



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*

Second Sunday of Lent - 5th March 2023

The Lenten readings of year A are particularly addressed to those who are preparing to journey in faith to new life in Jesus and the waters of Baptism. As the church accompanies them on their journey, we, their brothers and sisters in Jesus, retrace and renew our own journey in faith to new life.

Thus, we read from the start of the Abraham Cycle. Our 'father in faith' is called to 'Leave his country, his family and his father's house', in other words everything that is familiar to him for the land that God will show him. Once we have started to hear God's call and as we slowly, and perhaps tentatively, open our hearts and our lives to him we realise that the change to which we are called means leaving some of our old ways behind. Our being Catholic, being Christian, can sometimes become so familiar to us that we forget that the path of conversion, which is a life-long task, entails leaving the familiar and comfortable to enter into a new, more life-giving unknown. Away from the unhappiness or lesser happiness that we know to a happiness that we do not yet know. (The saying 'better the devil you know than the devil you don't' points to this tendency in all of us.)

It is because this turning to God and the life that he wants to give is not easy (indeed is sometimes likened to the cross) that we need encouragement. And so Jesus takes his closest disciples (might they stand for each of us?) away and gives them a glimpse of his glory, of the land that God will give them. It is clearly something impressive because Peter wants to build tents there and stay.

In one of his first letters, Pope Francis invited "all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since 'no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord'. The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realize that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms."

This personal encounter is to be found especially in the Liturgy, the Mass and the Sacraments, the Word of God, in prayer and devotion, and in the poor, the afflicted and the sick. I invite us this Lent to drink deeply in these places, to daily renew our meeting with the Lord of life and love, that we may have the grace and courage to follow him more deeply into his life of deep and lasting joy.

Mass Responses for Second Sunday of Lent

PSALM RESPONSE: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Glory and praise to you, O Christ!) From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' (Glory and praise to you, O Christ!)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

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

Lent Focus

Stations of the Cross Fridays at 7pm during Lent at St Joseph's, Milford.

Lent Groups on **Wednesday** evenings 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th March, 8pm at the Franciscan Centre at Ladywell. We are following the '**Belong and Believe**' CaFE course which draws on the immense wisdom and inspiration of our Celtic spiritual heritage to help us to find renewed faith and vision together. Please feel free to join any session on a drop in basis, or sign up on the calendar. If you can't make a Wednesday evening, the course is also running on a Tuesday evening in Haslemere.

The Big Lent Walk We are delighted to have 23 walkers signed up, and after our first 10 days of walking our parish team has clocked up 1,435 km! Please support our parish team and CAFOD's teams of thousands of walkers around the world who are taking up the challenge in Lent to raise money to help overcome global poverty. It's not too late to sign up as a walker: jolewry@aol.com and please sponsor us if you can: <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/st-edmund-godalming>

Sign up to CAFOD's Lent reflections: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar>

Sacrament of Reconciliation

This is available in the parish at certain times as advertised in the newsletter (often on **Saturday** morning in Lent and Advent) and also by arrangement.

In **Guildford** each week at St Joseph's on Saturday after the 10am Mass, at St Pius X on Mondays at 7.30pm, and at St Edward's on Wednesdays after 10am Mass.

This Lent there will be a **Penitential Service** at St Joseph's, Milford on Tuesday 4th April at 7.30pm with visiting confessors.

Thanks to Fr Tony Furlong who is celebrating the Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass whilst Fr Jonathan accompanies some of our Confirmation candidates to Flame 2023.

Please join us for **Coffee after 8.45am Mass** and also support the **Fairtrade sale**; and make an extra effort to buy Fairtrade products during this Fairtrade fortnight.

Centenary of Consecration of St

Edmund's Church is in October and Bishop Richard will come to celebrate Mass on 8th October followed by a parish lunch. It would be great to get a task group together to plan and deliver this special occasion. Please speak with Fr Jonathan if you are up for having some fun working on this. (The first big parish celebration really since COVID.)

Parish Small Communities is a new initiative launching here shortly. If you'd like to be part of the steering group for setting them up, please speak with Fr Jonathan.

A few other special events are in the planning for which you might like to save the date (and perhaps offer to help):

11th June Corpus Christi Mass at Ladywell

13th August Outdoor Mass for the Feast of the Assumption at the Old Barn, Elstead and picnic lunch.

SVP Afternoon Tea is on Wednesday 8th at 2.30pm at URC in Elstead. If you need a lift please phone 07379 108009.

New(ish) parishioners' evening

Fr Jonathan warmly invites anyone who is fairly new to the parish to join him and others for supper at the presbytery on Monday 20th March, the Feast of St Joseph. Please sign up via the website calendar or phone the office.

Feast of St Joseph on Monday 20th

March As St Joseph is the patron of our church in Milford, we celebrate with a gathering for coffee and cake after 9.30am Mass at Squires.

Ministry of Consolation We are hoping to set up a parish group to support bereaved parishioners. If you feel called to this ministry, please contact Anna Rogers/ Colette W-G for more information via parish office.

Please pray for Siri, Nicole, Alison and Jess who will be received into full communion and confirmed at the 6pm Mass at St Edmund's on Saturday 18th March.

Jean Tyrrell RIP Jean's funeral will take place at 11am at Ladywell on 22nd March.

Receive the parish newsletter by email

Please let us know if you'd like a digital copy by emailing godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

ADoRE mini retreat online on 25 March, 10am-1pm, 'Going deeper with Jesus' with Jenny Baker. www.altonrenewal.com

Quiet Days with spiritual direction at the House of Prayer in East Molesley: <https://www.christian-retreat.org/quiet-days>

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent

Appeal This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope, contactless machine or at cafod.org.uk/give and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

Godalming Community Gospel Choir
Easter concert is at St John's on 25th March, 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 and are available from Record Corner or info@gcgc.org.uk

Special Events in the Diocese

For details and sign up forms visit

<https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

- **Grandparents Pilgrimage** to West Grinstead on 14 June 2023
- **Mass for Engaged Couples** at Arundel Cathedral on 16 June 2023
- **Marriage Anniversaries Mass** at Arundel Cathedral on 30 September 2023.

Lourdes Pilgrimage The A&B Diocesan pilgrimage this summer is open for booking: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>
Please pray about whether there are people you might encourage to go on the pilgrimage.

Climate Crisis film 'The Letter' Everyone who came to our recent screening agreed that this film needs to be watched as widely as possible - in families, schools and groups – as it's so powerful and a great starting point for discussion and action; it's free to watch at: <https://www.theletterfilm.org/> Please do take the time to watch it and consider who else you can encourage to watch it. There will be a showing in Haslemere at Our Lady of Lourdes church hall on 23rd March.

Fr Jonathan will be on leave from Sunday afternoon to 10th March. For urgent matters he can be reached via the parish office.

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

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; **Elstead** 01252 702702.

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 March is for victims of abuse: we pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

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

The faithful departed, in particular for Ursula Polack, Jean Tyrell, Giovanna Russo, Guiseppina Locurto, Margarita Crawford and Anne Murphy who died recently, and Margaret Edwards, Hilda Stratford, Kathleen Jones, Ferrante Manganoni, Frederick Stowell, Michael Evans, Jim Wheeler, Colin Graham, Winifred Hamnett, Lily Kreciglowa, Margaret Szalajda and Lily Stoner whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses

Second Sunday of Lent - 5th March 2023

Saturday 4th March	8am Rosary + Mass in Polish (St Joseph's) 6pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Celebrant's Intention</i>
Sunday 5th March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Jesus Lopez RIP</i>
Monday 6th March	1.30pm Requiem Mass - Giovanna Russo RIP (St Joseph's)
Tuesday 7th March	<i>10am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
Wednesday 8th March	<i>10am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
Thursday 9th March	<i>10am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
Friday 10th March	7pm Stations of the Cross (St Joseph's) 8pm Mass in Polish (St Joseph's)
Saturday 11th March	8am Rosary + Mass in Polish (St Joseph's) 6pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 12th March THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>Margaret & Edmund Szalajda RIP</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Carmel Meaney RIP</i>

Sunday Cycle Year A

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation as above and by arrangement

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.

www.stedsgod.com