



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*

First Sunday of Lent – 6th March 2022

Into the wilderness

The first Sunday in Lent always presents us with the image of the wilderness – of Jesus's 40 day fast after his own Baptism and before he begins his public ministry, and the wandering of Israel in their journey from slavery in Egypt to the milk and honey of the promised land. It is a powerful metaphor and one that can help drive our engagement with the season of Lent.

A healthy Christian life moves easily (and regularly) from the asceticism of the wilderness to presence and mission in the urban environment. In the season of Lent we are invited to withdraw from the world. This withdrawal – like Jesus's own prayer throughout the gospels – is not a flight from the world but for the sake of the world. We bring to the desert everything that we are living through in order that we may hear God's voice and come to see it through his eyes. The difficulty that we face is that, as Elijah came to understand, God's voice is not in the storm, but in the still small voice of calm. We have to turn off some of the noise in our lives if we are to hear his voice. It's not that he has nothing to say – we just don't give ourselves a chance of hearing it.

There is some good advice around at the moment about avoiding "doomscrolling" (the practice of flicking through news feeds from one bad story to another), which promises to satisfy our desire for certainty but delivers only a greater sense of anxiety and being out of control. So my tip for this week is to look at the news at most twice a day and use the season of Lent and the call to the desert as an opportunity to assert some discipline over screen time, checking emails and social media and the presumption that the radio or TV has to be on. Replace it instead with some time for silence, some time for prayer, some time for spiritual (or at least recreational) reading and some time for speaking by phone or face to face with people – friends, family, neighbours and strangers in our midst.

Mass Responses for First Sunday of Lent

PSALM RESPONSE: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

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 phoneline: 07534 146908

www.stedsgod.com

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

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>

Ukraine crisis For those who are wondering how best to help, CAFOD have an appeal for their partner Caritas who are on the ground supporting families in urgent need of help.

<https://cafod.org.uk/>

This appeal is part of the DEC and is being match-funded by the UK government. Please also consider writing to Jeremy Hunt, our MP to support a more generous approach to receiving refugees.

Please pray for David, Kelly and Dean, who attend the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion as they prepare to be received into full communion at Easter.

Synod Feedback from Bishop Richard. Join us at 7.30pm on 9th March at Ladywell. Sign up through the parish calendar or office if you can, or just turn up. All are welcome.

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 post with your offers to the padlet <https://tinyurl.com/2j28kx4p> or sign up on the sheets at the back of church.

Liturgy This Lent we will be using the less familiar second form of the penitential rite, the Apostles' Creed and the Eucharistic Prayers for Reconciliation.

The **Buildings Review Group** report on the survey carried out in December is available via the 'newsletter' tab on the website. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide our discernment.

Lent Focus

Adoration, Sung Evening Prayer & Benediction 4.30pm -5.30pm on Sundays from 13th March at St Edmund's Church.

Exposition/Holy Hour on Wednesdays, 4.00-5.00pm, at St Joseph's, Milford, including benediction, rosary and private prayer.

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

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

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

Sycamore online Join us to watch the five remaining Sycamore films about Faith and life, from Fr Stephen Wang, at 7.45pm:
10th: Creation, Fall, Salvation
17th: The Social Teaching of the Church
24th: Prayer 31st: Mary and Hope of Heaven

Please sign up through the parish calendar or contact the parish office. The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89934568457>

For Young People - Pizza and Prayer
Fr Jonathan invites young people in Year 9 or above to join him for pizza and prayer at 6.30pm on Sunday evenings in Lent, starting 13th March. Sign up via the parish calendar.

Parish Prayer Group On Mondays at 5pm in Lent the group is exploring Carmody Grey's York Course booklet 'God has no favourites'. More info from Richard: 01252 702230.

Bartimaeus Project This Tuesday's talk (8th) is at 7.30pm, with Fr Stephen Dingley speaking on the theme: 'He who hears you hears me': Handing on God's Revelation'. To register for the Zoom link and for more info: <https://bartimaeus-project.org>

CAFOD Walk against Hunger We now have 30 walkers in our parish team, and we have set off (virtually) to Sierra Leone! Please support us with your prayers and donations: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/jo-and-julian-walk-against-hunger>

SVP Afternoon Tea This Wednesday 9th at 2.30pm in Elstead. Phone Janet on 01252 702156 to book, and if you would like a lift.

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

ADoRE Mini-retreat online March 26th. 'Your Kingdom come- we are called to be Kingdom Ambassadors'. Guest Speaker: Fr Simon Penhalagan <https://www.altonrenewal.com/>

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.

Ten Steps to Living Simply Step 7 is: **Walk & Cycle more, Drive Less (whenever you can)** PS it's not too late to sign up for the Walk against Hunger!

Live Simply March meeting is on Monday 7th at 7.30pm. Email Jo: jolewry@aol.com

SVP Holiday caravan available for use by parish families for short breaks outside the school summer holiday weeks. Sleeps 6, all mod cons, in Bognor Regis, £300 pw. Contact David Loveder of the SVP on 07810 156850.

Help yourself to free compost The bin at St Joseph's is full and offers excellent leaf mulch if any parishioners would like some.

Universe Catholic Weekly This newspaper has now been relaunched in digital format. If you would like a taster copy please email the parish office. You can also find out more at: <https://universecatholicweekly.co.uk/>

COVID precautions As the Government has now lifted most of the covid-19 restrictions and exhorted all people to follow the *Covid Response: Living with covid-19* document, the principal means of protecting people who attend church is through participation in the vaccination programme. Please continue to wear face coverings if you can, particularly while singing, and please don't attend if you have anything infectious.

Coming up in Eastertide
Invited – Season 2 and Alpha.

CTGD Link Up and **Live Simply newsletters**

The latest editions are available under 'newsletters' on our parish website.

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 Maria Rogers, 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 Margaret Edwards, Mary O'Meara, Colm Whittle, Hilda Stratford, Kathleen Jones, Ferrante Manganoni, Frederik Stowerll, Michael Evans, Jim Wheeler and Winifred Hamnett whose anniversaries occur at this time. ***Funeral Mass for Ruth de Stefani** - 22nd March, 11am, St Joseph's
Fr Jonathan is on leave this week.

Schedule of Masses First Week of Lent

6th March 2022

Saturday 5th March	9.30am Mass & Confessions (St Joseph's) 6pm Mass (St Edmund's) – Chacaltana Family
Sunday 6th March 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	8.45am Mass (St John's) – People of the parish 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – Jim Flynn RIP
Monday 7th March	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Tuesday 8th March	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Wednesday 9th March	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – Celebrant's Intention 4pm-5pm Exposition/Holy Hour (St Joseph's) with Benediction and Rosary
Thursday 10th March	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Friday 11th March	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i> 7.00pm Stations of the Cross (St Joseph's)
Saturday 12th March	6pm Mass (St Edmund's) – People of the parish
Sunday 13th March 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT	8.45am Mass (St John's) – Chacaltana Family 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – Robert Gilmour RIP

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.stedsqod.com