



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford



Seventh Sunday of Easter – 21st May 2023

This Sunday is also World Communications Day. In his message Pope Francis reflects on the power of speaking the truth in love and provides food for thought for our everyday lives. He writes:

'Communicating in a cordial manner means that those who read or listen to us are led to welcome our participation in the joys, fears, hopes and suffering of the women and men of our time. Those who speak in this way love the other because they care and protect their freedom without violating it. We can see this style in the mysterious wayfarer who dialogues with the disciples headed to Emmaus, after the tragedy that took place at Golgotha. The Risen Jesus speaks to them with the heart, accompanying the journey of their suffering with respect, proposing himself and not imposing himself, lovingly opening their minds to understand the profound meaning of what had happened. Indeed, they can joyfully exclaim that their hearts burned within them as he spoke to them on the road and explained the Scriptures to them.

In a historical period marked by polarisations and contrasts — to which unfortunately not even the ecclesial community is immune — the commitment to communicating "with open heart and arms" does not pertain exclusively to those in the field of communications; it is everyone's responsibility. We are all called to seek and to speak the truth and to do so with charity. We Christians in particular are continually urged to keep our tongue from evil, because as Scripture teaches us, with the same tongue we can bless the Lord and curse men and women who were made in the likeness of God. No evil word should come from our mouths, but rather "only such as is good for edifying, as fits the occasion, that it may impart grace to those who hear".

Sometimes friendly conversations can open a breach even in the most hardened of hearts. We also have evidence of this in literature. I am thinking of that memorable page in Chapter XXI of *The Betrothed* in which Lucia speaks with the heart to the *Innominato* [the Unnamed] until he, disarmed and afflicted by a healthy inner crisis, gives in to the gentle strength of love. We experience this in society, where kindness is not only a question of "etiquette" but a genuine antidote to cruelty, which unfortunately can poison hearts and make relationships toxic. We need it in the field of media, so that communication does not foment acrimony that exasperates, creates rage and leads to clashes, but helps people peacefully reflect and interpret with a critical yet always respectful spirit, the reality in which they live.'

To read more visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/world-communications-day/>

Mass Responses for Seventh Sunday of Easter

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.

PSALM RESPONSE: I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

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

Come Holy Spirit The journey from Ascension to Pentecost calls us to mission, and we are invited to a time of prayer to the Holy Spirit to grant us a missionary spirit, through the raising up of new vocations to all walks of life in the Church. Foremost among these vocations, we need priests. The priesthood is a special gift to the Church through which Christ is always present to our out his Spirit on his people through the holy sacraments.

Diocesan Pastoral Plan Bishop Richard will be visiting Guildford Deanery in June. He writes, 'Please pray for our Diocese, for in this rapidly changing world we are called to continue the mission the Lord has given us. This will require new ways of doing things, as it were – with all in the Diocese being ready to do whatever the Lord may ask of us. There is no need for us to be fearful, for the Holy Spirit abides in the Church. We can go forward with confidence, even though the road may seem unclear at times.'

Welcome to Fr Raj who is celebrating Mass in the parish this weekend.

Please join us for coffee after 8.45am Mass.

Kasanka Appeal at Mass We welcome Sr Rogita from the FMDM to update us on the plans for an irrigation farm for the St Francis School, and all donations from **Pete's Plant Sale** go to support the Kasanka Appeal. The sale is in St Joseph's car park this Saturday from 8.30am-5pm and Sunday 8.30am-4pm. Whilst there please browse/help yourself to the collection of religious books and artefacts.

Parish Community Groups If you're still thinking about signing up - give it a go! We're delighted by all the registrations we've received so far. The groups are a a simple, fun and supportive way of living out our Christian lives which can fit well even into a busy life. Groups will meet monthly for simple social events and are open to all, no matter how often you come to church, whether you are Catholic or not, or if you come on your own. If you have any questions, please ask Fr Jonathan, and keep Sunday 13th August free, which is when we aim to launch the groups. For more info and to register: <https://stedsgod.com/our-parish-community>

May is the Month of Mary and there will be an opportunity to pray the rosary together after the 9.30am Masses, in particular for the intention of vocations to priesthood.

Corpus Christi We are looking forward to gathering for outdoor Mass at 10.45am at Ladywell on 11th June, starting with a short procession. The FMDM community are kindly offering their wonderful refreshments afterwards and we hope that our First Holy Communion families will join us. If you are able to help with welcoming or setting up please speak with Fr Jonathan or Sarah. This will replace the usual 10.30am Mass. Please bring a chair with you, or something to sit on.

Live Simply Supper & Green Energy Talk As part of 'Big Green Week' the Live Simply group invite you to a shared supper and talk on renewable energy on Friday 16th June at St John's, Farncombe, from 7.15pm. Our two speakers are parishioners: Marek, from AFC Energy plc, will talk on the green potential of hydrogen; and Angela, from Cisco, will talk on solar and wind farms. Please do join us; sign up after Mass or email: jolewry@aol.com

Of your charity pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Pink, whose funeral will take place at St Joseph's at 2.15pm on 31st May.

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.

CTGD Prayer Breakfast Saturday 27th May 8.30am at Godalming Baptist Church.

Dates for your diary

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

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.

14th June Grandparents Pilgrimage to West Grinstead. 11am-3pm. Booking required:
<https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

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

The Life of Christ 27th June to 1st July at Wintershall. The story of Jesus is brought to life in an open-air epic production set in stunning Surrey countryside. To book tickets: 01483 892167 or www.wintershall.org.uk

Maria's Picnic This was a wonderful and memorable occasion for the parish, with so many highlights: Fr Jonathan's Mass for Maria with the sun shining brightly; Leyla helping plant a tree for Maria; Sandra's designer cake for the raffle; the presentation of Tiggy's amazing collage portrait of Maria; Shooting Star's CEO's talk about the inspiring work of the hospice; and an afternoon of lively activities ending with the release of a flock of pigeons! Many thanks to the SVP; and especially to Francis for co-ordinating, to Margaret for kindly offering her home for Leyla's stay, to Richard for hosting and to everyone who came – parishioners, Leyla's friends and Maria's schoolfriends – and all who have generously supporting the fundraising for Shooting Star.

St Francis Exhibition at National Gallery
The first major UK art exhibition to explore Saint Francis of Assisi's life and legacy.
<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/exhibitions/saint-francis-of-assisi>

Summer Silence 14-18 August, a retreat at Aylesford Priory. A time to listen to the voice of God in silence with daily spiritual direction.
<https://www.thefriars.org.uk/Pilgrimage+%26+Retreat>

Chilworth Abbey Study Day on Saturday 10th June, 9am-3.30pm, for episode 10 of Bishop Robert Barron's 'Catholicism' course: 'World without End: the Last things'.
<https://www.chilworthbenedictines.com/>

April Offertory Collection The parish gratefully received a total of £10,250 from offertory/standing orders/donation (includes Easter Offering); and a further £1,059 for charities (Kasanka, Holy Places, CAFOD). Thank you all 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

Bereavement support The parish team can be contacted by email: bereavementatsteds@gmail.com

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 flooding in Italy and by the consequences of climate change.

Vocations for the mission of the church and for the priesthood in our diocese. There is a leaflet to take home with you to help focus your prayer.

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 Apark, 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 Rheenan and Josie Whittle; those in our hospitals and care homes; and those who carry their illnesses privately.

The faithful departed in particular for Christopher Hill, Mary Pinks and Allison Clark who died recently, and Mary Voller, Eugene McClinton, Anna Ciccone, Tessa Marchant-Smith, Douglas Sharpley, Sandra Rudolph, Joan James, Maria Knight, Mary Barnard Frank Herrington, Maggie Moore and Frank Brown whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses Seventh Week of Easter

Saturday 20th May	6.00pm Vigil Mass (St Edmund's) <i>– Vocations to the Priesthood</i>
Sunday 21st May SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) <i>– Eugene & Roisin McClinton RIP</i> 1.30pm Baptism - Jacob Sims (St Edmund's)
Monday 22nd May St Rita	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
Tuesday 23rd May	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) <i>– John, Nancy & Myles Byrne RIP</i>
Wednesday 24th May	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Peggy Dann RIP</i>
Thursday 25th May St Bede	<i>9.00am Mass available at Chilworth Abbey</i>
Friday 26th May St Philip Neri	9.45am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>William Breslin RIP</i>
Saturday 27th May <i>St Augustine of Canterbury</i>	6.00pm Vigil Mass (St Edmund's) –
Sunday 28th May PENTECOST	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Ian Gordon RIP</i> 12.00pm Baptism – Caspar Winn (St Joseph's)

Sunday Cycle Year A

St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 5pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation in Guildford each Saturday morning and by arrangement
www.stedsgod.com