



ST ALBAN

Parish Newsletter – 7th March 2021
+3rd Sunday in Lent

MASS TIMES

Monday	9.30am
Tuesday:	9.30am
Wednesday:	9.30am
Thursday:	9.30am
Friday:	9.30am
Saturday:	6pm
Sunday:	9am and 11am

Please note:

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

Contact Info

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Parish website

Visit our website
parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleynorth
for all weekly updates and
Children's Liturgy Lessons.

First reading: Exodus 20: 1-17
Responsorial Psalm: *You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.*
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
Gospel: John 2:13-25
First Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation during Lent

We commonly learn, read, and follow the Ten Commandments out of context. Whether in a religious education session or on a courtroom wall, they often stand alone like a timeless, universal statement of perfect morality. But the Bible places them firmly in their context within the story of Israel. In Exodus 3, God tells Moses that he is coming to deliver Israel from the oppressors. Exodus 4-11 narrates the struggle between Moses and the pharaoh before the deliverance. The first Passover celebration comes in chapters 12-13. The spectacular rescue from the Egyptians and its aftermath appear in Exodus 14-15, and the events of the journey to Mount Sinai, including the first manna and the water from the rock, happen in chapters 16-18. Finally, in Exodus 19, the people reach Sinai, where God tells them through Moses, "You have seen.....how I bore you up on eagle wings and brought you here to myself. Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people, though all the earth is mine. You shall be to me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation" (19:4-6). Then follows in chapter 20 the text we read today.

The proper setting for understanding the Decalogue is the mighty act of salvation and the covenant that God established as its result. Its Ten Commandments presuppose that one is already participating in the covenant. People obey out of love, faithfulness, and gratitude. The very first commandment emphasizes the context of salvation: "*I, the Lord, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.... you shall not have other gods besides me*" (Exodus 20:2).

Moses sealed the people's participation in the covenant by sprinkling them with the "blood of the covenant" (Exodus 24:8) Jesus renewed that as "my blood of the covenant which will be shed for many" (Mark 14:24). For Christians, the context for understanding and obeying is the Paschal Mystery of our Lord, who through the Eucharist gives us the wisdom and power to obey.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Please continue to pray for those in our Parish community who will be receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil: our Catechumens Jaimin, Mutsilu and Moi-Maree and our Candidates Catherine, Freddie, Lily and Rosanna, that they may grow in God's grace and persevere courageously through the power of His love. We shall be celebrating the Scrutiny with them on Sunday 21st March at the 11 am Mass.

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.

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. Alternatively, simply set up a direct debit:

A/c name: WRCDT St Alban North Finchley-

Sort code: 40-05-20

A/c No: 51094491

Reference: Your name/donation

PARISH REGISTRATION

Are you registered in the Parish? Forms are available in the porch or can be requested by email from the parish office.

finchleynorth@rcdow.org.uk

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.

CAFOD

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Please give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Please donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/give or by using one of our envelopes.

You can also easily give via text.

Text LENT 5 to 70460 to give £5, plus one standard rate message.

Text LENT 10 to 70460 to give £10, plus one standard rate message.

Text LENT 20 to 70460 to give £20, plus one standard rate message.

Or Telephone: 0303 303 3030 to donate over the phone

For more information, please see our Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice

Further resources for Family Fast Day can be found on our web page <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>

DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES

Weekly updates of vacancies throughout the Diocese.

<https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk>

Please remember in your prayers the sick:

Jimmy Gray, Michael O'Boy,
Bruna Antonioni, Johnny Banhan

all the recently departed and their loved ones.

Genevieve Miranda, Eileen Hanley, Freddie Antonioni

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

Mario Dias, Iliana Dima, Gerd-Uwe Jahns, Roy Howard

