

MASS INTENTIONS

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

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| Saturday 28 th March - Feria | 6.30pm | Vincent Friel (R.I.P) |
| Sunday 29 th March – Fifth Sunday of Lent | 9am | Mr Martin (R.I.P) |
| | 11am | Garry Honeyball (R.I.P)) |
| Monday 30 th March – Feria | 9.00am | Teresa Pitman |
| Tuesday 31 st March – | 10am | John Moody (R.I.P) |
| Wednesday 1 st April – | 9.00am | John Moody (R.I.P) |
| Thursday 2 nd April – | 9.00am | John Moody (R.I.P) |
| Friday 3 rd April – Feria | 9.00am | Barry McManus |
| Saturday 4 th April - Feria | 9.00am | Margaret Hughes |

Palm Sunday of The Passion of the Lord (A)

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| Saturday 4 th April - Feria | 6.30pm | Vincent Friel (R.I.P) |
| Sunday 5 th April – Palm Sunday of The Passion of the Lord | 9am | Gillian Carleton (R.I.P) |
| | 11am | Garry Honeyball (R.I.P) |

Morning Prayer is

Psalter: Week 1

Sacrament of Reconciliation: to be arranged

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>

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

Fifth Sunday Of Lent (Year A)

28th & 29th March 2020

Dear Friends,

Nothing in our lifetime has ever affected the whole world as the Coronavirus (Covid - 19). All countries have shut down, virtually all school and colleges have sent their students home. We are encouraged to stay at home in order to protect the NHS and save lives.

None of the specific reasons for leaving home concur with the visiting of a church for solitary prayer. As Bishop Alan said, "Keeping churches open sends an inconsistent message and therefore they must be closed for the benefit of others and stopping infection. This decision will be painful and difficult for many. But I believe it is now essential". Fr. Joseph and I offer the Mass every morning at 9am for the intentions on the newsletter and for the parish to be protected at this time. On this Sunday 29th March 2020, England will be rededicated as the 'Dowry of Mary'. We have been saying the Angelus every day in preparation for this event. Please join with me at 11.30 in your homes as we rededicate our Country to the Dowry of Mary in this time of crisis. You will find a PDF document beside the newsletter containing the prayer. There is also a reflection inside the newsletter on the virus that you might find helpful and hopeful.

Also, please pray for John Moody, our young parishioner whose funeral will take place this Wednesday 1st April at 12.40 at Upminster Crematorium. We will be having a Memorial Mass for him in the future. We send our heartfelt sympathies to his Mum and Dad, Bernadette and Alan and his sisters Jessica and Isabella. Please pray for them

*Please keep safe and mind yourself and each other
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, Crystal Stimpson, Theresa Wiseman, Elizabeth Wyles, Clara Yankey, Teresa Pitman, Julia Joseph, Mary Kakari, John Barry, Sarah Content, Celia Desmond, Bill and Teresa Shorey, Jean Berry, Dennis Doherty, Francesca Kelly, Paul & Eva AU, Rose Dique.

Reflection

Yes, there is fear.

Yes, there is isolation.

Yes, there is panic buying.

Yes, there is sickness.

Yes, there is even death.

But, they say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise

You can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet

The sky is no longer thick with fumes

But blue and grey and clear.

They say that in Assisi

People are singing to each other

across the empty squares,

keeping their windows open

so that those who are alone

may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland

Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know is busy spreading fliers

with her number through the neighbourhood

So that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Mosques and Temples are preparing to welcome and shelter the homeless and the weary.

All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting.

All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way.

All over the world people are waking up to a new reality

To how big we really are.

To how little control we really have.

To what really matters.

To Love.

So we pray and we remember that

Yes there is fear.

But there does not have to be hate.

Yes there is isolation.

But there does not have to be loneliness.

Yes there is panic buying.

But there does not have to be meanness.

Yes there is sickness.

But there does not have to be disease of the soul

Yes there is even death.

But there can always be a rebirth of love.

Wake to the choices you make as how to live now.

Today breathe.

Listen, beyond the factory noises of your panic

The birds are singing again,

The sky is clearing,

Spring is coming,

And we are always encompassed by Love.

Open the windows of your soul

And though you may not be able

to touch across the empty square,

Sing

By Father Richard Hendrick, IRELAND March 13