



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

with St Joseph's, Milford



**Our Parish  
Community**

A family for all

## Second 'Low' Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

*"The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord"*

The central quality of Easter is joy, and it will provide a focus for our reflections throughout this Easter season. This is what Pope Francis said last Monday:

Today the Gospel (cf. *Mt* 28:8.15) shows us the *joy* of the women at the Resurrection of Jesus: the text says they abandoned the tomb with "great joy", and "ran to tell His disciples" (v. 8). This joy, which is born precisely from the living encounter with the Risen One, is a powerful emotion, which impels them to spread and to tell what they have seen.

*Sharing joy* is a wondrous experience, which we learn from a very young age: think of a child who gets a good mark at school and cannot wait to show his or her parents, or a young person who achieves their first success in sport, or a family in which a child is born. Let us try to remember, each of us, a moment so happy that it was even difficult to put it into words, but which we wished to tell everyone about immediately!

So, the women, on Easter morning, live this experience, but in a much greater way. Why? Because the resurrection of Jesus is not just wonderful news or the happy ending of a story, but something that changes our lives completely, and changes it forever! It is the victory of life over death, this is the Resurrection of Jesus. It is the victory of hope over despondency. Jesus broke through the darkness of the tomb and lives for ever: His presence can fill anything with light. With Him, every day becomes a step in an eternal journey, every "today" can hope for a "tomorrow", every end a new beginning, every instant is projected beyond the limits of time, towards eternity.

Brothers, sisters, the joy of the Resurrection is not something far away. It is very close, it is ours, because it was given to us on the day of our Baptism. Since then, we too, like the women, can meet the Risen One and He says to us, as He did to them: "Do not fear!" (v 10). Brothers and sisters, let us not give up the joy of Easter!

But how can we nurture this joy? Like the women did: by encountering the Risen One, because He is the source of a joy that never ceases. So, let us hasten to seek Him in the Eucharist, in His forgiveness, in prayer and in lived charity! Joy, when it is shared, grows. Let us share the joy of the Risen One.

And May the Virgin Mary, who at Easter rejoiced in her risen Son, help us to be joyful witnesses.

### Mass Responses for Second Sunday of Easter

PSALM RESPONSE: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

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

**The Solemnity of the Annunciation** this year is transferred to Monday this week.

### **The Angelus Prayer**

V. The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit

*Hail Mary...*

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word

*Hail Mary...*

V. And the Word was made flesh

R. And dwelt among us

*Hail Mary...*

V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

**Wishing the Lord's blessing to everyone** as we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord, and throughout this joyful season of Easter.

**Thank you** to all who helped prepare our churches and liturgies for the Easter Mysteries.

**Easter Offering** Thank you for your generous donations, cards and good wishes.

**Welcome** to Adrian, Ioana, Gabriel and Sonia, who will be received into full communion at the 6pm Mass at St Edmund's this weekend.

**This Sunday** there is coffee after 8.45am Mass – come and meet others in our parish family!

**Children's Liturgy** The next session is on Sunday 21 April. The **Bumps & Babes** group restarts on Monday 15 April.

**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.

**Fundraising for our twin parish in Kasanka**  
This year we hope to raise £1,500 for secure fencing to keep the school safe from intruders and wild animals. Please help by making cakes (and of course, buying them!) at the **Cake Sale after all Masses next weekend**. Suggested donations for the cakes are: £5 for large, £3 for medium and 50p for small - and feel free to donate more. All types, sizes and flavours of cake are welcome, and as many as you can offer! Please label them to identify allergens: gluten, eggs, dairy, peanuts, sesame, and nuts. Thank you for your support.

**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!

**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 individual spiritual direction, time to pray and reflect together, and workshops on prayer. The week includes evening sessions at 7.30pm. To register your interest please sign up via the parish calendar.

**CAFOD Big Lent Walk** Thank you so much to everyone in the parish for supporting our parish team of walkers and helping them raise £2,000 for CAFOD's work to alleviate global poverty. Well done everyone, what a super team effort.

### **Consultation on the future of our Churches.**

Thank you to the large number who responded. The responses will be analysed over the coming weeks before some further reflection on their implication for our mission and for next steps. We expect to feed back to the parish in May.

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.

**SVP Afternoon Tea** is on Wednesday, 2.30pm, at URC in Elstead. Please phone SVP for lifts.

**Churches Together in Godalming** Fr Jonathan would like to hear from anyone interested in supporting the work of Churches Together. Please chat to him or Angela Gilmour to find out more. The **April CTGD Link-Up** and **Live Simply newsletters** are available on our website.

**April Churches Together Prayer Breakfast** is at the Old Barn, Elstead, on Saturday 27 April, 8.30 to 10am. Contact Richard: 01252 702230.

**Forgiveness** Revd Tim Carter will lead a session on 27 April 10am-12.30pm at Godalming Baptist Church on this: 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](mailto:pollard3@hotmail.co.uk)

**The Promise of the Father – New Life in the Holy Spirit** A new course at St Joan's, Farnham, on Wednesday evenings, 10 April to 29 May, to prepare you for a new life in the Holy Spirit this Pentecost and help you to live the Christian life. More info: [www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk](http://www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk) or email: [alastairemblem@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alastairemblem@yahoo.co.uk)

**What's it like to be a Benedictine monk?**

This talk is at St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth, on 18 May, 10am-11.30 am, and explores the centuries old Benedictine way of life, from chanting in Latin to the discipline of dawn prayer. To attend, please email: [richardatob@gmail.com](mailto:richardatob@gmail.com) More info at: <http://www.chilworthbenedictines.com>

**Bishop Robert Barron's The Pivotal Players**

This new study course at Chilworth starts on 22 June. Each monthly session focuses on a saint /artist/mystic/scholar who shaped the life of the Church and changed the course of civilisation: <https://www.wordonfire.org/study-programs/pivotal-players/>

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

**Mental Health Awareness Seminar** The diocese is offering subsidised places at a seminar led by MHFA England on 13 April (Crawley) or 15 June (Burgess Hill), which helps you to understand the impacts and realities of mental health on the individual; identify early signs and symptoms; and signpost effectively. Please contact Sarah in the parish office if interested.

**Please consider writing to your MP and signing the Petition** (by 15 April) to reduce the abortion time limit from 24 to 22 weeks; babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law.

<https://righttolife.org.uk/littlefighters> Also consider the impact of the Johnson amendments <https://righttolife.org.uk/johnsonabortionamendment>

**Assisted Suicide debate** is tabled for 29 April. Please write to your MP if you do not want assisted suicide to be legalised. More info at: <https://www.spuc.org.uk/livesworthliving>

**Retreats at Franciscan Centre**, Ladywell [www.franciscancentre.org.uk](http://www.franciscancentre.org.uk)

**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** The Godalming Theatre Group are staging this production at the Baptist Church 9-14th April. Tickets from: <https://www.gtguuk.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.

**Gift Aid and contactless devices** If you pay tax you are able to join our parish Gift Aid scheme and we can claim 25p from HMRC for every £1 you donate, which makes a big difference to our parish finances. Please note that even if you have already signed up for GA with the parish, a separate GA declaration is needed for donations via our contactless devices. It's quick and easy to do on the machine itself, and you only need to sign up once (and not for subsequent donations). For more info 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 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** Nicole Gebhardt, Kate Hall, Ana Carvalho, 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 Mary (Rita) Lane, John Donnelly, and Simon McCann who died recently, and Peter Grant, Mary Pinks, Jan Orlinki, Salvador Barbato, Fred Butcher, Patrick Murray, Frank Matthews and Lilian Dutfield whose anniversaries occur at this time.

## Schedule of Liturgies Second Week of Easter 2024

<b>Saturday 6th April</b> EASTER SATURDAY	<b>6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b> – <i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>Sunday 7th April</b> SECOND 'LOW' SUNDAY OF EASTER	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>People of the Parish</i> <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Gerry Newell RIP</i> 12.30pm Baptism (St Edmund's) - Arabella & Rose Blakemore
<b>Monday 8th April</b> THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD	<b>9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b>  <i>– For vocations to Holy Orders and Religious Life</i>
<b>Tuesday 9th April</b>	<b>9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Frank &amp; Matthew Brown RIP</i>
<b>Wednesday 10th April</b>	<b>9.00am Requiem Mass for Mary (Rita) Lane RIP</b> (Ladywell Convent, Ashtead Lane, Godalming, GU7 1ST)
<b>Thursday 11th April</b> <i>St Stanislaus</i>	<b>9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Rudie Dorrepall RIP</i>
<b>Friday 12th April</b>	<b>9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)</b>
<b>Saturday 13th April</b>	<b>6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)</b>
<b>Sunday 14th April</b> THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	<b>8.45am Mass (St John's)</b> – <i>People of the parish</i> <b>10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)</b> – <i>Fiona Fleming McGirr RIP</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*