

MASS INTENTIONS
Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C)

Saturday 26 th March – Feria	6.30pm	Peter Quinn
Sunday 27 th March – Fourth Sunday of Lent	9.00	People of the Parish
	11.00	Charles Ginty (R.I.P) Danny McLaughan
Monday 28 th March – Feria	9.00am	Salvatore Spadafora (R.I.P)
Tuesday 29 th March – Feria	9.00am	James Driver (R.I.P)
Wednesday 30 th March – Feria	9.00am	Virginia & Ricardo (Int)
Thursday 31 st March – Feria	9.00am	Anne Kelly (R.I.P)
Friday 1 st April – Feria	9.00am	Helen Ging (R.I.P)
Saturday 2 nd April – Feria	9.00am	Mary O'Brian (Int)

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year C)

Saturday 2 nd April – Feria	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 3 rd April – Fifth Sunday of Lent	9.00	Barry McManus
	11.00	Bernie Fennessy & Family

Reflections for this week on Ukraine: (Prayer for end of the war)

Forgive us for war, O Lord. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us sinners! Lord Jesus, born in the shadows of bombs falling on Kyiv, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, who died in a mother's arms in a bunker in Kharkiv, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, a 20-year-old sent to the frontlines, have mercy on us! Lord Jesus, who still beholds armed hands in the shadows of your Cross, have mercy on us! Forgive us, if we continue like Cain to pick up the stones of our fields to kill Abel. Illumine our consciences; May our will not be done; Abandon us not to our own actions! Stop us, O Lord, stop us! And when you have held back the hand of Cain, care also for him. He is our brother. O Lord, put a halt to the violence! Stop us, O Lord! –
Pope Francis



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



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Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C)
26th & 27th March 2022

Few fans gather outside the dressing room of a defeated team. Once beaten, the team are 'out' of the competition and the fans can be unmerciful. Students who succeed in exams are 'in' favour; those who fail are 'out' of favour. Those of us who succeed in keeping our sins secret are 'in' – in public favour, those whose wrong-doing becomes known find themselves 'outside' the fold. Such are the 'ins' and the 'outs' of everyday life. Yet, this pattern does not accord with the ways of a fabulous father who had two sons. Without glorifying failure, he brought 'in' the one who had strayed. (Sadly, the son who did well locked himself 'out' from Love).

God welcomes the prodigal, you, and me, not because of our virtue, merits, or achievements, but simply because we are his. God is represented as waiting for the child, as though he had no other interest, recognising him even when still a long way off, rushing out to meet him, apparently not hearing his confession of guilt. In prayer, meet and feel this welcome to you. What response do you want to make?

The elder brother represents the Pharisee in us, the God-the-judge part of us, which resents God's generosity to any who do not reach our standards of respectability and correctness. The Pharisee relishes his moral superiority. It is this attitude which has turned so many people away from the Church; single parents, divorced people, alcoholics, AIDS sufferers – the very people whom God, the shepherd, pursues, who rejoices in them when they are found.

Prayer: Lord, lover of all your creation, cleanse our minds and hearts of all false images of you. Show us your love of us, so that we may mirror your welcome to everyone we encounter. We ask you this through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

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, Denis Doherty, Gerry Dique, Rose Dique, Charlotte Dudenney, Dylan Dunbar, Nancy Donovan, Ann Dunn, James Francis, Maisie Glennon, Maureen Gorham, Kevin Harty, Bernadette Heddle, Peter Hemsley, Ellen Hurley, Mathew John, Christine Johnson, Jenny Jones, Julia Joseph, Kathleen Kavanagh, Stuart Keen, 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, Julia Thomas, Theresa Wiseman, Elizabeth Wyles, Jay Spencer and Clara Yankey. For those we know and the many we do not know, we pray to the Lord

Beginning Experience Weekend

If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 8th to 10th April 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

Confirmation Programme

The next meeting will take place next Saturday the 2nd of April 2022 from 4.00-6.30pm.

Baptism Course: The next Baptism course will take place on 9th of April in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

First Holy Communion Programme

The next session will take place Thursday 21st April at 7pm. The children will meet in the hall and parents to meet in the Church, as usual, for their session. It is important that parents attend as well as the children to help you in your faith so that you in turn, will help your children and help you to be more confident in your faith.

Journey in Faith Programme (RCIA) The R.C.I.A programme continues every Monday at 7.30pm in the Presbytery. Anyone interested in joining the church or learning more about the faith is welcome to come along.

Stations of the Cross: This will be held at St Albans next Friday 1st April at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of James O'Keefe who died recently. His funeral will take place tomorrow, the 28th of March at 1pm at the Upminster cemetery. May he rest in peace.

TODAY IS MOTHER'S DAY:

Our prayers and best wishes go out to all Mums, past and present. Thank you all for being you. May Mary, our Heavenly mother be with you all.

Chrism Mass

Please note that this year the Chrism Mass will be held at Brentwood Cathedral on the 13th April at 11am. A coach will leave the Parish at 09.30am. A list will go up at the back of the Church for those wishing to go along, everyone is welcome at no expense. There will be no morning Mass at St Albans that day.

Right To Life UK

As we celebrate Mothering Sunday, we pray for all mothers who are pregnant. We pray for an overwhelming sense of hope and joy to fill their lives, and for increased support to be given by their family, friends, and local communities, as they journey through this life-changing experience.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes this Summer

Bishop Alan will lead the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 24-29th July, a time to pray at the Grotto of Our Lady and enjoy the opportunities of this experience. The pilgrimage team includes a doctor and nurses, for those who need assistance. For those with limited mobility, there will be many young people on hand to assist with wheelchairs. It is a wonderful week, Canon Maurice will be attending and if you would like to go, you can book online at www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood. For further information, please phone Cathy O'Connor on 01206 735623.

Headteacher Vacancy

St Alban's Catholic Primary School, Hornchurch. Required from 1st September 2022. Group 2: L11 – L17 (starting salary based on experience). NOR: 210 (1 form entry). The Governors of St Alban's Catholic Primary School are seeking to appoint an inspirational and dedicated Head Teacher from September 2022, due to our long-standing Head Teacher retiring. St Alban's is a caring, friendly school and community where our Catholic Ethos is central to all that we do. Our new Head Teacher will work with governors to shape the strategic direction of the school and will be responsible for the day-to-day leadership and management of St Alban's. Deadline for applications: **12:00 noon on 19th April 2022.** For further information please contact School Business Manager Katrina Arrowsmith at contact@st-albans.havering.sch.uk, or call the office Tel: 01708 555644 for an application pack or to arrange a mutually agreed date and time to visit.