

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
**ST ALBAN**



**PARISH NEWSLETTER - 8TH MARCH 2026**

**First reading:** Exodus 17:3–7  
**Psalm:** O that today you would listen to his voice:  
'Harden not your hearts.'  
**Second reading:** Romans 5:1–2, 5–8  
**Gospel:** John 4:5–42  
**Preface of The Samaritan Woman (pg72) Eucharistic Prayer 1 of Reconciliation (pg37)**

**MASS TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS WEEK**  
COMMENCING 7th MARCH 2026

**Saturday 7th March**

**Confessions 5.15 – 5.45pm**

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

**6pm Alex Daly (RIP) Marie Pereira (RIP)**

**Sunday 8th March**

**9:30am Nora O'Malley (RIP) Bob Smith (RIP)**

**11:30am Giuseppe Scala (RIP)**

**Monday 9th March**

**9.30am Alex Daly (RIP)**

**Tuesday 10th March**

**9.30am Intentions**

**Wednesday 11th March**

**9.30am Roy Howard (RIP)**

**Thursday 12th March**

**NO MASS TODAY**

**Friday 13th March**

**9.30am Teresa Falanga (RIP)**

**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**

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

Alex Daly, Marie Pereira, Giuseppe Scala, Roy Howard

"Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst."  
In this gospel reading, Jesus shares the "good news" not by preaching to a crowd or working great miracles, but by encountering a Samaritan woman in conversation. She draws water during the heat of the day, hoping to avoid the sneering glances of others in her community. Instead, she encounters the loving gaze of Jesus. In seeing Jesus for who he is, the Son of God, the Samaritan woman comes to know herself more truly. The word of God reveals to her and to each of us our own deepest identity as beloved children of God. Despite our sin, fear, and shame, God sees in us his own image, perfected by grace in Christ Jesus. Carried by this truth, she reveals Jesus to her whole community, who come to believe. Jesus desires to offer his "living water," his own Holy Spirit. In receiving this Spirit into our hearts, we ourselves become "wells" of living water for others.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

During Lent the Universal Church asks us to celebrate the Scrutinies with the adults in our parish who are to be Baptised, Confirmed and received at the Easter Vigil. So we are celebrating the First Scrutiny on Sunday 8th March at the 9.30am Mass, the Second Scrutiny at the 6.00pm Mass on Saturday 14th March and the Third Scrutiny on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at the 11.30am Mass . Please pray for Joao, Andrea, Diana, Olufisoye, Oladoyin, Leandro, Joe and Jack as they journey towards the Easter sacraments.

**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.

## SACRAMENTS

**BAPTISMS** : To arrange a baptism please contact Fr Dermot.

**FUNERALS** : It is normal procedure to first contact your chosen Funeral Director.

They will liaise with Fr Dermot.

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

**CONFESSIONS** : Saturday from 5.15pm

**REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH** : Registration forms are available from the porch. Complete and return to the presbytery. Thank you.

**ST BARNABAS FOODBANK** : Accepts donations of food each Saturday between 9.30am & 12.30.

They are open for those in need on Monday's 12.30-2pm. 913 High Road, North Finchley.

**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.

## Thank you from CAFOD

Thank you for your generosity for CAFOD, so far, **£943.39** has been donated. If you haven't done so it's not too late to make a donation. Donations can be handed into the Parish Office. If you wish to 'Gift-Aid' your donation, please use one of the CAFOD green envelopes or if you would like to go online you can donate using this link [cafod.org.uk/parish](https://cafod.org.uk/parish). CAFOD is deeply grateful to everyone who contributed to the recent CAFOD appeal. Your donations will make a real difference.

## St Alban's Thursday Club Thursday, 12 March 2026 1.00pm-3.00pm

We welcome all to our monthly social gathering where we will have an early St Patrick's Day celebration with quizzes and blarney to entertain us. Lynda will lead the Tai Chi . Tasty homemade soup is on the menu. Tea / coffee will also be served. £2 per person. Also, the Arts Depot have invited us to their lunchtime event on Thursday, 26 March 2026 at 12.00. Tickets, available at the club, are £10pp

**Bishop Douglass School** are able to offer a small number of year 7 spaces to any parents or carers who have not secured a secondary school place for their child in September 2026, or are unhappy with their offer. The school's bespoke and personalised Transition Programme ensures that all children feel confident to begin in September. This begins with a Welcome Event on Tuesday, 11th March from 4:15pm. Any interested parents can contact the school on [admissions@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk) or phone 020 8444 5211 for further information.

**Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and Nursery, Bow Lane, N12**, still has spaces for the Nursery for the term after your child is 3 (by 31st August 2026). Please look at our website on [www.ololbarnetschool.org.uk](http://www.ololbarnetschool.org.uk) for the application form or call the school to arrange a tour.

## 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](mailto: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.

