

MASS INTENTIONS
Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)

Saturday 16 th May –	6.30pm	Pauline
Sunday 17 th May –	9am	Grahame Addecott (R.I.P)
	11am	William Snowden (R.I.P)
Monday 18 th May – Fiera	9.00am	For the Protection of the Unborn Child
Tuesday 19 th May – Fiera	10am	All Souls who have no one to pray for them
Wednesday 20 th May – Fiera	9.00am	David Evans (R.I.P)
Thursday 21 st May – The Ascension of the Lord	9.00am	Judith – Healing and Protection
Friday 22 nd May – Fiera	9.00am	George Kiparrisi Intentions
Saturday 23 rd May Fiera	9.00am	Violet Martin (R.I.P)

Seventh Sunday of Easter (A)

Saturday 23 rd May –	6.30pm	Thomas Carleton (R.I.P)
Sunday 24 th May –	9am	Bill Shorey (R.I.P)
	11am	Fr Aloysius Jesurajan Intentions

Sacrament of Reconciliation: to be arranged

Peace Garden

Our prayer garden is opened daily and there is a prayer Pope Francis has asked us to pray to seek Mary's help, which is in front of the statue. Please say this prayer as we hope that the world may be healed of this virus .

ST. ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER
(Langdale Gardens)

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Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A)
16th & 17th May 2020

Dear Friends,

In this month of Mary, we celebrate the Virgin Mary and her role in the history of salvation. Last Wednesday, 13th May we celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Fatima. On this Sunday, we would normally have had a procession in honour of Our Lady but this year we are unable due to the lockdown of Covid-19.

In England, devotion to Our Lady has been a major feature of Catholic life for centuries, with many shrines dedicated to her. Pilgrims have visited the shrine at Walsingham for almost 1000 years. In 1251, Our Lady appeared to St Simon Stock at Aylesford in Kent, giving him the Brown Scapular, which is worn by millions of the faithful worldwide. Some of our past Monarchs have also had a deep love for the Blessed Mother and turned to her in times of need - St Edward the Confessor (reigned 1042-1066) named England Mary's 'dowry', and King Richard II (reigned 1377-1399) consecrated the country to her protection. This year on the 29th March the Country was rededicated as "The Dowry of Mary" In preparation for this we prayed the Angelus, 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'. Catholics honour Mary because, full of grace, she cooperated with God's will and freely consented to bring Our Lord Jesus Christ into the world. On the cross, Jesus gave His mother to all of us, and now in heaven, she is a powerful advocate with her Divine Son. We love her because He loves her, and we can be confident that she will help us in our needs and difficulties, and lead us ever closer to Him. At this time with Covid19, we seek her protection and prayers to free us from this pandemic that affects all of us.

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 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, Teresa Shorey, Jean Berry, Dennis Doherty, Francesca Kelly, Paul & Eva AU, Rose Dique, Jim Nolan, George Kiparrisi

Please pray for the repose of the soul:

Kath Schaberg (Mother-in-Law to Mrs Schaberg our Head teacher) who died recently, her funeral will be on Tuesday, 26th May at 11.20, South Essex Crematorium
May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

A message from Teresa Shorey

A big thank you to Father Maurice for the support, kindness and wonderful service for my husband Bill. A Mass will be offered later for friends and St Vincent De Paul for all their support at this sad time.

Gift Aid Envelopes

Gift Aid envelopes have arrived at the Church if you wish to come and collect your boxes give the presbytery a ring to arrange a time.

The Diocese has provided each Church with their own direct on link for the offertory. <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=elm-park>
Please remember if you are a taxpayer and have envelopes make it known on your donation, otherwise we will not be able to reclaim the tax paid. We have also been asked about Easter Offerings for the priest please make that known also if donating online.

Ascension Thursday

On Thursday, we rejoice in the Ascension of Christ. We can share the joy of our saviour as he returns to his Father. It is the sign that his work is completed and his Father is well pleased. Now Jesus invites us to carry on his mission and to be his presence where we are.

Reflection from Bishop Alan on family life

It is always a delight to meet couples celebrating many years of married life together at the Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage and Family Life, as well as those at the beginning of this adventure. You won't be surprised to know that we've taken the decision not to hold a Mass this year in July as originally planned, and I hope those who would have come this year will be able to come next year instead.

This week is National Marriage Week and I would like to take this opportunity to send my greetings to all married couples, especially those celebrating significant anniversaries this year, and all those who are preparing for marriage. We have recently celebrated the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, and the church is greatly enriched by all those who live the vocation to marriage, helping their spouse and their children on the path to heaven and revealing something of Christ's love for his church through their own commitment to each other. You are all in my prayers, but most especially those who are experiencing illness and bereavement. I am also aware of the deep disappointment experienced by the many engaged couples who have had to postpone weddings or do not yet know how their weddings will be affected, and you too are in my prayers at this time of uncertainty.

Many families will be under a great deal of pressure with all the additional stresses associated with the pandemic, and sadly some relationships will be pushed to breaking point: please do not be afraid to seek help, or leave it too late – Marriage Care is one of a number of organisations offering remote access to marriage counselling, and in our own diocese the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society continues to provide vital support to children and families who are experiencing difficulties. As Pope Francis recently tweeted, "The Family is the hope of the future. Let us pray especially for families facing serious difficulties: may Our Lord assist them."

Yours in Christ and Mary,
+Alan, sm