

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)**

Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February –	6.30pm	Sister Inigo
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February –	9am	Charles Stimpson (R.I.P)
	11am	Theresa Desmond (R.I.P)
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February – Feria	9.00am	Evelyn Henry (R.I.P)
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February – Feria	10am	Pamela Zammit
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	9.00am	Salvatore Spadafora (Anniv)
	7.30pm	Siobhan Mckeon (Int)
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> February – Thursday after Ash Wednesday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday after Ash Wednesday	9.00am	Vincent Okolo (Int)
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> February – Saturday after Ash Wednesday	9.00am	Louis Ivan Marie (R.I.P)

**The First Sunday of Lent (A)**

Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> February –	6.30pm	Ron Barnes (R.I.P)
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March–  <b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	9am	Sabainah Adelola Osuntuyi (R.I.P)
	11am	Vincent Friel (R.I.P)

Morning Prayer is recited every morning at 8.30am

**Psalter:** Week 2

Rosary is said every morning after Mass

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday 9.30am and 5.30pm -6.00pm.

**ST. ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER**  
(Langdale Gardens)

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Maurice Gordon  
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**Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time (Year A)**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020**

Dear Friends,

In today's Gospel Christ says to us 'Love your enemies' We tend to take these words with a pinch of salt, as if they were meant for the saints, not for us. But they are meant for us. We all have some enemies. Let us think how we treat them, Christ tells us we must not destroy our enemies but love them. Once when someone asked Lincoln why he didn't destroy his enemies he said 'do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?'

ASH WEDNESDAY: 26<sup>th</sup> February – the beginning of Lent is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. Times of Masses are 9.00am & 7.30pm. There will be a Mass held at St. Albans school at 10.30am, all parents are welcome. We begin our preparation for Easter. Lent is a great opportunity to come close to the Lord. It is a time of repentance, taking stock of ourselves. We have fallen short but we have the chance to look again at our lives and how we live them. The key words for Lent should be Change of Heart, Repentance, Forgiveness, Prayer and Reconciliation.

To help in our Lenten journey, we have the Stations of the Cross beginning this Friday in our Church at 7.30pm This year we are joining with our brothers and sisters from St Nicholas' in our Meditation. In the Spirit of Ecumenism, there will be a Stations of the Cross on alternate Fridays in St Albans and St Nicholas beginning here, as mentioned, this Friday at 7.30pm.

*Have a good Lent*  
*God Bless*  
*Father 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, John Doherty, Francesca Kelly, Paul & Eva AU,

**PARISH FINANCES**

15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**Loose**

£457.52

**Envelopes**

£433.30

**Confirmation Programme 2019/2020:** The next session will be held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – this will be the day retreat to Aylesford.

**First Holy Communion 2019/20:** The next session will be held on Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020, at 7pm.

**Baptism Course:** The next course is on 14<sup>th</sup> March at 9am in the parish hall.

**Journey in Faith (RCIA)** – Next Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> March at 3pm in Brentwood Cathedral our Candidates in the RCIA will be presented to the Bishop at the Rite of Election. This is a decisive step for them on their Journey of Faith, towards full communion, with the Catholic Church at the Easter vigil. We congratulate Richard, Damiana, Galin, Raiche and ask you, the parish community to support them with your prayers, love and encouragement.

**R.I.P** Please pray for Joseph (Clement) Janganan who died recently, his funeral Mass will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> February at 12.00pm. We also pray for Robert Russell whose funeral mass will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30pm. May they rest in peace.

**Brentwood Catholic Children Society:** BCCS is an established children's charity delivering mental health services in schools throughout the diocese. Currently they are seeking to appoint Trustees to their board to help guide and develop their work. Further information available on their website [www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk)

**Lent events** at Gidea Park, Christ the Eternal High Priest Church, 410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am-3.00pm, John among the Gospels – Fr Victor Darlington will explore the Gospel according to John, and point to its unique features. Wednesdays 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March 7pm-8.30pm The Great Johannie Gospels. On three evenings Fr Adrian Graffy will speak about the Gospels of the Samaritan Woman (Third Sunday of Lent), the Man Born Blind (fourth Sunday) and the Raising of Lazarus (fifth Sunday) in preparation for the Sunday liturgy. We will conclude with a shared reading of the Gospel passage. To book [GPstudydays@gmail.com](mailto:GPstudydays@gmail.com) or phone 01708 449914

**CAFOD Family Fast Day:** This will take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> March, envelopes will be given out next Sunday after Mass.

**Sacramental Preparation for Travellers:** The focus of this year's Racial Justice Sunday has been on celebrating the contribution that members of the Travelling Communities make to the Church. Following on from Racial Justice Sunday, there will be a special meeting on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm for anyone who is interested in assisting with the Sacramental Preparation of Traveller children for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The training will be led by Sister Philomena Purcell and will take place in the Pastoral Centre at the Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Billericay. If you are interested in attending please contact Father Dan Mason, the National Catholic Chaplain for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers on 01277 624891. All prospective Catechists will need to have a DBS certificate issued by the diocese.

**On 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020** England will be rededicated as the 'Dowry of Mary'. This will happen in Westminster Cathedral, in Walsingham, in every Catholic Cathedral, in every parish and in as many homes as possible. Mgr John Armitage, the Rector of the National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, has asked people to prepare spiritually for the rededication by praying the Angelus every day after our parish Masses. The Angelus is a most suitable prayer to prepare us spiritually for the rededication, recalling as it does, 'some essential moments in the History of Salvation, reminding us of Mary's 'yes' to the Angel Gabriel, which undid Eve's 'no' in the Garden of Eden'. We profess our faith in 'The Word, who was made flesh, and dwelt amongst us' and in his Death and Resurrection, the eternal destiny to which each of us is called in Christ.