



Church Website

## NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

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**32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 7 November 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*



### Individual Synodal Survey

Everyone is invited and encouraged to respond to the Pope's call to pray for and participate in the world-wide process of listening in preparation for the next synod for a Synodal Church. We have put together a brief survey, calling for short answers, and would ask you to dedicate a small amount of time to completing your response.

#### Ways to access the Individual Synodal Survey

1. **Hard copy** Please pick up a hard copy from the Church porch, coffee bar in the Sacred Heart Centre or Marshalswick Mass Centre. Please post replies through presbytery door by **16<sup>th</sup> November**.
2. **Online** The survey is available on the parish website at albanstephen.org. Click the 'Synod 2021-2023' box on the front page and scroll down the Synod page to find the Individual Synod Survey button. Alternatively you can follow this [link](#) to open the Individual Survey directly.
3. **E-Mail** the parish office requesting a copy of the survey and return your answers by email by 16<sup>th</sup> November. Please use Synod Survey in subject line
4. **Facebook** Visit the St Alban and St Stephen Facebook page at (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/131568531866/>)

#### Parish Meetings

There will be two general meetings open to anybody wishing to contribute to our parish response

- **Virtual Zoom Meeting** on at 7.45pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> November  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84590583620?pwd=VEtpbEFhU2FhUmIzazRpSitpckVBZz09>  
Meeting ID: 845 9058 3620  
Passcode: 798671
- **A face-to-face meeting** in the Sacred Heart Parish Hall at 7.45pm on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

#### Diocesan Events

The Synod page (LINK) on the parish website contains further information from both the Diocese and the Vatican. Other events aimed at facilitating as wide a consultation process as possible have been arranged by the Diocese. Please visit <https://rcdow.org.uk/synod/events/> for further details on these.

**Preparing for the Synod - Pray and Participate** As we continue our Synodal journey, we pray that we may recognise and respect the free and rich diversity of our community through prayer, listening and discernment.

## SACRAMENTS AND LITURGY

**November - Month of the Holy Souls** We are holding our annual Novena of Masses for the Holy Souls from 2-10 November, praying the Novena Prayer at all masses. If you would like to include people in the Holy Souls List, to be placed near the altar, please collect an envelope from the Church porch or download a leaflet from our [website](#).

**Sacrament of Baptism** The next baptism preparation course is to be held on Saturday 4 December at 11.30am. Please email Fr Jonathan at [jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:jonstogdon@rcdow.org.uk).

**First Holy Communion Masses** Please remember in your prayers those children celebrating their First Holy Communion in November.

**First Holy Communion 2022** Parents and guardians of children currently in Year 3 or above are invited to register their child online via the parish [website](#).

**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 (8-10pm), Saturday 13 (10:30am-3.30pm) and Wednesday 17 (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

**Winter Beds Project** The Winter Beds Project provides accommodation over the winter for people who would otherwise be sleeping rough in St Albans. We are looking for volunteers to help run the service. Can you help with co-ordinating volunteers, setting up and greeting guests, checking guests out and cleaning, laundry? Please get in touch at [winterbedsproject@opendoorstalbans.org](mailto:winterbedsproject@opendoorstalbans.org).

**Knit and Natter** The next knit and natter meetings are on 9 and 23 November. Please come and join us. All welcome.

**Coffee and Tea After Mass** Coffee and tea will be available in the Parish Centre coffee bar after 11.30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month. Coffee and tea is also available after the 6pm Saturday evening Mass. Can you help make and serve the refreshments, once a month? If so, please contact the parish office.

**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).

**Traidcraft** Traidcraft goods will be available after Mass next Sunday 14th November at Marshalswick Mass Centre. All proceeds from the sales go to CAFOD. If anyone would like to help with Traidcraft, please contact Maureen 765549, [grabecki@hotmail.com](mailto:grabecki@hotmail.com).

**BINGO** By the Knights of St. Columba, at 8.00pm in the Parish Hall on Friday 12 November in aid of the St. Vincent De Paul Society. Admission is 50p to include refreshments. Everyone welcome.

**Men's breakfasts on 13 November** Following a successful restart of the Men's breakfasts in early October, we have another one planned for Saturday 13 November. We will meet in the parish centre from 8.15 for coffee, croissants and banter. At about 9am we will watch a video on the Nicene Creed, part of a series narrated by Bishop Robert Barron, and aim to finish at 10am. This is a great opportunity to learn more about this prayer and to the key parts of our catholic beliefs. Please contact Richard & Brendan on [d4dstalbins@gmail.com](mailto:d4dstalbins@gmail.com) for more information.

**Carols by Candlelight 2021** Readers, singers and musicians needed for this year's service! If you'd like to take part and can make the dates below, please text Jacquie on 07840 367555 or email [cbstalbins@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cbstalbins@rcdow.org.uk) by 8 November.

- 20 November in hall. 3.30 - 5.30pm Singers only
- 27 November in hall. 2.00 - 3.30pm Singers THEN 4 - 5.45pm Musicians
- 4 December in church. 2.00 - 5.30pm Singers and Musicians together
- 11 December in church. 2.00 - 5.15pm Singers and Musicians and Readers together

**You Can Be Santa 'voucher scheme':** The YCBS team has identified over **200 children** this year and we would really like to be able to help all of them enjoy the full spirit of Christmas. This is a reminder that vouchers can be donated until **19 November** at which point they will be distributed to the families identified by the YCBS team. Thank you to everyone who has donated vouchers so far. **We are now collecting voucher donations (in £5, £10 & £20 denominations please, as this will really help when we allocate the vouchers).** If you would like to contribute, please post your voucher/s through the presbytery door in a clearly marked envelope (YCBS Vouchers). If you are unable to obtain vouchers 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 [stalbinsycbs@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbinsycbs@rcdow.org.uk).

**Annual Blessing of Graves** Fr Kevin Moule, parish priest of Radlett, Shenley and London Colney parishes, will be blessing graves this Sunday 7 November. Please see below for the venues and times that this will take place:

- 12.30pm - London Road Cemetery
- 1.30pm - London Colney Cemetery
- 1.45pm - Shenley Cemetery
- 2.00pm Radlett Cemetery

**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.

**Retiring Collection for World Mission Sunday** £454.44 was raised to support the work of Missio during the recent retiring collection.

**Second collection - Sick & Retired Priests' Fund** Today's second collection is for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. Please give generously and help ensure our sick and older priests are financially supported, having given us a lifetime of dedicated service. They have baptised us, welcomed us into the church, and offered comfort and prayer at times of sorrow. Now we have a chance to give back and ensure they have peace of mind during their senior years, when they may be facing failing health and declining mobility. Please give generously using the envelopes in the church. You can also donate [online](#) - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online.

## SCHOOLS & NURSERIES

**School Certificates of Catholic Practice** For parents and guardians needing to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice to accompany their child's school application, Fr Michael will be available at the Presbytery at 7.30-8.30pm on Wednesday 24 and 4.00-6.30pm on Friday 26 November. No appointment is necessary and children need not attend.

**St. Alban & St. Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery** The application process for Reception & Nursery admissions in 2022-23 is now open. You are very welcome to join us at one of our Open Mornings on 24 November and 15 December from 9.30-11.00am to find out more. Please email [admin@ssaas.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ssaas.herts.sch.uk) if you wish to book a place. Full details on how to apply can be found on our [website](#).

**St Columba's College Sixth Form Preview Evening Tuesday 9 November from 5:30pm - 8:30pm.** During this event, applicants will have the opportunity to tour the recently refurbished Sixth Form centre, and talk to current Sixth Form students, teachers and members of the Sixth Form and College Leadership Teams. There will also be a short presentation by Headmaster and the Head of Sixth Form. Register on our website '[Visit Us](#)' page by clicking on the '[Sixth Form Preview Evening](#)' event.

**St. John Fisher Catholic Primary School Open Days** The school will be holding Open Days for families wishing to apply for Reception spaces for September 2022: Tuesday 9, 16, 23 or Wednesday 24 November. Please join us at 9:30 a.m. for an informative tour of the school!

**Call for School Governors** St John Fisher is looking to appoint (up to four) foundation governors to help with the strategic running of the school. Foundation governors are representatives of the bishop on the school board. They need to be practising Catholics and ensure that a school maintains its Catholic ethos. To learn more, please contact [christophergov@sjfisher.herts.sch.uk](mailto:christophergov@sjfisher.herts.sch.uk)

## OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

**Vinnie Packs for the Homeless** The SVP are distributing 11,500 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.70 per pack. Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 46088237. Thank you for your support!

**CAFOD: Thank you for supporting our Climate Crisis Appeal** for our recent Family Fast Day. Please pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow, COP26, from 31 October to 12 November. Please pray that that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities around the world, those most affected by climate change, right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information click [here](#).

## PARISH ADMINISTRATION

**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** 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.

**Virgin Media Giving VMG**, the online donation platform used throughout the diocese, is to close at the end of November. From then monthly donations will be cancelled automatically by VMG. The diocese will be setting up new online giving tools but the best way to support the parish is by standing order.

## MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

### **Saturday 6 November VIGIL 32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD TIME**

6pm Mass Holy Souls – for deceased parents/grandparents

### **Sunday 7 November 32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD TIME**

8am Mass Holy Souls

9am Mass Holy Souls

*(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)*

9.30am Mass People of the Parish

11.30am Mass Holy Souls - for all who have died in War

6pm Mass Bridget & Terence Molloy (Ann)

Reading 1, 1 Kings 17:10-16, Responsorial Psalm, 146

Reading 2, Hebrews 9:24-28, Gospel, Mark 12:38-44

### **Monday 8 November – feria**

10am Mass – Holy Souls

7pm Mass – Holy Souls – for deceased spouses

Reading 1, Wisdom 1:1-7

Responsorial Psalm, 139, Gospel, Luke 17:1-6

### **Tuesday 9 November – THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA**

10am Mass Holy Souls – for deceased children / sons & daughters

Reading 1, Ezekiel 47:1-2,8,9,12

Responsorial Psalm, 46, Gospel, John 2:13-22

### **Wednesday 10 November – St Leo the Great**

10am Mass Holy Souls

7pm Mass Holy Souls – for deceased priests, deacons and religious

Reading 1, Wisdom 6:1-11

Responsorial Psalm, 82, Gospel, Luke 17:11-19

### **Thursday 11 November – St Martin of Tours**

10am Mass Kevin Barry (RIP)

Reading 1, Wisdom 7:22-8:1

Responsorial Psalm, 119, Gospel, Luke 17:20-25

### **Friday 12 November – St Josaphat**

10am Mass Elisabeth Page (RIP)

7pm Mass Ivan Potiuk (Ann)

Reading 1, Wisdom 13:2-9

Responsorial Psalm, 19, Gospel, Luke 17:26-37

### **Saturday 13 November – Memoria of Blessed Virgin Mary**

10am No morning Mass

10.30-11.30am Exposition with opportunity for Confession

Reading 1, Wisdom 18:14-16, 19:6-9

Responsorial Psalm, 105, Gospel, Luke 18:1-8

### **Saturday 13 November VIGIL 33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD TIME**

6pm Mass Deceased members of the Catenian Association

### **Sunday 14 November 33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD TIME**

8am Mass Holy Souls

9am Mass Mary Thomasina Fitzpatrick (RIP)

*(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)*

9.30am Mass Freda and George Sumner (RIP)

11.30am Mass Mary Anne Curren (RIP)

6pm Mass People of the parish

## PLEASE PRAY

Together with Churches Together in St Albans, we pray for the attendees of Marshalswick Mass Centre.

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 Antonio Joaquim Rosado Alipio, Josephine ‘Angela’ Marr, Con McGowan and Fr Dan O’Neill.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Mary Comer, Bridget & Terence Molloy, Ivan Potiuk.

*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.

## 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.

**Justice, Peace & the Integrity of Creation Team** We pray for meaningful collaboration between political & religious leaders to find lasting solutions to the many challenges facing humanity. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.