

# 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: [stalbands@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbands@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: [stalbands@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbands@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) / 07882 566 020

We are a Fairtrade Parish.

## 11<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Nowadays, many houses have security systems. We can have our homes monitored, 24 hours a day, to make sure they are safe. The really advanced systems even allow us to tap into the cameras from our mobile phones.

We don’t have to stay awake all night in case someone tries to burgle our home – the system takes care of everything. There are so many technologies available whose focus is to help us be prepared for all eventualities.

There are no such luxuries in the parables. The men who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast cannot afford to sleep. They won’t receive an alert to their phone when their master arrives home. They have no option but to wait up.

In the short parable of the householder and the burglar, Jesus again emphasises the importance of ‘standing ready.’



When our hearts are alert and open, we are more likely to see God’s goodness in those we meet, and be ready to welcome his grace into our lives.

The opening verses of the Gospel reading invite us to ask ourselves what we see as our purpose in life. What are our priorities? Is our heart set on material progress and advance, or do we have other priorities? What has helped you to appreciate that there is more to your life than earthly possessions and success?

## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Farewell to our priests and celebrating the service of the MSCs in St Albans

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Fr TJ, Fr Jimmy and Fr Alan will celebrate their last weekend Masses in our parish on **24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> August**. Tea and coffee will be served in the parish coffee bar and at Marshalswick after each Mass that weekend.

A parish farewell to Fr TJ, Fr Jimmy and Fr Alan will be held on **Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019** beginning with Mass at 6pm and followed by refreshments in the parish hall.

The celebration of 120 years of service of the MSCs in St Albans is planned for **Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2020**, beginning with Mass at 4pm and with a party to follow (venue to be confirmed).

Please pray for the repose  
of the souls  
of all those  
who have died recently  
including  
**Richard Field**,  
and for those  
whose anniversaries  
occur at this time.



#### Rest in Peace

The Sisters of Mercy  
ask your prayers for the repose of the souls  
of **Sr. M Assumpta Cavanagh**,  
Maryland Care Home  
& **Sr. Elizabeth Mary O’Brien**, known as  
**Sr. M Cyprian** when she was  
Head of St Alban & St Stephen's School.  
May they rest in peace

## Mass Intentions for the Week

11.8.2019

|            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| 6pm        | Eileen Brennan RIP    |
| 8am        | Elisabeth Page RIP    |
| 9am M'wick | People of the Parish  |
| 9.30am     | Eileen Brennan RIP    |
| 11.30am    | Leonardo Venetico RIP |
| 7pm        | Mary Watkins Ints.    |

### Monday – St. Jane Frances de Chantal

|      |                     |
|------|---------------------|
| 10am | Priests' Intentions |
| 7pm  | Betty O'Meara RIP   |

### Tuesday – Ss Pontian and Hippolytus

|      |                      |
|------|----------------------|
| 10am | Mr. & Mrs Joseph RIP |
|------|----------------------|

**NO EVENING MASS**

### Wednesday – St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe

|      |                     |
|------|---------------------|
| 10am | David Edwards Ints. |
| 7pm  | MSC Benefactors     |

### Thursday – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

|      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 10am | Bridie and Eric Orchard RIP |
| 7pm  | Marie-Renee Noel RIP        |

### Friday – St. Stephen of Hungary

|      |                     |
|------|---------------------|
| 10am | Steve Pickard Ints. |
| 7pm  | Joseph Deacy Anniv. |

### Saturday – Feria

|      |                              |
|------|------------------------------|
| 10am | David Edwards Ints.          |
| 6pm  | Margaret and Peter Brian RIP |

### Next Sunday

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 8am        | Jean Bergin Anniv.   |
| 9am M'wick | The deceased members of McCarthy and Phillips Family                 |
| 9.30am     | Fr. TJ, Fr. Jimmy and Fr. Alan Ints.                                 |
| 11.30am    | Barbara Lynch RIP and deceased members of Coyne and Mullane families |
| 7pm        | People of the Parish   |

### Polish Mass

Please note that there will be no Polish Mass in August.

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

## Maximilian Kolbe Feast day 14 August

St Maximilian Kolbe was born as Raymund Kolbe on 8 January 1894, in Poland. He was very active in promoting the Immaculate Virgin Mary being strongly influenced by a vision he had of the Virgin Mary when he was 12. Kolbe joined the Conventual Franciscans and was later ordained a priest. He founded a monthly periodical and operated a religious publishing press. He founded monasteries in both Japan and India; the monastery in Japan remains prominent in the Roman Catholic Church in Japan.

In 1936, Kolbe returned home to Poland, and after the WWII invasion by



Germany began, he was one of the few brothers to remain in the monastery and opened up a temporary hospital to aid those in need. On 17 February 1941, the monastery was shut down; Kolbe was arrested by the German Gestapo and taken to the Pawiak prison.

Three months later, he was transferred to Auschwitz. Never abandoning his priesthood, Kolbe was subjected to severe violence and harassment.

When the Nazi guards selected 10 people to be starved to death in punishment, Kolbe volunteered to die in place of a stranger, a man with a family. It is said during the last days of his life Kolbe led prayers to Our Lady with the prisoners and remained calm. After two weeks, he was the last of the group to remain alive. After a lethal injection of carbolic acid he calmly awaited death.

Recognised as the Servant of God, in 1982 Kolbe was canonised by Pope John Paul II who declared Kolbe a martyr. He is often depicted in a prison uniform.

He is the patron saint of drug addicts, prisoners, families, and the pro-life movement; his feast day is celebrated on 14 August, the day he died.

### First Reading: Wis 18:6-9

The writer of Wisdom reminds us of faithful people who found courage and freedom in the commitments they had taken.

### Second Reading: Heb 11:1-2.8-19

A key to faith is found in the example of Abraham: it was in faith that he found the courage to set out without a detailed route plan!

### Gospel: Lk 12:32-48

Readiness, alertness, wakefulness – these are crucial to authentic discipleship.

### Reading for the Week:

Mon: Deut 10:12-22; Ps 14:12-15.19-20; Mt 17:22-27

Tue: Deut 31:1-8; Ps Deut 32:3-4.7-9; Mt 18:1-5.10.12-14

Wed: Deut 34:1-12; Ps 65:11-3.5.16-17; Mt 18:15-20

Thu: Rev 11:19; 12:1-6.10; Ps 44:10-12.16; 1 Cor 15:20-26; Lk 1:39-56

Fri: Jos 24:1-13; Ps 135:1-3.16-18.21-22.24; Mt 19:3-12

Sat: Jos 24:14-29; Ps 15:1-2.5.7-8.11; Mt 19:13-15

# Dates for August and September

## Traidcraft

Traidcraft this **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August** after 9am mass at John Fisher School



## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August. Mass at 10am and 7pm

## David Edwards - 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

All are welcome on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August** in the parish centre 12noon to 3pm. No presents but donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Society appreciated RSVP: Tel: 01727 765 216 e-mail: [deabbots743@virginmedia.com](mailto:deabbots743@virginmedia.com)



## First Holy Communions 2020



Enrolment forms are now available at the back of the Church. If you have a child who will be in Year 3 or above in September and they would like to join the Parish Programme for First Holy Communion, please fill in the enrolment and consent forms and return them to the Parish office for the attention of St. Anita **on or before Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2019**. Please note: If your child was baptised outside our Parish you need to send in a copy of his / her baptismal certificate with the forms. If your child was baptised here there is no need to send in a copy of the certificate.

## Catholic Worker Farm Music Festival

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August. Great music and loads of children's activities all in aid of refugees. Camp all weekend for just £35 or £10 / day. Children half price. Under 6 free. [www.farmfest.info](http://www.farmfest.info)

## Fr Philip Miller's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination

Fr Philip will be celebrating his Anniversary Mass at 12 noon on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August** (Bank Holiday Monday) There will be no 10am Mass that day



## Baptism Course

The pre-baptism session will be held on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September**, 10.30am, in Room 1 of the Parish Centre. Parents who wish to baptise their FIRST child need to attend. To book a place on this course, please call the presbytery on 01727 853 585. (Mon - Fri, 9am - 1pm). If you would like to baptise your FIRST child you will be unable to secure a baptism date before attending this session. Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1pm. If you live outside our Parish it is necessary to have a letter from your Parish Priest giving permission to baptise here.

## Parish Youth Club

Invitation to all year seven's (from September) to join us for a pizza and games **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September**, 8pm - 9pm, in the Parish Hall. Looking forward to seeing you all.



## Parish Friends - Film

Parish Friends will be showing the 2017 Feel Good Film of the Year "Finding your Feet" on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 2.45pm**. We highly recommend you do not miss this heart-warming, funny and very touching film. It is so good! Transport can be arranged and light refreshments will be served from 2.15pm. Everyone welcome.

For more details contact Helen 07860 830340

## CTSA Autumn Prayer Walk 2019

The annual CTSA Prayer Walk will take place on **Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> September**, starting at 2pm from our church and finishing at St Albans Cathedral. Please come and join in this gentle stroll around our city, pausing at some of the churches to pray for the people of St Albans. The afternoon includes a short break for tea and cake at St Michael's parish hall. Join us for all or any part of the walk. Detailed timings on the posters and flyers at the back of church.



## Mercy Associates

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September** in Room 1 of the Parish Centre from 5pm until 7pm. All are welcome.

## North Wales Retreat

20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Leader: Sister Seraphim. Weekend includes Padre Pio Day at the national shrine of St. Pio at Pantasaph and visit to the centuries-old shrine and well of Winefride. Full board accommodation at St. Winefride's Guest House, Holywell, run by the Bridgetine sisters. Cost: £190. Details: David Edwards: 01727 765 216

## Walsingham Weekend

11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Single standard rooms at a cost of £116 per person remain available on this silent retreat to be led by the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk Some walking will be involved and please note that none of the rooms have full disabled access yet. Rooms are available from 3pm on Friday and the retreat will end with lunch on Sunday.

The booking deadline and final balance is due by **12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:krystyna@faithknowledge.org) Tel. 01727 751 094

# NEWS BULLETIN

## SUMMER BREAK

### English Conversation Classes for Ladies

The next session will be on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September**, 1pm until 2.30pm, in the Parish Hall.



### Children's Liturgy

The next session will take place on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September** at 9.30am, in the Parish Hall. More volunteers are needed to join the rota. The commitment is to be running approximately 3 sessions a year. If you are able to help, please contact Catherine: 07887 427 393 / [cat\\_tarelli@hotmail.com](mailto:cat_tarelli@hotmail.com)



### Parents and Toddlers

Please note that there will be no more sessions until **9<sup>th</sup> September**, 10.30am in the Parish Hall.



### Knit and Natter



We will meet again on **September 10<sup>th</sup> from 2.30-4pm**. Contact Helen 07860 830 340 for any queries

## NILAND CONFERENCE CENTRE

**Venue:** Niland Conference Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, Herts. WD23 4EE Contact [events@nilandconferencecentre.co.uk](mailto:events@nilandconferencecentre.co.uk) or 07746 707 247.

### Conflict and Peace

morning reflection with Sister Regina McGarry OP & Monika Cleaver. How Jesus teaches us to engage healthily with conflict. **Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> September** 10-12.30 (suggested donation £6)

### Arts Exhibition

Dominican Sisters invite you to join them in celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Niland Centre, a place of tranquility in a busy world, with an Arts Exhibition featuring local artists and a variety of media - paintings, photography, pottery, marquetry and more. **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>** (10am-5pm) & **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** (11am-4pm). Homebaking and refreshments available in the Lima Cafe. Admission is free and donations are welcomed.

### Scripture from Scratch

with Sister Anne Walsh OP - *Living as if we believed in God*, looking at God's plan for Creation and Begins **Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> September** (fortnightly until 21<sup>st</sup> November) 7.30-9pm (suggested donation £5)

## Items for the Parish Website

Items for the parish website should be sent to the parish office at [stalbans@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbans@rcdow.org.uk) Posters advertising upcoming events should if possible be provided in A4 portrait format as either a pdf or Word (.doc) document

## Celebrate Conference

Due to the kindness and support of the college leadership, the Celebrate Conference is once more being held at Loreto College, 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> October and the prices are held at the same rate as last year, details at [www.celebrateconference.org/st-albans](http://www.celebrateconference.org/st-albans) Additionally a 10% saving can be made when using the PARISH10 booking code, although this is only valid for the next few weeks.

We are delighted to announce that Michelle Moran and David Wells have agreed to speak this year; both are incredibly rich in their teaching, very accessible and good humoured. It's not easy bringing up children to be strong in their faith in this secular world, the practical workshops can give good advice, the children will learn about God's love for them in their age streams, and lunch is included.

There will also be opportunities for quiet reflection, adoration before the blessed sacrament, reconciliation and mass; what's not to like :-)

If you need any further information please contact Brendan Day at [brendanvaunday@gmail.com](mailto:brendanvaunday@gmail.com) or call on 07774 411400.

## Drivers Required Please

Are you able to offer transport for senior parishioners to attend Parish Friends Tea Parties and Films? These take place in the Parish Hall on approximately 6 Sundays a year from 2.30 - 5pm. Some guests cannot attend these functions without a lift to and from the event. Please can you help? Just a couple of times a year would be appreciated.

Please contact Helen Bassill 07860 830 340 / [helen.bassill@ntlworld.com](mailto:helen.bassill@ntlworld.com) if you can support us.

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

Mass will be offered in the hospital once a month and everyone is welcome to attend for more details about dates and times please contact the head of chaplaincy.

There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Litany of Lourdes in the hospital oratory on level 4 at Watford Hospital every Monday at 2pm all are welcome to join us.

If you have a relative in hospital who has requested to see a Catholic chaplain please do let us know. Would you consider giving an hour a week to join our chaplaincy support team - please contact us for details?

For more information about any of the above please email the head of chaplaincy: [anthony.curran@nhs.net](mailto:anthony.curran@nhs.net)

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)

## Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen

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

**Baptisms: by appointment**