

MASS INTENTIONS
Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Saturday 3 rd September – St Gregory the Great	6.30pm	Nell Addison
Sunday 4 th September – Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am 11.00am	Denis Doherty People of the Parish
Monday 5 th September – Feria	11.00am	Requiem Mass for Cecilia Desmond
Tuesday 6 th September – Feria	9.00am	Ann O'Connor (R.I.P)
Wednesday 7 th September – Feria	9.00am	Patricia Kathleen North (R.I.P)
Thursday 8 th September – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00am	Teresa Brewty – 60 th Wedding Anniversary
Friday 9 th September – Feria	9.00am	Siobhan & Peter (Family Int)
Saturday 10 th September – Feria	9.00am	Eileen Rennie (Int)

Twenty fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Saturday 10 th September – Feria	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 11 th September – Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am 11.00am	Alan Palmer (R.I.P) Helen Byrne & Family

Reflection for this week: A sacrament is an event when Christ meets us and we meet him. When you come to think of it, the present moment can be a meeting point between God and us. It is only “now”, in the present moment, that we meet him, here and now. Some people spend a lot of time looking back on their lives, others spend time daydreaming about the future, but the important moment is “now”. In any present moment we can meet God. At any moment we can just think about God and send a quick message up to him. It may be a fleeting thought or a word spoken. For instance, I can just say “I am trying to love you”, or “please help me”, or “I am sorry about this or that”. The present moment is always precious. Like a sacrament, it is a meeting point between God and ourselves. – **Basil Hume**



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



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Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)
3rd & 4th September 2022

The Gospel today calls us to check out how our discipleship is being lived. Is God centre-stage in my life? In my Parish?

The reading presents us with a series of sayings on what the demands of a life of discipleship involves in terms of suffering and self-sacrifice. The life to be lead and the conditions laid down are anything but easy: you give God everything and hold nothing back. Whole-hearted service is demanded and there is no room for compromise. The price to be paid is the heavy burden of the cross. ‘To be a follower is to be discipline in the ways of Jesus. It is an active decision to get to know Jesus better. This is not going to come cheap. It comes at a cost. Dietrich Bonhoeffer in his book ‘The Cost of Discipleship’ says that cheap grace is grace without the cross. Discipleship will make demands. It will demand our time, our possessions, our energy and our true selves. As our Gospel points out today, it could make demands on family life, friends, cause us discomfort or even pain. While suffering is not the goal of discipleship, it may be the price for being a follower of Jesus.

PRAYER Lord God, you call us to commit ourselves fully to your kingdom. Grant us the strength, courage and perseverance we need to answer your call. We make these and all our prayers through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

God Bless and Keep Safe,
Canon Maurice

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

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, Desmond family, Denis Doherty, Gerry Dique, Rose Dique, Charlotte Dudenney, Dylan Dunbar, Nancy Donovan, Ann Dunn, Margaret Dumbrill John Finan, James Francis, Anna Gawlik, 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, Baby Stephen Kelly, George Kiparrisi, Mary Lynes, Siobhan McKeon, Norah McLoughlin, Gladys McQuaid, Matthew Milnar, John Morriseon, 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, Theresa Carty, Jay Spencer, Baby Sophie Geary, Irene (Evelyn's sister) and Clara Yankey. For those we know and the many we do not know, we pray to the Lord

PARISH FINANCES

27th & 28th August

Loose
£468.26

Envelopes
£298.50

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.

Right to Life

Tomorrow, we celebrate the feast of St Mother Teresa of Calcutta, patron saint of the pro-life movement. We ask for her intercession as we the church seek to support all pregnant mothers through their pregnancies, and that, like her, we would become models of support and charity to all in society.

Toddler Group

A toddler group takes place every Thursday and Friday in the Hall between 10-11:30am - 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

St Alban's School

We hope that all staff and pupils had a blessed and restful break. They return to school this Monday 5th September, and we ask God's blessing for the coming academic year.

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Cecilia Desmond whose funeral will take place this Monday, 5th September at 11am. Also pray for the soul of Raymond Monie whose Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 20th September at 1pm. May they rest in peace.

Confirmation 2022/2023

The Confirmation course for 2022/2023 will begin in early October, it is open to young people from Year 10 upwards. Application forms will be available at the back of the Church from next Sunday 11th September. These forms will need to be returned to the presbytery by 25th September.

First Holy Communion 2022-2023

Applications are now available at the back of the Church. If your child is in Year 4 or above and you want them to receive Holy Communion, please take an application form and return it by 25th September 2022. There will be a meeting for all of the parents on the 25th of September at 4.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Journey in Faith Programme (RCIA)- Anyone who wishes to know more about the basics of the Faith or is interested in joining the Church is invited to the weekly sessions which commences on Monday 3rd October at 7:30pm in the Presbytery. Any Parishioner who wishes to support this group, is also invited to come along.

Vocations Group

We begin our monthly vocations group to help those who would like to learn more about a possible vocation to the Priesthood. The sessions take place at St Edmund of Canterbury Church, 9 Traps Hill, Loughton, IG10 1SZ – the first session will take place this Tuesday 6th September at 7.00pm. The talk this Tuesday will be given by Bishop Alan.

Baptism Course: The next Baptism course will take place on 8th October in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow 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 helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 13 - 16 October 2022 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk