



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford

*Through the love of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
our Parish will grow as the Body of Christ in Godalming
and as a sign lifted up for the peoples*

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 4th September 2022

"Listen to the voice of creation"

Pope Francis draws our attention to what we hear when we listen to the voice of creation: two dissonant sounds, "a sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator" and on the other, "an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this our common home". He writes:

'The sweet song of creation invites us to practise an "ecological spirituality", attentive to God's presence in the natural world. It is a summons to base our spirituality on the "loving awareness that we are not disconnected from the rest of creatures, but joined in a splendid universal communion". For the followers of Christ in particular, this luminous experience reinforces our awareness that "all things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being". In this Season of Creation, we pray once more in the great cathedral of creation, and revel in the "grandiose cosmic choir" made up of countless creatures, all singing the praises of God. Let us join Saint Francis of Assisi in singing: "Praise be to you, my Lord, for all your creatures". Let us join the psalmist in singing, "Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!"

'Tragically, that sweet song is accompanied by a cry of anguish. Or even better: a chorus of cries of anguish. In the first place, it is our sister, mother earth, who cries out. Prey to our consumerist excesses, she weeps and implores us to put an end to our abuses and to her destruction. Then too, there are all those different creatures who cry out. At the mercy of a "tyrannical anthropocentrism", completely at odds with Christ's centrality in the work of creation, countless species are dying out and their hymns of praise silenced. There are also the poorest among us who are crying out. Exposed to the climate crisis, the poor feel even more gravely the impact of the drought, flooding, hurricanes and heat waves that are becoming ever more intense and frequent... Finally, there is the plea of our children. Feeling menaced by short-sighted and selfish actions, today's young people are crying out, anxiously asking us adults to do everything possible to prevent, or at least limit, the collapse of our planet's ecosystems.'

In this Season of Creation, and as each Sunday we celebrate God's work of creation, take some time to enter into the created world. Notice its glory and beauty and be grateful. Notice the wounds and scars of our stewardship of our common home and lament and turn to God.

Mass Responses for Twenty-Third Sunday

PSALM RESPONSE: O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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St Edmund's Parish is part of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No.252

New Beginnings September is often a time for new beginnings. If you think that now might be a good time to explore (without obligation or pressure) becoming a Catholic Christian, please speak with Fr Jonathan or Ian Honeysett.

Offertory Collection From this weekend we will resume passing some baskets to take the collection at the preparation of the gifts. It is wholly appropriate that the offertory includes both the bread and wine for the celebration of Mass and our also offerings to 'relieve the needs of the church and of the poor', and was integral to the Eucharist as far back at the second century. Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of church for those who wish or want to be particularly discrete. Many people give by standing order. Please do not feel under any pressure to give at this point.

Eucharistic Prayer IV will be used through most of September. It is the prayer that draws out most clearly our praise of God for his work of creation. Drawing on one of the most significant Eastern Eucharistic prayers it uses a structure which also expresses our communion with our brothers and sisters of the Eastern Churches, including those of Ukraine.

6pm Vigil Mass This weekend we welcome Fr Anthony Furlong IC to celebrate Mass, and next weekend there will be contemporary music with Carol-Ann and Kate.

Pizza and Prayer for young people in year 9 and above, this Sunday evening 6.30-8pm at St Edmund's Church. It's not too late to sign up – just let Fr Jonathan know.

Confirmation 2023 Young people in year 10 thinking about confirmation in the coming year are strongly encouraged to come along to Pizza and Prayer.

Workshop for Readers If you read at Mass or are thinking of becoming involved in this privileged Ministry, in which the Word of God is proclaimed and shared, please join Fr Jonathan and Anna Rogers for a workshop on Saturday 10th September 10am-12 noon at St Joseph's, Milford. Sign up via the calendar or speak to/email Fr Jonathan.

Mass in Latin Fr Jonathan will celebrate the 9.30am Mass on 22nd September in Latin.

Education Sunday on 11th September To mark the start of the new scholastic year there will be a special blessing for teachers, lecturers, pupils and students at each of our Masses that weekend. The 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's will be one of our 'school Masses' and pupils, staff and families from St Edmund's school will be joining us.

Children's Liturgy re-starts at 8.45am Mass at St John's next Sunday 10th, and Bumps & Babes on Monday 11th at 10.30am, in the community centre at St John's. More info at: <https://stedsgod.com/babes-and-baptism>

Grandparents Formation Day On 14th September, 'handing on the faith' in Crawley Email: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk

Evening Prayer and Benediction for Ukraine Wednesday 14th September at 6pm at St Edmund's Church. Until 7pm.

New(ish) parishioners are invited by Fr Jonathan to join him for supper on 14th or 27th September. Let him know if you'd like to come or sign up via the website calendar.

First Holy Communion 2022-2023 There will be a briefing on 15th September for any parents who missed the first meeting. For more info: <https://stedsgod.com/fhc> or email Anne at: communionatsteds@gmail.com.

Heritage Open Day As part of Heritage Open days weekend, St Edmund's church will be open for guided tours with Fr Jonathan at 10am and noon on Saturday 18 September.

Cheese and Wine for teachers and lecturers Fr Jonathan invites all who are engaged in teaching or lecturing to join him and each other at the presbytery for cheese and wine on 22nd September 7pm-9pm.

St Edmund's Big Green Week Event The Live Simply group invites you to a shared supper and 'Rubbish' talk by Ian Honeysett on **24th September** at St John's, 7.30pm to 10pm. The sign up is via the parish calendar.

Baptism preparation Please speak to Fr Jonathan or email the parish office if you would like to prepare your child for Baptism. The next sessions are on 24 & 29 September.

Eileen Fleming RIP Her funeral will be at 2pm on 19th September at St Joseph's. May she rest in peace.

DEC Pakistan Floods Appeal Your donation will help CAFOD's local partners support communities with clean drinking water, food, emergency medical assistance and shelter. Please pray for those affected and donate online: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give> or via our contactless devices at Mass. Money raised will go directly to the local experts responding to the disaster.

LGBTQ Conversations Bishop Richard has been hosting a series of conversations with some young adults who identify as part of the LGBTQ community. The next session will be in Crawley on Friday 30th September from 7pm. It is a good opportunity for young adults who are wrestling with what the teachings of the Church mean for them and to explore this in a safe, supportive environment that upholds doctrine and aims to enable them to share the opportunities of living out their faith. It may be a difficult occasion to attend, and Katherine would be very happy to discuss it if that would help: email: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk Please let her know if you hope to attend.

St Bernadette Relic Tour Opportunities to gather for prayer on 21 October at St Dunstan's Woking, on 22 October at Arundel Cathedral, and 23 October at Worth Abbey. For more info: <https://stbernadette.org.uk/>

Mass with Anointing of the Sick at 3pm at Ladywell Convent on Saturday 29th October, followed by refreshments. The SVP group welcomes everyone and can help with lifts. Contact Jo Pomeroy on 07920 180495.

Supporting the Foodbank & Community Store There are collection points at our Mass centres and at local supermarkets. Many local families are in real need and the foodbank relies solely on donations. To set up a standing order, check their websites for info.

Fr Michael has moved back to Ditchling. It would be good to give him a few weeks to settle before visiting. Cards can be sent to him c/o St Rita's, St George's Park, Ditchling Road, Ditchling, East Sussex, RH15 0GT.

Outdoor Activity Day at Bentley Copse on 14th October for students in years 7,8 & 9. Contact Jo on 07552 644322 or sign up via the parish calendar. Cost £27.

Latest newsletters from Churches Together in Godalming and Live Simply are available in the newsletter section of our 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 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 Foodbanks Please contact the SVP or Fr Jonathan if you need a referral for St Marks Foodbank 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

The people of Ukraine. Those affected by the energy and food shortages that are a consequence of the war. These affected by flooding in Pakistan.

The Holy Father's Intention for September We pray that the abolition of the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

The sick and those who care for them including Ethel Stammers, Colin Humphrey, Catherine Goodridge, Alan Berry, Margarita Crawford, Rudolf Dorrepaal, Nancy Drapper, Nicolle Ernould, 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, 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 Eileen Fleming who died recently, and Wasyl Kostiouk, Wyn Gibbs, Colin Webber, Brian Cooke, Elizabeth O'Donnell, Richard Pilkington, Vincenzo Bivona and Carolyn Horner whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses & Liturgies
Week 23 in Ordinary Time
4th September 2022

Saturday 3rd September <i>St Gregory the Great</i>	6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Celebrant's Intention</i>
Sunday 4th September 23 RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>Private Intention</i> 10.30am Mass @ Ladywell Convent (Ashtead Lane, GU7 1ST) – <i>People of the parish</i>
Monday 5th September	<i>10am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
Tuesday 6th September	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Eugene McClinton RIP</i>
Wednesday 7th September	6.30pm Elstead Mass (19 Springhill, Elstead GU8 6EL) – <i>Private Intention</i>
Thursday 8th September NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	9.15am Mass @ St Edmund's School – <i>Deceased students and staff of St John's Seminary</i>
Friday 9th September	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Charles, Julia & Martha Harding RIP</i>
Saturday 10th September	6.00pm Mass* (St Edmund's) – <i>Private Intention</i>
Sunday 11th September 24 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Eileen Fleming RIP</i>

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

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

www.stedsgod.com

Hearing loops systems are available in our churches
For a communion host approved by Coeliac UK - please speak with a welcomer
Mass Books are available – please ask if you can't find one
**Mass on Saturday evening fulfils the obligation for the following day.*