



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*

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 17th 2022

Martha and Mary of Bethany and Mary of Magdala.

I have been teaching the liturgy module of CCRS and last weekend a question came up about the ordination of women as deacons. The matter is still open and it may be some time before an answer becomes clear. The presence of Martha and Mary, probably two of the best friends of Jesus, in the Gospel this Sunday and the Feast of Mary Magdalene on Friday make this weekend an opportune moment to touch on a couple of developments that may bring visible changes in the coming years.

The first is the raising of the celebration of Mary Magdalene to a Feast and the clarification of her role as faithful disciple and 'apostle of the apostles' and not the repentant prostitute with whom she has too often been confused.

The second is a change in the legal constitution of the roman curia – the church's central support structure. In its new constitution – *Predicate Evangelium* (preach the Gospel) – Pope Francis explains that the authority of those within it comes from their relationship with him (rather than from their own ordination bishop). Any of the faithful may therefore be appointed to leadership roles in the Vatican. Pope Francis has made a number of significant appointments over recent years and more can be expected. Last week, for example, three women were appointed to the Dicastery for Bishops (the body that makes recommendations to the Pope on their appointment).

The third is the opening of the formal and stable roles of reader, acolyte and catechist to both women and men as lay ministries in the church. We are familiar with many different people reading in the liturgy and leading catechesis, but even if not particularly visible for most of the last 1000 years the church has a tradition of people being formally appointed to these as formal positions within the Christian community after a period of formation and with attendant duties.

These are small steps, but we may pray and hope that they are part of a journey in which the gifts of women and men are able more readily to serve the building up of the body of Christ and the proclamation of the Gospel.

Here in our parish I am conscious that it can sometimes look very male-heavy at the front of the church. I am grateful to Sean and the young people who serve on the altar, but I would be very happy for other adults to help with the rites as altar servers if they felt called to do so.

Mass Responses for Sixteenth Sunday

PSALM RESPONSE: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders; he gives food to those who fear him.

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.2528

New Priest for Godalming & Haslemere

As announced recently, 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

We welcome Carol-Ann and Kate to lead the music at 6pm Mass this Saturday.

Coffee after 8.45am Mass at St John's

We look forward to you joining us this Sunday for coffee and cake after Mass.

Summer breaks This Sunday is the last **Children's Liturgy** session at the 8.45am Mass before the summer break; the first session of the autumn is on Sunday 11th September. **Bumps and Babes** final session is on Monday 18th July and re starts on Monday 12th September. Many thanks to all the leaders and helpers whose hard work and commitment keep these groups going.

Next weekend we welcome Fr David Osborne who will be celebrating all Masses in the parish whilst Fr Jonathan is away.

First Holy Communion preparation 2022-2023 If you missed the recent FHC information evening and would like some information, please email the co-ordinator Anne: communionatsteds@gmail.com More information at: <https://stedsgod.com/fhc>

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is a well-established introduction to the formal study of our Catholic faith followed by many who want to deepen their faith or take a leading role in handing it on to others in our parishes or schools. A new cohort will start in October. There are 8 modules (each delivered over two Saturdays) which need to be completed within 5 years. If you are interested, please speak with Fr Jonathan.

Sea Sunday Thank you for your donations, which enable Stella Maris chaplains to continue to befriend seafarers in times of need. www.stellamaris.org.uk

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!" <https://tinyurl.com/39zur39a>

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.)

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.

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.

Franciscan Centre at Ladywell Their attractive new website has just been launched at: <https://franciscancentre.org.uk/>

Pizza and Prayer on Sunday evenings in the school hols If you're in Yr9 or above and 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 thinking about Confirmation in the coming year are particularly encouraged to come along.

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/>

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.

Thank you from the Daughters of Divine Love Sr Ann Ugoh has sent us her grateful thanks for the £486 raised: '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'.

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.

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.

ADoRE online spiritual mini-retreat 'Forgive us as we forgive – we are called to love as we are loved'. Saturday 23 July, 10am to 1pm. More information and to register: <https://www.altonrenewal.com/>

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 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 Joanne Peppitt, Stella Holmes, Kenneth Goater, David Dixon and Josefa Orlinska whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses & Liturgies

Week 16 in Ordinary Time – July 17th 2022

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> 12.20pm Baptism – Van Wyck (St Edmund's)
Monday 18th July	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Pierre and Lilia Mascolo</i>
Tuesday 19th July	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Private Intention</i>
Wednesday 20th July	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>David & Elizabeth Coombs' Intention</i>
Thursday 21st July	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Gaisford Family Intention</i>
Friday 22nd July ST MARY MAGDALENE	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Private Intention</i>
Saturday 23rd July ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN	6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Matthew & Frank Brown RIP</i>
Sunday 24th July SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>Peter Turner RIP</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Celebrant's Intention</i>

Sunday Year C. Weekday Readings Cycle II. Psalter Week 4.

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

www.stedsqod.com