

## LENT 2019

### LENTEN ALMS

Giving 'Lenten Alms' is an age-old custom whereby what we save through self-denial we donate for the benefit of the poor, or to charity. This year, the Cardinal invites us to support a new programme focusing on the food poverty affecting people in every part of the Diocese, much of it hidden. Funds will support foodbanks, schools and other initiatives to relieve poverty, helping people back on their feet and able to live independently. After each Mass next Sunday, we will be collecting for this programme. Envelopes for your contributions are available.

### SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

Celebrating Reconciliation, going to confession, is an important part of our Lenten Journey, and our preparation for Easter. In addition to the regular times of confession there is the Parish Penitential Service this Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April, at 7.30pm. Confession is an indispensable part of our Christian lives, so do think about taking up this opportunity.

### LENT TRIVIA

- When does the Paschal Triduum start?
- Why are there no flowers in the church during Lent?
- Why do we not sing or say 'Alleluia' during Lent?

### ANSWERS ON THE BACK PAGE



Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April and will re-open on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 9.30am.

### COFFEE MORNING

Coffee and tea will be served in the undercroft on Tuesday morning after the 9.15am Mass



### HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Details of everything that is taking place during Holy Week and Easter will be found on the leaflet available today. Please collect a copy.

### PALM SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. Palms will be blessed and distributed at each Mass. **Please note that the 9.45am Mass will begin, on Church Green, and at the earlier time of 9.30am.**



### ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Altar Servers will be needed for all the Liturgies of Holy Week and the Easter Triduum. Servers who can assist are asked to sign up on the lists in the Sacristy, and take home the memo sheet about practice times and dates.

**NB. Those who are serving at the 9.45am Mass on Palm Sunday, should arrive by 9.15am, and make their way quietly to the sacristy while the earlier Mass is concluding. We need to be ready to process to Church Green by 9.30am.**

### GOOD FRIDAY

**CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS** Children's Stations of the Cross will be at 11.30am on Good Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> April. This is a lovely opportunity for the children to understand and take part in Christ's Passion. We are looking for children in years 3-6 to take part in the service. We need 12 actors (no speaking parts). We will have a rehearsal on Good Friday morning before

the service so the children will need to be in the Church at 9.30am. If your child wants to be part of the service please email Ginny [ginny.s.jg@gmail.com](mailto:ginny.s.jg@gmail.com) or phone 01582 620322 by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

### PRAYER FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE

In February 2016, Pope Francis asked each Bishops' Conference to establish a Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse. In response, the Bishops of England and Wales designated the Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent to be observed as this Day of Prayer. This year, therefore, the Day of Prayer will be next Friday 12 April. The Cardinal writes: "I ask that this Day of Prayer is observed in all our parishes. It is important that we do so. Day by day, the pain of those who have suffered abuse, and its lasting corrosive impact, are brought more fully into the light. The pain of that betrayal of trust is all the more profound when the abuse took place within the community of the Catholic Church. We have plenty of reasons to pray. Please remember this intention, particularly, next Friday.



### LAUDATO SI

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** A special 'Laudato Si Stations of the Cross' produced by the Columban Fathers which combines the traditional format with prayers and commentary in which ecological/creation issues are reflected in the passion and death of Our Lord will take place on Friday 12 April at 7.30pm in the church. It will be led by the parish LiveSimply group. We hope you will join us.

### Laudato Si

Today (the first Sunday of the month) is the UHT milk Collection for the St Albans and District Foodbank. Please place any

cartons of milk in the crate provided in the porch.

Laudato Si

### EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION

The Parish Flower Arrangers will have their annual Easter Flower Collection after all Masses this weekend and 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> April, in case you missed it last weekend. In addition, a lily may be purchased (at £3.50) in memory of a loved one. Please write the name of the loved one on an envelope, place the £3.50 inside and hand it in with the flower collection after Mass. Their names will then be added to a remembrance book which will be displayed at the back of the Church during the Easter season.



### DWG BARN DANCE

With Pete Skiffins



Saturday  
18th May  
7.30pm -  
11pm in Lourdes Hall Cost  
£15 pp to include Godfrey's  
Fish and Chip supper Please



bring your own drinks and glasses. Please book your places with Julia 07891083251 or email [juliaandnigel057@gmail.com](mailto:juliaandnigel057@gmail.com) Numbers will be limited because of the nature of the event so book early. We had a waiting list last time! We look forward to seeing you.

### DIVINE MERCY

**SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**  
Feast of Divine Mercy on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at St Bartholomew's Church St Albans. For all the details please see the poster in the porch. For further details or transport ring Margaret Leahy 01727 763832.

