



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 in Ordinary Time – 20th February 2022

Be compassionate as your heavenly Father is compassionate.

Five years ago we were gifted with the Jubilee Year of Mercy and the invitation to drink deeply of the mystery of God's mercy and compassion. In launching the Jubilee Pope Francis wrote: "We want to live this Jubilee Year in light of the Lord's words: Merciful like the Father. The Evangelist reminds us of the teaching of Jesus who says, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful". It is a programme of life as demanding as it is rich with joy and peace. Jesus's command is directed to anyone willing to listen to his voice. In order to be capable of mercy, therefore, we must first of all dispose ourselves to listen to the Word of God. This means rediscovering the value of silence in order to meditate on the Word that comes to us. In this way, it will be possible to contemplate God's mercy and adopt it as our lifestyle."

The unique source of our compassion for one another (and for ourselves too) is our experience of God's compassion for us. The scriptures teach us that this compassion is like that of a mother or father for their child. It is something that is deep and visceral, a part of their very selves. It is *com-passio*, a suffering-with, that is also expressed in a forgiveness that longs for healing and return.

It is one thing, however, to read about it, another to *experience* ourselves on the receiving end of the Father's compassion and mercy. Pope Francis draws our attention to two particular places of encounter with the God of mercy and compassion. The first is silent prayer, meditating on the Word of God. In practices such as *Lectio Divina*, and in the profound silence that can sometimes follow in the Liturgy of the Word, the voice of God resonates in our hearts in a way that goes beyond the words to the person behind them. The second is the Sacrament of Reconciliation in which, presenting ourselves before the Father in our brokenness and weakness, he lifts us up and bestows his healing embrace upon us.

Being compassionate is a good thing. If we really want to practice it, we must first experience it for ourselves in the silence of prayer.

Mass Responses for Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is compassion and love.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

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

Of your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of Maria Chacaltana, Ruth de Stefani and Pam Wright who died this week, and for the comfort and consolation of their families.

Maria's Funeral will take place at 2pm on Friday afternoon in Milford. Parking may be difficult, so we would encourage anyone who can to car share, park elsewhere in Milford and walk along to the church. Livestreaming at <https://schmittat.uk/live/2022-02-25-mc/>. There is a book in St Edmund's Lady Chapel for prayers and messages for Maria.

Palm Branches If you have any palms from previous years to be burned please leave them at the back of church on or before Sunday 27th February so that they can be prepared for Ash Wednesday.

Racial Justice Day To mark this day we are encouraged to pray the words of Pope Francis taken from his encyclical letter Fratelli Tutti – *Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. Amen.* To find out more about the Catholic church's work for racial justice, and/or to get involved, visit: <https://www.carj.org.uk/>

Some opportunities to get together

Solemnities of St Joseph & Dedication of St Joseph's Church – 18th March
Evening Prayer and Benediction at 7.00pm, followed by a shared supper and 'open mic night' at Milford Village Hall until 10pm. All are welcome, and the sign up is via the website calendar. To help coordinate food and entertainment, please contact Andrew with your offers alodge@andrewlodge.co.uk, or post to Padlet <https://tinyurl.com/2j28kx4p>

Coffee after Mass at St John's this Sunday. Can anyone help in April or May? Please contact Jo on jolewry@aol.com

Quiz & Hog Night - 4th March Parishioners are warmly invited by St Edmund's School PSA to the Quiz & Hog Night on Friday 4th at 7.30pm. Tickets are £12. To book email: stedmundspsachair@gmail.com

Day of Prayer this Wednesday to help prepare for Lent, led by Fr Jonathan at Ladywell Convent. 10am-4pm. Suggested contribution £30, including lunch. To sign up: victoriabrown@franciscancentre.org.uk

Lectio Divina Wednesdays at 7.30pm, on Zoom (ID: 846 7892 5944, Password: 2022).

World Day of Prayer Friday 4th March 10.30am at St Nicholas, Peper Harow. Please support this ecumenical worldwide initiative.

For Young People

Pizza and Prayer Fr Jonathan invites all young people in the parish in Year 9 or above to join him for Pizza and to try different forms of Prayer on Sunday evenings in Lent (starting 13th March). If you're interested, sign up via calendar or speak to Fr Jonathan.

The Trinity Trust Team run ecumenical Wednesday groups at Godalming Baptist Church: **Fusion** (KS2) – games, drama, Jesus' stories, teaching and songs; from 6pm-7pm. **Fuse** (years 7 and up) - Alpha Youth programme, peer support and witness from the team; from 7:30pm-9pm. For more information: www.trinitytrustteam.co.uk

Youth & Children's Worker TTT vacancy
There are opportunities to join the team, so if you, or anyone you know, might have the skills and experience to take the love of Christ out to young people locally, please contact Andy: andy@trinitytrustteam.co.uk

Fairtrade Fortnight runs for two weeks from Monday until 6th March. When you're shopping please look out for and buy products with the Fairtrade logo, to support farmers - who are often exploited and underpaid - and help ensure they get a fair price for the goods they grow and we consume. There are 1000s of Fairtrade products - from vege to wine and from chocolate to clothes. More information at: <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>

Bartimaeus Project This is a new and engaging series of talks, to provide a deeper understanding of our Faith, by some of the priests of our diocese, on Zoom/in person. The first, on how God speaks to us, is from Effingham on 1st March. (Fr Jonathan thinks these should be really good.) To register or more details: <https://bartimaeus-project.org>

Join us for Sycamore in Lent online as we enjoy watching and discussing the five remaining Sycamore films about Faith and life, from Fr Stephen Wang:

3rd March: The Light of Christ

10th: Creation, Fall, Salvation

17th: The Social Teaching of the Church

24th: How to Pray

31st: Mary and the Hope of Heaven

We meet from 7.45pm and finish by 9.45pm. Please sign up through the parish calendar, or contact the parish office. The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89934568457>

Invited Season One Lent is nearly here and you may like to revisit the Invited episodes shown last year; search on 'Invited Season One' on YouTube for the full playlist. Invited Season Two begins on Easter Monday, and the programme continues through Eastertime, culminating with Pentecost.

CAFOD Walk against Hunger in Lent We have a growing band of walkers, but a few more will help up make the 6,300K to reach Sierra Leone! Please don't be discouraged by the daily 5K goal as any number of miles/km will help us, so please do sign up and take part. For more information, please email Jo: jolewry@aol.com

Pete's Plant Sale in memory of Pete Kelly and in aid of Kasanka will take place on the weekend of 21st and 22nd May. So plenty of notice for you to get planting! Contact Jo Pomeroy if you can help: 07920 180495.

Churches Together Prayer Breakfast The next breakfast is scheduled for Saturday 26th at 8.30am, venue to be confirmed. You can read the latest CTiGD newsletter 'Link Up' on the Newsletter page of our website.

ADoRE online spiritual mini-retreat February 26th 10.00-13.00 on the theme 'Holy is your name' with Kristina Cooper, former editor of Good News Catholic charismatic renewal magazine. To register: <https://www.altonrenewal.com/>

BBC series Heaven Made The third episode broadcast on BBC1 last Sunday is available on iplayer; it follows the spiritual lives and work of the Benedictines at Quarr, Kylemore and Chilworth Abbeys.

COVID precautions Please continue to wear face coverings, particularly while singing, and please don't attend if you have symptoms of COVID, or anything infectious.

Parish Finance 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, or request envelopes please contact Eileen: eileen.hudson@gmail.com.

Some sources of practical support

LOAF (Love One Another Fellowship) This team of parish volunteers offers practical help. Contact Alan on 01483 420859.

SVP members offer regular visits, friendship and practical support to those in need. The helpline number is 07379 108009.

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 COVID and its impact on people around the world. Peace in Ukraine.

The Holy Father's Intention for February:

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

The sick and those who care for them

including Fr Chris Dobson, Maria Lopez, Jean Rejniak, Arden Holford, Audrey Hockey, Margaret Szalajda, Anne Stephens, Margarita Crawford, Irene Grant, Margaret Silvester, Nancy Drapper, Betty Matthews, Cliff Hutchinson, Alan Berry, Nicolle Ernould, Gerry Newell, Josie Whittle, Nuala Gallagher, Ann Lloyd, Anita van Rheen, 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 for Maria Chacaltana, Ruth de Stefani, Pam Wright and Christopher Walsh, who died recently, and Henry Wood, James Rafferty, Therese O'Brien, Noel Ormerod, and Tom Rogers whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Schedule of Masses
Seventh Week in Ordinary Time**

20th February 2022

Saturday 19th February	6pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Harry & Marie Mason RIP</i>
Sunday 20th February 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Tom Rogers RIP</i> 12.15pm Baptism – Freddie Longbottom (St Edmund's) 1.15pm Baptism – Noah Meredith (St Edmund's)
Monday 21st February	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Tuesday 22nd February The Chair of St Peter	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Lisa Brodwin</i>
Wednesday 23rd February St Polycarp	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i> 7.30pm Lectio Divina (Zoom)
Thursday 24th February	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Private Intention</i>
Friday 25th February	2.00pm Funeral Mass for Maria Chacaltana RIP (St Joseph's)
Saturday 26th February	6pm Mass (St Edmund's) –
Sunday 27th February 8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Chacaltana family</i>

Sunday Year C. Psalter Week 3.

St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 5pm
(*This week until 7pm in the evening)

Livestream Mass is available from Guildford: <https://www.cpg.church/live.html>

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