



St Stephen
with St Julian

NOTICES

6 September 2020

Becky's health: Becky is continuing to suffer from 'long-haul Covid' symptoms and has been advised by the Diocese to work reduced hours for the time being to aid her recovery. She will take an extra day off each week (Tuesday) but she will still take some services, do some visits, attend some meetings etc, but may not be at all the usual activities each week. She will continue to check phone messages and emails of course. Please keep Becky in your prayers as her bumpy recovery continues.

Services: All Age Parish Communion, Today, 11.00am, Open air, St Stephen's churchyard: *There is no need to book for this service as we have much more space outside.* All are welcome from either church. Please come with warm clothes and coats as the forecast is saying it will be 14°C only. It is also fine to bring a flask of something hot to drink if you wish! Families with young children are asked to bring a rug to sit on.

During the service there will be the opportunity to bless the children / young people for the start of the new school year.

The service will also mark the end of the St Stephen's "Let there be Lights" campaign. Please bring your money – filled jars to this service.

In case of wet weather, we will make a decision whether to go ahead at 7.30am on Sunday morning. Please check your email and / or phone messages on Sunday morning to check it is still on. No message means it will be taking place.

If we have to cancel, we will offer our usual services at St Julian's, 9.30am and 11.00am at St Stephen's.

Creationtide: 1 September – 4 October: These five weeks have been designated a mini season in the church where we focus on God's gift of the world and our stewardship of it. We have several special services planned:

Sunday 6 September	11am	All Age Communion focussed on climate change.
Sunday 13 September	4pm	Pet Service in St Stephen's churchyard. All pets and their owners are welcome. No need to book
Sunday 27 September	8am) Harvest Festival at St Stephen's
	11am)
	6.30pm	Godspace service at St Julians Vigil for the Earth

Other important dates:

Sunday 11 October	9.30am	Harvest Festival at St Julian's
	10.30am	St Julian's AGM at St Julian's All welcome.
	4pm	All Age Harvest Festival at St Julian's
Sunday 18 October	11.45am	APCM in St Stephen's Church. Please come along or join in via Zoom (more details to follow).

Changes of service times: Please note Wednesday Holy Communion at St Stephen's reverts to 9.15am and the Night Prayer on Thursday evening will now be at 8.00pm.

Electoral Roll Update: Each year the Electoral Roll has to be revised prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) which, this year, is on **SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER**. A list of names of those currently on the Roll is on the table as you enter St Stephen's. Please check that your name is there. If it isn't but you would like to be on the Roll, please complete a form and either give it to a member of the clergy, give / send it to the parish office or send it to me at the address at the end of this notice. The last date for the return of these forms

is **SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2020**. Only people on the Roll on this date are entitled to vote at the APCM. If you wish to check that your address, telephone number (s) and email address are correct, please ask a member of the clergy to show you the full Roll. Please notify me 01727 822206 or dmscott@waitrose.com if there are any errors or omissions. Thank you. Diane Scott (Electoral Roll Officer), 350 London Road, St Albans, AL1 1EA

An electronic copy of the form is attached to the parish email this week. If you would like a paper copy of it, please ask Alison and she can post a copy to you.

PCC / Deanery Synod Representatives: are you interested in coming onto the PCC or Deanery Synod? There are spaces to serve on both of these church committees and nominations are sought for either in advance of the APCM which will now take place on **SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER at 11.45am**. There are six PCC meetings each year. Please speak to Becky or one of the wardens for more information about what is involved. There are three Deanery Synod meetings a year, and Mike Gibbs, Andy Sharp or Sian Goodwin will be able to give you more information about what is involved. To put your name forward, you will need to complete a form, please contact Alison and she will send you a nomination form which you will need to find a proposer and seconder to sign it and return the form to her.

Night Prayer: A revised version of this service is being used. Please contact Alison if you would like a copy – either paper or an electronic version.

Sponsored Bike n’Hike: Saturday 12 September. This annual event to raise money for our churches is still going ahead this year albeit with churches not generally open, so participants will have to self- certify their forms at each church visited. Randal ffrench and Andy Sharp are both seeking sponsorship. Please contact them to sponsor or visit Randal’s Just Giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/randal-ffrench1>

Why not join in with a group from church to go round as many local churches as you feel able to do either on foot or on a bike. Please let Becky know if you would like to join a walking or cycling group. Sponsor forms are available from each church or contact Anthony Coles for one – 01727 852593 / anthonycoles22@btopenworld

It is even more important to support this event this year because churches have lost income from services, hiring and fundraising events. Lengthy closure will have increased the risk of deterioration through lack of ventilation and reduced inspection.

Kirsty’s Ordination as Priest: Monday 28 September, 7.00pm, St Peter’s Church, St Albans. Unfortunately, there is no room to attend this service, but it will be live streamed (details of the link will be given nearer the time). Please keep Kirsty in your prayers as she prepares for this significant step in her ministry.

We are collecting for a gift from the parish to mark this occasion. If you would like to donate, we would appreciate if this can be done by bank transfer to the following account;

Account Name: St Stephen’s PCC
Account Number: 40776203
Sort Code: 20 74 09 (Barclays)
Reference: 280920KIRSORD

We are trying not to handle cheques or cash during this time but if this is the only way that you are able to give, please send a cheque (made payable to St Stephen’s PCC) to

The Vicarage
14 Watling Street
St Albans
AL1 2PX

Deadline for donations: 20 September