



# 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*

## **Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 29th January 2023**

*Seek the Lord... Seek integrity, seek humility*

The prophet Zephaniah spoke to the remnant of Judah at a time when the Assyrian power was waning and a sense of hope was starting to emerge. He calls them, as the prophets often did, to integrity and humility. This same call is made to us today through beatitudes. St Paul's advice to the young church of Corinth encourages them to see things differently from the values of power and strength.

Pope Benedict described the Beatitudes as "a new programme of life, to free oneself from the false values of the world and to open oneself to the true goods, present and future. Indeed, when God comforts, he satisfies the hunger for righteousness, he wipes away the tears of those who mourn, which means that, as well as compensating each one in a practical way, he opens the Kingdom of Heaven. The Beatitudes are the transposition of the Cross and Resurrection into discipleship. They mirror the life of the Son of God who let himself even be persecuted and despised until he was condemned to death so that salvation might be given to men and women."

In other words, they sum up both what it means to imitate Jesus in our lives and how we might understand that which Jesus brings about. In the words of Romano Guardini, they demand that we "eradicate the old, deeply rooted claim that the world is sufficient unto itself, the essential and only reality... Such self-emancipation is particularly difficult for those for whom the world holds the most delights – the powerful and creative, for all who have a large share in earth's greatness and beauty... [Blessings are given to] the poor, the mournful, the hungry and persecuted, not because their condition in itself is blessed, but because it helps them to realise that more than just this world exists."

In the changing of an era that marks the present day, a time in which the church and Christian community is humbled by sin and weakness, I wonder if the Beatitudes may help us to reimagine life together in Christ and to trust that our letting go of self and the faithful, persistent and patient search for the Lord will indeed bear the fruit of the kingdom of heaven.

### **Mass Responses for Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

PSALM RESPONSE: How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

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Parish Safeguarding phoneline: 07534 146908

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

**The parish newsletter is going digital!** If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please let us know by emailing the parish office. We will continue to print a few copies for those who prefer a paper copy.

**This Thursday** is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas). Mass will begin with the blessing of candles to mark 40 days since Christmas and the traditional end of the Christmas season.

**Movie night** Please come and join us for a film screening of 'The Letter' on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February** at 7pm at Ladywell. This powerful and moving film, tells the story of four 'champions' who are invited to come to Rome to talk with Pope Francis about the climate crisis. Hosted by the Live Simply group, with refreshments from 7pm to 7.20pm, film from 7.30pm, and discussion afterwards. **Please sign up asap** by clicking on the event on the website calendar for February 9<sup>th</sup> at: <https://stedsgod.com/>

### **Next Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday**

On this day the church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. This year's theme is 'All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church. Let us walk together, pray together and work together', and this year's prayer is: *God of our past, present and future, You created each one of us in your image and likeness. Help us to recognise you in each person as we pray for an end to the suffering caused by racism. Lead us this day to walk with one another, pray with one another, and work together so that we create a future based on justice and healing, where all can fulfil the hope you have for all peoples. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Coffee after Mass at St John's** It's now nearly a year since we resumed coffee after Mass and thanks are offered to everyone who helps on the rota. We have a great team and it be wonderful to have a few more people to help every couple of months so please get in touch with Jo Lewry. Many thanks also to all who support the coffee and donate each week; we made a surplus of £100 this year which will be donated to the parish SVP group. **Next Sunday** we have coffee and a Fairtrade sale so please do join us.

### **New(ish) parishioners evenings**

Jonathan warmly invites anyone who is fairly new to the parish to join him and others for supper at the presbytery on either Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February or Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Please sign up on the parish calendar or phone the office.

**Teams of Our Lady** are small groups of four married couples with a chaplain who usually meet monthly for supper, prayer and mutual support in their married vocation. We are looking to start new teams in the parish. If you would like to know more please speak to Fr Jonathan who can put you in touch with some of the team members in the parish.

### **Looking to Lent**

We look forward to gathering for the '**Belong and Believe**' CaFE course on **Wednesday** evenings in Lent, which draws on the immense wisdom and inspiration from our Celtic spiritual heritage to help us to find renewed faith and vision together. The sessions will be at 8pm at the Franciscan Centre at Ladywell, with enough space for us to gather in small groups as well as pray and share together as a group. The dates 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March. Come to all/any session. It will help if you can sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/2e8w5art> but feel free to just drop in too.

**The Big Lent Walk** - take on the challenge! For Lent this year CAFOD is asking us to fundraise to help overcome global poverty, with a particular focus on the struggles of people in Bangladesh, one of the most at-risk countries from the effects of climate change. As well as raising money we'll be arranging a group walk and afternoon tea at Hectors on the Wey; and we'll be matching our actual steps to a virtual walk to the shrine of St Columba on Iona, in the Inner Hebrides. So, this Lent please support this cause and sign up and commit to 200K (5K daily) for 40 days, alone or with friends – you can do your steps any way you like, walking, running or even on a rowing machine! To join our parish team email Jo: [Jolewry@aol.com](mailto:Jolewry@aol.com) and please share/click on the link below to sponsor us. <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/st-edmund-godalming>

The next **CTGD Prayer Breakfast** is on 28<sup>th</sup> at 8.30am at St Mark's.

**Celebrating Baptism** We're delighted to welcome families looking to celebrate this wonderful gift of God. To register for preparation in February please speak to Fr Jonathan or contact Sarah.

**Shooting Star Children's Hospice in memory of Maria Chacaltana** Ashley Gordon is running in the London Marathon to raise funds for our local hospice which supports young people with life-limiting conditions, and their families. To find out more or sponsor: <https://tinyurl.com/mtees3ac>

**Self-harm** is the topic for Godalming Baptist church's next life issue session on 25th February 10am-12.30pm, led by Suzette Jones. To book a place @ £7, contact Sally by email: [pollard3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pollard3@hotmail.co.uk)

**Two vacancies at St Edmund's Catholic Primary School** After School Club Supervisor; and School Admin/Finance Assistant. Part-time and Term time only. More information: <https://www.eteach.com/>

**Retreats at the Franciscan Centre at Ladywell** Day Event with Br Adrian Peelo OFM for a time of prayer and reflection on 18 February, or weekend stay 18/19 February; Suggested offering: £35 single day; £55 for w/e or £95 o/n. For more info on spiritual direction, Quiet days and events email: [franciscancentre@ladywell.org.uk](mailto:franciscancentre@ladywell.org.uk)

**Communion at home for the sick and elderly** We have many parishioners who are unable to get out and about or join us for Mass and for them to be able to receive Communion at home is a great blessing, and so valuable both spiritually and pastorally. If you know of someone who is unable to get to Mass regularly please get in touch with the SVP: 07379 108009 or speak to Fr Jonathan.

**Of your charity** pray for the repose of the soul of Helen Osborne, whose funeral takes place at noon on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February in Cranleigh, and for the comfort and consolation of Fr David and the family.

**December Offertory Collection** The parish gratefully received a total of £10,051 from offertory and standing orders, including the Christmas Offering to our parish priests; and a further £93 for charities (Catholic Children's Society crib offering and foodbank).

**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 or to sign up for Gift Aid, please contact Eileen: [ga.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ga.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk)

#### **Some sources of practical support**

**SVP** members offer regular visits, friendship and practical support to those in need. 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.

**Good Neighbour schemes** with volunteer drivers to help with transport to appointments, shopping, befriending etc: **Farncombe & Binscombe:** 07531 888398; **Godalming:** 07943 274461; **Witley & Milford:** 07871 570160.

**Mental Health support** Local mental health crisis helpline is 0800 915 4644, open 24/7 for support for adults and CYP. If you're worried about yourself/young person, there's face-to-face support and assessment at Guildford Safe Haven.

**Please remember in your prayers** The people of Ukraine. Those affected by energy and food shortages that are a consequence of the war.

**The Holy Father's Intention for February** is for Parishes. We pray that Parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

**The sick and those who care for them** Pam & John Lennox, Nigel Ambrose, Tony McDonald, Sylvia Reilly, Valentina Masella, Danny O'Sullivan, Ethel Stammers, Colin Humphrey, Catherine Goodridge, Alan Berry, Margarita Crawford, Rudolf Dorrepaal, Nancy Drapper, Nicolle Ernould, Nuala Gallagher, George Gelder, Audrey Hockey, Cliff Hutchinson, Ann Lloyd, Maria Lopez, Betty Matthews, Frances Muir, Gerry Newell, Jean Rejniak, Maria Rogers, Margaret Silvester, Anne Stephens, Jean Tyrell, Anita van Rheen and Josie Whittle, and those in our hospitals and care homes, and those who carry their illnesses privately.

**The faithful departed**, in particular for Helen Osborne, Sheelia Goodfellow, Helen Holmes, Louis McCabe and Tony Greene who died recently, and Fr Martin Jakubas, Canon Jeff Scott, Mary Dorsett, Delia Purvis, Percy Padday, Anita Quinn, Millie Mensah, Peggy Macfarlane, Thelma Edwards, Paul Bruno, Imelda Gray, Derek Drapper, Theresa Priseman and Ida Mortal whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Schedule of Masses  
Fourth Week in Ordinary Time**

**29th January 2023**

<b>Saturday 28th January</b> <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>	<b>6pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>Fr Martin Jakubas RIP</i>
<b>Sunday 29th January</b> 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>Marie Batty RIP</i> <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>People of the parish</i> 12 noon Baptism – Edward Hollis (St Joseph's)
<b>Monday 30th January</b>	<i>10am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
<b>Tuesday 31st January</b> St John Bosco	<b>9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b>
<b>Wednesday 1st February</b>	<b>4.00pm Mass in Elstead</b> (Stonehaven, Lower Ham Lane, GU8 6HQ)
<b>Thursday 2nd February</b> THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	<b>9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b> <i>– For all those in consecrated life</i>
<b>Friday 3rd February</b> St Blaise	<i>10am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
<b>Saturday 4th February</b> St Thomas Aquinas	8.00am Rosary & Mass in Polish (St Joseph's) <b>6pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b>
<b>Sunday 5th February</b> 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY</i>	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>People of the parish</i> <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> <i>– Matthew &amp; Frank Brown RIP</i> 12 noon Baptism – Rufus Abthorpe (St Joseph's)

Sunday Cycle Year A / Weekday Cycle Year 1

**St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 4pm**  
Sacrament of Reconciliation by arrangement

[www.stedsgod.com](http://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.*