



Church Website

## NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

14 Beaconsfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RB

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9am-1pm Tel: 01727 853 585

E-mail: [stalbens@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbens@rcdow.org.uk) Website: [www.albanstephen.org](http://www.albanstephen.org)

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

**13 July 2025 - FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



Contactless Giving

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

Permanent Deacons: Rev. Brendan Day & Rev. Michael Larmer

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

Safeguarding Lead: Mary Harber / [stalbenssg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:stalbenssg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk) / 07976 277059

*We are a Fairtrade parish*

**Fr Michael writes...** Soon we will be into the summer holidays and as usual there will be no bulletin during the summer break. This allows us to concentrate on other administrative tasks in what we would hope to be a relatively quiet time. The last bulletin before the summer break will be on Sunday 27 July and the first bulletin after the summer break will be on 31 August.

We are still awaiting a start date for the building works but my understanding is that the contractors appointment will have been confirmed by time you read this and that we will have a firm start date during the coming week. In preparation for the works, and in order to protect it from being damaged by dust, the organ will be professionally covered at the end of July. For the duration of the works we will use the keyboard by the Lady Altar.

This coming Friday there is to be a 'social' at St Bartholomew's aimed at drawing together people involved in different aspects of parish life and getting a conversation going between the parishes. If you have let the parish office know that you are coming please be at St Bartholomew's for 7.30pm on Friday (18 July). Drinks and pizza will be provided.

As I write we are still planning to go ahead with the pilgrimage to the jubilee church in Welwyn on Saturday 13 September. Unfortunately planning a large walk has become much more complicated than we expected, but instead of abandoning the pilgrimage altogether, we will still meet as a group at Our Lady Queen of Apostles on Saturday 13 September and have a programme of events including exposition, confessions and mass. There will be further details in the bulletin on 31 August.

Finally, I am conscious that I have not said each of the Sunday Masses since I celebrated my Silver Jubilee and just wanted to assure you of my gratefulness and thanks for everything that was organised, for the very generous presentation from the parish and for the many gifts and cards I have received.

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**Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation:** Registrations for both of these sacraments will open on Thursday 17 July. Please access the form from the website, reading information about the journey to the sacraments beforehand to understand the commitment.

**Sea Sunday 13 July** There will be a retiring collection after all masses this weekend in Support of Stella Maris.

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### SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 2025 (Commences Saturday 2 August)

#### Saturday Vigil Mass

5pm Mass St Alban & St Stephen  
6.30pm Mass St Bartholomew

#### Sunday

8.00am Mass St Alban & St Stephen  
9.30am Mass St Bartholomew  
11am Mass St Alban & St Stephen  
6pm Mass St Alban & St Stephen

#### Monday

10am Mass St Alban & St Stephen

#### Tuesday

10am Mass St Bartholomew

#### Wednesday

12 Noon Mass St Bartholomew  
7pm Mass St Alban & St Stephen

#### Thursday

10am Mass St Bartholomew

#### Friday

7pm Mass St Alban & St Stephen

#### Saturday

10.30am St Bartholomew  
Exposition, Benediction & Confessions (No Mass at 10am)

**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

**Masses during Building Works September to December 2025** For the duration of the works, with the exception of Mondays at 10am, the daily morning masses, including Saturday morning masses, will be moved to St Bartholomew's. This is to maximise the time available to the contractor during the working day. Mass intentions for these morning masses will automatically be transferred to the 10am masses at St Barts. The evening masses, if they cannot be said in church, will be said in the Parish Centre or what used to be the Prayer Room. Also, during the build funerals will be held at St Bartholomew's where the environment will be more conducive. Unfortunately, there is no streaming facility at St Bartholomew's, but we will continue to stream our Monday morning masses, the evening masses and the weekend masses held here.

**Review of our Mass Schedule** In terms of the current review of masses I am grateful for the feedback already received and would encourage people to email me, or speak with Fr John and myself, offering their feedback on our partnering with St Bartholomew's and the current mass schedule. My intention is to gather this feedback together, review it over the summer and come back with a proposal in September. The aim would be to introduce the finalised Mass Schedule from the First Sunday of Advent.

**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 mass is this weekend - 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 to find out more.

## 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. 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, starting at 7.30pm. All welcome. See [here](#) for future events.

**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 11am-12.30pm. Parents/carers and children can socialise and share in singing, story time and play. Lizzie Lizzio (group lead-efkelly88@gmail.com)

**The Chosen** The Adult Faith Formation Group will show the next 6 episodes on Thursday mornings after 10am mass, beginning on 3 July. Each session will last about an hour and a half, including refreshments and discussion.

**Fair Trade** The parish fair trade stall will be open after Mass at Marshalswick Mass Centre on 13 July.

**Mothers' Prayers Monday 14 July** At 8pm in the meeting room. Anyone wishing to pray for children is welcome. Information from; [office@mothersprayers.org](mailto:office@mothersprayers.org).

**The Parish Friends Knit & Natter Group** We will be meeting in the Parish Centre on 15 July 2-4pm. All are welcome. Contact Helen Bassill 07860 830340.

**Parish Groups Social 7.30pm Friday 18 July at St Barts** We want to bring together representatives of all our parish groups in St Alban & St Stephen and St Bartholomew's (except for finance/ministries/sacramental programme leads - which will be for future reflection.) So we are asking parish groups - from the individual small groups right through to the Parish Council - to nominate a representative. It will be a social occasion with some discussion and sharing. Please could each group let Angela in the parish office know who will be representing them.

**Migrants' Meals** Our next cooking day for local migrants who do not have access to a kitchen or to home cooking will be held on Thursday 24 July. If you can volunteer to be present(not to cook) for a couple of hours between about midday and 6pm that would be a great help. Please call Mary on 07976 277 059.

**Mass for Monsignor Canon Harry Turner** Msgr Canon Harry Turner will be celebrating his last Mass as Catholic Chaplain, St Albans Abbey, on Friday 25 July at 12pm. He will be succeeded by Fr John Deehan. All are welcome to the Mass in the Abbey. Teresa Clarke 07817 411078.

**Fifteen minutes of prayer for Peace 3pm Sunday 10 August** At the Peace Obelisk in Sumpter Yard by St Albans Cathedral followed by a cuppa in the Abbot's Kitchen. The people of Japan gave the peace obelisk to St Albans in gratitude to the then Dean, Dean Thicknesse, who, unlike the other Deans in England, refused to ring the bells to celebrate victory at the end of ww2, in recognition of the terrible loss of life & suffering from nuclear bombs in Hiroshima & Nagasaki in August 1945. All welcome.

**Jubilee Pilgrimage to Welwyn Garden City 13 September** If you would like to join parishioners from here and St Bartholomew's at Our Lady Queen of Apostles, Welwyn Garden City on Saturday 13 September please email the parish office.

**Caritas and Anna Chaplaincy Collaboration** Caritas is encouraging a collaboration between the Anna Chaplaincy and both RC churches in St Albans. One idea is a new fellowship group meeting monthly in a Care Home to explore a simple Bible reading using objects, music or art. Loosely based on Ignition spirituality, it would encourage people to imagine they were in the Bible scene, and consider how the passage, objects or music make them feel. If anyone has experience of Ignatian spirituality or would like to be involved in the project, please contact Maggie Dodd on 07462 586773 or [mrsmaggiedodd@gmail.com](mailto:mrsmaggiedodd@gmail.com).

## 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 September 2025. Please also be aware that weekday and Saturday morning masses (excluding Mondays) will be held at St Barts for the duration of the building works.** 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.

**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. Please contact the parish office with any queries or to notify us of any changes in circumstance.

**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.



## MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

### Saturday 12 July - VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY

5pm Mass Patrick Keegan (Ann)

### Sunday 13 July - FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8am Mass Colin Fennessy (RIP)

8.30am Mass Cliff Staniforth (RIP)

(John Fisher School, Marshalswick)

10.00am Mass Bridget (Bee) Serrano (RIP)

12 Noon Mass People of the parish

6pm Mass Michael Aylward (Ann)

Reading 1, Deuteronomy 30:10-14, Psalm 68(69)

Reading 2, Colossians 1:15-20, Gospel, Luke 10:25-37

### Monday 14 July - feria

10am Mass Bob MacBeth-Seath (RIP)

7pm Mass Jimmy Flavin (Ann)

Reading 1, Exodus 1:8-14,22, Psalm 123(124)

Gospel, Matthew 10:34-11:1

### Tuesday 15 July - St Bonaventure

10am Mass George Sullivan (Ints)

Reading 1, Exodus 2:1-15, Psalm 68(69)

Gospel, Matthew 11:20-24

### Wednesday 16 July - feria

10am No Morning Mass

7pm Mass Donor's Intention

Reading 1, Exodus 3:1-6,9-12, Psalm 102(103)

Gospel, Matthew 11:25-27

### Thursday 17 July - feria

10am Mass Elma Quinn (RIP)

Reading 1, Exodus 3:13-20, Psalm 104(105)

Gospel, Matthew 11:28-30

### Friday 18 July - feria

10am Funeral Mass for Maria Riccitelli

7pm Mass Joseph P Morillon (RIP)

Reading 1, Exodus 11:10-12:14, Psalm 115(116)

Gospel, Matthew 19:27-29

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

### Saturday 19 July - Blessed Virgin Mary on a Saturday

10am Mass Noel Lysaght (RIP)

10.30am Confessions and Exposition

Reading 1, Exodus 12:37-42, Psalm 135(136)

Gospel, Matthew 12:14-21

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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

### Saturday 19 July - VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY

5pm Mass David and Anne Myles (Ints)

### Sunday 20 July - SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8am Mass Young family (Ints)

8.30am Mass Edna McCarthy (Ann)

(John Fisher School, Marshalswick)

10.00am Mass People of the parish

12 Noon Mass Salvatore Realmuto (RIP)

6pm Mass Prima Nevard (RIP)

Reading 1, Genesis 18:1-10, Psalm 14(15)

Reading 2, Colossians 1:24-28, Gospel, Luke 10:38-42

## PLEASE PRAY

United with Churches together in St Albans we pray for all the members of South St. Albans Churches.

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 Alfred Ashton, Margaret Boylan, Mary Briffa, Morag Elliott, Sheila Melville, Ogo Orah, Maria Riccitelli and Jean Mary Sugars.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Michael Aylward, Robert David Eldred, Michael Feeney, Jimmy Flavin, Ethelreda Forster, Patrick Keegan, Edna McCarthy.

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

## Forthcoming Funerals

Maria Riccitelli - 10am Friday 18 July

Margaret Ann Boylan - 11.30am Tuesday 22 July (St Barts)

Mary Briffa - Date TBC

Ogo Orah - Date TBC

**Mass in Polish** Mass in Polish takes place here at 4pm on the second and fourth Sundays of each month.