

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 the Church invites us to celebrate the mystery of the Trinity. We begin and end each Eucharist with the names of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit on our lips. This is a mystery to be celebrated with childlike love and trust. God is a Father to us, he is a brother to us, he is a Consoler and guide to us. This should be the atmosphere in which we live and move and have our being. Yet we sometimes relegate the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to the margins of our lives. Isaac Newton was one of the greatest minds who ever lived. Yet towards the end of his life he said of his achievements: "I do not know what I appear to the world, but to myself I appear to have been like a little boy playing on the seashore and diverting myself in now and then, finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered in front of me". Even when we think we understand the mystery of God we are still only beginning. We are still only children playing on the shore. But Jesus has lifted the veil on the mystery and our lives have a goal. We have a Father who cares about us, a brother who died for us, and a Spirit who will guide us to the shores of eternity. Glory be.....

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. In Baptism we were signed in your name and have grown to share in the work of bringing the Father's love to our world. May we respond to the special work that you call each of us to. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Week 8 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 26 May

8.45am Mass
10.15am Mass

6.30pm Mass

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

(Sylvia Brown RIP)
(Paul, Stella & Simon
Worrallo RIP)
(*Special Intention*)

Monday 27 May

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass

St Augustine of Canterbury

(*Special Intention*)

Tuesday 28 May

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

Wednesday 29 May

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass

(*Special Intention*)

Thursday 30 May

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass

(*Special Intention*)

Friday 31 May

6.30pm Rosary
7.00pm Mass

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(*Special Intention*)

Saturday 1 June

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

St Justin

(*Special Intention*)

MONTH OF MAY

The month of May is traditionally known as 'Mary's Month'. Why not join other parishioners before the weekday Masses to pray the Rosary together?

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE

Experience the Life-Changing power of the Holy Spirit! The Seminars are being organised by our Diocese, and Bishop Philip hopes we all take advantage of this opportunity. The meetings are on Zoom every Thursday evening 7.30 to 9 pm for 7 weeks starting on 6th June and ending on 18th July. There will also be an In-Person Holy Spirit Day on Saturday 29th June at 10.30am at St Bede's Church Basingstoke. Please register for the Seminars on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/u8pfmafww>

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please remember in your prayers the young people from our parish who recently received the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral, and also the children who made their First Holy Communion last weekend. Please pray for their families as well.

ABINGDON PASSION PLAY

This will take place on 22nd June in the Abbey Gardens. There will be two performances: 12 noon & 5 pm. Want to get involved? We are still looking for the following: stewards, actors (to play temple guards, soldiers and crowd) and general helpers on the day. For more information, please see the website, www.abingdonpassionplay.co.uk or contact Ralph on 07790 498718 or Anne Green 01235 520171 or annegreenabingdon@yahoo.com

HOSTS NEEDED IN JUNE

A number of people from churches in Abingdon's twin town of Sint Niklaas in Belgium and possibly Argentan in France will be coming for the weekend of Abingdon's Passion Play. Hosts are needed for their stay from Thursday 20th to Mon 24th June. There is a full programme arranged. For further details and/or offers to host please contact Anne Dodd 07938526762 or Pat Warren 07526033715

CAFOD

Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church this Sun 26th May or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Bishop Philip invites all married couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th (or longer) Wedding Anniversary to join him for this year's Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke on **Saturday 7th September at 2:00pm**. If you would like to attend, please email for an application form at: anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

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

FUTURE DATES

- **3rd to 10th June:** Parish pilgrimage to Malta & Gozo. Please keep the group in your prayers, as you will be in our prayers.
- **Wed 12th June:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.

OPEN DOORS

Please note that there will be no *Open Doors* session on Monday 27th May as it is a bank holiday.

BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Please note that there will be no *Baby & Toddler* group session on Friday 31st May - schools' half term.

PAX CHRISTI

Copies of the Annual Report 2023 - 24 are on the table at the back of church. Please help yourself to a copy. Pax Christi is the International Catholic Movement for Peace.

TAIZÉ PRAYER

You are invited to St Helen's Church in Abingdon to join in Taizé prayer at 5.30pm on 9th June and 14th July.

FANNING THE FLAME SUMMER CAMP

Bookings for the 2024 *Fanning the Flame* summer camp are now open for 11- to 18-year-olds. The theme this year is 'Transformed' and the week of **Monday 19th - Friday 23rd August** at Kintbury will be spent delving into how we are transformed through our relationship with God, Creator and Redeemer. Book early to avoid disappointment!! For booking forms and more info head to the link on the *News* page of our parish website.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Our bishops are asking all Catholics to respond to the government's consultation on lifting the current 50% faith-based admissions cap on free schools. Go to <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/faith-schools-consultation-response/> where you can show your support for this, which will allow new Catholic free schools to be founded.

RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS

The Diocesan vocations team invite all young adults (18 - 35'ish') to a Summer Retreat Day with the theme: "*God's Call to Missionary Discipleship and Living Our Vocation*" on **Saturday 8th June**, 10.30am at St Philip Howard Church/Hall, Fareham, PO14 1ND. For more information, visit the *News* page of our parish website or email: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk