



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
and as a sign lifted up for the peoples*

Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time 15th November 2020

It is not as if you live in the dark for that Day to overtake you like a thief

The Parable of the Talents is very familiar, as is its message about the need to develop our gifts and use our talents well. It is a principle that can be argued for even from secular principles (as does the philosopher, Immanuel Kant).

The version of it in St Matthew's Gospel, however, has a particular edge. It sits between the parable of the wise and foolish attendants (last week's Gospel) and the last judgement (next week's). It has some puzzling lines that seem unfair - such as the apparently unfair treatment of those who have least. At its core is a reminder of our personal responsibility and the reality of judgement - that we will be held to account. The second reading further underscores that reality - they know about the Day of the Lord and shouldn't get lazy or complacent.

The key to understanding the action of the man with the one talent is that one could not be held liable for the loss of something that was buried. He had resigned his responsibility for something that the Master had chosen for him, appropriate to his abilities. I can't help feeling that the Master would have been happier if the man had at least made an effort which hadn't worked rather than simply resigned. Perhaps if the master's return was more on his mind, he might have been more active. (For me, even if it doesn't look like it, I do tend to make more of an effort to tidy the place up if I am expecting a visitor, and I'm sure I am not the only one!)

We need an appreciation of judgement as part of our spiritual lives. It gives urgency to our life in Christ. We do not know the day or the hour when the Lord will come, nor when we might die and come before him in judgement. And when we stand before him face to face what will we have, and what more might we have brought? What have we done with that most valuable gift of faith? Have we fanned it into a blazing fire by the sacraments, prayer and charity, or neglected it so that it flickers precariously? How much better might we have been stewards of the goods of the earth? How did we care for our common home? How much more might we have sought out the lost or comforted the afflicted?

This annual reminder of the reality of judgement is an urgent summons to responsibility and the concrete actions that flow from it.

The message of the Last Judgement calls men to conversion while God is still giving them 'the acceptable time... the day of salvation.' It inspires a holy fear of God and commits them to the justice of the kingdom of God. It proclaims the 'blessed hope' of the Lord's return, when he will come 'to be glorified in the saints, and to be marvelled at in all who have believed'.

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1041)

19 Croft Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1DB t: 01483 416880
Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan How e: pp.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk
Parish Assistant: Sarah Stilwell e: godalming@abdiocese.org.uk
www.stedsgod.com

St Edmund's Parish is part of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No.252878.

We are open! Our churches will be open for private prayer this week as follows:

St Edmund's each day from 10.00am – 4.00pm for private prayer and on Tuesday, Thursday from 5.30pm-6.30pm with the Blessed Sacrament exposed. There is extended exposition this Friday 20th.

St Joseph's on Monday and Wednesday 10.00am-12.00pm; and with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday and Thursday from 6.00pm-8.00pm, Saturday 3.00pm-5.00pm and on Sunday 2.00pm-4.00pm.

Please sign in or scan the QR code on arrival, and before leaving please wipe down your seat with one of the wipes provided.

Sunday Liturgy of the Word Online at 10am is now on Zoom: **863 5827 7653** password **2020**

Exposition and Mass for The Feast of St Edmund, King and Martyr 20th November. There will be a livestream Mass on facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/stedsgod>) at 5pm following an extended period of Exposition at St Edmund's from 12 noon to 4.45pm. Exposition after Mass to 7pm if there is interest. If you can commit to an hour, please sign one of the sheets at the back of church or contact Fr Jonathan/parish office.

Next Sunday is National Youth Sunday. We will mark it in our Liturgy and if you would like to pick up some ideas at home visit: <https://nationalyouthsunday.com>

Vigil of Christ the King 21st November Bishop Richard will lead a period of Adoration for the ending of the pandemic from Arundel Cathedral 6.30pm – 8.30pm. This is part of a national prayer campaign.

Baptism We are getting ready for Baptisms after lockdown and are arranging a couple of preparation sessions which provide an opportunity to reflect on the gift of Baptism while meeting other couples with young children. **Please contact the parish office in the next couple of weeks if you are thinking of Baptism before Easter 2021 and have not yet completed a form.**

Preparation Confirmation Preparation for students in Years 10+ will begin in the

New Year. Please let the Parish Office know if you would like your son or daughter to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Sacrament of Penance is available by arrangement.

Wintershall Nativity Walk 18th-21st December. Join Mary and Joseph – safe and socially distanced! – and follow the donkey to Bethlehem, meet the shepherds watching their sheep, spot the Angel as you climb the hill and help the Wise Men find the star. The mile-long walk should take 1½ hours through fields and woods across the hills at Wintershall. Free parking and hot drinks/ refreshments available. Tickets are £35 per family group of up to 6 people, from: <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/nativity-winter-walk> And if you and/or your family would like to join the cast, please get in touch.

Support for prisoners Many prisoners have suffered additional hardship during the pandemic through a reduction in services and home visits. The *livesimply* group is arranging a collection of items which have been requested to support prisoners at Send and Coldingley: **Christian CDs** (contemporary or classical), **DVDs of inspiring Christian stories; Wool; and Craft materials.** If you are able to donate these items there are collection boxes at both of our churches; or, to arrange for someone to pick them up from you, please phone Nicki Lion 07757 281829.

Christmas Visits CTiG will not be able to run their usual Christmas lunch this year. Instead they're hoping to put together a list of volunteers who would visit anyone on their own on Christmas Day, with a small gift and card. Volunteers would go in pairs and not enter people's houses. If anyone would like to volunteer or knows of anyone who would like a visit please contact Gillian Martin: martin2ls@btinternet.com

Christmas Angels For Advent, Churches Together will place knitted angels around the town for individuals in our community to find A pattern is available at the back of church, or email the parish office for a copy. Get knitting!

Reusable face coverings Did you know that disposable masks contain micro plastics

which pollute water and harm wildlife? Reusable alternatives are a better option and are simple and easy to make, as on this film clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nspIdvqrlnw> If you're not a 'sewing type', Jan Honeysett is offering to make one for you for free or a small donation to CAFOD. Please supply Jan with your cotton fabric, and also let her know if you would like to help her with this: honeysett@btinternet.com

Could you write a message to the brave? CAFOD would like you to write messages of hope to Human Rights Defenders and Environmental Activists around the world who risk everything to defend our brothers and sisters and protect our common home. More than 300 Defenders have been killed in the last year and many face death threats and intimidation. Messages of hope let them know that they are not alone and will make a huge difference. You can write an online message and find more info: <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Latest-campaigns/Messages-to-the-brave>

Useful resources during the pandemic

LOAF (Love One Another Fellowship)

This team of parish volunteers offers practical help and support on a one-off or short-term basis. The helpline number is 07593 121430.

SVP SVP members help those in need and offer them sincere friendship, visiting on a regular basis and offering practical support such as food, furniture or financial help. The helpline number is 07990 717067.

Godalming Food Bank provides vital support to many. No referral is necessary. Telephone: 01483 418741.

Parish Welfare Fund supports 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 Catholic Mental Health Project website is a good resource with many links <http://www.catholicmentalhealthproject.org.uk/>

LiveSimply We would like to try a word cloud to get a snapshot of living simply in our parish. Go to www.menti.com and enter code 9369739.

Opening St Joseph's in icy conditions

We would like to form a group of volunteers willing to be on call at St Joseph's in the event of heavy snowfall. If you can offer to help, please get in touch with Fr Jonathan or contact the parish office. Please also let us know if you would like to be on a phone list in case of weekday Mass cancellation, for example on a snow day.

A&B Diocesan Website has relaunched. Do go and have a look. <https://abdiocese.org.uk>

Second Collections We are very grateful for the support that you give to the parish. If you would like to give to any of the causes we usually support with second collections - *Retired Priests' Fund, Cathedral Maintenance Fund, World Communications Day, Day for Life, and Apostleship of the Sea* - please put your offering in an envelope, write the desired cause on it and place it in the offertory basket when you next visit church.

Please remember in your prayers

All those affected by the Coronavirus and its impact on our lives and on the economy.

The Holy Father's Intention for

November: Let us pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind... may it 'be human'.

The sick and those who care for them

including - Derek & Nancy Drapper, Betty Matthews, Cliff Hutchinson, Alan Berry, Nicolle Ernould, Gerry Newell, Ruth de Stefani, Josie Whittle, Barbara Brightman, Nuala Gallagher, Maria Chacaltana, Ann Lloyd, Anita van Rheen, Jean Humphrey, Maura Goodfellow, George Gelder, Jean Tyrell, Pat Wilson and Rudolf Dorrepaal, and those in our hospitals and care homes.

The faithful departed, in particular for Mgr Barry Weymes, Fr Richard Lear CJ, Fr Timothy Garratt, Tim Little and Bonnie Martin who died recently and for Rose Hall, William Stilwell, Olive Spalding, Marjorie Jones, Tony Burke, and Aileen Mayfield whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Church Opening and Times of Prayer
Thirty-Third Week of Ordinary Time
15th November 2020**

**Mass is currently celebrated in private for the intentions given and for all the living and the dead.*

St Edmund's Church is open daily for private prayer 10.00am – 4.00pm

Saturday 14th November	*9.30am Mass – <i>Alexander Moore RIP</i> 3.00pm-5.00pm Exposition (St Joseph's)
Sunday 15th November 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	*9.00am Mass – <i>For the people of the parish</i> 10.00am Liturgy of the Word Online Zoom: 863 5827 7653 / 2020 2.00pm-4.00pm Exposition (St Joseph's)
Monday 16th November	*9.30am Mass – <i>William Stilwell RIP</i> 10.00am-12.00pm Exposition (St Joseph's)
Tuesday 17th November	*9.30am Mass – <i>Deceased members Maxwell-Miles family</i> 5.30pm – 6.30pm Exposition (St Edmund's) 6.00pm-8.00pm Exposition (St Joseph's)
Wednesday 18th November	*9.30am Mass – <i>Harry & Marie Mason RIP</i> 10.00am – 12.00pm Exposition (St Joseph's) 7.30pm-8.30pm Lectio Divina online GoToMeeting 450-922-301
Thursday 19th November	*9.30am Mass – <i>Deceased members & friends of Whitehead family</i> 5.30pm – 6.30pm Exposition (St Edmund's) 6.00pm-8.00pm Exposition (St Joseph's)
Friday 20th November FEAST OF ST EDMUND, KING AND MARTYR	12.00pm – 4.45pm Exposition (St Edmund's) 5.00pm Mass (www.facebook.com/stedsgod) <i>Then exposition at St Edmund's until 7.00pm if requested.</i>
Saturday 21st November	*9.30am Mass – <i>Frank Ford RIP</i> 3.00pm-5.00pm Exposition (St Joseph's)
Sunday 22nd November FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING	*9.00am Mass – <i>For the people of the parish</i> 10.00am Liturgy of the Word Online Zoom: 863 5827 7653 / 2020 2.00pm-4.00pm Exposition (St Joseph's)