



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

with St Joseph's, Milford



## Second Sunday of Lent - 25th February 2024

*It is wonderful for us to be here*

The second Sunday of Lent always presents us with the Gospel of the Transfiguration. Jesus goes up the mountain with his closest disciples who experience a glimpse of Jesus in his glory and hear the reassuring words of the Father – “This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him”. In this way they learn that “the Passion leads to the glory of the Resurrection” and are strengthened for what is to come.

In the first reading we hear of the Binding of Isaac (which we will hear again on Easter night, with a focus on Abraham and Isaac as foreshadowing the saving love of God, the Father and the Son) and see how the deep faith of Abraham helped him in an impossible situation (offer my son or disobey God). His faithful following results in him being showered with blessings. The cross leads to glory.

As we enter the second week of Lent our initial enthusiasm can begin to fade (are we nearly there yet?) and we need encouragement in those things we are undertaking to support our turning more to God and growing in holiness. These stories are offered to us so that we too might learn that the struggle is not a sign of things going wrong but is an essential step on the way to our sharing in the glory and joy of Christ.

Pope Francis, in his letter opening a new chapter in Evangelisation, *The Joy of the Gospel (Evangelii Gaudium)*, places at its centre the invitation to know and experience in our day, our own struggle and our own lives what Peter, James and John experienced on the mountain of Tabor.

*I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unflinchingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord".*

The Aparecida document gives us a guide as to where to seek out this encounter. It says that, due to the invisible action of the Holy Spirit, the encounter with Christ takes place in faith received and lived in the **Church**. The **Eucharist** (especially on Sundays) is the privileged place of the disciple's encounter with Jesus Christ, but it is not the only place he comes to us. We encounter Him in **Sacred Scripture** read in the church, and in particular in *Lectio Divina*; in the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**; in the **Sacred Liturgy**; in personal and community **prayer**; in the **poor**, the afflicted, and the sick; in the midst of a **living community** in faith and fraternal love.

May we seek him out each day and be able to declare “It is good for us to be here”: the joy it brings, even if the midst of adversity, strengthens us and our faith and is the essential root of our missionary activity.

### Mass Responses for Second Sunday of Lent

PSALM RESPONSE: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard:  
'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'

HOLY HOLY: Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis. (see p16 in Parish Mass books)

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

19 Croft Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1DB t: 01483 416880 w: [www.stedsgod.com](http://www.stedsgod.com)

Parish Priests: Fr Jonathan How e: [pp.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pp.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk)

Fr Rajesh Minz e: [rajesh.minz@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:rajesh.minz@abdiocese.org.uk) t: 01428 643877

Parish Assistant: Sarah Stilwell e: [godalming@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:godalming@abdiocese.org.uk)

Parish Safeguarding phonenumber: 07534 146908

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

## Prayer for our Diocese and our Parish

Our parish and diocese are entering a significant period of discernment and change as we seek to respond to the Lord's call to deepen our discipleship and witness to Jesus Christ, the Word who is Life. We are grateful to those who are already praying the Angelus at midday and 6pm for the our parish.

You may remember that Bishop Richard included a short prayer with the Pastoral Plan and you are all encouraged to include it in your daily prayers:

*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.*

Fr Jonathan and the Parish Pastoral Team are meeting this week to see how we can best respond to the invitation of the Pastoral Plan to grow as a community of missionary disciples.  
<https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/pastoral-plan>

**World Day of Prayer Service** is this Friday 1st March at St John's, Farncombe, at 10.30am. WDP is a global prayer initiative. The liturgy was prepared by a group of Christian women from the Palestinian territories. Donations of cakes for refreshments after the service are very welcome.

**Salesian Zambia Porridge Appeal** Next weekend there will be speaker to share the message, 'porridge means education', and you will be able to buy a fridge magnet for £10, which is how much it costs to feed one child for a year.

## CAFOD Family Fast Day & Big Lent Walk

Thank you for participating in Family Fast Day. Your donations will make a massive difference to hardworking families in need, such as fishermen in Liberia, by providing them with items like life jackets and GPS tracking systems, enabling them to fish safely and productively and feed their families. Please pray for our sisters and brothers around the world who are needy and hungry and donate by envelope, or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) or by sponsoring our parish team of walkers at: <https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-edmund-godalming> Thank you.

In the first week of the Big Lent Walk our parish team has cumulatively walked an amazing 974km. The team includes families from St Edmund's school and the FMDM Sisters. Well done everyone!

**Next Sunday** there is coffee after 8.45am Mass.

## The Holy Season of Lent

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** This week from 9am before morning Mass at St Joseph's on Tuesday; and from 7pm at St Joseph's on Friday evening. St Edmund's Church is open each day to 5pm.

**Reconciliation** There are some 'Simple Guides to Confession' available at the back of church, do pick one up. Opportunities this week are: Monday 26 at St Pius X, Merrow, 7.30-8.30pm; Next Saturday 2 March: 10.30-11am at St Edmund's 11.00-noon at St Joseph's, Guildford 10.30-11.30am at OLL, Haslemere.

**Join a Lent Small Group** for some faith sharing with Season IV of Invited. This week Fr Kieron O'Brien reflects on renewal and how we become missionary disciples. We are meeting at **Ladywell on Thursday Evenings**, tea and coffee from 7.00pm. Feel free to come along to one or all of the sessions. Other 'in person' options are: a Tuesday afternoon Elstead group; a Wednesday morning Guildford group and a Monday evening Haslemere group.

Online options: Thursdays 7-8.30pm with diocese <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/acs6cjtjx>.

Films are also available via the Diocesan Website.

**Pray-as-you-go** You can download this prayer App for a 12-minute meditation for each day.

**Spiritual Reading** Have a look at *First Belong to God: On retreat with Pope Francis*, published recently.

**Sign up for daily Lent reflections** from CAFOD <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar>

**Stations of the Cross** During Lent this devotion takes place around the deanery as follows:

Mondays 7pm at St Pius X, Merrow

Fridays 7pm at Our Lady of Lourdes, Haslemere  
7.30pm at St Joseph's, Guildford

7.40pm in Polish at St Joseph's, Milford

Sundays 3pm at St Mary's, Rydes Hill

Wintershall Stations of the Cross 7am on 1 March.

**Wintershall Passion of Jesus in Trafalgar Square** is on Good Friday. It's a moving portrayal of the final days of Jesus, and there are two 90-minute performances: 12 noon and 3.15 pm. No tickets are required, performances are free.

**Live Simply Plant Sale** Pete's Plant Sale is on Sunday 2nd June, to raise money for the work of the FMDM sisters in Kasanka, Zambia. Please start thinking of planting seeds now!

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

Please do read the report on the future of our churches published recently, pray about the possibilities open to us and give your feedback on the options. Every person's view is important to us and thank you to those who have so far completed the questionnaire. You can find a copy of the report and links for feedback at:

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

**Update: There will be an open parish meeting on the evening of 12th March** to provide an opportunity for questions and observations. Exact time and venue to be confirmed next week. The response deadline will be extended to Easter, to allow those who wish to consider further after that meeting.

Some questions and responses can be found at:  
<https://padlet.com/frjonathanhow/OurChurches>

### **Week of Guided Prayer – Save the date!**

We are hosting a week of guided prayer from 16 to 21 June, with individual spiritual direction, time to pray and reflect together and workshops on prayer. Further details to follow.

**Lourdes Pilgrimage** This year is the 50th anniversary. The pilgrimage is 'love in action' and a profound experience of renewed faith for both pilgrims and helpers: the sick, disabled, frail and elderly. This year's pilgrimage is 25/26 July to 1/2 August and if you're thinking of going, please speak to Tony or Ruth from our parish; they went last summer and are happy to answer queries.

### **Easter Triduum Highlights 2024**

**Maundy Thursday** – 8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Joseph's.

**Good Friday** - 10.30am Family Stations of the Cross at St Edmund's; 3pm Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday at St Joseph's.

**Holy Saturday** 8.30am and 9.00am Świąconka 8pm Solemn Vigil of Easter at St Joseph's.

**Easter Sunday** - 6.45am Dawn Service at the Minster Field; 8.45am Mass at St John's; 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's.

**'These are the Feasts...'** **On Saturday 23rd March** a Day of Retreat at St Joseph's, Guildford, a day of reflection and prayer on the beauty and meaning of the Liturgy of Holy Week. More details to follow.

**January Offertory Collection** The parish gratefully received a total of £7,376 from offertory and standing orders; and a further £1,025 for charities (Latin Patriarchate, Crib). Thank you.

**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.

**Pope Francis' prayer intention for March** is for the martyrs of our day, witnesses to Christ. Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

**Please remember to pray** for peace on earth, the sick and unemployed and for our diocese & parish.

**The sick and those who care for them** Simon McCann, Ana Carvalho, 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 utchinson, Ann Lloyd, Betty Matthews, 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 Barry Craggs and Osborne Acquaye who died recently, and for Tom Rogers, James Chaloner, Elena Kuzmickas, Maria Mason, Jerzy Burger, Helen Hawkins, Ann Barnard, Paula Butcher and Ursula Polack whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Schedule of Masses  
Second Week of Lent  
25th February 2024**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Saturday 24th February</b>                     | 10.00am Adoration & Reconciliation (St Joseph's)<br><b>6pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>For Ukraine</i>  |
| <b>Sunday 25th February</b><br>2ND SUNDAY OF LENT | <b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>People of the Parish</i><br><b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Pat Stuttle RIP</i>                      |
| <b>Monday 26th February</b>                       | <i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>  |
| <b>Tuesday 27th February</b>                      | 9.00am Adoration (St Joseph's)<br><b>9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b><br>– <i>Nancy &amp; Henry Quinlan and Katherine &amp; Clifford Tilly RIP</i> |
| <b>Wednesday 28th February</b>                    | <b>9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Terry Punter RIP</i>  |
| <b>Thursday 29th February</b>                     | <i>10.00am Mass available at St Joseph's Guildford</i>  |
| <b>Friday 1st March</b><br>ST DAVID               | <b>7.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>Victor Palladino RIP</i><br>7.00pm Adoration (St Joseph's)  |
| <b>Saturday 2nd March</b>                         | 10.30-11am Reconciliation (St Edmund's)<br><b>6pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>Eugene Baggar RIP</i>   |
| <b>Sunday 3rd March</b><br>3RD SUNDAY OF LENT     | <b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>Ursula Polack RIP</i><br><b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>People of the Parish</i>                    |

Sunday Cycle Year B

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

[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*