



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*

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 5th September 2021

A home for all: renewing the household of God.

The theme for the season of creation this year is "A home for all: renewing the *oikos* (household) of God". The logo used for this ecumenical and global project is based on the Tent of Abraham, and a reminder of the centrality of hospitality and welcome.

The reading from the letter of St James draws attention to the ease with which we can welcome people like us and neglect or marginalise those who (we think) are less so. **Christian hospitality is a radical challenge that must be at work especially our own community.** As schools resume there may be a few more families at Mass this Autumn. What will our welcome to them be like? Will we be able to appreciate their effort to join us and embrace the joyful sounds provided by the chatter and fidgeting of children? How will we feel if it is difficult for us to have our place in church because others who don't come so often have heard God's call to come to him?

The household (*oikos*) of God that is the focus for the season of creation extends this basic concept of hospitality to the whole of the earth. It invites us to listen to and enter into dialogue with the experience and cry of the poor: to those whose lives are severely impacted by a more volatile climate, to migrants who flee hopeless poverty or conflict, to those creatures whose habitats are damaged by the economic activities in which we participate. This is not the same as finding some quick solutions. It is the start of a long and demanding process of solidarity and conversion, that may need to break our hearts before it can start to heal our common home.

Mass Responses for Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

PSALM RESPONSE: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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Sunday Mass at St John's returns to 8.45am from this weekend.

Children's Liturgy will resume at the 8.45am Mass from 12th September.

COVID arrangements We ask everyone to wear face coverings and to register for Mass, though it is likely that there will be spare places on most occasions. Seating is now on alternate benches to ensure distancing, and at 1m+ at St John's.

There will be some places reserved at St Joseph's each Sunday for people who are **more clinically vulnerable**. Please register on Eventbrite if you need one of these. They will be facing the altar in the part of the church that is better ventilated.

Weekday Masses are generally quiet and would be a good way back to Mass if you are nervous about coming on a Sunday

Next Weekend – 11th & 12th September is **Education Sunday**. There will be a blessing for students and teachers at each Mass. This blessing at the start of the scholastic year is offered to all those who learn or teach in schools, colleges and universities.

First Holy Communion Enrolment will take place at each Mass on the following weekend (18th & 19th September). Please be aware that there may be a few more people than usual at these Masses.

First Holy Communion 2021/22 There is another information evening at 7.30pm at St Edmund's church on Tuesday 14th September for parents who missed the meeting in June and who would like to register their children (school Yr 3). This year's programme starts on 18th September. More information from Anne: communionatsteds@gmail.com

Altar Serving Fr Jonathan would like to extend a particular invitation to the children who made their First Holy Communion in 2020 or 2021 to become altar servers. If you are interested, please get in touch and we will set up a meeting for this half-term. The invitation is extended also to older young people and to adults.

New rotas for the **Welcoming and Reading Ministries** have just been sent out by email. If you would like to participate in either of these ministries, please contact Fr Jonathan.

Bumps and Babes resumes on 13th September, and regularly on Monday mornings at 10.30am, at St John's Centre, Farncombe. All young families are welcome. More information from Janet: 01252 702156.

Baptism Preparation New sessions are planned for early October for parents and carers who would like to prepare their child for this sacrament; please get in touch as soon as possible with Fr Jonathan to register.

Sycamore We are looking forward to running a series of new Sycamore films this autumn and plan to start in early October. In addition to a Tuesday evening zoom option, we would like to include opportunities to meet in small groups, either in the parish room or in people's homes. If you are able and willing to host or facilitate a small group, please let Sarah in the parish office know.

Save the date! Our annual parish Quiz Night takes place on 12th November, 7pm-10pm, St John's Church Room. More details to follow.

Wondering about becoming Catholic?

There will be a small group forming this autumn of people interested in becoming Catholic. If you think this might be for you, please speak with Fr Jonathan or with Ian Honeysett: Honeysett@btinternet.com

Big Green Litter Pick after all Masses on w/e 18th/19th September. Our Live Simply group encourages you to have a go at helping keep our neighbourhoods tidy. There are some people meeting to clean up the areas around our Mass centres; St Edmund's at **10am** on Saturday 18th; and on Sunday 19th St John's at **9.30am** and St Joseph's at **11.30am**. They hope that others will come along! Please bring gloves and a bag.

Praise of God for his work of creation has been a significant part of Eucharistic praying since the early centuries. It is seen particularly clearly in **Eucharistic Prayer IV** which you might find used more often than usual during the Season of Creation.

Surrey Churches Ride & Stride This year's fundraiser to help preserve local church buildings takes place on Saturday 18th September. The group will follow their usual ride from Farncombe to Godalming via local villages. All welcome for all or part of it! Contact Ian at: Honeysett@btinternet.com

Open Cloister at Worth Abbey Retreat: 'Finding Stillness', on 20/23rd September, and on dates in October/November and December; you can join in person or remotely; led by Fr Peter Williams O.S.B. www.worth.co.uk/retreat-programme

School Admission Forms Fr Jonathan would like to meet at the presbytery, briefly and in person, with those who need supplementary information forms signing for applications to Catholic Schools. There will be opportunities both after school and at other times. For admission to St Edmund's, please wait until after half-term. Please speak with Fr Jonathan or the parish office.

Colour and Shape This is a wonderful weekly online liturgy for families to use at home to reflect on Sunday's Gospel www.colourandshapeonline.com

Please sign the petition to the Prime Minister to make sure communities hardest hit by the climate emergency are listened to at COP26. If you haven't yet signed, please do so by the 12th October deadline: <https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/73304/petition/1>

Thank you to Jo, Angela, Alan and all the parents who helped 33 children from the parish to enjoy a great activity day last Friday at Walton Firs.

Thank you to our Parish Knitting Group for producing some fantastic knits for our two chosen charities: the Royal Surrey and the Stella Maris charity to support seafarers. The RSH has sent us some super photos of the knits being presented to the wards, which you can view on our facebook page, as well as a letter of appreciative thanks for all the colourful hats, scarves, blankets, balaclavas, twiddlemuffs and pairs of warm socks. Thank you everyone; and if you would like to join the group, please get in touch with Sarah in the parish office.

Parish Finance Summary accounts for the first half year are on the noticeboards at St Edmund's and St Joseph's and available from the parish office. Thank you to those who support the parish by their regular giving. Donations to the parish by bank transfer can be made to 'RCD AB Godalming' sort code 40-05-20, account number 41077481. To arrange a standing order/sign up for Gift Aid, contact Eileen: eileen.hudson@gmail.com

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 September:

That we may make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in those young people who are resolutely committed to protecting God's Creation.

The sick and those who care for them

including –Jean Rejniak, Elizabeth Coombs, Andrew Herrington, Helena Burger, Audrey Hockey, 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 Rheenan, 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 Mario Sanderson who died recently and Brian Cooke, Elizabeth O'Donnell, Richard Pilkington, Vincenzo Bivona, Carolyn Horner and Catherine Owen, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Liturgies
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
5th September 2021

Saturday 4th September	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) 6pm Mass (St Edmund's)† – <i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 5th September 23 RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's)† 10.30am Mass for the Season of Creation (Ladywell Convent, Ashtead Lane, Godalming GU7 1ST)† 1.00pm Baptisms (St Joseph's)
Monday 6th September	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – Private Intention
Tuesday 7th September	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)
Wednesday 8th September The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)
Thursday 9th September	<i>Mass available at 10am at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
Friday 10th September	<i>Mass available at 10am at St Joseph's Guildford</i> 7-8.00pm Adoration (St Joseph's) 8.00pm Mass in Polish (St Joseph's)
Saturday 11th September	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) 6pm Mass (St Edmund's)†
Sunday 12th September 24 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's)† – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)†

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

†Please Book on Eventbrite (<https://tinyurl.com/7vnxztc4>)

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

www.stedsqod.com