

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. Tom Hewitt MSC & Rev. Jimmy Stubbs MSC.
Deacon Steve Pickard.

14 Beaconsfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RB. Tel: 01727 853 585
Parish Secretary: Ivana Mearns, Office Hours: Mon – Fri, 9am – 1pm.

Parish Website: www.albanstephen.com

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

Youth Co-ordinator Sr. Anita O’Leary SSJG

e-mail: sister.anita@albanstephen.com

Youth Website: www.sasyouth.com

Safeguarding Lead Nicky Vellacott: nicky@radicalmoon.co.uk / 07882 566 020

We are a Fairtrade Parish.



Sunday 8th October

We are entrusted with the responsibility of making the best of what God has given us. There is no policing of our actions. Hence, this parable. We, too, can act out of self-righteousness and with the pretention of gods.

We can be shy with our gifts and talents. We don’t always forgive those who trespass against us. We abuse our freedom. What are we doing to our planet? Pope Francis is convinced that we have broken three closely intertwined relations.

Our relationship with God, with our neighbour and with earth itself have been broken both outwardly and within (Laudato Si’).

Today’s gospel speaks of God’s generosity and the people’s shameful response. See the way the landowner’s servants were treated by the tenants. They became greedy. So greedy that they committed the heinous crime of murder. Is our consumerist greed leading us the same way?

God is generous. He forgives our sins and transgressions. His generosity has blessed us with gifts and talents. He has given us the earth in all its splendour and beauty. All God asks is that we use this freedom to look after, nourish and care for life and the things with which he has lavished us.



Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Form Signing for Secondary School

Admissions The priests will be available to sign your Certificate of Catholic Practise on **Tuesday 10th October 4.30-6.30pm** and on **Tuesday 17th October 4.30-6.30pm, in the Parish Centre.** For more information on Certificates of Catholic Practise, please visit www.loreto.herts.sch.uk or www.nicholasbreakspearschool.co.uk

Confirmations 2018 Enrolment forms are now available from the back of the Church for all those **in Year 10 and above** who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next year. Please note that the deadline for submitting your enrolment is **Friday, 10th November 2017.**

November – Month of the Holy Souls

A Novena to remember the deceased will be held from 1st November to 9th November. If you would like a deceased relative or friend to be included in these Masses please put their name on the November List (purple leaflets available from the Church porch and Marshalswick Mass Centre). Please return completed lists to the presbytery in the envelope provided by **Monday, 31st October.**



Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently including **Paul Thompson, Luigi Basile, Bro. Roger Bosse SC, Dave Gleeson, Kathleen Fanning, Mossie Bambury, Brian Hodgson, Brian Huckle,** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, including Patrick William Curran, Marie Smith and Mary Minogue.

Please pray for all those who are ill at this time including Therese Egan, Seamus Meehan, Sr. Annie Bromham IBVM, Geraldine McBride, Fiona Wright, Becki Vousden, Vertina Fernandes, Veronica Hamilton, Claire Whitehead, Alice Daly, Richard Mayes, Sheila Doohan, Ida Daswa, Noah Gregorio, Janet Szymczak, , Edie Hale, Gerry Smith, Edmond Mansfield, Ethel Holloway, Teresa Hill, , Catrin Rees-Doherty, John Rowland, Margaret Moloney, Jim Moss, Margaret Malloney, Ruth O’Gorman, John Baxter, Derita Whyte, Carmen Mincu and Teresa Virrueta.



Annual Diocesan Mass Count

The second count will be taken this weekend 7th / 8th October.

Mass Intentions for the Week
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.10.2017

6pm Antonio and Giuseppa Lobue Anniv.
8am Gemma Bergin RIP
9am M'wick John Walsh RIP
9.30am Nancy Rae Meates RIP
11.30am People of the Parish
4pm Polish Mass
7pm Elizabeth Bolgiano RIP

Monday – Feria

10am Sheila Coyle RIP
7pm Martin Brosnan Anniv.

Tuesday – Feria

10am Terry Mahalier RIP
7pm Mr. & Mrs. Matthew & Ellah Kiely Ints.

Wednesday – Feria

10am **FUNERAL OF BRIAN HUCKLE**
7pm MSC Benefactors

Thursday – Feria

10am Priests' Intentions
7pm Meena Grovner Ints.

Friday – St. Edward the Confessor

10am John Kellett RIP
7pm Christine Coughlan RIP

Saturday – Feria

10am James Smith 1st Anniv.
6pm Karen Rowley Anniv.

Next Sunday

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Graham Smith Anniv.
9am M'wick Michael Gannon RIP
9.30am Deceased members of
the Pavoski and Dasko families
11.30am Mary Stubbs Anniv.
& Tim Donoghue Anniv.
7pm People of the Parish

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

Last weekend's offertory amounted to £2,100
Many thanks for your generosity.
This weekend, 8th / 9th October, there will be a second
collection for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day.

Cafod Harvest Fast Day Giftaid envelopes will
be available at Masses for tax payers, if required.
This year's appeal is focused on providing seeds and
help to south American farmers. "We plant the seeds
that will one day grow." More details from Stan
Grabecki (765549: grabecki@hotmail.com).

VACANCY:

Caretaker, Ss Alban & Stephen Parish

As the Caretaker you will be expected to be
enthusiastic, proactive, conscientious, and self-
motivated to ensure that the parish offers a clean and
safe environment for the staff, volunteers and users of
the centre. Flexibility in regards to hours will be
required, to meet the needs of our users. You will
undertake routine maintenance and will be expected to
facilitate the work of visiting contractors. The role is
subject to satisfactory references and a DBS Enhanced
Level Disclosure and Barred List check.

Hours of work: 15-18 hours per week
Salary: £12 per hour. **Closing date:** 19th October 2017
Interview date: 27th October 2017
For a full job description of the role and application
form, please visit <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/>

We welcome into the Christian community
Luke Hart, Abigail Fernandes and Thomas Murphy
who were baptised at our Church last Sunday.
We also offer our congratulations to their parents.



Peggy Brampton would like to thank all those who
celebrated her 103rd birthday with her after 6pm
Mass on 16th September. She had a lovely time
and was delighted to have two cakes. Many
thanks to the bakers.

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7 Isaiah is a prophet
of great vision and much hope. As a prophet he has a
duty to warn the people of God's expectations and
their responsibilities.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:6-9 St. Paul
reassures us that no matter how difficult and
challenging life is, there is no need to worry.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33-43 What
God has given is for us to use freely and prudently.
The most precious gift is life. It is to yield a rich
harvest. It is to bear much fruit; good fruit. We are
entrusted with the responsibility of making the best of
what God has given us. God shows great trust in us.

Reading for the Week

Mon: Jon 1:1-2:1.11; Ps: Jon 2:3-5-8; Lk 10:25-37
Tue: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 129:1-4.7-8; Lk 10:38-42
Wed: Jon 4:1-11; Ps 85:3-6.9-10; Lk 11:1-4
Thu: Mal 3:13-20; Ps 1:1-4.6; Lk 11:5-13
Fri: Joel 1:13-15, 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3.6.16.8-9; Lk 11:15-26
Sat: Joel 4:12-21; Ps 96:1-2.5-6.11-12; Lk 11:27-28

Dates for October

The Papacy and the Catholic Church in the 20th/21st Centuries.

A talk presented by The Rev.Fr.Peter Dwyer BA (Hons) MA in the Parish Hall on **Monday, 9th October at 8pm**. Refreshments provided. Admission free. Everyone welcome.

Mothers' Prayers

Mothers' Prayers will meet on **Wednesday 11th October at 8pm in room 2**.

Email for the International office
Office@mothersprayers.org.

Bingo

In the Parish Hall

on **Friday 13th October at 8 o'clock**.

Admission is 50p and everyone is welcome.

Liturgy Group Meeting

Anyone interested in Liturgy in our parish is invited to attend a meeting on **12th October at 7.45pm in the Conference Room in the Presbytery**. Anyone already involved in ministry, or who is interested in becoming a Minister of the Word, the Eucharist or helping with music would be especially welcome. Please contact Sara Nash on sara.nash1@ntlworld.com for further

information

Men's Film Night, Friday 13th October

We have a men's film night in the Parish Centre, **Room 1 on Friday 13th October**. This month the film is "Insomnia", directed by Christopher Nolan and starring Al Pacino. You can join us for drinks and pizza from 7.30pm and then we will watch the film at 8.30pm. For more details please contact Richard on 07976 252309.

Gathering Year 8

15th October 8pm - 9pm, in the Parish Hall
Contact Sr. Anita for more details.

Ascent (Life Ascending)

Wednesday 18th October, 10.30am
in the Conference Room in the Presbytery.
Talk on Medjugorje.

Justice & Peace

Gathering of those interested in Justice, Peace & the Integrity of Creation on **19th October** & every 3rd Thursday of the month at **8pm** in the Parish Centre. All most welcome."

Baptism Course

The pre-baptism session will be held on **Saturday, 14th October, 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 853585. 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 it is necessary to have a letter from your Parish Priest giving permission to baptise here.



Meeting of Volunteer Fire Wardens to organise Church Fire Practice

A meeting will be held at **8pm 18th October, in Room 1** of all volunteer fire wardens to discuss the arrangement of a fire practice after a weekend Mass.

It is important that as many Fire Wardens as possible attend this meeting. Please confirm your attendance with Ivana Mearns, Parish Secretary.

Tel.no: 853 585 (Mon - Fri, 9am - 1pm)

e-mail: alban_stephen@lineone.net

Harvest Festival Tea Party

Sunday 22nd October from 3-5pm

Parish Friends are holding a Harvest Festival Tea Party in the Hall on Sunday 22nd October from 3-5pm with entertainment from Chris Flegg. All welcome. If you are attending please put your name on the guest list in the porch and at Marshalswick Mass Centre stating if you require a lift. Those who can supply fruit pies, tarts, crumbles, scones or lifts please sign on the Helpers list. Contact Helen helen.bassill@ntlworld.com or 852250 for more information.

Westminster Diocese Agency for Evangelisation

supporting individuals and groups to grow as missionary disciples of Our Lord, Jesus Christ
Full details at <http://rcdow.org.uk/faith/>

Retreat Evenings on the Beatitudes

Presented by Mgr Malachy Keegan
Mondays: 13th, 20th, 27th November
and 4th December, 7- 8.30pm at Vaughan House,
46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN

~~~~~

### **Pope Francis and the Evangelising Mission of the Church**

Presented by Brian Purfield  
**Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 7- 8.30pm** at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN

Please register for either course at  
[livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk)  
or leave a message at 020 7931 6078

# NEWS BULLETIN

## Paul Thompson – Rest in Peace

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden death of **Paul Thompson** on 22<sup>nd</sup> September in Whitchurch, Cardiff. Paul aged 36 was our youngest son and a former pupil of St John Fisher School and a regular altar server with his two older brothers in the parish for many years. We as a family would like to thank everyone who has sent their condolences and messages of support, it is very much appreciated.

Bill, Jo, Andrew and Martin Thompson.

## Brother Roger Bosse sc - RIP

The Brothers of the Sacred Heart are greatly saddened to announce the sudden death of Brother Roger Bosse sc (Formerly Brother Lucian). Brother Roger had been associated with St Columba's College for the last 50 years. He will be greatly missed, may he rest in peace.

St Columba's College will be hosting a memorial service on **Saturday 14th October at 11am**, in the School Chapel, followed by a reception at the Brothers residence, Watling House, on King Harry Lane.

RSVP: Brother Paul sc: [bro.paul@stcolumbascollege.org](mailto:bro.paul@stcolumbascollege.org)

## English Conversation Classes for Ladies

Ladies of all nationalities are welcome to attend free English conversation classes that take place on Monday afternoons during school term times in the Parish hall. Sessions begin at 1 pm and finish by 2.30 pm. No pre-booking required. Help with reading and grammar is also offered. For more information contact [welcomboxes@albanstephen.com](mailto:welcomboxes@albanstephen.com)

## Become a Parish Sponsor / Godparent

Every year we have been blessed to receive New Catholics into our Church Community at the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday). To assist / walk alongside these wonderful people we do need volunteers, each year, to become Sponsors / Godparents willing to journey with each person on their pathway to Easter. To become their spiritual 'agony aunt / uncle' is a joy.

We would very much appreciate anyone who is interested in becoming part of our team (September > Easter) contacting Deacon Steve on 01727 863 925 or [stephenpickard@gmail.com](mailto:stephenpickard@gmail.com) The rewards are great!

## A Special Thank You for supporting Bakhita Village...

As a 'thank you' to Bakhita Village and St. Brendan's scholarship donors, and anyone else who's been following the news from Bakhita Village or has an interest in South Africa, we're holding a special screening of the award-winning film, 'Life, above all'. It is the heart-warming story of a 12-year old fighting the stigma of AIDS in South Africa. This free screening will take place on **Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> November, at 7.30 pm, in the Parish Hall**. Coffee/tea/biscuits available.

## Winter Beds Project

Provision of beds in severe weather for rough sleepers in St. Albans, hoping to start in January, 2018.

Initiated & managed by a small steering group of volunteers from the local community & members of the Open Door charity board. We are looking for volunteers to commit for a minimum of 6 months to join the steering group with relevant experience or transferable skills to fulfil the following roles:

**Training and development lead, Staff and volunteer recruitment lead, Fundraising lead and**

**Communication lead.** Please email Simon Carver, senior minister at Dagnall St. Baptist church giving your phone number: [simoncarver@btinternet.com](mailto:simoncarver@btinternet.com)



## You Can Be Santa

The parish will again be running the 'You Can Be Santa' scheme this year, whereby children/families who may not otherwise enjoy the full spirit of Christmas will at least experience a visit from Santa. We are asking parishioners who know of families within the Parish who may not experience the joys of Christmas to let us have their full contact details; please be assured though that these will be kept in confidence. If you feel confident about approaching the family yourself and asking if they would like to take part, please do so and then pass on their details. Please contact one of the Santa team Cath White, Sr Anita, Sara Nash, Helen Bassill or Anita O'Connor for more information. Alternatively e-mail: [santa@albanstephen.com](mailto:santa@albanstephen.com)

'**LOVE, Say It with Your Life**' is the latest booklet produced by the Diocese to help people develop their faith. It is primarily aimed at those in a small group though of course it can be used at home in private. The booklets are now available at church. For more information, or to join a small group, please contact Fr Tom or Stan (765549, [grabecki@hotmail.com](mailto:grabecki@hotmail.com))

**Charity Music Evening** A Musical evening in aid of the Kanyike Project, Uganda, on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November at St Francis College Theatre, Letchworth**, will feature acts from the world of opera, jazz soul and much more! Drinks from 7.15; show starts at 8pm; tickets £35 or senior citizens £25. Turning problems into opportunities is the objective of this on-going initiative, founded in 1986, to help with self-sustainable community development in Uganda. Any work undertaken in the Project is suggested and implemented by the people in the villages; nothing is imposed by anyone outside. All money raised goes directly to the Project. For tickets contact Marion Gray 07885408711 or Sara Nash [sara.nash1@ntlworld.com](mailto:sara.nash1@ntlworld.com)

## Parish of SS Alban & Stephen

Confessions: Sat 10.30-11.30am, 6.45-7pm.  
Baptisms: by appointment.

