

**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

**Holy Week**

We are now in the final few days of Lent and on Thursday the Triduum starts with the commemoration of the Last Supper, followed on Good Friday with the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Veneration of the Cross. This is a day of fasting and abstinence. On Saturday evening we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus at the Easter Vigil, with the lighting of the Pascal Candle, followed by three morning masses on Easter Sunday.

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.

**Parish Life**

Thank you so much for supporting **CAFOD** this Lent. We raised £1359.51 for CAFOD's work. Thank you for your generous compassion for those living in poverty and for fasting in solidarity with them.

Please note that the **times of masses on Easter Sunday** are different to the usual Sunday mass times, and there is no evening mass. Also there will be an **obligatory collection for the Holy Places on Good Friday**. Mass on Easter Monday will be at 10am.

The **traditional blessing of Easter foods** will take place on Easter Saturday at 11am. All are welcome.

The **Cake and Conversation** group is now on holiday for two weeks. The next meeting will be on Wednesday April 26 at 9:30 as usual in the Parish Centre.

**Baby & Toddler Group** will resume on Fri 28<sup>th</sup> April, starting at 9.30am. We are always looking for additional helpers, whether this be help setting up or clearing away toys, helping to organise the crafts, advertising, singing, refreshments etc. or welcoming parents, carers and their

HOLY WEEK		
<b>Sunday 9 April PALM SUNDAY</b>		
8.45am	Mass	Joan Miles RIP
10.15am	Mass	Liam & Lil Intentions
6.30pm	Mass	John Calnan RIP
<b>Monday 10 April HOLY WEEK</b>		
8.30am	Rosary	
9am	Mass	Jean Whitton Intentions
<b>Tuesday 11 April</b>		
11am	Chrism Mass, Portsmouth Cathedral	
<b>Wednesday 12 April</b>		
6.00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
7pm	Mass	Jean Whitton Intentions
<b>Thursday 13 April MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>		
7.30pm	Mass of the Lords Supper Roger Phelps RIP	
<b>Friday 14 April GOOD FRIDAY</b>		
10am	Stations of the Cross	
3pm	Solemn Liturgy	
<b>Saturday 15 April HOLY SATURDAY</b>		
N.B.	<b>No Confessions</b>	
11am	Blessing of Easter Food	
8pm	Easter Vigil	
<b>Sunday 16 April EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</b>		
8am	Mass	Molly Armour RIP
9.30am	Mass	Paul & Simon Worrallo RIP
11.30am	Mass	Andrew Murray RIP
4.30pm	Polish Mass	
<b>N.B. No evening Mass</b>		

children. If you would like to get involved, please come and speak to one of the helpers during a Friday session in the parish centre, or contact Bernadette (parish office). We welcome ad hoc helpers or regular helpers.

A new play 'Go to the Village' is available at the back of the church, please take a copy. If you would like further information contact Paul Smith (parish office).

**Save the date!** On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> 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, this Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

**Faith Development**

If you know anyone who has been **affected by Abortion** then the following website might be helpful [www.candleofhope.uk](http://www.candleofhope.uk)

**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.

**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<sup>th</sup> to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April excluding weekends & Bank Holidays. To book a place, contact Susan & Brian Read (parish office).

**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 bpra2676@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk). Closing date for applications is 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

**Money Matters:** 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017  
 Envelopes £537.76 Loose Plate £1020.43 Many thanks.

**Counters:** L. Ribben, M. Haddock, T. & I. Kinsella  
**Cleaners:** M. Cash, M. Kelly

**Parish Events for the Week**

**TODAY** Refreshments after 10.15 Mass  
**Monday** Arts & Faith Lent 7pm  
**Tuesday** Chrism Mass, Portsmouth 11am  
**Wednesday** Cake & Conversation 9.30am  
 Charismatic Prayer Meeting 7.45-9pm, Church  
**Thursday** York Course for Lent 10am  
**Friday** Public Walk of Witness 11.45am, from Precinct  
**N.B. All take place in the Parish Centre unless specified**

**Future Diary Dates**

**25<sup>th</sup> April** RCIA Sessions resume 7.30-9pm

**Youth Events**

**Youth Group** - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May  
 8-10 - 1:30pm-2:30pm  
 11-12 & 13-14 - 3pm-4:30pm

**Freedog in June** There will be a pastoral area youth group trip to 'Freedog' in Swindon on Sat 10<sup>th</sup> June. We will meet at Freedog (Urban Activity Centres, Unit 30, Techno Trading Estate, Kembrey Park, Bramble Road, Swindon, SN2 8HB. Tel. no. 01793 251555) at 1pm. Parents and younger/older siblings are welcome to join us. A 1hour session will cost around £12 including the cost of jump socks. Please bring a packed lunch, or money to buy lunch or a snack. For more information email info@freedog.com or Melanie at tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

**LENTEN PROJECT FUND RAISING**

**GOLF DAY** A big thank you to all our golfing parishioners for your wonderful support for our golf day **TOMORROW** at Drayton. We have 28 golfers booked in. There will be a warm up basket of balls available for you all on the driving range from 7am. Jonathan has put aside some bays for us. Registration will take place in the club house from 07.30 where bacon butties tea/coffee will be served. The completion will be 4 ball stableford with best two to score on each hole. There will be prizes for nearest the pin on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> hole and for longest drive on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The first t time is 08.28 I look forward to seeing you all and thank you once again for your support. Terry Murphy (parish office).

**LENTEN PARISH DINNER** We are holding a two course dinner in the Parish Centre on Fri 21<sup>st</sup> April, at 7.30pm to raise funds in aid of ITF Bamenda & Headway, Oxfordshire. Tickets £12.50 each **BRING YOUR OWN DRINK** With a Raffle (We would appreciate any raffle prizes). Tickets will be on sale after all Masses. Contact: Sylvia Nelson or Mary Kelly (parish office).