



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford



Fourth Sunday of Easter 30th April 2023

The scriptures and the prayers of the Mass on this fourth Sunday of Easter offer to us the image of Jesus the Good Shepherd. A whole 'symphony of vocations' within the Church, the body of Christ, serve to make present the Good Shepherd for us. I hope and pray that our new parish groups will become one way of helping us to experience the shepherding which we are called to minister to one another.

This week I would like to ask you to pray for me, and for my brother priests – that our hearts and our lives may become always more like Jesus, the Good Shepherd. As with every Christian, we experience in our lives that mix of the divine and human, of the working of the grace of the Holy Spirit and our resistance and fragility.

I would also like to ask you to pray seriously and intently for vocations to priesthood for our Diocese and from our parish. Fr Martin Jakubas played the organ as a boy for weddings here and now rests among us in Eashing cemetery. Fr John Cooke, who was at Seminary with me, is a priest in Fareham in Portsmouth Diocese. Both were baptised here at St Edmund's. Jesus asks us to pray that the Lord will send labourers into his harvest – such labourers come from parishes like ours and from families like ours.

I do not think I would be a priest if the priests and people of my parish had not prayed for it, and my parents had not been open to it. Sometimes we need to pray with expectation. And here we need to acknowledge that it is not an easy time to consider 'entering the church' or to pray that our young people will spend their lives in her service: like every institution today, she suffers from a mixed history and a lack of confidence. More than ever, then, we need to remember that service in the church has its origins and present meaning in a living relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and to try to build a *culture of vocation* in which being Christian carries with it a call to serve, and to build up the body of Christ, and not simply to be one who has received from the Father's love.

Pray for our young people – that they will know the fullness of God's love for them, hear his call to serve, and receive the courage and support to respond with generous hearts.

Fr Jonathan

Mass Responses for Fourth Sunday of Easter

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

PSALM RESPONSE: The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

19 Croft Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1DB t: 01483 416880 w: www.stedsgod.com

Parish Priests: Fr Jonathan How e: pp.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Fr Rajesh Minz e: rajesh.minz@abdiocese.org.uk t: 01428 643877

Parish Assistant: Sarah Stilwell e: godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding phoneline: 07534 146908

St Edmund's Parish is part of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No.2528

This weekend we welcome Fr Carmine from the Comboni Missionaries. The annual mission appeal is an important part of our participation in the life of the wider church and an opportunity to share - with our prayers and our donations - in the mission to some of most unfortunate and disadvantaged communities in the world.

This weekend is also **Good Shepherd Sunday** and marks the start of a month of prayer for vocations for the mission of the church and for the priesthood in our diocese. Fr Jonathan will speak about this next Sunday. Please take one of the leaflets home with you and use it to help focus your prayer.

Our Parish Community – a family for all Flyers are now available. Please pray that this exciting initiative will bear fruit and return your registration form in the coming week if you are able to do so. This will help us to get groups up and running during the summer. If you have any questions, please ask Fr Jonathan. If you think it's a good idea, then please encourage your friends to join us too!

Mass at Farncombe Please note this Sunday there is no Children's Liturgy. Next Sunday please join us for coffee/Fairtrade.

Weekday Masses are a little less regular than usual this week as Fr Jonathan will be engaged in duties outside the parish. Please note 9am start at Milford on Tuesday.

Prayers for the King The bishops have invited the Catholic community to three days of prayer leading up to the Coronation, that God will guide King Charles in his appointed tasks. None of us excel by our own efforts and qualities alone. If we wish our head of state to be virtuous and to lead well, we need to pray for it! It is the least he deserves. Please take home a Coronation prayer card.

First Holy Communion will be celebrated at Masses on 7th and 14th May. Please do pray for the children and their families. Some seating is reserved for First Communion children and their families, but everyone is welcome to attend these Masses, and it's likely there will be enough seating available.

May is the Month of Mary and there will be an opportunity to pray the rosary together after the 9.30am Masses.

Ascension Day is Thursday 17th May. Do join us for coffee and cake at Squires in Milford after 10am Mass at St Joseph's.

St Edmund's Primary School is likely to have vacancies in Reception for September 2023 as it is a small birth year. Please do encourage anyone who would like a good Catholic education for their children to apply, especially if they didn't do so because they presumed the school would be full.

Parish Summer Alpha Many people who have joined the Alpha course have found it an amazing journey of growth which has opened their eyes to God's love and the possibility of believing in a loving, welcoming and joyful church. The summer course **starts this weekend** and will run through May and June on **Sunday evenings from 7-9pm**. If you're still considering whether to join the invitation is to 'Come and See'. Why not give the first session a try? For more info contact Nicki & Alan G:420859 alison@btinternet.com

Maria Chacaltana's Celebration Picnic is on Saturday 13th May from 12 noon, starting with Mass and followed by family picnics and activities in the garden at the Old Farmhouse, Elstead, GU8 6DB; closing at 4pm after tea and a special time of memories of Maria. For more details contact SVP: 07379 108009.

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):

5th June Parish Forum at St Edmund's School, 7.30 for 8.00pm

11th June Corpus Christi Mass and Procession at Ladywell Convent

16th June Live Simply shared supper + Green Energy evening at St John's

13th August Outdoor Mass for the Feast of the Assumption at the Old Farmhouse, Elstead, followed by a picnic lunch

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

Coming up in the Diocese

8th June Corpus Christi Mass, Procession and carpet of flowers at Arundel Cathedral, 6pm. Always a good afternoon out.

22nd July Mass and Afternoon Tea for grandparents in Arundel. Mass is at 2.30pm.

Kasanka This year the FMDM mission at the St Francis Community School hopes to instal an irrigation system on the school farm, so that food production is increased which will help with feeding the school children. All the donations to our parish cake and plant sales help us to support this good cause, make a huge difference and are so appreciated. The **Cake sale raised £420** thank you so much!

Pete's Plant Sale is over the weekend of the 20th/21st May in St Joseph's car park. Please get gardening, and grow, sow and divide plants, as we'll need lots to sell! If you are able to help with the sale please contact Jo on 07920 180495.

Free compost for gardeners Please feel free to help yourself to the compost heap at St Joseph's – and take as much as you can!

Time Out at Worth Abbey Individual self-guided retreats on 15-18 May, 26-30 June, 1-6 August. £90pp, per night. Spend time enjoying the rhythm of monastic prayer and liturgy, daily Lectio Divina, reflection and the peaceful countryside. Early booking is advised: 01342 710318 <https://worth.co.uk>

Growing in God's Life 30 June-2 July, at the Franciscan Centre, exploring recurring movements within spiritual development, led by Christopher Chapman, with a suggested offering of £170 www.franciscancentre.org.uk

Encountering the Love and Mercy of God A retreat at The House of Prayer, East Molesey, led by Sr Helen Costigane, 27 May, 10am-4pm, online and in person, £30. What might get in the way of truly experiencing God's love and mercy? www.christian-retreat.org/

London Jesuit Centre Visit their website to view the range of online courses to deepen your faith www.londonjesuitcentre.org

For the March Offertory The parish gratefully received a total of £7,148 from offertory and standing orders; and a further £544 for charities. Thank you!

Ashley's fund-raising Marathon Ashley has raised over £2,500 for the Shooting Star hospice, in Maria's memory; congratulations! <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ashleyslondonmarathin>

Wintershall Stations of the Cross Friday 5th May, 7am, followed by a light breakfast.

Contactless Devices Thank you for your patience whilst we try to resolve the issues. Meanwhile cash/online donations are welcome.

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, Burkina Faso and Sudan. Those affected by energy and food shortages that are a consequence of the war.

The Holy Father's Intention for May we pray that church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

The sick and those who care for them Alfonso Mora, Margaret & Terry Punter, Freda Aparak, Philip Doyle, Alex Jolliffe, David Kennealy, 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 Maria Lukaszewicz, Allison Clark, Bishop Christopher Budd, Fr David Russell, Marilyn Jones, and Gerry Hoey who died recently, and Hilary Grey, Brenda Waugh, Pat Cooke, Annik Allison, Margaret Jones, Ian Hamilton, Carla Barford, Alice Rees and Malcolm Nye, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses Fourth Week of Easter

Saturday 29th April St Catherine of Siena	6.00pm Vigil Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Celebrant's Intention</i>
Sunday 30th April FOURTH 'GOOD SHEPHERD' SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>Celebrant's Intention</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Alexander Moore RIP</i>
Monday 1st May St Joseph	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Tuesday 2nd May St Athanasius	9.00am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Anne Brownsell RIP</i>
Wednesday 3rd May Ss Philip and James	4.00pm Elstead Mass (18 Springhill, Elstead, GU8 6EL) – <i>May Macdonald RIP</i>
Thursday 4th May The English Martyrs	7.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>For vocations</i>
Friday 5th May	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Saturday 6th May	6.00pm Vigil Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>HM King Charles III</i>
Sunday 7th May FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass with Baptism (St Joseph's) – <i>Pat Cooke RIP</i> 12.30pm Mass with First Holy Communion (St Joseph's)

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
www.stedsgod.com