

SAINT ALBAN'S PARISH

Saint Alban's Church and Presbytery
Conway Road, Pontypool, NP4 6HL

Chapel of Ease: Sacred Heart and St Felix
Ellick Street, Blaenavon

Parish Priest: Canon David Hayman Telephone: 01495 762280

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Parish Safeguarding Representative: Angela Taylor

No. 865

This week's Masses and intentions:

Sunday	10.15 a.m.	St Alban's	Asher Mathew (Birthday Mass Bouquet) (5 th Sunday of Easter)
	11.15 a.m.	St Alban's	People of the Parish
Monday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Brian Foster's well-being (Ss Philip & James, Apostles) Eucharistic Adoration until 11 a.m.
Tuesday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Mary Dunphy's well-being
Wednesday	6.30 p.m.	St Alban's	Rosary
	7 p.m.	St Alban's	Jennifer Woods, R.I.P.
Thursday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Special intention (TH)
Friday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Jane & Edith Taylor, R.I.P.

Next Sunday's Masses and intentions:

Sunday	10.15 a.m.	St Alban's	Dorothy Hoare, R.I.P. (6 th Sunday of Easter)
	11.15 a.m.	St Alban's	People of the Parish

The public celebration of Mass in Saint Alban's:

As you know, we now have in place a reservation system for our Sunday Masses. Thank you to those who have adverted to this, and reserved their places for this weekend during the advertised hours.

If you have reserved a place and are now not able to come to that Mass, please let Canon David now so that it can be offered to someone else as there is only limited availability this weekend.

Please note that if you have not occupied your reserved seat by the time Mass is due to begin, your seat may have been given away to someone else.

Further, please note that reservations have to be made on a weekly basis, between the hours of 7 – 9 p.m. on a Sunday evening and 11.15 a.m. – 1.15 p.m. on a Monday. It would be very much appreciated if requests for seats could be made during these times only, and by telephone or emailing the parish email address.

Also, I ask you to be mindful that if you haven't reserved a place and then turn up to the church for Sunday Mass, and all places have been reserved in advance, then you will not be able to attend that celebration of Mass.

Our protocols for weekday Mass remain as they are at the present time. But can I please remind everyone of the need to wear a face mask in Church, to maintain social distancing, and to avoid physical contact.

Feedback regarding the possibility of a 6 p.m. Mass on a Saturday evening:

There has been a little more response this week, but comments will still be gratefully received especially in light of a recent statement issued by our Bishops:

“At this moment, then, we need to have in our sights the need to restore to its rightful centrality in our lives the Sunday Mass, encouraging each to take his or her place once again in the assembly of our brothers and sisters. We face the task of seeking to nurture the sense of Sunday as “a weekly gift from God to his people”, and something we cannot do without; to see Sunday as the soul of the week, as giving light and meaning to all the responsibilities we live out each day; to see the Sunday Eucharist as food for the unique mission with which we have been endowed.

Pope St John Paul II spoke of our amazement at the gift of the Mass and the abiding Presence of our Blessed Lord in the Sacrament of the Altar. Herein lies our treasure, enriching our relationship with Jesus and bringing together every aspect of our life and mission. This is such an important focus for our task in the coming months.”

<u>Collection last Sunday:</u>	St Alban's:	Plate:	£181.44	Gift Aid:	£222.00
		Priests Training Fund:	£204.00		

Priest Training Fund: The Fund support those preparing for a life in ministry, helping them through training and ordination by meeting seminary fees and providing a small maintenance grant.

Before embarking on a lifetime of service to others, the Fund gives those who hope to enter the priesthood the security to grow into mature, well-rounded individuals able to answer God's call.

Priests are called to live simple lives but high-quality training comes at a price. On average the Archdiocese of Cardiff invests £189,000 in the formation of each seminarian over seven years. Yet following ordination a priest may give back more than 40 or 50 years' service, so the investment brings a considerable return.

Please be as generous as you can, using the envelopes for this purpose, and gift aid your contribution if you can.

Senedd Elections: Please see the attached letter from Archbishop George and a copy of a document which has been circulated to all those seeking election. We are asked to bear the areas of education, life, historic churches, healthcare and the environment in mind as we consider how we vote this week.

Let us pray that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, God may impart His wisdom upon those seeking positions of authority in our governance, and that he may guide their decisions so that they may act for the Common Good and work on the basis of human dignity and justice for all.