



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*

Fourth 'Good Shepherd' Sunday of Easter - 8th May 2022

I ask you this week to pray for vocations: that from our parish and for our diocese young men and women will hear God's call to dedicate themselves to the care of his flock. Jesus himself tells us to *ask the Lord of the harvest* to send labourers into his harvest.

You will see that this invitation is for young men and young women to hear and answer God's call. It is not perhaps yet clear what *new* pathways will open up in the church for young women and young men to express that share in caring for the Lord's flock, but it will be in particular the lay women and lay men of this generation who will carve them out as the Holy Spirit moves in their lives and in the life of the church. They will be the brave and resilient people, the saints, whom the Lord will raise up in our day, giving new life to his church and hope to the world.

There is also a need to pray for vocations to the ministerial priesthood. When we reflected over the winter on what was important in our parish, I was quite humbled by the number who mentioned the priest as part of that. I think it reflects our need for the Eucharist and our need for outward and visible signs of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd.

It is difficult to be unaware that many people find the requirement of priestly celibacy and the ordination only of men to be difficult in the twenty-first century, or to be unaware that people have sometimes been harmed by the ministers of the Church, or that some priests have been unhappy in their ministry. When we have mixed feelings about things it can be difficult to pray for them. And since God makes us sharers in his goodness towards us by asking us to pray for what we need, why would he impose on us something we do not ask for or want?

For myself, I have to say that I am grateful to my parents, and the priests, sisters and people of my home parish and beyond who prayed for vocations to the priesthood, and sometimes specifically for mine. Without their prayers (and yours) I would not be a priest today, and I do not think I would be as fulfilled – and as fully myself – if I were not. We need to pray for the young people of our parish: that they will come to know the Lord, hear his call and answer generously.

The hope of the world depends on it, and they will be all the happier for it.

Mass Responses for Fourth Sunday of Easter

PSALM RESPONSE: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

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

Masses with First Holy Communion This Sunday and next our parish family celebrates the joyful occasion of over 30 children receiving Holy Communion for the first time. Please keep them in your prayers, that they may grow closer to Jesus and know his love for them. The Masses (10.30am and 12.30pm at St Joseph's) are parish Masses, celebrated for the whole church. All are welcome to attend, though there may be standing room only at the 10.30am Masses! Please park away from the church and walk if you can.

****Road closure**** *We have heard that the Portsmouth Rd between Godalming and Milford will be closed on the morning of 15th May, so please be aware that extra time may be needed for a detour.*

Thank you to Brenda, Sean and Sarah for their work on the floor at St Joseph's, and to Cathy Sanderson for the design work for the new signs at both of our churches.

Funerals this week It is a good and holy thing to pray for the faithful departed and participating in the funeral rites is a share in the ministry of consolation to those who mourn. If you are coming to Sr Phil's funeral on Tuesday please let Ladywell know and take a LFT beforehand. Melanie Newell's funeral will take place at noon on Wednesday 11th at Guildford Crematorium. There will be a Requiem Mass for her at Milford at 10.00am

May is the Month of Mary and there is an opportunity to pray the rosary together after the 9.30am Masses.

Thank you for supporting our Cake Sale for Kasanka last weekend. We raised **over £600** which is just amazing! Many thanks for your generosity, and to everyone who made cakes and bought cakes at the sale. It would be fantastic if we could raise £1000 to support the 'Learning in the digital age' project at the school in Kasanka, so please don't forget **Pete's Plant Sale on 21st & 22nd May** at St Joseph's. Also, if you can donate plant/fruit/veg cuttings and seedlings or are able to help in any way, please contact Jo Pomeroy on 07920 180495. To donate to the work of FMDM Sisters in Kasanka online: <https://tinyurl.com/4y7tr6pd>

Parish Forum on 18th May St Edmund's school at 8pm, with refreshments served from 7.30pm, and all are warmly invited. The evening will include a presentation on parish finances, the plans that we will be submitting to WBC for pre-application planning advice and a bit of looking forward. If you are coming and can sign up via the calendar or by email it will help us with planning. There are no surprise announcements planned.

Ascension Day – Thursday 26th May

Evening Prayer will be celebrated by Churches Together in Godalming at 6pm at St John's, followed by a bring-and-share supper. Mass will be celebrated at 10am at St Joseph's and 7.30pm at St Edmund's.

Jubilarians Mass at 11.00am on 9th June at Arundel Cathedral – this will be one of the occasions marking Fr Michael's Diamond Jubilee of Priestly Ordination.

Outdoor Mass for Corpus Christi We are pleased to confirm that we can gather in the grounds of Ladywell Convent for an outdoor Mass on 19th June, with an opportunity to stay afterwards for a picnic lunch/brunch.

This week is National Marriage Week and the theme is 'Celebrating Commitment'. Within our parish we have 'Teams of Our Lady' group for married couples. If you would like to find out more about what's involved speak with Fr Jonathan or contact Colette and Adrian: pfc.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Invited: Season 2 - Growing in Faith

This Diocesan Mission is under way and it's really easy to take part and dip in and out of according to your time. First, watch the video for the week (or read the transcript), both at <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited>. Second, pray through the questions for reflection. Third, meet up online (7.30pm on Thursday evening on zoom) or in person and share your reflections with one another.

Fr Jonathan has room for a few more to join him for supper and conversation around the themes of the week at 7pm **next Thursday (19th)**. If you would like to come, please drop him a line. Those who have been so far have enjoyed it! There are two more episodes (16th and 23rd May) and the Mission finishes with preparation for Pentecost.

Baptism preparation The next course is in June, on 19th and 23rd. If you would like to have your child baptised, please get in touch with Fr Jonathan as soon as possible.

Parish Activities – come and join us at: Children’s Liturgy at 8.45am Sunday Mass
Bumps & Babes on Mondays at 10.30am at St John’s, Farncombe

SVP Afternoon Tea on Wednesday 11th May at 2.30pm at URC, Elstead (please phone Janet on 07990 717067 if you’d like to come)

Prayer Group on Monday evenings at 5pm (phone Richard on 01252 703830)

Live Simply group – meeting on Monday 9th May at 7.30pm (email jolewry@aol.com)

Summer Alpha – Sunday evening at 7pm in May/June (phone Nicki/Alan 01483 420859)

Christian Aid Week 15th-21st May There will be a collection on the High Street on Friday 20th. To donate online:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

Missio Red Box Appeal Last year we raised £1,914 for missio.org.uk and the Mill Hill Missionaries - thank you so much for your generosity. Pauline Jaricot, founder of APF/Missio will be beatified by Pope Francis this month. Her life was marked by intense suffering and great trust in God, and she helps us to see how every prayer and every contribution is valued by God and can transform the world for the better. To arrange for a Red Box, or to have yours collected, or for any questions about Missio, please contact Nick de Caestecker on 07985 096233 or email: nickdec1@btinternet.com

Synod feedback Bishop Richard’s synod report to the Bishop’s Conference is online at: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/synod>

Donations to the Foodbank items urgently needed include bleach, cooking oil, noodles, orange squash, tinned fruit and toilet cleaner. Drop-off at collection points at Co-op, Waitrose and Sainsburys. To donate funds online: St Marks Community Centre, sort code 40-22-12, acct: 91277766.

Planters for St Joseph’s We’re looking for some ‘handy people’ to help make planters using recyclable pallets etc. If you can donate materials or lend a hand, please contact Sr Shirley on 07718 425184. Thank you!

Grandparents Day 8th June at West Grinstead 11am-3pm Further information about this annual day with Bishop Richard: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

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. Please contact the SVP or Fr Jonathan if you need a referral.

Mental Health support The mental health crisis helpline is 0800 915 4644, open 24/7 for support for adults, children and young people in distress. If you’re worried about yourself or a young person, you can be signposted to face-to-face assessment or support e.g. Guildford Safe Haven.

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 contact Eileen: ga.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

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 May: We pray for faith-filled young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary’s life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

The sick and those who care for them including Eileen Fleming, John Lennox, Maria Rogers, Maria Lopez, Jean Rejniak, Audrey Hockey, 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 Rheenan, 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 Sr Philomena FMDM, Maura Goodfellow, Melanie Newell, Annelise Hetherington and Hilary Grey who died recently, and Eileen Briant, Michael Flannery, Rosa Moroney, Peter Kelly, Theodore Skoropad, James Grant, Sr Anne Kavanagh, Jenny Bryant, Krystyna Miszko, Ralph Kirby, Angela Skinner and Louisa Godier whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses & Liturgies

Fourth 'Good Shepherd' Sunday of Easter 2022

Saturday 7th May	11.00am Requiem Mass Pete Kelly RIP (St Edmund's) 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)
Sunday 8th May FOURTH 'GOOD SHEPHERD' SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.45am Mass (St John's) – People of the parish 10.30am Mass with First Holy Communion (St Joseph's) 12.30pm Mass with First Holy Communion (St Joseph's)
Monday 9th May	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Tuesday 10th May	11.00am Requiem Mass Sr Philomena Dunning FMDM RIP (Ladywell Convent)
Wednesday 11th May	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) - Melanie Newell RIP
Thursday 12th May	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's)
Friday 13th May Our Lady of Fatima	9.00am Mass (St Edmund's)
Saturday 14th May St Matthias	6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – Jan Dziemba
Sunday 15th May FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.45am Mass (St John's) – People of the parish 10.30am Mass with First Holy Communion (St Joseph's) <i>– Alexander Moore RIP</i> 12.30pm Mass with First Holy Communion (St Joseph's)

Sunday Year C

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

Rosary after 9.30am Mass during May

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

www.stedsqod.com