

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. 912

This week's Masses and intentions:

Saturday	4.30 p.m.	St Felix	People of the Parish	(5 th Sunday of Lent)
	6 p.m.	St Alban's	Harry & Grace Johnstone, R.I.P.	
Sunday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	David Bedford, R.I.P.	
Monday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Children everywhere	
			Followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 11 a.m.	
Tuesday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Pat Ware's intentions	
Wednesday	6.30 p.m.	St Alban's	Rosary	
	7 p.m.	St Alban's	Tom Ross, R.I.P.	
Thursday	9.30 a.m.	St Felix	McDonnell family intentions	
Friday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Mariette Batterham's intentions	

Next Sunday's Masses and intentions:

Saturday	4.30 p.m.	St Felix	Cath Friel & family intentions	(Palm Sunday)
	6 p.m.	St Alban's	People of the Parish, R.I.P.	
Sunday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Special intention (AB)	

Living with Covid-19: last week we said that the virus remains unpredictable, and that numbers could change rapidly, and recent days have proved that a prudent approach is justified with numbers rising to the highest levels since the beginning of the pandemic. We have been reminded that although there have been changes to the legal framework in Wales, public health advice states that Coronavirus has not gone away. Therefore:

- you are strongly encouraged to wear a facemask in our Churches, especially when singing;
- you are asked to maintain good hand hygiene, including the use of sanitiser as you enter and leave our Churches;
- you are requested to follow the guidance of our Stewards at the distribution of Holy Communion;
- if you wish to have a little more distance between yourself and other people, to pick up a 'please leave a space' card from the back of our Churches to place on the pew beside you, remembering to return it to the back of the Church after Mass.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, although it will not be a legal requirement to self-isolate if you test positive for Covid-19, I strongly urge you to follow Public Health Wales advice which is to isolate for at least five full days if you do test positive for Covid-19.

If at the present time, you still feel unable to rejoin the parish community for Sunday Mass (or weekday Mass when there are fewer people present), and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Canon David so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: St Alban's on Wednesday from 6.30 – 6.55 p.m. and by arrangement with Canon David.

Meetings this week: First Communion Parents: Padre Pio School on Sunday at 5 p.m.

Collection last Sunday: **St Alban's:** Plate: £143.48 Gift Aid: £107.00
St Felix: Plate: £22.50 Gift Aid: £140.00

CAFOD: £30.00 The collection will remain open until Easter.

Counters: **This week:** L. & A. Whiting **Next week:** D. Gane & M. Vidler

Your financial support for our parish: As suggested by the Parish Advisory Council, over the last few weeks I have included items of significant expenditure on the newsletter (currently excluding utilities) so that you have a clear idea of our expenses.

Without doubt, we have some very generous parishioners, who have reviewed the amount of their collection on a regular basis; as we move into a new financial year, have you reviewed your contribution recently?

If you already belong to the **Gift Aid Scheme** please collect your box of envelopes from the Sacristy. If you are not already part of this scheme to further support our parish, please consider joining. All that is required is that you pay income tax of the amount equivalent to the tax on your weekly offering, sign a declaration and use a given box of envelopes for your collection or make your contributions by standing order. Please talk to Canon David if you can further support our parish in this way.

Planned Giving Scheme: Many people appreciate having a set of envelopes as it helps them to keep track of their regular contribution to our parish. If you wish to have a set of envelopes but cannot join the Gift Aid Scheme please ask Canon David for a box from the Sacristy.

Thank you for your regular contributions to support our community.

Church cleaning for Easter: 10 a.m. on Wednesday 13th April in Saint Alban's. The more helpers the less time it will take!

Church flowers for Easter: we would welcome donations so that our Church can be decorated for Easter. Please place your offering in an envelope in the collection basket.