



Church Website

NEWS BULLETIN - ST ALBAN & ST STEPHEN

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28 June 2026 - SAINTS PETER AND PAUL



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

Fr Michael writes... I'm delighted to be able to say that the extension of the church porch and refurbishment of the church forecourt will be substantively complete in the next couple of weeks. There will still be some works to complete, in particular the new glass doors, but from the weekend of 12/13 July the porch and patio area will again be available for use. This being so, the usual pattern of weekday masses will resume from Monday 13 July with the Monday at 12 Noon and Wednesday at 10am being said at St Bartholomew's, and the remaining weekday masses being said at St Alban and St Stephen. From Monday 13 July it will also be possible to hold Funeral Masses at St Alban & St Stephen.

Fr Peter Dwyer (RIP) The arrangements for the funeral of Fr Peter have now been finalised and are as follows:

- Monday 13 July 6.30pm Reception of the Body with Evening Prayer - St Alban and St Stephen church
- Tuesday 14 July 11.30am Funeral Mass - St Alban and St Stephen church
- There will be refreshments after the Funeral Mass upstairs in the main hall
- Fr Peter will be buried at St Patrick's Cemetery in Leytonstone at a private family service

Archbishop Richard will preside at Fr Peter's Funeral Mass. Please note that parking on the church premises will be very limited that day and we expect that many people will want to attend Fr Peter's funeral. Anyone coming by car is asked to park on neighbouring roads or at the city station so that parking spaces in the car park can be used by those with limited mobility.

Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation: Registrations for both of these sacraments are now open. Please access the form from the website, reading information about the journey to the sacraments beforehand to understand the commitment. Registration will close 9 September and late registrations will not be accepted.

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.

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.

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.

Justice, Peace & the Integrity of Creation Prayer Loving Father, we pray for all those whose lives are affected by climate change. Guide us to use resources such as water and electricity sparingly and guide world leaders to make wise decisions to benefit all your people. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Peter's Pence This weekend we have a retiring collection for Peter's Pence which directly supports Pope Leo's charitable works, funding humanitarian aid, disaster relief, and the activities of service carried out by the Curia.

Day for Life The recent retiring collection for Day for Life raised £663.53. Thank you for your generosity.

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 5 and 12 July 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..

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. The last one before the summer break is 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

Celebrating St Francis at the Orchard Nursing Home Many thanks to the staff and children from St Alban and St Stephen school who helped celebrate the life of St Francis with residents of The Orchard Nursing Care home. Parishioners from St Bart's and St Alban and St Stephen's helped the St Albans Anna Chaplain with the project and were joined at the service by the national Anna Chaplaincy ministry lead and representatives from the social justice charities, Caritas and the Irish Chaplaincy. Please see [here](#) for more information.

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.

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.

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.

The Chosen The Adult Faith Formation group are showing The Chosen for six weeks from Thursday 18 June at 11am in the St Alban & St Stephen parish centre meeting room. Everyone is welcome to join us. Refreshments from 10.45am.

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](#).

Parish Friends Knit & Natter Group We will be meeting in the Parish Centre on 30 June 2.15-3.45pm. All are welcome. Contact Helen Bassill 07860 830340.

St Columba's College Prep and Senior School Open Morning on Thursday 2 July. A wonderful opportunity to have a full tour of the school by current students and to hear from the Leadership Team. Please register [here](#).

C.W.L. Tuesday 2pm 7 July Please note change of day! We welcome a refugee who will explain the circumstances which lead him to leave his country and find refuge elsewhere and the problems he encountered. This very interesting talk is open to all. Cost £3 to include refreshments.

Parable from Palestine: 7.30pm Tuesday 7 July An evening with Fr Fabi Diab at St Albans Cathedral. Free but please book in at www.stalbanscathedral.org. Fr Diab is Rector of Ramallah and will be in conversation about the lived experience of the people of Palestine.

Eco-Café 10am – Noon 8 July Salvation Army, Victoria St, St Albans. Refreshments, information and space to chat. All welcome.

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.

BINGO Our next Bingo evening will be on Friday 10 July at 8pm in the Parish Hall for 'The Knights of St. Columba'. Admission is 50p and includes refreshments. Everyone is most welcome.

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.

Circle of Friends Summer Party 2-4pm 29 July St Barts Parish Hall with games/quiz/ sing along included as well as your catch up chats over the tea. All are welcome to join. We would particularly welcome members of the St Albans Catholic Women's League and their spouses/ partners/ friends. If you will be attending or are in need of a lift, please contact stars2004@btinternet.com or 07860 283743.

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)

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

St Bartholomew's 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.

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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF 28TH JUNE 2026

Saturday 27 June

5pm Mass

6pm Mass

Sunday 28 June

8am Mass

8.30am Mass

9.30am Mass

10am Mass

12 Noon Mass

6pm Mass

Monday 29 June

10am Mass

12 Noon Mass

Tuesday 30 June

10am Mass

Wednesday 1 July

10am Mass

10.30am

7pm Mass

Thursday 2 July

10am Mass

Friday 3 July

12 Noon Mass

7pm Mass

Saturday 4 July

10am

10.45am

Saturday 4 July

5pm Mass

6pm Mass

Sunday 5 July

8am Mass

8.30am Mass

9.30am Mass

10am Mass

12 Noon Mass

6pm Mass

VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY

Noreen Donohue (RIP)

Jean & Geoff Carwardine (RIP)

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

People of the parish

Edna McCarthy (Ann)

Donald Smith (RIP)

Kitty and John Griffin (Ann)

Peter Celestine Okoro (RIP)

Kate and Paddy Chronnell (RIP)

Feria

Bernadette (Bernie) Webster (RIP)

Alison & John O'Neill (RIP)

Feria

Eamonn Brooks (RIP)

THE DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH

Deceased members of the Roddy family (Ints)

Exposition and Confessions

SVP (Ints)

Feria

Canon Alan McLean (RIP)

ST THOMAS

Priest's Intention

Finn family (Ints)

Blessed Virgin Mary on a Saturday

Exposition and Confessions

Benediction

VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY

Nellie Clancy (RIP)

Kathleen O'Connor (RIP)

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Helen Louise Westbury (RIP)

Sam Johnston (Ann)

People of the Parish

Evelio Azcona (RIP)

Rita Caparelli (RIP) and family

Alberto Domingos (RIP)

St Alban & St Stephen

St Bartholomew

St Alban & St Stephen

St John Fisher School

St Bartholomew

St Alban & St Stephen

St Alban & St Stephen

St Alban & St Stephen

St Alban & St Stephen

St Bartholomew

St Bartholomew

St Bartholomew

St Bartholomew

St Alban & St Stephen

St Bartholomew

St Albans Cathedral

St Alban & St Stephen

St Alban & St Stephen

St Alban & St Stephen

St Alban & St Stephen

St Bartholomew

St Alban & St Stephen

St John Fisher School

St Bartholomew

St Alban & St Stephen

St Alban & St Stephen

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 Fr Peter Dwyer, Margaret McHugh, Leonard Joseph McIntyre, Leonard Weaver and Michael Whitehead.

For all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including David Brown, Patrick Cahill, Theresa Docherty, Joan Egan, David Eldred, Keith Knighton, Edna McCarthy, Kitty and John Griffin, Sam Johnston, Sheila Melville, Fr Jerome O'Hanlon MSC, Alison & John O'Neill, Jean Richardson and Mary Welstead.

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