

# NEWS BULLETIN - SS ALBAN & STEPHEN

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Items for the bulletin by Noon on Wednesdays. We are a Fairtrade Parish.

## 13th October 2019 - Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Team: Fr Michael O'Boy (Parish Priest) Fr Julian Davies (Assistant Priest)

Rev. Steve Pickard (Deacon) Sr. Anita O'Leary SSJG (Youth Co-ordinator) e-mail: anitaoleary@rcdow.org.uk

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### *Fr Julian Writes...*

We are all called to be saints. That calling is the calling of all followers of Jesus Christ. 'Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect'. There are no exceptions. If the apostles were writing a letter to St Albans today, they would address it to the 'saints' in this city. Yet read any of the New Testament letters and we realise how often saints this side of heaven are prone to backsliding. For certain the apostles would stir up in us a radical conversion of mind, heart and body and summon us to walk in newness of life. They would remind us that we had stripped off the old clothes at baptism and put on a new set of resurrection clothes. We grow into these over the course of our life. When we sin it's as if we are rejecting our new set of clothes and putting on again our dirty ones. Fortunately the wardrobe of grace is never exhausted. So avail yourself of the divine clothes bank. Through God's grace, let us repent, renounce and confess. Spruced up we hear again Jesus' summons to perfection. Furthermore, to help us on our way, Mother Church has publicly declared (canonised) that some of the departed faithful are exemplars in the struggles we are now facing. Knowing from their own experiences, what humanity is going through, they are interceding for us in heaven. How blessed we are to be able to seek their prayers. This Sunday Pope Francis will declare John Henry Newman to be such a saint. There will be much rejoicing on earth, but much more in heaven when following his example we repent and turn back to God. John Henry Newman. Pray for us.

Fr Julian

### **Exposition**

From Monday 21 October the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Church at the following times:

**Monday** shortly after the morning Mass until 11.30 am.

**Friday** shortly after the evening Mass until 8.30 pm.

**Saturday** shortly after the morning Mass until 11.30 am.

### **Benediction**

Saturday Exposition will conclude with Benediction at around 11.20 am.

### **Confession**

In addition to Saturday between 10.30 am and 11.30 am there will be an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday evenings between 7.40 pm and 8.20 pm. The Saturday evening session between 6.45 pm and 7.00 pm will be discontinued. However, should you wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation outside of these times you are very welcome to enquire as to the availability of one of the priests.

### **Month of the Holy Souls**

#### **November Novena**

November is the month especially devoted to praying for all our relatives, friends and neighbours who have departed this life. You are invited to join in the Novena of Masses from the 1 until the 9 of November by attending Holy Mass each day during the Novena or by saying the Novena Prayer at home. Those who have died in the parish in the past year will be remembered in a special way at the 7pm Mass on the 4 November. If you have a family member who has died over the last twelve months and who you would also like to be remembered at this Mass please contact the presbytery.

The purple leaflets, now available at the back of church, contain the Novena prayer, inspirational quotes and the opportunity to list names of our deceased loved ones. These names will be placed near the Altar during the month of November and Masses will be offered for all the faithfully departed. Please return this list to the presbytery by 31 October in the envelope provided, together with any offering you may wish to make towards Masses for these intentions.

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

**28 SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

**6.00 pm** Karen Rowley-Doran (Anniv)

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

**8.00 am** Graham Smith (Anniv)

**9.00 am M'Wick** For the People of the Parish

**9.30 am** Wedding Anniversary

**11.30 am** Margaret Norris (RIP)

**7.00 pm** Louis Fernandes (RIP)

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct - feria**

**10.00 am** Michael Norton (RIP)

**7.00 pm** Anna & Family (Ints)

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Oct - St Teresa of Jesus**

**10.00 am** Mary Tully (RIP)

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Oct - feria**

**10.00 am** Kathleen Tillbrook (RIP)

**7.00 pm** Desmond Worth (RIP)

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct - St Ignatius of Antioch**

**10.00 am** Alexander & Loni Vengler  
(Anniv)

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Oct - ST LUKE**

**10.00 am** Ann Healey (RIP)

**7.00 pm** Steve Lee (Anniv)

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct - Memoria BVM**

**10.00 am** Frs TJ, Jimmy & Alan (Ints)

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October**

**29 SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

**6.00 pm** John Brennan (RIP)

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

**8.00 am** Jean Bergin (Anniv)

**9.00 am M'Wick** Mario D'Andrea (RIP)

**9.30 am** For the People of the Parish

**11.30 am** John Donachic (Anniv)

**6.00 pm** Frs TJ, Jimmy & Alan (Ints)

**Confession:** Sat 10.30-11.30 am & 6.45-7.00 pm

*Please note that Mass intentions may change  
at short notice to accomodate funerals*

This Weekend there is a retiring collection in support  
of the recent CAFOD Family Fast Day

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

With Churches Together in St Albans we pray for the  
community of St Albans Pentecostal Assembly of God.

**We pray also for the parishioners who are sick.**

**For the recently departed** especially Peter Joseph Doran  
and Nancy Ayley. **For those whose anniversaries occur**  
about this time especially Thomas Kelly, Karen Rowley-  
Doran, Graham Smith, Alexander & Loni Vengler, Steve  
Lee, Jean Bergin and John Donachic.

**Peter Joseph Doran (RIP)** A former parishioner, his  
funeral mass will be here at St Alban & St Stephen on  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am.

### *Baptised and Sent*

Is a new Diocesan booklet designed to help us live out  
Pope Francis' call to make October an Extraordinary  
month of Mission. Each of us, as a Catholic, is called to  
know Christ and make Him known. We do this through  
prayer and interaction with those we meet. *Baptised and  
Sent* shows how ordinary people like us have, through  
grace, brought Christ to others. The booklets are best  
used by people as part of a small group where our good  
and bad experiences can be shared confidentially within  
the group, but they can be used on your own at home or  
elsewhere. We have a number of small groups meeting  
during the daytime and evenings, if you are interested  
in how this could help you to know Jesus better then  
please contact Stan: [grabecki@hotmail.com](mailto:grabecki@hotmail.com), 765549.  
Booklets are available in the porch and at St John Fisher  
after Mass priced £2.00.

**St John XXIII** On 11 October we celebrated the feast day  
of Pope St John XXIII who was born Angelo Giuseppe  
Roncalli in 1881 to a large ordinary Catholic family. He  
entered the Bergamo seminary in 1892 and began  
making the notes gathered together in his *Journal of a  
Soul*. Ordained a priest in 1904 he was drafted in 1915  
to the medical corps. In 1935 he was named Apostolic  
Delegate in Turkey and Greece. Dialogue with the  
worlds of Orthodoxy and Islam became a feature of his  
tenure. In 1944 he was appointed Nuncio in France and  
elected Pope in 1958. His pontificate lasted less than five  
years. Meek and gentle, enterprising and courageous, he  
carried out faithfully the Christian duties of the corporal  
and spiritual works of mercy. He convoked the Roman  
Synod, established the Commission for the Revision of  
the Code of Canon Law and summoned the Second  
Vatican Council. He was sustained by a profound spirit  
of prayer. He launched an extensive renewal of the  
Church. He died on the 3 June 1963.

**Celebrating the MSCs** If you have suggestions for the memorial to mark 120 years of the MSCs here in St Albans, which will be located in the church, possibly in or near the Sacred Heart altar, please let one of the PPC members know. Donations towards the cost of the memorial will be requested later this year.

**Baptism Course** The next Baptism Preparation Morning for parents who want to have their child baptised is on Saturday 9 Nov between 10.30 am and 12.00 noon. Please register with Fr Julian contacting him on 01727 853585 or at juliandavies@rcdow.org.uk.

**Marriage** Couples hoping to get married should contact Fr Michael. Six months notice is required.

**APF Magazines** The autumn edition of Missio is now in the Church Porch for collection by promoters. For any queries please call Tony Hughes (862087) or email [tanda.hughes@btinternet.com](mailto:tanda.hughes@btinternet.com)

## Dates For The Diary

**Mothers' Prayers** will meet on Monday 14 October at 8pm in room 2. Information from [office@mothers-prayers.org](mailto:office@mothers-prayers.org) Anyone wishing to pray for children is welcome.

**Cheese & Wine Evening** Friday 18 October at 7.30 pm to be held at 7 Cunningham Avenue in aid of supplying milk to children in Syria through Aid to the Church in Need. Cost £7.50. Open to all. For details phone Sheila on 01727 853100.

**X:site** Saturday 19 October, 6-8pm. £2 per child. For school years 3-6. Fun and games; Live music; Drinks and snacks. A great opportunity for young Christians to have fun and learn about Jesus. Venue: St. Luke's Church, Cell Barnes Lane, St. Albans. AL1 5QJ. Youth and adult volunteers needed. For more info contact David Markham. Register on the website [www.the267project.com](http://www.the267project.com)

**There is No Planet B** There is an overwhelming consensus that the planet faces a climate catastrophe for which humans are responsible. We have to act in the next decade to prevent disaster and there is no suitable 'planet B'. But what can we do? An urgent and necessary discussion that involves us all. With Mike Berners-Lee author of *There is No Planet B*. **Please put this date in your diary!** Wednesday 23 October 7:45pm for 8:00pm, at Marshalswick Baptist Free Church, Sherwood Avenue, AL4 9QL All Welcome. A Churches Together Forum.

**Mens Film Night, Friday 25 October** We have a men's film night in the Parish Centre, on Friday 25 October. This month we are showing "Field of Dreams" a classic baseball film starring Kevin Costner, on its 30th anniversary. 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 07976 252309.

**Churches Together in Marshalswick** invite you to a musical evening at Homewood Road URC on Saturday the 26 October at 7pm. Tickets are £7 each, including a fish and chip supper. (*Please bring your own drinks and glasses*). Tickets are available from Chris and Maureen at Marshalswick Mass Centre each Sunday after 9am Mass.

**World Mental Health Day 2019** Every 40 seconds someone loses their life to suicide. This should be as much a concern to us as it surely is to God, so you are warmly invited to an evening discussion on this challenging but important topic. Come and hear what Hertfordshire is doing to support those with suicidal thoughts through 'Spot the Signs' Thursday 7 November 2019, 19.30 - 21.00 in the Parish Hall.

## SCHOOLS

**St. Columba's College and Prep School** A few means-tested bursaries are available for Catholic boys entering Year 3 and Year 7. Bursary applications for Sept. 2020 entry must be made by the end of October 2019. If eligible, boys will need to be successful in the entrance exams held in Jan. 2020. Contact Mrs Hilary Causer, Admissions Registrar at [admissions@stcolumbascollege.org](mailto:admissions@stcolumbascollege.org) or 01727 892040.

**School Signing** Please note that Fr Michael will be available in the Parish Centre to sign certificates of Catholic Practice between 4.30 pm & 6.00 pm on Monday 18th November, Wednesday 20th November and Wednesday 4th December.

**St John Fisher Catholic Primary For children starting school September 2019** Families with children born 01/09/2015 - 31/08/2016 can apply for a place in Reception. You are welcome to visit our school. Miss O'Donnell, our Head Teacher will be happy to show you around. The Open days for the school are: Tuesday 5 Nov. 9:30am and Thursday 7 Nov. 9:30am. A wonderful Open Day is planned for Saturday 9th Nov. 10:00 to 12:00. To book onto a school tour please call 01727 861077.

**Ss Alban & Stephen Catholic Infant & Nursery School - Starting Reception 2020.** Families with a child

born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 will soon be able to apply for a Reception place for September 2020. The Herts Online system for Reception applications

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-junior-and-middle-schools/primary-junior-and-middle-school-places.aspx> opens on Monday 4 November and closes on Wednesday 15 January.

In addition to the Hertfordshire submission, applicants must also complete our Supplementary Information Form and provide current proof of address and evidence of baptism (if applicable). Full details can be found on our website [www.ssasinants.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ssasinants.herts.sch.uk). A signed Certificate of Catholic Practice is also required if applicable - please contact the Presbytery for further information.

**Starting Nursery 2020** Families with a child born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 will also soon be able to apply for a Nursery place for September 2020. Applicants must complete our Application and Options Forms. These will be available to download from our website [www.ssasinants.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ssasinants.herts.sch.uk) or from the school office shortly. A signed Certificate of Catholic Practice is also required (if applicable) - please contact the Presbytery for further information. We also request current proof of address and evidence of baptism.

Parents are invited to visit the school and a list of dates and times for Foundation Stage tours can be viewed on our website - please telephone us on 01727 854643 to book your appointment.

## AROUND & ABOUT

**Events at the London Oratory** On Thursday 17 October at 6.30pm there will be Solemn Pontifical Mass in honour of our new saint celebrated by Cardinal Vincent.

**The Summit at Westminster Cathedral** On 18 October, Westminster Youth Ministry will host *The Summit* at the Cathedral, an opportunity for young people to socialise, learn more about their faith and be introduced to a deeper level of prayer and adoration. The event will run from 6:30-8:00 pm and include exposition, a reflection from Cardinal Vincent, and a talk from Brenden Thompson of Catholic Voices. *The Summit* is free to attend and all are most welcome. For further information, email [youth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdow.org.uk).

**Beginning Experience Weekend** A weekend for the divorced or widowed will be held from 18 to 20 October 2019 at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex. Contact Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 01322-551503 or email [johnabrotherton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnabrotherton@hotmail.co.uk).

**Newman Vespers** Following the Canonisation of Cardinal Newman, Westminster Cathedral will host Solemn Ecumenical Vespers at 3.30pm (seating from 2.45pm) on 19 October. Cardinal Vincent will preside, with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, preaching. No tickets are required. All welcome. **The**

**Diocesan Vocation Team** is inviting you to join them for Mass at 6pm on Saturday 26 October 2019 at The Most Sacred Heart Church, Ruislip, HA4 8NN (Tube: Ruislip Manor). The evening is for anyone and everyone who wants to discover the call of the Lord. We especially invite those men who might be considering the call to Priesthood and those men and women who

## And Finally

might be experienced the call to Religious life. Come and listen to the stories of those being called to the Priesthood or Religious Life. For more information have a word with one of your priests or visit: [www.rcdow.org.uk/vocations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/vocations).

**You Can Be Santa** The parish will again be running the 'You Can Be Santa' scheme whereby children/families who may not otherwise enjoy the full spirit of Christmas will at least experience a visit from Santa. The feedback we had from families who took part last year was very positive, and they were very thankful for the generosity of the Parish. The organising team are now in the process of:

**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 and asking if they would like to take part, please do so and then pass on their details.

**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 highly valued and much appreciated.

We will be appealing for benefactors (gift donors) later.  
Please contact Cath White, Sr Anita, Bob White, Helen  
Bassill or Anita O'Connor for more information.  
Alternatively e-mail: [stalbansycbs@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbansycbs@rcdow.org.uk)