



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*

Fifth Sunday of Lent – 26th March 2023

What is a Parish Community?

Saint Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have all shared their belief that a Parish is 'a family made up of families', or 'a community made up of different families'.

One of the wonders of our faith is the many different reasons that we go to Church. We are all on a different journey to find Christ. But one of the things that most of us are also looking for is a sense of belonging and a sense of community. That affirmation, that even though we may be in different spiritual places on our journeys, we know we have the support, the encouragement, and the care from 'Our Parish Community', our Parish Family.

We need only turn to chapter 2 of the Acts of the Apostles to read how the fledgling Christian community found strength and support from each other, spending time together to get to know each other, to become 'a family' or 'community'.

With this in mind, we would like to invite you to 'come and see' in the words of the Lord, to find out more about how we can build the Parish Community of Godalming through an exciting new initiative – Parish Small Communities. Everyone is very welcome.

Come and See – during and after Sunday Mass on 22nd/23rd April

Looking Towards Holy Week and Easter

As the Season of Lent reaches its climax we move into the solemn celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. The liturgies that are celebrated, and the pattern of fasting and feasting that will mark these days enable us personally and as a pilgrim community to re-engage with the saving and life-giving work of the Lord. Wherever you will be, I'd like to encourage you to make room in your diaries to experience anew the Lord's saving love for you and to participate in the Easter Mysteries. You will find in this newsletter the times of the Holy Week services, including a Penitential Service on Tuesday 4th April – an opportunity to experience the intimate and powerful healing of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. – Fr Jonathan

Mass Responses for Fifth Sunday of Lent

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

PSALM RESPONSE: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

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

Main Services in Holy Week

Palm Sunday

6pm Vigil Mass with blessing of palms @ St Edmund's
8.45am Mass @ St John's
10.30am Mass with procession @ St Joseph's

Holy Tuesday 7.30pm Penitential Service @ St Joseph's with visiting confessors

Spy Wednesday 6pm Chrism Mass @ Arundel Cathedral

Maundy Thursday 8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper @ St Joseph's followed by Watching at the Altar of Repose until Night Prayer at 10.45pm.

Good Friday

7am Stations of the Cross at Wintershall
10.30am Children's Stations of the Cross @ St Edmund's
3pm Solemn Liturgy @ St Joseph's

Holy Saturday

9am Świąconka @ St Joseph's (in Polish)
9.30am Morning Prayer and Office of Readings @ St Edmund's
11am Blessing of Easter Baskets @ St Edmund's

Easter Sunday

8.30pm (Saturday) Easter Vigil @ St Joseph's
6.45am Dawn Service @ Minster Field (not Mass)
8.45am Mass @ St John's
10.30am Mass @ St Joseph's

This weekend Fr Rajesh celebrates the Masses here, whilst Fr Jonathan celebrates those in the Haslemere parish.

Of your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of Ethel Stammers and for those whose funerals take place soon: Ian Gordon's funeral at St John's, Milford on 29th March at 11am; Giuseppina Locurto's at Eashing Chapel on 31st March at 11am and Ursula Polack's at 11am on 25th April at St Joseph's, Milford. All are welcome.

Lent Groups on **Wednesday** evenings, 29th March, & 5th April at 8pm at the Franciscan Centre at Ladywell, following the '**Belong and Believe**' CaFE course. Please feel free to come along even if you've missed the earlier sessions.

Good Friday Passion in Trafalgar Square

Every year the Wintershall Players perform the Passion to an audience of thousands, and it is an unforgettable experience. There are two performances (no tickets required) at 12 noon and 3.15pm, and you are advised to arrive early as it is very popular.

Parish Small Communities Following the newsletter reflections on this new initiative which we are launching in our parish at the end of April, please let Fr Jonathan know if you would like to join a working group to help plan and guide us.

Love the Stranger Please write to our MP Jeremy Hunt if you have concerns about the proposed illegal refugee bill, which seeks to make provision for the removal from the UK of persons who have entered or arrived in breach of immigration control. Bishop Paul McAleenan of the Catholic Bishops' Conference writes: *'Everyone who makes a dangerous journey across the Channel to build a better life here has a name, a face, and a story. People are driven from their homes by poverty, conflict, persecution, natural disasters, or other factors that prevent their flourishing. Many have links to the UK or family members already living here. Yet, far too often, there are no safe routes open to them. While we all wish to end dangerous Channel crossings, this new legislation treats migrants and refugees as a problem to be solved rather than brothers and sisters towards whom we have responsibilities. Establishing more safe routes, and genuinely understanding people's individual circumstances are essential to meeting these. As Christians we call for the human person made in the image and likeness of God, to be put at the heart of public policy.'*

The Big Lent Walk This week our walkers have notched up 1,162km, walked 5,561km in total, and have raised £1,590. They really hope to reach £2,000 by Easter, so please support them if you can to help raise money for CAFOD, and overcome global poverty: <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/st-edmund-godalming>

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

Pete's Plant Sale will take place on the weekend of the 20th/21st May to raise money for this year's Kasanka Appeal. Please start thinking now about growing, sowing or dividing plants, as we'll need lots to sell, and contact Jo on 07920 180495 if you can help.

Dates for your diary A few other special events are in the planning, and 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, followed by a picnic lunch

8th October Centenary of Consecration of St Edmund's. Mass with Bishop Richard followed by a parish lunch.

Mass & Afternoon Tea for grandparents in Arundel on Saturday 22nd July. Pope Francis calls us to this annual celebration for on the Feast of St Anne and St Joachim. Mass is at 2.30pm followed by tea. To book go to <https://tinyurl.com/5hdrj27t> or email: formation@abdiocese.org.uk

Homes for Ukraine Would you be willing to open up your home to welcome a Ukrainian guest? The need is as great as ever. SJOG offers a comprehensive matching and support programme in the Homes for Ukraine scheme. <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/>

Chilworth Abbey Study Day on 1st April, 9am-3.30pm, for episode 8 of Bishop Robert Barron's 'Catholicism' course: 'A Vast Company of Witnesses: the Communion of Saints'. <https://www.chilworthbenedictines.com/>

Franciscan Centre at Ladywell 'Growing in God's Life': Exploring four recurring movements within spiritual development, June 28th - July 2nd, led by Christopher Chapman: www.franciscancentre.org.uk

Boxes of Numbered Gift Aid Envelopes for the new tax year are now available for collection at church. Please contact Eileen, our gift aid co-ordinator, if you are expecting to receive a box but have not found it.

February Offertory Collection The parish gratefully received a total of £6,673 from offertory and standing orders; and a further £770 for charities (CAFOD Syria/Turkey and Lourdes). Thank you for your generosity.

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 Freda Apark, Philip Doyle, Alex Jolliffe, Marilyn Jones, David Kennealy, Gerry Hoey, Mona, Pam & John Lennox, Nigel Ambrose, Tony McDonald, Sylvia Reilly, Valentina Masella, Danny O'Sullivan, 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 Ethel Stammers, Ian Gordon, Ursula Polack, and Giuseppina Locurto who died recently, and Reginald Wall, Mary Christmas, Joan Stone, Betsy Bawdelly-Smith and Arthur Pheby whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses Fifth Sunday of Lent - 26th March 2023

Saturday 25th March THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD	10.30am Confessions (St Edmund's) 6pm Vigil Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>People of the parish</i> <i>British Summer Time begins</i>
Sunday 26th March FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>Private Intention</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)
Monday 27th March	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Tuesday 28th March	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)
Wednesday 29th March	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) <i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Thursday 30th March	12.30pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Matthew & Frank Brown RIP</i>
Friday 31st March	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Freddie Lodrick RIP</i> 11am Funeral - Giuseppina Locurto RIP (Eashing Cemetery)
Saturday 1st April	10.00am Mass & Confessions (St Joseph's) 6pm Vigil Mass with blessing of Palms (St Edmund's) <i>– Gareth Barnbrook RIP</i>
Sunday 2nd April PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.30am Sung Mass with Procession (St Joseph's) <i>– Jim Flynn RIP</i>

Sunday Cycle Year A / Weekday Cycle Year 1

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