

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

Items for the bulletin – e-mail: stalbands@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: stalbands@safeguardrcdow.org.uk / 07882 566 020

We are a Fairtrade Parish.

18th August 2019

Sadly, many people are no strangers to family feuds. In past generations, things like land and inheritance were major causes of family disagreements. We may have heard other stories from our own families – secrets that were not talked about, relatives who were shunned for 'shaming' the family. These attitudes are dying away and that is good.

We are less concerned with keeping up appearances, and more focused on ensuring children feel loved and supported.



Yet, there will always be conflicts in family life. Differences of opinion can arise over beliefs of choices, sometimes causing immense hurt on both sides. Often these disagreements are between generations. Parents who have raised their children in the faith can feel hurt when a son or daughter drifts away, or decides not to pass on the faith to their own children. Grandparents often carry this burden too.

Some conflict is unavoidable as we navigate these situations, but we have a choice – do we allow anger and hurt to shape our interactions with loved ones, or do we listen with respect and try to understand and find common ground?

Perhaps these inevitable conflicts are what Jesus refers to in today's Gospel – father divided against son, mother against daughter. It's a surprising statement given his usual focus on peace. But then, following Jesus is not a smooth path. Peace can be hard-won, particularly in families where there are so many different personalities and opinions. Let us pray for wisdom and patience to navigate the tougher times.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Farewell to our priests and celebrating the service of the MSCs in St Albans

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Fr TJ, Fr Jimmy and Fr Alan will celebrate their last weekend Masses in our parish on **24th and 25th August**. At the 11.30am Mass on the 25th the choir and Julia will lead the music in a special service of thanksgiving. Tea and coffee will be served in the parish coffee bar and at Marshalswick after each Mass that weekend.

Parish Friends will be serving refreshments after both 10am and 7pm Masses on **Wednesday 28th August** – the last day for our MSC priests.



A parish farewell to Fr TJ, Fr Jimmy and Fr Alan will be held on **Sunday, 20th October 2019** beginning with Mass at 6pm and followed by refreshments in the parish hall.

The celebration of 120 years of service of the MSCs in St Albans is planned for **Saturday, 20th June 2020**, beginning with Mass at 4pm and with a party to follow (venue to be confirmed).

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.



The Sisters of Mercy ask your prayers for the repose of the souls of **Sr. M Assumpta Cavanagh**, Maryland Care Home & **Sr. Elizabeth Mary O'Brien**, known as **Sr. M Cyprian** when she was Head of St Alban & St Stephen's School. May they rest in peace.

Mass Intentions for the Week

18.8.2019

6pm Margaret and Peter Brian RIP
8am Jean Bergin Anniv.
9am M'wick The deceased members of
McCarthy and Phillips Family
9.30am Fr. TJ, Fr. Jimmy and Fr. Alan Ints.
11.30am Barbara Lynch RIP and deceased
members of Coyne and Mullane families
7pm People of the Parish

Monday – St. John Eudes

10am Martin Myland RIP
7pm Stan and Teresa McDonald RIP

Tuesday – St. Bernard

10am Priests' Intentions
NO EVENING MASS

Wednesday – St. Pius X

10am Barry Ryan and Mary Quinn RIP
7pm MSC Benefactors

Thursday – The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10am Frank Cafferky RIP
NO EVENING MASS

Friday – St. Rose of Lima

10am Fr. Julian – Ints. on his Ordination
7pm Sheila Pilling RIP

Saturday – St. Bartholomew

10am 25th Wedding Anniversary
Mark Ellis & Concetta
6pm Albertina Quintal RIP

Next Sunday

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Valerie Scully Anniv.
9am M'wick People of the Parish
9.30am John Brennan RIP
11.30am The Stack Family Ints.
7pm John Abela RIP
Monday (Bank Holiday)
12noon Fr. Philip Miller
20th Anniv. of Ordination
7pm Tony Graham RIP

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

Heart to Heart

Keeping the Spirit of the MSCs alive in our Parish

Coming soon, a newsletter from
the MSC Lay Associates entitled
“Heart to Heart” with stories on
the Spirituality of the Heart in



action, prayers and spiritual resources.
There will also be an online resources page that
will contain more news on the MSCs and the
wider Chevalier family throughout the World.

Parish Secretary

On the 23rd August, Ivana Mearns, our Parish
Secretary is moving on to avail of a new
opportunity. We are most grateful for her dedication
and professionalism in her work over the past two
years. Ivana will be greatly missed.
We wish her the very best for the future.



Thank you!

Many thanks to all of you for your support
over the past two years. Special thanks to all
office volunteers - Sue, Sara, Wendy, Monica
and Mary for all their hard work.

And last but not least - million thanks to
Fr. TJ, Fr. Jimmy, Fr. Alan, Deacon Steve and
Sr. Anita for all their help and for being a true
inspiration to all of us. Ivana

“Jesus is our sincere friend.

He makes no exceptions of persons.

*No matter where we might be
nor what has happened to us*

his love will always be genuine.“

Jules Chevalier, Meditations 1.

First Reading:

Jer 38:4-6.8-10

The people accuse Jeremiah of disheartening
people with his teachings.

Second Reading:

Heb 12:1-4

We are not alone in the drama of discipleship.
Others have gone before us. We are surrounded
by a great cloud of witnesses.

Gospel: Luke

12:49-53

We might rather tame the Lord's word, keep it
reasonable, sensible and balanced. But Jesus
wants to set the whole world on fire!

Dates for August and September



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.



Catholic Worker Farm Music Festival

Friday 23rd to Monday 26th August.

Great music and loads of children's activities all in aid of refugees.

Camp all weekend for just £35 or £10 / day.

Children half price. Under 6' free. www.farmfest.info



Fr Philip Miller's 20th Anniversary of Ordination

Fr Philip will be celebrating his Anniversary Mass at 12 noon on **Monday 26th August** (Bank Holiday Monday)"

There will be no 10am Mass that day



Baptism Course

The pre-baptism session will be held on **Saturday 7th September**, 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. (Mon - Fri, 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 Youth Club

Invitation to all year seven's (from September) to join us for a pizza and games **Sunday 8th September**, 8pm - 9pm, in the Parish Hall.

Looking forward to seeing you all.



Parish Friends - Film

Parish Friends will be showing the 2017 Feel Good Film of the Year "Finding your Feet" on **Sunday 8th September at 2.45pm**. We highly recommend you do not miss this heart-warming, funny and very touching film. It is so good! Transport can be arranged and light refreshments will be served from 2.15pm. Everyone welcome. For more details contact Helen 07860 830340



CTSA Autumn Prayer Walk 2019

The annual CTSA Prayer Walk will take place on **Sunday, 15th 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.



Mercy Associates

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 18th September** in Room 1 of the Parish Centre from 5pm until 7pm. All are welcome.



North Wales Retreat

20th - 23rd September

Leader: Sister Seraphim. Weekend includes Padre Pio Day at the national shrine of St. Pio at Pantasaph and visit to the centuries-old shrine and well of Winefride. Full board accommodation at St. Winefride's Guest House, Holywell, run by the Bridgetine sisters. Cost: £190. Details: David Edwards: 01727 765 216

Celebrate Conference

Due to the kindness and support of the college leadership, the Celebrate Conference is once more being held at Loreto College, 19th / 20th October and the prices are held at the same rate as last year, details at www.celebrateconference.org/st-albans Additionally a 10% saving can be made when using the PARISH10 booking code, although this is only valid for the next few weeks. We are delighted to announce that Michelle Moran and David Wells have agreed to speak this year; lunch is included. There will also be opportunities for quiet reflection, adoration before the blessed sacrament, reconciliation and mass; what's not to like :-). If you need any further information please contact Brendan Day at brendanvaunday@gmail.com or call on 07774 411400.

NEWS BULLETIN

SUMMER BREAK

English Conversation Classes for Ladies

The next session will be on **Monday 9th September**, 1pm until 2.30pm, in the Parish Hall.



Children's Liturgy

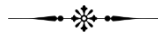
The next session will take place on **Sunday 8th September** at 9.30am, in the Parish Hall.

More volunteers are needed to join the rota. The commitment is to be running approximately 3 sessions a year. If you are able to help, please contact Catherine: 07887 427 393 / cat_tarelli@hotmail.com



Parents and Toddlers

Please note that there will be no more sessions until **9th September**, 10.30am in the Parish Hall.



Knit and Natter

We will meet again on **September 10th from 2.30-4pm**. Contact Helen 07860 830 340 for any queries



NILAND CONFERENCE CENTRE

Venue: Niland Conference Centre at Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, Herts. WD23 4EE

Contact

events@nilandconferencecentre.co.uk
or 07746 707 247.

Conflict and Peace

morning reflection with Sister Regina McGarry OP & Monika Cleaver. How Jesus teaches us to engage healthily with conflict. **Monday, 9th September** 10-12.30 (suggested donation £6)

Arts Exhibition

Dominican Sisters invite you to join them in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Niland Centre, a place of tranquility in a busy world, with an Arts Exhibition featuring local artists and a variety of media - paintings, photography, pottery, marquetry and more. **Saturday 21st** (10am-5pm) & **Sunday 22nd September** (11am-4pm). Homebaking and refreshments available in the Lima Cafe. Admission is free and donations are welcomed.

Scripture from Scratch

with Sister Anne Walsh OP - *Living as if we believed in God*, looking at God's plan for Creation and Begins **Thursday, 26th September** (fortnightly until 21st November) 7.30-9pm (suggested donation £5)

Watford, St. Albans & Hemel Hospital Chaplaincy

Mass will be offered in the hospital once a month and everyone is welcome to attend for more details about dates and times please contact the head of chaplaincy.

There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Litany of Lourdes in the hospital oratory on level 4 at Watford Hospital every Monday at 2pm all are welcome to join us.

If you have a relative in hospital who has requested to see a Catholic chaplain please do let us know. Would you consider giving an hour a week to join our chaplaincy support team - please contact us for details?

For more information about any of the above please email the head of chaplaincy: anthony.curran@nhs.net

You can contact the hospital chaplaincy directly by calling 01923 217994 referrals can also be made via email: spiritualcare@whht.nhs.uk

Items for the Parish Website

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

Drivers Required Please

Are you able to offer transport for senior parishioners to attend Parish Friends Tea Parties and Films? These take place in the Parish Hall on approximately 6 Sundays a year from 2.30 - 5pm. Some guests cannot attend these functions without a lift to and from the event. Please can you help? Just a couple of times a year would be appreciated.

Please contact Helen Bassill
07860 830 340 / helen.bassill@ntlworld.com
if you can support us.

Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen

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

Baptisms: by appointment