

MASS INTENTIONS

Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Saturday 5 th December -	6.30pm	Thomas Macdonald (R.I.P)
Sunday 6 th December -	9.00am	Helen Brady (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Teresa Stevens (R.I.P)
Monday 7 th December – St Ambrose	9.00am	Ravi Miranda Thanksgiving
Tuesday 8 th December – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.00am	Stella Miranda (R.I.P)
Wednesday 9 th December - Fiera	9.00am	Valerie Vaz (Int)
Thursday 10 th December –	9.00am	Pilar Celedonia (very sick)
Friday 11 th December – Fiera	9.00am	Rachel Miranda Thanksgiving
Saturday 12 th December - Fiera	9.00am	Mary Squires (R.I.P)

Third Sunday of Advent (B)

Saturday 12 th December -	6.30pm	Philip O'Neil (very Sick)
Sunday 13 th December -	9.00am	Anthony & Lilly Dass (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Christine O'Mahoney (R.I.P)

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joyce Willis, who died recently. Her funeral will take place on Wednesday 9th December 2020 in Upminster Cemetery at 10:40 am. May she rest in peace.



ST. ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

(Langdale Gardens)

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Maurice Gordon

St Alban's Primary School

Heron Flight Avenue

Tel: 01708 555644

Head Teacher: Lisa Schaberg

Angela – Gift Aid Organiser

Mobile: 07510 243188

Mob: 07971 544921

Presbytery:

1 Ullswater Way, Elm Park, RM12 5JX

Tel: 01708451449

parishoffice@stalbansrcchurch.uk

Parish Deacon: Rev. Ken Carleton

kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

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

Second Sunday of Advent (Year B)

5th & 6th December 2020

Dear Friends,

Advent is an invitation to conversion and John the Baptist gives us some down-to-earth advice on how to change our lives for the better. He talks about filling in valleys of prejudice, levelling down mountains of pride and straightening out the crooked paths of justice. Today we ask ourselves what in our lives needs a complete turnaround to allow God to come close to us. Pope Francis said, "Advent is the season for remembering that closeness of God who came down to dwell in our midst". He recalled the prophet who goes on to ask God to draw close to us once more invoking Him to "tear open the heavens and come down". Reiterating that this is the first message of Advent and the liturgical year the Pope said "We need to recognise God's closeness and say to him: "come close to us once more!" There are areas and dark corners of ourselves, which we do not want disturbed even though we are aware that they prevent God from entering into our inner most being. This Advent time of prayer and penance brings home to us the need to make a fresh start if only to prevent spiritual drift. Preparing a way for God in our hearts is a time-consuming and costly business. It demands listening to what God is saying to us and, if necessary, acting upon it by making changes in our behaviour. Welcoming God involves removing all blockages and obstacles, which prevent him from coming close. Preparing a way for the Lord may mean walking a new path. Christ cannot save us without our cooperation. God wants to come close to us, but will not impose himself; he does not force an entry into our lives but waits to be invited.

Prayer

We remember in prayer all the people whose lives are sad and unfulfilled; that they may sense the presence of the Lord, and welcome him into their heart.

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, Tom & 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 off these donations so please remember to fill in the gift aid form.

Thank you

200 Club Winners

Monika Downs please pick up your cheque from Father Maurice.

S.V.P

There will be a second collection on the 5th and 6th December for the St Vincent de Paul Society, which helps to support those in need

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, JG & DC Kennelly and Mrs Moira D McLean we have some paperwork we would like to discuss

Church Bell

The bell will be brought back on the 10th December in full working order. It will be placed in the church overnight it will be blessed after Friday morning mass and finally it will be replaced in the bell tower that morning. On Thursday 17th December at 7pm, we will have the unveiling of a plaque in memory of those who died as a result of Covid19. All are welcome at either event.

Brentwood Directories

Diocesan directories are now available in the repository. Ringbound £4.00 and booklet £2.80

St Albans Diaries 2021

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

Advent Carol Concert Online.

Today 6th December at 4pm and then throughout Advent. You are warmly invited to pull up a chair with a cup of tea – or a beverage of your choice - and join us from the Walsingham House at Abbotswick chapel as we present a concert of carols and readings for Advent. The link is www.youtube.com/c/brentwoodcys and you will find more information at www.bcys.net 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).

Signing of Primary School Forms

If your child is eligible to apply for a primary school place in September 2021, Father Maurice will be signing forms today 6th December from 5-7pm and Monday 7th December from 6-7pm

Christmas Card

Next week we shall be giving out the Christmas card with all the masses over the Christmas period