



Church Website

NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

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14 June 2026 - ELEVENTH 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 / stalbanssg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk / 07976 277059

We are a Fairtrade parish

Children, it's Competition Time! We have almost completed the building works to the church porch and it's time to equip it. We are inviting children to design a mug to be used. This mug wants to make the user feel very welcome in our church, it wants to be colourful and it wants to make us want to smile. Using an A4 piece of paper, landscape, could you create a design, picture or logo for some of the mugs to be used in the Hall? We will aim to have between 8 and 10 designs printed onto the mugs - could it be yours? Entries must be handed to the parish office by Sunday 5 July.

Alban Day Pilgrimage and Festival Saturday 20 June Individuals and families are invited to celebrate the story of St Alban, Britain's first saint, by joining the mid-morning procession through town on with parishioners from St Alban and St Stephen. Organized by St Alban's Cathedral, this is one of St Alban's great spectacles with giant sized puppets and music bands and a wonderful easy opportunity to witness your faith and have fun. We have been doing this as a parish for the last 3 years and this year it would be so special to have as many parishioners join us as possible. Please meet on the grass area in front of St Peter's Church (top of town) from 10.45am - procession at 11am. Look out for our church banner. This procession will walk through town and will finish at the West Entrance to the Abbey by 12pm.

Refugee Week Refugee Week 2026 takes place from Monday 15 June to Sunday 21 June, 2026, with World Refugee Day falling on Saturday 20 June. The official theme for the 2026 event—which also marks the festival's 40th anniversary—is "Courage".

Lampedusa Cross displayed against the Lectern We are privileged to have this unique crucifix made on the Mediterranean island of Lampedusa from wood from a boat carrying refugees to the island. God our loving Father, we pray for the wellbeing of all people seeking peace and safety.

Day for Life The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. In England and Wales, Day for Life is celebrated on the third Sunday of June each year. This year it falls on Sunday, 21 June and there will be a retiring collection after all masses that weekend. This year's theme is The Wonder of the Child in the Womb.

The Chosen The Adult Faith Formation group will resume showing of The Chosen on Thursday 18 June at 11am in the St Alban & St Stephen parish centre meeting room. Everyone is welcome to join us in watching this fascinating story of what it might have been like to live around Jesus during his ministry on earth during the Roman occupation of Palestine. Refreshments from 10.45am.

Student Examinations We pray for all of those sitting GCSE, A Levels, college and university exams. Grant them clarity of mind, a calm spirit, and the ability to recall the knowledge they have studied. Remove any anxious thoughts or distractions. We also pray for their families and teachers. Give them the wisdom to support and encourage these young people throughout this season.

Justice, Peace & the Integrity of Creation Prayer "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Whether it's buying fair trade or supporting refugees, we pray that we can behave in a way that promotes the kingdom of God.

Thank you from FIF Youth A wholeheartedly thank you to the parish for their generous support of all FiF Youth's efforts to raise money for St Mary's School in Nigeria. A total of £1,107.04 raised will secure essential learning materials, classroom resources and long term improvements.

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. Thank you to all those who have registered as new parishioners.

SACRAMENTAL & LITURGICAL

Sacramental Preparation For more information about sacramental preparation in the parish, or for enquiries about becoming a Catholic, please see the parish website or contact the parish office by phone or email.

Children's Liturgy Please note that, due to a shortage in volunteers to run children's liturgy, we unfortunately will only be able to run it twice a month to the end of this term. If any parent would like to help with this wonderful service to our younger community, then please contact Joan Egenes (stalbanscc@rcdow.org.uk). The ideal is to have enough volunteers so they only need to help once a month. 10 minutes are required to read the prepared lessons, 15 minutes are required to set up before Mass and 10 minutes are to tidy up after Mass. Volunteers will require a Diocesan safeguarding check and one off online safeguarding training of approximately 50 minutes. Dates: 21 June, 5 and 12 July.

Masses for children, families and young people Please join us at Little Lights (under sevens) and Children's Liturgy (seven and above) during 10am Mass on Sundays (term time only - children's liturgy: dates as above). If you can help with Little Lights please get in touch with Sarah via the parish office.

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 for everyone after mass.

Our Parish Youth Masses take place at 6pm on Sunday evening on 14 June and 5 July.

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 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.

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

OUR PARISH 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 the 5pm Saturday evening Mass. Coffee and tea are also available after the 10am Mass each Monday. All are welcome so please do come along.

St Albans Food Bank We currently have a food collection point at all masses, including the St John Fisher Mass centre, on the first Sunday of each month. The principal demand remains for long life items (milk and

fruit juice), tinned items (fruit, veg, meat, fish and puddings), cooking sauces, coffee, teabags, cereals and jam. More details can be found [here](#).

Migrants' toiletries and clothing collections On the third Sunday of each month. We currently need donations of sanitary towels (not tampons), shower gel, toothpaste, shampoo, baby wipes, adult toothbrushes, deodorant, bars of soap, baby shower gel and shampoo. Donations of men's clothing are also needed for local migrants. Please only donate items which you would be happy to give to a family member or friend.

PARISH GROUPS & EVENTS

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

Faith and Family Group We meet in the parish hall on the first Tuesday of the 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. Contact David Markham on 07543 400650.

Toddler Group Volunteers Wanted It would be lovely to have more volunteers to help serve the teas and coffees at the Toddler Group on Monday mornings. Anyone interested please contact the parish office.

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 meets every Thursday morning in St Barts hall 11am-12.30pm. Lizzie Lizzio (efkelly88@gmail.com)

St Albans URC Memory Café Sociable afternoon for those with dementia and accompanied by their live-in carers - Chiswell Green URC Hall, Watford Road, Chiswell Green on the first Thursday of the month - 1.30-3.30pm. Email [here](#) for information.

Fair trade Our stall will be open at Marshalswick Mass centre on 14 June.

Strictly Come Hospice: On 15 June, Rennie Grove Peace is opening up applications for Strictly Come Hospice 2027! The charity is looking for 24 keen contestants with a passion for dance who would love to learn from professional dancers and have fun, all while raising money to support vital hospice care within Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire. A taster day is taking place on 7 July, before training starts in November 2026, with the Grand Finale taking place in January 2027. [Sign up](#) now to take part.

Parish Friends Knit & Natter Group We will be meeting in the Parish Centre on 16 June 2.15-3.45pm. All are welcome. Contact Helen Bassill 07860 830340.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Catholic Miracle Rally on Saturday 20 June Organised by Cor et Lumen Christi, at Friends Meeting House, Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ. The Day will include Praise and Worship, Adoration, Holy Mass, an opportunity for Reconciliation and concluding with a Healing Service. See [here](#) for more information.

St Paul's - Supporting people living with Dementia 7.30-9pm 22 June (hot/cold drinks served from 7:15) We are hosting an evening session exploring issues around dementia, especially helpful for those who have friends or loved ones suffering from the disease. St Paul's Church, Blandford Road, AL1 4JP.

Circle of Friends April Invitation The next Circle of Friends tea will be in St Barts Parish Hall on Wednesday 24 June 2-4pm. If you are living alone or would like to join for a tea and a chat you are very welcome. The tea gives an opportunity to meet with others and an activity will be included. There is no charge for the tea but a small donation is appreciated. Please let Maureen Kelly know if you are attending or need of a lift: stars2004@btinternet.com /07860 283743.

In the Image of God: The Human Body as Gift - Monday 29 June 5-7:10pm. A free event at Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School. All are welcome. Drinks and nibbles will be served and followed by a roundtable activity and a Q&A panel. Details and registration [here](#).

Talk 2.30 - 3.30 pm Thursday 9 July Meeting Room Ss Alban and Stephen Parish Centre All are invited to hear about a local Catholic school's implementation of teaching the secondary curriculum through Catholic Social Teaching. To be given by Miss Marta Gallego, Head of Biology and Deputy Head of Science at Nicholas Breakspear Catholic School. Hosted by the Herts Circle of the Newman Association.

More Human: Pope Leo has just published a **new encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas***. It speaks about what it means to be human in our time, especially with in the age of AI. Join us for these 3 short workshops to introduce and explore aspects of this timely document with input, as well as reflection and prayer. In St Aloysius Parish Hall, Phoenix Rd, London NW1 1TA, Mondays 13 July, 21 September, 23 November, 7.30-8.45pm. All Welcome! Register to attend [here](#). These workshops will also be online. Information at info@fcjecojustice.co.uk.

Site Manager wanted for St Adrian's School Please click on the [link](#) to view the advert on Teach in Herts for more details on pay and working hours. Contact the office on admin@stadrians.herts.sch.uk or call 01727 852687.

Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer for the Sanctity of Life - Our Lady's Shrine at Walsingham on Saturday 1 August. The celebrant is Rt. Rev. Peter Collins, Bishop of East Anglia. 12:00 - 16-30, beginning with the Pilgrim Mass at noon. Coach leaves St Bartholomew's church at 7.50am. Price: £30 adults & £12 children. Further information and livestreaming can be found on the website: To book contact: Geraldine (07971028415)

St Bartholomew's Information 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.

Fire Safety During the current works, if the number of people in church exceeds 230 we will need to use the hall as an overflow. Also, we would ask anyone who would need assistance to evacuate the building and who is unaccompanied to make themselves known to the welcomers or the priest, and to sit in the area and benches nearest to the confessionals.

Mass Intentions Mass intentions can be booked by phoning or visiting the parish office from 9am to 1pm any weekday. Outside these times, please email the 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 /October 2026. Please also be aware that weekday morning masses (excluding Mondays) will be held at St Bartholomew's 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, is needed. Names will normally be included for eight weeks, unless requested again.

Gift Aid If you are a UK taxpayer and have previously signed a gift aid declaration, but no longer pay UK tax, please contact the parish office and let us know. If you have stopped paying tax, we can no longer claim gift aid (25p for every pound donated). If you do not pay sufficient UK tax and gift aid is claimed on what you give, then HMRC may seek reimbursement from the parish. If you have signed a gift aid form, your offertory donations need to come from a bank account in your name only or a joint bank account on which you are also named. If you pay tax and would like to gift aid donations you make to the parish, but have not completed a gift aid form, please contact the parish office.

WhatsApp Guidance and Consent Forms In response to parishioner requests, we have recently drafted some guidance for those people responsible for managing Parish WhatsApp groups, together with a simple consent form to be completed by all members of the group. If you are the organizer or administrator of a WhatsApp group set up to help with a parish activity or group, please could you contact the parish office for a copy of the guidance and consent form.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF 14TH JUNE 2026

Saturday 13 June	VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY	
5pm Mass	Pat Holahan (RIP)	St Alban & St Stephen
6pm Mass	Christina & Richard Sumner (Ints)	St Bartholomew
Sunday 14 June	ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
8am Mass	Christy Small (Ann)	St Alban & St Stephen
8.30am Mass	People of the parish	St John Fisher School
9.30am Mass	Geoff Brown (RIP)	St Bartholomew
10am Mass	Marcus Montoya (RIP) and Alan Wood (RIP)	St Alban & St Stephen
12 Noon Mass	Mary Curran (RIP)	St Alban & St Stephen
6pm Mass	Hania Simons (Ints)	St Alban & St Stephen
Monday 15 June	Feria	
10am Mass	Evelio Azcona (RIP)	St Alban & St Stephen
12 Noon Mass	Maureen Zambra (Ints)	St Bartholomew
Tuesday 16 June	Feria	
10am Mass	Leonard Steele (RIP)	St Bartholomew
Wednesday 17 June	Feria	St Bartholomew
10am Mass	Life of the unborn	St Bartholomew
10.30am	<i>Exposition and Confessions</i>	St Bartholomew
7pm Mass	Alban and Peggy Brampton (Ann)	St Alban & St Stephen
Thursday 18 June	Feria	
10am Mass	Roberto Virrueta (Ann)	St Bartholomew
Friday 19 June	Feria	
12 Noon Mass	Priest's intention	St Albans Cathedral
7pm Mass	Concetta Avvinti (Ann)	St Alban & St Stephen
Saturday 20 June	St Alban	
10am	<i>Exposition and Confessions</i>	St Alban & St Stephen
10.45am	<i>Benediction</i>	St Alban & St Stephen
Saturday 20 June	VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY	
5pm Mass	Mary O'Reilly (RIP)	St Alban & St Stephen
6pm Mass	Christine Dawson (RIP)	St Bartholomew
Sunday 21 June	ST ALBAN	
8am Mass	Maureen Lerwill & Kathleen McCormack (Ann)	St Alban & St Stephen
8.30am Mass	Christine Dawson (RIP)	St John Fisher School
9.30am Mass	Marie & Jack Bradley (Ann)	St Bartholomew
10am Mass	Catherine Murphy (RIP)	St Alban & St Stephen
12 Noon Mass	People of the Parish	St Alban & St Stephen
6pm Mass	Kathleen Bamford (Ann)	St Alban & St Stephen

Mass Readings and Reflections for the week are available online from Universalis [here](#) or on our [website](#).

PLEASE PRAY

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 William Gleeson, Judy Linnane, Clarence Ougier, Vilma Smith, Salvatore Urso, Frances Weaver and Michael Whitehead.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Concetta Avvinti, Kathleen Bamford, Marie & Jack Bradley, Alban and Peggy Brampton, Geoff Brown, Jean & Geoff Carwardine, Maureen Lerwill, Kathleen McCormack, Alison & John O'Neill, Christy Small and Roberto Virrueta.

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