



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*

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 10th 2022

For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach.

“Throwing young people down a wall” is how we rather roughly described our activity last weekend. I was part of a team running a 7m abseil tower during Surrey Scoutabout – a camp for scouts and guides with some 6,500 on site. We were not, of course, throwing people off: there were systems in place to make sure that everything was safe as the young people abseiled down. Some of them were a bit nervous. Some said they were, others had a bit of ‘elvis leg’. Not all were sure they could manage it, but with some encouraging words and a tight safety rope nearly everyone did lower themselves over the edge and down the 7m to the ground.

Our repeated struggles and failures to live a perfect and holy life can lead us to conclude that it is not possible for us and so we should accept how we are. And because God is full of love and compassion he will sort everything out in the end. The Good News is indeed that God will sort out everything in the end – he will finish the work he started in us that we have not been able to complete. But he also wants us to grow in wholeness and holiness as we journey through life, because it is through wholeness and holiness that we become more fully alive and so give greater glory to him.

At the present time there is so much that is outside of our control – in politics, in many of the places we work and in the wider economy. The Word of God this weekend draws our attention to those things that are within our control, and in particular to how we respond in the love of God and the love of our neighbour. The call to love of neighbour for Christians is an invitation to be attentive to the needs of the stranger as well as those closest to us. It mirrors the concern for the stranger that is found throughout the Old Testament and seen in its fullest in the way in which God reaches down and out to us in Jesus Christ.

On a practical point, the two foodbanks in Godalming are always in need of support and are expecting high demand during the school holidays. There are drop off points in many of the supermarkets and anything left at the back of St Edmund's or St Joseph's will be taken up to the food bank at St Mark's. The SVP in our parish do great work in reaching out to the housebound and others who call on their support: maybe have a think about joining them if you need help in doing a little bit more.

Mass Responses for Fifteenth Sunday

PSALM RESPONSE: Seek the Lord, you who are poor, and your hearts will revive.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord, I know them and they follow me. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

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

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St Edmund's Parish is part of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No.2528

New Priest for Godalming & Haslemere

As announced last weekend, Bishop Richard is appointing Fr Rajesh Minz to serve alongside myself in Godalming. Fr Rajesh and I are also appointed to the neighbouring parish of Haslemere, Hindhead and Chiddingfold, where Fr Rajesh will reside. Fr Rajesh will take the lead in the day-to-day pastoral care of Haslemere parish and I will continue to do so for Godalming. There is no intention to merge the two parishes, and the plan is for me to celebrate Masses one weekend a month in the Haslemere parish, and for Fr Rajesh to do the same here. We pray that this new arrangement will bring many blessings to our priests and our parish.
- Fr Jonathan

This Sunday is Sea Sunday There will be a second collection (not Gift Aided) this weekend for the Stella Maris (the Catholic church's maritime charity). Our offerings provide for spiritual and welfare support for seafarers who can lead hard and dangerous lives, and often work in difficult and hazardous conditions. Envelopes are available at Mass this weekend. Thank you.

Thank you from the Daughters of Divine Love Sr Ann Ugoh, who visited our parish in May to appeal for funds to support the DDL Mission, has sent us her grateful thanks for the £486 raised. She writes, 'May God bless you and your parishioners for your generosity and for contributing to our work with the less privileged. Once again thank you...Be always assured of our prayers'.

Exploring Becoming a Catholic Christian

Fr Jonathan and the parish, in humility, would like to invite any of our brothers and sisters or visitors who feel at home among us or who desire to join us more fully in the community of faith, receiving the sacraments and proclaiming the good news, to join us for a series of evenings exploring the Catholic faith through the coming year. If you are interested or would like to know more please speak with Fr Jonathan or Ian Honeysett. (The evenings are often referred to as RCIA.)

Contemporary Music We look forward to welcoming Carol-Ann and Kate who will lead the music at 6pm Mass on Saturday 20th July.

New Hymn Books Thank you for your generous donations which have enabled us to cover the cost of these new books - and they're already in good use!

Rewilding St Joseph's We hope you have noticed the set of four beautiful new planters in position at the front of the church! Many thanks go to Dean and Peter who built them, for their generous time, skill and ingenuity, and to Sr Shirley and the Live Simply group for painting and planting. We hope they will encourage pollinators and bring colour, cheer and a bright welcome to our churchgoers. If you would like to make a small contribution to the costs, please place in an envelope at church or hand to Fr Jonathan. Thank you.

Thursday Mass with St Edmund's School

Year 5 & 6 pupils will join us for 9.30am Votive Mass of Blessed Carlo Acutis at St Edmund's this Thursday. We are very pleased to be able to welcome them back. Parents, grandparents and parishioners are most welcome to join us, as always.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on Sunday 24th July

This second World Day has the theme, 'In old age they will still bear fruit' (Psalm 92:15). Pope Francis has requested that we use this day to honour those who have further steps on their life journey and particularly Grandparents. He says "Along with old age and white hairs, God continues to give us the gift of life and to keep us from being overcome by evil. If we trust in him, we will find the strength to praise him still (cf. vv. 14-20). We will come to see that growing old is more than the natural decline of the body or the inevitable passage of time, but the gift of a long life. Aging is not a condemnation, but a blessing!" You can read his inspiring message here: <https://tinyurl.com/39zur39a>

Feast of the Assumption It is always a pleasure to get together as a parish to celebrate this Feast (which is transferred to the Sunday this year) and Richard Grey has kindly offered to host a gathering on Sunday 14th August. More details to follow.

Holy Land Pilgrimage 2024? There are possibilities emerging for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2024. Watch this space and speak to Fr Jonathan if you are interested.

Pizza and Prayer on Sunday evenings for young people in Year 9 and above. Fr Jonathan is looking to fix some dates between now and September. If you are interested, please pop your name against dates in the Doodle and we'll pick dates when there are enough people to run it.

<https://tinyurl.com/erxceffx> Those who are thinking about Confirmation in the coming year are particularly encouraged to think about coming along.

Creation Mass at Ladywell Convent on 4th September To mark the start of the Season of Creation the 10.30am Mass on 4th September will be celebrated in the grounds of Ladywell Convent, with coffee and cake and time for a parish social afterwards. The 8.45am Mass will take place at Farncombe as usual. All Masses that weekend will have the theme of Creation and mark the start of a month reflecting on our stewardship.

Education Sunday 11th September

As a new school year begins we will ask for God's blessing on all those of our parish who are students, pupils, teachers and lecturers. There will be a blessing for them at each of our Masses that weekend.

Supporting the Foodbank School holidays are approaching, which can be a very difficult time for young families, so please try to add extra items to your shop; there are collection boxes during July... if dropping off at St John's (for Community Store) the needs are: <https://godalmingcommunitystore.org/shopping-list> and if dropping off at St Edmund's or St Joseph's (for St Mark's Foodbank) the list is: <https://parishofgodalming.org.uk/st-marks-food-bank/>

St Edmund's Big Green Week event The Live Simply group invites you to a parish shared supper and talk on "rubbish" by Ian Honeysett on **24th September** at the Church room at St John's, 7.30pm to 10pm.

St Edmund's Parish Quiz This annual event in support of CAFOD takes place on **Saturday 19th November** at 7.30pm at St John's Church room. Save the date as spaces are limited! More information to follow.

CTGD July Link-Up Newsletter is available on our website in the Newsletter section.

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

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 Foodbank. Please contact the SVP or Fr Jonathan if you need a referral for the Food Bank at St Marks or Godalming Community Food Store.

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.

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 July We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

The sick and those who care for them

including Jo Jacques, Colin Humphrey, Catherine Goodridge, Alan Berry, Margarita Crawford, Rudolf Dorrepaal, Nancy Drapper, Nicolle Ernould, Eileen Fleming, Nuala Gallagher, George Gelder, Irene Grant, Audrey Hockey, Cliff Hutchinson, John Lennox, Ann Lloyd, Maria Lopez, Betty Matthews, Frances Muir, Gerry Newell, Jean Rejniak, Maria Rogers, Margaret Silvester, Ethel Stammers, Anne Stephens, Jean Tyrell, Anita van Rheenan, Josie Whittle, Pat Wilson and those in our hospitals and care homes and those who carry their illnesses privately.

The faithful departed, in particular for Hugh O'Donnell, Prof Anthony Towey and Sean Allmark who died recently, and George Brooking, Michael Jennings, Ronald Matthews, Stella Young, Margaret Mills and Barbara Garland whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses & Liturgies

Week 15 in Ordinary Time – July 10th 2022

Saturday 9th July	6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Ruth de Stefani RIP</i>
Sunday 10th July FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Hilary Grey RIP</i> 12.15pm Baptism – Isabel Shelley (St Edmund's) 1.00pm Baptism – Florence Taylor (St Edmund's)
Monday 11th July St Benedict	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Carmel Hawkins RIP</i>
Tuesday 12th July	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Wednesday 13th July	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Alexander Moore RIP</i>
Thursday 14th July	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Geraldine Cooper RIP</i>
Friday 15th July St Bonaventure	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Celebrant's Intention</i>
Saturday 16th July	6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Private Intention</i>
Sunday 17th July SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>Sean Allmark RIP</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>People of the parish</i>

Sunday Year C. Weekday Readings Cycle II. Psalter Week 3.

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

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