



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*

Third Sunday of the Year *The time has come*

The sentiment of the scriptures probably does match with how we feel at the moment, still in what is probably the early part of a wintry lockdown. But it is clear and, who knows, it might even have the power to waken us from our slumber.

There is an incredible pace in these opening parts of St Mark's Gospel. The narrative moves swiftly from one episode to another, and things seem to happen "immediately" or "at once" - apparently one of St Mark's favourite words. It invites us, I think, to consider the "nowness" of the Good News. It is not a long time ago in a galaxy (or stable) far far away. Nor is it about some future. The Good News is spoken in this time and in this place. To you and to me today.

On this Sunday of the Word of God we are invited "to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world". Those who pray with the Scriptures, either in *Lectio Divina* or in some other way will I am sure, know at first-hand how powerfully and how often the Lord makes our hearts burn within us as we read and pray. Just as the feast of Corpus Christi invites us to experience more deeply his presence in the Blessed Sacrament, so this new day in the calendar invites us to experience him present in his word, with us in our here and now.

So today I would like to thank those who give of their time and spirit to proclaim the word in our liturgies. Please pray for them, that they may experience that word more deeply and place themselves at His service. And maybe, as we are not able to receive the Lord present in the sacrament of his body and blood we might allow ourselves to receive him often, present in the sacrament of his word.

In this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity we can also celebrate the significant contribution to growing communion represented by the *Common Lectionary*, which "...marks the first time since the Reformation that Catholics and Protestants find themselves reading the scriptures together Sunday by Sunday".

Mass Responses for the Third Sunday of the Year

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

PSALM RESPONSE: Lord, make me know your ways.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is close at hand:
repent, and believe the Good News. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk
in darkness, but will have the light of life.

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Mass during Lockdown

In contrast with earlier lockdowns, places of worship remain open and coming to them is a permitted reason to come out of the house. This is a welcome privilege and should be used prudently and with due caution, moderation, and discretion, both out of concern for the health of others and how the wider public will perceive our helping the wider efforts to prevent infection.

The main focus of parish activity for the coming weeks has moved online, while still providing opportunities to come to Mass in person.

10.30am Sunday Online Liturgy of the Word replaces the Mass of that time. It gives an opportunity to meet up with others, to sing a little and share some of our prayers with one another. It takes place on Zoom (ID: 846 7892 5944, Passcode: 2021)

The **9.00am Sunday Mass** has moved to St Edmund's to facilitate **live-streaming** on YouTube. You will find a link at the end of the welcome message on the parish website or by going to: <https://tinyurl.com/ya47rkkw>.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion We have been using a prayer written by Diana Macalintal. It can be downloaded (in English or Spanish) at <https://tinyurl.com/y3wk4r4a>. There are copies at the back of the church.

Coming to Mass

If you would like to come to Mass on a weekday there is no need to book, and as we expect numbers to be much lower at weekend Mass until things improve, we have moved **weekend Mass booking** to Eventbrite: <https://tinyurl.com/y7gntvex>

Guildford parish do a very good livestream that many find helpful and can be found at <https://www.cpg.church/live.html>

Sunday of the Word of God falls this year on 24th January. There will be a blessing of readers at all Masses and in the Online Liturgy of the Word this weekend.

Sycamore Over 40 managed to join us last week. Second Session 7.30pm on Tuesday on Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/y6ydcwv5>

Churches Together United Service takes place (online) this Sunday, 24th January at 10.30am as part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The theme is *Abiding in Christ*, based on John 15:9 – *Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit*. At a time when many are feeling cast adrift and uncertain, it will be good to be reminded that regardless of whatever is going on around us we remain firmly rooted in Christ.

Many of the local ministers will be taking part and there will, as always, be children's work provided by the amazing Trinity Trust Team. The service will go live on YouTube at 10.30am on the Churches Together website: www.godalmingchurches.org and the service will be available on the Homepage.

CAFOD Walk for Water Get on your walking shoes and join us on Saturday 20th February. Sadly, we can't walk together, but whether alone or in your bubble, and whether in your garden or further afield, we can walk in solidarity with those who have to walk for water every day. Like Abdella who lives in Afar, Ethiopia and walks 10 hours each day to collect water for his family. Please share our justgiving page with your sponsors, family and friends: <https://tinyurl.com/yyrew9d4>, and email jolewry@aol.com to let her know that you are taking part. <https://walk.cafod.org.uk>

Safeguarding Training Thank you to all those in the parish who have been working on bringing their safeguarding training up to date and helping us meet our compliance deadline of 31st March. I think we are probably all too aware of the shortcomings in safeguarding that have contributed to harming too many in the church and wider society over the years. This training will make an important contribution to ensuring that we do not miss any opportunities as a church to prevent harm that might otherwise arise to the children or adults at risk that we have the privilege to serve. Please email completed certificates to Sarah in the parish office.

For Families

Guildford parish offers online family liturgy every Sunday: www.cpg.church/familyliturgy resources:

www.cpg.church/familiesathome.html

Wednesday Word - this children's activity sheet for each Sunday is free online at <http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

SOME THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

Restarting Childrens' Liturgy If you might be able and willing to help please let Sarah know in the parish office and we will fix an online meeting of those interested to progress the planning.

Relaxed masses? Did this seem a good idea? Let us know.

New Altar Servers? Any children or adults interested in starting to serve Mass later this year please contact Fr Jonathan.

Diocesan Online Mission for Lent "Invited" Coming soon! *God loves you. He has great plans for you. He wants to accompany you through all the highs and lows of your life.* There will soon be an opportunity for you to explore all this and more as we journey together as a Diocese through a season of mission. You, are Invited! For more details see <https://tinyurl.com/y3tna7uu>

Year of St Joseph Pope Francis has proclaimed a Year of Joseph to mark the 150th anniversary of the declaration of the Joseph as patron of the Universal Church.

Confirmation Preparation for students in Years 10+ will begin once we can meet in person. The sacrament will be celebrated in October 2021. Please let the Parish Office know if you would like your son or daughter to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Financial support for the parish

Thank you to those who support the parish by their occasional or regular giving. If you would like to make a financial contribution to the parish the offertory baskets are by the entrance to church. Increasingly, contactless donation machines are also available, and seem to be welcomed. To arrange a standing order, or to sign up for Gift Aid, please contact Eileen Hudson on 01483 208238 or eileen.hudson@gmail.com

Donations to the Food Bank

There is an immediate need at the Foodbank at St Marks for tinned meat (corned beef, ham, spam, meatballs, sausages, chilli etc) and tinned vegetarian meals (eg ravioli, vegetarian sausages, meatballs etc). The full list of needs is on their website. Please drop off items in collection boxes at church.

Live simply Top Tip

If you are having a post-Christmas or lockdown clearout don't forget the Community Recycling Centre at Witley is open daily during lockdown, from 8am to 4pm, and unwanted items taken there are recycled rather than ending up in landfill.

Useful resources during the pandemic

LOAF (Love One Another Fellowship)

This team of parish volunteers offers practical help. The helpline number is 07593 121430.

SVP members offer regular visits, friendship and practical support to those in need. The helpline number is 07990 717067.

Godalming Food Bank provides vital support. No referral required. 01483 418741.

Parish Welfare Fund If you need a bit of help or know someone who is struggling please don't hesitate to contact Fr Jonathan, in confidence.

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 January: For human fraternity: May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

The sick and those who care for them

including – Arden Holford, Sylvia Reilly, 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 Elizabeth Brewer, Alan Batchelor, Molly Cliff, Carmine Barbato, Freda Etsel, Jean Cox, Peter Ellis, David Little, and Leonard Bryan whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses Third Week of Ordinary Time 2021

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| Saturday 23rd January | 10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>For the Unity of Christians</i> 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Private Intention</i> |
| Sunday 24th January THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME "OF THE WORD OF GOD" | 9.00am Mass (St Edmund's)* – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Liturgy of the Word online Zoom: 846 7892 5944 / 2021 10.30am Churches Together in Godalming United Service for Christian Unity Week (www.godalmingchurches.org) |
| Monday 25th January CONVERSION OF ST PAUL | <i>No public Mass today</i> |
| Tuesday 26th January SS TIMOTHY & TITUS | 9.30am Mass (Live-stream only)* – <i>Private Intention</i> |
| Wednesday 27th January | 9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Rudolf Dorrepaal</i> 7.30pm-8.30pm Lectio Divina online GoToMeeting 450-922-301 |
| Thursday 28th January ST THOMAS AQUINAS | 9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Celebrant's Intention</i> |
| Friday 29th January | <i>No public Mass today</i> |
| Saturday 30th January | 10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>People of the parish</i> 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) |
| Sunday 31st January FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9.00am Mass (St Edmund's)* – Charles, Julia & Martha Harding RIP 10.30am Liturgy of the Word online Zoom: 846 7892 5944 / 2021 |

Sunday Year B. Weekday Cycle I.
Psalter Week 3.

*Livestreamed on YouTube – <https://tinyurl.com/ya47rkkw>

St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 4pm

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