

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

Items for the bulletin – e-mail: stalban@rcdow.org.uk by 12noon on Wednesdays

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

Safeguarding Lead Nicky Vellacott: stalbanssg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk / 07882 566 020

Youth Website: www.sasyouth.com. We are a Fairtrade Parish.

2nd June 2019

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Despite the deep violence in the account of Stephen’s death in the first reading, there is a sense of calm. That is typical of Luke’s account of Jesus’ Passion, and it is echoed here.

The reference to standing at the right hand, the words *‘into your hands’* and the forgiving of his enemies all recall the account of Jesus’ death in Luke’s earlier work. That is very deliberate – the true disciple is like his master, and Stephen shows that through the manner of his death. That is all possible because of the gift of the Holy Spirit which fills Stephen.

The gospel is a marvellous section from John’s great priestly prayer of Jesus: Jesus prays for those who will follow him as disciples, those who will believe through those with him at the last supper – and Stephen is one of those – as we are who hear those words today.



The passage emphasises the unity that is the heart of faith in Jesus – unity with him who is fully united with the Father and the unity among the believers – and that unity is rooted in love. It is an inspiring and uplifting gospel with which Eastertide draws to its end.

And the great positive tone is present also in the passage from the Book of Revelation with its promise of the water of life and the invitation to ‘come’ – to come and share in the life of Spirit which draws all the faithful into the love of the Triune God with those who thirst for the water of life.

Book of Revelation

Our small group are starting a Jeff Cavin DVD series, studying 'Revelations' on Mondays after 10am Mass in Room 1.

Introduction **Mon 3rd June, 10th June,**
then every 2 weeks.

All Welcome. Mike & Sylvia.

West the road half-a-mile singers club

Irish Sing Along Group

After 6 o’clock Mass on **Saturday 8th June** in the coffee bar area of the Parish Centre.

All welcome, song sheets and tea provided!

Hosted by the Fahy Brothers and St Albans Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann.

Bingo in aid of Friends of the Holy Land

In the Parish Hall on **Friday, 14th June**, at 8 0’Clock.

Admission is 50p towards refreshments and everyone is most welcome.

Thank you to everyone that supported our last Bingo evening.

First Friday Blessed Sacrament 24-hour Adoration

In the prayer room, 11am **Friday 7th June**
until 11am **Saturday 8th June**

Please pray
for the repose of the souls
of all those who have died recently
including **Anne Smith,**
Angela Pope,
and George Ackers
and for those
whose anniversaries
occur at this time.

Mass Intentions for the Week

2.6.2019

6pm Connelly Family
8am People of the Parish
9am M'wick Patricia McCarthy RIP
9.30am Veronica Hamilton RIP
11.30am Jimmy Loughlin Anniv.
7pm Lucilla Wong RIP

Monday – Ss Charles Lwanga & Companions

10am John Baxter RIP
7pm Maria Felice RIP

Tuesday – Easter Feria

10am Clifford Staniforth RIP
NO EVENING MASS

Wednesday – St. Boniface

10am Bridget and John Munnely Anniv.
7pm MSC Benefactors

Thursday – St. Norbert

10am Bernadette Keegan Ints.
NO EVENING MASS

Friday – Easter Feria

10am Priests' Intentions
7pm Jim Devlin RIP

Saturday – Easter Feria

9am Morning Prayers – Thy Kingdom Come
10am Mary Hudson RIP
6pm Kathleen Mannion RIP

Next Sunday Pentecost Sunday

8am People of the Parish
9am M'wick Lisa Gratte RIP
9.30am Judith & Mark Petre Ints.
11.30am Antonio Visconti and
Antonetta Wallis Anniv.
4pm Polish Mass
7pm William O'Leary RIP

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

Celebrating the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Fr Jules Chevalier, founder of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, was convinced that the prodigal love of the Father poured out in the gentle and humble heart of Jesus his son was the answer to the world's problem. He became a missionary of God's love and dedicated his life to a single goal: "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved". In the words of Pope Francis, "The Sacred Heart of Jesus is the highest human expression of divine love. The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is the feast that sets the tone for the whole month of June". In 2019, this feast is celebrated on the 28th June, and in the weeks preceding that, there will be the opportunity to see how others have tried to make people aware of the love that there is in the Heart of Jesus for us all, especially those trapped in any form of misfortune - physical, psychological or spiritual. Quotations will be displayed in Church highlighting the importance of the Spirituality of the Heart in our lives.

"Popular piety highly prizes symbols, and the Heart of Jesus is the ultimate symbol of God's mercy - but it is not an imaginary symbol, it is a real symbol, which represents the centre, the source from which salvation for all humanity gushed forth." (Pope Francis)

Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant School - Caretaker Position

Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant School currently have a vacancy for the position of part-time caretaker - 25 hours per week. Please contact the school office to make an appointment to speak with Miss Cannon, Head of School (01727 854643 / admin@ssasinfants.herts.sch.uk).

APF Summer magazine

The summer issue of Mission TODAY is now in the Church porch for collection by APF promoters. For any queries please call Tony Hughes on 862087 or email tanda.hughes@btinternet.com

Walk to Mass in June

Now that the summer is here, consider walking to church rather than using the car.

Reading for the Week:

Mon: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 67:2-7; Jn 16:29-33
Tue: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 67:10-11.20-21; Jn 17:1-11
Wed: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 67:29-30.33-36; Jn 17:11-19
Thu: Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Ps 15:1-2.5.7-11; Jn 17:20-26
Fri: Acts 25:13-21; Ps 102:1-2.11-12.19-20; Jn 21:15-19
Sat: Acts 28:16-20.30-31; Ps 10:4-5.7; Jn 21:20-25



Dates for June

Traidcraft

Traidcraft this weekend **1/2nd June** after all masses at the church. Next weekend, Sunday 9th June, after 9am Mass at St John fisher school. All proceeds to Cafod. Enquiries to Maureen or Stan 765549 or grabecki@hotmail.com



Life Ascending (Ascent)

Meeting **4th June**, 10.45am in the Conference Room at the Presbytery. Talk "Rules and Regs". All Welcome



Catholic Women's League



The next CWL meeting will be held on **Tuesday June 4th after the 10am Mass** in room 1. There will be an interesting talk on "Bandstands" including a bit about our local one in Clarence Park. All parishioners and friends are very welcome. (£2 for coffee and raffle)



Knit and Natter

Tuesday 4th June 2.30-4pm. We are now knitting for "Knit for Peace UK" which is an initiative of the Charities Advisory Trust. They distribute all knitted and crocheted donations to over 200 outlets, including hospitals, women's refuges, refugee drop in centres, prisons, community groups, and hospices as well as to developing countries and refugee camps and those living in the rubble in Syria. Come along and join us - even a few squares will soon make a warm blanket - and knitting and nattering are both hugely therapeutic. Everyone is welcome. Please phone Helen 07860 830340



Light a Candle for The Hospice of St. Francis

Thursday 6th June

St Peters Church in Berkhamsted will be open this year 4pm - 8pm providing a multi-faith, contemplative space to give thanks for our Hospice and to pray for the future of the hospice. The Lady Chapel in St Albans Cathedral will also be open from 1pm - 3pm. www.stfrancis.org.uk/prayervigil
Tel.no: 01442 869 550



Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come is a global, ecumenical prayer movement. It runs from Ascension to Pentecost. **EVENTS: June 6th 8pm The Lady Chapel in the Abbey** -Night prayer with intercessions **24 Hours of Prayer:** Kick off at Ashley Church Friday 8pm, Morning prayer at Ss Alban Stephen Church 9am on Saturday 8th, Close at 7pm in St Peters on Saturday 8th. Beacon Celebration in the Abbey 6.30pm June 9th. More details are at www.ctstalbens.org.uk

Pulse - Family Retreat

7th June, 7pm - 9th June, 4pm.

St Albans Academy, Shenley Lane, AL2 1AG
For more information or to register, please visit: www.pulse-retreats.com or see poster at the back of the church.



Caritas Volunteer Fair

Saturday 8th June, from 1-3pm, at St Aloysius' Parish Hall, Phoenix Road, Euston, NW1 1TA.

To get your free ticket, email caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk, call 020 7931 6077, or search the event title on www.eventbrite.co.uk



X:site

Saturday 8th June, 6-8pm. £2 per child.

For school years 3-6. Fun and games; Live music; Drinks and snacks A joint event with our parish for young Christians, St. Luke's Church, Cell Barnes Lane, St. Albans. AL1 5QJ. Youth and adult volunteers needed. For more info contact David Markham 07543 400 650 Register on www.the267project.com



Pentecost Celebration Mass

Sunday 9th June, 7pm. Celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit with prayerful music ministry. Holy Spirit homily. Priest's anointing of the sick. Prayer ministry for those that would like it. Refreshments and fellowship in the cafe area. If you would like to contribute to refreshments or welcome team please contact Tim on 07875 848 138



Mothers' Prayers

Mothers' Prayers will meet on **Monday June 10th** at 8pm in room 2. Anyone wishing to pray for children is welcome. Information from: office@mothersprayers.org



Salvation Army - St. Albans City Corps 135th Anniversary Concert

With London Central Fellowship Band (David Rudd) and Hendon Corps Singing Company **Saturday 8th June, 7pm at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St. Albans** £8 per person RSVP: 01727 855 395, 07887 768 522 St.albans@salvationarmy.org.uk



NEWS BULLETIN

Come Away Awhile....

Retreat Day for Parish Lay Ministers of Holy Communion and of the Word with Sister Karen Marguerite OP and Sister Anne Walsh OP.

Saturday, 8th June 2019, Niland Conference Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Rd, Bushey Heath, WD23 4EE.
Saturday 15th June 2019, Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN. 10am – 3pm (refreshments from 9.30am). Suggested donation £15 per person.

Please bring a packed lunch. Coffees/Teas are available. Register with livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk or leave a voicemail 020 7931 6078. Please indicate which venue you are registering.



The Gender Agenda – Conference

Wednesday June 12th 2019, 11am – 4pm

St Mary Moorfields, Eldon St. London EC2M 7LS
Speakers: Kerri Christopher, The Humanum Institute and Louise Kirk, Alive to the World.

For more details, please see poster at the back of the church or visit

www.associationofcatholicwomen.org



St. Columba's College – Open Evening

St. Columba's College, the independent Catholic Boys' Day school in St Albans, will be holding an open evening in the Prep School from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on Wednesday 12th June 2019. There is also an open day in the Senior School on Friday 14th June 2019 and parents are invited to book a tour at either 11.25am or 2.05pm. Parents are very welcome to bring



their sons along with them. For more information, please see St Columba's College website www.stcolumbascollege.org or contact the Admissions Registrar, Mrs Hilary Causer: admissions@stcolumbascollege.org



Life Ascending (Ascent) Retreat

Aylesford Priory, Kent.

Monday 17th June – Thursday 20th June.

Led by Fr. Peter Griffiths SJ.

Full board accommodation £205.

Details: David Edwards, Tel: 01727 765 216



City of London Church Pilgrimage

Thursday June 20th

A walking pilgrimage through the City of London is being organised to celebrate our patrons St Alban (the first martyr of England) and St Stephen (the first Christian martyr). The walk will include visits to churches associated with Saint Alban and Saint Stephen as well as Mass at a City church. If interested in joining in the walk, please contact Richard on 07740 265 947 or (preferably) email rconeill@btinternet.com



CAFOD – Climate Lobby

Wednesday 26th June 2019

The Time is Now. Mass lobby of Parliament and Climate Pilgrimage. Join thousands of others to demand that politicians take action on climate change and protect our environment. Meet new friends and have fun. For more information, please visit www.cafod.org.uk/climatelobby

Parish Family Party

Loreto College 8th September 2019, 12:30pm-3:30pm

Save the date for another opportunity for all members of our parish to come together socially. Please can you help in any way....with music, serving food / drinks, crafts, face painting, children's entertainment, cake baking, set-up, tidy away etc? Do you have a gazebo or outdoor children's games we could use or crafts to sell? All ideas and suggestions welcome to make a fun day for each one of us. Contact David on 07543 400650 or Melanie on 07900 051956.



Walsingham Weekend

11th – 13th October 2019



Open to anyone, this silent retreat will be led by the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk and will include joining them in their rhythm of prayer. Some walking will be involved and please note that none of the rooms have full disabled access. The cost is £116 per person for a standard room and £145 per person for an en-suite room, whether single or shared. (Currently 5 en-suite rooms remain available).

The booking deadline and final balance is due 12th September 2019. For further information and booking form pick up a leaflet from the back of the church or Mass Centre or contact

Krystyna krystyna@faithknowledge.org Tel. 751094

Walsingham Pilgrimage for the Sanctity of Life

Sunday 6th October. Tickets: Adults £17.50, Children & Students £8.00. www.prolifepilgrimage.org. Geraldine: 07971 028 415 / mgeraldine_ward@hotmail.com

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

Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen

Confessions: Sat 10.30-11.30am & 6.45-7pm

Baptisms: by appointment