

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

Alton Staffordshire

St John the Baptist Catholic Church, Castle Hill Rd, Alton, Staffordshire -
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Parish Priest Fr Paul Whieldon

Newsletter for the 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time 2020

Saturday 4 th	Church Open & Exposition	10-11am	
Sunday 5 th	14 th Sunday of OT	12 noon	Pro Populo Livestreamed
Monday 6 th	-		
Tuesday 7 th	-		
Wednesday 8 th	Public Mass	9.30am	Winifred Edgerton Ints
Thursday 9 th	-		
Friday 10 th	-		
Saturday 11 th	15th Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Pro Populo
Sunday 12 th	15th Sunday of OT	9.30am	Maureen Brookes RIP

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen

There are many Masses livestreamed on Facebook and on the internet. See the Diocesan Website for the list of websites including St Chad's Cathedral. I Hope to livestream Sunday Masses from St John's on the Parish Facebook page [Catholic Parish of St John the Baptist, Alton](#). or from the social media page on the website. [St John's Alton.Weebly.com](http://StJohn'sAlton.Weebly.com)

Sick List

Let us please keep in our prayers those who are not well at this time and those who have care of them...

Margaret and Michael Stapleton, Clare Ash and

all those in our nursing and care homes, our hospitals and hospices.

As this sick list is new please email me if you would like your name to be added. You cannot ask for people's names to be added without their **EXPRESSED** permission.



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Re-Opening for Public Masses at St John's

Only last week we were opening for private prayer in our church, and yet with the lifting of the Government restrictions on Public Worship I feel that if we are opening to private prayer, we should really be opening for Holy Mass. May I stress from the outset that currently there is NO SUNDAY OBLIGATION to partake in the celebration Mass, and I shall continue to livestream the Sunday Mass. However, as it is now allowed, and although being a type 2 Diabetic I have to be very sensible and minimise all risks, I think we should be offering the celebration of the Sacraments for those who wish to come!

Therefore, church will remain locked outside of Mass times currently to minimise the need for cleaning and the necessary Stewards and Cleaners that entails for church to be open.

The normal Parish Mass on Wednesday Mornings will take place at **9.30am**

As of NEXT weekend, Mass will be celebrated on Saturday evening at **6pm**, and Sunday Morning at **9.30am**.

I have opted for the 2 metre distancing in church. The Archdiocese are recommending that face coverings are to be worn. Initially there was a choice between 2 metres and optional face coverings, or 1metre plus and face coverings were mandatory. They are now advocating 1 metre plus, but I have left church laid out with 2 metre distancings for now, in the hope that this will give people a sense of added safety.

There will be no singing tho music can be played.

To allow for maximum social distancing the Stewards will gesture for you to come up for communion a row at a time and we shall observe the current one way system for leaving church, going out through the side door.

This is of course all subject to change if our situation or indeed the rules change. I have to say, opening for private prayer the other day didn't feel as strange as I had expected it to.

There are other options, we could have mass in the Discovery Centre, but it would be nice to see for now if numbers permit, for us to return to our parish church as we feel able.

Volunteers for Stewards and Cleaners always welcome. There are now no restrictions over age providing you are happy to do so.