

MASS INTENTIONS
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary (Year B)

Saturday 28 th August	6.30pm	James O'Dwyer (R.I.P)
Sunday 29 th August –	9.00am	James Driver
	11.00am	Mick & Julie Matthews (R.I.P)
Monday 30 th August Feria	9.00am	John & Ann O'Connor 60 th Wedding Anniversay
Tuesday 31 st August –	9.00am	Val & Brid Hunt (R.I.P)
Wednesday 1 st September St Sebbi	9.00am	Joe Fairweather (R.I.P)
Thursday 2 nd September – Feria	9.00am	Tommy Cartwright's Intentions
Friday 3 rd September – St Gregory the Great	9.00am	Mrs E A Abrahams (R.I.P)
Saturday 4 th September –	9.00am	Nell Addison Intentions

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Year B)

Saturday 4 th September –	6.30pm	Jim Nolan's Intentions
Sunday 5 th September –	9.00am	Intentions of the Driver Family
	11.00am	John Madden (R.I.P)

The Popes Monthly Intentions

Evangelisation: Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive the Holy Spirit, the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Sunday Smile

Keep smiling – and if you meet someone without a smile, give them one of yours

ST. ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

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Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary (Year B)
28th & 29th August 2021

Dear Friends,

St Sebbi, whose feast we celebrate on Wednesday, was King of the East Saxons (Essex) for some thirty years towards the end of the Seventh Century. He was known for his holiness of life and his generosity to the poor.

Throughout his life he wished to be a monk, but the burdens of office and other demands required him to remain and rule his people. Towards the end of his life he abdicated and finally entered a monastery in London, where he died shortly afterwards and was buried in old St Paul's Cathedral in London. His tomb survived until 1666 when it was destroyed in the great fire. The life of St Sebbi, like so many before and since, reminds us that it is possible for all of us to live out our Christian vocation in whatever state of life we are called. St Francis de Sales, in his classic *Introduction to the Devout Life* reminds us that anyone, no matter who they are or what they do, can and ought to live a life of perfection. "Be perfect", says Jesus, "as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). Impossible? Not if we allow God's grace to work within us. The key thing, St Francis reminds us, is always to take careful account of our state of life. True devotion lies in understanding and accepting ourselves as we are, knowing our limitations but also our strengths. If we open our hearts to God and raise our minds to Him we will be shown the best way forward. Sebbi was called to be a king, longed to be a monk, and became a saint. If we follow his example, and let the grace of God work within us in whatever state of life we find ourselves, then we will also safely reach our home in heaven where, as disciples of Christ, we are all called to be.

God Bless and Keep Safe, Deacon Ken

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

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

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.

First Holy Communion

Classes will begin on 23rd September for children in Year 4 and upwards. Application forms are now available at the back of the Church.

Confirmation

Application forms for Confirmations in 2021-22 are available at the back of the Church. Interviews will take place in September and the programme will begin in early October.

We thank Father Henry for kindly looking after us whilst Father Maurice was away

The Miraculous Medal – A Gift from Heaven

In 1830, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Jesus, appeared to St Catherine Laboure in Paris, France, and asked her to have a medal produced showing her as she appeared to her. Our Lady promised that those who wear the medal, especially around the neck, would receive great graces from Almighty God.

The medal was originally called the 'Medal of the Immaculate Conception' but so many miracles were attributed to it, that it became popularly known as the 'Miraculous Medal'.

The Miraculous Medal is the most widely distributed religious medal in the world, and is said to be instrumental in bringing about, by God's grace, miracles of both a physical and spiritual nature, such as stopping a plague, curing the blind, and bringing about conversions to Jesus Christ and His Church.

The Miraculous Medal made an unexpected appearance at this year's Olympic Games in Tokyo. As Hidilyn Diaz, an athlete from the Philippines, lifted her gold medal, she also held up the Miraculous Medal that she was wearing, as she acknowledged that her strength came from her faith, and from the love of Jesus and Mary.

If you would like a Miraculous Medal for yourself or your family, please speak to Fr Maurice when he is back. It is a wonderful testament to our faith and a powerful reminder of our Lady's help and love for us.

Donations via Bank Account

Please would the following people who make donations straight in to the bank account come into the office A Wallace, Mrs E O'Reilly, Camelia Salter and Mrs Moira D McClean. Thank you

Communion

Please remember as we are still trying to keep everyone safe when going up to communion please stay seated and wait for the steward to invite you, make sure you leave a space in front of you if the person in front is not a member of your group. Keep in mind some people are still unsure and would like some space so please give it to them.

Day of recollection

A day for Readers and Ministers of Holy Communion will be held in the parish on Saturday 20th November; more details to follow. Please put the date in your diary.

The Permanent Diaconate: a Ministry of Service

There will be a study day on 18th September from 10.00 to 2.30 at St John Payne Church, Colchester, for all those interested in knowing more about this ministry and meeting Bishop Alan and some of our diocesan deacons and students. Please see the poster at the back of the church or speak to Deacon Ken for more details.