



# Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford



## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 11th February 2024

*Deeply moved with compassion... "It is my will; be made clean...."  
He rushed out and began to proclaim the news constantly  
and to broadcast what had happened far and wide.*

The story of the healing of the leper reveals the deep humanity of Jesus, his divine power, and what happens when we encounter this profound and personal love. The translation that we hear doesn't quite do justice to the underlying text which draws attention to how Jesus feels for him right down in his gut, nor to the way in which the healing of leprosy is not just what Jesus wants, but is an act of divine will.

The leper provides a really good example of the dynamic of being a Christian. It starts with his need for an active compassion, which he finds in the heart and person of Jesus. The experience of this encounter with Jesus overwhelms him. So much so, in fact, that despite Jesus's strict instruction to keep quiet about it he can't stop telling others what has happened to him.

In the Pastoral Plan Bishop Richard keeps coming back to Prayer, Formation and Mission. It is a really simple way of understanding how we can be faithful to the call to mission after the example of today's Gospel.

In prayer we become like the leper and turn to Jesus in our deep need. The experience of meeting him in his Word and in the Sacraments (and also in our reaching out to those who are poor and in need) is the one thing that has the power to radically alter our lives. (Remember that line from Pope Benedict – being a Christian is not an ethical choice or lofty ideal, but the result of an encounter with a person, Jesus Christ, that gives life new meaning and a decisive new direction).

So touched we can do none other than for this change to be visible in our lives. We may speak to those we are close to about it, or they may just see that we are in some way happier or our burdens lightened. They may ask us to give an account of the hope that is in our lives. This is mission. And it is still mission when we share the encouragement of our life in Christ within our church circle.

Formation comes because often we need help to understand what has happened to us ("faith seeks understanding"), to be able to speak about it and to develop our ability to live out any particular roles and ministries (vocations) to which this new life in Christ leads us.

### Mass Responses for Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name

PSALM RESPONSE: You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

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St Edmund's Parish is part of the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No.25287

## What is your view on the future of our Churches?

Please do read the report on the future of our churches published last weekend, pray about the possibilities open to us and give your feedback on the options. **Every person's view is important to us.** We have had 80 responses so far. You can find a copy of the report and links for feedback at on the website at:

<https://www.stedsgod.com/news/our-churches>

Key headlines include:

\*Possible development of St Joseph's Church and sale of St Edmund's Church

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\*The likely ending of the regular Sunday morning Mass in Farncombe in the coming years.

### Update

Some questions and responses can be found at:

<https://padlet.com/frjonathanhow/OurChurches>

We have added a parish forum in April (date to be confirmed) which will provide an opportunity to feed back the response to the questionnaires and address any further points or questions before the bishop meets with parish teams.

### Contemporary Music at the 6pm Vigil Mass

Led by Nicki, Theo and Gonzo. If you play an instrument or enjoy singing and might like to join the group, please chat to Nicki at Mass.

**Coffee after 10.30am Mass** at Milford Village Hall this Sunday. Please do join us – it's only a short walk from St Joseph's!

### Parish Community Groups 'Taste and See'

Please come and join the gathering at **Milford Village Hall from 12.30pm this Sunday** for some fellowship and seasonal activities. Expect pancake races and fancy masks! So far we have three very friendly and active PCG groups in the parish, and if you'd like to find out more about joining a group - come and 'taste and see'!

**Lourdes Pilgrimage** This year is the 50th anniversary of our Diocesan Pilgrimage. The pilgrimage is 'love in action' and a profound experience of renewed faith for both pilgrims and helpers: the sick, disabled, frail, elderly and those who just need to make the journey. If you think you may be interested in joining this year's pilgrimage (25/26 July to 1/2 August) please speak to Tony or Ruth from our parish; they went last summer and are happy to answer queries. There will be a collection for the **Lourdes**

**Pilgrimage Fund** this weekend, for which you can use Diocesan Gift Aid envelopes. More info:

<https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>

**This Sunday is World Day for the Sick** and Pope Francis's prayer intention this month is for us to remember the terminally ill and their family and friends. If you are finding the journey through bereavement challenging or overwhelming and would like to speak with someone, the parish bereavement team is here to help you. Email: [bereavementatsteds@gmail.com](mailto:bereavementatsteds@gmail.com)

**This weekend** Fr Rajesh will preside whilst Fr Jonathan is in the Haslemere parish.

**Adoration** this week is at 9am on Tuesday at St Edmund's and 9am on Friday at St Joseph's.

**Bumps & Babes and Children's Liturgy** start again after half term, from Monday 19 February.

**Rite of Election** Please pray for Gunnel, Barbara and Steve from our parish who will be presented to the bishop at Arundel Cathedral next Saturday and received into full communion at Pentecost.

### Eternal rest give unto them O Lord

**Terry Punter's** funeral takes place at 2pm on 22nd February at Ladywell Convent; **Gerry Newell's** at 11am on 23 February at St Joseph's.

**SVP Afternoon Tea** The February tea takes place this week on Tuesday 13 at URC Elstead.

**World Day of Prayer** This year's service is at St John's, Farncombe, at 10.30am on **Friday 1st March**. WDP is a global prayer initiative. The liturgy was prepared by a group of Christian women from the Palestinian territories. Refreshments are available after the service.

### Job Vacancies

**School Office Admin Asst** at St Edmunds Catholic Primary School, 8 hrs pw term time only. <https://www.eteach.com/job/school-administration-assistant-1401981> Apply by 19/2.

**Youth Worker for Guildford Catholic Parish** <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/careers/guildford-youth-worker> Apply by 16/2.

**Diocesan School Building Officer (0.6FTE)** <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/careers/bosf>

**The Passion of Jesus, Trafalgar Square** is on 29 March. Wintershall players bring their moving portrayal of the final days of Jesus in 90-minute performances at 12 noon and 3.15 pm. No tickets are required, the performances are free.

**Diocesan Pastoral Plan** The plan gives some principles, and we will need to work together as a community of communities across our deanery to see how to use them to build on our strengths and drive our mission to draw all people to Jesus Christ, the Word who is Life. We should be able to say a bit more about how it will be taken forward in our area later this month.

## The Holy Season of Lent

**Ash Wednesday** is on 14 February and is a day of fasting and abstinence. Mass and Distribution of Ashes: 10am at St Joseph's; 7pm St Edmund's.

### Some simple actions for Lent

**Mass** – If you have got out of the habit of coming regularly why not make a special effort.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** – there are some opportunities each week, and St Edmund's Church is open each day for prayer.

**Pray-as-you-go** Download this daily prayer App for a 12 minute meditation for each day.

### Lent Small Groups

For many years we have met in small groups in Lent for some sharing of faith. This year we are following the next Season IV of Invited, and the themes this time include: Jesus as Lord of our lives; becoming Missionary Disciples; What is the Church and how do we fit in? Reconciliation; and Holy Week. Here are four opportunities to take part:

**Ladywell on Thursday Evenings**, starting 22 February. Tea and coffee from 7.00pm. Sign up via website calendar, email to parish office or at <https://stedsgod.churchsuite.com/events/1plgtgtpdk>

**Elstead on Tuesday Afternoons** starting 20 February at 2.30pm. Contact Sheila via the parish office if you would like to take part.

**Guildford on Wednesday Mornings** starting 21 February, 11am-12.30pm, in St Joseph's Hall, Eastgate Gardens, Guildford GU1 4AZ. To sign up: <https://cpg.churchsuite.com/events/tbecxht5>

**Haslemere on Monday Evenings at 7pm** from 19 February. Email: [haslemere@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:haslemere@abdiocese.org.uk)

**CAFOD Big Lent Walk 2024** So far 26 people have signed up, which is fantastic, but we need more people in the team so that we can reach our target of 6800km - and we hope to raise £2000! You can sign up to walk by contacting Jo Lewry: [jolewry@aol.com](mailto:jolewry@aol.com) You don't have to walk 5K/ 10,000 steps every day – it's fine to do as many as you can, all steps contribute to our total!

**CAFOD Family Fast Day** is on Friday 23rd February and there will be Appeal talks next weekend. This Lent your donations will provide resources, tools and training to help hardworking families feed themselves. Please take home an envelope or donate online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) and pray for our sisters and brothers around the world who are needy and hungry. CAFOD Stations of the Cross are at 7pm on Friday 23rd.

**Chilworth Abbey Study Morning** led by Fr John Seddon OSB, 9am-12.15pm on 17 February, on Part 6 of Jeff Cavin's 'A Quick Journey through the Bible'. [www.chilworthbenedictines.com](http://www.chilworthbenedictines.com)

**ADoRE mini-retreat** 24 February 10am-1pm online, 'I have chosen you - trusting God's promises', with guest speaker Mary Hirst. [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com)

**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

**Bereavement support** The parish team can be contacted via: [bereavementatsteds@gmail.com](mailto: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 to pray for** peace on earth; for the sick and unemployed and for our diocese & parish.

**The sick and those who care for them** Yvonne Cova, Penny Blackett, David Coombs, Liliane Hills, John McCarthy, Malcolm Baldwin, Alfonso Mora, Margaret Punter, Freda Aparak, Philip Doyle, Alex Jolliffe, Mona, Pam & John Lennox, Nigel Ambrose, Tony McDonald, Sylvia Reilly, Valentina Masella, Danny O'Sullivan, Catherine Goodridge, Alan Berry, Nicolle Ernould, Nuala Gallagher, George Gelder, Audrey Hockey, Cliff Hutchinson, Ann Lloyd, Betty Matthews, Jean Rejniak, Maria Rogers, Margaret Silvester, Anne Stephens, Anita van Rheenan & Josie Whittle; those in our hospitals & care homes; and those who carry their illnesses privately.

**The faithful departed** in particular for Terry Punter, Osborne Acquaye, and Gerry Newell, who died recently, and for Pasqualino Landino, David Bleddyn, Eric R, Jim Stanton, Ruth de Stefani, Kay Birbeck, Beryl Meldrum, Vince Ellul, John Keogh, Fr Jerome O'Sullivan, Vincent Fagin, Dorothy Hedley, June Hatcher, Fr Patrick Chick, Maria Chacaltana and Joan Huber whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Schedule of Masses  
Sixth Week in Ordinary Time  
and the start of the Season of Lent**

<b>Saturday 10th February</b> St Scholastica	<b>6pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b>
<b>Sunday 11th February</b> 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>People of the parish</i> <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Doreen &amp; Tom Rogers RIP</i> 12 noon Baptisms (St Joseph's) – Emily & James Donlon & Charlie Summerfield
<b>Monday 12th February</b>	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
<b>Tuesday 13th February</b> Shrove Tuesday	9.00am Adoration (St Joseph's) <b>9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Jim Stanton RIP</i>
<b>Wednesday 14th February</b> Ash Wednesday	<b>10.00am Mass with distribution of ashes (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Alexander Moore RIP</i> <b>7.00pm Mass with distribution of ashes (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>Private Intention (S&amp;O)</i>
<b>Thursday 15th February</b>	<b>9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b>
<b>Friday 16th February</b>	9.00am Adoration (St Edmund's) <b>9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>Pam Wright RIP</i>
<b>Saturday 17th February</b>	<b>6pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>Maria Chacaltana RIP</i>
<b>Sunday 18th February</b> 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>People of the Parish</i> <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Jim Flynn RIP</i>

Sunday Cycle Year B / Weekday Cycle Year II

**St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 4pm**  
[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*