



Church Website

NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

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EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION - 17 APRIL



Contactless Giving

Parish Team: Fr Michael O'Boy (Parish Priest) Fr Andrew Bowden (Assistant Priest)
Rev. Steve Pickard (Deacon) Rev. Brendan Day (Deacon) Mrs Angela Gray (Parish Administrator)
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We are a Fairtrade parish

ALLELUIA, ALLELUUIA, ALLELUIA! THE LORD IS RISEN, THE LORD IS RISEN INDEED

Today, Easter Sunday, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. We celebrate his triumph over sin and death, over all that comes between us and God. From beginning to end our faith is that God created us for life and for living. Sin and death were not a part of God's plan for us and in Christ's resurrection we are reminded that God cannot be thwarted.

In rising from the dead Jesus changes our perspective on life. Now, with the gift of an eternal resurrected life in view, a life beyond this current world, all that we experience and endure in this life takes on a different hue. If we suffer in this world, we suffer in the knowledge that this suffering will be put to nought in the life ahead, and if we have joy in this world, we experience it in the knowledge that the joy of the life to come will leave this joy, our earthly joy, in the shade. And yet, the resurrection and new life that we look forward to, is not just for the future; it is for today as well as for tomorrow. You see, the seeds or beginnings of the eternal life that we are called to are to be found in the here and now. When we live as Christ calls us to live, loving and forgiving our neighbour, there the new life of the heavenly kingdom - a life directed towards the praise and glory of God, a life where we are everything we were created to be, and lived as we were intended to live it - is a reality.

As brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ we are called to share in his life and his ministry, called to be harbingers of the resurrection and new life. As we celebrate this Easter, all too conscious of the selfishness, suffering and conflict that scars our world, let us pray that we make real for others the hope, the new life, which Christ's rising from the dead affords.

On behalf of Fr Andrew, Deacon Steve and Deacon Brendan, and on my own too, I wish you and those dear to you, the joy and blessing of Easter.

May the risen Lord enlighten our hearts and minds,

Fr Michael

Easter Offering The priests of the parish do not receive a wage or salary, instead they receive a monthly stipend or allowance which is funded out of the offering received on Easter Sunday and Christmas Day, as well as for masses, baptisms, weddings and funerals. If you wish to use an envelope for this purpose these are available in the porch.

Forthcoming funerals Please note that there is no evening mass on Easter Monday and that the Funeral Mass for Edward Francis Belward will take place on Wednesday 20 April at 10am. His remains will be received into Church on Tuesday at 4.30pm. The Funeral Mass for Betty Wong will take place on Monday 25 April at 10 am. The Funeral Mass for Roger Barresi will take place on Friday 29 April also at 10am. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Next bulletin There will be no bulletin next weekend. The next bulletin will be the weekend of Sunday 1 May.

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Group (JPIC) May the Glory of Christ's Resurrection lead us to renew the face of His Earth.

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS

Marshalswick Mass Volunteer Rota The new rota is now available for volunteers to download from the parish website. It can be found under 'groups' then 'liturgy group'.

Sacrament of Baptism The next baptism preparation course is to be held on Saturday 25 June at 11.30am. Please email andrewbowden@rcdow.org.uk with any enquiries.

First Holy Communion - Reconciliation A new date is being arranged for those children who were unable to attend the recent First Reconciliation service. Parents and guardians will receive an email with the new date shortly.

Marriage Preparation If you are intending to get married, please note the Diocese requires at least six months' notice with couples expected to complete a preparation course. Please email Fr Michael on 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. Permission from the person being prayed for, or their next of kin, must be obtained before we are able to include their name in the bulletin.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) Pentecost Challenge 2022 - Nazareth to Bethlehem Virtual Pilgrimage FHL's mission is to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan - the part of the world we know as the Holy Land. This year, FHL's Pentecost Challenge is to raise funds by walking, running, cycling or swimming the 100mile virtual route from Nazareth to Bethlehem, reversing last year's route, between Easter and Pentecost Sunday 5 June. Last year, a group of parishioners joined the challenge and raised over £2600 for FHL covering the cost of a year's schooling for 2 disadvantaged children at Bethlehem's School of Joy. The challenge need not be too arduous: it can be achieved by walking say 2.5 miles a day over 40 days, or, if you're a keen cyclist, you may prefer to cycle 20 miles a day over 5 days! If you would like to join the 2022 challenge and contribute to our parish fundraising for FHL, please [email](mailto:email@fhl.org) the office.

Food Bank If you would like to support the foodbank currently being run by the Salvation Army here in St Albans donations of non-perishable food items (cans and dried goods) can be left in the cardboard box in the porch.

Refreshments after Mass Monday 18 April Please join us for coffee, tea and homemade cake after 10am mass.

Coffee and Tea After Weekend 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.

Parish Bingo Many, many thanks for the support for our recent Bingo evening. Including a number of donations, the amount raised for the "Ukraine Appeal" was £200.00. Our next Bingo evening will be on Friday 13 May.

Knit and Natter The next meeting will be on 26 April 2.30-4pm. We meet in Room 1 of the Sacred Heart Centre and new members are always very welcome.

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

Permanent Diaconate - 'Come and See' The Permanent Deacon is a man who serves the Church through ministry of Word, Altar and Charity, under the direction of the Bishop and Priest. For men who may be interested in learning more about the Permanent Diaconate, they are invited to a 'Come & See' Morning on Saturday 23 April, 10am - 12noon at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, Westminster SW1P 1QN. For further information, follow this [link](#).

Feast of Divine Mercy at St Bartholomew's - Sunday 24 April. Prayers begin at 2.15pm with Holy Rosary, 3.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, 4.15pm Benediction followed by veneration of the Divine Mercy image. 5pm Old Rite Latin Mass (Missa Cantata). For details, call Margaret Leahy 01727 763832.

Refugees Check the CTSA [web page](#) for details on how you can help refugees. This page marshals information from the key agencies. In particular check out about Noke Bikes: there are 120 refugees living at the Noke Hotel, Chiswell Green. They can't afford bus fares but would love to ride bikes. We are sourcing 10 second hand bikes, hi-vis jackets, helmets and locks with keys. Can you support us by maintaining the bikes or teaching safe cycling? Or do you have spare bikes or equipment that we could use? Please contact Teresa Clarke by [email](mailto:email@refugees.org) or on 01727 855026.

BOOK SALE - Saturday 30 April 10.30am to 1pm, at Hatfield Road Methodist Church Please support this sale of Christian books in aid of the Book Aid Charitable Trust which sends Christian books to needy areas; mainly in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. The Trust needs books on theology, doctrine, bible commentaries, bible encyclopaedias and dictionaries. Christian biographies, books on prayer, discipleship and Christian living and bibles [except New English Bible]. They cannot use secular books, school text books, dated reading notes, anything not in English, or non-book items like CDs and DVDs. You can donate books, on the day, or beforehand by [emailing](mailto:email@bookaid.org) Chris Hancock or phoning 01727 854211.

May Procession at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, Nicoll Road, NW109AX. Sunday 8 May at 3pm. Preacher, Most Rev Kenneth Nowakowski; Eparch of the Holy Family of London (Ukrainian Catholic Church), who will be accompanied by the Icon of the Mother of Protection-Pokrova. Come and join the praying of the Rosary for asking the prayers of the Black Madonna of Willesden for the

protection of London, and for Peace and Restoration in Ukraine.

Catholic Listeners, Diocese of Westminster A new confidential listening helpline will launch this month, set up for those who are returning to the faith. The helpline is all about listening to others, listening to those who might have become isolated due to the pandemic. Although we are not a counselling service, we have a professional team trained on signposting to other services and agencies. Sometimes just communicating with someone who listens and understands can help clarify a way forward. We aim to help those in need of a safe space to talk. [Email](#) Ade for more information. We are here to listen on 0800 448 0704.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Retiring Collections There will be a retiring collection on the weekend of 7/8 May for the Priests Training Fund. The amounts received in retiring collections for the Cardinal's Appeal and Holy Places will be included in the next bulletin.

Hiring 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.

Offertory Promise Envelopes The new Offertory Promise Envelopes have now arrived. If you responded to the letter we sent out before Christmas or to the newsletter announcements confirming that you wanted to continue using Offertory Promise Envelopes, then these are now available and can be collected from the presbytery. We cannot leave them out on open display for people to collect as the labelling includes people's personal data. You can always ask one of the priests after Mass on Sunday.

Gift Aid If you are a UK tax payer and have previously signed a gift aid declaration, but no longer pay tax, please contact the parish office and let us know. If you have stopped paying tax, we can no longer claim gift (25p in every pound). If you do not pay tax and gift aid is claimed on what you give, then HMRC may seek reimbursement.

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.

Mass Intentions The best way to book mass intentions is to do so by emailing the parish office or phoning 9am - 1pm any weekday. Donations can be made by posting an envelope through the presbytery door or by making a payment via bank transfer. Our bank account details can be accessed [here](#). Please note that we are currently booking intentions for masses from August 2022 and that intentions may have to be moved with little notice to accommodate funerals. The suggested diocesan donation is currently £10 per mass.

PLEASE PRAY

Together with Churches Together in St Albans we pray for the elders and members of the Cornerstone 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 Roger Barresi, Edward Belward, Joan De Carle, Concettina Frisso, Michael Gifford, Jill Hall, Mark Johnson, Patricia Markham, Elaine Murphy, Rose Reilly, Mollie Sandy, Fr Mike Stanier, Betty Wong

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Mary Bergin, Annie Cawley, Fr Joe Colbert MSC, Mary Gallagher, Roger Hagger, Terry Mahabir, Dorothy Markham, Margaret Markham, Tony Moran, Kathleen O'Brien, Eileen Vasey, Derite Whyte.

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 [page](#) on our website with useful information for those who are new to our parish. Please complete our online **New Parishioner Registration 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 April - VIGIL OF EASTER SUNDAY

No morning Mass

8pm Mass **The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night**

OT Reading 1, Genesis 1:1-2;2:2, Responsorial Psalm, 103
OT Reading 2, Exodus 14:15 - 15:1, Psalm, Ex 15:1-6, 17-18
OT Reading 3, Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28, Psalm, 41
NT Reading 4, Romans 6:3-11, Psalm, 117
Gospel, Luke 24:1-12

Sunday 17 April - EASTER SUNDAY

8am Mass Mary Bergin (Ann) and Annie Cawley (Ann)
9am Mass People of the Parish
(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)
9.30am Mass Peter Celestine Okoro (RIP)
11.30am Mass Patrick Geoghan (RIP)
6pm Mass Adhemar Funes (RIP)
Reading 1, Acts 10:34,37-43, Responsorial Psalm, 117
Reading 2, Colossians 3:1-4, Gospel, John 20:1-9

Monday 18 April - WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

10am Mass Carmel Scahill (RIP)
No evening Mass
Reading 1, Acts 2:14,22-23, Psalm, 15(16),
Gospel, Matthew 28:8-15

Tuesday 19 April - WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

10am Mass Bartholomew Dunne (RIP)
Reading 1, Acts 2:36-41, Psalm, 32(33),
Gospel, John 20:11-18

Wednesday 20 April - WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

10am Funeral Mass for Edward Francis Belward
7pm Mass Annie Coakley (RIP)
Reading 1, Acts 3:1-10, Psalm, 104(105),
Gospel, Luke 24:13-35

Thursday 21 April - WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

10am Mass Derite Whyte (First anniversary)
Reading 1, Acts 3:11-26, Psalm, 8,
Gospel, Luke 24:35-48

Friday 22 April - WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

7pm Mass Holy Souls
(On Friday Mass is celebrated at St Albans Cathedral at 12 Noon)

Saturday 23 April - WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER

10am Mass Nana Banyin Thomford (RIP)
Reading 1, Acts 4:13-21, Psalm, 117(118),
Gospel, Mark 16:9-15
10.30-11.30am Exposition with opportunity for Confession

Saturday 23 April - VIGIL 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

6pm Mass Helen Kennedy (Ints)

Sunday 24 April 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

8am Mass Martina Lennon (Ints)
9am Mass People of the Parish
(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday 24 April 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

9.30am Walter Redmond (RIP)
11.30am Ruth O'Gorman (RIP)
6.00pm Deceased members of the O'Neill family
Reading 1, Acts 5:12-16, Psalm, 117(118)
Reading 2, Apocalypse, 1:9-13,17-19, Gospel, John 20:19-31

Monday 25 April - ST MARK

10am Funeral Mass for Betty Wong
7pm Mass Eileen Vasey (Ann)
Reading 1, 1 Peter 5:5-14
Psalm, 88(89), Gospel, Mark 16:15-20

Tuesday 26 April - ST GEORGE, Patron of England

10am Mass Roger Hagger (Ann)
Reading 1, Apocalypse 12:10-12
Reading 2, Romans 8:31-39
Psalm, 125(126), Gospel, John 15:18-21 or John 15:1-8

Wednesday 27 April - Easter feria

10am Mass Evelio Azcona (RIP) & Maria Angelis Azcona (Ints)
7pm Mass Ellen Mary Small (RIP)
Reading 1, Acts 5:17-26
Psalm, 33(34), Gospel, John 3:16-21

Thursday 28 April - Easter feria

10am Mass Jack and Ita O'Mahoney (RIP)
Reading 1, Acts 5:27-33
Psalm, 33(34), Gospel, John 3:31-36

Friday 29 April - ST CATHERINE OF SIENNA

10am Funeral Mass for Ruggiero 'Roger' Barresi
7pm Mass Lewis and Frances Lumber (RIP)
Reading 1, 1 John 1:5-2:2
Psalm, 102(103), Gospel, Matthew 11:25-30

(On Friday Mass is celebrated at St Albans Cathedral at 12 Noon)

Saturday 30 April - Easter feria

10am Mass Ruth O'Gorman (RIP)
10.30-11.30am Exposition with opportunity for Confession
Reading 1, Acts 6:1-7
Psalm, 32(33), Gospel, John 6:16-21

Saturday 30 April - VIGIL 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

6pm Mass Jack O'Mahony (RIP)

Sunday 1 May THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

8am Mass People of the Parish
9am Mass Bridget Kearney (Ints)
(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)
9.30am Mass Ellen Small (RIP)
11.30am Mass John Darby (RIP)
6pm Mass Terry Mahabir (Ann)
Reading 1, Acts 5:27-32, 40-41, Psalm, 29 (30)
Reading 2, Apocalypse, 5:11-14
Gospel, John 21:1-19