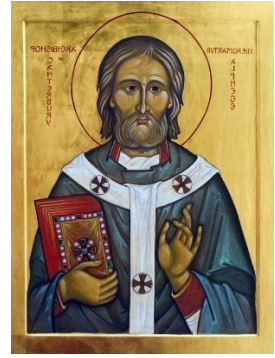


**Parish of
Our Lady and St Alphege, Bath
together with
St Joseph's, Peasedown St John**

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
The Presbytery, Oldfield Lane, Bath BA2 3NR
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Parish Secretary: Alice Fouad Office: Behind Parish Hall



First Sunday of Lent

26th February 2023

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone

Mass Times at St Alphege

or St Joseph's, Peasedown if indicated

Sat 25th	Saturday after Ash Wednesday	
	10.00	
Sun 26th	First Sunday of Lent	
	9.00	(Peasedown)
	11.00	
	17.30	Stations of the Cross
	18.00	
Mon 27th	Weekday of Lent	
	10.00	
Tue 28th	Weekday of Lent	
	10.00	
	11.00	
Wed 1st	St David	
	No Mass	
Thu 2nd	Weekday of Lent	
	18.00	
Fri 3rd	Weekday of Lent	
	12.00	Women's World Day of Prayer
Sat 4th	Weekday of Lent	
	10.00	
Sun 5th	First Sunday of Lent	
	9.00	(Peasedown)
	11.00	
	17.30	Stations of the Cross
	18.00	



The Temptation of Jesus in the Desert

Lenten Penances

A priest I knew very well used to give up smoking every Lent. Then as soon as Easter Sunday arrived, he took up smoking again. I found this very surprising and I once asked him why after going through all the cold-turkey of giving up smoking for Lent he took it up again immediately Lent was over. His answer was very simple, 'I just like smoking.'

For him, giving up smoking for six weeks was a real sacrifice. It cost him a lot because he was not only habituated to it but he really enjoyed smoking and got a lot of pleasure out of it.

Every Catholic ought to take on some worthwhile penance for Lent. It should be something that is a real sacrifice and that requires some serious effort. It could be something as simple as getting off the bus three or four stops before home. It could be making an effort to go to mass on a Saturday morning or on another weekday. Or perhaps doing the Stations of the Cross a couple of times a week. A certain amount of fasting is another important penance that is very appropriate during Lent and which any of us could take up without difficulty.

Whatever the sacrifice we must make sure that we offer it up as our gift to God, recognising that it is our very small contribution to the sufferings that Christ himself underwent on our behalf.

Father Alex

Sunday Coffee

Coffee is served in the Parish Hall after 11.00 Sunday mass
 Confessions..... Saturday 10.30 and at Call
 Choir Practice..... 19.00 Wednesdays in Hall
 Psalter Week 1
 Sunday Readings: Year A
 Weekday Readings: Year 1
 Baptisms & Marriages: Contact the Parish Priest
 Mothers Prayer Group..... Tuesdays 9.00-9:45 Term Time
 Diocesan Prayer League..... Religious Communities

Cycle of Prayer: Ordinary Time: Lent

Candidates for the Sacraments, Needy and Hungry of the World, Women's World Day of Prayer, Survivors of Sexual Abuse, Penitents and Wanderers



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church on Sundays at 17.30. People are free to say the Stations of the Cross individually or collectively at any time during Lent. Booklets are available at the back of the Church for your use.

Lenten fasts make me feel better, stronger, and more active than ever

St Catherine of Genoa

Easter Egg Hunt



Donations of Easter Eggs are required for the Easter Egg Hunt which will take place after the 11.00 mass on Easter Sunday. Please leave donations in the marked box at the back of the church. Many thanks.

Little Church

Volunteers are needed to lead Little Church. Ideally the parents of the children who attend should help with leading the sessions. Please let Father Alex know if you can help.

Easter Organ Concert

We will be holding an Easter Organ Concert on Friday 21st April at 19.00. The organist will be Shean Bowers and music will include 'Occasional Oratorio' by Handel, 'Nun Danket Alle Gott' by Bach, 'O Fili et Filiae' by Dandrieu and 'An Easter Alleluia' by Slater and several other works. Tickets £10 adults, £5 concessions. Refreshments in the Parish Hall afterwards.

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday 3rd March 2023 at 14:00 in St Mary's Church Hall, Queen Square, Bath.

Readers Course

We have organised a course for readers from all the parishes in Bath here at St Alphege. It will take place on Saturday 3rd June from 11.00 to 15.00. Please bring a packed lunch.

Beacons

The Beacons raised £112.50 for 'Bath Welcomes Refugees' at their recent meeting and every one had a good time. The next meeting will be on the 20th of March.

Social Committee

At the recent Social Committee meeting we planned some events for the coming months: Beetle Drive 31st March, Coronation Garden Party 7th May, International Evening 12th May. We are also planning a Poetry Evening 16th June and a Summer Fayre 2nd July. The next meeting of the Social Committee will be on 14th April. All welcome.

Judas was not the first or last person to betray Jesus, merely the most famous

Forthcoming Dates

Beetle Drive	31st March
Chrism Mass	5th April
Easter Sunday	9th April
International Evening	28th April
Organ Concert.....	21st April
Coronation Garden Party	7th May
International Evening	12th May
Corpus Christi Procession, Prior Park	11th June

Visit of the Bishop

Bishop Declan Lang will be visiting the parish and celebrating mass and preaching at 9.30 in St Joseph's Peasedown and 11.00 in St Alphege's today Sunday 26th February. After the mass at St Alphege's we will have a short meeting with the Bishop in the Parish Hall. We are very pleased that Bishop Declan wants to know how things are going on at St Joseph's and St Alphege's and we will surely give him a very warm welcome.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Bishop will be presiding at several Services of Reconciliation across the Diocese during Lent. the nearest one to Bath will be at 19.00 on Thursday 16th March at St Catharine of Alexandria, Frome.

St Alphege Talk

On Monday 13th March 19.30 in St Mary's Bathwick Church Hall Dr Giles Mercer will give a talk on 'St Alphege (953-1012): Son of Bath, Prophet for our Time' to the History of Bath Research Group: all warmly welcome.

Elizabethan Jesuits



We will be having another series of talks at St Alphege this time on four important Elizabethan Jesuits and their exciting stories. They will take place in the Parish Hall with refreshments at 19.00 on the following dates:

Edmund Campion by Professor Gerard Kilroy Tuesday 4th April, John Gerard by Father Alex McAllister Friday 28th April, Robert Southwell by Duncan McGibbon Friday 5th May & Nicholas Owen by Monsignor Jeremy Rigden Friday 19th May. All welcome. Voluntary donation.

Chrism Mass

Coach picking up from North Parade at 9.15 on 5th April. Register at bath.stjohntheevangelist@clifondiocese.com

**Death leaves a heartache no one can heal;
love leaves a memory no one can steal**

From a headstone in Ireland



Friday 3rd March is Family Fast Day and we will be taking up a second collection on Sunday 5th March to support their work in the developing countries. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church. Please eat simply on the 3rd and donate the money you save to the collection on the 5th March. CAFOD is also responding with the provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for those affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For details visit cafod.org.uk.

Upcoming Second Collections

5th March CAFOD

Sunday Collection

19th February Loose £527.69, Gift Aid Envelopes £50.

Readers

11.00: Caritas n/w Karen, 18.00; 18.00 Grainne n/w Moira