



Church Website

NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

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15 June 2025 - THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



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

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We are a Fairtrade parish

Fr John writes... Today we celebrate the **Mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity**, which is the central mystery of our Christian *faith and life*. It is the Mystery of who and how God is in Himself (*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #234), which God reveals to us in the sending of his son. For example, it is because Jesus is Son, we can begin to know God as Father. The Trinity is a *mystery of faith in the strict sense, one of the mysteries that are hidden in God, which can never be known unless they are revealed by God* (CCC, #237).

Indeed, the life of Christ on earth is a gradual revelation of this Mystery. It culminates in the sending of the Holy Spirit which reveals to us that God is the mystery of three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is why the celebration of the Trinity comes after Pentecost.

When we gather to worship God in the Eucharist, everything we do within the Mass is an invitation to enter more deeply into the Mystery of the Trinity. It helps to pay particular attention to the prayers said during the mass. These draw us into a deeper understanding of the mystery being celebrated. For example, today's collect, (on page 81 of the Mass book) said before the readings expresses a *living truth*: 'that in professing the true faith, we may acknowledge the Trinity of eternal glory and adore your Unity, powerful in majesty'. The Mystery that God has revealed to us is more than a dogmatic, religious truth. Moreover, it reminds us that we do not worship an abstract thought or theory, a force or 'Supreme Being', but a Trinity of Persons.

The doctrine of the Trinity has profound implications for how we understand ourselves and how we live our lives. If we are created in the image of God, then we are created in the image of a relationship, a relationship that is characterised by love. The love between Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If we, the image of God on Earth, are to be that image then our lives too must be lived out in relationships characterised by love.

Fr Michael's Silver Jubilee On 24 June 2025, Fr Michael will celebrate the twenty fifth anniversary of his ordination in 2000. Everyone is warmly invited to commemorate Fr Michael's Silver Jubilee with him at the 12 noon mass here at St Alban and St Stephen church on Sunday 22 June. After mass there will be drinks and cake in the parish centre and everyone is welcome to come along and celebrate this special occasion. If you would like to contribute towards a gift for Fr Michael, there will be an opportunity to do so after all masses this weekend. Alternatively you can post an envelope through the presbytery door, using the reference, 'Fr Michael - gift' or you can make a bank transfer to the parish account using the same reference. If you would like to send a card, please post this through the presbytery door, with Fr Michael's name on it.

Gift Aid 2024/25 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 cannot claim gift aid on your giving (25p in every pound). If you do not pay tax and gift aid is claimed on what you give, HMRC may seek reimbursement. If you have signed a gift aid form, your offertory or building fund donations need to come from a bank account in your name only or a joint bank account on which you are also named. The 2024/25 tax year ended April 2025 and we will be submitting our gift aid claim for 2024/25 shortly. Please phone or email the parish office with any queries or to notify us of any changes in circumstance in 2024/25.

Welcome to 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.

LITURGY AND SACRAMENTS

Sacrament of Baptism The next baptism preparation course is Saturday 12 July 2025 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.

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.

Monthly 10am 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.

Monthly Youth Mass – Sunday Evening at 6pm The next youth masses are on 22 June and 13 July.

Help needed setting up the altar We are still looking for help at the 10am Saturday morning mass and the 10am Sunday mass. Please contact the office if you can help.

Children's Liturgy Group at Marshalswick We are looking for volunteers to help lead our children's liturgy group at Marshalswick 8.30am mass. It is a lovely opportunity to guide the children in their faith journey, with creative activities to help them understand the gospel. The group runs term time only and is on a rota basis. Please speak to Sally or Anne-Marie after mass if you are interested and would like to know more.

Recommissioning of Ministers of the Eucharist Our Ministers of the Eucharist will be recommissioned at all Masses on the Feast of Corpus Christi - the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ on Sunday 22 June.

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

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 should be non-perishable food and can be left in the box in the porch. 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 at Marshalswick Mass Centre (first Sunday of the month).

Clothing Collection Donations of men's clothing are needed for local migrants. Donations can be left in the Migrants' Collection box at the back of the church. Please only donate items which you would be happy to give to a family member or friend. The donations to date have been

lovely and very much appreciated; many thanks for all that you do to support the local migrant community.

Coffee and Tea After Mass Refreshments are available in the Parish Centre after 10am Sunday Mass during school term time, after 12 noon Mass on the first Sunday of the month and after 5pm Saturday evening Mass. Coffee and tea are also available after the 10am Mass each Monday. All are welcome so please do come along.

OUR PARISH GROUPS AND EVENTS

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

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

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation group We meet on the third Thursday of each month in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

St Bart's Baby and Toddler Group The St Barts baby and toddler group is now up and running every Thursday morning in St Barts hall between 11am-12.30pm. Parents/carers and children can socialise and share in singing, story time and play. We looking forward to seeing you there! Lizzie Lizzio (group lead-efkelly88@gmail.com)

The Parish Friends Knit & Natter Group We will be meeting in the Parish Centre on 17 June 2-4pm. All are welcome. Contact Helen Bassill 07860 830340.

Refugee Week 16 - 22 June Volunteers needed St Albans will be celebrating local migrants in our communities, and we have been asked to volunteer at two events: Saturday 21 June, 3-6pm: a welcome party for resettled Syrian and Afghan families; Sunday 22 June Community as Superpower at St Albans Museum and Gallery 11am - 3pm. To help and for more details please call Mary 07976 277 059.

Thank you from the St Vincent de Paul Society On Wednesday 18 June, the 7pm Mass will be offered for the intentions of the SVP. If you are interested in joining us, or would like to find out more about the work we do, you are very welcome to join us after this Mass in the Parish Centre Meeting Room 1 for coffee. We would love to meet you!

St Albans Pilgrimage Saturday 21 June If asked to list the top 10 most favourable things about living in St Albans, the annual St Alban Pilgrimage to mark the feast of St Alban ranks easily. A spectacular celebration of Britain's first saint with 12 ft puppets, music and pilgrims re-enacting Alban's life and martyrdom through the streets of St Albans. We are all called to witness to our faith and one of the easiest ways

we can do this is to join other families in walking in the pilgrimage procession through town. Different church groups are invited to follow in the procession under their individual church banners. As many of you who can make it are invited to support our community and join the St Alban and St Stephen parish group for a great morning of fun, excitement and social. 10.30am to 10.45am meet in St Peter's Church yard (look out for parish banner), procession 10.45am to 12pm. Other events: 2pm Veneration of Relic at the Shrine of St Alban, 3pm Anointing for Healing.

Circle of Friends Tea 2-4pm 25 June - St Bart's Parish Hall Parishioners and friends of St Barts or St Alban & St Stephen who are living alone or would like to join for a tea and a chat are welcome to attend. There is no charge but a small donation is appreciated. Please let Maureen Kelly know if you will be attending or are in need of a lift: 07860 283743 or stars2004@btinternet.com.

Churches Together in St Albans AGM and Forum 7.30pm Wednesday 25 June St Albans URC Greenwood Church Come and hear about plans for 2025/26. Followed by a Forum on how to make a Dementia Friendly Church, with Maggie Dodd of the Anna Chaplaincy. Everybody welcome!

Parish Friends Tea Party Sunday 29 June 2.30-4.30pm. All parishioners are welcome and please note the earlier start. We are delighted that Diamond Years are playing for us again so it is sure to be a great afternoon. We will have a small raffle with prizes supplied by Parish Friends - so no other gifts are required. Offers of homemade cakes would be welcome. (Please include details of ingredients). Offers of drivers would also be appreciated- please let us know in plenty of time if you require a lift. Contact Helen 07860 830340 for more information.

St Columba's College Prep and Senior School Open Day on Thursday 3 July A wonderful opportunity to have a full tour of the school by current students and to hear from the Leadership Team. Please register using the [this link](#).

IGNITE A discipleship event for Catholics aged 14-18 across Hertfordshire - Saturday 5 July 6-8.30pm beginning with the Vigil Mass at Holy Rood Catholic Church, Watford. An opportunity to connect with other young Catholics from Watford, Hemel & St Albans, and grow in faith through teaching, discussion, prayer, doughnuts and games you thought you were too old to enjoy but end up loving as you cry tears of joy into a packet of Haribo! Contact the parish office for more information and to register your attendance.

BINGO We will not be having a Bingo evening in June - our next session will be on Friday 11 July in the Parish Centre.

Jubilee Pilgrimage to St Edmund's College, Ware led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols Cardinal Nichols will lead a Pilgrimage to St Edmund's College, Ware, on Saturday 12 July and all are encouraged and invited to attend. The day will commence with Mass in the grounds at 12 noon. Further information is available on the poster in the porch.

Pro-Life Pilgrimage to Walsingham, led by Rt. Rev. John Keenan, Bishop of Paisley - Saturday 2 August The coach departs from Harpenden at 7.30am, St Bartholomew's, Vesta Avenue at 7.50am and St Hugh's Church, Letchworth at 8.35am. Adults £30, Child/Student £12 (which also includes Priory entrance). To book, please contact Geraldine on: 07971028415 or at mgeraldine_ward@hotmail.com. Please also see the poster in the porch for more details.

Jubilee Pilgrimage to Welwyn Garden City 13 September If you would like to join parishioners from here and St Bartholomew's walking to the jubilee church at Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Welwyn Garden City on Saturday 13 September please will you email the parish office at stalbins@rcdow.org.uk. We need to gauge the level of interest before arranging the practicalities. If you are unable to walk, but would like to join the group at Our Lady Queen of Apostles, please also let the parish office know that you would like to be included as a non-walking pilgrim.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Mass Intentions Mass intentions can be booked by phoning or visiting the parish office from 9am to 1pm any weekday. Outside of these times, please email the parish office to request a mass intention. 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 masses can be booked up to one year in advance and the first masses we now have free for booking are in August/September 2025.** Intentions may have to be moved with little notice to accommodate funerals. The suggested diocesan donation, which contributes to the stipends of the priests of our parish, is £10 per mass.

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.

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 hire charges and the range of facilities available.

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. If you register as a gift aiding donor on one of our two contactless devices, please ensure you add both your first and surname, in full, and your full address, including road name, so that your gift aid declaration meets the standards for gift aid reclaim required by HMRC.

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Saturday 14 June – VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY

5pm Mass Michael Robins (RIP)

Sunday 15 June – THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

8am Mass People of the parish

8.30am Mass Pete Helliwell (Ann)

(John Fisher School, Marshalswick)

10.00am Mass Peter Celestine Okoro (RIP)

12 Noon Mass Terry Reilly (RIP)

6pm Mass Agnes Cloherty (Ann)

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

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

Monday 16 June – feria

10am Mass Jimmy McGilloway (Ann)

7pm Mass Leonard Steele (RIP)

Reading 1, 2 Corinthian 6:1-10, Psalm 97(98)

Gospel, Matthew 5:38-42

Tuesday 17 June – feria

10am Mass Alban and Peggy Brampton (Ann)

Reading 1, 2 Corinthian 8:1-9, Psalm 145(146)

Gospel, Matthew 5:43-48

Wednesday 18 June – feria

10am No Morning Mass

7pm Mass Intentions of the SVP

Reading 1, 2 Corinthians 9:6-11, Psalm 111(112)

Gospel, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday 19 June – feria

10am Mass Chris Murphy (RIP)

Reading 1, 2 Corinthians 11:1-11, Psalm 110(111)

Gospel, Matthew 6:7-15

Friday 20 June – ST ALBAN

10am No Morning Mass

7pm Mass People of the Parish

Reading 1, 2 Corinthians 11:18, 21-30, Psalm 33(34)

Gospel, Matthew 6:19-23

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

Saturday 21 June – St Aloysius Gonzaga

10am Mass John Hayes (RIP)

10.30am Confessions and Exposition

Reading 1, 2 Corinthians 12:1-10, Psalm 33(34)

Gospel, Matthew 6:24-34

Saturday 21 June – VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY

5pm Mass Kathleen Bamford (Ann)

Mass in Cantonese Once a month at 2pm at Our Lady of Lourdes in Sawston, Cambridge, CB22 3HJ. All welcome. For more details please see the porch flyer or email cantonmassesea@gmail.com.

Family Resources Please join us at Little Lights (under sevens) and Children's Liturgy (seven and above) during 10am 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.

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday 22 June – THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)

8am Mass People of the Parish

8.30am Mass Martin Flannaghan (RIP)

(John Fisher School, Marshalswick)

10.00am Mass Holy Souls

12 Noon Mass Fr Michael O'Boy (Silver Jubilee)

6pm Mass Mary Curran (RIP)

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

Reading 2, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Gospel, Luke 9:11-17

PLEASE PRAY

United with Churches together in St Albans we pray for all the members of the Marlborough Road Methodist Church.

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 Andrea Avvinti, Peter Cadisch and Kitty Sheehan.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Kathleen Bamford, Alban and Peggy Brampton, Agnes Cloherty, Ann Marie Comer, Pete Helliwell, Maureen Lerwill and Jimmy McGilloway.

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

Forthcoming Funerals

Peter Cadisch: 1.30pm Wednesday 18 June (crematorium)

Andrea Avvinti: 10am Monday 30 June

Kitty Sheehan: 10am Tuesday 1 July

Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Prayer O God, fill our hearts with the fire of your love and with the desire to ensure justice for all by sharing the good things you give us. May there be an end to division, strife and war and a dawning of a truly human society, built on love and peace. We ask this in your name. Amen

St Bartholomew's Parish Please see the St Bartholomew's website at [St Bartholomew – Roman Catholic Parish of St Albans South](#) for details of mass times and events or to read a copy of the St Bartholomew's weekly newsletter.