

MASS INTENTIONS

Second Sunday after the Nativity (Year B)

Saturday 2 nd January -	6.30pm	Thomas & Rose Carolyn (R.I.P)
Sunday 3 rd January - Second Sunday after the Nativity	9.00am	Angela & John Quin
	11.00am	Olivia Murillo (R.I.P)
Monday 4 th January – Fiera of Christmastide	10.00am	Doreen Daly (R.I.P)
Tuesday 5 th January – Fiera of Christmastide	10.00am	Sr Mary Launder
Wednesday 6 th January - The Epiphany of the Lord	9.00am	Patrick Shanahan (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Philip Bergin (R.I.P)
	7.30pm	Noreen Walsh (sick)
Thursday 7 th January – Fiera of Christmastide	10.00am	Holy Souls
Friday 8 th January – Fiera of Christmastide	10.00am	Brian Dickinson (R.I.P)
Saturday 9 th January - Fiera of Christmastide	10.00am	Connor Scully

The Baptism of the Lord (B)

Saturday 9 th January -	6.30pm	Margaret Newman (R.I.P)
Sunday 10 th January – The Baptism of the Lord	9.00am	Geraldine Maria Patterson (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Nora Shanahan Intentions

Prayer

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his Son; in you, Mary placed her trust; with you, Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. **Amen**



ST ALBAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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.

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

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

Second Sunday after the Nativity (Year B)

2nd & 3rd January 2021

Dear Friends,

Today's Gospel is a world-changing manifesto. God is being shared, communicated, passed on and embodied in Jesus as we pray in the Creed 'for us and our salvation, he came down from heaven'. The Gospel starts 'In the beginning' this emphasises a new start, a new creation, a new kingdom, a New Year. What will 2021 bring, given the pandemic of 2020 that has affected so many people. The Gospel uses the image of light. *'The word was true light that enlightens all people and he was coming into the world'*.

On Wednesday, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, a celebration of light, a light that brought certainty to a struggling world. It had been a world which listened a little, but which still got the wrong answers because it could not see clearly. The wise men in the Gospel were the first to use their experience and study in their search for the light, and from the star, they were led to the fullness of light, which is Jesus Christ. Before they found Him, they had to travel through unknown lands, mix with different people and listen to conflicting ideas. They experienced the artificial hospitality of Herod's court and they came face to face with the ordinary family with a newborn baby. However, all that mattered was that they had faith in the light that had guided them, and their faith was confirmed.

How urgently we need a light to shine in the darkness at this time, that light is no other than the Christ child in the crib. With his help, we hope and pray for a safer and better future in 2021.

*God Bless and Keep Safe,
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, 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

The Repository is still open they have a good stock of cards and beautiful items for presents. It is normally opened after Mass due to Covid restrictions, the person in-charge will show you whatever you require. If there were any particular, you would like please call:

Liz Preston - 01708 525186

Donations and Gift Aid Form

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.

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.

Raffle Prize

The following tickets were picked out after the 11am Mass last Sunday, 20th December 2020:

Adult's prize (*White ticket*): **141-145**

White Flower Appeal 2021

The Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC) after Mass on 9th and 10th January. SPUC is currently campaigning to stop home abortion, which gives women abortion pills to take at home without medical supervision. This is one of the most dangerous threats to unborn children and their mothers in decades. Please be as generous as you can to help defeat this latest attack on unborn babies and help protect mothers from increased risk of coercion and serious health risks. Donations can also be made on line at www.spuc.org.uk/donate

200 Club

The winner for this month's 200 club is **L Macilveny**. Please see Father Maurice for your cheque.

Pray for the Soul

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Philip Bergin he funeral mass will take place on the 11th January 2021 at 9.40am at South Essex Crematorium.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Jean Berry who died recently her funeral arrangements will be made later.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Stand Up and Smile Campaign

The campaign to protect babies with cleft-lip and clubfoot are asking for our prayers for this week they have suggested:

"As we begin this New Year, we pray for all who may be considering an abortion. We pray the 2021 would see a decrease in cases of abortion, and instead a year of increased support, both practical and emotional, from all of us in society, bettering the care for all expectant mothers. Lord hear us"

Keeping our Church Safe

Please make sure that you actively help to keep our Church as safe as possible. We do not want to have to close our doors, which is why we have our stewards, who cleans the Church after every mass and guides us through the movement around the Church during Mass. ***You must play your part too.*** Please make sure you wear face coverings all the time when you are in the Church. ***The face covering must cover your nose and mouth at all time during your time in the Church.*** Remember this is to keep other people safe, not only yourself. If you cannot wear a face covering then please wear a face shield/visor. ***Do not hang around talking after the Mass rather kindly proceed back home. Please protect and respect yourselves and others around you.***