

MASS INTENTIONS
First Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Saturday 29th February – Saturday after Ash Wednesday	6.30pm	Ron Barnes (R.I.P)
Sunday 1 st March– First Sunday of Lent	9am	Sabainah Adelola Osuntuyi (R.I.P)
	11am	Vincent Friel (R.I.P)
Monday 2nd March – Feria	9.00am	Tom Dwyer (R.I.P)
Tuesday 3 rd March – Feria	10am	Thanksgiving – R. Miranda
Wednesday 4 th March - Feria	9.00am	Edward Hayes (R.I.P)
Thursday 5 th March – Feria	9.00am	Thansgiving – Val Honeyball
Friday 6 th March – Lent Fast Day	9.00am	All Souls
Saturday 7 th March - Feria	9.00am	People of the Parish

Second Sunday of Lent (A)

Saturday 7 th March	6.30pm	M. Walsh & B O'Connor (R.I.P)
Sunday 8 th March– Second Sunday of Lent	9am	Susan Williams
	11am	Garry Honeyball

Morning Prayer is recited every morning at 8.30am

Psalter: Week 1

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
Presbytery:

1 Ullswater Way, Elm Park, RM12 5JX

Tel: 01708451449

parishoffice@stalbansrcchurch.uk

Parish Deacon: Rev. Ken Carleton

kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

(Mob: 07971 544921)

Parish Website: <https://www.stalbansrcchurch.uk>

First Sunday of Lent (Year A)

1st & 2nd March 2020

St Alban's Primary School

Heron Flight Avenue

Tel: 01708 555644

Head Teacher: Lisa Schaberg

Angelo – Gift Aid Organiser

giftaid2@gmail.com

Mobile: 07817 077898

Dear Friends,

Lent helps us to face the reality of sin in our lives, so that it can be dealt with.

We know how difficult it is, when we have sinned, to admit to it and face up to it. In the first reading, we heard about Adam and Eve committing the original sin. But what did they do afterwards when God confronted them? They gave excuses, the pointed away from themselves, they blamed others – they did everything except admit the simple fact that they had sinned.

It's not easy for anyone to admit that they are a sinner. But during Lent, the Church helps us to do so, in order to approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation with true sorrow, a true sense of the sins we have committed, and a firm purpose of amendment. If we are honest with ourselves, we can all identify with the sense of darkness and despondency and the heavy burden that afflicts us when we are in the state of sin. The psalmist describes all of this in the first half of today's responsorial psalm, which is taken from psalm 51.

In the midst of sin – he turns to the Lord, seeking to be freed and restored, 'a pure heart create for me, O God, do not cast me away from your presence nor deprive me of your holy spirit.' It is a plea to mend the brokenness, and to reconcile the division that sin causes.

Jesus Christ, the second Adam, undoes the damage of the first, and through Him, redemption and healing is possible. We have a good friend in Jesus, because He knows what sin is all about – he never committed it, but he took its weight upon himself, and as we see in the Gospel, knew exactly what it is to be tempted. So it's only in Him that we will find the spirit of fervor to sustain us when we are tempted.

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

22nd & 23rd February 2020

Crib Donations

Loose

£559.36

£307.65

Envelopes

£390.50

Confirmation Programme 2019/2020: The next session will be held on 8th March 2020 – this will be the day retreat to Aylesford, the coach will leave here at 8.15am.

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

Baptism Course: The next course is on 14th March at 9am in the parish hall.

Stations of the Cross: This will take place next Friday at St. Nicholas Church at 7.30pm, all are welcome.

Journey in Faith (RCIA) – This Sunday, 1st 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.

Tea Dance: Our next Tea Dance will be on Wednesday the 18th March 2020 in the Parish Centre. As this is the day after St Patrick's day it will be a special St Patrick's celebration green will be the theme. Music by the fabulous Finbar Black, dancing from 13.30 till 16.30. admission £5.00 includes tea coffee and cakes. Any information please contact me John O'Connor on 07903366992

Valerie Honeyball: would like to thank all Parishioners who sent Mass cards and messages of sympathy on the death of her late husband Garry. A Mass of thanksgiving will be offered this Thursday 5th March for your intentions.

Lent events at Gidea Park, Christ the Eternal High Priest Church, 410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Wednesdays 11th, 18th & 25th March 7pm-8.30pm The Great Johannine 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 or phone 01708 449914

CAFOD Family Fast Day: This will take place on the 6th March, envelopes will be given out this Sunday after Mass.

Altar Servers Meeting: There will be an Altar Servers Mass next Saturday 7th March at 9am, where a number of altar servers presented with St Stephens' medals in recognition of their commitment in serving on the sanctuary.

On 29th 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.

An hour of Prayer: at St. Joseph's Social Centre, St Mary's Lane, Upminster on Tuesday 3rd March at 8pm. We will thank God, praise Him, have prayers of petition and an opportunity for private prayer for healing. For details contact Richard & Frances Healy on 01708 250717.