

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	
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

Parish Office is now closed until Tuesday 2nd January.

All Welcome to join at the Annual Christian Aid New Year's Day Walk TOMORROW.

The details of this year's walk are as follows:
 Start/Finish - St Helens Church Centre West St Helen St Abingdon. Start Time -10 am. Route- around 6 miles
 Refreshments – Mid-walk in St Helen's Church Centre
 Maps/directions- Still only £1 on the day
 If you wish to be sponsored please download the sponsorship form from
<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/sites/default/files/2017-08/christian-aid-uk-sponsorship-form.pdf>
 Please bring your sponsorship form if you have one to the walk.

Cake & Conversation We will start again on Wed 3rd Jan. in the Parish Centre from 9.30 to 11am. Everyone whose first language isn't English is warmly welcome to this friendly, informal weekly session.

The next Mothers Prayer meeting will be on Sat 6th January 10.15 - 10.45am in the church. Every mother, grandmother, godmother is most welcome to come and pray for their children. We use the set prayers from the Catholic Mothers Prayers organisation. Many prayers have been answered!

The RCIA Group will resume on Tuesday 9th January.

PAX CHRISTI There are copies of the current Justpeace newsletter on the table at the back of church. Please take a copy if you wish. Peace Sunday will be on Jan 14th.

St Edmund's Baby & Toddler Group resumes on Friday 12th January 2018. The group meets every Friday during school term time from 9.30-11.15am at the Parish Centre. It is aimed at babies and children, up to preschool age,

THE HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Sunday 31 December

8.45am	Mass	Haughton & Dunne families RIP
10.15am	Mass	Geoff Wyatt RIP
6.30pm	Mass	Craig Family Intentions

Monday 1 January MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

12noon	Mass	Joseph Foley RIP
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Tuesday 2 January Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8.30am	Rosary	
9am	Mass	Patrick & Teresa O'Brien RIP

Wednesday 3 January

6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	

Thursday 4 January

9am	Rosary	
9.30am	Mass	

Friday 5 January

6.30pm	Rosary	
7pm	Mass	Molly Gibbard RIP

Saturday 6 January

10.15-10.45am	Mothers Prayers	
11am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
11-11.30am	Confessions	
12 noon	Mass	Eddie & Catherine Mullin RIP

together with their parents/carers. It is a friendly drop-in group providing opportunity for play, crafts, singing and refreshments. **WE NEED HELPERS** to put out equipment before the session starts (from approx 9-9.30am) and clear away afterwards (from 11-11.30am). In addition, we would welcome helpers to prepare

and organise craft activities and/or to help during the session. We operate a rota for helpers which can be for all or part of a session. This is a worthwhile community activity and a great way to make friends. Come and meet us during the group for more info or contact Bernadette (parish office).

The Alpha Course is starting again this January. This is the internationally renowned course which proclaims who Jesus is. Alpha is a wonderful mixture of food, learning about Jesus and time to discuss anything you would like about the Christian faith. It has proved very popular in our parish for both those who are Catholic regular mass-goers, and those who have no faith whatsoever but are open to discovering more. Why don't you come and see on the first evening, and then decide if it is for you? And who do you know who you can invite? Who do you know is curious about the meaning of life? Everyone is most warmly welcome. Great way to meet people too! Lasts 9 weeks. We start on Sunday 21st January, with the supper at 6pm, and finish at 8.30pm. Please contact Clare or Maeve (parish office).

Saturday 20th January 2018, Parish Centre

Creating a Safe Environment Training 10am-12.30pm. Safe Guarding Refresher Training* - 1.30-4pm. "The policies and procedures we employ and the values that underpin them, demonstrate the Catholic Church's commitment to safeguarding. The Safeguarding Commission has decided that it is important that this training be delivered to parish priests, group leaders and others involved with the running of group activities in the parish. To register for either session you must book your place with Soraya Ciccarone (soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)
 *SG Refresher Training is for volunteers who haven't attended a SG training session since 2015 or before. You can get information from your group leader or from Anne Green (parish office).

Parish Lent Project 2018

Looking ahead to the **Lent Project 2018**, 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, via the parish office by this Wed 4th January 2018. Many thanks.

Parish Events for the Week

TODAY Refreshments after 10.15am Mass

Monday New Year's Day Walk for Christian Aid

Wednesday Cake & Conversation 9.30-11am

Thursday Scripture Group 10am

Friday SVP meeting 7.30pm

Sunday Confirmation Group 3.30-5pm

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

Future Diary Dates

10th Jan Parish Lunch 12.30pm
12th Jan Baby & Toddler Group resumes
14th Jan Peace Sunday
20th Jan Safeguarding Training, Parish Centre
21st Jan Presentation of Parish Live Simply Award
21st Jan Alpha Course 6pm, Parish Centre
10th March Called and Gifted Teaching day on 9.30am - 4pm. Christchurch Barn

Youth Events

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

Faith Development

Have you signed up for Bishop Philip's weekly e- News? Bishop Philip invites you to sign up for his FREE weekly e-Newsletter to keep in touch with the latest news and forthcoming events around the diocese. Visit www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews to sign up.

Money Matters: Not available

Counters: A. Norman Taylor, E. Pony, G. Pounds
Cleaners: F. & C. Rogers