



Church Website

NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

14 Beaconsfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RB

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YouTube: <https://youtube.com/c/SsAlbanandStephenCatholicChurch>

20 October 2024 - TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Contactless Giving

Parish Priest: Fr Michael O'Boy - Assistant Priest: Fr John Casey

Deacon: Rev. Brendan Day

Parish Administrator: Mrs Angela Gray - Catechetical Coordinator: Mrs Joan Egenes

Safeguarding Lead: Mary Harber / stalbensg3@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 will be offered on Monday 4 November at 7pm. During this Mass the names of all listed below will be called out and a votive candle will be lit in remembrance. You and your family are most welcome to attend and to come forward and light this candle in prayer for and remembrance of the family member who has died in the past year. If you are unable to attend, a candle will still be lit for your family member. If you would like to add the name of somebody who has died in the last twelve months, please email his or her name to the parish office.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED - NOVEMBER 2023 to OCTOBER 2024

Agnes Seavers	Doreen Poole	Kathleen Fahy	Patricia Brennan
Anna Truglio	Eddie O'Connell	Lavinia Staines	Philomena Whitton
Anne Green	Esther Buckingham	Lydia Centala	Rev Stephen Pickard
Annie Reeves	Felicity French	Mary Hodgson	Rose Kendrick
Barbara Latham	Henry Green	Mary Liddle	Samantha Rodell
Beatrice Greatorex	Isabel Binks	Mary Quinn	Sarah Murphy
Carys Ann Newton	Isabelle Westrup-Aparicio	Maura Moran	Sheila Taylor
Colin Macdonald	James Papworth	Maureen Patricia Wood	Sieglinde Wilson
David Whitton	James Warrilow	Michael Dennehy	Teresa Hambridge
Desmond Stack	Jane Malyon	Michael Patrick O'Reilly	Teresa Griffin
Domenica Ribaldo	Joan Honeywell	Michael Thursfield	Terrence Burke
Domenico Sellecchia	Joseph Dwyer	Monica Jane King	Vincenzo Carini

During November, several of the Holy Souls masses will be offered for a particular intention, as listed below:

Sunday 3 November 11.30am

For deceased benefactors

Monday 4 November 7.00pm

For all who have died in the past year

Sunday 10 November 11.30am

For those who have died in war

Wednesday 13 November 7.00pm

For deceased brothers and sisters

Sunday 17 November 8.00am

For deceased children/sons and daughters

Thursday 21 November 10.00am

For deceased parents and grandparents

Saturday 23 November 10.00am

For deceased spouses

Wednesday 27 November 7.00pm

For deceased victims of violence

Saturday 30 November 10.00am

For deceased priests and religious

Holy Souls Lists If you would like to include people in the Holy Souls List, which will 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 and the Holy Souls leaflet will also be available on the parish website, or via [this link](#), but please feel free to email your Holy Souls list to stalbens@rcdow.org.uk

This Sunday is World Mission Sunday There will be a retiring collection after all masses to support the work of Missio.

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS

RCIA Group A group for those who wish to explore the Catholic faith further with the possibility of being baptised/received into the church or, for those of you who are already baptised Catholic, with a view to being confirmed. Please [email](#) or speak with Fr John.

Sacrament of Baptism The next baptism preparation course is Saturday 9 November at 11.30am. To register or to arrange a date for baptism please speak to Fr Michael or Fr John after any of the weekend masses.

Monthly Youth Mass, third Sunday of the month at 6pm Calling all musicians who would like to be involved in the monthly Youth Masses. We would like to build a band of regular singers and musicians. The commitment is playing at Sunday 6pm Mass most third Sundays of the month and attending an 8pm practice in the church the Thursday evening before. Please email stalbanscc@rcdow.org.uk if interested or if you would like more information.

Monthly 9.30am Family Mass on the last Sunday of the month. There is no Children's Liturgy on the last Sunday of each month. Instead, children are invited to sit on the carpet at the front of the church and the Mass itself is geared towards their participation. There is then a short social. If you can help please speak with Deacon Brendan.

Marriage Preparation If you are intending to get married, please note the Diocese requires at least six months' notice. Couples are expected to complete a marriage preparation course. Please [email](#) Fr Michael for details.

Prayers for the Sick If you would like to include someone in the prayers for the sick, please contact the [parish office](#). Permission from the person being prayed for, or their next of kin, must be obtained before being added to the list. Names will be included for eight weeks, unless the request to have their name included is renewed.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Pax Christie travelling crib This Advent we have the chance to think about the birth of Jesus as well peace in the world and in the Holy Land by joining in with others to share this travelling crib as it passes from house to house in St Albans. Individuals and families will receive the beautiful hand-made olive wood crib set along with some Advent prayers and a story about Bethlehem today; you will have the opportunity to hold the crib and then pass it on to another household. If you would like to know more about the process or would like to register an interest, please email grabecki@hotmail.com by 1 November.

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. Please note we will not be collecting One4All vouchers or any online Amazon vouchers this year. 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 will be purchased by the YCBS team on your behalf. **There will also be a YCBS collection after each Mass next weekend.**

Identifying families with children that might benefit from the scheme 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 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

Soup and film event Many thanks to everyone who helped make this such a success. A total of £400 was raised, which will go towards the Cafod harvest fast day collection.

Migrants' toiletries collection We currently need donations of toiletries, shampoos and baby wipes, adult toothbrushes, deodorants for women, bars of soap, baby shower gel and shampoo. Please only donate requested items.

St Albans Food Bank Donations of non-perishable food items (cans and dried goods) can be left in the box in the porch. All donations are very welcome, but there is a particular need for long life milk, long life juice and tinned fruit. More details of the St Albans Food bank can be found using this [link](#). There is also a food collection box at Marshalswick Mass Centre on the first Sunday of the month.

St Alban and St Stephen RC Primary School Reception Admissions 25/26 To arrange a visit, contact the School Office: on 01727 866668 or at admin@ssas.herts.sch.uk.

OUR PARISH GROUPS AND EVENTS

Parish Groups and Events Please see our '[Parish News](#)' webpage for details of parish groups and events.

Coffee and Tea After Mass Coffee and tea are available in the Parish Centre coffee bar after 9.30am Sunday Mass during school term time, after 11.30am Mass on the first Sunday of the month and after 6pm Saturday evening Mass. Coffee and tea are also available after the 10am Mass each Monday. All are welcome.

Faith and Family Group The 'Faith & Family Group' meets in the parish hall on the first Tuesday of each month (not August) at 10.45am. Activities for under 5s. All welcome.

Toddlers' Playgroup Monday 10.30am - midday For pre-school age children and their carers, termtime only. Join us

in the hall for toys, books, games, singing, drinks & snacks. To help, contact David Markham on 07543 400650.

Prayer Group on Wednesday evenings A number of parishioners meet on Wednesday evenings via Zoom to reflect on the scripture readings for mass the following weekend and to say the evening prayers of the church. If you would like to join our friendly and informal group, please [email](#) the parish office or call Melanie (07900 051956)

Fair trade Our fair trade stall will be available at all Masses at the church over the weekend of 26/27 October and after Mass at Marshalswick Mass Centre on Sunday 3rd November. There is a wide selection of Christmas items. We accept payment by card.

The Parish Friends Knit & Natter Group We will be meeting in the Parish Centre on Tuesdays 22 October and 5 November from 2.15 to 4pm. All are welcome to join us. Contact Helen Bassill 07860 830340.

The group received some lovely feedback from a parishioner at St Barts recently. Each year her son goes to Tanzania and Zimbabwe and is allowed an extra suitcase baggage allowance. Our knit and natter group has made at least 150-200 baby vests for him to take with him to distribute to needy children. The children love the vests and because they are stretchy, older siblings have been squeezing into them too. His comment was, "The children are delighted with the vests which could be their only possession. Your group are doing a great job, long may it continue with your generosity and love." The Knit and Natter Group has also delivered at least 100 knitted blankets to the residents of Alban Manor Care Home and the matron there was delighted and sent her thanks to the group.

Parish Friends Tea Party in the Parish Hall Sunday 20 October 2.30-4.30pm. Everyone welcome. Lifts can be arranged. Please contact Helen Bassill 07860 830340 to help.

Migrants' Meals - volunteers needed on Thursday 24 October from 11.30 am. The parish will be hosting 4 local migrants while they use our kitchen. Parish volunteers provide welcome and support but do not cook. This is a friendly and interesting event. If you can help at all during the day please call Mary on 07976277059 for information.

C.W.L. Thursday 7 November at 2pm A talk from Father John "Continuing his journey to the Priesthood." All are welcome members, visitors and guests. Cost £3 to include refreshments.

The Herts Circle of the Newman Association Diary Dates
- 2pm Saturday 2 November. An afternoon concert of classical music for voice and guitar, including poetry by Emily Dickinson and Emily Bronte set to music by Leisner and music by Mozart, Coste and some familiar songs, followed by light refreshments, at Our Lady of Lourdes Hall, Southdown Road, Harpenden AL5 1PD. Tickets £15; call Mary 07976 277 059.

- Saturday 16 November. Peter Berners-Lee will speak about Uncertainty and Meaning on which he has written. Talk at 11 am at St Bartholomew's Church Hall, Vesta Avenue, St Albans, AL1 2PE. All welcome, no need to book.

Tell Your Friends! 'Nell Gwynn' 8pm Thursday 7 November at the Abbey Theatre St Albans. Funny, joyous, lively play with music and dance. All proceeds to charity [Hands Together Tiplyang Project](#) providing health and education for children in Nepal. Tickets £16 from: 07821 726357, 07768 177634 or 07976 277059.

BINGO Many thanks for the support and donation for our recent Bingo which raised £100.00 for the CAFOD Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. Our Next Bingo will be on Friday 8 November.

Blessing of Graves at Hatfield Road Cemetery - Saturday 9 November Please meet beside the cemetery chapel at 2pm. There will be a short prayer service after which we will be available to bless individual graves. Fr Kevin from Radlett will be blessing graves on Sunday 3 November as follows: 12.30pm at London Road, 1.30pm at St Peter's, London Colney, 1.45pm at Shenley, 2.15pm at Radlett.

Carols by Candlelight at 7.30pm on Monday 23 December Calling musicians, singers and readers! If you'd like to be involved, please email stalbanscbc@rcdow.org.uk or text 07840 367555. Practices on:

- 23 & 30 Nov, 7 Dec - 2pm singers, then 4pm musicians,
- 14 & 21 December, singers and musicians 2pm
- 23 December 5.45pm all in preparation for the service

ST BART'S HCPT GROUP Huge thanks to all those generous St Alban and St Stephen parishioners who donated/supported our recent jumble sale - a brilliant £762 on the day was raised towards our 2025 pilgrimage, taking children and young people with additional needs to Lourdes at Easter. The next jumble sale will be in January.

Retrouville We help married couples through difficult times. Register now for next programme starting 8-10 Nov. Contact retrouvilleukinfo@gmail.com or 0788 7296983.

School Applications & Certificates of Catholic Practice Fr Michael will be available as shown to sign certificates of catholic practice for parents, guardians & carers who need one to accompany their child's application for a school or nursery:

- Tuesday 22 October 6.00 -7.30pm, Wednesday 30 October 3.30 - 6.00pm;
- Wednesday 6 November 7.30pm - 9.00pm, Wednesday 11 December 3.30 - 6.00pm and Friday 13 December 6.00 -7.30pm

Please be conscious that upwards of 100 families could be looking for school forms and your endeavouring to make one of these times would be much appreciated. No appointment is necessary and children need not attend.

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Saturday 19 October- VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY

6pm Mass David Griffin (Ann)

20 October - TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME

8am Mass Jean Bergin (Ann)

9am Mass People of the Parish

(John Fisher School Marshalswick)

9.30am Mass Doreen Hawes (RIP)

11.30am Mass Alexander and Loni Vengler (Ann)

6pm Mass Johnny McGoldrick (RIP)

Reading 1, Isaiah 53:10-11, Psalm 32(33)

Reading 2, Hebrews 4:14-16, Gospel, Mark 10:35-45

Monday 21 October - feria

10am Mass Anne Cosimini (RIP)

7pm Mass Kate Duggan and family (Ints)

Reading 1, Ephesians 2:1-10, Psalm 99(100)

Gospel, Luke 12:13-21

Tuesday 22 October - feria

10am Funeral Mass for Timothy Sullivan

Reading 1, Ephesians 2:12-22, Psalm 84(85)

Gospel, Luke 12:35-38

Wednesday 23 October - feria

10am Mass Deacon Steve Pickard (RIP)

7pm Mass Brian Hanrahan (Ann)

Reading 1, Ephesians 3:2-12, Isaiah 12

Gospel, Luke 12:39-48

Thursday 24 October - feria

10am Mass Rev Stephen Pickard (RIP)

Reading 1, Ephesians 3:14-21, Psalm 32(33)

Gospel, Luke 12:49-53

Friday 25 October - feria

7pm Mass Giovanna Volpa (RIP)

Reading 1, Ephesians 4:1-6, Psalm 23(24)

Gospel, Luke 12:54-59

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

Saturday 26 October - Blessed Virgin Mary on a Saturday

10am Mass Francisco and Maria Conceicao Franco (Ints)

10.30-11.30am Exposition & Confessions

Reading 1, Ephesians 4:7-16, Psalm 121(122)

Gospel, Luke 13:1-9

Saturday 26 October- VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY

6pm Mass George & Perry Taites (RIP)

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

27 October - THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8am Mass People of the Parish

9am Mass Deacon Steve Pickard (RIP)

(John Fisher School Marshalswick)

9.30am Mass George Thakaran (Ann)

11.30am Mass Anne Green (RIP)

6pm Mass Martin Curry (Ann)

Reading 1, Jeremiah 31:7-9, Psalm 125(126)

Reading 2, Hebrews 5:1-6, Gospel, Mark 10:46-52

PLEASE PRAY

United with Churches together in St Albans we pray for World Peace.

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 all those who have died recently including Tom Birkin, Simon Charles, Eric Fowler, Timothy Sullivan and Agnes Walsh.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Jean Bergin, Martin Brosnan, Geraldine Byrne, Patrick Curran, Martin Curry, John Feeney, David Griffin, Brian Hanrahan, Patrick Mannion, Lorraine McLoughlin, Margaret Parkes, Jennifer Pearman, Reginald Salisbury, James Sinclair, George Thakaran, Alexander and Loni Vengler.

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

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Prayer you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen

Mass in Cantonese Once a month at 2pm at Our Lady of Lourdes in Sawston, Cambridge, CB22 3HJ. Dates in 2024: 16 November, 21 December. All welcome. For more details, please see the flyer at the back of the church or email cantonmassea@gmail.com.

Family Resources Please join us at Little Lights (under sevens) and Children's Liturgy (seven and above) during 9.30am Mass on Sundays (term time only). If you can help with Little Lights please get in touch with Laura by emailing her on laura.cox.london@gmail.com. Please click [here](#) for this week's 'Liturgy of the Word' for Children leaflet from the Diocese of Westminster. The [Wednesday Word](#) is another excellent resource that can be used by families to reflect on the issues and messages present in Sunday Liturgy each week. Cardinal Vincent Nichols recommends these materials saying they bring "remarkable graces to many."