catechists**, which will be taking place on the **8<sup>th</sup> of October in Winchester**. All details and registration here:

<https://www.pffm.org.uk/catechists>

## WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023

If you are going to be aged 16 or above by July 2023, you are invited to join with like-minded young people from across the diocese to journey on pilgrimage to Lisbon for World Youth Day in the Summer of 2023. This is a life changing experience for all those who accept the invitation and this pilgrimage, led by Bishop Philip, is set to be the best one yet! Spaces are limited! Please find out more and register your interest **ASAP** using the links on the *News* page of our website.

## BABY & TODDLER GROUP

The group is taking a summer break now and will resume meetings on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

## ENCOUNTER FESTIVAL

The Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill are running a Young Adult event from **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July** for people aged 25 to 35. The event will be held both at the Oxford Priory and online. There are some fliers on the table at the back of the church, a poster on our outside notice board, and a link to more information and booking on the *News* page of our website.

## CIA NEWSLETTER

Copes of the July edition are available in the porch.

## WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF:

Michael Ellwood (son of Jane Ellwood).