



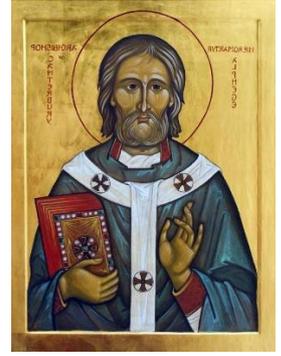
**Parish of
Our Lady and St Alphege, Bath
together with
St Joseph's, Peasedown St John**

**Parish Priest: To Be Appointed
The Presbytery, Oldfield Lane, Bath BA2 3NR
01225 424894**

(For Routine Parish Matters please email the Parish Office)

**bath.stalphege@cliftondiocese.com
www.saintalphege.org.uk**

Hall Bookings: Isabella Lo (Parish email above)



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

21st January 2024

I will make you fishers of men

Mass Times at St Alphege

or St Joseph's, Peasedown if indicated

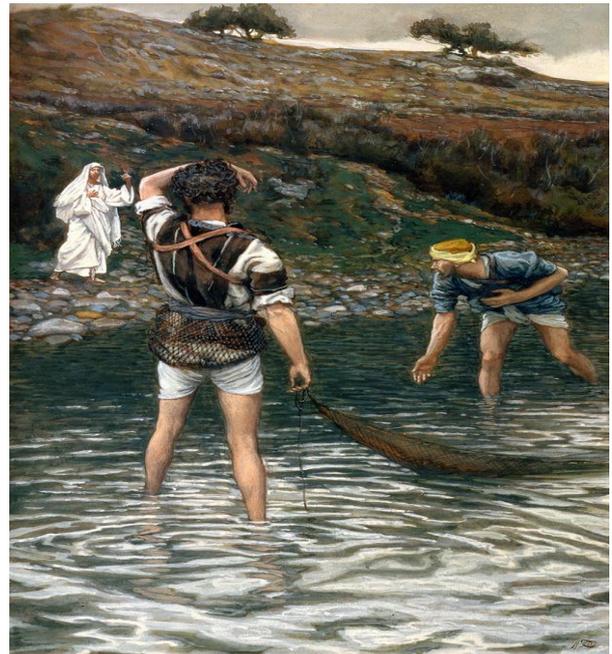
Sat 20th	Feria	
	No Mass	
Sun 21st	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	9.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
	11.00	Thomas and Kathleen Quinn+
	18.00	
Mon 22nd	Feria	
	No Mass	
Tue 23rd	Feria	
	10.00.	Ann Creevy and family
	11.00	(Peasedown)
Wed 24th	St Francis de Sales	
	No Mass	
Thu 25th	Conversion of St Paul	
	No Mass	
Fri 26th	SS Timothy & Titus	
	12.00	Funeral Joseph Ryan
(Friday Mass changes to 10:00 from 2 February)		
Sat 27th	Feria	
	No Mass	
Sun 28th	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	9.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
	11.00.	Ann Alford+
	18.00	

Information

Coffee is served in the Parish Hall after 11.00 Sunday mass
 Confessions..... 10.30 Sunday or on request
 Choir Practice..... 19.00 Wednesdays in Hall
 Psalter.....3
 Sunday Readings:.....Year B
 Weekday Readings:..... Year 2
 Baptisms & Marriages:.....Contact the Parish Priest
 Diocesan Prayer League Immaculate Conception, Stroud,
 with Brownhill, Painswick, and More Hall

Cycle of Prayer: Ordinary Time Winter

Peace on Earth, Christian Unity, Victims of Human
 Trafficking, The Sick and those who care for them,
 The Unemployed



Calling of St Peter and St Andrew, James Tissot 1886-94

The Call of the First Apostles

This Sunday we read about the call of the Apostles. What is striking about this account is how those first Apostles immediately dropped everything to follow Jesus.

In the world of today we all have so many commitments, so many things that keep us in one place, that it is hard to conceive of just letting go of everything in order to follow the Lord. It is easy for us to believe that at the time of Christ there were fewer commitments and obligations and so believe that it was easier for the Apostles to let go of their day-to-day commitments.

But if you think about it, we soon realise that this cannot have been the case. In a society much poorer than ours it was even more important to secure a regular income. With bigger families and the responsibility of looking after the elderly there were also more commitments and obligations to the extended family.

So, let us not think that it was easy for those Apostles to make such a radical commitment to Christ. Let us instead take them as our inspiration and endeavour to follow the path that they walked; maybe not by leaving our families but by committing ourselves wholeheartedly to spreading the teaching of Christ.

This year the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from 18th to the 25th January. Church Unity Week always concludes with the Feast of St Paul.

You cannot do a kindness too soon,
for you never know
how soon it will be too late

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Father Alex

We continue to be grateful to our supply priests following Fr Alex's departure from the parish. As most - but perhaps not all - know, Fr Alex has had to return to his religious Order on 31 December due to health issues. He is being looked after by his Order. We pray for his full return to good health. Those who would like to send Fr Alex cards and messages of thanks and prayerful good wishes are asked to give them to the parish office, where they will be forwarded to Fr Alex.

Father Tibor and Father Ian

We welcome Fr Tibor who will be looking after our Parish until a permanent Parish Priest has been appointed. Masses, as published in the Bulletin, will be shared between Fr Tibor and Fr Ian until further notice.

Always do right;
this will gratify some
and astonish the rest

Mark Twain

Beacons

It was lovely to see so many of you at Beacons enjoying a friendly and relaxed afternoon with a hot drink and a piece of cake. The raffle prizes were magnificent and all in all we raised £155 for the RUHX in loving memory of Moira Horton who enjoyed Beacons' warm atmosphere for years. Next Beacons will be on February 19th and we look forward to seeing you all there.

Social Events

There will be a Ploughman's Supper on the evening of Friday 2nd February. Please do put your name on the sheet at the back of the church by Sunday 28th January if you would like to come. If you would like to help with this or other social events please do let the social committee know.

Forthcoming Dates

Ploughman's Supper.....2nd February
Beacons.....19th February



First Holy Communion

First Communion classes for children in Year 3 commenced on 7th January. Sessions start at 10.00 and last an hour so that parents can go with the children to Sunday mass afterwards.

Please note that going to mass is an essential part of the package. The dates for the sessions are: January 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th, February 4th and 25th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th, April 21st and 28th, May 12th (with an additional practice after Mass). Any changes to these dates will be notified. The First Holy Communion Mass will be on either 18th or 19th of May depending on numbers. Application forms are at the back of the Church. Please return as soon as possible with a copy of the Baptismal certificate and £10 for the book, etc.

Year of Prayer

Pope Francis has asked us to keep 2024 as a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Holy Year of 2025. At St John's Church they will be holding a series of talks on prayer throughout next year. The talks will be held in St John's Church on Tuesdays at 19.00. The talks are as follows: 23rd January Lord Teach us to Pray, Fr Tom Dubois; 20th February The Prayer of Jesus, Fr Dermot Power; 30th April The Prayer of the Desert, Fr John Udris; 28th May The Prayer of St Benedict, Fr Mark Hargreaves OSB; 25th June The Prayer of St Dominic, Sr Hyacinthe OP; 23rd July Window on the Divine -Icons, Tamara Penwell; The Prayer of St Martin & St Clare, Fr Maximilian Martin OFM Conv; 29th October The Prayer of Carmel, Fr Michael McAndrew; 26th November The Prayer of St Ignatius Fr James Hanvey SJ.

The right to life
is the first among human rights

Pope Francis

Mass Intentions

At the moment there will only be weekday masses on Tuesday and Fridays at the normal times. All Mass Intentions that have already been booked for other weekdays will be progressively moved to a Tuesday or Friday over the coming weeks. This may take some time to satisfy the current bookings but we hope that you will bear with us in these exceptional circumstances. If you are NOT happy with this arrangement please let the parish office know.

Parish Flower Arrangers

St Alphege Parish flower arrangers are looking for a volunteer to join their team. No experience necessary and it will be once a month. If you can help please contact Diana Shinn on 07983136369

Upcoming Special Collections

11th February Aid to the Church in Need, 25th February CAFOD

Sunday Collection

Last week Plate £194, Gift Aid Envelopes £77

Readers

11.00: Karen, 18.00: Grainne