



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford



**Our Parish
Community**

A family for all

Fourth 'Good Shepherd' Sunday of Easter

Dear brothers and sisters,

In the second reading of this Sunday, St John writes of the Christian vocation: "Loved by the Father, called to be God's children living lives that will take us to see Him". John invites us to think about the wonder of this calling, this journey, to think about the love that God bestows upon us. It is our life's work to grow in our understanding and true appreciation of the depth and wonder of this gift. It is from this baptismal calling – for this journey begins there – that our very lives flow. This is the starting point for vocation, for discipleship.

We do not make this journey alone – whether our discipleship be expressed in the vocation of marriage, as a single person, in vowed and religious life, or in the sharing in the ministerial priesthood as deacon, priest or bishop. It is God Who calls. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, accompanies us every step of the way, laying down His life for us and the Holy Spirit – in the gifts we receive – is our strength. All is gift. All is the love of God.

It is this context, in this reflection on God's love in His call to every one of us, that the whole Church prays on this "Good Shepherd Sunday" especially for vocations to priesthood and to religious life. Please pray for all those across our diocesan family who sense this call, who are discerning their way, those in our Vianney Group. Please pray for our seminary students, for those embarking on religious life; for those preparing for diaconate and those who will join them this year.

Pray in thanksgiving for all the religious, deacons and priests of our diocese. Give thanks for the response they have given to the specific call they have answered, and for the tremendous gift of service that they are for the Church and the world. With every blessing, + Richard

Mass Responses for Fourth Sunday of Easter

PSALM RESPONSE: The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

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.

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

Mission Appeal from Xaverian Missionaries

This weekend we welcome **Fr John Convery SX**, who is visiting our parish to appeal for prayer and funds to support some of the most unfortunate and disadvantaged communities in the world. Much of what they do in the Missions and at home depends on the generosity of church here in the UK; please pray for their work.

We also welcome FHC families to 6pm Mass.

Please support the Cake Sale for Kasanka

after all Masses this weekend We hope to raise £1,500 for secure fencing to keep the schoolchildren safe, so please help by buying the cakes and giving generously. And it's an added reason to join us for **coffee after 8.45am!**

Good Shepherd Sunday This marks the start of a month of Prayer for Vocations. The second collection for the Education of Future Priests will be taken next weekend (and is Gift Aided).

Please pray for Deacon Edward Hopkins

currently serving in the Guildford parish while completing his studies at Allen Hall Seminary. He is to be ordained priest at Arundel Cathedral on 22 June along with Gustavo Campabello.

Baptism preparation The next sessions are in late April/early May. Please get in touch if you would like to arrange baptism for your child.

Consultation on the future of our Churches.

Thank you to the large number who responded. We expect to feed back to the parish in May after analysis of responses and further reflection on their implication for our mission and for next steps. Please continue to pray for our parish and diocese:

*Lord, the Word who is Life.
May all the people of our Diocese
grow in openness to the power of the Holy Spirit,
so that through a growth in understanding and
courage, and truly open to your call,
we may bear powerful witness to all around us,
for you are Lord for ever and ever. Amen.*

There is also a group who are praying the Angelus daily at noon and 6pm for the parish.

Visiting the Sick and Housebound

Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion take Communion to our parish's frailer members and currently we have about 20 being visited monthly. Our SVP members also visit on a regular basis. If you know of anyone who cannot come to Mass and would like such a visit please contact the parish office after obtaining their permission.

Lifts to Mass Please get in touch if you are able to give an elderly parishioner a lift to Mass.

Prayer and Pub for Young Catholic Adults & Students The next get together is 7pm, 24 April, at St Joseph's Guildford for prayer, catechesis and good times! More info: frtristan@cpg.church

April Churches Together Prayer Breakfast is at The Old Farmhouse, Elstead, 27 April, 8.30-10am. T: Richard: 01252 702230. *'We are one in the spirit and may we be completely submerged in the ocean of God's love for one another to help build together God's Kingdom on earth.'*

Forgiveness Revd Tim Carter will lead a session on this on 27 April, 10am-12.30pm, at Godalming Baptist Church: what it is, what damage we can do to ourselves, the hurt and pain it causes us. For info: Sally G 428646 / pollard3@hotmail.co.uk

ADoRE mini-retreat 27 April, 9.30am-1pm "I will pour out my spirit on all" with guest speaker Kristina Cooper. Online or at St. Bede's Church, Basingstoke. More info: www.altonrenewal.com

Cor et Lumen Christi Community Event 'Be filled with the Holy Spirit', on 27 April, 9am-9.30pm, Salesian College Hall, Highfield Road, Chertsey, KT16 8BX. Includes praise and worship, Mass, times of prayer, reflection & ministry. <https://coretlumenchristi.churchsuite.com/events/hvkgqnb9>

Workshops at Worth Abbey 'The Life Journey' on 11 May; C.S. Lewis on Goodness & Evil on 15 June; £30. www.worth.co.uk T: 01342 710318.

Bishop Richard will celebrate Mass at this year's Big Church Festival at Wiston Park (25 & 26 May). Join with over 30,000 people to worship together in the surroundings of the Wiston Estate, in the company of some of the best Christian artists in the world... <https://www.bigchurchfestival.com/>

Worth Abbey June Gathering The Abbot and Community invite you to Worth Abbey, 11am-4.30pm on 1 June, to share monastic prayer in the Abbey church, enjoy the beauty of guided walks through woods and fields, visit St Bruno's retreat centre. Also many activities for children and young families www.worthabbeypilgrims.com

Pete's Plant Sale – please get growing! This year the sale is after Corpus Christi Mass at Ladywell on 2 June, and we need lots of plants to sell. Please contact Jo Pomeroy on 07920 180495 if you can help. NB No houseplants please!

'The Courage of the White Flag?' is the title of this year's Anthony Storey Memorial Peace and Justice lecture given by guest speaker Fr Rob Esdaile, from the Woking parish; you can join on zoom at 6pm on 4 June, and to register for the lecture please email: bhungin@yahoo.co.uk

Week of Guided Prayer – 16 to 21 June We are hosting a week of guided prayer for the parish in partnership with the Franciscan Centre at Ladywell, which will include: one-to-one spiritual direction at agreed times during the week; and prayer workshops and time to pray and reflect together at evening sessions (7.30pm) during the week. For details and to register visit <https://stedsgod.churchsuite.com/events/km734ty2>

Grandparents' Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation and St Francis, West Grinstead, 26 June, 10.30am-3pm. A day of sharing and prayer with other grandparents, led by Bishop Richard, with Mass, rosary, tours of the secret chapel. Book asap as places go quickly: <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/h4bozjok>

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje The Guildford Catenians invite you to join them on pilgrimage from 7-14 October. Medjugorje has been a very special place for many in our parish and the Catenians hope parishioners will take this opportunity to share the joys, faith and spirit of this special place. Info: greg.melly@ntlworld.com

Opposing the Decriminalisation of Abortion The government's flagship Criminal Justice Bill has two important amendments that could fundamentally change our laws on abortion. The Church encourages us to write to our local MP to make our voices heard, asking MPs to oppose the decriminalisation amendment and support the reduction of the abortion time limit from 24 to 22 weeks (as babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving). <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/take-action-on-proposed-abortion-law-change/>

Assisted Suicide Parliament is due to debate the petition on 29 April. Please write to your MP if you do not want assisted suicide to be legalised. <https://www.spuc.org.uk/livesworthliving>

CAFOD School Volunteers If you enjoy working with young people and would like to inspire them and bring alive their sense of global justice, CAFOD would like to hear from you! In your volunteer role you would be supported from our local A&B CAFOD office in Guildford, and with training and resources. For more information email: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk

Job Opportunity at Ladywell Convent Support Assistant to the Pastoral Care and Community Events Team. Apply by 29 April. For more info: Recruitment@ladywell.org.uk

Rosary Rally in Portsmouth City centre, next to the QE2 Silver Jubilee Fountain, Commercial Rd, with Marian Franciscans, on 27 April at 3pm. Reparation, hymns and public witness.

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 41077481.

March Offertory The parish gratefully received a total of £10,687 from offertory and standing orders; and a further £673 for charities (Holy Places, CAFOD, Kasanka, parish flowers).

Some sources of practical support

Bereavement support The parish team can be contacted via: 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.

Pope Francis' prayer intention for April is for the role of women. Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination women face in various parts of the world.

Please remember to pray for our diocese and parish and our clergy; for women; for peace.

The sick and those who care for them Maureen Monk, Nicole Gebhardt, Kate Hall, Yvonne Cova, Penny Blackett, David Coombs, Liliane Hills, John McCarthy, Malcolm Baldwin, Alfonso Mora, Margaret Punter, Freda Apark, Philip Doyle, Alex Jolliffe, 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 Rheen and Josie Whittle; those in our hospitals and care homes; and those who carry their illnesses privately.

The faithful departed in particular for Ana Carvalho, Jim Naylor, Jono Holmes and John Donnelly who died recently, and Richard Shee, Hilary Grey, Anne Acquaye, Evelina Bivona, Aleksander Prosniewski, Giovanni Ferrucci, Anna Weidner, Kitty Bishop, Maria Warner, Mary Casey, Maura Goodfellow, Fr Colum Murray, Paul Bryant, Marie-Louise Hayward, Tony Strudwick, Anthony Edwards, Mary Youd and Philip Downey whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Schedule of Masses Fourth Week of Easter 2024

Saturday 20th April	6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 21st 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>Irene Hookham RIP</i>
Monday 22nd April St George	<i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>
Tuesday 23rd April	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Frank & Matthew Brown RIP</i>
Wednesday 24th April	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)
Thursday 25th April St Mark	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Fr Michael Perry & Fr Jan Gora RIP</i>
Friday 26th April	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Tony Strudwick RIP</i> 12.30pm Funeral Mass for John Donnelly RIP (St John's)
Saturday 27th April	6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – <i>Bob Therle RIP</i>
Sunday 28th April FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.45am Mass (St John's) – <i>People of the Parish</i> 10.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – <i>Alexander Moore RIP</i>

Sunday Cycle Year B

St Edmund's Church is open each day, usually from 10am to 5pm

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*