



Church Website

**NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN**  
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**THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST - 19 JUNE**



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*

## Towards an adult faith ...

*Fr Michael writes ...*

So much of parish life is given over to our sacramental programmes and to the preparation of young people for First Communion and Confirmation, and for many people, public exams apart, the preparation for First Communion and Confirmation can be the last time they undertook any systematic or significant reflection on what we believe. In other words, while we readily acknowledge the need to refresh and enrich our understanding when it comes to our professional lives, often times when it comes to the understanding and exploration of our faith we behave as if what we learnt as children will do for the whole of our lives – that what we learnt as children will address all the questions we face as adults. But this cannot be – surely. So, I am pleased and excited to announce that in September our Parish will host Part 1 of the acclaimed CATHOLICISM Series Study Programme.

Bishop Robert Barron is an author, theologian and podcaster. From Chicago, Bishop Barron founded *Word on Fire Catholic Ministries* and has recently been appointed Bishop of Winona-Rochester, Southern Minnesota. He created this groundbreaking programme, which is based on his 10-episode film CATHOLICISM, as a thematic presentation of what Catholics believe and why. Its aim is to help adults come to a deeper understanding of their Catholic Faith.

More than a video lecture, course in Church history or scripture study, this engaging and interesting faith formation programme was filmed in 50 locations across 15 countries. It uses art, architecture, literature, music and all the treasures of the Catholic tradition to illuminate the timeless teachings of the Church, and reinforces the content with extensive commentary and questions for understanding and application.

I hope anyone seeking to understand or deepen their faith as adults, or anyone who wants answer questions about our faith with greater confidence, will take up this invitation to journey around the world in the company of fellow parishioners desiring to go deeper into our Catholic faith.

### ***Commitment***

8 weekly sessions in the Parish Centre, each 90 minutes (plus 30 min preparation time at home in advance of the weekly sessions).

### ***When***

Starting Wednesday 21 September 2022 at 10.45am or Thursday 22 September 2022 at 7.45pm (breaking for the half-term holiday). Light refreshments provided; biscuits and cakes on Wednesdays, soup and a roll on Thursdays.

### ***Cost***

£10 - This includes a study guide and is payable on registration.

### ***Registration***

Please register by Monday 18 July 2022 by either emailing the parish office at [stalbans@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbans@rcdow.org.uk) or phoning on 01727 853585 during office hours (9am – 1pm Monday to Friday). Details of how to pay will be given on registration.

**Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Group (JPIC)** We pray for fathers that they may experience the fruits of the Holy Spirit, and also for all among us who mentor and guide.

## 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](mailto:andrewbowden@rcdow.org.uk) with any enquiries.

**First Holy Communion and Confirmation** If your child is celebrating their First Holy Communion or Confirmation this summer and was baptised outside the parish, please could you provide a copy of his or her baptismal certificate to [stalbans@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbans@rcdow.org.uk) if you have not already done so.

**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](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. 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.

**Call for Ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers of the Word** We are very blessed to have many extraordinary ministers in the parish but we always need more, particularly at 9.30 Mass. If you would like more information about becoming a Minister of the Eucharist or a Minister of the Word, please contact the Parish Office on [stalbans@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbans@rcdow.org.uk) giving full names, contact details and which Mass you normally attend.

## OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

**Day For Life** The retiring collection this weekend will be in support of 'Day for Life.' This year's theme is the Care of the Elderly. The collection for the Day for Life is used to assist the work of promoting the Church's teaching on the dignity of human life through the support of national organisations and groups working in this field. More information [here](#).

**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.

**Parking** Please check the parking restrictions in Beaconsfield Road when attending weekday and Saturday morning Masses - traffic wardens seem to have been very active recently! Note that Loreto car park is now open for use at Sunday Masses, please park here if possible and leave the church car park available for those less mobile.

**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.

**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 at 10.45am. The topic for discussion will be 'Passing on the Faith from an Early Age.' Activities for under 5s. All welcome.

**Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Group (JPIC) Meeting 16 June** This meeting will take place at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. All are welcome to attend.

**Toddlers' Playgroup restarting on 20 June** The Toddler playgroup to restart on Monday, 20 June, 10:30am After over two years away due to Covid, we are pleased to announce the return of our playgroup. For pre-school age children and their carers. Join us in the upstairs hall, for toys, books, games and singing plus drinks and snacks. If able to help, please [email](mailto:email) David Markham or call 07543 400650.

**Knit and Natter Group - Parish Friends 21 June** The next meeting of the Knit and Natter Group will be on 21 June 2.15 - 4pm. All welcome.

**Parish Men's Group - Summer events** Before the summer holidays start we have a couple of events planned for the Men's Group in the parish. Firstly on Thursday 30 June we are planning pub night at the Great Northern on London Road. We will be there from 7pm to 10pm so why not pop in at some point in the evening. They also do food so you can eat there as well if you wish. Secondly on Saturday 2 July we have a Men's Breakfast with a difference. We are going to start at 8.30am with the Morning Office of the Church - which should take about 20 minutes and then follow that with a discussion over coffee and pastries, which will start on the theme of Prayer may well diverge on to other topics. We will finish by about 9.45am

**Bingo 8 July** - Grateful thanks for the support for our recent Bingo evening. Including donations, the amount raised for The Friends of the Holy Land was £120-00. Our next Bingo evening is on Friday 8 July.

**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 [email](mailto:email).

**Drivers needed** Do you come to 6pm Mass on Saturday evenings? How would you like to join a rota and give a lift to this mass to two parishioners (from the same road) once every month? Being without a car means that some parishioners are not able to return to mass. Volunteer drivers make a huge difference and enable them to enjoy the mass in church, receive Holy Communion, light a candle and socialise with other parishioners. Please consider offering your help. For more information contact Helen

Bassill 07860 830340 or via the Parish Office by emailing [stalbans@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbans@rcdow.org.uk) or phoning 01727 853585.

**Host families needed for Ukrainian refugees** There are still many families fleeing Ukraine but with nowhere to go. Could you please help by offering them space in your home? You have no obligation to cook for them, and the Government will pay you £350 per month. Full support given through the process. Contact David Markham on 07543 400650 or [Dave.markham@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Dave.markham@yahoo.co.uk).

## OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

**CTSA Information Exchange Forum 27 June** Churches Together in St Albans are running an Information Exchange concerning refugees and asylum seekers. This forum comes at a time when a number of people are hosting refugees or asylum seekers and there are hundreds of asylum seekers in The Noke and other hotels in the area. Our hope is to help by providing a forum where hosts, refugees, asylum seekers and others who would like to help in some way can share information, experiences and expertise. Rather than having a main speaker, we hope to have a more open forum and hear briefly from many people. We hope that people will network and that together we can find the best ways to help at this time. All who are interested in helping in any way are welcome - Hosts, Refugees, Asylum Seekers and others, sharing experience and expertise.

The forum will take place on Monday June 27 June at 8pm, at Marshalswick Baptist Free Church, Sherwood Avenue AL4 9QL ALL WELCOME. Churches Together in St Albans. [www.ctstalbans.org.uk](http://www.ctstalbans.org.uk). If you are hosting or involved in some other way, please email Peter Berners-Lee [peter@ctstalbans.org.uk](mailto:peter@ctstalbans.org.uk). - he'd love to hear from you.

**Walsingham New Dawn 36th annual family Catholic Charismatic Conference 1-5 August 2022** "Come to me all you who labour and are heavy laden" ( Matt11 v 28-30 ). Programme for all the family, daily Mass, workshops, speakers, Youth Ministry and much more. Information [www.Newdawn.org.uk](http://www.Newdawn.org.uk) or New Dawn Walsingham Facebook.

**CTSA Autumn Prayer Walk, 2022: date for your diary** Churches Together in St Albans Autumn Prayer Walk – Sunday, 18 September 2 – 6pm. Come and join other local Christians for all or any part of this relaxed walk around St Albans. As usual, we will pause at number of churches for a short prayer for the people of St Albans. Details to follow.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023 – LOOKING TO LISBON** World Youth Day 2023 will take place in Lisbon in the beginning of August 2023. Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry with support from Cardinal's Appeal is offering a limited number of places on this pilgrimage with a 50% discount to young people between the ages of 16-25. Any 16 year olds who apply will need to be finishing year 12 by the start of World Youth Day pilgrimage. These young people

will commit to a series of preparatory sessions from September 2022, to prepare them to assist in support roles during the pilgrimage, such as by acting as small group leaders, and also offer formation to them which will be helpful in living their faith post-World Youth Day. More details can be found [here](#). at or by [emailing](#) Westminster Youth Ministry at. Please apply by 31 July 2022.

**Charity Co-ordinator Wanted** The Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral is seeking to recruit a part-time Co-ordinator to administer the charity, assist in recruiting new members and in organising events. The appointment, based in Westminster Cathedral Clergy House, is for 20 hours per week at a salary in the region of £14,500 per annum. The appointment is for 12 months, closing date 19 June 2022. For further details please follow this [link](#).

## 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. Please also be aware that if you have signed a gift aid form, your offertory donations need to be made from a bank account in your name only or a joint bank account on which you are also named. Please contact the parish office if you have any queries on this.

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

## MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

### **Saturday 18 June - VIGIL MASS OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

6pm Mass Marion Miller (RIP)

### **Sunday 19 June - THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST**

8am Mass The Holy Souls most in need

9am Mass People of the Parish (*St John Fisher School, M'wick*)

9.30am Mass Mary Curran (RIP)

11.30am Mass Antonio and Toni (RIP)

6pm Mass Maureen Lerwill (Ann)

Reading 1, Genesis 14:18-20, Psalm 109(110)

Reading 2, Corinthians 11:23-26, Gospel, Luke 9:11-17

### **Monday 20 June - ST ALBAN**

10am Mass Jimmy McGilloway (Ann)

7pm Mass People of the Parish

Reading 1, 1 John 1:13-16

Psalm 34, Gospel, Matthew 10:34-42

### **Tuesday 21 June - St Aloysius Gonzaga**

10am Mass Kathleen Bamford (Ann)

Reading 1, 2 Kings 19:9-11,14-21,31-36

Psalm 47(48), Gospel, Matthew 7:6,12-14

### **Wednesday 22 June - SS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE**

10am Funeral Mass for Helen Kennedy

7pm Mass Canon Jeremiah Cronin (Ints)

Reading 1, 2 Maccabees 6:18,21,24-31

Psalm 30(31), Gospel, Matthew 24:4-13

### **Thursday 23 June - THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST**

10am Mass Marion Miller (RIP)

Reading 1, Isaiah 49:1-6, Psalm 138(139),

Reading 2, Acts 13:22-26, Gospel Luke 1:57-66,80

### **Friday 24 June - THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS (Diocese consecrated to the Sacred Heart, 17 June 1873)**

7pm Mass Gail Coppitters (Ann)

Reading 1, Ezekiel 34:11-16, Psalm 22(23),

Reading 2, Gospel, Romans 5:5-11, Gospel, Luke 15:3-7

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

### **Saturday 25 June - The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

10am Mass Peter McGeeney (RIP)

Reading 1, Lamentations 2:2,10-14,18-19

Psalm 73(74), Gospel, Luke 2:41-51

10.30-11.30am Exposition with opportunity for Confession

### **Saturday 25 June - VIGIL OF 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORD TIME**

6pm Mass John and Pamela Kentleton (RIP)

### **Sunday 26 June - 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8am Mass Mary Watkins (Ints)

9am Mass Marion Miller (RIP) (*St John Fisher School, M'wick*)

9.30am Peter Celestine Okoro (RIP)

11.30am Mass People of the parish

6pm Mass James Patrick Gogarty (RIP)

## PLEASE PRAY

Together with Churches Together in St Albans we pray for the minister and members of Marlborough Road Methodist 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 Bridie Byrne, Helen Kennedy, Jean Lawley-Yorke, Shirley Penstone, Raul Pujol and James Aloysius Ryan.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Kathleen Bamford, Gail Coppitters, Jimmy McGilloway and Maureen Lerwill.

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