

Dearest Parishioners of the Churches of St Alban's, Good Shepherd & Holy Souls in the Parish of St Alban's,

They say 'If it's not bust – then don't fix it' -- but when thinking of the 6 Weekend Masses We are at 'busting point' now. There is an 'age and health' profile rearing its head now!

Fr Jude will be 70 in January and Fr Joe will be 75 this month – and 75 is the official retirement age for the Clergy.

Fr Joe is having a hip replacement this weekend ; plus he has not been in the best of health for some time.

I am sure Fr Joe will help, 'if and when' he is able; but, in fairness, his time must be his own from now onwards.

At present we have these 6 (Six) weekend masses:

St Alban's : **Saturday 6.30 pm Sunday 9am & 11.1 5am**

Good Shepherd : **Sunday 10.15 am**

Holy Souls : **Sunday : 10 am & 5 pm**

On Sunday Morning we have: 9 10 10-15 & 11-15 So if on any Sunday I am on my own I can't manage the 10 and the 10-15 at the same time!

The 10am & 5pm at Holy Souls are established and well attended Masses and I feel they must remain as they are.

By removing the 10-15 Good Shepherd it allows a priest to celebrate the 3 remaining morning masses:

SUNDAY: 9 am St Alban's 10 am Holy Souls 11-15 am St Alban's But these aren't set in stone

Good Shepherd Church at this moment does need a Weekend Mass -- so how can we include this?

There seem to be 2 options: and in no particular order:

Option 1:- Move the St Alban's Saturday 6-30 pm Mass to **Good Shepherd at 6-30 pm...** because of darker nights we could **change the time to 6 pm?** Then: **Sunday: 9 am St Alban's 10 am Holy Souls & 11-15 St Alban's**

This clearly directly affect the **Saturday 6-30 & Good Shepherd** congregations

Option 2:- Leave the **Saturday Vigil evening 6-30 or 6 pm** Mass at **St Alban's :**

And Celebrate the **Sunday 9 am Mass at Good Shepherd then 10 am Holy Souls & 11-15 at St Alban's**

This clearly affects the **Sunday 9 am & Good Shepherd** congregations.

CHOICE TIME: Especially for those who attend a Mass directly affected by either of the 2 Options:

We do not want to 'lose anyone' from coming to our Parish Masses – we all have deep roots, love and affection for St Alban's and Good Shepherd – I realise people have 'Sunday routines' and 'I always sit in this spot in Church.. and at this Mass' But for the health, safety & care' of your priests something has to give and take.

Please pray about this: There is no immediate panic.. and there is time for your thoughts / choice of the Options / if you are directly affected... or can you attend one of the other masses?

There may very well be **some difficulty for elderly people** without access to transport – so if this is the case for yourself – please indicate this on the **OPTION SHEET.**

If you are a parishioner willing to bring someone to mass, as and when, required – please indicate on **OPTION SHEET**

I need your views.. but please try to picture everyone affected: Please fill in the Reply Page on the **2 Options:**

Do add any other possible Options: Please indicate a Saturday Vigil 6 pm or 6-30 pm preference.

e-mail: if you wish: revjudeharrison@btconnect.com

God Bless and Prayers from Fr Jude and Fr Joe

Please tick the Saturday Mass Time you feel would be best below: -

Choice of Saturday Evening Vigil Mass: whether it be at St Alban's or Good Shepherd: **6-30 pm** or **6.00 pm**

Now: Please circle one: Do you or would you come to the **Sat: Eve. Mass** **YES** **NO**

Any Thoughts?....

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Please indicate **which of the 2 Options** you feel is best for everyone: thank you

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OPTION 1) Sat: Eve: Mass to Good Shepherd 6 or 6-30pm (ring one)

And Sunday Masses: 9 am and 11-15 St Alban's and 10 am Holy Souls

Please circle which mass(es) you usually attend **6-30pm** **9am** **10-15am** **11-15am** **10am**

Any Thoughts?....

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OPTION 2) Saturday Vigil evening 6-30 or 6 pm Mass at St Alban's with then

Sunday 9 am Mass at Good Shepherd then 10 am Holy Souls & 11-15 at St Alban's

Please circle which mass(es) you usually attend **6-30pm** **9am** **10-15am** **11-15am** **10am**

Any Thoughts?....

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Please indicate **which of the 2 Options ABOVE** you feel is best for everyone: thank you

OPTION 1) or **OPTION 2)**

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Have you an 3rd Option or suggestions:?

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I would appreciate transport to Church: **Name** **Tel. No:**

I would be able to offer a car lift: **Name** **Tel. No:**