STJOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH Alton Staffordshire

St John the Baptist Catholic Church

Castle Hill Rd, Alton, Staffordshire, ST10 4TT

07774 939 109 or 01538 703503 stjohntb.alton@rcaob.org.uk

ParishPriest - Fr Chris Yule

Parish Safeguarding Representatives Josie Shepherd (07745 545196) and Jacqueline Shaw (01889 562422)

10th & 17th September 2023 23rd Sunday & 24th Sunday Ordinary Time Yr A

Saturday 9th Sunday 10^{th} People of the Parish 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time 9.00am Monday 11th Tuesday 12th Wednesday 13th Sheila Harrison RIP 9.30am Thursday 14th Friday 15th Saturday 16th Sunday 17th 24th Sunday Ordinary Time Emily & Andie Dorkins Ints 9.00am Monday 18th Tuesday 19th Wednesday 20th No Mass Thursday 21st Friday 22nd Saturday 23rd Sunday 24th People of the parish 25th Sunday Ordinary Time 9.00am

Sick List: Please keep in prayer those who are unwell at this time and those who care for them; Ken Mainey Margaret and Michael Stapleton, Joanne Hymers, those with Covid-19, those struggling with mental ill health and all those in our nursing homes, care homes, hospitals and hospices.

Those unable to be at mass and ask remembrance in our prayers, and the assurance of their prayers for us.....Frances and Roger Delf

OFFERTORIES - 2/3 September - Total - £201.30 £186.00 was Gift Aided.

Parish Changes

A reminder that Sunday morning Mass will now be celebrated at 9am.

Car Parking

Major works have begun on the Guild Hall which means reduced parking space. When possible the main castle gates will be opened to make more space for parking.

Presbytery Phone & Broadband

Unfortunately whilst transferring these services to a different provider there has been a technical issue so there is currently no working landline telephone or broadband connection. This issue may take a couple of weeks to resolve. Please call the parish mobile number if you wish to reach my by telephone and I will pick up emails when I am able to. When rectified the new service will be at the same level as before but will reduce the cost by over 40%.

Vocations Month

The Archdiocese has asked that each Deanery set a side a month in the year to pray in particular for Vocations. In North Staffordshire, this month is October. Each parish will have received a 'toolkit' which provides resources including prayers for a Holy Hour and Prayers of Intercession. To launch the month, the North Staffordshire Vocations Promotions Group are putting on a Discussion day, on Saturday September 30th, at St Teresa's Trent Vale. The day will start at 10am with Adoration and conclude with Holy Mass at 4pm. Speakers will include Canon Michael Dolman (Rector at St Mary's College, Oscott) and Beccy Roseman (Kenelm Youth Trust). Please do support this initiative.

Parish Maintenance

Every 5 years an inspection of parish properties is carried out by an architect and any suggested works are listed in order of priority. There is a significant project of work on the tower by the exit of church that is now necessary to be completed. Following the tendering process contracts are currently being completed. The work, including architect fees, will cost around £60,000. We hope to raise a significant amount of this money through grants but it is expected that there will need to be a contribution of at least £23,000. In September I will look to form a fundraising committee to help us work together to raise the money we need. Thank you in advance for your support.

Summer Break

After a very busy summer I will be away from 19th to 29th September for my summer break.

Edge@Alton youth hub

It's a meeting place for young people from the Catholic parishes of the Staffordshire Moorlands in school years 6,7 and 8. Sessions take place once a month at Soli Centre, Alton. Cost is £2 each and are packed full of fun, faith and friendship! For further information contact edgeatalton@gmail.com