



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*

Fifth Sunday of Easter – 2nd May 2021

The Gospel today contains a challenge and a reminder about our source. I have to confess that praying through it this week, I was not too attracted to the idea of being pruned. I really don't like having to admit that there are things in my life that I need to have pruned back if I am to bear the fruit that my Father wants.

More welcome is the way in which the image of the vine and branches reminds us of the continual need to return to our one source, Jesus Christ. With so many having been deprived of the Eucharist over the last 14 months, and with gradual relief from the worst of COVID, our Bishops have shared a reflection, "The Day of the Lord" which invites us to experience once again the Sunday Eucharist as the foundation for our lives and for our care of the environment. They write:

"It is the Eucharist, the celebration of the Mass, that makes the Church; and it is the Church, in the gift of the Holy Spirit, which makes the Eucharist. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the lifeblood of the Church. It requires our active participation and, to be fully celebrated, our physical presence.

"At this moment, then, we need to have in our sights the need to restore to its rightful centrality in our lives the Sunday Mass, encouraging each to take his or her place once again in the assembly of our brothers and sisters. We face the task of seeking to nurture the sense of Sunday as "a weekly gift from God to his people", and something we cannot do without; to see Sunday as the soul of the week, as giving light and meaning to all the responsibilities we live out each day; to see the Sunday Eucharist as food for the unique mission with which we have been endowed.

"In the time to come we can do no better than to rekindle in our hearts, foster and encourage, a yearning for the Real Presence of the Lord and the practice of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, a gift so deeply appreciated in these times of lockdown. We need to begin by fostering this in ourselves. For the Eucharist should be the cause of our deepest joy, our highest manner of offering thanks to God and for seeking his mercy and love. We need to make it the foundation stone of our lives.

"The invitation to Sunday Mass resonates all the more deeply when we consider, as Pope St John Paul II reminds us in the Encyclical Letter *Dies Domini*, that the Sabbath rest is nothing if not a call to remember the gift of God's Creation. The Eucharist is indeed a celebration of the created world, called into life by the Eternal Word, for the bread and wine of the earth becomes the Body and Blood of Christ who is that same Lord of all life. The Christ to whom we come so close in the Eucharist must be the foundation of our strivings, not least in the urgent task we face of caring for creation and our environment."

Mass Responses for Fifth Sunday of Easter

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

PSALM RESPONSE: You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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Parish Forum Online on Tuesday 4th May at 8.00pm on Zoom (846 7892 5944 / 2021) and it's hoped there will be many able to participate. The agenda will focus on 3 areas: parish finances, parish vision and looking forward. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions using the chat function and we will deal with as many of these as we can in the time, finishing by 9.30pm. There are no 'big announcements', just an update and opportunity to comment.

Comments on the vision are encouraged using the the online 'padlet' tool at <https://tinyurl.com/5xezk9tb>. They can also be made by email or in writing.

We are now a *livesimply* parish!

We are delighted to announce that our parish has gained the *livesimply* award. Fr Jonathan said: *"This is valuable recognition for our parish and our desire to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with people in poverty. Our work in this area makes us more credible in our mission and provides a forum for dialogue with those outside the church. It is the fruit of much hard work and a lot of prayer, but it is also just a beginning. Our thanks go to the team for their drive and leadership and to everyone in the parish for their support."* One of our parishioners said: "Congratulations to you all for your hard work and diligence in leading St Edmund's to become a *liveSimply* parish. You have done so well, and it has been a very enjoyable process for all the members of our community. I know I have picked up a lot of tips and learnt a great deal from all the initiatives and the email update letters."

Pete's Plant Sale this weekend This *livesimply* event takes place at St Joseph's church car park this over the May bank holiday weekend, in memory of Pete Kelly RIP. Please come and choose something for your garden and/or bring your own plants to swap; all donations will go to Kasanka.

Rosary in May is being encouraged for the ending of the pandemic. In the UK this will centre on Walsingham. You may like to join in their livestream at 8pm or pray at some other time. <https://www.walsingham.org.uk>

COVID arrangements

Weekend Mass While numbers are not too high we will continue to book using Eventbrite. <https://tinyurl.com/4fdsnshv>

Please continue to follow COVID measures – hands, face, space. Please ensure that you leave at least 1.5m (5ft) between one another.

Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse this Tuesday, 4th May. Listening to the voices of victims and survivors, the Bishops have moved this day from Lent into Eastertide to provide a focus on the hope and renewal that is necessary for the victims, survivors and others affected by abuse (for example families, parish communities). Mass on Tuesday will be offered for this intention.

Ascension of the Lord There will be a Vigil Mass at St Edmund's on Wednesday 12th at 7.30pm and a morning Mass at St Joseph's at 10.00am. Both of these can be booked on Eventbrite.

In the evening Fr Jonathan and Fr James Rattue will lead Evening Prayer at St John's, Farncombe with Churches Together in Godalming at 5.30pm. No need to book: first come first served so arrive in good time.

Kasanka Appeal is a village in Zambia and home to one of the FMDM communities, who have their mother house here in Godalming. Our parish has supported their work in Kasanka for over 20 years.

The Kasanka school community urgently need to replace their borehole water pump with an efficient solar-powered pump and we are trying to help them raise £2,400. We know how important water is for our health, not only in food and drink but also to keep us clean, and by making a donation we express our own gratitude for access to clean water.

To contribute: pick up a Kasanka envelope at church; donate using the contactless devices at Mass; or transfer online to: acct: Zambia RD a/c: 00754226, sort: 60-09-04 (and ensure 'Kasanka' is your reference). If you would like to gift aid your contribution, please contact the parish office for a form.

Colour and Shape is a social network, originating in our diocese so that families can discover their unique rhythm of prayer, learn how to accompany their children confidently on their journey to discovering their own relationship with God, and find friends along the way. This Monday (4th May) they are starting 'The Prayer Course' – an 8-week journey through the Lord's Prayer which discusses a wide variety of prayer practices and themes. For more information visit www.colourandshapeonline.com

Struggling with bereavement or loss?

Our Deanery has a team of trained Catholic Bereavement Supporters available to listen and support. Contact Fr Jonathan if you would like to speak to one of the team or contact Simon South from Marriage & Family at simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk.

Keeping in touch with Fr Michael who celebrated his 85th birthday last week and is in good spirits despite having had a mini stroke and needing to use a zimmer frame to get around. He loves to receive phone calls from parishioners and his direct number is: 01903 711306 or reception: 01903 711325.

Regular financial support for the parish

Thank you to those who support the parish by regular giving. Donations to the parish by bank transfer can be made to 'RCD AB Godalming' sort code 40-05-20, account number 41077481. If you would like to arrange a standing order, or to sign up for Gift Aid, please contact Eileen Hudson on 01483 208238 or eileen.hudson@gmail.com.

New envelopes are also available at the back of church which can be used to Gift Aid donations, and contactless terminals are available for those who wish to give by card.

Climate Change Petition This November the UK will host the 'COP26' climate talks in Glasgow. With the eyes of the world on the UK, we must urge the Prime Minister to make sure communities hardest hit by the climate emergency are listened to at COP26. Please sign the petition online:

<https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/73304/petition/1>
or, if you would prefer to sign a card, please take one from the back of the church, sign and post to CAFOD using freepost.

The Day of the Lord can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/38zcath7>

Gap Year Opportunities with CAFOD

Applications are open until the end of May for academic year 21/22 for 18-30 year olds. For details visit: <https://tinyurl.com/mtcjzu9v>.

Some sources of practical support

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 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 May:

That those responsible for financial services may work together with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

The sick and those who care for them

including – Audrey Hockey, Mark Hewitt, Margaret Szalajda, Anne Stephens, Warren McMillan, Margarita Crawford, Irene Grant, Lizzie Laverty, Margaret Silvester, Arden Holford, 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, those in our hospitals and care homes and those who carry their illnesses privately.

The faithful departed, in particular Fr Jan Gora (formerly Rector of the Polish mission) who died on Thursday and for Margaret Jones, Ian Hamilton, Carla Barford, Cynthia Hughes, Eileen Briant, Michael Flannery, Rosa Moroney and Peter Kelly whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Liturgies Fifth Week of Easter 2021

Saturday 1st May <i>(St Joseph the Worker)</i>	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's)† – <i>Pat Cooke RIP</i> 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)†* – <i>Kate McCaughey RIP</i>
Sunday 2nd May FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am Mass (St John's)† – 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)† – <i>People of the parish</i> 6.30pm Evening Prayer & Exposition online (www.cpg.church)
Monday 3rd May SAINTS PHILIP & JAMES	<i>No Mass today</i>
Tuesday 4th May THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>For victims and survivors of abuse</i>
Wednesday 5th May	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Private Intention</i> 7.30pm-8.30pm Lectio Divina online Zoom: 846 7892 5944 / 2021
Thursday 6th May	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Jane Gallagher RIP</i>
Friday 7th May	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) –
Saturday 8th May	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's)† – <i>Celebrant's Intention</i> 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)†* – <i>Peter Kelly RIP</i>
Sunday 9th May SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am Mass (St John's)† – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)† – <i>Fr Jan Gora</i> 6.30pm Evening Prayer & Exposition online (www.cpg.church)

Sunday Year B. Weekday Cycle I. Psalter Week 1.

†**Booking Essential** – available places on Eventbrite (<https://tinyurl.com/4fdsnshv>)

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

Quicklink for Parish Zoom – <https://tinyurl.com/apfvd674>

St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 5pm

www.stedsqod.com