

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

Items for the bulletin - e-mail: stalbans@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. Parish Secretary: Ivana Mearns

23rd September 2018

Jesus is on his way through Galilee, his home territory; he goes into a particular town, a little place called Capernaum, on the side of the sea of

Galilee surrounded by a particular group of disciples. These details can remind us that the

Lord comes to us, not in some imaginary perfection in some hazy future, but that he wants to bless us now, in our present, in the concrete particulars of our lives.

Jesus is presented as the courageous leader, instructing those who will follow on from him and carry on his work for future generations. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.'

Then he took a little child and said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'



There is something in a small child's smile of trust that implies us to smile back in return. They are so utterly vulnerable and dependent on the adults in their lives for everything: warmth, comfort, security, food - and they reward us with smiles, wonder and a trust that everything we will do will be for their protection and benefit.

May we too have the grace to be in God's presence in the world with that same active faith, hope and trust.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Youth

The next Youth Strategy Team meeting will be held in room 1 of the parish centre on **Tuesday Oct 9th** from 9:15am to 9:55am finished in time for 10am mass should that be on your 'to do list' for the day. If you might be curious as to what we do, or be interested in joining the team, you'll be very welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Services of Light

Services of Light will be celebrated in church at 7pm on **Tuesday 25th September, Wednesday 26th September and Thursday 27th September.**

There will be no evening Masses on these dates.

The Programme for Children

Begins at 4pm on **Saturday 6th October 2018**, in the Parish Hall

Getting Married in the next 12 months?

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.

Annual Diocesan Mass Count

A count will be taken at all Masses in the Church and Marshalswick Mass Centre on the last two weekends in September and first two weekends in October. **The first count will be taken this weekend, 22nd /23rd September.**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently including Fr. Pat O'Sullivan MSC, Billy Goodall, Vincent O'Reilly, Liber Marzo, Bridget Laver and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including Paul Doolan.



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

Mass Intentions for the Week

23.9.2018

6pm	Margaret Sheehan Anniv.
8am	Martin Brosnan Anniv.
9am M'wick	Vincent O'Reilly RIP
9.30am	Lilly Butler Ints.
11.30am	Finian Gavin Anniv.
2.15pm	Padre Pio Mass
4pm	Polish Mass
7pm	People of the Parish

Monday – Our Lady of Walsingham

10am	Patrick Doran Ints.
7pm	Sr. Fabian RIP

Tuesday - Feria

10am	MSC Benefactors
7pm Service of Light (First Holy Communion)	

(NO EVENING MASS)

Wednesday – Ss Cosmas and Damian

10am	Mary Kiely Anniv.
7pm Service of Light (First Holy Communion)	

(NO EVENING MASS)

Thursday – St. Vincent de Paul

10am	Liber Marzo RIP
4.30pm LIE-IN FOR VINCENT O'REILLY	

7pm Service of Light (First Holy Communion)

(NO EVENING MASS)

Friday – St. Wenceslaus

10am	Priests' Intentions
2pm FUNERAL OF VINCENT O'REILLY	
7pm	Keith Gladden RIP

Saturday – Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

10am	Kate Kelly RIP
6pm	Conal Boyle RIP

Next Sunday

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am	People of the Parish
9am M'wick	Vincent O'Reilly RIP
9.30am	Joseph Spudic & Ann McCandless RIP
11.30am	Deceased members of the Coyne and Mullane Family
7pm	Catherine Mayes Ints.

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

Congratulations



Congratulations to
**Dan Bellamy and
Caroline Taylor**
who were married
in our Church recently.

Vincent O'Reilly R.I.P.

For about 50 years, if the Church roof was leaking or the drains were blocked (or anything else in between), the priests would call on Vincent O'Reilly for help and advice and his assistance was always given.

Vincent was a chairman of the Finance Committee for a long time and until recently he and Helen were members of the group who counted and banked the collection money each week.

When the Friends of Maryland was formed in order to support the Convent, Vincent was a very active member and he organised some very enjoyable social events which also raised money for the upkeep of the Convent. The hymns at the Mass at Maryland were accompanied by Vincent on the organ and he also played the organ on many other occasions for the enjoyment of those who wanted to have a sing-a-long.

When we used to have a May procession at Maryland, Vincent made all the necessary arrangements, setting up the microphones etc. Vincent also helped those members of the Parish who were handicapped and gave support to their families.

Thank you, Vincent, for all you have done for this Parish. May you rest in Peace.

The funeral of Vincent O'Reilly will take place at 2pm on Friday 28th September.

Lie-in: Thursday 27th Sept. at 4.30pm

St. Padre Pio Mass

This Sunday, 23rd September, 2.15pm

Followed by light refreshments in the Parish Hall.

First Reading:

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

God hears and sees the plight of those who suffer injustice. Especially those suffering for righteousness' sake.

Second Reading:

James 3:16-4:3

We pray for the grace to discern the promptings of the Holy Spirit in the ordinary, everyday circumstances of life and to grow in those gifts given to us.

Gospel Reading:

Mark 9:30-37

The ambition present among the apostles is not of God. It makes for resentment and division, rather than for peace.

Reading for the Week:

Mon: Prov 3:27-34; Ps 14:2-5; Lk 8:16-18

Tue: Prov 21:1-6.10-13; Ps 118:1.27.30.34-35.44; Lk 8:19-21

Wed: Prov 30:5-9; Ps 118:29.72.89.101.104.163; Lk 9:1-6

Thu: Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 89:3-6.12-14.17; Lk 9:7-9

Fri: Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 143:1-4; Lk 9:18-22

Sat: Dan 7:9-10.13-14; Ps 137:1-5; Jn 1:47-51

Dates for September & October

Liturgy Meeting

There will be a meeting on **Monday 24th 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.

Men's Breakfast

There is a men's breakfast on **Saturday 29th September** from 8.15am in the Parish Centre in Ss Alban & Stephen, followed by a short video and discussion. There will be tea/coffee, fruit, pastries and friendly conversation from 8.15am for 30 minutes or so, followed by a short DVD talk on the theme "God at work", featuring Ken Costa, a former deputy chair of UBS Bank and former chair of Alpha International. Please contact Richard on 07976 252 309 or email "d4dstalbins@gmail.com" for more details.



"West the road half-a-mile singers club" Irish Sing Along Group

After 6 o'clock Mass on **Saturday 29th September** in the Parish Centre. All welcome, song sheets and tea provided! Hosted by the Fahy Brothers and St Albans Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann.



Happy's Circus - The Greatest Showman St. John Fisher School

Friday 28th September 2018 at St. John Fisher School, doors open 4.30 for 6pm start. £10 per ticket.

A fun packed comedy show for all the family supported by amazing International Circus Artists. Tickets will be on sale in the church porch after 9.30am mass and after 9am mass at Marshalswick Mass Centre this weekend. Tickets can also be obtained from Vicky 07415 174466 or the school office 01727 861077.

Catholic Women's League

Tuesday 2nd October

Meet after 10am Mass for coffee and a look around our new St. Albans Museum and Art Gallery. Everyone is welcome.

Holy Hour for Men

4th October 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 140759 or via email michael.crabtree@hotmail.co.uk



CAFOD - Film

Saturday, 6th October after 6pm Mass

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 after Masses. All proceeds to CAFOD. Placed by the parish JPIC group.



Autumn Tea Party - Parish Friends

Parish Friends will be hosting an Autumn Tea Party in the Church Hall on **Sunday 7th October 3-5pm**. We are delighted



that our very own Vince Cintrano (Elvince) has offered to entertain us so we look forward to a wonderful afternoon. All parishioners are invited but please, for catering purposes, do put your name on the guest list which can be found in the church porch and Marshalswick Mass Centre. Lifts can be arranged if required. Offers of food, drivers and help on the day will greatly be appreciated. Please enter your name and contact details on the Helpers List. Entrance is free but there will be a raffle to defray expenses.

Any queries contact Helen 07860 830340

Walsingham Pilgrimage for the Sanctity of Life

Sunday 7th October. Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Adults £17.50 Children & Students £8.00. More info: www.prolifepilgrimage.org. To book contact Maria 01582 624024/ 07969 171422 maria@oloughlin.co.uk

Muslim / Jewish / Christian Dialogue Meal

Monday October 8th at 7.30pm at Saute Grill Meze restaurant in Adelaide Street at the centre of town.

Cost £15. To book, please contact: tony@stpauls-stalbans.org or 07983 996 349. Please see more details at the noticeboard at the back of the Church.

ALPHA Course

A new ALPHA Course will be starting in the Parish on **Thursday, 11th 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 *Is there more to life than this?* 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/07977 056637) or Sylvia White (sylviacwhite@talktalk.net/01727 854596)



"We should regard Our Lady of the Sacred Heart as Mother Disciple"

As the first disciple, the Blessed Virgin Mary is a role model for each of us in our relationship with God. In gratitude for all the great things the Lord had done through her intercession, Fr Jules Chevalier gave Mary the title Our Lady of the Sacred Heart thus focusing on the love between Jesus and Mary, the same relationship of love we are invited to participate in and have with each other **Between 12th and 16th October**, Fr Charles Sweeney will lead us in reflecting on this Spirituality of the Heart and how this affects our image of God and ourselves. More details will follow in future bulletins and in the porch.

NEWS BULLETIN

Schools

St. Columba's College – Open Morning

St. Columba's College and Prep School, the independent Catholic boys' school in St Albans, will be holding an Open Morning for both the Prep and Senior School (4-18) on Saturday 6th October 2018, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Means-tested bursaries are available for a small number of Catholic boys entering Year 3 & Year 7. Bursary applications for Sept. 2019 entry must be made by the end of Oct. 2018 and, if eligible, will need to be successful in the entrance exams to be held in January. For further information, contact Mrs Hilary Causer: admissions@stcolumbascollege.org / 01727 892 040

Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School

Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School warmly invites you to their Open Evening on Thursday 4th October 2018, 5.30pm – 8.30pm (Headteacher's Address will take place at 6.30 and 7.30pm) This is an ideal opportunity for prospective families who are starting to consider secondary schools for their Children. Nicholas Breakspear is a mixed secondary school providing Catholic Education in St Albans.



Site Manager Vacancy

St. John Fisher Catholic Primary School

St John Fisher Catholic Primary School (Marshalswick) are looking for a friendly and reliable part-time site manager (20 hours per week) to take care of our school. Caretaking experience is desirable, however training will be provided.

For further details about this position please visit www.teachinherts.com and search for the school name.

Parish Safeguarding Representative Needed

The Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) has a special responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people and adults at risk within the parish. This will involve making referrals to the Safeguarding Coordinator where necessary. The PSR is the link between the parish and the diocese and as such is in regular contact with the Safeguarding Coordinator and the DBS Administrator. If you would like to join our safeguarding team, please read the volunteer role description on the noticeboard at the back of the church or contact the Parish Office on 01727 853 585 (Monday – Friday, 9am – 1pm)

Can you help?

Help is required to prepare a light meal for our Alpha guests, for just one night of the course, at 7.30pm in the parish hall. This can be prepared at home and brought in. Help will be available in the kitchen on the night. The course starts on Oct. 11th on Thursday nights until Dec. 6th. And runs again on 3 nights after Christmas. If you feel you could help out, please contact Sylvia on: sylviaacwhite@talktalk.net or tel. 01727 854596

You Can Be Santa

The parish will again be running the 'You Can Be Santa' scheme this year, whereby children/families who may not otherwise enjoy the full spirit of Christmas will at least experience a visit from Santa. **The organising team are now in the process of:**

1. Identifying families of children that might benefit from the scheme.



We are asking parishioners who know of families within the Parish who may not experience the joys of Christmas to let us have their full contact details. Please be assured though that these will be kept in confidence and in accordance with data protection requirements. If you feel confident about approaching the family yourself, please do so and then pass on their details.

2. Appealing for visitors to liaise directly with families

Visitors ensure we have all the required information and help the children write their letter to Santa. The commitment needed will be to visit the family during the first part of November, return all the information to the team and then deliver the gifts prior to Christmas – visitors act in pairs and full guidelines are given that explain the process. It is extremely difficult to run the scheme without a sufficient numbers of visitors, so please do consider making this commitment, your help is high valued and much appreciated.

We will be appealing for benefactors (gift donors) at a later date. Please contact one of the Santa team Cath White, Sr Anita, Bob White, Helen Bassill or Anita O'Connor for more information.

Alternatively e-mail: santa@albanstephen.com

Water

Access to safe drinking water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival and, as such, is a condition for the exercise of other human rights. Our world has a grave social debt towards the poor who lack access to drinking water because they are denied the right to a life consistent with their inalienable dignity. *Laudato Si 50*



APF Magazines

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

Calling all Parishioners who like going to the theatre...

Please email Janet Audley Charles on jactheatretrips@gmail.com
Lion King, (27th Sept)

Wicked (9th Nov) available at the present time

Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen

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



