



Church Website

## NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

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29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 17 October 2021



VirginMoneyGiving

Parish Team: Fr Michael O'Boy (Parish Priest) Fr Jonathan Stogdon

Rev. Steve Pickard (Deacon) Rev. Brendan Day (Deacon) Mrs Angela Gray (Parish Administrator)

Safeguarding Lead: Mary Harber / stalbanssg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk / 07976 277059

*We are a Fairtrade parish*

November is the month of the Holy Souls and we will hold our annual Novena of Masses for the Holy Souls from 2-10 November, praying the Novena Prayer at all masses. Please note that the mass for all those who have died in the past twelve months (see list below) will be offered on Friday 5 November at 7pm. If you would like to add the name of somebody who has died in the last twelve months, please email their name to the parish office.

### THOSE WHO HAVE DIED - NOVEMBER 2020 to OCTOBER 2021

Patricia 'Pat' Pearce	John Stevens	Susan Lannon	Lorna Ahsan
Angelo Castaldo	Renee Rumble	Mary McHugh	Debra Cooper
Eric Gosling	Cynthia Chrimes	Pasquale Viscogliosi	Margaret 'Peggy' Christoforou
Owen 'Brendan' McVeigh	Giuseppe 'Joe' Giubba	John Lavelle	Winifred Sudell
Vito La Monica	Concettina Giubba	Kathleen 'Maude' Reeves	James 'Jim' Moss
Kenneth 'Ken' Goodwin	Sheila Doohan	Maxine Zambardi	Andrew Burke
John Darby	Thomas Doyle	Kenneth Liversidge	Kate Forsythe
Christopher Boyle	Encarnacion Gonzales Jurado	Raymond Curry	Marcelline Clarke
Rosa Venetico	Maria 'Carmen' Fernandez	Kathleen Moran	Margaret 'Maggie' Walsh
Mary 'Molly' Screene	David Francis	Derite Whyte	Margaret 'Peggy' Shaw
John Rowland	Charles Attard	Kathleen Barnes	Margaret Roberts
Patricia Porter	Nellie Attard	Richard Diffenthal	Mary Thomasina Fitzpatrick
Hanora Barrett	Winifred 'Una' King	Leslie Fielding	Elisa Vetere
Patrick McConnell	Peter Taylor	Eric Harber	George Brennan
Bernadette Witchard	Daphne Snaith	Vito Lamonaca	Ray Pujol

Several of the Holy Souls masses offered during the novena will be offered for a particular intention.

#### Wednesday 3 November 10.00am

Deceased Brothers and Sisters

#### Thursday 4 November 10.00am

Deceased Victims of Violence

#### Friday 5 November 7.00pm

Those all who have died in the past year

#### Saturday 6 November 6.00pm

Deceased Parents and Grandparents

#### Sunday 7 November 11.30am

Those who have died in War

#### Monday 8 November 7.00pm

Deceased Spouses

#### Tuesday 9 November 10.00am

Deceased Children / Sons & Daughters

#### Wednesday 10 November 7.00pm

Deceased Priests and Religious

**Holy Souls Lists** If you would like to include people in the Holy Souls List, to be placed near the altar, please use one of the leaflets and envelopes available in the porch and return it to the Presbytery. Any offering you wish to make towards the masses offered for the Holy Souls can be included in these envelopes or in a plain envelope marked 'Holy Souls' and posted through the Presbytery door.

The Novena Prayer will be posted on the parish website and the Holy Souls leaflet will also be available on the parish website, but please feel free to email your Holy Souls list to [stalbans@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbans@rcdow.org.uk)

**Preparing for the Synod - Pray and Participate** Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will inspire everyone in the parish to pray and participate in the Diocesan Synodal process. May God bless our efforts, open our hearts to one another and prompt us to understand more clearly how we can be the messengers of the joy and consolation that God alone can provide.

## PREPARING FOR THE SYNOD

This weekend in Westminster Cathedral the Cardinal will launch the Westminster Synodal Pathway beginning that process of listening to the local churches called for by Pope Francis. Attributed to St Isidore of Seville (560-636) the following prayer has been used at Councils and Synods for hundreds of years. Please make the prayer part of your prayer in the coming weeks and months.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,  
make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go  
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;  
do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity  
so that we may journey together to eternal life  
and not stray from the way of truth  
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,

who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son,  
forever and ever. Amen.

## SACRAMENTS AND LITURGY

**Sacrament of Baptism** The next baptism preparation course is to be held on Saturday 30 October at 11.30am. Please email Fr Jonathan at [jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk).

**Marriage Preparation** If you are intending to get married, please note the Diocese requires at least six months' notice and couples are expected to complete a preparation course. The next preparation course takes place in November and will contain three sessions: Wednesday 10 November 8-10pm, Saturday 13 November 10:30am-3.30pm and Wednesday 17 November 8-10pm. To register please email Fr Michael on [michaeloboy@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:michaeloboy@rcdow.org.uk)

**Prayers for the Sick** If you would like to include someone in the prayers for the sick, please contact the presbytery.

## PARISH NEWS

**Knit and Natter** The Parish Friends Knit and Natter Group is resuming from 2-4pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month with our next meetings on 12 and 26 October. All are welcome. Contact Helen on 07860 830340.

**Coffee & Tea after 11.30am Mass** We hope to recommence the previously popular coffee and tea in the Parish Centre coffee bar after 11.30am Mass starting on Sunday 17 October.

Can you join a team to make and serve the refreshments, perhaps once a month? If so, please contact Melanie ([mjoneill5@btinternet.com](mailto:mjoneill5@btinternet.com) or 07900 051956).

**Coffee - Parish Friends Group** Parish Friends are serving tea, coffee and cake in the Parish Centre after 10am mass this Tuesday 19 October. All welcome. Please come and join us.

**Churches Together in St Albans Autumn Forum: COP26 Vigil - Wednesday 20 October 8pm** At COP26, World leaders meet to decide what to do about climate change. Current global commitments will fail to prevent uncontrollable, irreversible and catastrophic climate change. "We are on the verge of the abyss." - UN Secretary General (2021) It's time to pray and fast. "Consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly...and cry out to the Lord" Joel 1:14. Join with Christians from different churches on Wednesday 20th October as we:

- Fast for a day from meat, dairy and fish
- Join together at 8pm on Zoom to pray.

"This is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us" 1 John 5:14. Further details can be found [here](#).

**Mercy Associates** We will be having a meeting on Wednesday 20 October in Room 1 of the Parish Centre from 5 until 7pm. Sr Maura will be joining us. All are welcome.

**Invitation to join a small group of parishioners for Advent.** We meet alternate Tuesday evenings in the Parish Centre 7.45-9.30pm and will be working our way through the Friends of the Holy Land Advent and Christmastide book of 15 poems and reflections following the route of the Holy Family at the time of the birth of Christ and matching that journey to the experience of Christians living in the Holy Land today. Please consider joining us for prayer and confidential sharing of our own stories; come when you are able, there is no ongoing commitment. We will begin this journey on Tuesday 2 November. For more information contact Stan on 765549 or [grabecki@hotmail.com](mailto:grabecki@hotmail.com).

**You Can Be Santa 'voucher scheme'** As always the aim of YCBS is to help children/families who may not otherwise enjoy the full spirit of Christmas. We are now appealing for voucher donations (in £5, £10 & £20 denominations please, this will really help when we allocate the vouchers) from the following outlets: Sainsbury's, Argos, Amazon & One4All. If you would like to contribute to the YCBS scheme this year, please post your voucher/s through the Presbytery door in a clearly marked envelope (YCBS Voucher). If you are unable to obtain a voucher but would still like to contribute, any monetary donation would be gratefully received and vouchers can be purchased by the YCBS team on your behalf. Vouchers can also be purchased online and sent to the YCBS email address below. If you are aware of families within the Parish who may appreciate being a part of the scheme please ask them to contact [stalbansycbs@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbansycbs@rcdow.org.uk) with their full contact details.

All contact details will be kept in confidence and in accordance with data protection requirements. For more information please email [stalbansycbs@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbansycbs@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Justice, Peace & the Integrity of Creation Group** Parishioners interested in issues concerning Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation meet every third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Sacred Heart Centre.

**Volunteer drivers required for 11.30 mass** Are you able to offer a parishioner a lift to 11.30 mass once every month? I am trying to get a rota of 4-5 people for a senior parishioner who at present can only watch mass on YouTube. Volunteers will require a Parish DBS which can be arranged through the safeguarding officer. Please contact Helen 07860 830340 or [helen.bassill@ntlworld.com](mailto:helen.bassill@ntlworld.com).

**CAFOD Harvest fast day lunch and film.** Many thanks to all who attended and helped make the fast day lunch and film such a success. £420 was donated on the day and this will be sent to CAFOD to support their work among the most deprived communities around the world. (JP&IC)

**Volunteers needed!** The Toddler Group would like to begin meeting again on Monday mornings in the Parish Centre. However, they need more volunteers before they are able to restart the group. If this is something you can help with, please contact the parish office.

## SCHOOLS & NURSERIES

**Primary, Secondary and Nursery School Certificates of Catholic Practice** Fr Michael will be available at the Presbytery 4pm-6.30pm on Wednesday 20 October, and Saturday 23 October 11.30am-1.30pm. No appointment is necessary and children need not attend.

**Call for School Governors** St John Fisher is looking to appoint (up to four) foundation governors. A governing body requires a wide cross section of skills and we would welcome volunteers from all backgrounds. Foundation governors are appointed by the bishop and are his representatives on the school board. They need to be practising Catholics and ensure that a school maintains its Catholic ethos. There are 4 meetings a year together with some committee meetings plus school visits. Training is offered, much of which is online and can be done in your own time. Contact [christophergov@sjfisher.herts.sch.uk](mailto:christophergov@sjfisher.herts.sch.uk) to arrange talk more about the role.

## OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

**Little Amal** A 3.5m puppet of a refugee girl is walking from the border of Turkey / Syria to Manchester, 8000km, in search of her mother. On her journey she will visit Westminster Cathedral on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm, where she will be welcomed by Cardinal Vincent. You are invited to join Cardinal Vincent for this Welcome Liturgy and to learn more about migrants and refugees. It is during

half term week, an opportunity for families to come together. Further information about Little Amal's journey is available [here](#). Please be seated by 1.45pm.

**The Passage** We are grateful to those parishioners who have volunteered to help with its street collection on Tuesday 19 October. There is a final opportunity to volunteer contact [Andrew Hollingsworth](#) 020 75921886 (07928 703131) by 12.00 noon on Monday 18 October. Look out for Passage collectors on Tuesday in Westminster in Victoria Street or Oxford Street. If you do not carry cash, donate the campaign [online](#).

## PARISH ADMINISTRATION

**Retiring Collection** Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, the charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please visit Missio's [website](#) to donate or for more information.

**Leaving a Legacy** Have you ever considered remembering the parish in your will? The Diocese have asked us to participate in a pilot scheme on legacies. There will be a meeting on Wednesday 3 November at 11am. If you are interested in finding out more, please speak with Fr Michael.

**Parish Centre** - We have now re-commenced use of the Parish Centre. Please email the parish office with booking requests or queries and visit the [Parish Centre Hire](#) page of our website for more details of facilities available.

**Gift Aid** We will shortly be submitting our gift aid claim for the year to 5 April 2021. If you have previously gift aided your standing order or envelope donations but no longer pay tax or are unable to gift aid your contributions, please contact the parish office so that we can amend our records.

**Donating to our Parish** Please consider making your offertory contribution by standing order and gift aiding your donations, if you do not already do so. Please see our [website](#) or click [here](#) for a standing order, gift aid form and our bank details. Thank you for your generosity.

## Welcoming all new parishioners!

Please see the new [page](#) on our website with useful information for those who are new to our parish. An online **New Parishioner Registration Form** can be found on the webpage. Please complete this form if you have not already registered as a new parishioner so that we can add you to our parish records and welcome you to our parish community.

Thank you to all those who have registered as new parishioners since the start of the pandemic. As soon as we are able, we look forward to being able to have an event to welcome you and your families properly into our parish community.



## MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

**Saturday 16 October - Vigil - 29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ORD TIME**  
6pm Mass Graham Smith (Ann)

**Sunday 17 October - 29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD TIME**

8am Mass Alice Healy (RIP)  
9am Mass Adrian (Ady) Connolly (RIP)  
*(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)*  
9.30am Mass People of the parish  
11.30am Mass Steve Lee (Ann)  
6pm Mass Patricia (Pat) Murphy (RIP)  
Reading 1, Isaiah 53:10-11  
Responsorial Psalm, 33, Reading 2, Hebrews 4:14-16

**Monday 18 October - St Luke**

10am Mass James de Souza (RIP)  
7pm Mass Jim Dalley (Ints)  
Reading 1, 2 Timothy 4:10-17  
Responsorial Psalm, 145, Gospel, Luke 10:1-9

**Tuesday 19 October - feria**

10am Mass Alexander Vengler (RIP) & Loni Vengler (Ann)  
Reading 1, Romans 5:12,15,17-21  
Responsorial Psalm, 40, Gospel, Luke 12:35-38

**Wednesday 20 October - feria**

10am Mass Tom and Celia Miskell (Ints)  
7pm Mass Thomas Kiely (RIP)  
Reading 1, Romans 6:12-18  
Responsorial Psalm, 124, Gospel, Luke 12:39-48

**Thursday 21 October - feria**

10am Mass Geraldine Paul (RIP)  
Reading 1, Romans 6:19-23  
Responsorial Psalm, 1, Gospel, Luke 12:49-53

**Friday 22 October - St John Paul II**

10am Mass Anniversary Mass for Eileen Durie  
7pm Mass Jim Moss (RIP)  
Reading 1, Romans 7:18-25  
Responsorial Psalm, 119, Gospel, Luke 12:54-59

**Saturday 23 October - Memoria of Blessed Virgin Mary**

10am Mass Jim O'Shee (RIP)  
10.30-11.30am Exposition with opportunity for Confession  
Reading 1, Romans 8:1-11  
Responsorial Psalm, 24 Gospel, Luke 13:1-9

**Saturday 23 October - VIGIL 30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ORD TIME**

6pm Mass John Donachie (Ann)

**Sunday 24 October - 30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD TIME**

8am Mass Jean Bergin (Ann)  
9am Mass Bridget Kearney (Ints)  
*(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)*  
9.30am Mass Sheila Mary Kennedy (Ann)  
11.30am Mass Jose Ezcurra (RIP)  
6pm Mass People of the parish

## PLEASE PRAY

Together with Churches Together in St Albans, we pray for the ministers and members of St Peter's Church.

For those suffering with Coronavirus and for all the Sick including

*The names of those we have been asked to pray for are not included in the web version of the parish bulletin for reasons of data protection*

For those who have died recently, including George Xuereb Brennan, Ray Pujol, Bernadette Roache and Thomas Bradbury (formerly of St Albans).

The funeral service for George Xuereb Brennan will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 19 October at Harwood Park Crematorium near Stevenage.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Jean Bergin, John Donachie, Sheila Mary Kennedy, Steve Lee, Graham Smith and Loni Vengler.

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace*

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Please click [here](#) for this week's 'Liturgy of the Word' for Children leaflet and the latest worksheet from the Diocese of Westminster.

**Virtual Children's Liturgy from CAFOD** in addition to their downloadable weekly children's liturgy resources, CAFOD are currently also offering a virtual Children's Liturgy of the Word at 10am on Sunday as a webinar. Parents and children are encouraged to join online for prayers and reflection on Sunday's Gospel. The liturgy is led by catechists who usually lead children's liturgy in their parish and will be based on CAFOD children's liturgy resources. Click [here](#) for the link to register.

**Parish Justice, Peace & the Integrity of Creation Team - Weekly Prayer** To love conscientiously and simply so that I do not deprive others of the means to live.

**Saint Luke, Evangelist - 18 October** Luke was a Greek doctor who converted to Christianity. A companion of the Apostle Paul, he wrote his Gospel in accordance with Paul's teaching and is thought to have written the Acts of the Apostles, which narrates the early history of the Church up to Paul's first stay in Rome. He takes care to explain to Gentile readers, Jewish customs and the meaning of Hebrew words.