

MASS INTENTIONS

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

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| Saturday 9 th May – | 6.30pm | Patrick O’Keefe (R.I.P) |
| Sunday 10 th May – | 9am | Florence Brennan-Friel (R.I.P) |
| | 11am | Patrick O’Keefe (R.I.P) |
| Monday 11 th May – | 9.00am | Fr John Seabrook (R.I.P) |
| Tuesday 12 th May – St John Houghton | 10am | Mgr John Coghlan (R.I.P) |
| Wednesday 13 th May – St Erconwald | 9.00am | Bill Shorey (R.I.P) |
| Thursday 14 th May – St Matthias | 9.00am | Jack Carroll (R.I.P) |
| Friday 15 th May – Fiera | 9.00am | Fr Anthony Conlon (R.I.P) |
| Saturday 16 th May Fiera | 9.00am | David Silke’s Mother (R.I.P) |

Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)

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| Saturday 16 th May – | 6.30pm | Pauline |
| Sunday 17 th May – | 9am | Grahame Addecott (R.I.P) |
| | 11am | William Snowden (R.I.P) |

Sacrament of Reconciliation: to be arranged

Peace Garden

The peace garden remains open from 7:00 am to 7:30 pm each day. All are welcome to visit and spent a little time in prayer but still keep our social distancing individually as laid down by the Government.

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 Easter (Year A)

9th & 10th May 2020

Dear Friends,

This Sunday’s first reading tells us of the selection and ordination of the first deacons. Whatever their role was originally intended to be, very soon afterwards the Church was hit by a severe persecution. Stephen was killed – the Church’s first martyr – and the others were scattered. We hear of Philip teaching and preaching in foreign lands; of the remaining five, we know very little. They trusted in the Lord and went wherever He would lead them. Deacons today serve in a wide range of roles. Some find themselves on the front line – as medical and care staff, for example, or as chaplains in hospital or in prisons. Many others, like the people they serve, are locked down, isolated. Life no longer goes on as normal, and the future seems uncertain, just as it does for everyone. As a deacon in lockdown, sharing in Mass only through my computer screen, trying to keep some normality in abnormal times, I have become acutely aware of a sense of sacred time; of setting aside moments in the day when I know others will be at prayer, and being united with them, though physically separate. We are all adapting to new times, new ways, and for many of us we are trying to find our way while dealing with the grief of loss, or anxiety for those we love. In Sunday’s Gospel Jesus reminds us that the way through all this is to trust in Him, and through that trust to find the One who is Himself the Way. Please continue to pray for me, as I do each day for you.

Yours in Christ

Ken

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 souls:

Ben John Stanley who has died recently his funeral will be this Thursday, 14th May 2020 at 12.40pm at South Essex Cemetery.

James Keane who died last week (brother to Tim Keane and father to Father Paul Keane) his funeral will be this Wednesday, 13th May 2020 at 1.00pm at the City of London Cemetery.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Nolan family would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes and prayers on the death of Frances'. We thank everyone who lined the street on the day of the funeral. As they applauded a great wife, mother and friend.

Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Pope Francis' prayer for Permanent Deacons

Deacons are not second-level priests.

They are part of the clergy and live their vocation in and with their family.

They are dedicated to the service of the poor, who carry within them the face of the suffering Christ.

They are the guardians of service in the Church.

Let us pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Reflection

In this time of fear and uncertainty, it is easy to become our own worst enemy. All too often we can be self-defeating allowing negative self-talk and lies to occupy our hearts and minds and rob us of our Christian joy.

Tragedy and trials are part of life, but that doesn't mean we are not blessed. Now more than ever the world needs Christians to reclaim their God given identity so that they can remind others that they too are beloved by God and that they are made for more.

At this time of the Coronavirus crisis, we linger in the past and are fearful and anxious of the future.

I was regretting the past and fearing the future. Suddenly my Lord was speaking:

He paused.

I waited. He continued.

'When you live in the past with its mistakes, guilt and regrets: It is hard, I am not there.

My name is not I WAS.

When you live in the future, with its problems, fears and anxieties: It is hard, I am not there.

My name is not I WILL BE

When you live in this moment, it is not hard. I am here.

My name is I AM

Let us make the most of this present moment and continue to pray. Do not give up, let us leave everything in the hands of the Risen Lord. We shall overcome Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia