



ST ALBAN

Parish Newsletter

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

First reading: Wisdom 6:12-16
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel: Matthew 25: 1-13

Most of us know what it is like to lose a loved one. In 1 Thessalonians, St. Paul is writing to a church that has recently buried some dear friends. But this letter was written only two decades from the time of Jesus' ministry, and the believers in Thessalonica may have assumed that Jesus was going to return before any of them died. When some people did die, they wondered if those people would miss out on the resurrection. Of course Paul explained that they could look forward to being reunited with them in heaven. So when loved ones pass away, we grieve, but we grieve with hope- the hope of seeing them again.

In the parable of the ten bridesmaids (some called the ten virgins), Jesus tells the story of a group of bridesmaids who are waiting for the groom to return so the wedding celebrations can take place. These 'waiting parables' are about the 'church age,' the time we live in now, when we wait for the groom, Christ, to return for his bride, the church (see John 14: 2-3).

In both of these readings, we are confronted with the reality that what we hope for is not yet realized. We wait, but we wait in hope, because we believe we will be united with Christ and reunited with our loved ones. Jesus' message for us while we wait is to remain spiritually alert and be ready to meet him, since we do not know when he will come for us, whether at his return or at our own death (Luke 12: 13-21). When that times comes, we don't want to be like the foolish bridesmaids. When the groom arrived, he said, "I don't know you!"

Mass Times

No Public Mass until further notice.

Church open daily for prayer
Monday – Friday 9.30am-10am
Saturday & Sunday 9.30am – 10.30am

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

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

Safeguarding
Claudia Clayman
finchleynorthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

CHANGES DUE TO LOCKDOWN

During this period of lockdown, Mass will be celebrated for your intentions and the Souls in Purgatory each day at 9am behind closed doors but will be live streamed each day. The church will be open for people to visit from 9.30-10am Mon-Fri and from 9.30-10.30am Saturday and Sunday.

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION

Today, the annual collection for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese was due to take place. You can donate online at 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, retired and ill

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.

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.



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.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.



Please see website for details of those named on the memorial by our church.



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:

Pietro Bazzinotti, Mary Rose Smith, Kevin Boyle
Adele & Romeo Castagretti, Patrick Hunt, Romeo Signorini