

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
ST ALBAN

PARISH NEWSLETTER - 22ND FEBRUARY 2026

First reading: Genesis 2:7–9, 3:1–7

Psalm: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second reading: Romans 5:12–19

Gospel: Matthew 4:1–11

Preface - The temptation of the Lord (pg 71) Eucharistic Prayer - for Reconciliation 1 (pg 37)



**MASS TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS WEEK
COMMENCING 21ST FEBRUARY 2026**

Saturday 21st February

Confessions 5.15 – 5.45pm

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
during confession time**

6pm Liz Mulvihill (RIP) Jimmy Sheehan (RIP)

Sunday 22nd February

9:30am Clement Chan (RIP) Roberto Maureki (RIP)

11:30am Bill Whitaker (RIP) Marion Doherty

Monday 23rd February

11am REQUIEM JIM TIERNEY

Tuesday 24th February

9.30am Paul Geraerts (RIP) Maura Vaughan (INT)

Gabrielle (INT)

Wednesday 25th February

9.30am Tulia Burgos (RIP)

Thursday 26th February

NO MASS TODAY

Friday 27th February

9.30am Sr. Marie Joseph (INT)

Please remember in your prayers all the sick:

Adriano Grazioli, Pat Devine, Robert Rowe, Tom O'Connor,
Kitty Carey, Sr. Marie Joseph Catney,
Mary Byrne, Joe Dooley, Primo Leonardi

All the recently departed and their loved one

Jim Tierney, Bob Smith

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

**CONTACT
INFORMATION**

Parish Priest - Rev Dermot O'Neill

Parish Secretary - Alison McKinnie (Office hours: **Tuesday, Wed & Thurs 9.00-1.00pm, Friday 9.00-12noon**
51 Nether Street, North Finchley, London N12 7NN. Tel: **020 8446 0224** email: **finchleynorth@rcdow.org.uk**

Parish Website - Visit our website for all weekly updates at **parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleynorth**

Safeguarding - Maire Lynch - Email: **finchleynorthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk**

Donations & Gift Aid - Claire Catney - Email: **finchleynorthgac@rcdow.org.uk**

Childrens Liturgy - Takes place at the Family Mass at 9.30am on Sundays.

Repository - Open after both Sunday Masses.

"The Lord, your God, shall you worship / and him alone shall you serve."

In preparing to proclaim the Scriptures, it's important to remember that we serve the word, not the other way around. It can be easy to rationalise a Scripture created in our own image, that we might be "like gods." We might find ourselves thinking that Scripture is great when it says things that we like (or when it condemns the "right people") but less so when it goes against our own desires and preconceptions. When we use the Scriptures for our own purposes, we are doing the same thing Satan does in today's gospel. Satan is not ignorant of Scripture in this passage, but on the contrary appears to be quite biblically literate. What separates Jesus's response from Satan's is that Jesus refuses to give into the temptation of self-aggrandisement. Lent is a great time to grow nearer to the word of God—not on our terms, but on God's. Jesus himself quotes Deuteronomy 8:3, saying, "One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." If we approach the Scriptures in humility, God will reveal himself to us.

James Bernard Tierney RIP

The Requiem Mass will be celebrated here at 11am on Monday 23rd February, followed by Committal at St Maryebone Crematorium East Finchley

Requiescat in pace

Bob Smith RIP

The Requiem Mass will be celebrated here at 10am on Monday 2nd March, followed by Committal at Chehunt Cemetery Bury Green Road Waltham Cross EN7 5AG

Requiescat in pace

CAFOD Family Fast Day Collection

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030.

Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

THE BIG LENT WALK - 200KM IN 40 DAYS FOR LIFE-SAVING WATER

Are you ready for a challenge this Lent? Lent has started, but you can still join the Big Lent Walk! Sign up now to raise funds for life-saving water. Step up this Lent to help our neighbours

Live Lent with CAFOD

As we begin Lent, the great season of repentance and renewal, join us in prayer, fasting and almsgiving as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ's resurrection.

Pray with our Lent reflections.

Fast on Family Fast Day, Friday 27th February.

Give to our Lent Appeal.

Scan to go directly to the sign-up page!



cafod.org.uk/livelent

Parish accounts for the year ended 2025 are published in the church porch and on our parish website.

The parish finance committee are very grateful for the continued financial support that keeps our ageing parish plant in good order to carry on our mission as a Catholic faith community in North Finchley. We are aware also of the generous response to our Planned Giving Appeal last Autumn. While it hasn't had much opportunity to be fully assessed yet, signs are there is a noticeable increase in weekly income as a result. This increase is needed. We hope to be sending out specifications for tender by Easter on our refurbishment and repurposing plans for the presbytery. This capital project will require borrowing some money from the diocese to complete. All the while, the usual upkeep of the church and hall must be maintained.

On another positive note, the annual head count of those attending weekend masses in our church continues to rise. The Autumn count over a month of Sundays, averages 569. This is up from 512 in 2024. As we enter the penitential season of Lent, we have reason to be grateful to God, whilst all the time seeking to be open to His guidance.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2:30pm.

The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary and would like to attend please give me the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email). Either by email finchleynorth@rcdow.org.uk or post the information through the presbytery door.



Parish QR code
For online donations



The church will remain open during the day
for private prayer.