

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

14th October 2018

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Who doesn’t know that living the gospel is challenging! After the commandments have been followed, the rich young man of today’s gospel is invited to go even further – to give up everything and follow Jesus.

And that’s what Jesus challenges us to do constantly – to go further. It’s interesting that the gospel says that Jesus *loved* the rich young man. But Jesus challenges him to go beyond his attachment to his riches.



If we are to be followers of Jesus, we must strive to be people of detachment. We must not allow anything to stand in the way of our following of Jesus. And how lovely riches seem – wealth opens doors and makes life easy. People smile for the rich and there’s no standing in queues. Riches dazzle and give access to others.

Riches impress and many people like to be around the rich. But you are constantly called upon by Jesus to go further, to live that life of detachment. We must challenge ourselves to strive to create a world where there is no disparity between rich and poor.

So, how am I detached from what I own? How am I allowing the message of Jesus to push me out of my comfort zone to encounter those in need? The gospel challenge is to constantly go further. To go further in love and generosity, to go further in building peace and justice.

Celebrate Weekend

“SEE I AM DOING A NEW THING” Isaiah 43:19
...is the theme of this year’s Celebrate Weekend on 3rd and 4th November in Loreto College, St Albans.

Faith and fun for all the family. More details on www.celebrateconference.org/regional-weekends

or ring Tim Stevens on 07875 848138

November – Month of the Holy Souls

A Novena to remember the deceased will be held from 1st November

to 9th November. If you would like a deceased relative or friend to be included in these Masses please put their name on the November List (purple leaflets available from the Church porch and Marshalswick Mass Centre). Please return completed lists to the presbytery in the envelope provided by Monday, 31st October.



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 last count will be taken this weekend, 13th/14th October.**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently including **Stephen O’Brien, Hannah Crean, Janet Szymczak, Brendan Kearns, Billy Goodall, Bridget Laver** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please pray for all those who are ill at this time including Catherine Mayes, Betty Nicklin, Joe Spatafora, Mary Miskell, Magdalena Pedroz, Callum Gathard, 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, Ida Daswa, 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, Noah Gregorio, Gerry Smith, Edmond Mansfield & Teresa Hill may the Lord comfort them.

Mass Intentions for the Week

14.10.2018

6pm Karen Rowley Doran Anniv.
8am Graham Smith 5th Anniv.
9am M'wick Fiona Wright RIP
9.30am People of the Parish
11.30am Mary Curran RIP and
Tim Donohue Anniv.
4pm Polish Mass
7pm Carlo Grilli Anniv.

Monday – St. Theresa of Jesus

10am Stuart MacDonald RIP
7pm Mary Stubbs Anniv.

Tuesday – St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

10am John and Nancy Hewitt RIP
7pm Celebration of our love of God
and Neighbour

Wednesday – St. Ignatius of Antioch

10am Angela Wolf Anniv.
7pm MSC Benefactors

Thursday – St. Luke

10am Priests' Intentions
NO EVENING MASS

Friday – St. Paul of the Cross

10am Steve Lee Anniv.
7pm Elisabeth Page RIP

Saturday – Feria

10am Kate Kelly RIP
6pm The Connelly Family RIP

Next Sunday

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Jean Bergin Anniv.
9am M'wick Mario d'Andrea RIP
9.30am People of the Parish
11.30am Sr. Fabian RIP
7pm Thomas Kiely RIP

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

Next weekend,
there will be a second collection
for World Mission Sunday.

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday

Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his official charity for overseas mission. Your support on World Mission Sunday will help brave missionaries in building a future of hope both in Ethiopia and around the world. Please join in this special day that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer, celebration and care for our mission of the Church. You will be able to Gift Aid all donations by using envelopes provided by Missio. Thank you.

Thank You

CAFOD soup, bread and film evening. The parish JPIC group wishes to thank everyone who supported the soup, bread & film evening last weekend. A total of £300 was raised which will be combined with the CAFOD family fast day appeal. All of this will be used to make changes to the lives of our poorest sisters and brothers around the world.

MSC Emergency Appeal

This October, our MSCs (Missionaries of the Sacred Heart) are working against the clock in emergency situations around the world. In Sulawesi, Indonesia, mass graves have been dug for over 1,000 dead following a deadly earthquake and tsunami. Many are still missing and the death toll is rising as MSCs work to bring aid to survivors. In Kerala, India, homes and businesses have been washed away as the state was submerged after its heaviest rainfall in almost 100 years. MSCs are working to help local families who have been left with nothing. Our MSCs are bringing emergency aid to people who have lost everything, but they need our help urgently. To find out more, please visit www.mscmissions.ie, or contact the MSC Missions Office. e-mail: info@mscmisions.ie Phone +353 (0)21 4545704. Thank you for your support.

Baptism Course

The pre-baptism session will be held on **Saturday, 17th November 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.



First Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11

Wisdom is God's gift and it directs us to the things of God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13

As Christians, we allow God to read our lives, so that he may write his wisdom into them.

Gospel Reading: Mark 10:17-30

The life of the Christian begins with the recognition that Jesus is our 'Good Matter', who desires what is good for us.

Reading for the Week:

Mon: Gal: 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1; Ps 112:1-7; Lk 11:29-32
Tue: Gal 5:1-6; Ps 118:41-45, 47-48; Lk 11:37-41
Wed: Gal 5:18-25; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:42-46
Thu: 2 Tim 4:10-17; Ps 144:10-13, 17-18; Lk 10:1-9
Fri: Eph 1:11-14; Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 12-13; Lk 12:1-7
Sat: Eph 1:15-23; Ps 8:2-7; Lk 12:8-12

Dates for October and November

Celebrating the Spirituality of the Heart

Prayer from the Heart

At all Masses this weekend, you will be invited to write a short prayer about something deep in your heart. Prayer hearts will be left on the pews for you to complete after the homily, then taken up to the altar at the Offertory. They will remain there for our whole Celebration of the Spirituality of the Heart.



At this special time we also remember the feast days of two people who lived out this love of the Sacred Heart in their different ways: St Margaret Mary Alacoque on 16 October, and Blessed Jules Chevalier (Founder of the MSCs) on 21 October.

Please join in all or any our special events.

Sunday 14th October

Prayer walk in St Albans led by Fr Charles Sweeney MSC: 2.00 pm with meditations outside Church, returning to the Parish Centre for tea and cake around 3.30 pm

Monday 15th October

7.30 pm in Parish Hall: "Join the Mission – a journey of 8,047 miles in one night!" Experience how Sacred Heart Spirituality is lived out in missionary work in South Africa!

Tuesday 16th October

"Our love of neighbour should be tender-hearted and compassionate"

7 pm Mass: We celebrate all that is currently done by parishioners for love – everyone is invited to share in this witness that their work is living out the Spirituality of the Heart; followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. Please bring a plate of food to share, drinks will be provided.

Knit and Natter

The Knit and Natter Group will be meeting on **Tuesday 16th October 2.30-4pm** in the Parish centre. All welcome - wool and light refreshments will be provided.



Churches Together in St Albans Vatican II and You

Vatican II had a big impact on ecumenism. But what was it about, what did it do and what effect did it have on you? *Come and have your say.* The Churches Together Autumn Forum 7.45pm for 8pm start **Thursday 18th October** City Church, Unity Works, Lyon Way, AL4 0LB. ctstalban.org.uk



Men's Film Night

We have a men's film night in the Parish Centre, on Friday 26th October. This month we are going for a 1980s classic, "the Mission" about two Jesuits working in South America in 1700s, starring Robert De Niro and Jeremy Irons.

You can join us for drinks and pizza from 7.30pm and then we will watch the film at 8.30pm. You are very welcome to bring one or two friends along. For more details please contact me Richard on 07976 252 309.

Liverpool Eucharistic Conference Short Feedback

By three parishioners who attended the conference. Saturday 27th October after 10am Mass in Room 1.

West the Road Half-a-Mile Singers Club

Irish Sing Along Group After 6 o'clock Mass on **Saturday 27th October** in the café area in the Parish Centre. All welcome, song sheets and tea provided!

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

First Friday 24-hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

in the Prayer Room at 11am Friday 2nd November till 11am Saturday 3rd. If you can attend, even for just half an hour, please enter your name in the rota at the back of the church.

Graves Blessing

Fr Kevin Moule will be blessing graves on **Sunday 4th November 2018**. Fr Kevin will be at London Road Cemetery, St Albans, at 12.45pm; and then he will then go on to the Cemetery by S. Peter's Church in London Colney for 1.30pm. At 1.45pm Fr Kevin will be at the Cemetery in Shenley and at 2.15 in Christchurch Cemetery in Radlett (please meet in Christchurch carpark).

Sponsored Sleep Out 2018

Friday, 7th December 2018, Oaklands College, Smallford, St Albans AL4 0JA, (sat nav AL4 0XS)

9pm – 7am, All ages welcome. (children under 11 need to be accompanied by a parent)

Will you brave the cold to help the homeless? Join **hyh** for the St Albans Sleepout – come and brave the cold and help a homeless person keep warm. We help over 2,000 vulnerable people across the county each year who are homeless or at risk of becoming so. With your support and sponsorship, we can continue our vital work.

So wrap up warm, grab some friends and help raise money and awareness of homelessness with us!

Details can be found at www.hyh.org.uk/sponsoredsleepout where you can register their interest.

NEWS BULLETIN

An Invitation to look anew at Marriage and Family Life.

Based on Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia* (the Joy of Love), copies of the faith-sharing booklet "Holy Families" are now available in the church porch and at Marshalswick Mass centre [£3]. Intended for use in a small group or in the setting of one's own home, either as a family or alone, Holy Families explores the beauty and blessing, the joys and challenges of marriage and family life. If you would like to experience the value of listening to others and sharing your own story in confidence as part of a small group, please contact Stan [765549 or grabecki@hotmail.com].

Thank You

Parish Friends would like to thank all those who helped to make our Autumn Tea Party such an outstanding occasion. Vince, our wonderful entertainer, the drivers, bakers and helpers and mainly the 70+ guests who feasted, danced, sang and clapped their hands and made the afternoon so special. Unclaimed Dishes: There are some round and oblong bowls, plates and containers left in the kitchen from Sunday and other occasions. If you have donated in food in a dish or container at any time and not had it returned please contact Helen 07860 830 340

Schools

Loreto College Co-Ed Sixth Form Information Evening

Wednesday 24th October, at 6.30 pm, Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 3RQ
We offer our students a range of traditional A Level subjects as well as a BTEC route. On the Information Evening there will be a talk by the Headteacher at 6.30 pm and then an opportunity to meet staff and students to discover more about what it is like to study in the Sixth Form at Loreto College.
For further information, please contact tbray@loreto.herts.sch.uk

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.

School Governors Needed

Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant & Junior are great schools and are particularly seeking candidates to fulfil governor duties, who have accountancy skills or do not have children at either school. Governors simply by asking the school some key questions and listening to the responses, can help the schools improve their performance. If you're ready to start asking the right questions, then you are ready to join the Governing Body. For more information, please in the first instance email: governors@ssasinfants.herts.sch.uk



St Margaret Mary Alacoque



Margaret was born on 22 July 1647, at L'Hautecour, Burgundy, France. She was chosen by Christ to arouse the Church to a realisation of the love of God symbolised by the heart of Jesus. From early childhood Margaret showed intense love for the Blessed Sacrament. Her early years

were marked by sickness and a painful home situation. After considering marriage for some time, Margaret Mary entered the Order of the Visitation nuns at the age of 24.

She could not meditate in the formal way expected, though she tried her best to give up her "prayer of simplicity." Slow, quiet, and clumsy, she was assigned to help in the infirmary.

On 21 December 1674, three years as a nun, she received the first of her revelations. She felt "invested" with the presence of God, though always afraid of deceiving herself in such matters. The request of Christ was that his love for humankind be made evident through her. During the next 13 months, Christ appeared to her at intervals. His human heart was to be the symbol of his divine-human love. By her own love Margaret Mary was to make up for the coldness and ingratitude of the world - by frequent and loving Holy Communion, especially on the first Friday of each month, and by an hour's vigil of prayer every Thursday night in memory of his agony and isolation in Gethsemane.

He also asked that a feast of the Sacred Heart be instituted which is now celebrated on the Friday after the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ. Margaret Mary had to pay for her gift of holiness. Some of her own sisters were hostile. Theologians declared her visions delusions. Later, parents of children she taught called her an impostor, an unorthodox innovator. A new confessor, the Jesuit Claude de la Colombière, recognised her genuineness and supported her.

After serving as novice mistress and assistant superior, Margaret Mary died on the 17 October 1690 at the age of 43, while being anointed. She said: "I need nothing but God, and to lose myself in the heart of Jesus." Her Feast Day is the 16 October.

Fr Jules Chevalier grew up in France and was deeply aware of the devotion to the Heart of Jesus as embodied in the revelations of Our Lord to Margaret Mary Alacoque although hers was entirely a prayerful devotion, his had a more practical application. Founding the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in 1854, his visions was of a religious congregation of priests and sisters who together with the Laity would live out his motto "May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved" throughout the world, in parish life and in working with the poor, the disadvantaged, in education and in caring for the sick

Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen



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

Baptisms: by appointment