



# NEWS BULLETIN FROM THE PARISH OF SS ALBAN & STEPHEN



This Parish is served by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

Parish Priest: Rev. TJ Plower MSC, Rev. Jimmy Stubbs MSC, Rev. Alan Neville MSC, Deacon Steve Pickard.

Tel: 01727 853 585 Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 1pm

14 Beaconsfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RB. Parish Website: [www.albanstephen.org](http://www.albanstephen.org)

Items for the bulletin – e-mail: [stalbans@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbans@rcdow.org.uk) by 12noon on Wednesdays

Youth Co-ordinator Sr. Anita O’Leary SSJG, e-mail: [anitaoleary@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:anitaoleary@rcdow.org.uk)

Safeguarding Lead Nicky Vellacott: [stalbanssg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbanssg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) / 07882 566 020

Youth Website: [www.sasyouth.com](http://www.sasyouth.com). We are a Fairtrade Parish.

**14th April 2019**

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

At the beginning of today’s Mass, we hear of Jesus’ spectacular entry into Jerusalem. The crowds who greet him cry out and praise God – the King has come! It is similar to how victorious army generals were welcomed home. These people have set their hopes on Jesus. They are waiting for a Messiah and King, and have heard so much about this preacher – is he the one they’ve been waiting for?

But Jesus is not the hero they’ve been expecting. He has not come to raise up an army or become a great political leader. The story takes a dramatic turn. Before long, the crowds are shouting ‘Crucify him! Crucify him!’ and taunting him on the cross to ‘save himself if he is the Christ of God’.



We play our part in the unfolding drama today, as we first hold up our palm branches and later join the crowds condemning Jesus.

In his Palm Sunday homily to young people last year, Pope Francis said the changing reactions of the crowds ‘*express the contradictory feelings that we too, the men and women of today, experience: the capacity for great love, but also for great hatred; the capacity for courageous self-sacrifice, but also the ability to ‘wash our hands’.*

Today we place ourselves in the Passion of Jesus, and we look to the Cross as our consolation and our challenge.

### **Italian Mass – CANCELLED**

Please note that the Italian Mass scheduled for **Easter Sunday, 21st April at 5pm** has been cancelled. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused.

### **This Sunday**

Palms will be blessed at all Masses.

#### **9am Marshalswick:**

Meet at Sherwood Avenue fields for blessing and distribution of palms (with St. Mary’s CoE and Marshalswick Free Baptist Church) followed by Mass at Marshalswick Mass Centre.

#### **9.30am Mass in Church with Procession:**

Weather permitting, please assemble at Loreto College (Beaconsfield Road entrance at 9.20am)

### **Plants for Easter Garden**

If you would like to contribute a potted plant for the Easter Garden in the Church, in memory of a deceased loved one, please bring it during this week.



### **Good Friday – Stations for Children**

Any young people who would like to help with the 12noon Stations of the Cross with singing or playing a musical instrument, please contact Sr. Anita 01727 853 585 (Monday – Friday, 9am – 1pm)

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those

who have died recently including

**Adrian McDonagh, Lisa Gratte,**

**Mary Hudson, Ron Garner,**

**Veronica Hamilton, Alex South**

and **Breda Iommi** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.



## Mass Intentions for the Week

14.4.2019

6pm Mark, Kathleen and Gerrard Moore RIP  
8am John Baxter RIP  
9am M'wick People of the Parish  
9.30am Allace De Cruz RIP  
11.30am Philip Mansfield RIP  
4pm Polish Mass  
7pm Elizabeth Foley Anniv. & Nora King RIP

### Monday of Holy Week

10am Priests' Intentions  
7pm Maria Frosztega Anniv.

### Tuesday of Holy Week

10am Nora King RIP  
NO EVENING MASS

### Wednesday of Holy Week

10am Giuseppe Frisso Anniv.  
7pm MSC Benefactors

### Maundy Thursday

NO MORNING MASS  
8pm MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER

### Good Friday

NO MORNING MASS  
12noon Stations of the Cross for Children  
3pm LITURGY OF THE PASSION  
6.30pm Stations of the Cross

### Holy Saturday

10am Praying at the Tomb  
10.30-11.30am & 4-5pm Confessions  
2-2.30pm Polish Easter Food Blessing  
8pm EASTER VIGIL

### Next Sunday

#### Easter Sunday of the Resurrection

8am Mass  
9am M'wick Mass  
9.30am Mass  
11.30am Mass  
NO EVENING MASS

### Easter Monday

10am Alfie Peter Jones and Family Ints.  
4pm Polish Mass  
NO EVENING MASS

*Mass Intentions are subject to change  
if there is a funeral*

### Mary Hudson – Rest in Peace

Mrs. Mary Hudson, formerly a teacher at Loreto College has died recently. Her funeral will take place in Wheathampstead Parish Church at 1.30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.



### Easter Cards

Please take home a few Easter cards that are now available in the porch and deliver them to your friends and neighbours. Encourage others to share the welcome of our parish and help spread the joy of Easter

### Welcome at Easter

Our church is always very full during the Services of Holy Week and Easter, and it is wonderful to have a friendly greeting as you enter the building. We do, therefore, need volunteers to help with this.

Please would you consider welcoming before each Service? Just a friendly smile, a kind word and handing out missalettes is all that is required. Please contact Sara at [sara.nash1@ntlworld.com](mailto:sara.nash1@ntlworld.com) if you can assist.

### Holy Week Posters.

Now available at the back of the Church.  
Please take one to put in a window.

### First Reading:

#### Isaiah 50:4-7

The crowd chant peace and glory, words which bring us back to the angels' message on night of Christ's birth, as recounted by Luke. Jesus was born for this moment.

### Second Reading:

#### Philippians 2:6-11

The words 'death on a cross' mark the depth of suffering to which the depth of Christ's love brought him.

### Gospel Reading:

#### Luke 22:14-23.56

Jesus, we read has 'longed' to share a final meal with his disciples. On the cross, he promises the repentant thief that he will share paradise with him.

### Reading for the Week:

Mon: Is 42:1-7; Ps 26:1-3.13-14; Jn 12:1-11  
Tue: Is 49:1-6; Ps 70:1-6.15.17; Jn 13:21-33.36-38  
Wed: Is 50:4-9; Ps 68:8-10.21-22.31.33-34; Mt 26:14-25  
Thu: Ex 12:1-80.11-14; Ps 115:12-13.15-18;  
1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 18:1-19:42  
Fri: Is 52:13-53:12; Ps 30:2.6.12-13.15-17.25;  
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1-19:42  
Sat: Rom 6:3-11; Ps 117:1-2.16-17.22-23; Lk 24:1-12

# Dates for April

## Marshalswick Mass Centre Bags 2 School

As a fund raising scheme, the Governors of St John Fisher Primary School, Marshalswick were handing out "Bags 2 School" at mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Any old or unwanted items of clothing or shoes can be put in these Bags, ready for collection **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019**, from the Mass Centre.



## Parish Friends Knit and Natter.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2.30-4pm.**



Do join us in knitting jumpers for children in Africa, baby beanie hats for new born babies, forget-me-knots for the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Action Week, scarves for the homeless and squares to make blankets for those in need. All grades of knitters and natterers welcome.



## Feast of St George Parish Friends

Parish Friends will be serving refreshments after 10am Mass on the Feast of St George - **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April.** Everyone is welcome to join us for tea and cake in the Parish Centre.



## St. Columba's College

St. Columba's College, the independent Catholic boys' day school in St Albans, will be holding an open morning in the Prep School on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019** between 9am and 11am. Boys aged 3+ are invited to stay and play while their parents visit.

For more information, please visit the website [www.stcolumbascollege.org](http://www.stcolumbascollege.org) or contact the Admissions Registrar, Mrs Hilary Causer: [admissions@stcolumbascollege.org](mailto:admissions@stcolumbascollege.org)

## EASTER BREAK



### Conversation Classes for Ladies

Back on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 1pm** in the Parish Hall

### Toddlers Group

Back on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30am** in the Parish Hall.  
MORE HELPERS NEEDED

### Children's Liturgy

Back on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 9.30am** in the Parish Hall



## Parish Friends – Tea Party

Parish Friends will be holding a Tea Party on **Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm.**

We are very happy to announce the return of The Ukulele Sunshine Band who will be entertaining us at this event.

All parishioners are welcome to attend including young and old and those in between.

Lifts will be available if required.

**Please write your name on the guest list** if you would like to attend stating if transport is required and/or you have special dietary requirements.

Help for the event would be appreciated.

If you can offer lifts, make scones or cakes or provide help on the day please write your name and contact details on the Helpers List.

Contact Helen 07860 830340 if you have any queries.



## TWAM – Tools with a Mission

"A Christian Charity sending tools across the world"

**Tool Collection at Dagnall Street Baptist Church (Hall below the church, Dagnall Street AL3 5EE)**

**On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2019, 12noon – 7pm**

*Yes please: All hand, electric & garden tools, IT equipment, sewing & knitting machines & haberdashery.*

*No thank you: Broken tools, lawn mowers, bicycles, disability aids, printers, typewriters.*

More details: [www.twam.uk](http://www.twam.uk)

Twam collects unwanted tools and equipment and enables people to switch from Aid dependency to self-sufficiency.

# NEWS BULLETIN

## Ministers of The Word needed!



Do you have a clear speaking voice? Could you proclaim the Word of God at Mass? If so, please consider becoming a Minister of the Word and joining the rotas to read at one of our weekend masses approximately once a month. If you can help or for more information, please contact Melanie (07900 051 956 or [mjoneill5@btinternet.com](mailto:mjoneill5@btinternet.com))

## Half an Hour a Week to visit a Sick or Housebound Parishioner

Lent is a good time to pray, give alms and/or your time to a good cause. There are many parishioners who are unable to get to Church and would welcome the visit of a Eucharistic Minister. Jesus sets the example of choosing ordinary people to carry out his ministry.

We are those people, all called by Jesus. Our Parish needs Eucharistic Ministers for Sunday Masses, usually once a month.

If you are able to give half an hour of your time either regularly or for a short time to visit, you will be given training and support.

Please contact the Parish Secretary ([stalbens@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbens@rcdow.org.uk) / 01727 853 585, Mon - Fri, 9am - 1pm)

or Anne Myles ([annemyles@gmail.com](mailto:annemyles@gmail.com) / 01727 852 930) for more information



## Prayer Booklet

Prayer is an important part of our lives yet some of us do find this difficult. Perhaps joining one of the parish groups will help but, if you are unable to do this, there is also a Guide to Prayer booklet freely available in the porch at the back of church. This has several ideas that will supplement your existing approach to prayer and help to establish your unique relationship with God that serves as the cornerstone of our spiritual lives.



## Cardinal's Lenten Appeal

This year's Appeal focuses on the food hunger that blights the lives of many across our Diocese of Westminster. This affects so many families across the Diocese but much of it remains hidden.

Did you know, for example, that over half of the people who use foodbanks have at least one household member in work? Through Caritas Westminster, we already contribute to foodbanks and other initiatives to relieve poverty.

This new programme will help to fund additional food relief initiatives and provide the additional skills and resources needed for people to become independent. Parishioners can pick up a Cardinal's Lenten Appeal donation leaflet at the back of the church or from Marshalswick Mass Centre.

## Watford, Hemel & St. Albans NHS Hospital Chaplaincy

On admission to hospital, please ensure that your religion is registered and ask for this information to be given to the hospital chaplaincy team. Chaplains visit the wards during the week and will organise sacramental and pastoral care; they also provide an 'on-call' service in case of emergency. Please let your parish clergy know if you or a close relative are in hospital or you can contact the hospital chaplaincy directly by calling 01923 217994 referrals can also be made via email: [spiritualcare@whht.nhs.uk](mailto:spiritualcare@whht.nhs.uk)

## Fest of Divine Mercy

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at St. Bartholomew's, St. Albans.

Prayers begin at 2.20pm with Holy Rosary, 3pm exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet, Confessions, 4.15 Benediction followed by veneration of the Divine Mercy image. For further details ring Margaret Leahy 01727 763 832

*"Jesus urges us to change our lives, to change our ideas. We should make ourselves a new heart by changing our sentiments."*

*Jules Chevalier, Meditations I, p 347 f.*

## Marshalswick Mass Centre - Rotas

The Volunteer rotas are now available for download from the Liturgy Section of the Parish Website: [www.albanstephen.org/groups/liturgy-group/](http://www.albanstephen.org/groups/liturgy-group/)

## Marriage Preparation Programme

A Marriage Preparation programme will be running in the Parish soon. If you are planning to get married in the next 12 months, please contact Fr. Jimmy as soon as possible, if you have not already done so.



## Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen

Confessions:  
Sat 10.30-11.30am

Baptisms: by appointment