



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford

*Through the love of the Father, Son and Spirit,
our Parish will grow as the Body of Christ in Godalming.*

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 12th July 2020

A Sower went out to sow...

The words Jesus speaks often contain both challenge and re-assurance. By naming for us all the ways in which the seed can fail to bear fruit Jesus invites and challenges us to take care of the seed of faith planted in us, to make sure that it does bear a rich harvest. Perhaps during lockdown we have made a resolution to not go back to ways of living that are not fruitful or life-giving. Maybe we have sensed a need to put out roots into deep soil that can sustain us through winter or through the heat of the day. Maybe we have spotted some of the weeds that have been choking us and need pulling up. Faith is a seed and we have to cooperate with God in allowing it to grow in us. If we do nothing it will not bear the harvest that will bring us happiness.

But there are other things to notice in the parable of the sower, that should encourage us and make us free from fear in responding to the Lord's call to follow him. The first is the generosity of the sower. He doesn't plant the seed only in the rich soil. He chooses to scatter it everywhere. And he knows that the seed that falls on the path or in the thorns may very well not bear fruit but that doesn't stop him from trying.

Lastly, I think we should also notice the abundance and surety of the harvest. That despite what some might think of as a rather wasteful approach on the part of the sower, there is still a great harvest.

Allocation of places for Sunday Mass

As I finish writing the newsletter there have been a few queries about how we are managing the allocation of places as this is the first weekend that some have been disappointed. Last weekend was pretty much perfect – we had as many households wanting to come as we had room. This weekend there are now 65 households looking for just over 50 places. As we move through the coming weeks, we will take into account who has missed out, in addition to people's preferences and any pastoral need, so that over a period of time it works out fairly. We were able to welcome some 90 people to mass last weekend, just over a quarter of our usual average, and our weekly email goes out to nearly 400 people.

We are using this manual system rather than direct booking as it seems the best way to make it fair and to also be able to take account of those who don't have good access to IT. Now that we are more up and running, I would hope that we can start to communicate allocated places earlier in the week. Please accept my apologies for any confusion. *- Fr Jonathan*

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Public Masses It has been so good to welcome people back to Mass this last week. After a long fast it has been a reminder of just how important it is in our lives and for the world. The Sunday obligation continues to be dispensed so please do not feel guilty if you don't feel ready to come back just yet – we will all adjust at our own speed and that's quite appropriate.

- **Mass won't be at the usual times, so please check.**
- We will continue to observe **2m distancing** of seating rather than 1m+, and this will give us capacity for between 12 households at St Edmund's and 10 households (16 couples) at St Joseph's.
- To **book** please use the online form: <https://tinyurl.com/y9qmmk2r> and we will use the information you provide to help us allocate places for the coming weeks. Otherwise, please email or ring.
- We will **clean the church** after each use.
- We will continue to celebrate Sunday Liturgy at the 10am Saturday Mass, and with Sunday Liturgy of the Word **online**.
- It's likely that there will be enough space at **Weekday Masses** if you want to come but you might wish to check.

St John's, Farncombe I'm pleased to say that Fr James and the community there are happy to have their main service at a slightly later time. We will therefore resume Sunday Mass there at **9.00am from 26th July**. If you would like to attend please let us know by completing the online booking form, which has now been updated. (See above for link).

Opening of Churches for private prayer
With Mass resuming we are retaining just a few sessions of opening for private prayer. A big thank you to all those who have helped with the stewarding and cleaning and enabled us to open to doors once again.

LOAF (The Love One Another Fellowship) are meeting on Zoom this week to review their work and discern how to take it forward. If you would like to participate or have any thoughts, please contact Alan Lion.

Sacrament of Penance (Confession) or Anointing of the Sick are available by arrangement with Fr Jonathan.

First Holy Communions and Confirmations 2020. Plans are in hand for these celebrations which we hope will take place from September, and we will keep you updated.

First Holy Communion 2021 Registration for this is now open. The form can be found on the website at <https://stedsgod.com/fhc>. If you have children who wish to make their First Holy Communion this summer or in the coming year, please do try to get back into the habit of coming to Church – even if only to light a candle at first – after our long break. It will help your children.

A Draft Parish Pastoral Plan

I wrote last week about a Parish Pastoral Plan which I hope will help and guide us as we resume parish life. In other times I would introduce it at our Sunday Masses, but given the constraints of the present age, I have shared it, commend it for your prayer and reflection and invite any questions you might have or comments you would like to make. It is still work in progress and there will be an important next stage which prioritises its various elements. I am grateful to those who have commented on earlier drafts of this document, and helped me to refine it, but any errors and omissions are mine. It can be downloaded: <https://tinyurl.com/y7eftwp6> or picked up from the back of church. (FrJ)

Lectio Divina This is a very special and fruitful way of praying with the Scriptures and takes place online every **Wednesday 7.30pm – 8.45pm** on GoToMeeting. (We won't meet for Lectio on 15 July but will resume on 22nd July.)

Parish Day in Elstead? Richard and Hilary Grey have kindly offered to host a summer outdoor Mass – wouldn't this be wonderful! However, at present we can only meet for Mass in a large number if we can socially distance - but we would not be able to have a picnic or even cake, coffee and squash! Therefore we will need to give it a miss this year, but it gives us something to look forward to!

Trinity Trust Team Their summer newsletter is available and included in the electronic version of the parish newsletter.

Virtual Pilgrimage

Please do support us in our last week of walking and help raise £2000 for CAFOD's Coronavirus appeal. We are nearly there! Please donate via our just giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jo-Lewry1>

After our final week of walking we hope to arrive at Bury St Edmunds on Sunday 19th July. Jane Crone from CAFOD, who lives in Clare, will be joining in our pilgrimage by walking, *yes real walking not virtual*, the final 15+ miles from Clare to Bury St Edmund's, and Fr David at Clare Priory has invited us to join them for 10 am Mass on Tuesday 14th July via YouTube, after which Jane will set off (<https://tinyurl.com/yam9sbsk>). She will send in photos of her walk and these and other updates are posted on the Parish Facebook Page www.facebook.com/stedsgod.

Many thanks to all the walkers who have clocked up about 1500 miles so far!

Some Recommended Streaming

St Edmund's, Godalming. Sunday Liturgy of the Word by video conference on **GoToMeeting**. ID 450-922-301. Or **by telephone** on 020 3713 5028 using access code: 450-922-301. Please ask if you need help setting it up.

Guildford <https://www.cpg.church> They also have a lot of resources for adults and families.

Arundel Cathedral with Bishop Richard or Fr David. From www.dabnet.org or <https://tinyurl.com/y75fpbeg>

Walsingham

<http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream>

CAFOD Children's Liturgy continues at <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>.

Deacon Tom Kent, who has been serving in Guildford since March is to be ordained Priest at Arundel Cathedral at 3pm on Saturday 11th July. The ordination will be livestreamed via their website: <https://arundelcathedral.uk>.

Sources of Practical Support

LOAF (Love One Another Fellowship)

If you would like help from our team of parish volunteers do not hesitate to call the help line number (07593 121430) or send a message via the parish email or Fr Jonathan.

Godalming Food Bank is still providing vital support to many. For latest update and details, including new collection points see: <http://www.parishofgodalming.org.uk/our-church-of-st-marks/food-bank/>

Some **Food Vouchers** are available from the Diocese for those in need. Please speak to Fr Jonathan or Sarah in the parish office.

Parish Welfare Fund aims to support those who are struggling at this time to afford basic necessities. If you need a bit of help or know someone who does please don't hesitate to contact Fr Jonathan, in confidence. The **SVP** are also able to help.

Please remember in your prayers

All those affected by the **Coronavirus**: parishioners or their families who are sick, the sick and dying, those who work in our essential services, who are anxious or struggling with living well together at home, our families, schools and their staff, and for those who find juggling learning, work and family life difficult. Those who are worried about their jobs or livelihood.

The Holy Father's Intentions for July: Our families: we pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance. **Luke and Alice Nilski** who are to be Baptised this Sunday.

The sick and those who care for them including - Cliff Hutchinson, Alan Berry, Nicolle Ernould, Gerry Newell, Ruth de Stefani, Josie Whittle, Barbara Brightman, Nuala Gallagher, Maria Chacaltana, Ann Lloyd, Anita van Rheenan, Jean Humphrey, Maura Goodfellow, George Gelder, Jean Tyrell, Pat Wilson and Rudolf Dorrepaal, and those in our hospitals and care homes.

The faithful departed Fr John Healey, Margaret Stevens and Alec Mc Alister who died recently, and George Brooking, Michael Jennings, Ronald Matthews, Stella Young, Margaret Mills, Barbara Garland, and Joanne Peppitt whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Services for Fifteenth Week of Ordinary Time

Saturday 11th July St Benedict	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) – Rev Tom Kent 3.00pm Ordination of Rev Tom Kent livestreamed from Arundel 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)
Sunday 12th July 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.00am Liturgy of the Word online 11.30am Mass (St Joseph's) 1.00pm Baptism (St Joseph's) 4:00pm – 5:00pm (St Edmund's) open for Exposition
Monday 13th July	10.00am Mass (St Edmund's)* - <i>Walter Winters RIP</i> 10:30am – 11.30am St Edmund's open for prayer
Tuesday 14th July	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)* - <i>Henri Barrall</i> 10.00am – 11.00am St Joseph's open for prayer
Wednesday 15th July St Bonaventure	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)* - <i>Celebrant's Intention</i> 10.00am – 11.00am St Joseph's open for prayer
Thursday 16th July Our Lady of Mount Carmel	pm Mass at St Edmund's School Leaver's Mass
Friday 17th July	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) - Thomas, Minnie & Pat Ginnelly RIP
Saturday 18th July	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Alexander Moore RIP</i> 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 19th July 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am Mass (St Edmund's) 10.00am Liturgy of the Word online 11.30am Mass (St Joseph's) 4:00pm – 5:00pm St Edmund's open for prayer (t.b.c.)

*The churches may close after Mass for cleaning, before re-opening for private prayer.
Divine Office Psalter Week 3: Weekday Readings Year II.

For details of how to book a place at weekend Mass:
please visit <https://stedsgod.com/Coronavirus>

TTT IN LOCKDOWN

Dear friends

We are slowly beginning to ease out of lockdown now and with this cautious re-emergence comes renewed optimism as to how we can

pick up in supporting local young people face-to-face. During the lockdown period we managed to maintain contact with three of our regular groups via video conferencing and it was wonderful to stay connected this way. Since the 1st June we have resumed our Street Outreach programme, being a visible presence in Farncombe, central Godalming, Aaron's Hill and Ockford Ridge as young people

begin to utilise our local outdoor spaces once more. We have been joined by Laura Hanley, a youth worker formerly with Surrey County Council who has worked with teenagers in projects in the Guildford area to focus on community projects with TTT.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION

Of course, our June is usually packed with visits to local junior and primary schools to deliver the Year 6 Moving On workshops followed by our contribution to Year 7 Intake Days in early July.

This year, with the landscape being dramatically different, we have been liaising with local schools to discuss how we could deliver Covid-compliant workshops to Year 6 pupils and are delighted that St Edmund's School will once again welcome TTT in to run a workshop, this year on July 9th.

The session would usually be part of the Leaver's Retreat at Ladywell but we all have to work within the current confines to support the children in the best way possible. The morning will finish with Fr Jonathan leading an open-air liturgy.

SOWING SEEDS

We were delighted to hear a local teenager, who comes from a predominantly unchurched family, recently signing up for Confirmation preparation at the church her grandmother attends.

She first came to know TTT when attending Wowza! (after school faith exploration group run in local junior schools) and has since attended our summer activities programme and a regular discipleship group led by Matt, where she began to ask deeper questions about Christianity.

We pray that the seeds planted along the way will bear rich fruit as she prepares to accept Jesus as Lord and saviour, and we will be able to continue to support her on her faith journey. On behalf of all of us who deliver the youth ministry and those who provide governance for the team, our sincere thanks for your continued support.

With every blessing,
Andy, the team
and Management Team.



Andy Poulson
Team Director



Matt Blake
Team Youth Worker
Full Time



Isaac Lucas
Team Youth Worker
Part Time



Laura Hanley
Team Youth Worker
Part Time