

# ***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**

The readings of today's Mass talk about the bond of love that marriage creates between man and woman, a bond that God does not want to see broken. We come to this Eucharist as isolated individuals. But the Eucharist properly understood and celebrated, creates a bond of love between us. Christ does not want to see this bond broken. But unfortunately, through our selfishness, we often break it. There are three possible levels of communication between a husband and wife. The first is really no communication at all. Though they are physically close, their minds and hearts never meet. They are like shells on a shore. The second is a superficial level. They make polite but meaningless noises to each other. They never talk about their feelings, and rarely give each other signs of affection. The third is real communication. They are not afraid to show each other that they are full of fears and anxieties, that they are deeply wounded by sin and selfishness. It is only when we reveal our wounds to someone who accepts us that healing can happen, and we can grow. A marriage without love is like a summer without the sun. Lord, teach us how to love.

## **VOCATIONS**

God our Father, you made each of us to use our gifts in the body of Christ. We pray that you inspire our young people to offer themselves in a life of love and service to your people in the priesthood and consecrated life as Deacons, Brothers and Sisters. Send workers into your great Harvest so that the gospel is preached to the poor and that they are served with love. We pray the suffering may be comforted, and your people are strengthened by the Sacraments. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **SECOND COLLECTION**

The second, retiring and optional collection today, **Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> October** is for CAFOD, following the Fast Day last Friday. You can use the envelopes provided to put in your donations into the red boxes as you leave Mass. Thank you for your generosity.

## **Week 27 in Ordinary Time: Cycle 2 (B)**

### **Sunday 6 October**

8.45am Mass (James P. Griffin RIP)  
10.15am Mass (Deceased members of Thornton family)  
6.30pm Mass (Christopher Kearney RIP)

### **Monday 7 October**

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass (*Special Intention*)

### **Our Lady of the Rosary**

### **Tuesday 8 October**

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 9 October St John Henry Newman**

6.30pm Rosary  
7.00pm Mass (James Kinsella RIP)

### **Thursday 10 October**

9.00am Rosary  
9.30am Mass (Anne Alleman-Greeney RIP)

### **Friday 11 October**

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

### **Saturday 12 October**

11am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
11-11.30am Confessions  
12pm Mass (Frank O'Toole RIP)

## **THANK YOU**

Our parish St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) group thanks everyone who so generously contributed to our funds to help those who are in need. Thank you!

## **PARISH OFFICE**

The parish office will be closed on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd October.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

There will be a meeting in the Parish Centre, on **THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER AT 7.30pm**, for parents who wish to enrol their children in the 2025 preparation programme. It is ESSENTIAL that parents attend this meeting to receive enrolment forms and a copy of the programme. If you have any queries, please contact Hilary Webb at [humwebb53@gmail.com](mailto:humwebb53@gmail.com)

## LIGHT FOR THE BLIND

Fr Thomas is making a short visit to the UK and will be in Abingdon, celebrating all three Masses next Sunday 13th October. He is not seeking to raise funds on this occasion, but he will provide an update on the work of the charity and the current situation in India.

## OCTOBER - MONTH OF THE ROSARY

The Rosary draws its mysteries from the New Testament and is centred on the great events of the Incarnation and Redemption, with each decade referring to an event in the life of Jesus and Mary. Why not join in praying the Rosary with others, 30 minutes before all weekday Masses in our church. By praying the Rosary, we can draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

## ABINGDON FOOD BANK

Abingdon Food Bank needs our support more than ever now, with the increasing cost of living adversely affecting those already struggling to make ends meet. A typical food parcel might contain cereal, soup, pasta, rice, tinned tomatoes/pasta sauce, lentils, beans and pulses, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tea/coffee, tinned fruit, biscuits, UHT milk, fruit juice. Also, toiletries, nappies and household cleaning items are welcomed. Donations can be taken to the places listed below. Financial donations are also welcome. Thank you.

LOCATION OF FOOD DONATION POINT	OPENING HOURS
Waitrose Abingdon, Abbey Close, OX143HL	7.30am to 9pm (8pm Sat)
North Foodbank, Christ Church, Northcourt Rd, OX14 1PL	Tues to Fri - 10am to 1pm
South Foodbank, Preston Road Community Centre, OX14 5NR	Wed - 1pm to 2:30pm

## CHRISTMAS DAY 2024

For a number of years churches in Abingdon have welcomed people who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day. This year we will be inviting 60 people to have a two-course lunch for free with us at Peachcroft Christian Centre. We need a number of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer and to find out more please email [Christmaslunch24@peachcroftcc.org](mailto:Christmaslunch24@peachcroftcc.org) as soon as possible. Many thanks.

## 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.
- **Tuesday:** *Alpha* course in the parish centre from 7pm to 9.30pm.
- **Wednesday:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.
- **Friday:** Baby & Toddler group in the parish centre 9.30am to 11.15am in term time.

## FUTURE DATES

- **Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Nov:** Parish lunch in the parish centre at 12.30pm.

## PAX CHRISTI

*Pax Christi* is the international Catholic movement for peace. There are copies of the current *Justpeace* newsletter on the table at the back of church. Please take one if you wish. This edition celebrates 50 years of *Justpeace* with a wide selection of articles on the work of Pax Christi over the last 50 years.

## ABINGDON MICHAELMAS FAIR SERVICE

All are welcome to join the traditional 'Fair Service' in the Market Place, Abingdon on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm. The service will be followed by the opening of the fair from 4pm to 9pm.

## BIBLE ALIVE

*Bible Alive* is a Catholic scripture magazine with daily reflections from the Bible which can help us to draw life, strength and power to live the Christian life. Limited copies for £3 each are available at the back of the church.

## TRAINING & FORMATION DAY FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS IN OUR PASTORAL AREA

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October** at English Martyrs, Didcot. The day led by Sr. Judith. Please register with Fr. Dominic in Didcot: [didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) A wonderful opportunity for our Eucharistic Ministers.

## TRAINING AND FORMATION DAY FOR READERS

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October** 10.30-2pm at St Bede's, Basingstoke. Led by Fr. Anthony Fyk, Director of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions. This is a wonderful opportunity for all our readers at Mass. Please register at [liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## MARIAN PRAYER

Fr Claro and Faringdon Parish invite you to Marian Prayer on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October** at 4pm. Followed by a shared supper (Please bring a dish but avoid nuts in case of allergies).