



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*

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 27th February 2022

Order a fast, proclaim a solemn assembly... Let them say 'Spare your people Lord'

Next Wednesday the words of the prophet Joel will echo through the church and summon us to the campaign of Christian service and battle against spiritual evils which is Lent.

These days we don't often think about our spiritual lives in military terms, but I think the outbreak of war in Europe, the challenge of climate change, the embedded injustices of our world and the harm done by the abuse of children (most especially in the church) provide a context in which such a significant and dramatic response is needed. We may sometimes feel rather impotent in addressing these issues, but our tradition reminds us that we can address some of their origins through concerted effort in spiritual things.

We do Lent and do penance not only for ourselves, but as a way of joining ourselves with the work of Jesus in breaking the forces of sin and death than otherwise ruin God's beautiful work of creation. Even though the Gospel tells us to do it in secret, we keep Lent as part of the solemn assembly of God's people, as a task entrusted to us for the good of the whole world.

The season of Lent offers us the basic tools of spiritual combat – prayer, fasting and almsgiving (charity). It is not a case of one or the other – all three are needed. I urge you this week to make a plan for Lent – a rule of life for the next 40 days which includes a bit of prayer, a bit of fasting (self-restraint) and a bit of almsgiving (or works of charity and mercy). You may also like to find an intention or cause for which you will offer your spiritual works this Lent. **Pope Francis has called for Ash Wednesday to be offered as a day of prayer and fasting for Ukraine.** Knowing that what we do in secret really makes a difference to others can help us persevere with our good intentions even if we feel drawn away from prayer back to the telly or are tempted to succumb to some particular thing from which we are fasting.

It is not that we hate the world or worldly things: they are lesser goods wholly appropriate for the lesser beatitude of this life. It's just that every now and again we need to stop and devote ourselves to higher things. And it's only 40 days. (With Sundays off if you're doing some serious fasting.)

Mass Responses for Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PSALM RESPONSE: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

19 Croft Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1DB t: 01483 416880
Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan How e: pp.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk
Parish Assistant: Sarah Stilwell e: godalming@abdiocese.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding phonenumber: 07534 146908

www.stedsqod.com

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

Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence (from meat). The rule of fasting applies to those aged from 18 to 59. The old rule of thumb would be one main meal and two snacks ("light collations"). How much one eats on a fast day should be guided by one's health – not fasting in such a way as it damages oneself or others (by falling asleep at the wheel). Distribution of Ashes at St Joseph's Church (am), St Edmund's School (pm) and St Edmund's Church (evening).

The **Buildings Review Group** have completed their report following the survey carried in December. It will be uploaded to the website over the weekend and a link sent out by Mailchimp. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide our discernment.

Please pray for David, Kelly and Dean, whom we will send this weekend to Arundel Cathedral for the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion as they prepare to be received into full communion at Easter.

CAFOD Family Fast Day – 11th March By eating simply and giving what you save, you'll be supporting communities affected by extreme hunger and children suffering from malnutrition, and making sure that no-one goes hungry in our world. You can pick up a CAFOD envelope at Mass, or donate using the contactless device or via this link:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>

Mass in Elstead will be celebrated for the prayer group and others who wish to join them by Fr Anthony Meredith on Thursday 3rd March at 5pm. Please phone Richard on 01252 702230 if you'd like to attend.

Stations of the Cross at Wintershall are on Friday 4th March at 8am.

World Day of Prayer Friday 4th March

There will be a 10.30am service at St Nicholas, Peper Harow. Please support this ecumenical worldwide initiative.

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

Synod Feedback from Bishop Richard. 7.30pm on 9th March at Ladywell. Sign up through the parish calendar or office.

Opportunities in Lent

Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7pm at St Joseph's, Milford.

Lectio Divina on Zoom at 7.30pm on Wednesdays (from 16th March) (ID: 846 7892 5944, Password: 2022).

Early Morning Mass 7.30am at St Edmund's, most often on a Friday.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament / Holy Hour on Wednesdays at 4pm at St Joseph's, Milford.

Sycamore online 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>

CAFOD Walk against Hunger 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. For more information, please email Jo: jolewry@aol.com

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.

Parish Prayer Group During Lent they'll be exploring Carmody Grey's York Course booklet 'God has no favourites'. Mondays at 5pm in Elstead. Phone Richard 01252 702230

Bartimaeus Project Fr Stephen Dingley, PP of Effingham, gives the first talk in this new series on Tuesday 1st at 7.30pm, on the theme: 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening' God's Revelation; to register for the Zoom link and info: <https://bartimaeus-project.org>
The next talks are on March 8th and 15th.

Solemnities of St Joseph & Dedication of St Joseph's Church - 18th March

7pm Evening Prayer & Benediction
7.45pm-10pm **Shared Supper & 'open mic' night** at Milford Village Hall. It's great to have the opportunity at last for a parish get-together! All are welcome and the sign up is via the website calendar. To help coordinate food and entertainment, please contact Andrew alodge@andrewlodge.co.uk or post with your offers to the Padlet <https://tinyurl.com/2j28kx4p>

SVP Afternoon Tea After a break due to Covid the March tea is due to take place on Wednesday 9th March at 2.30pm at the URC in Elstead. Please phone Janet on 01252 702156 to book, and if you would like a lift.

Lent Quiet Morning Online 'Come back to me with all your heart' on Saturday 5th March, 10am-12.30pm, led by the House of Prayer team on Zoom, £10.

A Quiet Day Retreat, Storrington Priory, on 23rd March, 10am-4pm. A guided retreat with time for personal and communal prayer. <https://www.chemin-neuf.org.uk/retreats/>

Retreats at Worth Abbey Opportunities for some time out in Lent for quiet prayer and reflection. To find out more phone: 01342 710318 or www.worth.co.uk/retreat

Fundraising for Kasanka – dates for your diary There will be a **Cake Sale** on weekend 30th/1st May and **Pete's Plant Sale** on the weekend of 21st /22nd May. Contact Jo Pomeroy if you can help: 07920 180495.

Fairtrade Fortnight runs until 6th March. We can all be part of the Fairtrade movement as we have the power to drive long-term change through our shopping choices, and by spreading the message that choosing Fairtrade products improves farmers' and producers' livelihoods, and contributes to greater social, economic and environmental justice. <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>

Ten Steps to Living Simply Step 6 is: **Switch off & unwind. Take Time Out** A good message for the start of Lent! And a reminder of the many non-digital forms of leisure available to us - spiritual, creative, healthy and active outdoors...

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 March: For a Christian response to bioethical challenges. We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

The sick and those who care for them

including Lisa Brodwin, 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 James Chaloner, Elena Kuzmickas, Anthony Style, Helen Hawkins, Anne Barnard and Georges Gebhardt whose anniversaries occur at this time.

***Funeral Mass for Ruth de Stefani** takes place on 22nd March at 11am at St Joseph's.

**Schedule of Masses
Eighth Week in Ordinary Time
& the start of Lent**

27th February 2022

Saturday 26th February	6pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Pamela Wright RIP</i>
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>
Monday 28th February	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Tuesday 1st March St David	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Jean Humphrey RIP</i>
Wednesday 2nd March ASH WEDNESDAY	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Dick Hickey RIP</i> 2.30pm Distribution of Ashes (St Edmund's School) 7.30pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Peace in Ukraine</i>
Thursday 3rd March	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Amanda Willson</i> 5.00pm Mass (The Old Farmhouse, Elstead)
Friday 4th March	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Stella's Intentions</i> 7.00pm Stations of the Cross (St Joseph's)
Saturday 5th March	9.30am Mass & Confessions (St Joseph's) 6pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Chacaltana Family</i>
Sunday 6th March 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Jim Flynn RIP</i>

Sunday Year C

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

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

www.stedsgod.com