



Church Website

NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

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Contactless Giving

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 29 MAY & PENTECOST SUNDAY - 5 JUNE

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)
Safeguarding Lead: Mary Harber / stalbanssg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk / 07976 277059
We are a Fairtrade parish

Fr Michael writes...

Next Sunday is Pentecost Sunday, when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. At each of the masses, our readers will be invited to renew their commitment to reading at mass.

As well as being Pentecost Sunday, this coming week and next weekend will also mark the anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's coronation. As a nation and as a community we give thanks to God for her fidelity to the commitments she made and for the seventy years of her reign. The Bishops of England and Wales have asked that the following prayer be offered for the Queen:

Almighty God, we pray, that your servant Elizabeth, our Queen,
Who, by your providence has received the governance of this realm,
May continue to grow in every virtue,
That, imbued with your heavenly grace,
She may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil
And, being blessed with your favour may,
With the royal family,
Come at last into your presence,
Through Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life
And who lives and reigns with you
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Parish Bulletin

Due to the half term break and Jubilee Bank holiday weekend, there will be no bulletin next weekend.

Catechetical Coordinator

Sr Anita left us in January 2020 and, with parish life settling back into its new normal, it seems a good time to look to her replacement. We hope in the future to appoint a youth minister, so the post of catechetical coordinator will be a part time role at 20 hrs a week. For the full job description visit the Job Vacancies section of the Diocese of Westminster website. The closing day for applications is Thursday 9 June at noon.

Cleaner

If you would be interested in a paid cleaning position here at the church (14 hours a week) Fr Michael would be pleased to hear from you. Please contact him on 01727 853585.

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Group (JPIC) we pray that our world be freed from conflict and that hatred be replaced by Your love. We pray that our world leaders may be wise and free from selfish ambition, that occupation may be turned into liberation and oppression into freedom, and that peace and justice be experienced by all.

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS

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 Reconciliation The parents or guardians of those children making their First Holy Communion in July who have not yet made their First Reconciliation have received an email inviting them to make their First Reconciliation between midday and 1pm on Saturday 18 June. If you have not received an email and your child has still to make his or her First Reconciliation, please contact the parish office.

Confirmation Parents or guardians of Confirmation candidates have received an email asking for their choice of Confirmation date in July. If you have not received an email, please contact the parish office.

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.

Little Lights Owing to the half-term, there will be no Children's Liturgy during the 9.30am Mass for the next two Sundays. It will return on Sunday 12 June.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Catholic Communications Network This year the Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day on 29 May. It's a day when we pray for those who work in the media and we have a second collection after Mass this weekend to support the Church's important work in this area.

Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) Pentecost Challenge 2022 Our team of parishioners who are each walking 100 miles, the distance from Nazareth to Bethlehem, before Pentecost, are well on their way, with our keenest walker, almost reaching the target. If you would like to join the parish team that's taking the Challenge, please [email](#) the parish office or help us raise funds by sponsoring the parish team, using this [link](#) or drop a donation in an envelope marked 'FHL Pentecost Challenge' through the presbytery letter box..

Concert by London Central Fellowship Band for St Albans Salvation Army at St Alban and St Stephen Church - 7.30pm on Saturday 11 June. Ticket price £5 per person. To reserve tickets please contact 01727 855395 / 07551 856081 or email stalbens@salvationarmy.org.uk. All funds raised will support St Albans Salvation Army's community works (charity number 214779).

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.

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.

Coffee after Monday Morning Mass Coffee and tea will be available in the Parish Centre coffee bar after 10am Mass each Monday. All welcome.

Bread-making workshop The Justice & Peace group offer many thanks to all who helped and participated in our bread-making event on Saturday 21 May. Everyone had fun and the fresh loaves looked and smelt wonderful! This was part of our Parish involvement in the St Albans Sustainability festival. All the money donated on the day was given to CAFOD.

Traidcraft - fairly traded goods will be available for purchase after all Masses over the 4/5 June at the Church and after Mass at Marshalswick Mass Centre on 12 June. Buying items with the Fairtrade mark means that producers meet strict environmental standards, are paid a fair wage and their communities benefit from an additional premium to help with, for instance, local development and education. This initiative is part of our parish Justice and Peace commitment. More details, or to place an order, contact Maureen 765549, grabecki@hotmail.com.

Knit and Natter Group - Parish Friends The next meetings of the Knit and Natter Group will be on 7 and 21 June 2.30 - 4pm. All welcome.

Faith and Family Group 7 June A new 'Faith & Family group' will be meeting in the parish hall on the first Tuesday of each month starting on Tuesday June 7 at 10.45am. The topic for discussion will be 'Passing on the Faith from an Early Age.' Activities for under 5s. All welcome.

CWL Jubilee Tea Party 9 June The CWL will hold a Jubilee Tea Party on Thursday 9 June 2.30pm, at 4 Marshalswick Lane. £5. If you can, please bring a cupcake (shop or homemade) decorated by you in honour of Her Majesty's Jubilee. Prize for best cupcake. Any queries to Anne on 01727 837511.

Bingo - 10 June by the Knights of St. Columba, at 8pm in the Parish Hall in aid of Friends of the Holy Land. Admission is 50p and includes refreshments. Everyone is most welcome. Thank you for the support to our last Bingo evening, including the very generous donations of prizes for the raffle. The amount raised for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal was £240.00.

Parish Friends Summer Tea Party Due to a clash of dates with the Garden Party at Loreto College Parish Friends is postponing the Tea Party booked for 10 July to a later date.

Volunteers wanted There will be a lively "Celebrate" style faith event with mass in the Autumn, date yet to be arranged, hopefully to be agreed soon. If you would like to get involved in the planning for this family event, then please let Deacon Brendan know by emailing at brendanday@rcdow.org.uk.

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

Thy Kingdom Come - Evening Prayer in St Albans Abbey each night at 8pm Each evening between 26 May and 6 June in St Albans Abbey there will be services of prayer led by both the Abbey Team and a range of ecumenical partners, all services are open to all and there will be a focus on young people on Friday 27 May. Please do support these services as we pray and worship together. More information [here](#).

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

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 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 taxpayer 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/ September 2022 and that intentions may have to be moved with little notice to accommodate funerals. The suggested diocesan donation is currently £10 per mass.

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. We look forward to being able to have an event to welcome you and your families properly into our parish community.

PLEASE PRAY

Together with Churches Together in St Albans we pray for the intentions of Thy Kingdom Come and the 24 Hours of Prayer that more people to come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ and for the minister and members of St Luke'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 Rita Dellow, Joyce Eastham, Callum Gathard, Veronica Grant, Tony Kinsella, Tomasz Moller, Bridget Pakenham, Hilda Mary Pearce and Nellie White.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Margaret Christoforou, Eric Harber, Ellen and Thomas Lawless.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Saturday 28 May - VIGIL 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

6pm Mass Perry Taites (RIP)

Sunday 29 May - 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8am Mass Fearghal Bergin (Ints)

9am Mass Holy Souls

(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)

9.30am Mass Ellen and Thomas Lawless (Ann)

11.30am Mass Rita & Gatarno (RIP)

6pm Mass People of the parish

Reading 1, Acts 7:55-60, Psalm, 96(97)

Reading 2, Apocalypse 22:12-14, 16-17, 20,

Gospel, John 17:20-26

Monday 30 May - Easter feria

10am Funeral Mass for Callum Gathard

7pm Mass Andrew Fernandes (RIP)

Reading 1, Acts 19:1-8

Psalm, 67(68), Gospel, John 16:29-33

Tuesday 31 May - THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10am Mass Ruth O'Gorman (RIP)

Reading 1, Zephaniah 3:14-18

Psalm, Isaiah 12, Gospel, Luke 1:39-56

Wednesday 1 June - St Justin

10am Mass Sr Clara Lacalle (RIP)

7pm Mass Concetta and Emilio Viscogliosi (RIP)

Reading 1, Acts 20:28-38

Psalm, 67(68), Gospel, John 17:11-19

Thursday 2 June - Easter feria

10am Mass Josephine Balderamos (RIP)

Reading 1, Acts 22:30, 23:6-11,

Psalm, 15(16), Gospel, John 17:20-26

Friday 3 June - St Charles Lwanga and Companions

10am Mass Adriano Robertini (RIP)

7pm No Evening Mass

Reading 1, Acts 25:13-21

Psalm, 102(103), Gospel, John 21:15-19

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

Saturday 4 June - Easter feria

10am Mass Lee Bariteau (RIP)

Reading 1, Acts 28:16-20, 30-31

Psalm 10(11), Gospel, John 21:20-25

10.30-11.30am Exposition with opportunity for Confession

Saturday 4 June - VIGIL MASS OF PENTECOST

6pm Mass Gabriel Sequeira (RIP)

Sunday 5 June - PENTECOST SUNDAY

8am Mass Teresa Cahill (Ann)

9am Mass Cliff Staniforth (RIP)

(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday 5 June - PENTECOST SUNDAY

9.30am Marie Noella Amadis (RIP) and Maria Aline

Rangasamy (RIP)

11.30am Marion Miller (RIP)

6pm Mass People of the Parish

Reading 1, Acts 2:1-11, Psalm, 103(104)

Reading 2, 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13, or Romans 8:8-17

Gospel, John 14:15-16, 23-26

Monday 6 June - The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

10am Mass Evelio Azcona (RIP)

7pm Mass The Beagan family and Joanne Beagan (Ints)

Reading 1, Genesis 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14

Psalm, 86(87), Gospel, John 19:25-34

Tuesday 7 June - feria

10am Mass Margaret O'Hanlon (RIP)

Reading 1, 1 Kings 17:7-16

Psalm, Psalm 4, Gospel, Matthew 5:13-16

Wednesday 8 June - feria

10am Mass Holy Souls

7pm Mass Christopher Whittaker (RIP)

Reading 1, 1 Kings 18:20-39 Psalm, 15(16),

Gospel, Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday 9 June - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST

10am Mass Teresa and Pat Roe (Ints)

Reading 1, Isaiah 6:1-4, 8 or Hebrews 2:10-18

Psalm, 22(23), Gospel, John 17:1-2, 9, 14-26

Friday 10 June - feria

7pm Mass Christina and Richard Sumner (Ints)

Reading 1, 1 Kings 19:9, 11-16

Psalm, 26(27), Gospel, Matthew 5:27-32

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

Saturday 11 June - St Barnabas

10am Mass Evelio Azcona (RIP)

Reading 1, Acts 11:21-26, 13:1-3

Psalm 97(98), Gospel, Matthew 5:33-37

10.30-11.30am Exposition with opportunity for Confession

Saturday 11 June - VIGIL OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

6pm Mass People of the Parish

Sunday 12 June - THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

8am Mass Rose and George Watkins (RIP)

9am Mass Hubert McCormack (RIP)

(St John Fisher School, Marshalswick)

9.30am Mass Paul Liversidge (RIP)

11.30am Mass Margaret McGuire (RIP)

6pm Mass Margaret Christoforou (First Ann)

Reading 1, Proverbs 8:22-31, Psalm 8

Reading 2, Romans 5:1-5, Gospel, John 16:12-15