

# 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.com](http://www.albanstephen.com)

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)

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



**2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018**

**Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Pharisees were caught up in events outside their control. St. Mark’s Gospel presents two different approaches to make sense of life after the destruction of the Temple by the Romans.

On the one hand, the Pharisees attempted to establish order in the disorder by transferring the rituals of the Temple-priest into daily life.

It might be perceived, in effect as a snub to the occupying power: you may destroy what is sacred to us, but you cannot stop us from making sacred our daily actions!

Jesus’ response, on the other hand, isn’t to dismiss the Pharisees’ practice outright, but to ask how our daily work, our routines, our relationships do justice to God’s commandments to love and care for the most vulnerable.

When it comes to the inner intentions and motivations deep within our hearts, each one of us is a mixed bag.

All of us struggle with conflicting motives that are rarely completely pure. Often the most admirable things we do are done partly for show and to receive accolades from others.

And therein lies our need to remember we are in a process of conversion, on a journey of the heart.

Whether we be in the dawn or dusk of life, we pray for the grace of Christ to transform hearts of stone into hearts of truly loving people.



## **Parish Friends – Whitstable trip on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September.**

Please could all our day trippers be outside the church at **8.45am** as the coach will be leaving at **9am prompt**.



We hope to be back in St. Albans around 6 to 6.30 pm. Please remember to bring an emergency contact number and details of any relevant medical condition/ medication it would be helpful for us to have. If you are planning to leave your car parked at the church all day please check with the parish office first. You can contact the office between 9am and 1pm Monday to Friday. Any queries beforehand please contact

Cath White on 07961 364 922.

## **CWL - Catholic Women’s League**

**CWL Meeting Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September  
in the Parish Centre (Room 1),**

**after 10am Mass** (our Mass for Frs. Sandy and Tom)

Fr. Philip Miller will talk to us about his time at the English Venerable College in Rome.

All welcome to join (including men!)

£2 including coffee /tea and raffle.

## **First Friday**

**24 Hour Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament from 11am on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September to 11am on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> in the Prayer Room.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently including **Elisabeth Page and Wolrad Kleinau** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please pray for all those who are ill at this time including  
Adrian Stack, Patricia McCarthy, Philomena Lines,  
Francisco Diaz, Catherine Elkin, Avenal Jenkins,  
John Moloney, Rita Carter, Liz Smith, Bernadette Marron,  
Mark Norris, Patrick Foley, Jim O’Neill, Mike Smith,  
Jack O’Mahoney, Carmaline Xavier, Jim O’Connor,  
Kathleen Murphy, Sr. Annie Bromham IBVM, Jim Moss,  
Geraldine McBride, Becki Vousden, Vertina Fernandes,  
Veronica Hamilton, Claire Whitehead, Alice Daly, Edie Hale  
Sheila Doohan, Janet Szymczak, Noah Gregorio, Gerry Smith,  
Edmond Mansfield, Teresa Hill, Ida Daswa, John Rowland,  
Catrin Rees-Doherty, Margaret Moloney, Derita Whyte,  
Margaret Malloney, Ruth O’Gorman, John Baxter,  
Carmen Mincu & Teresa Virrueta;  
may the Lord comfort them.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

2.9.2018

6pm	Alice Gallagher RIP
8am	People of the Parish
9am M'wick	Sarah Pendlebury RIP
9.30am	Priests' Intentions
11.30am	Deceased Members of the Coyne and Mullane Family
7pm	Jose and Piedade Fernandes RIP

### Monday – St. Gregory the Great

10am	Priests' Intentions
7pm	Mary Horan RIP

### Tuesday – St. Cuthbert

10am	Frs. Sandy Murray and Tom Hewitt RIP
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**NO EVENING MASS**

### Wednesday - Feria

10am	Fr. Tom Hewitt MSC – RIP
7pm	MSC Benefactors

### Thursday - Feria

10am	Mary Hession RIP
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**NO EVENING MASS**

### Friday - Feria

10am	Paolo Grilli RIP
7pm	Caroline Taylor & Daniel Bellamy Ints.

### Saturday - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10am	Norah Mengis Ints.
6pm	Algerina da Silva Anniv.

### Next Sunday

### Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am	People of the Parish
9am M'wick	TBA
9.30am	James and John O'Brien Anniv.
11.30am	Brendan Hung RIP
4pm	Polish Mass
7pm	TBA

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

Last week's offertory amounted to £1,863.75  
Thank you for your generosity.

## St Teresa of Calcutta

Feast day 5 September



Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, the future Mother Teresa, was born on 26 August 1910, in Skopje, Macedonia, to Albanian heritage. She left home in September 1928, for the Loreto Convent in Dublin, where she received the name of Teresa, after her patroness, St Therese of Lisieux.

Agnes was sent to Calcutta in January 1929 and made her final profession as a Loreto nun in May 1937, and thereafter was called Mother Teresa. Having taught for 17 years in India, in 1946, Mother Teresa received what she termed the "call within a call," which was to give rise to the Missionaries of Charity family. The mission of her new institute was "to quench the infinite thirst of Jesus on the cross for love and souls" by "labouring at the salvation and sanctification of the poorest of the poor". Throughout the 1950s and early 1960s, her order established in India a hospice; centres for the blind, aged and disabled; and a leper colony. From the late 1960s until 1980, the Missionaries of Charity expanded their reach across the globe. In 1979, Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her humanitarian work.

Revealed only after her death, and hidden from all eyes, was her interior life marked by an experience of a deep, painful and abiding feeling of being separated from God, even rejected by Him, along with an ever increasing longing for His love. She called this her "painful night" of her soul, which began around the time she started her work for the poor and continued to the end of her life, but it led her to an ever more profound union with God.

Despite increasing health problems, she continued to travel across the world for the profession of novices, opening of new houses, and service to the poor and disaster-stricken. By 1997, the Sisters numbered nearly 4,000 members, and were established in almost 600 foundations in 123 countries. After a summer of travelling, Mother Teresa returned to Calcutta in July 1997. On 5 September, she died at the Motherhouse and received a state funeral on 13 September 1997. She was canonised on 4 September 2016. She is the Patron of World Youth Day.

### **First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8**

The Lord is near; his wisdom is accessible. To live by his wisdom leads to peace and life; to ignore his wisdom leads to unhappiness.

### **Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27**

God's wisdom is not an artefact or an ornament: we must live by it, put it into practice.

### **Gospel Reading: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

Jesus tackles the nit-picking righteousness of those who see only the externals without going to the roots of human conduct. Externals are necessary, but they are to be a reflection of our inner conviction.

### **Reading for the Week:**

Mon: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 118:97-102; Lk 4:16-30  
Tue: 1 Cor 2 :10-16 ; Ps 144 :8-14 ; Lk 4:31-37  
Wed: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 32:12-15.20-21; Lk 4:38-44  
Thu: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 23:1-6; Lk 5:1-11  
Fri: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 36:3-6.27-28.39-40; Lk 5:33-39  
Sat: Mic 5:1-4; Ps 8:28-30; Ps 12:6-7; Mt 1:1-16.18-23

# Dates for September

## Traidcraft

Traidcraft after all Masses this weekend, 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> September and after 9am Mass at St. John Fisher School next weekend.

**Traidcraft Coffee Morning: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September** 9.30 until 12 noon 43 Avenue Road AL1 3PY everyone is welcome. any enquiries or orders, please phone us on 01727 765 549

## Coffee Morning for New Parishioners

This Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018, 10.30am in the Parish Hall. Whether you've been a part of this parish for a while or are a new member of our community, do join us for light refreshments as we welcome our new parishioners.

## Recognising Modern Slavery

How can we spot slavery? What can we do? What support is available? **A talk by Duncan Montague, Detective Sergeant Operation Tropic, Anti-Trafficking & Modern Slavery Team** 7.30pm, Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, Parish Hall  
Tea and coffee available from 7.00pm

## Holy Hour for Men

6<sup>th</sup> September 2018, in the Prayer Room at 8pm  
Come join us for this Holy Hour. The Holy Hour includes Rosary, a Gospel reading, meditation and silent prayer, and is followed by refreshments. For more information please contact Michael Crabtree on 07510 140 759 or via email michael.crabtree@hotmail.co.uk

## Thinking Lunch

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 12.30 to 1.30pm at Marlborough Rd Methodist Church, St Albans AL1 3XG  
Matthew Forsyth, Churches and Volunteers Officer (London and the South East), **All We Can:** What needs to go: the 0.7% to overseas or the overseas development charities? Tea / Coffee / Squash provided, but bring your own sandwiches. Half an hour talk and then discussion. Donations to cover expenses and any profits will be given to All We Can (formerly Methodist Relief & Development)

## Children's Liturgy:

Next session: **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September**, 9.30am in the Parish Hall

## Marshalswick Mass Centre Children's Liturgy

The Children's Liturgy will return to the Mass Centre on **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018** and then run on the first Sunday of the month thereafter. We would love to have lots of children there and are also on the lookout for more volunteers so we can run more sessions each month. Please contact Anne-Marie Bullivant on 07876 493 623 if you are interested in helping.

## Mothers' Prayers

Mothers' Prayers will meet on Monday **September 10<sup>th</sup> at 8pm** in room 2. Anyone wishing to pray for children is welcome. office@mothersprayers.org

## English Conversation Classes for Ladies

English conversation classes for ladies whose first language is not English will start again on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September**, 1pm until 2.30pm in the Parish Hall.

## Toddlers Group

Back after the summer break on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September** at 10.30am, in the Parish Hall.

## BINGO, is back.

On **Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> September** in the Parish Hall at 8 O'Clock, to raise funds for the Knights of St. Columba. Admission is 50p towards refreshments and everyone is most welcome.

## CTSA Autumn Prayer Walk 2018

The annual CTSA Prayer Walk will take place on **Sunday, 16<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.

## Knit and Natter

Parish Friends are setting up a Knit and Natter group on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month starting Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2.30-4pm in the Parish Centre**. Everyone is welcome including non-knitters! We will start by making Twiddle Muffs for people with dementia and progress to other items during the year. Wool will be provided. Whether you want to knit, natter or both you will be very welcome. Light refreshments will be available.

## North Wales Retreat

**21<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> September**

Leader: Sister Seraphim. Includes Padre Pio day at the national shrine of St. Pio at Pantasaph. Full board accommodation at St. Winefride's Guest House, Holywell, run by the Bridgettine sisters. Opportunity to visit the centuries old shrine and well of St. Winefride. Cost £175 per person - £152 shared room. Details: David Edwards 01727 765 216

## Liturgy Meeting

There will be a meeting on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September** in Meeting Room 1 starting at 7.45 pm, primarily to discuss the liturgies for Advent and Christmas. Everyone is welcome to attend; if you cannot be there but have some ideas on upcoming services, please contact Sara on sara.nash1@ntlworld.com or 01727 764 601.



# NEWS BULLETIN

## Baptism Course

The pre-baptism session will be held on **Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 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

(Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 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 you will need a letter from your Parish Priest giving permission to baptise here



## CAFOD – Film

**Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> October after 6pm Mass**

Save the date for the next soup and film evening. For this CAFOD family fast day's event we will be showing "Summer in the forest" [PG], a film about the people who live in the L'Arche community and about what it means to be truly human. Tickets available nearer the time. All proceeds to CAFOD.

Placed by the parish JPIC group.

## Earth

*'The entire material universe speaks of God's love, God's boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God. The history of our friendship with God is always linked to particular places which take on an intensely personal meaning; we all remember places, and revisiting those memories does us much good. For anyone who has grown up in the hills, or used to sit by the spring to drink, or played outdoors in the neighbourhood square; going back to these places is a chance to recover something of their true selves.'*

Laudato Si (84)

**Season on Creation:** From 1<sup>st</sup> September until the Feast of St. Francis on 4<sup>th</sup> October, we are invited to celebrate the Season of Creation.

## Finding Silence Weekend

**19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

**Walsingham, Norfolk**

In 1061 Our Lady promised that "all who come here will find help in their need". Single standard rooms remain available. There are no en-suite rooms left. If interested or already booked please come to a meeting on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September, 8pm** in the parish hall. **Please note the booking deadline and final payment is 14<sup>th</sup> September 2018.**

We will be led by the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham. Some walking is involved and please note that none of the rooms have full disabled access. The cost of a standard room is £110 and the community ask for a separate minimum donation of £10 at the weekend. For further information and booking form pick up a leaflet from the back of the church or contact Krystyna at [krystyna@faithknowledge.org](mailto:krystyna@faithknowledge.org) Tel. 751094

## ALPHA Course

A new **ALPHA Course** will be starting in the Parish on Thursday, **11<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm**. Please join us if you would like to explore the basics of our Christian Faith, ask questions and share your point of view. Over 11 weeks, we will be looking at a different question around faith. Each session will start with a light meal. This will be followed by a video talk of around 30 minutes. The talks explore the big issues around faith and unpack the basics of Christianity. The first talk is entitled *Who is Jesus?* Other topics include: *How can we have faith? Why and how do I pray? How does God guide us?* We then share thoughts and ideas on the topic and discuss together in a small group.

You can hear from others and contribute your thoughts and ideas (if you wish) in an honest, friendly and open environment. If you are interested in joining us or would like more information, please contact Ann Hill [anncarmelhill@gmail.com](mailto:anncarmelhill@gmail.com)

/ 07977 056 637 or Sylvia White

[sylviacwhite@talktalk.net/01727854596](mailto:sylviacwhite@talktalk.net/01727854596)



## Nicholas Breakspear

### Catholic School Sixth Form

Come and join Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School Sixth Form. There are still courses available for you to join the NBS community which is considered in the top 10% of sixth forms in the country.

The sixth form is welcoming and aspirational and our students benefit from small class sizes, a wide range of academic courses, as well as exceptional guidance and support. Contact Mr Laing (Head of Sixth Form) on [laingc@nbs.herts.sch.uk](mailto:laingc@nbs.herts.sch.uk) or telephone 01727860079 for more information.

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

Our adult journeying in faith programme will commence in September in the Parish Centre (Room 1), date to be agreed.

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](mailto:stephenpickard@gmail.com) or any of our priests on 01727 853 585 or e-mail [stalbins@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbins@rcdow.org.uk)

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

## Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen

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

Baptisms: by appointment



