

MASS INTENTIONS
Thirty First Sunday of Ordinary Time (YEAR C)

Saturday 2 nd November – The Commemoration	6.30pm	Anne Wighton
Sunday 3 rd November – Thirty First Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)	9am	People of the Parish
	11am	David Okey (R.I.P)
Monday 4 th November – St Charles Borromeo	9am	Brian Popkin (R.I.P)
Tuesday 5 th November – Feria	10am	James Moodie (R.I.P)
Wednesday 6 th November – Feria	9am	Bernadette Craft (R.I.P)
Thursday 7 th November – Feria	9am	Barry O’Sullivan (R.I.P)
Friday 8 th November – Feria	9am	John Wallace (R.I.P)
Saturday 9 th November – Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	9am	John Brady (R.I.P)

Thirty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday 9 th November – Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 10 th November – Thirty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)	9am	Alan Palmer
	11am	Kain Coyle (Int)

Morning Prayer is recited every morning at 8.45am

Psalter: Week 3

Rosary is said every morning after Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 10.30-11.30am and 5.00-6.00pm.

ST. ALBAN’S PARISH NEWSLETTER
(Langdale Gardens)

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Maurice Gordon
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Thirty First Sunday of Ordinary Time (YEAR C)
2nd and 3rd November 2019

Dear Friends,

‘The Son of Man has come to seek out and to save what was lost.’ Zacchaeus, the man at the centre of today’s Gospel, was lost. Everyone despised him because as a chief tax collector, he would exploit people for his own gain. Deep down he must have been unhappy, because when Jesus came into the town, he was ‘anxious’ to see him. Perhaps the anxieties that troubled Zacchaeus may also trouble us. We may know of things that need to change in ourselves: attitudes, habits and lifestyles. We may wonder, ‘Can I really change now? Isn’t it too late for me to undo the past, and all the time I have wasted?’ With Zacchaeus, something moved him towards Jesus – more than just curiosity. You would expect a hated person to keep his head down, but Zacchaeus puts aside his self-respect and risks the crowd’s anger to climb the Sycamore tree and ‘catch a glimpse of Jesus.’ He gets much more than a glimpse – Jesus looks up at him and calls him down by name. The Son of Man seeks him out in order to save him, and does not scold him, but treats him with great graciousness, mercy and kindness; ‘I must stay at your house today.’ Zacchaeus welcomes him joyfully, and feels the mercy of God, which causes his heart to change; he abandons his old ways of extortion and will give generously to those he has defrauded and to the poor. This account is a challenge to those of us who are tempted to write-off, or disregard other people as hopeless. Jesus can and will save those who repent of their evils and seek his mercy – including ourselves. The son of Man came to seek and save that which was lost, and no sin is too great to find the mercy of God and be forgiven if they are repentant. The possibility that God would be so merciful to a sinner can unsettle us somewhat, as it did with the crowd surrounding Zacchaeus. But as Jesus came to seek and save the lost, we likewise do not label and condemn sinners, but seek them out as the Lord did, in order to help them find their way back to God.

Have a good week - God Bless

Fr Maurice

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

Michael Balfour, Vincent Brady, Rose Cahill, John Carty, Maureen Daly, Katherine Day, Desmond family, Gerry Dique, Anthony Doherty, Nancy Donovan, Ann Dunn, Kevin Harty, Bernadette Heddle, Peter Hemsley, Ellen Hurley, Jenny Jones, Ann Kelly, Neil Kelly, Sheila Leahy, Mary Lynes, Siobhan McKeon, Norah McLoughlin, Matthew Milnar, John Morrison Frances Nolan, Cecilia O'Connor, Vincent Okolo, Dean Partleton, Nellie Ringrose, Mary Sayers, Marina Scarff, John Sinclair, Charles Stimpson, Theresa Wiseman, Elizabeth Wyles, Clara Yankey. Julia Joseph, Mary Kakari, John Barry, Sarah Content, Celia Desmond, Bill and Teresa Shorey, Jean Berry, Sue & John Doherty.

PARISH FINANCES

2nd & 3rd November 2019

Loose

£384.22

Envelopes

£399.90

Confirmation Programme 2019/2020: The next session will be held on 30th November 2019 at 4pm. The candidates will be presented to the Parish at the 6.30pm Mass that evening

First Holy Communion 2019/20: The next session will be held this Thursday the 7th November, at 7pm. Children will meet in the Parish Hall and Parents to meet in the Church

Journey in Faith Programme (RCIA): Anyone who wishes to know more about the basics of the Faith or is interested in joining the Church is invited to the weekly session, which takes place on Mondays at 7:30pm in the Presbytery. Any Parishioner who wishes to support this group is also invited to come along.

Training and Resources Day for Catechists: There will be another Catechists Training Day held on Saturday 9th November 2019 10.30am to 3.30pm at Sacred Heart School Upminster led by Father Dominic. Please bring your own lunch, refreshments will be provided.

Altar Servers: Could parents of Altar servers collect a letter regarding the High Mass with the Bishop, to be held on the 9th November. There is a reply slip that will need to be completed and returned to Father Maurice.

Knock Pilgrimage: Please ensure that your application is completed and deposit fees are paid by the 11th November. Patricia can be contacted on 07740 175557 or 01268 762278.

R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Nora McDarby, her remains will be brought into the Church on Tuesday 5th November at 4.30pm and her Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 6th at 10.30. Please also pray for Timothy Michael Murphy whose funeral mass will take place on Friday 8th November at 2.00pm and also Theresa Desmond who died last week, her body will be received into the Church at 5.00pm on the 21st November and her Requiem Mass will take place on the 22nd November at 12 noon. May they rest in peace.

Put Christ back into Christmas: The church repository is now stocked up with all your Christmas cards, cribs, 2020 calendars, Advent calendars, gift bags and money wallets. As well as gifts, ie rosaries, crucifix, holy water bottles, bracelets, and many more items. Please support your church.

Christmas Bazaar: This year's Christmas Bazaar will take place on the 30th November and we are asking for the usual donations of bottles, tombola gifts etc. Please leave these in the box at the back of the Church.

The Scriptures in Advent – Fr Nicholas King SJ

The second session will take place on the 23rd November Fr Nicholas King SJ, at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) from 10.30 until 3 pm. Admission is free, but please reserve your place by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com or by phone to 01708 449914.

All Souls: Our annual Mass for all of our deceased loved ones will take place on the 15th November at 7.30pm followed by refreshments in the hall, organised by the Youth Club.

Church Website: We have a meeting this Monday at 7.00pm, for anyone who may be interested in helping with the new website, please come along to the Parish office.

Safeguarding: Emma Rix and Tracey Brennan have taken over the Safeguarding of our Parish. They will be updating the DBS certificates for all volunteers over the coming months.

Tea Dance: The next Tea Dance will be held on Wednesday the 20th of November. Music by Finbar Black, dancing from 13.30 till 16.30. Admission £5.00 includes tea coffee and cakes. Come along and enjoy a lovely afternoon of fun and help us to create a good Parish community spirit. Any information please contact me John O'Connor on 07903366992.