

MASS INTENTIONS
Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year C)

Saturday 18 th December Fourth Sunday of Advent	6.30pm	Tommy Catwright
Sunday 19 th December – Fourth Sunday of Advent	9.00am	Repose of the Soul of deceased members of Melon's Family
	11am	Mick Shead (R.I.P)
Monday 20 th December – Feria	9.00am	Bill Shorey (R.I.P)
Tuesday 21 st December – Feria	9.00am	Kitty Byrnes (R.I.P)
Wednesday 22 nd December – Feria	9.00am	Teresa Desmond
Thursday 23 rd December – Feria	9.00am	Paul Kelleher (R.I.P)
Friday 24 th December	9.00am	Francis Nolan (R.I.P)
The Nativity of the Lord	6:30 pm	
Saturday 25 th December – Christmas Day	Midnight Mass Carols start at 11.30pm	All Parishioners
	9.00am	Paul Tolhurst
	11am	Dora Corry (R.I.P)
Sunday 26 th December – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	9.00am	Raphael & Lydia Akinwumi (Int)
	11am	Margaret & William McElligott (R.I.P)



ST ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER
 Langdale Gardens RM12 5LA
 PARISH PRIEST: Canon Maurice Gordon



Presbytery:
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 Fr. Joseph Farrell (Retired) – 2B, Langdale Gardens, RM12 5LA
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St Alban's Primary School
 Heron Flight Avenue, RM12 5LN
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Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year C)
18th & 19th December 2021

In our reading today and in our thoughts, we are encouraged to spend time in waiting with Mary. She will help us in a real way to prepare for the feast of Christmas. Let us turn to her. Christ came more readily to those who had most need of him and this is to the unfortunate, the sinful, the destitute – those who were empty. Let us come to him in our sinfulness and emptiness and allow him to fill us with his love.

CHRISTMAS DAY – 25th of December 2021

We gather today to celebrate the birth of the Saviour. Jesus was born into a world very much like our own – a world torn apart by wars and rumours of wars, a world of suffering and of want. He came on the side of the poor and the lowly rather than on that of the rich and powerful. On this Christmas Day, let us open our hearts to welcome him and to share that joy and love with one another.

PRAYER

Give us Lord Jesus, the eyes of children, to see your birth with Christmas wonder. Help us to share in the songs of the angels, the gladness of the Shepherds and the worship of the Wise Men: close the door on hate, and open the door of love, all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift, and blessings with every greeting. Deliver us from evil, by the blessings Christ brings, and teach us to be joyful with clean hearts. **Amen**

This will be last newsletter until the 8th January 2022. A list of Masses for over the Christmas and New Year period can be found at the back of the Church and on the church website.

God Bless and Keep Safe,
Canon Maurice

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

Greta Anglim, Nell Addison, Paul & Eva Au, Michael Balfour, Doreen Banister, John Barry, William Bradbury, Vincent Brady, Rob Brown, Rose Cahill, John Carty, 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, Maisie Glennon, Maureen Gorham, Kevin Harty, Bernadette Heddle, Peter Hemsley, Ellen Hurley, Mathew John, Jenny Jones, Julia Joseph, Kathleen Kavanagh, Stuart Keen, Ann Kelly, Francesca Kelly, Neil Kelly, Baby Stephen Kelly, George Kiparrisi, Mary Lynes, Siobhan McKeon, Norah McLoughlin, Matthew Milnar, John Morrison, Jim Nolan, Brian Nash, Ivan Opoku-Agyemang, Baby Teegan Oakley, Cecilia O'Connor, Vincent Okolo, Dean Partleton, Teresa Pitman, Baby Teddy Rands, Jennie Reddy, Rosetta Reehill, Nellie Ringrose, Dorothy Ryan, Mary Sayers, Marina Scarff, Teresa Shorey, John Sinclair, Charles Stimpson, Crystal Stimpson, Theresa Wiseman, Elizabeth Wyles, Jay Spencer, Clara Yankey, Samuel, Nti Barulis and Tim Keane.

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.

Sacrament of reconciliation

Canon Maurice and Father Joseph will be able for confession from Monday the 20th up to and including Christmas Eve.

Confirmation Programme

The next meeting will take place on the 8th January 2022 from 4.00-6.30pm

Baptism Course: The next Baptism course will take place on Saturday, 8th of January in the Parish Hall at 9am. For further information, please contact Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277 to register.

St Albans School Parish Choir

We are inviting all pupils from year 4 upwards to join our School Parish Choir. Michelle will lead this choir so please do join her upstairs in the Choir Loft at 10:50am each Sunday.

Toddler Group

A toddler group has now started every Thursday in the Sacristy between 10-11am - all parents are welcome. Please share this news with your friends and newcomers to the parish – spread the good news on any of your social media accounts! If you need any more information, please call Maria on 07751 236262. Email:

stalbanstoddler@yahoo.com

Christmas Masses

A Christmas card will be given out to all Parishioners at all Masses this weekend. This will include details of the Mass times over the Christmas period. It will be available on the church website as well. <https://www.stalbansrccchurch.uk>

RIP

Please pray for James Sullivan who died recently, his funeral will take place on 22nd December at 3.20pm at South Essex Crematorium. Please pray for Michael Kelly who also died recently, his body will be received into the Church at 5pm on the 29th December and his Requiem Mass will take place on the 30th December at 11am. Bridget Barius sadly died recently, her body will be received into the Church on the 4th January at 4pm, and her Requiem Mass will take place on the 5th January 2022 at 11am. Terence O'Hea also died recently and his funeral will take place at South Essex Crematorium on the 11th January 2022 at 11.20am. May they rest in peace.

School Holidays

St Albans Primary School has finished now for the Christmas holidays – we wish them all of God's blessings for Christmas and the New Year. School returns on 4th January 2022.

Synodal Pathway

We have launched our Synodal Pathway Journey Together. We will be saying our Synodal prayer at every Mass from now on. On the 8th & 9th January, we will be giving out questions to all parishioners to help us to respond to Bishop Alan's letter so that we have the views of all of our parishioners as we reflect on how our church can be more effective in proclaiming the Good News. Later, on 23rd January, we will have a meeting of the whole parish where we will feed back our views as we listen to each others thoughts to amalgamate our response to the Bishop.

Bible Study prayer group:

_St Albans' Parish Bible Study/Prayer Group Meeting, every Sunday at 3pm. Please contact Agnes Umana on 07852139881 or by email: agnesumana@googlemail.com You can join the meeting via Zoom on **Meeting ID:** 596 277 8569

Passcode: biblestudy

Youth 2000 NEW year retreat:

Join Youth 2000 at Trinity Catholic High School in Woodford Green. It will be a weekend filled with fun, friendship, inspiring talks and, of course, lots of praise as we welcome in 2022. The retreat will run from Friday 31st December - Sunday 2nd January 2022. To book your space visit:

www.youth2000.org/new<<http://www.youth2000.org/new>>