

# 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. 917

## This week's Masses and intentions:

Saturday	4.30 p.m.	St Felix	People of the Parish	(4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter)
	6 p.m.	St Alban's	Yvonne O'Connor's intentions	
Sunday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Dorothy Hoare, R.I.P.	
Monday	10 a.m.	St Alban's	Eucharistic Adoration until 11 a.m.	
Wednesday	6.30 p.m.	St Alban's	Rosary	
Thursday	9.30 a.m.	St Felix	Rosary	

## Next Sunday's Masses and intentions:

Saturday	4.30 p.m.	St Felix	Eithne McNeela's intentions	(5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter)
	6 p.m.	St Alban's	People of the Parish	
Sunday	9.30 a.m.	St Alban's	Anne Steigerwald, R.I.P.	

**Archbishop-elect Mark O'Toole** was in Cardiff last week along with the Bishops of England and Wales for their Spring Plenary Meeting. At a reception in Cardiff Castle on Wednesday evening, Wales' First Minister, Mark Drakeford, addressed all present, saying how important he considers the Faith Forum to be in shaping the landscape of Wales, now and in the future. So important he says that the First Minister himself chairs the Forum. Let us take heart therefore, and not be afraid to witness to our faith in the public context, and ask for public policy to always reflect the dignity of the human person and the real importance of Christian Marriage and family life.

Please continue to pray for Archbishop-elect Mark as he prepares for his installation in our Cathedral on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

**World Day of Prayer for Vocations:** In a world that seems increasingly reluctant to take risks, the challenge of a lifelong commitment to serve God and God's people is daunting. But those who enter seminary know that they are supported by family and friends in their home diocese. 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. Can you help? If you would like to support the Priests Training Fund you can donate to the annual collection this weekend. Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of our churches. Alternatively, you may donate online by visiting: [www.rcadc.org](http://www.rcadc.org)

More information can be found at [www.ukvocation.org/vocations-sunday](http://www.ukvocation.org/vocations-sunday). Also the office for vocation will be live streaming a Rosary for Vocations on their website this Sunday at 7.30 p.m.

## Meetings this week:

### First Holy Communion Children:

Monday at 5 p.m. in St Alban's Sacristy

## Collection last Sunday:

**St Alban's:** Plate: £88.91

Gift Aid: £217.00

**St Felix:** Plate: £33.32

Gift Aid: £120.00

## Counters:

**This week:** L. & A. Whiting

**Next week:** D. Gane & M. Vidler

**Torchlight Procession at Belmont Abbey** will take place at 9 p.m. on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May. All welcome to attend.

**The Annual Welsh National Pilgrimage to Our Lady of the Taper, Cardigan** will take place from 1.30 p.m. next Sunday, and will be led by Bishop Peter Brignall of Wrexham. All welcome.

**Water borehole for Refawa.** Further to our primary school having raised £1021.50 in Lent towards another borehole in Kano, it has now been agreed that this will be for the community of Refawa, where, including the people of the outlying communities, about 4,000 lives will be transformed by having access to clean water. The anticipated cost is around £3,048, and thanks to the regular contributions of a few parishioners and friends (who have set up a standing order for either £5 or £10 a month) we have been able to give the green light to this project. If you would like to donate towards the work we do in Kano either by a single donation or a standing order please speak to Canon David.

**Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage** has been postponed until later in the year.

**Living with Covid-19:** as we continue to emerge from the pandemic, and for the safety of the vulnerable among us, please continue to observe our protocols:

- to wear a facemask in our Churches, especially when singing;
- to maintain good hand hygiene, including the use of sanitiser as you enter and leave our Churches;
- 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 is not 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 re-join 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.