

Our Lady & St Edmund of Abingdon
1 Radley Rd, Abingdon on Thames, Oxon, OX14 3PL

Parish Priest: Fr. Jamie McGrath Tel: 01235 520375
 Assistant Priest: Fr. Rob Stewart 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).
 Youth Worker: Melanie Parris-Dollar E: tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Tel.07470 094818
 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

Confessions: 11.00 – 11.30am or by appointment

Parish Life

ADVENT CALENDAR Adults and children can follow Advent on our very own Advent calendar, which is on our website (www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk) in the 'What's On' section. In the coming week there will also be information on our Blog (in the 'News' section) and activities in the 'Youth' section.

TODAY The Sisters of Maria Stella Matutina Craft Sale after Masses in Parish Centre.

Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday 4th December.

St Edmunds School is having an Advent Mass in the school hall this Wednesday 5th Dec at 2pm all are welcome.

St Edmunds School Parent's Prayer Group invites the parish to join them each Friday during advent. This is held in the school at 9am.

Abingdon Scouts & Guides Christmas Post - A Christmas postal service run by the Scouts & Guides for delivery in Abingdon, Radley & Shippon only. Guaranteed delivery by Christmas Eve. Costs 25p per card and these may be deposited in the box at the back of the church. Collections will be from 17th November - 17th December. All proceeds to Scout & Guide funds to provide additional facilities for young people. We have secured the box and this will be emptied daily where possible. St. Edmund's Guides would like to thank you for your support.

WANTED volunteers for our Baby & Toddler Group especially between 9 and 9.30am on a FRIDAY to help carry equipment and craft from the garage to the parish centre. The baby and toddler group meet in the parish centre 9.30 to 11.15 am in term time. Our last session this term is December 14th. Come and meet us from 9.15am on a Friday morning in the parish or contact parish office for further information.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 2 December

| | | |
|---------|-------------|--------------------|
| 8.45am | Mass | Maurice Daly RIP |
| 10.15am | Mass | Eddie Mullin RIP |
| 4.30pm | Polish Mass | |
| 6.30pm | Mass | Johanna Hendry RIP |

Monday 3 December ST FRANCIS XAVIER

| | | |
|--------|--------|------------------------------|
| 8.30am | Rosary | |
| 9am | Mass | Griffiths Family Members RIP |

Tuesday 4 December

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|--------|--------|----------------------|
| 8.30am | Rosary | |
| 9am | Mass | Cyril & Ada Beck RIP |

Wednesday 5 December

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|--------|--------|-----------------------------|
| 6.30pm | Rosary | |
| 7pm | Mass | Cameron Paterson Intentions |

Thursday 6 December

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|--------|--------|---------------------------------|
| 9am | Rosary | |
| 9.30am | Mass | O'Leary Family Members (Dublin) |

Friday 7 December

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|--------|--------|---|
| 6.30pm | Rosary | |
| 7pm | Mass | Marguerite Innes RIP (1 st Anniversary) |

Saturday 8 December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH RECONSECRATION TO OUR LADY

| | | |
|------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 10.15am | Mothers Prayers | |
| 11am | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament | |
| 11-11.30am | Confessions | |
| 12 noon | Mass | Gayle Belcher RIP |

Bereavement Support A small group of parishioners are keen to offer help and support to those who have suffered a bereavement. However, we can only help, if we know who you are. GDPR restrictions have made this very difficult to administer, so it is important that you

give your permission, to the parish office, for us to contact you and offer the opportunity for a chat if you would find that helpful. We have initiated a book, up above our picture frame, at the back of the church, and you are most welcome to write the names of any bereaved family, friends and neighbours you would like included in our parish prayers. This applies to everyone everywhere, not just within the parish.

Advent Collection for the Homeless This Advent we are collecting the following items for the homeless in Oxford SHAMPOO, TOOTHPASTE, SOAP, NEW SOCKS The items will be delivered weekly to a hostel for the homeless in Oxford. There is a box for your donations at the back of the Church. With Grateful Thanks.

Send Christmas Cards to Christians in the Holy Land.

One small way of expressing solidarity and support for the Christians in the Holy Land is to send a Christmas card. There are copies of a list of parish contacts (including the Bethlehem area and Gaza) on the table at the back of church. Please consider sending a card, if possible, at the beginning of December to any of the parishes listed.

MARY'S MEALS: We will, again, be having a RAGS to RICHES event on DECEMBER 15/16 this year. Please save your textiles /shoes/bags, pack into in Black sacks and bring to the parish centre on Sat 15th December 10am - 4pm and they will be collected by the Marys meals team early Sunday 16th December. Thank you in advance for your generosity to this appeal.

Parish Lent Project 2019 Looking ahead to the Lent Project 2019, do you wish to propose a charity? While thinking this Advent and Christmas season about those who are less fortunate than we are, please think about whom you would like the parish to help through our next Lent Project and send your proposal to the Parish Council, through the parish office by Friday 4th January 2019. Many thanks.

Faith Development

Beasts of Bethlehem - A marvellous Christmas 'moosical' for all ages by LAMPS. Suitable for all ages. Mon 17th December 4pm and 7pm and Tue 18th Dec 1.30pm and 7pm Christ Church Abingdon Barn. Tickets £10 (£5 under 16's) www.buytickets.at/lampscollective or contact parish office.

CAFOD World Gifts - the true spirit of Christmas Giving Give a gift that will change a life. There are gifts for every budget from Happy Queen Bee at £4 to Help a Refugee child at £46. Each CAFOD World gift has been chosen for the real and lasting difference it makes to families living in developing countries . Catalogues are available at church or you can buy online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts

Parish Events for the Week

TODAY Refreshments after 10.15am Mass

Monday Anchor Course

Tuesday RCIA Session 7.30pm

Wednesday Cake & Conversation 9.30-11am

Friday Baby & Toddler Group 9.30-11.15am
SVP Meeting 7.30pm

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

Future Diary Dates

9th Dec Christmas Lunch for Seniors 12.30pm, Parish Centre

Youth Events

Children of Our Lady (COOL) Last Saturday the COOL group met in the parish centre and had a wonderful time of prayer, activities and friendship making and bonding. If you have children aged roughly (but not exclusively) between 7 to 9 and would like them to join in, please contact Alex (parish office).

Volunteers needed If you would like to be involved in helping Melanie (Youth Worker) and volunteers from our parish to extend and improve the provision for the children and young people in our parish (either with ideas or because you would like to volunteer), please come to the parish centre for a short meeting on Thursday 6th December at 7.30pm.

More info: tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

School News

St Edmunds Primary School are holding their Christmas fayre on Sat 8th Dec 11am- 1pm. tickets will be available to purchase after masses **TODAY**. Many thanks.

*Lord Jesus,
 Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
 We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.
 We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
 We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
 We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
 We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.
 To you we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
 Amen.*

Money Matters: 25th November 2018
 Envelopes: £378.86 Loose Plate £583.68 Many thanks

Counters: E. Bennett, L. Cribben, M. Haddock
Cleaners: P. Shephard, C. Dennis