



# ST ALBAN

Parish Newsletter – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020  
+OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
King of the Universe

## Mass Times

**No Public Mass until further notice.**

### Church open daily for prayer

**Monday – Friday 9.30am-10am**

**Saturday and Sunday after Mass until  
11.30am**

### Please note:

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

## Contact Info

Parish Priest  
Rev Dermot O'Neill

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

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**First reading: Ezekiel 34: 11-12,15-17**  
**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28**  
**Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46**

The First Reading is taken from chapter 34 of the book of Ezekiel, the parable of the shepherds and the sheep (see Ezekiel 34:1-31 for the complete parable). The 'shepherds of Israel' were the leaders of the Israelites during the Babylonian exile (587-538bc). Active during this time, the prophet Ezekiel was very critical of their lack of leadership. They allowed 'the sheep of Israel' (the Israelite people) to become 'lost' while in exile. Ezekiel describes these 'lost sheep' as the 'injured' and the 'sick' among them-the most vulnerable of those in exile. In today's reading, Ezekiel informs these leaders of God's response to this lack of leadership: "I myself will pasture my sheep." Ezekiel also informs the exiled Israelites of God's coming in judgement of them (the sheep), saying that at the end time he will separate those who will be saved from those who will be condemned. Ezekiel's point is clear. In the end, both the sheep and the shepherds are held accountable to judgement by God.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus speaks of himself as the 'eschatological shepherd,' assigned by God at the end of time to judge all people and to lead his sheep into the Kingdom of Heaven. Like Ezekiel, Jesus makes it clear that those who reach out to the most vulnerable in society (the hungry, the naked, the sick and the prisoner) will be the sheep on his right who are led into the Kingdom of Heaven.

### **CHANGES DUE TO LOCKDOWN-MASS TIMES**

During this period of lockdown, Mass will be celebrated behind closed doors. Monday – Friday, at 9am, Saturday and Sunday at 10am. Your intentions and the Souls in Purgatory will be prayed for. Mass will be live streamed each day. The church will be open for people to visit from 9.30-10am Monday to Friday  
Saturday and Sunday – after Mass until 11.30am

### **SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION**

The annual collection for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese remains open. You can donate online at [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations) - there are some envelopes in the porch which feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online. You can still send in your donation to this collection by posting the envelope through the presbytery door. Thank you. Please continue to pray for the wellbeing of all of our clergy: active, sick and retired

## 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

### **First Holy communion:**

Application forms now available on our website.

**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.



## DONATE TO THE CHURCH

Thank you to all who have converted their weekly contribution to Direct Debit. This has been a great asset to us. 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.

## NOVEMBER DEAD LIST ENVELOPES

Envelopes available from the porch 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.

## 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 when we can and via Zoom when we can't. Just phone or email the Parish if you are interested and 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.

## ST BARNABAS FOODBANK

St Barnabas Foodbank at 913 High Road North Finchley, accepts donations of food each Saturday between 9.30 & 12.30. They are open for those in need on Mondays 12.30 – 2pm.

## 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.

## PARISH WEBSITE

Visit our parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleynorth – for all weekly updates and Children's liturgy lesson.

### **Please remember in your prayers the sick:**

Bridget Hennessey,  
Kevin Kerr,  
Anne

### **all the recently departed and their loved one**

John McNicholas  
Richard Evans,  
Josie Hanlon

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

Peter & Sheila Wardley  
Patrick McDonagh, Christopher McCarthy  
Briget Costello, Joseph O'Reilly