

NEWS BULLETIN FROM THE PARISH OF SS ALBAN & STEPHEN

This Parish is served by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart.

Parish Priest: Rev. TJ Plower MSC, Rev. Jimmy Stubbs MSC, Rev. Alan Neville MSC, Deacon Steve Pickard.

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

14 Beaconsfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RB. Parish Website: www.albanstephen.com

Items for the bulletin – e-mail: alban_stephen@lineone.net by 12noon on Wednesdays

Youth Co-ordinator Sr. Anita O’Leary SSJG, e-mail: sister.anita@albanstephen.com

Safeguarding Lead Nicky Vellacott: stalbanssg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk / 07882 566 020

Youth Website: www.sasyouth.com. We are a Fairtrade Parish.

Parish Secretary: Ivana Mearns, Caretaker: Mark Healy e-mail: caretaker@albanstephen.com



17th June 2018

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

The parable of the mustard seed seems pretty straight forward at first glance, but as always there is more to it than first meets the eye.

Jesus did not compare the Kingdom of God to a majestic tree. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over wherever it is planted. It is wild, gets out of control, and attracts unwanted birds.

The kingdom of God grows from something small to something large, but more than that, its growth is overwhelming and it will grow even where it is not wanted. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack cement buildings.



People of Jesus’ time may have preferred the image of the lofty ‘cedars of Lebanon’ to explain God’s kingdom, where the nations could build nests like the eagles do. Now that image may have gotten a few cheers from the crowd!

Mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head again. The image we have here is of the birds who find a home in this little shrub which cannot be curtailed.

It will grow even where it is not wanted. Watch out this week for glimpses of this ‘mustard seed’ kingdom quietly growing.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)- YOUR ACTION IS NEEDED!

GDPR legislation came into force in the UK on 25th

May, 2018. It governs how personal data is processed and we need to obtain your informed consent to continue to use your personal data in our parish. Consent Forms, along with copies of the parish Data Privacy Notice are available in the church porch. If you have not yet completed a Consent Form, please do so and post it, in the envelope provided, through the presbytery door as soon as possible. **If we do not receive a signed Consent Form, your personal data will be removed from the parish records at the end of June.** A separate Consent Form is required for each adult within each family. Parents or guardians of children under 18 years of age should indicate whether they give their consent for personal data related to their children to be used in the parish. If you have any questions, please ask a PPC member.

Parish Summer Garden Party Sunday, 1st July 2-5pm PLEASE HELP – SEE BACK



Loreto, Mary Ward building
and grounds (Parish Centre if wet).
Bouncy castle / garden games / craft stalls
Live music / tea / coffee / cake / scones
Tickets on sale after masses from 16th June
£3 per adult or 2 for £5. Under 18s free. Fun for all

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently including **Alice Gallagher, Eithne Monaghan, Frank Rochford and Michael Ryan** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Please pray for all those who are ill at this time including Catherine Elkin, Avenal Jenkins, John Moloney, Rita Carter, Liz Smith, Bernadette Marron, Mark Norris, Patrick Foley, Jim O’Neill, Mike Smith, Jack O’Mahoney, Carmaline Xavier, Elisabeth Page, Kathleen Murphy, Jim O’Connor, Sr. Annie Bromham IBVM, Geraldine McBride, Becki Vousden, Vertina Fernandes, Veronica Hamilton, Claire Whitehead, Alice Daly, Sheila Doohan, Janet Szymczak, Noah Gregorio, Edie Hale, Gerry Smith, Edmond Mansfield, Teresa Hill, Ida Daswa, Catrin Rees-Doherty, John Rowland, Margaret Moloney, Jim Moss, Margaret Malloney, Ruth O’Gorman, John Baxter, Derita Whyte, Carmen Mincu & Teresa Virrueta; may the Lord comfort them.

Mass Intentions for the Week 17.6.2018

6pm Mary Curran RIP
8am 25th Anniv. of Margaret (Babs) White
and special ints. of her widower
9am M'wick Elsie McDonagh RIP
9.30am The Thompson Family Ints.
11.30am Mimma Avvinti Anniv.
7pm People of the Parish

Monday – Feria

10am Priests' Intentions
7pm William Raymond O'Leary Anniv.

Tuesday – Feria

10am Ciro Lista RIP & Jennifer Paradise RIP
NO EVENING MASS

Wednesday – St. Alban

10am Jimmy McGilloway Anniv.
7pm MSC Benefactors

Thursday – St. Aloysius Gonzaga

10am FUNERAL OF EITHNE MONAGHAN
NO EVENING MASS

Friday – Ss John Fisher and Thomas More

10am Helen Spare RIP
7pm The Ints. of the Knights of St. Columba

Saturday – Feria

10am Frs. Tom Hewitt & Sandy Murray RIP
6pm Maureen Lerwill Anniv.

Next Sunday

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

8am Antonetta Calderia 1st Anniv.
9am M'wick Paul Thompson RIP
9.30am Fr. Sandy Murray MSC + MSC Ints.
11.30am Mary Curran RIP
4pm Polish Mass
7pm People of the Parish

*Mass Intentions are subject to change
if there is a funeral.*

This weekend, 16th / 17th June, there will be
an exit collection for Day for Life.

This year's Day for Life will remember all those who are
suffering or have survived human trafficking and modern
slavery. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness about
the meaning and value of human life at every stage and
in every condition. Money collected for Day for Life will
be used to fund projects that support work in this area.
All Donations are greatly appreciated.

*Pope Francis invokes the intercession of St. Josephine
Bakhita, the patron of victims of human trafficking and
modern slavery, praying that she might intercede on their
behalf with the God of Mercy so that the chains of their
captivity will be broken.*



Walk to Mass in June' invitation.

Two weeks left in June.

Almost at the longest day. There's still
time to try a stroll to church,
perhaps with a friend or with your family.

First Reading: Exodus 17:22-24

God is doing something marvellous, something
that can be compared to planting a seedling which
will grow into a mighty tree. Let us not fear small
beginnings.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

Let us learn from St. Paul, who is full of
confidence even though he, like us, must walk by
faith and not by sight.

Gospel Reading: Mark 4:26-34

This gospel contains two of the many parables
that Jesus used in communicating his messages to
the people of his time. In the first parable Jesus
compares the kingdom of God to what happens
when a seed is grown by the farmer. The second
parable about the mustard seed illustrates that
while the initial grasp of Jesus' teaching may be
minimal (the mustard seed) the greater is
contained in the lesser.

Reading for the Week:

Mon: 1 Kgs 21 :1-16 ; Ps 5 :2-3.5-7 ; Mt 5 :38-42

Tue: 1 Kgs 21 :17-29 ; Ps 50 :3-6.11.16 ; Mt 5 :43-48

Wed: 2 Kgs 2:1.6-14; Ps 30:20-21.24; Mt 6:1-6.16-18

Thu: Sir 48:1-14; Ps 96:1-7; Mt 6:7-15

Fri: 2 Kgs 11 :1-4.9-18.20 ; Ps 131 :11-14.17-18 ; Mt 6 :19-23

Sat : 2 Chr 24 :17-25 ; Ps 88 :4-5.29-34 ; Mt 6 :24-34

Dates for June

Traidcraft

Traidcraft coffee morning this **Monday 18th June** 9.30am until 12 noon, 43 Avenue Road AL13PY Everyone welcome. Any enquiries or orders please contact us on 01727 765 549

Saints Helping Us Today Week 2 St Benedict: a Rhythm of Prayer

A series of 6 individual DVD talks exploring the lives of Saints Patrick, Benedict, Francis of Assisi, Catherine of Siena, Ignatius of Loyola, and Thérèse of Lisieux, and how their wisdom and teachings can be a practical help to us today.

The course will be held in the Parish Hall on **Thursdays from 14th June to 19th July from 11am to 12 and repeated in the evening from 8 to 9pm.**

Refreshments will be provided beforehand. Each talk lasts about 40 minutes with a mid-point break for group discussions. For more information contact Mike or Sylvia White (01727 854 596 whitew@talktalk.net).

Marshalswick Mass Centre Bags 2 School

As a fund raising scheme, the Governors of St John Fisher Primary School, Marshalswick will be handing out "Bags 2 School" after mass next Sunday, 17th June 2018.

Any old or unwanted items of clothing or shoes can be put in these Bags, ready for collection Sunday 15th July 2018, from the Mass Centre (St John Fisher School, Hazelemere Road, St Albans, AL4 9RW) For further details contact Ofure.

Tel.No: 07944 167 802 ofuregov@sjfisher.herts.sch.uk

The Alban Pilgrimage

Our parish has registered as usual for our city's annual tribute to St Alban on **23rd June**. Please assemble at St Peter's Church, St Peter's Street at 10.45am for the pilgrimage which will leave at 11am, walking to the site of St Alban's execution near The Abbey.



Garden Opening

23rd & 24th June, 2-5.30pm

Parishioners Anne and David Myles will be opening their garden, along with neighbours opposite under the National Garden Scheme (Yellow Book), which annually raises a lot of money for Cancer care charities. Admission £6.00 (for both gardens) and children free. Tea/coffee, cakes and plants available for purchase, at 25 & 28 Cunningham Hill Road St Albans.



Celebration – Brendan Day

To mark the beginning of Brendan Day's study for the Permanent Diaconate please join us for refreshments in the Parish Centre after 9.30am or 7pm Masses on **Sunday, 24th June**.

Loreto College Past Pupils Reunion

Saturday 30th June. Did you attend Loreto College St Albans? If you did why not come along to the past pupils' reunion on **Saturday 30th June 2018** from 2.30 - 4.30pm? Please email loretoreunion@outlook.com for more information or to let us know you are coming

Celebrating the Spirituality of the Sacred Heart

The motto of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, and indeed the whole Chevalier family, "That the Sacred Heart of Jesus be Loved, everywhere forever" conveys the idea that no part of the world, no people in the world are excluded from this mission, from this vision. Jules Chevalier wanted us to see everyone as our brothers and our sisters, and when he referred to what he called as devotion to the Sacred Heart, we might call Spirituality of the Heart, he said that it included everything, everything in our Catholic faith, the Old Testament and the New Testament.



Everything is there. The heart of Jesus is the centre of Scripture, the centre of God's relationship to us. For Chevalier, it brought everything, his faith, his devotion, together.

To learn more about the Spirituality of the Heart and its continuing relevance today, please come to a meeting led by members of the European Chevalier family on Saturday 30th June from 10.45 until 12.45 in the Parish Hall.

Men's Activities

Two events for men of the parish in The next few weeks.

Firstly on **Saturday 30th June** we have a men's breakfast **from 8.15am** in the Parish Centre in Ss Alban & Stephen, followed by a short video and discussion. There will be tea/coffee, fruit, pastries and friendly conversation from 8.15am for 30 minutes or so, followed by a short DVD talk

We also have a curry night on at 8pm **Friday 6th July** at the Spice Hut in Marshalswick. Please contact Richard on 07976 252309 or email d4dstalban@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

NEWS BULLETIN

Thank you!

Parish Friends would like to thank all those who helped make the recent Strawberries and Cream Tea Party such a great success.

We had wonderful home-baked scones and cakes, and all guests arrived safely, to enjoy the afternoon's entertainment from the Cantelina Choir, thanks to a team of willing drivers.

We could not put on our events without the help of parishioners and we are very grateful to all those who give up their time to support us.

Parish Summer Garden Party Sunday, 1st July 2-5pm, Loreto PLEASE HELP – WE NEED YOU



If you can help with any of the following:

making cakes, serving refreshments,
setting up, clearing up, providing some live music,
displaying a craft, supervising children's games

Please contact Melanie O'Neill, Joanna Roche

or David Markham:

Melanie (07900 051 956; mjoneill5@btinternet.com)

Joanna (07960 519 789; joanna.roche1@gmail.com)

David (07543 400 650; dave_markham@yahoo.co.uk)

The Bazil Meade Gospel Music Academy Choir

with appearances from members of
The London Community Gospel
Choir. **Sunday 1st July 6pm** Marshalswick Baptist
Free Church. Free entry, donations in aid of
church building fund and choir charity



Baptism Course

The pre-baptism session will be held on **Saturday, 28th July at 10.30am, in Room 1 of the Parish Centre.** Parents who wish to baptise their

FIRST child need to attend.

To book a place on this course, please call the presbytery on 01727 853 585 (Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 1pm).

If you would like to baptise your **FIRST** child you will be unable to secure a baptism date before attending this session.

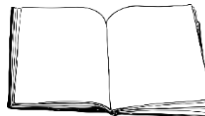
Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1pm. If you live outside our Parish you will need a letter from your Parish Priest giving permission to baptise here



Farewell Celebration Mass for Mrs Dempsey

Sunday 8th July at 9.30am - special farewell celebration Mass for Mrs Dempsey, Headteacher at Ss Alban and Stephen Catholic Infant and Nursery School. This Mass will be led by the children from the Infant and Junior schools.

Inscription in Hymn Books



If you would like to have an inscription in the front of one or more hymn books to record a dedication or a

request for prayer, please fill in one of the forms available at the back of the church, enclose it together with an offering of £5 for each book in an envelope provided and hand it in at the presbytery. The completed books will be placed on a table for you to look at before putting them on a bookshelf.

Parking for Saturday & Sunday Masses

Please remember that car parking at church is **reserved for people with very limited mobility.** Parking for people attending weekend Masses is available at Loreto. If Loreto is full, the nearest car park is at the railway station (costing

£2.70 on Saturdays or Sundays, and £2.60 on weekdays after 5pm). We



have enquired about using the car park at the offices next to the church, but have been informed that this is not possible for a number of reasons.

APF Magazines

The summer edition of Mission TODAY is now in the Church porch for APF promoters to collect. For any queries please call Tony Hughes (862087).

Hertfordshire Arrivals and Departures

An Event for Refugee Week
8pm Thursday June 21st, Trinity United Reform Church, 1 Beaconsfield Road, St. Albans AL1 3RD
Free Admission with Retiring Collection

Parish of Ss Alban & Stephen

Confessions: Sat 10.30–11.30am
& 6.45–7pm.

Baptisms: by appointment

