



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 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time 2020

Saturday 11 th	15 th Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Pro Populo
Sunday 12 th	15 th Sunday of OT	9.30am	Maureen Brookes RIP
Monday 13 th			
Tuesday 14 th			
Wednesday 15 th	Public Mass	9.30am	Winifred Edgerton Ints
Thursday 16 th			
Friday 17 th			
Saturday 18 th	16 th Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Pro Populo
Sunday 19 th	16 th Sunday of OT	9.30am	Rod Cotterill 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. Sunday Mass from St John's will be livestreamed on the Parish Facebook page [Catholic Parish of St John the Baptist, Alton](#). which can also be viewed from the social media page on the website. St John's Alton.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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Welcome home!!!

May I stress from the outset that currently there is still 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** and Weekend Masses will be celebrated on Saturday evening at **6pm**, and Sunday Morning at **9.30am**, as I suspect many including myself have rather become accustomed to slightly later starts!!

The Archdiocese are recommending 1metre plus as the standard distancing measure, however because of the size and layout of our pews I have opted for something in between because the option would either be 2.5 metres or 1.8 metres and so I think the second option is still much higher than the diocese recommend. They also recommend however that face coverings should be worn at least when moving about as distancing may well be compromised at these times, although I have endeavoured to eliminate most of this as I will bring communion to you in your pews.

There will be no singing tho music can be played.

We are keeping a one way system and so could you please leave through the side door. Please refrain from chatting to people anywhere inside the church or cloister. If you wish to chat please do so outside still observing social distancing. I want people coming to mass to feel as safe as is possible.

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.