



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

with St Joseph's, Milford



## Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12th November 2023

*So that you do not grieve about them like those who have no hope.*

In this month of the Holy Souls, and prompted by today's second reading, I would like to offer an appreciation of some of the distinctive features of a Catholic funeral – perhaps one part of our faith that really is quite different from more widespread contemporary culture, and many other Christians.

For us, consolation is found in our faith and hope in "the promise of immortality to come". We remain bound to one another, not simply in remembering those who have died, but in "the hope that one day we shall see those who have died again and enjoy their friendship". This confidence in the resurrection was so important to St Paul that he declared that if our hope in Christ is only in this life then we are most to be pitied.

In the funeral rites we give thanks to God "for the gift of a life which has now been returned to God, the author of life and the hope of the just" and "we commend them to God's merciful love and plead for the forgiveness of their sins". **We have a role that God has given us to play in their journey to heaven** and their happiness in the life to come. We know that sin marks our lives – sometimes major faults that we have, sometimes flaws that still need healing and almost always a share in the brokenness of the world in which we live. Very rarely are we ready for the complete vision of the love of God. (Newman's *Dream of Gerontius* captures this mystery with sublime beauty.) Hence, we **pray for those who have died** – and hope that others will pray for us too when our time comes. Just as we are called to cooperate with God's work of creation in caring for our common home, so we are called to share in his work of salvation as part of the body of Christ. Yes, we have a sure and certain hope that God will give them the happiness they have always desired, but he does so at least partly on account of our prayers.

The **Funeral Mass**, the supreme sacrifice and prayer of Christ, is the principal celebration of the Catholic, Christian funeral. In it the life and death of the members of the body of Christ are joined to the passion and death of Jesus, that we might share also in his resurrection. The Eucharist is also foretaste and promise of the banquet of heaven to which we are all called and our eating and drinking at the table of the Lord is the closest we can be on earth to those who have died.

In our funeral rites, in continuity with 2000 years of practice, we **accompany the body** on its last journey, from the home to the church (spiritual home) and to the place of rest. We honour it as it was the temple of the Holy Spirit. Even if the procession is reduced, it still mirrors the journey of human life, the pilgrimage to the heavenly Jerusalem. The presence of the body and the laying to rest of the remains in our midst affirms the spiritual bond which remains between the living and the dead.

All this we do in hope - with love, with gratitude, in the knowledge that life is changed, not ended.

### Mass Responses for Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

PSALM RESPONSE: For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.

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

**Remembrance Sunday** There will be a minute's silence at the 10.30am Mass this Sunday to pray for those who have died in war. Our parish will be represented by Deacon Jeremy at the 10am town Remembrance Sunday Service at Ss Peter and Paul and afterwards at the War Memorial.

**Books of Remembrance** We have books of remembrance at St Edmund's (in the Lady chapel) and St Joseph's (by the baptistry). These include the anniversaries of parishioners who have died. We have added some blank pages for the names of other friends and family for whom you would like to pray in the Month of the Holy Souls. Please feel free to write them in.

### Invited

The Diocesan Mission "**Invited**" takes place this year in Advent with four sessions reflecting on the Sunday readings and the Christmas message. Each session features a film and a discussion.

Invited is accessible to everyone no matter where you are in your faith journey, so we look forward to welcoming you because in the Kingdom of God, we are all Invited!

#### ***Do have a think about inviting a friend.***

There are lots of ways of taking part:

- 7.30pm Thursday evenings at Ladywell
- 7.30pm Tuesday home group in Farncombe
- 2.30pm Tuesday home group in Elstead
- Thursday evening online with the Diocese (See <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited>)

There are sign up links on the parish calendar, or you can just contact the parish office and ask to be added to the list. The first sessions are in the w/c Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

If anyone would like to facilitate a day-time group please speak to Fr Jonathan or Sarah and we can add it to the list.

#### **Feast of St Edmund, King and Martyr**

Sunday 19 November 5.30pm Evening Prayer and Benediction at St Edmund's Church followed by a glass of wine in the presbytery.

Monday 20 November 9.15am Feast Day Mass at St Edmund's School. All are welcome.

**Immaculate Conception – 8 December** There will be an evening Mass on this day, at which two of our adult parishioners will be confirmed.

**Confirmation** preparation begins in the New Year. Young people in Year 10 are welcome to join for Pizza & Prayer at the presbytery on Sunday evening at 6.30pm. Sign up at: <https://stedsgod.churchsuite.com/events/j9jyjbzl>

### Advent in the parish

**Ladywell Crib Building Service** is on Thursday 14 December at 5pm in the main Chapel. All are warmly welcome for this beautiful, interactive children's Christmas service.

**Parish Advent Carol Service at Ladywell** This enjoyable parish get together at 2pm (exact time tbc) on Sunday 17 December takes place in the chapel at Ladywell convent. As last year, the Sisters will be handing out bags of homemade mince pies at the end of the Service!

The carol service at Our Lady of Lourdes, Haslemere will be at 4pm on the same day.

### And in the area

**Franciscan Centre Advent Retreat** 1st-3rd December <https://franciscancentre.org.uk/>

**Worth Abbey Retreat** 4-6 Dec, & Quiet Friday on 8 December. E: [retreats@worth.org.uk](mailto:retreats@worth.org.uk)

**St Augustine's Abbey Advent Carol Service** is on Sunday 10 December at 3.30pm. Advent carols, Scripture readings, Gregorian Chant by the monks, poetry and solo organ pieces, followed by mulled wine after the service.

**Christmas Fete at St Edmund's School** All parishioners are warmly invited to come for Christmas shopping, meet Fr Christmas in his Grotto, and enjoy mulled wine and minced pies! Saturday 2 December, 10am-1pm, £2 per family.

**Bethlehem Peace Light** Fr Jonathan will lead the Surrey Scout Peace light service at Bentley Copse, Shere, at 7.45pm on 20 December. If any parishioners would like to come, please let him know. The peace light will burn in the Lady Chapel at St Edmund's over Christmas.

**Wintershall Nativity** 13-18 December, booking now open at <https://www.wintershall.org.uk>

**Fr Stephen Ortiger's** Advent talk on Sunday 3 December has been cancelled.

**The next Churches Together in Godalming prayer breakfast** is on Saturday 25 November, 8.30-10.00am, at St Johns, Farncombe.

**St Edmund's School Admissions 2024** Please contact the parish office if you need Fr Jonathan to sign a supplementary information form for applications to St Edmund's School in Sept 2024.

**Special Collection next week** is for Arundel Cathedral Maintenance Fund, and is Gift Aided.

**Churches Together in Godalming** November's Link-Up Newsletter is posted on our website.

**Day of Adoration and Prayer for Peace  
Saturday 9th December**

**St Edmund's Church, Godalming 11am to 1pm**  
**St Joseph's Church, Milford 1pm to 3pm**  
**Our Lady of Lourdes, Haslemere 3pm to 5pm**

Please come and pray for as long as you wish, or just pop in to light a candle and pray; but best of all please sign up on the prayer rota and make a commitment to a 15–30 minute slot. The sign-up sheets are available at Sunday Mass.

*Fr Jonathan will be available for Advent confessions for the first hour at each church in Godalming and the second hour in Haslemere.*

**Appeals and Advent Giving**

**CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal** to provide urgent humanitarian aid including food, water, and emergency shelter to those in need. There will be a second collection for this alongside our day of prayer on 9th and 10th December. Donations can also be made directly: <https://cafod.org.uk/give> or by contactless device

**Warm Clothes and Blankets for Ukraine** As winter sets and many are homeless in Ukraine these are very much needed. A van will be going out in a couple of weeks. Contact Chris Harding: [cgmharding@gmail.com](mailto:cgmharding@gmail.com) if you have items for collection, or leave them at the back of St Edmund's church by next Sunday evening, 19th.

**Christmas cards to support SVP** will be on sale this weekend @ £2.50 per pack (cash please). All profit goes to support the work of our local SVP group, and donations are also accepted

**CAFOD World Gifts** - a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight the people you give them to and help transform the lives of families experiencing poverty. Please take a catalogue after Mass or visit <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

**Final call for Clothing for Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group** Thanks for all the good quality second hand clothes received so far for men held in detention; and if you haven't yet got round to dropping off please do so asap to the parish office or at church, and the Live Simply group will arrange delivery. (Jeans, T-shirts, jogging bottoms, coats, jumpers, belts (all sizes); trainers (sizes 6–13)). No women's clothes. Thank you.

The **Churches Together Christmas Lunch** is at Godalming Baptist church and is for anyone who would otherwise be on their own. Please email Carole: [shosholozo@hotmail.com](mailto:shosholozo@hotmail.com) if you know of someone to invite, or if you can help with the lunch on Christmas Day email Gillian: [gmartin1502@outlook.com](mailto:gmartin1502@outlook.com)

**Save your old stamps** and the Live Simply group will despatch to RNIB to raise funds for the charity. Please trim to 1cm+ around the edges.

**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 in your prayers** The people of the Holy Land and Ukraine; for peace in our world.

**The Holy Father's Intention for November** We pray for the Pope as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

**The sick and those who care for them** David Coombs, Liliane Hills, John McCarthy, Rosaria Mantio, Gabrielle Dumble, Malcolm Baldwin, 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, Catherine Goodridge, Alan Berry, Rudolf Dorrepaal, Nicolle Ernould, Nuala Gallagher, George Gelder, Audrey Hockey, Cliff Hutchinson, Ann Lloyd, Betty Matthews, Gerry Newell, 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 those whose names are recorded in our book of remembrance, Angie Crisell who died recently and for Margaret Cox, Joseph Redmen, Jill Macpherson, Rose Hall, William Stilwell, Olive Spalding and Mary Stratford whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Schedule of Masses & Liturgies  
Thirty-Second Week in Ordinary Time  
12 November 2023**

<b>Saturday 11th November</b> <i>St Martin of Tours</i>	<b>6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>Edward Barnard RIP</i>
<b>Sunday 12th November</b> 32ND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Remembrance Sunday	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>People of the Parish</i> <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>For those killed in war</i> 12.15pm Baptism (St Edmund's) - Elina de Jager, Peggy Sanderson & Daniel Halmenschlager
<b>Monday 13th November</b>	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's, Guildford</i>
<b>Tuesday 14th November</b>	<b>7.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>Andrew Le Blanc Smith RIP</i>
<b>Wednesday 15th November</b>	<b>9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Alexander Moore RIP</i>
<b>Thursday 16th November</b> <i>St Edmund of Abingdon</i>	<b>7.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>William Stilwell RIP</i>
<b>Friday 17th November</b> <i>St Hilda of Whitby</i>	<b>11.00am Funeral Mass for Angie Crisell RIP (St Edmund's)</b> 7.30pm Centenary Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes, Haslemere
<b>Saturday 18th November</b>	<b>6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>Sunday 19th November</b> 33RD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>Neil Marshall RIP</i> <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Deceased Relatives and friends of Ursula Waight</i> 12.15pm Baptism (St Edmund's) - Jude Gibbs <b>5.30pm Evening Prayer I of St Edmund, King and Martyr with Benediction (St Edmund's)</b>

Sunday Readings Year A. Weekday Readings Cycle I.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation in Guildford each Saturday morning  
and with Fr Jonathan by arrangement (after Mass is often a good time)  
Advent Confessions in Godalming on Saturday 9th December.

[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*