

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. Phil Carroll	Tel: 01235 520375
Parish Secretary:	Lisa Paterson	Tel: 01235 520375
Office Hours:	9am-12pm Monday to Friday	
Office Email:	abingdon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk	
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 Blog:	www.stedmundabingdon.blogspot.co.uk	
Parish Website:	access via www.thamesis.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: Saturday, 11:00 -11.30am Sunday Mass Times: 8.45 am, 10.15 am, 6.30pm

Parish Life

Prayer Ministry TODAY. We invite you to come up after the 10:15am Mass for prayer with members of St Edmund's Prayer Ministry team. Give your hurts and burdens to Jesus, He cares for you.

Penitential Service Our Lenten Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will take place this coming Tues 4th April at 7pm.

Parish Lunch. To avoid Holy Week, the next lunch will be this coming Wednesday 5th April, at 12.30pm.

LiveSimply – the old mobile phones collected for recycle earlier this year raised £65 that was sent directly to WATERAID. Thanks to all parishioners who contributed phones. After Easter we will be collecting old tools to be renovated and then distributed to Africa via the charity WORKAID. A list of tools suitable for recycling will be available soon.

Please come and help with shoe cleaning on the morning of Maundy Thursday in the market square! Please join Fr Phil and Clare Simpson under gazebos to clean shoes, serve coffee and biscuits, and chat with passing people! Half an hour's help would be greatly appreciated – please contact Clare (parish office) so that we can make a rota. Or come and get your shoes cleaned and support this activity.

Save the date! On Saturday 13th May we will be holding a special mini retreat day looking at what being a disciple means and what the Lord wants us to do with our life. A mixture of talks, discussions, prayers, scripture meditation and worship music. It will be held in Christchurch Barn. More details soon.

Chrism Mass, St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, Tues 11th April. The Pastoral Area is once again running a bus to the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass. The bus will leave Our Lady & St Edmund's at 7.45am and English Martyrs, Didcot at 8.15am, returning approx. 3pm. The cost of a seat is

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday 2 April

8.45am	Mass	John Calnan RIP
10.15am	Mass	Sean Brady Anniversary
4.30pm	Polish Mass	
6.30pm	Mass	Mrs Franky Ryan RIP

Monday 3 April

8.30am	Rosary	
9am	Mass	Kaye Farrell RIP

Tuesday 4 April

8.30am	Rosary	
9am	Mass	Jacques Kolb RIP
7pm	Penitential Service	

Wednesday 5 April

6.00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
7pm	Mass	Brian Moylan RIP

Thursday 6 April

9am	Rosary	
9.30am	Mass	Tony Lyonette RIP

Friday 7 April

6.00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
7pm	Mass	Gayle Belcher RIP

Saturday 8 April

10.15am	Mothers Prayers	
11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
11-11.30am	Confessions	
12 noon	Mass	John Keane RIP

£12, payment required on booking. Please call Didcot parish office to book a place on 812338, or didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. All bookings must be received by 31st March.

Day of reflection for Eucharistic ministers
27th May, 10am-4pm. Venue - Stonehill Barn. Could Eucharistic ministers please email Fr Phil to confirm availability.
pcarroll@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Faith Development

This Lent we are encouraging parishioners - for one meal - to cook double the amount in order to give half to someone else. You can do this in your own way, or sign up on the sheets at the back of church, telling us what date you would like to cook and/or details of someone who might appreciate this gift. We will then organise the meal to be collected and taken to that person if you are not able to do so.

The Abingdon Baby Cafe which runs in our Parish centre on a Thursday, has been chosen by Waitrose as one of its 3 charities for April. Please do support us by putting in the green discs when you shop. Thank you.

Come and Sing JS Bach's St John Passion at St Helen's Church Abingdon on Saturday 8 April. Rehearsal 12noon- 3:15pm with an hour for lunch, which will be provided. The evening concert will take place from 7.30-9.30pm, with ticket sales supporting the Abingdon Passion Play. Full details of the event and how to register can be found at www.abingdonpassionplay.org.uk/2017/03/come-and-sing-js-bachs-st-john-passion-8th-april-2017/; alternatively, just turn up at St Helens on the day from 11.30am – 12 noon to register (£10). You can also send your details by post to Jane Cadogan 7 Metcalfe Close, Abingdon OX1 5TH

Learn to ring Church bells. An Easter ringing course for young people (10-15 year olds) is taking place at St Helen's Church 9.30 – 11.30 am, Monday 10 to Friday 21 April excluding weekends & Bank Holidays. To book a place, contact Susan & Brian Read (parish office).

Vacancy

Head of Centre urgently needed! Marriage Care are in urgent need of a local Head of Centre to lead the team and coordinate services in and around the Reading area. Please contact us at: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk or visit our website: www.marriagecare.org.uk for more info.

School News

Deputy Head Vacancy - St Edmund's Catholic Primary School. Our governors wish to appoint a committed, practising Catholic to join the established leadership team in our warm and welcoming school from September 2017, following the retirement of our current Deputy Head. Further details are available on the school website or contact Mrs Berny Pratt, School Business Manager, for an application pack Ab 521558 or bpbra2676@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk). Closing date for applications is 27th April 2017.

Money Matters: 26th March 2017
Envelopes £405.45 Loose Plate £774.66 Many thanks.

Counters: G. Pounds, E. Pony, A. Norman-Taylor
Cleaners: W. O'Brien

Parish Events for the Week

TODAY Refreshments after 10.15 Mass

Monday Arts & Faith Lent 7pm

Wednesday Cake & Conversation 9.30am
Parish Lunch 12.30pm

Thursday York Course for Lent 10am

Friday Baby & Toddler Group 9.30-11.15am

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

Future Diary Dates

11th April Chrism Mass, Portsmouth 11am
25th April RCIA Sessions resume 7.30-9pm

Youth Events

*Further info please contact Melanie Parris- Dollar
tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk*

LENTEN PROJECT FUND RAISING

GOLF DAY Drayton Park Golf Club on Monday 10th April. There will be an entrance fee of £25 per golfer; £10 for students/juniors. All proceeds from the day are for our Lenten projects and we would like to thank Mary McKenna for kindly allowing us to use the course free of charge. There will be Tea/Coffee/Bacon Rolls available in the clubhouse from 7.30am with the first tee time at 8.28. We will have prizes for the winning team plus nearest the pin and longest drive competitions. Please register with Terry Murphy (parish office). Thank you for your support.

LENTEN PARISH DINNER We are holding a two course dinner in the Parish centre Friday 21st April to raise funds in aid of ITF Bamenda & Headway, Oxfordshire. Tickets £12.50p each with a Raffle BRING YOUR OWN DRINK. We would appreciate any raffle prizes. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses. Or contact Sylvia Nelson or Mary Kelly (parish office).

Live Simply Prayer

Compassionate and Loving God You created the world for all to share a world of beauty and plenty. Create in us a desire to live Simply, so that our lives may reflect your generosity. Creator God you gave us responsibility for the earth, a world of riches and delight. Create in us a desire to live Sustainably, so that those who follow after us may enjoy the fruits of your creation. God of Peace and Justice, you give us the capacity to change, to bring about a world that mirrors your wisdom. Create in us a desire to act in Solidarity, so that the pillars of injustice crumble and those now crushed are set free.
Amen