

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-12pm Monday to Friday
Office Email: abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
We live stream most services (the 10.15am Mass on the first Sunday of every month is not live streamed).
Safeguarding Team: Tel. 07572 935 230
Visits at JR Hospital: Fr Pius 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

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Reg. Charity No 246871

www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Life

PARISH OFFICE: The Parish Office will now be closed until the end of April. More information as we get it.

MONEY MATTERS: If you are willing and able to set up a Standing Order to continue your support for our church during this pandemic period, you can find the necessary form on our website in the 'About Us' section and then 'Giving'.

Many thanks to those who have already made out standing orders or have managed to post your offerings at the presbytery during these difficult times, and especially thank you for your Easter offerings. *Fr Jamie*

BIBLE ALIVE: The Easter issue is now available. If you live locally and would like a copy dropped through your letter box, please email your name and address to: contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk

FOODBANKS: The Foodbank at Northcourt Road is open on Tuesday and Friday Mornings. Donations can be brought there between 9.30 and 1.00 pm, and parcels can be collected between 11.00 and 1.00 pm. On Wednesday the South Abingdon Foodbank is open between 1.00 and 2.30 at Preston Road Community Centre.

CATHOLIC PAPERS: Due to the Coronavirus, many of the UK Catholic Diocesan newspapers are now on one website (www.ChurchPaper.co.uk) so parishioners can stay in contact with their Church and their community. The website, www.ChurchPaper.co.uk, contains over 600 editions of newspapers.

SEEKING HELP: There are a number of people in the parish who are able to, and already do, offer some support and help to those who need it. This includes telephone conversations, shopping, collection of prescriptions. If you are in need of help or you know somebody who needs help, you can give us the details using the **form on the 'News' page of our website** or emailing: contact@ourladyandstedmund.org.uk You can also let us know if you are willing and able to offer any help using these same communication methods.

SECOND WEEK OF EASTER

All these Masses are live streamed only

Sunday 19 April (Divine Mercy Sunday, Second Sunday of Easter)
10.15am Mass (Helen & Jack Young, RIP)

Monday 20 April
9am Mass (Brendan McStravick, RIP)

Tuesday 21 April (St Anselm)
NO Mass See: www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/thames-isis-pastoral-area for other masses

Wednesday 22 April
7pm Mass (Stella Worrallo, RIP)

Thursday 23 April (St George)
9.30am Mass (Sheila Delany, RIP)

Friday 24 April
7pm Mass (Special intention)

Saturday 25 April (St Mark)
9am Mass (Sheila Delany, RIP)

THE PRAYER AND LISTENING SERVICE:

Sometimes it is difficult to pray when we are exhausted or in stressful situations or by ourselves. The diocese has created a team with experience in both praying with others and in spiritual listening. All of the volunteers are trained in this service and have been through the essential safeguarding training and other requirements. We are offering a service where people fill in a short form on the diocese website requesting a phone call, of 10-15 minutes usually. Additionally, we are asking key workers if they would like to give us their name and work place and we will pray for them by name each day. Please go to the home page of the diocese website and under "Coronavirus" you can click on a box called "Prayer Support".

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER DURING MASS:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

PRAYER DURING THE PANDEMIC (Pope Francis)

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

REFLECTION

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Psalm: Psalm 117 (118):2-4,13-15,22-24

Second reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel: John 20:19-31

The readings this Sunday are full of words of joy, hope and encouragement that come with faith. They are particularly poignant for these times.

St Peter says: *"Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls."*

In the Gospel, Jesus tells Thomas: *"You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."*

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, let us say with conviction: "Jesus, I trust in You."

Parish Events for the Week

NO EVENTS IN THE PARISH CENTRE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

N.B. All take place in the Parish Centre unless specified

Future Diary Dates

None available at this time.

Youth Events

YOUTH GROUPS

The Saturday youth groups will stop meeting for now as a precaution. We will let you know when they resume through our parish newsletter.

*Reminders of future events are always included in the parish weekly newsletter and the full programme can be viewed in the youth section on our parish website at: www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/events
More info: bhabayeb@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk*

LENTEN FUNDRAISING DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

- All events are postponed.

If you have a fundraising idea or plan to organise an event please inform Hilary Webb: 01235 525928 or Debbie Brooks: 01865 432423

SEQUENCE

Victimae Paschali Laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim
offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
have sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended:
combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain,
yet lives to reign.

The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope has risen:
He goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen
from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

WE PRAY FOR:

The repose of the souls of Michael & Mary Haughton