

# 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 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time 2020

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Tony Smith RIP
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of OT	9.30am	Eileen and Charlie Finch RIP & Tony Eyre
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>			
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>			
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	9.30am	Shirley Allen RIP
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>			
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>			
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Pro Populo
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of OT	9.30am	Margaret and David Allen 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](http://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, Patricia Heritage, 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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**Getting used to a new 'normal'** Thank you for all those who have volunteered for cleaning duties. Any extra volunteers would be most welcome especially as we move into the summer months and people are away. Thank you in anticipation! Family groups especially welcome to get involved but all are most welcome!

**Parish Finances** As you can imagine the parish has had little or no income since March. Envelopes are available if you prefer to have these for your giving and if you are a UK tax payer please gift aid your offering as it really does make a difference. Anyone wishing to put their offering on standing order please speak to Fr Paul or Edwin Brindley. Standing orders are especially helpful at this time so please consider giving in this way.

**Garden and Church Grounds** There are always maintenance type jobs to be done in the garden and Cemetery. If you are happy to help please speak to Fr Paul, Johnnie Hall, or Denis Cope for more information! You know what they say about many hands! Maintenance is essential if the grounds and its historic buildings are to be kept in good repair. The more jobs we can do ourselves the less we need to pay to get them done! In the immediate future, drains need unblocking, ivy needs removing and there are some small trees to be felled. There is also work needed on the coping stones of the chancel arch where it seems water is getting in. It would be a shame to have the good work done with the decorating undone by water ingress.

**MISSIO Red boxes.** Dear Red box holders we have just received news that our parish contribution from the Red Boxes last year was £598.12. A very big 'Thank you' to all who contributed.

I recently joined a Zoom meeting for parish Missio secretaries and we talked to two priests, one in Sri Lanka & one in Nairobi who told us of their experiences during the pandemic and how much they had been helped by money sent to them for their communities by Missio. They have been able to feed people who literally had no money for food due to the lockdown.

Red Box emptying has been somewhat disrupted this year but now we have a process to safely empty boxes. If you are able to attend Mass, please can you empty your box into an envelope or a plastic bag. Ensure you write your name & contact number on the envelope or on a piece of paper in the bag. As you leave church you will see a large red tub on a stand, just past the sacristy. Please drop your envelope/bag of money into the tub.

If you wish to include a cheque, please make it payable to 'Missio/Archdiocese of Birmingham APF Acc'. - You can also donate online at 'Missio.org.uk' if you wish.

Any questions please call me on 07754 519680. Many thank, Frances