

# 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)

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

**9th June 2019**

**Pentecost Sunday**

Today is considered the birthday of the Church. It is the day when the infant Church had to stand on its own two feet. While Jesus ascended to heaven, He did not abandon us but promised that the Holy Spirit would be with us.

The Spirit comes in different guises. As the first Reading points out, the Spirit comes in the form of wind, fire – even noise. The apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit. We often pray: ‘*come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.*’ How can this happen for us in a busy world?



If we are preoccupied with unspiritual things, then the Holy Spirit doesn’t have much of a chance! The door is closed. The Spirit wants to make a home with us. What we can observe about the apostles is that they were listening intently for something to happen. The apostles had found a place. In our busy, noisy world we need to create quiet spaces.

The Gospel is suggesting that we do just this. We are to create a place; a home for the Spirit in our lives: ‘*If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him.*’ Much hinges on our ability to be still and to listen with an open mind and an open heart. The Holy Spirit doesn’t always come as a powerful, noisy wind from heaven, or like blazing tongues of fire, but in the gentle breeze and a spark of inspiration.

*‘Come Holy Spirit, Creator Blest  
And in our hearts take up thy rest.’ Amen*

## **The Alban Pilgrimage** Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

Join us on this lovely ecumenical pilgrimage which re-enacts the story of our city's patron. Our Parish group will meet at **St Peter's Church at 10.30am** for the gentle procession to the Abbey. Fr Alan will be joining us. Please come if you can. It's very colourful and children will love it.

## **New Parishioners' Welcome**

We would like to invite all new parishioners to join our priests and members of the Parish Pastoral Council and other fellow parishioners for refreshments after 6pm Mass on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>** and after all Masses on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June** in the Parish coffee bar.

## **Thy Kingdom Come Celebration** St Albans Cathedral, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm

Our Bishop Paul is one of the guests and will be leading a prayer during this ecumenical service, where Christians from across the region are coming to pray together that people will come to know Jesus Christ.

Please pray for the repose  
of the souls of all those  
who have died recently

including

**Anne Smith,**

**Angela Pope,**

**and George Ackers**

and for those whose anniversaries  
occur at this time.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

9.6.2019

6pm Kathleen Mannion RIP  
8am People of the Parish  
9am M'wick Lisa Gratte RIP  
9.30am Judith & Mark Petre Ints.  
11.30am Antonio Visconti and  
Antonetta Wallis Anniv.  
4pm Polish Mass  
7pm William O'Leary RIP

### Monday – The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

10am Priests' Intentions  
7pm Thomas Horan RIP

### Tuesday – St. Barnabas

10am Nancy McManus RIP  
NO EVENING MASS

### Wednesday – Feria

10am Bernadette Witchard Ints.  
7pm MSC Benefactors

### Thursday – Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest

10am Mary Byrne RIP  
NO EVENING MASS

### Friday – Feria

10am Lillie and Chris Bulter Ints.  
7pm Margaret Brian RIP

### Saturday – Feria

10am Joe Hogg RIP  
6pm The deceased members of  
Sheehan and Guinnelly families.

### Next Sunday The Most Holy Trinity

8am The deceased members of  
Bergin and Cowley families  
9am M'wick Margaret Rankin RIP  
9.30am Lisa Gratte RIP  
11.30am Jim Doran RIP  
7pm People of the Parish

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

## Celebrating the Spirituality of the Heart

At their Chapter in Rome, 2017, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart were encouraged to foster the original inspiration of Jules Chevalier to spread devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to make it bear fruit through activities that witness to *the tender and merciful love of Jesus for all*, especially those in greatest need. "Keep your gaze fixed on Jesus Christ and learn from him how to love with a truly human heart, to care for the lost and hurting members of his flock, to work for justice and show solidarity with the weak and the poor." In our own parish, and throughout the world, we know that the MSCs welcome diversity and value the gifts of all. Pope Francis acknowledged their communion with the laity who participate in their apostolate. "Let the laity share in your ideals and projects, and in the rich spirituality arising from your Institute's charism....together you will form an ever greater and stronger 'charismatic family', one that will better demonstrate the vitality and relevance of your founder's charism." As we continue to celebrate the Spirituality of the Heart in June, please take the opportunity to view the quotations in church and read the literature available in the porch which includes A guide to the ethos and principles of the MSCs, a collection of Prayers to the Sacred Heart, the Heart to Heart Prayer Book as well as information on the wider Chevalier family.

### Walk to Mass in June

Now that the summer is here, consider walking to church rather than using the car.

### First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

The Holy Spirit comes in the form of tongues, to give speech, and as fire, to give energy.

### Second Reading: Romans 8:8-17

Each one of us is called to live a Spirit-filled life; to make the wisdom of God's holy Spirit the principle of our life.

### Gospel: John 14:15-16.23-26

Jesus assures us that the Holy Spirit will remind us, and keep us mindful, of the saving truths we are called to live by. Forgetfulness is the enemy of the Spirit-filled life.

### Reading for the Week:

Mon: 2 Cor 1:1-7; s 33:2-9; Mt 5:1-12  
Tue: Acts 11:21-26; 13:1-3; Ps 97:1-6; Mt 10:7-13  
Wed: 2 Cor 3:4-11; Ps 98:5-9; Mt 5:17-19  
Thu: 2 Cor 3:15-4:1.3-6; Ps 84:9-14; Mt 5:20-26  
Fri: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 115:10-11.15-18; Mt 5:27-32  
Sat: 2 Cor 5:14-21; Ps 102:1-4.8.9.11-12; Mt 5:33-37

# Dates for June

## Traidcraft

This **Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> June**. Traidcraft after 9am mass at St John fisher school. All proceeds to Cafod. Enquiries to Maureen and Stan Grabecki 765549 or [grabecki@hotmail.com](mailto:grabecki@hotmail.com)

## Book of Revelation

Our small group are starting a Jeff Cavin DVD series, studying 'Revelations' on Mondays after 10am Mass in Room 1. Next meeting: **10<sup>th</sup> June, then every 2 weeks.** All Welcome. Mike & Sylvia.



## Mothers' Prayers

Mothers' Prayers will meet on **Monday June 10<sup>th</sup>** at 8pm in room 2. Anyone wishing to pray for children is welcome. Information from: [office@mothersprayers.org](mailto:office@mothersprayers.org)



## Life Ascending (Ascent)

Meeting **11<sup>th</sup> June**, 10.45am in Room 1. Talk "Rules and Regs". All welcome.

## The Gender Agenda – Conference

**Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup> 2019, 11am – 4pm**  
St Mary Moorfields, Eldon St. London EC2M 7LS  
Speakers: Kerri Christopher, The Humanum Institute and Louise Kirk, Alive to the World.  
For more details, please see poster at the back of the church or visit [www.associationofcatholicwomen.org](http://www.associationofcatholicwomen.org)

## Bingo

### in aid of Friends of the Holy Land.

In the Parish Hall on **Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> June**, at 8 O'Clock. Admission is 50p towards refreshments and everyone is most welcome. Thank you to everyone that supported our last Bingo evening. £150 was raised for CAFOD.



## Come Away Awhile....

**Retreat Day for Parish Lay Ministers of Holy Communion and of the Word with Sister Karen Marguerite OP and Sister Anne Walsh OP.**  
**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Vaughan House**, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN. 10am – 3pm (refreshments from 9.30am). Suggested donation £15 per person. Please bring a packed lunch. Coffees/Teas are available. Register with [livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk) or leave a voicemail 020 7931 6078. Please indicate which venue you are registering.

## St. Columba's College – Open Evening

St. Columba's College, the independent Catholic Boys' Day school in St Albans, will be holding an open evening in the Prep School from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2019**. There is also an open day in the Senior School on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and parents are invited to book a tour at either 11.25am or 2.05pm. Parents are very welcome to bring their sons along with them. For more information, please see St Columba's College website [www.stcolumbascollege.org](http://www.stcolumbascollege.org) or contact the Admissions Registrar, Mrs Hilary Causer: [admissions@stcolumbascollege.org](mailto:admissions@stcolumbascollege.org)



## Life Ascending (Ascent) Retreat

Aylesford Priory, Kent.

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June.**

Led by Fr. Peter Griffiths SJ.

Full board accommodation £205.

Details: David Edwards, Tel: 01727 765 216

## From Christendom to 'Missiondom'

at St. Mary's University, The Exchange, 75 London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1BE at 8pm,

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 8pm – 9.15pm**

Sherry Weddell, author of *Forming Intentional Disciples*, explores how the parish can still be a relevant and effective means of evangelisation.

Join the discussion. Tickets cost £10 for adults and £5 for students and can be booked via the St Mary's University website [www.stmarys.ac.uk/events](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/events), or by emailing [jamesaholland@outlook.com](mailto:jamesaholland@outlook.com)



## CAFOD – Climate Lobby

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

The Time is Now. Mass lobby of Parliament and Climate Pilgrimage. Join thousands of others to demand that politicians take action on climate change and protect our environment. Meet new friends and have fun. For more information, please visit [www.cafod.org.uk/climatelobby](http://www.cafod.org.uk/climatelobby)

## Parish Friends Summer Party

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



# NEWS BULLETIN

## Parish Family Party

Loreto College 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019, 12:30pm-3:30pm

Save the date for another opportunity for all members of our parish to come together socially. Please can you help in any way....with music, serving food / drinks, crafts, face painting, children's entertainment, cake baking, set-up, tidy away etc? Do you have a gazebo or outdoor children's games we could use or crafts to sell? All ideas and suggestions welcome to make a fun day for each one of us. Contact David on 07543 400650 or Melanie on 07900 051956.



## St Columba Feast day 9 June

St Columba was born in County Donegal, Ireland, in 521. He was educated at a monastic school under St Finnian. In 560, a dispute arose over a copy Columba had made of St Finnian's book of psalms. The result was Columba's instigation of a rebellion by the Clan Neill against King Diarmait of Ireland. This culminated in the Battle of Cooldrevny in 561, at which 3000 men were killed. Following the battle, Columba's confessor, St Molaise, set him the penance of leaving Ireland and preaching the Gospel to convert as many to Christianity as had been killed at Cooldrevny: and never again to look upon his native land.



In 563, Columba left Ireland, landing on Iona where he established a monastery. He started his evangelising amongst the Scots. Ancient stories tell of many miracles that God performed through Columba. The most dramatic being the raising of a dead child back to life. Another describes how Columba saw a swimmer being threatened with attack by a large creature in Loch Ness. He made the sign of the cross and told the beast "you shall go no further, nor touch the man; go back with all speed". The creature then swam away leaving the swimmer unharmed.

Columba died before the altar of the church on in the presence of his monks on the 9 June 597. The island has since become a place of pilgrimage. St Columba has a special significance for many in St Albans who have been involved in the college named after him, opened in 1939 by Phillip O'Neil, a Catholic layman. The college was taken over by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in 1955.

*"Be, Lord Jesus, a bright flame before me, a guiding star above me, a kindly shepherd behind me; today, tonight and tomorrow." (St Columba)*

## Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant School - Caretaker Position

Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant School currently have a vacancy for the position of part-time caretaker - 25 hours per week. Please contact the school office to make an appointment to speak with Miss Cannon, Head of School (01727 854643 / admin@ssasinants.herts.sch.uk).

## Lost and Found

Ladies' light grey blazer jacket was found in the Parish Hall after the First Holy Communion Celebrations on 18<sup>th</sup> May and hasn't been collected yet. If this jacket belongs to you, please collect from the Parish Office during the office hours (Mon - Fri, 9am - 1pm).  
Tel.no: 01727 853 585



## Pilgrimage to Oberammergau & Salzburg Led by Fr. Kevin Moule

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September

Organised by Pax Travel Ltd, 102 Blundell Street, London N7 9BL, Tel: 020 7485 3003

[Info@paxtravel.co.uk](mailto:Info@paxtravel.co.uk), Price: £1,339 incl. flights, guided tours, accommodation, entrance fees etc.

## APF Summer Magazine

The summer issue of Mission TODAY is now in the Church porch for collection by APF promoters. For any queries please call Tony Hughes on 862087 or email [tanda.hughes@btinternet.com](mailto:tanda.hughes@btinternet.com)

## Proclaim Prayer Cards

A number of parishioners attended the Spring Proclaim gathering which explored the topic of evangelisation and how to evangelise. As a parish we are involved in a wide variety of fantastic initiatives. We were encouraged, at Proclaim, to pray for evangelisation - to deepen our own faith as Catholics and to share our faith with others. Please take a copy of the Proclaim prayer. We can all be united in this prayer as a parish community. If you have someone in your family who is unable to attend Mass or you visit someone who is sick, please share the prayer card with them.

## Baptism Course

The pre-baptism session will be held on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July**, 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 it is necessary to have a letter from your Parish Priest giving permission to baptise here.



**Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen**  
Confessions: Sat 10.30-11.30am & 6.45-7pm  
Baptisms: by appointment