



ST ALBAN

Parish Newsletter

ALL SAINTS DAY

First reading: **Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14**
Second Reading: **John 3:1-3**
Gospel: **Matthew 5: 1-12**

Mass Times

Monday 9:30am
Tuesday 9:30am
Wednesday 7pm
Thursday 9:30am
Friday 9:30am
Saturday 6pm
Sunday 9am and 11am

Please note:

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended-one can attend Mass any day of the week.

Contact Info

Parish Priest
Rev Dermot O'Neill

Safeguarding
Claudia Clayman

finchleynorthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Parish Secretary
Jackie Sheils
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-1

51 Nether Street
Finchley
London
N12 7NN
020 8446 0224
finchleynorth@rcdow.org.uk

The Beatitudes of this Gospel do not have economic and social concerns as their central characteristics, as do the Beatitudes in Luke. Here the message is personal, the concerns spiritual. A person's disposition is all-important in determining who received these blessings. They are directed at the humble ones, the 'poor in spirit' and the 'meek'; those loath to make demands will be recipient of both heaven and earth. Likewise in innocent, the 'pure in heart,' will enjoy the splendor of God's presence. Those who bestow mercy will be reciprocated. The sense of aching that comes with sorrow and mourning will be eased. And finally, those persecuted for their faith can rejoice in heavenly reward.

As we reflect on the lives of the Saints, we take comfort in knowing that they enjoy peace and have truly been blessed with the fulfillment of these promises for which we yet hope. We draw inspiration from their lives of faith and love, as we ourselves continue to struggle to be faithful and loving members of the Christian family.

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION

Next week, there will be a collection for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. By supporting the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you can help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs will be met.

This is our chance to say thank you to our sick and retired priests who have given so much. You will find a donation envelope at the back of the church today. Please take one home, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, retired and ill. **You can donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations** - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online.

Envelopes are available from the exits of the church. Please take one today and return it next week. Thank you.

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST ENVELOPES

Envelopes available from the exits of the church. Please put the list of names you wish to have prayed for together with your donation and return the envelopes to the presbytery or in the offertory baskets in the church.

Parish QR code

For online donations



Sacraments

Under current COVID restrictions:

Baptisms: No more than 6 people at the ceremony. To arrange a baptism please contact Fr Dermot.

Funerals: It is the normal procedure to first contact your chosen Funeral Director. They will liaise with Fr Dermot. At present only 30 mourners can attend the church service.

Weddings: Preparation for marriage: Six months' notice is required. Please contact Fr Dermot.

Catechetics

We are currently making plans how to safely prepare for First Communion and Confirmation. Details and application forms will be made available shortly.

Newsletter

If you wish to receive a copy of our weekly newsletter by email, please sign up by using the website e-Alert or, email the parish office to request.



SCHOOL APPLICATION FORM SIGNING

Please contact Fr Dermot to arrange an appointment to have your school forms signed. Please note, there will be no arranged signing sessions this year.

DONATE TO THE CHURCH/PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Thank you to all who have converted their weekly contribution to Direct Debit. This has been a great asset to us. To those who are still using weekly envelopes, your new set should have arrived by now. If you have not yet received them, please let the office know. If you wish to join the planned giving scheme in our Parish, please contact the Parish office by email, if possible or visit our website for more information. The QR code is shown here on this newsletter. This will give you direct link to details of online giving.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OR THINKING OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

St Alban's Church, North Finchley has a group for adults which meets every Wednesday evening at 8pm in the Presbytery. Why not come along to find out more? Or if you prefer, just phone or email the parish to let us know you're coming and if you wish, we can put you in touch with someone who can tell you what to expect and answer your questions. You will be made very welcome.

THANK YOU

After 26 years of leading the preparation of children in the parish to receive their First Holy Communion, Jackie Sheils has decided to stand down from the role. Since 1994, the families of this parish have benefitted from her dedication and commitment to handing on the faith. I wish to record my gratitude to her and her able assistants, Jackie Light, Denise and Blossom McDonagh, who are also stepping away from First Communion preparation. Fr Dermot.

ST ALBAN'S CENTERING PRAYER GROUP

Due to COVID-19 we are now running as a virtual Zoom group on the same dates and times until further notice. Please email Carole O'Reilly coreilly396@btinternet.com for more information as to how to join.

Please remember in your prayers the sick:

Bridget Hennessey, Noreen Byrne, John McNicholas
Gabriel Mensah, Ian Dunn, Janet Tang
Kevin Kerr, Mary Kerr
Jean McDonnell, Richard Evans, Pat Devine, Maria Diaz

all the recently departed and their loved ones

James Condor

and the faithful departed whose anniversaries occur at about this time:

Henry Sheils, Mary Rose Smith,
Adele & Romeo Castagretti, Patrick Hunt