

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH

Alton Staffordshire

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Parish Priest Fr Paul Whieldon

Newsletter for the 23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, 2020

Saturday 5 th	23 rd Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Pro Populo
Sunday 6 th	23 rd Sunday of OT	9.30am	Pauline & John Allday (Livestreamed)
Monday 7 th			
Tuesday 8 th	Our Lady's Birthday		
Wednesday 9 th	Feria	9.30am	Smith Family Intentions
Thursday 10 th			
Friday 11 th			
Saturday 12 th	24 th Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Dennis Eardley RIP
Sunday 13 th	24 th Sunday of OT	9.30am	Pro Populo (Livestreamed)

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

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.

Recently deceased... Bill Allen RIP Funeral 21st 2pm St Giles

Offertories for last Sunday 29/30 August £246.00 (Including standing orders) of which £199.00 has been Gift Aided. Thank you for your continued generosity during these times.

Parish Finances To give a more complete idea of parish finances I have now started to publish the offertories with the standing orders included in the figure published. These were always included in the published accounts obviously, but weren't previously shown in the figures published weekly on the newsletter. My thanks to those who have set up standing orders for their offering. This is such a help especially during these times. It relieves your fellow parishioners on the counting and banking teams of a



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significant amount of trouble, time, and effort during these difficult times. Anyone wishing to put their offering on standing order please speak to Fr Paul or Edwin Brindley to collect a form

Garden and Church Grounds There are always maintenance type jobs to be done in the garden and Cemetery. Usually lots of the upkeep is dealt with by the Kenelm Maintenance staff, but currently they are not able to help as they are furloughed. If you are happy to help please speak to Fr Paul, Johnnie Hall, or Denis Cope for more information!

Golden Wedding thanks.... My Mum and Dad, Gill and Alan, want to extend their thanks for the many cards and kind wishes they received on the occasion of their Golden Wedding last weekend. Thank you!

Sr Fortina As you may have gathered Sr Fortina came on Wednesday with her wares to sell raising funds for their work back in Belarus. She thanks you for the kindly welcome and support. Those of us at Mass on Wednesday will long remember that beautiful prayer to Our Lady that she sang for us in her own language. It was very moving.

Faber School Do keep our parish school community in your prayers as they begin back in earnest after this extended period away. I'm sure some will have their anxieties still but ever effort has been done to make school as safe as possible and lots of improvements have 'bee'n made to the school and its environments, and a new Faber's Retreat has 'bee'n set up in the garden, along with a splendid music room. Well done Mrs Machin and your team! A special shout out to Denis of course for all your hard work!

Return to Mass... We are yet to reach capacity for mass, which in and of itself is a possibly good thing and has helped people to feel more secure in their return. I would hope though, as schools begin to return that some of our younger parishioners might start coming back to mass too. If this means we are regularly starting to hit capacity we do have options, we could perhaps have mass in the Discovery Centre, or even possibly introduce another mass as a temporary measure. Again let us proceed with caution.

Thank you... to the JCB Estates who loaned a cherry picker to us to repair our church bell, Grateful thanks to Denis Cope for bravely going where few have gone before, and for Johnnie Hall for arranging this with the JCB Estates management.