

# 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). We are a Fairtrade Parish.

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



## 14th July 2019

Parables have a clever way of enticing us to figure out what is really going on beneath the surface. Jesus spoke about a God who was not concerned with the constraints of the Temple, but who was on the streets.

Look at what the Samaritan did for the man on the road: he bound his wounds, he poured oil onto them, he took him to an inn. These are all action words. The emphasis in this parable is on action and compassion.



The Samaritan is considered to be an outcast, yet Jesus makes him the hero of this story, no doubt causing outrage to those who were listening to Him. The priest and Levite were most likely carrying oil and wine; in the case of the priest, these items were needed for making sacrifices in the Temple. Coincidentally these items were also a vital part of a first century first aid kit, needed for cleaning the wounds of the injured man.

The lawyer is concerned with the limits to ‘love of neighbour’. But there are no limits, no boundaries, no outsiders in God’s Kingdom. Holiness is not separation from the marginalised, but proximity to them.

*Since once again Lord, I have neither bread, nor wine, nor altar, I will raise myself beyond these symbols, up to the pure majesty of the real itself; I will make the whole Earth my altar and on it will offer you all the labours and sufferings of the world.*

*Teilhard de Chardin*

## Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 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 18th 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.**

*“Let us not forget that gentleness wins hearts and that according to the Holy Spirit the world belongs to the Gentle.”*

*Jules Chevalier*

Please pray

for the repose

of the souls

of all those

who have died recently

including

**Patricia Dorman,**

**Sheila Pilling,**

**Martin Myland**

and for those whose anniversaries

occur at this time.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

14.7.2019

6pm Michael Feeney Anniv.  
8am People of the Parish  
9am M'wick Michael Aylward Anniv.  
9.30am Maureen Lerwill Anniv.  
11.30am Marie Yvette Theanne Anniv.  
4pm Polish Mass  
7pm Thanksgiving Mass – baby Jan Krokosz

### Monday – St. Bonaventure

10am Stuart MacDonald RIP  
7pm Marie Renee Noel Anniv.

### Tuesday – Our Lady of Mount Carmel

10am Patrick Daly RIP and  
deceased members of Daly family

**NO EVENING MASS**

### Wednesday – Feria

10am Miriam Walsh Ints.  
7pm MSC Benefactors

### Thursday – Feria

10am Anne Byrne Ints. (104<sup>th</sup> Birthday)  
and Bernard Gannon RIP

**NO EVENING MASS**

### Friday – Feria

10am Priests' Intentions  
7pm George and Regina Carvalho RIP

### Saturday – St. Apollinaris

10am Jimmy Flavin Anniv.  
6pm deceased relatives and friends  
of Marion Miller

### Next Sunday

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Bernadette Witchard Ints.  
9am M'wick People of the Parish  
9.30am Patrick Keegan Anniv.  
11.30am Mary Curran RIP  
7pm James Ladley Anniv.

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

## ADULTS JOURNEYING IN FAITH (R.C.I.A.) NEWS

Our adult journeying in faith programme  
will commence in **September 19<sup>th</sup>**  
in the Parish Centre (Room 1).

If you, a friend or relative: -

- Want to complete your Catholic initiation e.g. to be Confirmed in your faith
- Are the spouse / partner of a Catholic and would like to know more about joining our Catholic community
- Want to become a Christian e.g. Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation
- Just curious about the Catholic Christian way of life
- Want to share and know more about your faith as a Catholic

Please contact Deacon Steve Pickard  
on 01727 863 925 or e-mail  
stephenpickard@gmail.com  
or any of our priests on 01727 853 585  
or e-mail stalbans@rcdow.org.uk

Sponsored link [www.life4seekers.co.uk](http://www.life4seekers.co.uk)  
(seeking, exploring, finding)

### Memorial Bench for Fr Tom Hewitt

Parishioners are hoping to install a



memorial bench for Fr Tom in

Clarence Park overlooking the cricket pitch where  
he liked to sit in the summer. If you would like to

contribute, please put your donation in an

envelope marked "Fr Tom's Bench" and post it

through the presbytery door until the end of July.

Envelopes for donations are available in the porch

### First Reading:

*'Obey the voice of the Lord.'* This is not the  
command of a despot, but the urging of a loving  
God who knows where our true good lies.

### Second Reading:

Every single created thing, every power that  
exists, owes its existence to Christ. Nothing in the  
universe is beyond his power and his providence.

### Gospel:

Jesus teaches us that the true neighbour is the one  
who shows compassion – not a generic 'niceness,'  
but a determination to come to the aid of those  
who are in darkness or distress.

## Dates for July

### Traidcraft

Traidcraft this **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July**  
after 9am mass at John Fisher school



### Parish Friends Summer Party with Prosecco

Parish Friends are holding a party for  
all parishioners  
this **Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> from 3- 5pm,**  
in the Parish Hall.



We will be entertained by the Jolly Jazzers so  
come along and join in the fun - be prepared to  
tap your toes and shake a leg!

We will be serving prosecco to guests as well as  
other food and drinks. In order to facilitate  
catering please put your name down on the Guest  
List if you wish to attend, stating any specific  
dietary needs and if you require transport.

Help with catering and lifts will be appreciated-  
please add your name to the Helpers List. Guest  
and Helpers Lists will be found in the church  
porch and Marshalswick Mass Centre. For further  
details please contact Helen 07860 830340.



### Life Ascending (Ascent)

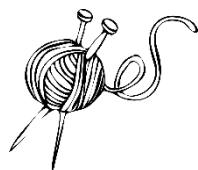
Meeting on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July**  
at **10.45am** in Room 1

Talk: "Rules and Regs." All are welcome.



### Knit and Natter

The knit and natter group will be meeting  
on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July** 2.30-4pm in the Sacred  
Heart Parish Centre.



The following meeting will be  
on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July.**  
There will be no meeting  
in August.

Everyone is very welcome to  
join us in knitting, croqueting and chatting.  
We are a happy group and always ready to  
welcome new members.

Wool and needles are supplied.

For further details contact Helen 07860 830 340

## Dates for August

### Holiday at Home 2019

The Methodist Churches of St. Albans are hosting  
Holiday at Home 2019. Something for everyone  
from crafts, board games, puzzles, gentle exercise  
and stimulating talks, to simply a chance  
to chat and relax.



**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> & Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August**  
at Hatfield Road Methodist Church,

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August** at  
Marlborough Road Methodist Church  
10am to 3.30pm each day.

On **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August** an outing to Ely.

Please see booking forms / a poster at the back of  
the church. anyone interested in attending either  
sessions or outing can contact Helen Bassill  
on 07860 830 340

. **Booking forms must be given in**  
**by Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.**  
**Contact Helen for further details,**  
**or to arrange or offer a lift."**



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

Please come along on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**August** to the St. Alban and St.  
Stephen Catholic Church Hall, 14  
Beaconsfield Road, St. Albans AL1  
3RB between 12 noon and 3pm and  
join a celebration for my four score



years and ten. I do hope you can make it.  
No presents but a donation to the St. Vincent de  
Paul Society would be welcome.  
RSVP: 74 Abbots Park, St. Albans, AL1 1TN  
Tel: 01727 765 216  
e-mail: [deaboos743@virginmedia.com](mailto:deaboos743@virginmedia.com)

### Thank You Message from Bernadette Witchard:

Many thanks to the clergy & parishioners  
who are praying for me.

A very special THANK YOU  
to Fr. Alan & Bernadette Keegan  
for their support

& many visits with the Blessed Sacrament.

# NEWS BULLETIN

## Celebrate Conference

Over Pentecost weekend, there were flyers handed out at the masses advertising this years Celebrate Conference, with a promotional discount for parishioners. Unfortunately at the time the booking page wasn't functioning but this has now been remedied and booking is now possible. If you still have a flyer and want to book, please follow the instructions; if you didn't pick one up or have mislaid it, the booking page can be found at [www.celebrateconference.org/st-albans](http://www.celebrateconference.org/st-albans) A 10% saving can be made when using the PARISH10 booking code, although this is only valid for the next few weeks, so please visit the site and book on now. If you need any further information please contact Brendan Day at [brendanvaunday@gmail.com](mailto:brendanvaunday@gmail.com) or call on 07774 411400. We look forward to seeing you at the conference.

## Communication from Diocese of Westminster

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart have made known their regrettable need to withdraw from the parish of Ss Alban and Stephen, St. Albans after their presence and ministry there since 1899. The Diocese, and generations of parishioners of St. Albans, are very grateful to the Priests who have served the parish for 120 years. Those currently serving the parish, Fr. Tom Plower MSC, Fr. Jimmy Stubbs MSC and Fr. Alan Neville MSC are thanked for their dedicated and faithful service and they are assured of our gratitude and good wishes in their new assignments and circumstances.

### Appointment of Parish Priest

Fr. Michael O'Boy, Vice Rector and Dean of Studies at Allen Hall Seminary is appointed to Ss Alban and Stephen, St. Albans as Parish Priest.

### Appointment of Assistant Priest

Fr. Julian Davies, newly Ordained, appointed to Ss Alban and Stephen, St. Albans.

## Contacting the PPC



In order to comply with GDPR regulations, if you wish to contact the PPC or any member of the PPC, please email the parish office [stalbands@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbands@rcdow.org.uk)

## European Laity of the Chevalier Family Meeting, Lyon



A representative from the MSC Lay Associates of this parish recently participated in a meeting of the European Laity of the Chevalier family held in Lyon. Members from seven European countries reflected over two days on their experiences of living out the vision of the MSCs and their founder, Fr Chevalier, and of being witnesses and instruments of God's love, healing and mercy in their countries. It was encouraging to find that many of the groups, despite no longer belonging to a parish served by the MSCs, maintain close connections with MSC priests and Sisters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

The Associates described how they meet regularly for prayer, spiritual sharing, working with the bible or discussions about texts, reflection and for liturgical celebrations and voluntary work. Their experience resonates with our own here in St Albans where the MSCs have created a legacy that can be seen in all parish activities.

Your English delegate came away from the meeting convinced that for the future, like our European friends, the laity needs to be continually aware of the Spirituality of the Heart and how it should guide us through prayer, and participating in voluntary and caring activities that witness to making God's love known wherever and whenever it is needed most.

## Items for the Bulletin

We are blessed in having so many and varied prayerful events and activities in our parish, and sometimes we struggle to accommodate all the announcements in our weekly bulletin! We ask that all announcements for the bulletin keep to brief facts only please!

## Items for the Parish Website

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

## Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen

Confessions: Sat 10.30-11.30am & 6.45-7pm  
Baptisms: by appointment