

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

In today's Gospel, Jesus instructs His apostles not to bring anything with them when they were sent to spread the Good News, except the clothes and sandals they were wearing. We would not find it easy today to go anywhere without making some preparations – packing, booking accommodation, travel arrangements, getting enough currency, etc! But Jesus' instruction was given to teach a spiritual lesson – that of learning to rely on the power of God and not on our own abilities. Letting go of our own control of our lives in this way is not easy, as we tend to worry and fear the consequences. But God asks us to trust in Him. The more we learn to place our trust in God for what we need (not necessarily what we want), the more we will overcome fear and worry and realise just how much God does actually do for us!

We can take small steps in showing our trust in God, for example, by learning to live more simply or giving a little more generously and trusting that our donations to the Church or to charities will be used for good, as God intended.

Whatever we experience in life, Christ assures us that He is *always* with us. Let us offer everything to Him on trust and with the help of the Holy Spirit, strive to do God's will.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Loving and generous God, it is You who call us by name and ask us to follow You. Help us to grow in the love and Service of our Church as we experience it today. Give us the energy and courage of Your Spirit to shape its future. Grant us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ's mission of love and justice. Bless this parish by raising up dedicated and generous leaders from our families and friends, who will serve Your people as Sisters, Priests, Brothers, Deacons and Lay Ministers. Inspire us to know You better and open our hearts to hear Your call. Bless those who are serving now with courage and perseverance, and grant that many will be inspired by their example and faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Week 15 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)

Sunday 14 July

8.45am Mass (Pat Castle Intentions)
10.15am Mass (Michael Ellwood RIP)
6.30pm Mass (Private Intention)

Monday 15 July

St Swithun

8.30am Rosary
9.00am Mass (Private Intention)

Tuesday 16 July

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

Wednesday 17 July

St Bonaventure

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

Thursday 18 July

9.00am Rosary
9.30am Mass (*Special Intention*)

Friday 19 July

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

Saturday 20 July

11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11-11.30am Confessions
12pm Mass (James & Ann Fay Intentions
60th Wedding Anniversary)

PARISH OFFICE

The parish office will be closed from Tuesday 13th to Tuesday 27th August.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

The second/retiring collection this **Sunday 14th July** is for the *Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris)*, the largest ship-visiting network in the world, who improve the lives of seafarers and fishers through their network of local chaplains and seafarer centres, expert information, advocacy, and spiritual support. Let us remember especially those seafarers who are sailing through conflict zones and those who have been abandoned in distant lands. You can find out more by visiting the *News* page of our parish website, where you can also make your donations. Donations can also be made in the church in the usual way.

VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

We desperately need fresh volunteers to come forward. Firstly, our Baby & Toddler group on a Friday morning needs some help. Karen has to move on for personal reasons (a huge thanks to her for her dedication over the past years). It would be great to get some help to bring the toys from the garage and clear them away at the end. If you can help, please contact the office or speak to Fr. Jamie directly.

Also, we failed to re-launch Children's Liturgy at the 10.15am Mass after the pandemic. Again, this would help the children greatly to have their own Liturgy of the Word for 20-25 minutes and rejoin the congregation for the Eucharistic Prayer. We really need some young mums and dads to try this. We have books and aids for the sessions. Again, please contact the office or speak to Fr. Jamie.

PARISH DAY

Our Parish Day this year will be celebrated on **Sunday 21st July**, with the *only* morning Mass at 10.30am in the 'garden' behind the parish centre. There will be a 6.30pm evening Mass as usual. The morning Mass will be followed by a barbecue and there will be activities for children as well *if we have volunteers to organise and run them*. Cheques will also be presented to representatives from our Lenten projects – *Friends of the Holy Land* and *Helen & Douglas House*.

- We are looking for volunteers to organise and run activities for children after the Mass. If you have any ideas which you could do yourself, please could you let the PPC know as soon as possible via the parish office. Thank you.
- We will also need volunteers to help to set up the chairs before the Mass (from 8am). Again, please let us know as soon as possible via the parish office. Thank you.

Please note that there will be a limited number of chairs available, which we hope can be used by the elderly and less able, so if you can, please do bring your own chairs or mats or blankets to sit on.

ABINGON CHORALE SOCIETY SUMMER CONCERT

The Concert scheduled for today (Sunday 14th) will now start at 5pm (to avoid the Euros final!)

PARISH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday:** Refreshments in the parish centre after the 10.15am Mass.
- **Monday:** *Open Doors* in the parish centre from 11am to 2pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am *in term time*.

FUTURE DATES

- **Sun 21st July:** Parish Day, with outdoor morning Mass at 10.30am.

ALPHA COURSE

Alpha is for everyone. If you want to know more about Jesus, this might be the course for you. It will take place in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9.30pm for 11 weeks, beginning on **24th September**. The format of the evening will begin with a sit-down dinner, followed by a short video (approx. 30mins) and then a very relaxed small group discussion. Everyone is welcome and it is free! The full programme can be seen on the poster on our parish noticeboard, in the parish centre, and on our parish website, where you can also download it. Flyers are also available at the back of the church.

We are looking for a team of people to cook, to serve food, setting up and clearing up the parish centre during the *Alpha* course please. We have a small group of willing volunteers already but would like more names on our list.

If you have any questions or can let us know that you will volunteer your help, please email either Jimena: jimena.belmonte@gmail.com or Sandar: sandarwade@yahoo.co.uk

"YOU WILL BE MY WITNESS"

The same announcement is being shared at all Masses across the Pastoral Area today about our journey to date and planning for the future of Bishop Philip's 10-year pastoral plan.

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

We pray for:

- Pat Belcher RIP. Funeral Wed 17th July at 12noon.
- Gwendoline Mary Marsh RIP