

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)**

Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> February -	6.30pm	Mrs Owens (R.I.P)
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> February –	9.00am	Michael Palmer (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Garry Honeyball (R.I.P)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> February – Fiera	9.00am	Jean Berry (R.I.P)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February – Fiera	10.00am	Thomas Turner Birthday Intentions
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February <b>St Scholastica</b>	9.00am	Patrick Harrington Intentions
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> February <b>Our Lady of Lourdes</b>	9.00am	Tony Jordan
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February – Fiera	9.00am	Rosaleen Glennon (R.I.P)
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> February - Fiera	9.00am	David Orchard (R.I.P)

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> February -	6.30pm	Jean Berry (R.I.P)
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> February –	9.00am	Charles Stimpson (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Noreen Walsh (R.I.P)

**Ask your MP to sign a parliamentary motion calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on foetal pain**

A new parliamentary motion (EDM 1340) is calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on foetal pain. The evidence that babies can feel pain in the womb, and during many abortions, highlights the humanity of the unborn child and provides another important reason to introduce legislation to protect the unborn child from abortion. Right To Life UK have set up an easy-to-use tool which makes it simple to contact your MP, and ask them to sign this motion calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on foetal pain. It only takes 30 seconds using this easy-to-use tool. This tool can be accessed by visiting the link below:

[www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion)

**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

Presbytery:

1 Ullswater Way, Elm Park, RM12 5JX

Tel: 01708451449

[parishoffice@stalbansrcchurch.uk](mailto:parishoffice@stalbansrcchurch.uk)

Parish Deacon: Rev. Ken Carleton

[kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org).

Mob: 07971 544921

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

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)**

**6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Dear Friends,

I recall as a child often hearing the phrase “that would try the patience of a saint”. It always made me wonder how much patience you needed to become a saint. Not that many saints, as far as I could tell, had great patience; many of them seemed to be rushing around all the time, always up to some good deed or another, often at great personal cost. Occasionally I would also hear someone referred to as having “the patience of Job” (a phrase coined by the Apostle St James to encourage the early Church to stand firm in the face of suffering and persecution). I was never quite sure who this Job was. Whether he was an actual historical figure is the subject of debate; the book of Job is part of the Wisdom literature of the Old Testament (along with the Psalms, the book of Proverbs, and others), and its main theme is how one particular human being dealt with pain and suffering that he clearly did not deserve. Job makes a rare appearance in our readings at Mass this Sunday, and his lament for the troubles of life must strike a chord with so many of us in these dark times. Despite his weary outlook, Job refused to complain against God at the unfairness of life, and in the end he was rewarded. For St James, Job was an example for us all to follow. When life really seems hard, when the pain gets too much to bear, however hard it may seem, we just need to keep going. Easier said than done. True patience is found in building a relationship of trust with the Lord. St Teresa of Avila, who had to bear more than her fair share of trials in this life, wrote these words:

Let nothing disturb thee, nothing affright thee

All things are passing, patience gains all.

Who serves God, wants for nothing.

He alone is sufficient.

As we take each tentative step through this pandemic, and hope beyond hope for an end, while mourning the loss of so many we have loved, we couldn't do better than make this our prayer. Take care and keep safe.

Deacon Ken

***Please pray for all who are sick, including:***

Nell Addison, Paul & Ava Au, Michael Balfour, Doreen Banister, John Barry, William Bradbury, Vincent Brady, Rob Brown, Rose Cahill, John Carty, Sarah Content, Maureen Daly, Katherine Day, Michael Dear, Celia Desmond, Desmond family, Dennis Doherty, Gerry Dique, Rose Dique, Anthony Doherty, Charlotte Dudenney, Dylan Dunbar, Nancy Donovan, Ann Dunn, Roy Francis, Sheila Fry, Maisie Glennon, Maureen Gorham, Fr Joseph Farrell, Kevin Harty, Bernadette Heddle, Peter Hemsley, Ellen Hurley, Mathew John, Jenny Jones, Julia Joseph, Mary Kakari, Kathleen Kavanagh, Ann Kelly, Francesca Kelly, Neil Kelly, George Kiparrisi, Jack Lawless, Mary Lynes, Siobhan McKeon, Norah McLoughlin, Matthew Milnar, John Morriseon, Jim Nolan, Baby Teegan Oakley, Cecilia O'Connor, Vincent Okolo, Dean Partleton, Teresa Pitman, Rosetta Reehill, Nellie Ringrose, Dorothy Ryan, Mary Sayers, Marina Scarff, Teresa Shorey, John Sinclair, Charles Stimpson, Crystal Stimpson, Theresa Wiseman, Elizabeth Wyles, Clara Yankey and Baby Teddy Rands

**Repository**

Due to Tier 4 restrictions, we can offer a "phone and collect" or deliver service. We have a good stock of cards i.e. Sympathy, Mass, New Baby, New Home, Birthdays etc. as well as candles, rosaries and a few calendars. Just ring Liz if there is anything in particular you need. **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.

**Request**

Some Italian friends of Fr Michele Bonfitto of the Verona Fathers (who served as a priest in our parish) are trying to obtain a copy of the musical score of "Alba di Gloria", an oratorio he wrote which had its first London performance in St Alban's Church on 29th May 1960. Can anyone help at all? Please contact Deacon Ken if you have any ideas or suggestions.

**Rest in Peace**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Paddy Byrnes who died recently. His remains will be brought into the Church on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 4:00 pm. His Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup> February at 11am.

Please pray for David Wright who died recently. His remains will be brought into the Church at 4pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February. His Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> February at 12 noon

Please pray for Noreen Walsh, whose Requiem mass will take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 10:30 am.

Please pray for Georgina West, whose funeral will take place at South Essex Crematorium, Upminster on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 3:20pm.

We extend our sympathy to all the families on the death of their loved ones.

***MAY THEY REST IN PEACE***

**Rediscover Your Marriage** – Retrouvaille offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It has saved many hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples that have already separated or divorced. There is no group therapy or group work. [Sixteen couples attended our last weekend (six of whom were in the process of divorce) and almost all of the couples are still attending the follow up sessions. The feedback from the weekend was very positive and there are advantages in being able to attend the weekend from your own home.] ***For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)***

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** – a second collection will be taken this Sunday to support the Shrine in Lourdes, which is suffering financially because of the pandemic restrictions. The annual pilgrimage in July has been cancelled for this year. However, some form of alternative experience of Lourdes in the diocese is being planned. Further details will follow.

**Bishop John Arnold** is the first speaker in a weekly series of talks focused on the **Catholic response to Climate Change**. He is speaking on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm – 8.30pm and the talks continue via Zoom on Thursdays in Lent. To register please email [jane@catholicclimatemovement.global](mailto:jane@catholicclimatemovement.global) and for more information about this area of Catholic life and faith have a look at [www.catholicclimatemovement.global](http://www.catholicclimatemovement.global)