

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 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, 2020

Saturday 14 th	33 rd Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Eileen and Charlie Finch RIP
Sunday 15 th	33 rd Sunday of OT	9.30am	Tony Eyre
	33 rd Sunday of OT	6.00pm	Covid Situation/NHS workers
Monday 16 th	Feria		
Tuesday 17 th	Feria	8.00am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 18 th	Feria	9.30am	Private intention
Thursday 19 th	Feria		
Friday 20 th	Feria		
Saturday 21 st	Christ the King	6.00pm	Peter Gould RIP
Sunday 22 nd	Christ the King	9.30am	Pro populo
	Christ the King	6.00pm	All Youth Ministers Ints.

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, those with COVID19, Faber School Community, and all in our nursing and care homes, our hospitals and hospices.

Offertories for last Sunday 7/8th November standing orders only... £136.15 of which £130.38 has been Gift Aided. Thank you for your continued generosity during these times.

"Operation Christmas Child" 2020 is still being carried out nationwide, despite the concerns we all have about the Coronavirus situation. Faber school are again taking part and will hold their own dedication service, details still to be arranged.



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As in the previous 16 years, anybody can join in and fill their own shoebox. Empty boxes, and explanation leaflets, are available from the local co-ordinator Ken Mainey 01538 702556.

Filled boxes must be delivered back to Ken by 16 Nov. Many thanks in anticipation.

FOOD DONATIONS I came to my attention that two of our local catholic schools are currently having to put together food parcels to help some families out. In response to this we have resumed our collection of tinned and dried foodstuffs. There is a basket inside the porch of the Warden's tower. All donations are most gratefully received. I very much hope this is a venture that we can all get behind, as St John's Parishioners and also as the wider KYT family. We may also need volunteer drivers to drop the food collections off very occasionally. Perhaps if you would be willing you could email me your name and number so I could form a list to call upon as and when its needed. I don't think it would be an onerous undertaking but help would be appreciated. Thank you!

IICSA I'm sure many of you will have seen the news during the week regarding the publishing of the IICSA Report. This makes for sobering reading and is a cause of much sorrow and hurt for us all. We must acknowledge and pray first and foremost for those most affected, the victims and their families, and we do well to commend them to the maternal intercession of Our Lady. Our Archdiocese has done much to right the wrongs that have been done in so far as this is ever possible, principally by seeking to put into place procedures and cultures that please God will prevent these things happening in the future. Two independent reviews since the ICCSA Inquiry have found that much of what was inadequate in the diocesan handling of these matters has been put to rights, but there is always more to be done, and we pray that we will all rise to this challenge, and continue to make our parishes, schools, institutions, and homes, safe places for all. I wish to thank our own safeguarding parish representatives, Josie Shepherd (07745 545196) and Jacqueline Shaw (01889 562422) and please know that if you have any concerns you can contact these or indeed the Diocesan Safeguarding Office at any time on 0121 230 6240. If however, you believe that a child or vulnerable person is in immediate danger you should call the police.

NEXT SUNDAY as well as being Christ the King is also National Youth Sunday. Please remember not only KYT but all engaged in providing ministry to our young people in these trying times. Nothing really replaces residential retreat experiences, but your prayers and financial support are needed perhaps more now than ever before, as we your Diocesan Youth Service (KYT) seek to accompany young people as they navigate these uncertain

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and troubling times and plan for an uncertain future. Help us to be as Christ, who himself walked unknown alongside the disciples on the Emmaus road....

CHRISTMAS MASSES In the words of the song 'Who knows what tomorrow brings...' While we have no way of knowing how things will be in 5 weeks times I think we need to be making provision for best case scenarios that we will be allowed to celebrate public masses again by then. I think the only way round this will be a booking system.

I will start with Masses at 3, 6, and Midnight on Christmas Eve and 10am Christmas Day. If these fill up then I could add another earlier mass on Christmas Morning.

Seats will be on a first come first served basis. Please write or email to say how many seats you will require and for which mass. Please also include a telephone number so I can be in touch if it's not been possible to accommodate your request.

