



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*

Seventh Sunday of Easter – 16th May 2021

This Sunday is the end of Marriage Week and Fr Jonathan has asked Nicki and Alan share with us a little on their vocation to marriage:

'Most unusually, we got engaged by telephone! I was in Australia and Nicki in England. When I popped the question "Will you marry me?", Nicki said she would think about it and call me back. Fortunately, she said "Yes"! We were married on New Year's Eve, 1977. Since Nicki was, at that time, a member of the Anglican Church, our marriage involved an Anglican vicar and a Catholic priest. We had the Catholic marriage service in a 12th century Norman church and, as far as anybody could tell, it was the first ecumenical ceremony in the church's 800-year history.

We came to Godalming in 1981 and have been part of this parish ever since. Since then, God has blessed us with three sons, five grandchildren and a wonderful circle of friends. Looking back, members of our church family have provided us with some great advice. Once, when we were struggling to get our boys to come to church, we were challenged, by a parishioner to do something about it! This led us and two other couples to starting Children's Liturgy.

In the 1990s our parish embarked on the Alpha Course, enthusiastically led by the Frosts, the Greys and others. In 1996, just as Nicki was struggling with her faith, she experienced the transforming power of the Holy Spirit whilst on the Alpha Course. It was a wonderful gift that has helped our family ever since.

There is no doubt that our faith and the faith of those around us has been at the heart of our marriage. All marriages have good days and not so good days. It's easy to negotiate the good days – they just sail by. But, when disagreements occur or things don't go to plan, having God at the centre of your marriage is a wonderful source of support and inspiration. We have also been helped along the way by being part of a Marriage Encounter group for the last 25 years - which includes two other members of this parish. If you would like to hear more about it - please ask us!

Our advice to those who are already married and those considering marriage would be to make God a real part of your marriage. Ask daily for His help and His love for those in your family. Through your marriage, spread God's love to those around you. You will be amazed at how God's love multiplies through His amazing grace. One particular 'tip' which has made a difference for our whole family is to say 'Grace' at every meal. This is a short prayer thanking God for all His blessings and includes anything else major that is on our hearts'.

Mass Responses for Seventh Sunday of Easter

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

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The Parish Pastoral Team met last week. Key projects identified for the next few months are a short online series of Sycamore in June/July, gearing back up for childrens' liturgy, forming a families team, and rebuilding our welcoming and hosting teams at Mass. More on these in due course. The team comprises Fr Jonathan, Angela Gilmour, Ian Honeysett, Jo Lewry, Sarah Stilwell, Eleanor Streatfield and Adrian Wyn-Griffiths, and will meet each half term.

No weekday Mass here 17th to 21st May, but there are Masses in Haslemere and Guildford, generally at 10.00am, which require you to book. Haslemere: <https://www.catholicaslemere.com/book-masses>. Guildford: <https://www.cpg.church/mass.html>. Deacon Jeremy will lead exposition and rosary at St Joseph's, Milford on Wednesday and Friday.

Praying towards Pentecost. These days leading up to Pentecost provide a particular time for prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Two initiatives are offered to help us this year:

'Thy Kingdom Come' is a global ecumenical initiative encouraging us to pray for and help people come to know Jesus Christ. Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/33ay2hur>.

Novena on the Care of Creation The Bishops of England and Wales invite us to join in nine days of prayer based on readings and prayers drawn from the Bible and recent Papal teaching to help us respond in prayer and action to the urgent climate change issues that we all face. Visit: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/environment-novena/>

Rosary prayer to end the pandemic This May we are encouraged to make an extra effort to pray the rosary for an end to the pandemic. Walsingham's daily livestream is at 8pm. <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/7vnxztc4> Please follow COVID measures – hands, face, space – and ensure that you leave at least 1m (3ft) between one another.

'Parliament in our Parish' meeting with Jeremy Hunt MP on 18th June at 3.45pm on zoom, organised by our parish /livesimply group. This is to discuss the impact of the climate crisis on the poorest communities around the world, and to ensure our concerns are at the heart of the G7 and COP26 climate talks this year. The more there are of us the better, please contact Jo on jolewry@aol.com if you are interested in joining the meeting.

Open Air Songs of Praise on Pentecost Sunday This event takes place at 3pm on 23rd May at the Godalming United Church, outside on the grassed area behind the church, and has been organised by Churches Together in Godalming. On this wonderful feast day it is a chance to get together to praise the Lord, with the added blessing of being able to sing! There will be seating available for those who require it.

Kasanka Appeal 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 can express our own gratitude for access to clean water.

THANK YOU to everyone who has donated and helped us raise a total of approx. £1,300.

To contribute: pick up a Kasanka envelope at church; donate using the contactless devices at Mass; or bank transfer to 'Zambia RD' a/c no: 00754226, sort code: 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.

CAFOD Director Christine Allen is giving an online talk as part of the Haslemere Festival on the 26th May at 7.30 pm about the pandemic, and how we can seek to recover, heal and rebuild a better world. Tickets £5. To book: T: 01428 642161 or: <https://tickets.haslemerehall.co.uk/sales/generes/events/talk-2021---a-year-of-opportun/streaming-ticket>

Lectio Divina on Wednesday at 7.30pm. Note a different zoom log in this week: ID 720 0549 3230 / 8mf3sa

Walking the Parables of Jesus at

Wintershall on 2nd July and 3rd July. Book now for this powerful biblical outdoor drama, staged in the beautiful grounds of Wintershall near Bramley. Phone 01483 892167 or visit: www.wintershall.org.uk

Spiritual Refreshment After many months of lockdown you may feel it's time to make a retreat in person, and there are some wonderful opportunities available: the **House of Prayer in Molesey** opens for in person retreats from 17th May: www.christian-retreat.org; **The London Jesuit Centre** www.londonjesuitcentre.org offers both weekday and Saturday retreats; and **Worth Abbey's 'Open Cloister'** offers a selection of online retreats: toc@worth.org.uk <https://worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats>

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. For more information visit: www.colourandshapeonline.com

Keeping in touch with Fr Michael who 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.

***livesimply* Award**

We were delighted to announce recently 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 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."*

Look out for the *livesimply* plaque which will be displayed in due course inside the porch of both our churches, and if you would like to receive our parish monthly *livesimply* e-newsletter please email the parish office.

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.

Contactless terminals and new format envelopes are available at the back of church.

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 people around the world.

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

The faithful departed, in particular Fr Jan Gora and Sr Anne Kavanagh who died recently and Francis Metcalfe, Richard Orlinski, Rev Jim Lawler (former Parish Deacon), Michele Ciccone, Arthur Apark, Mary Voller, Eugene McClinton, Anna Ciccone, Tessa Marchant-Smith, Douglas Sharpley and Sandra Rudolph whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Liturgies Seventh Week of Easter 2021

Saturday 15th May <i>(St Jeanne de Lestonnac)</i>	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's)† – <i>Gwen & Declan Leigh</i> 1.30pm – 4.30pm First Confessions (St Edmund's) 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)†* – <i>Company of Mary, Our Lady</i>
Sunday 16th May SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am Mass (St John's)† – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)† – <i>Fr Thomas Kent</i> 6.30pm Evening Prayer & Exposition online (www.cpg.church)
Monday 17th May	<i>10am Mass in Haslemere† and Guildford†</i>
Tuesday 18th May	<i>10am Mass in Haslemere† and Guildford†</i>
Wednesday 19th May <i>St Dunstan</i>	9.30am Rosary & Exposition (St Joseph's) <i>10am Mass in Haslemere† and Guildford†</i> 7.30pm-8.30pm Lectio Divina online Zoom: 720 0549 3230 / 8mf3sa
Thursday 20th May	<i>10am Mass in Haslemere† and 11am Mass in Merrow†</i>
Friday 21st May	9.30am Rosary & Exposition (St Joseph's) <i>10am Mass in Haslemere† and 11am Mass in Rydes Hill†</i>
Saturday 22nd May	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's)† – 1.30pm – 4.30pm First Confessions (St Edmund's) 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)†* – <i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 23rd May PENTECOST	9.00am Mass (St John's)† – 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)† – 6.30pm Evening Prayer & Exposition online (www.cpg.church)

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

†**Booking Essential** – available places on Eventbrite (<https://tinyurl.com/7vnxztc4>)

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

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

www.stedsgod.com