

MASS INTENTIONS

Third Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Saturday 12 th December - Feria	6.30pm	Philip O'Neil (very Sick)
Sunday 13 th December – Third Sunday of Advent 'Gaudete Sunday'	9.00am	Anthony & Lilly Dass (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Christine O'Mahoney (R.I.P)
Monday 14 th December – St John of the Cross	9.00am	Tessa Green (Int)
Tuesday 15 th December – Feria	10.00am	Rev John Miller (R.I.P)
Wednesday 16 th December - Feria	9.00am	Moody Intentions
Thursday 17 th December – Feria	9.00am	Patrick Shanahan (R.I.P)
Friday 18 th December – Feria	9.00am	Fr Michael Horrax (R.I.P)
Saturday 19 th December - Feria	9.00am	Moody Intentions

Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)

Saturday 19 th December - Feria	6.30pm	Rita Mill (R.I.P)
Sunday 20 th December - Fourth Sunday of Advent (Expectant Mothers)	9.00am	Val Greenwood (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Helen Ging (R.I.P)

Schools

Next week, our Schools will be finishing for the Christmas holidays, it has been a difficult term for everybody and we thank our teachers and all who care for our children and young people. We pray that next term, that life will improve for them all. We hope that they all have a safe and blessed Christmas.



ST ALBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

ST. ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

(Langdale Gardens)

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Third Sunday of Advent (Year B)

12th & 13th December 2020

Dear Friends,

Last week, we were introduced to John the Baptist as a part of our Advent journey. We hear his story again today but this time it is from the fourth Gospel. In this Gospel, Light and Darkness is a key theme. The Evangelist goes on to tell us that John the Baptist's mission is that he has been sent by God to speak for the Light. John is a Light bearer, he is not the light, but he points to the light. He is a witness to the light of God in our world. A light that cannot be put out. We celebrate this light today on Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means rejoice. We light the pink candle and we celebrate with joy. As our world continues to battle this pandemic, there is much fear and anxiety. People might not feel like celebrating or being joyful but nature shows us that spring always follows winter. Like John, we are called to the bearers of light to others.

Allowing the light to shine, means we want to come away from the darkness. We want to be among those who have space in our hearts in our homes, for Christ and our neighbours. We are asked to fill our world with his light by our repentance, our prayer, our generosity and our charity because Christ born poor asks us to reach out to his people.

Prayer

"Lord there is much darkness in society and in our Church. We thank you that someone always comes to the scene, sent by you as a witness to speak for the light – teachers, community leaders, grandparents, children, a friend...they bear witness to the rest of us that somewhere in the dark, a light shines that darkness cannot overcome" - Michel de Verteuil

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, 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, Rosetta Reehill, William Bradbury, Roy Francis, Rob Brown, Dylan Dunbar, Nell Addison, Maureen Gorham, Jack Lawless, Maisie Glennon and Michael Dear, Kathleen Kavanagh, Mathew John, Doreen Banister, Charlotte Dudenney, Dorothy Ryan, Sheila Fry

Repository

No need to spend ages walking around in the cold for ideas for Christmas. Your repository shop has a selection of cards/scented candles/calendars/rosaries/crosses/missals/bracelets/reed diffusers etc... If you cannot see what you want, we may be able to order it for you. Put Christ back into Christmas and support your parish.

Liz Preston - 01708 525186

We have been asked to provide details so that parishioners can pay their donations by direct debit or standing order. It is an easier form of donation the details are as follows

Bank HSBC

Account name: Catholic Church Elm Park St Albans

Sort Code: 40-13-22

Account number: 31019848

We can still collect the gift aid for these donations so please remember to fill in the gift aid form.

Thank you

Standing order Donations

Could the following people who already make a standing order donation please come into the office or phone the presbytery, David Morris and JG & DC Kennelly. We have some paperwork we would like to discuss.

St Albans Diaries 2021

St Alban's diaries are available at the back of the church please help yourselves to one.

Church Bell

Next Thursday, 17th December at 7pm, following the restoration of the Church Bell, we will have the unveiling of the plaque in memory of those who died as a result of Covid19. All are welcome to attend.

Christmas Cards

Christmas cards will be given out at Masses this weekend. Please note the times of Masses over the Christmas period as we have put on an extra Mass on Christmas Day to help us to minimise the numbers. At all times, we will be socially distancing, sanitising and please be aware of each other's safety. Everybody will be welcome and nobody will be turned away. Father Maurice will be available for the sacrament of reconciliation after the daily Masses before Christmas. Please, if you are able to help with Stewarding at Masses, please let Frank or any of the stewards know.

Advent Carol Concert Online – available throughout Advent.

You are warmly invited to pull up a chair with a cup of tea – or beverage of your choice – and join us from the Walsingham House at Abbotswick chapel as we present a beautiful concert of carols and readings for Advent, led by very talented young musicians. The direct link is www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rQteQkyUx0 and you will find more information at www.bcys.net/events/adventcarols – including a booklet with the words of the carols, so you can sing along at home! The concert is **free** and donations are welcome to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service and the Trussell Trust (who support and run foodbanks across the Diocese).

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Geraldine Patterson who died recently. Her funeral will take on Wednesday 16th December at Upminster Crematorium at 2.40pm.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Tom Gorham. His Requiem Mass will take place on the 29th December 2020 at 1.00pm at St Albans Church followed by a service at South Essex Crematorium at 2.40pm.

Finally, please also pray for the repose of the soul of Sheila Murray who died recently, whose Funeral Mass will take place on the 30th December at 10:30 am in St. Albans.

May them REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN GLORY