

MASS INTENTIONS
First Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Saturday 26 th November – First Sunday of Advent	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 27 th November – First Sunday of Advent	9.00am	James Driver (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Jean Smith (R.I.P)
Monday 28 th November – Feria	9.00am	Vasilij Travkin (R.I.P)
Tuesday 29 th November – Feria	9.00am	Rev Fr Martin Orme (R.I.P)
Wednesday 30 th November – St Andrew	9.00am	Fr Kieran Dodd (R.I.P)
Thursday 1 st December– Feria	9.00am	Salvatore Spadafora (Int)
Friday 2 nd December – Feria	9.00am	Holy Souls
Saturday 3 rd December – St Francis Xavier	9.00am	Philip Hyde (R.I.P)

Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Saturday 3 rd December – Second Sunday of Advent	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 4 th December – Second Sunday of Advent	9.00am	Teresa Jarrold
	11.00am	Intentions of the Driver family

Reflections for the week: Christ has no body now, but yours. No hands, no feet on earth, but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks compassion into the world. Yours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which Christ blesses the world. – **St Teresa of Avila**

Pope's Intention for the Month: We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Times for reconciliation:

- Saturday mornings from 9:30-10:30am
- Saturday evenings from 5:30-6:15pm

Confessions are available on request when Father Maurice is available, and Father Joseph is also available.



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



Presbytery:

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Parish Deacon: Rev. Ken Carleton

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Fr. Joseph Farrell (Retired) – 2B, Langdale Gardens, RM12 5LA

Tel: 01708459709

St Alban's Primary School
Heron Flight Avenue, RM12 5LN
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Angela – Gift Aid Organiser
Mobile: 07510 243188
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First Sunday of Advent (Year A)
26th & 27th November 2022

The new Church Year begins with Jesus' words urging his disciples to live their lives in the certain knowledge that he will come again. As we begin to focus on his first coming as a human being, we ask the Lord to open our hearts to welcome him and his message, to renew our hope, to work through us, to bring his peace, his love and his vision to our world. Vigilance is a key element in our expectation; however, it is a vigilance made visible in a truly Christian life of sacrifice and concern. May this advent keep us alert and open to His light in living out our Christian life.

The Advent Wreath

It was in the western Church that the tradition of the Advent wreath grew. It celebrates the coming of eternal Light into a world "sitting in the darkness and the shadow of death" (LK 1:78). This brightly round wreath expresses our conviction that Christ will always come into the world as its true light.

Symbolism of the Wreath

The circular shape symbolizes the coming of the Lord, in the past in flesh, in the present in grace, in the future in glory. The evergreens are a sign of our hope for salvation. Green is the Church's colour for hope. We are reminded of the everlasting life and love that comes to us from God through Jesus Christ. The candles (three purple and one rose coloured) are the Light, which "shines in the darkness", coming progressively as each week another candle is lit. The purple candles (for the 1st, 2nd and 4th weeks) symbolize repentance and conversion, clearing away the mountains and filling in the valleys. The rose-coloured candle (3rd week, formerly it was Gaudete Sunday) is a sign of our joy that the Lord is always near.

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 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, 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:

19th & 20th November

Loose

£473.22

Envelopes

£336.02

School Reception Forms for September 2023:

Father Maurice will be available to sign school forms this Sunday 27th November from 5pm-7pm and again on this Monday 28th November from 6-7pm. These are the only dates Father will be available to sign these forms.

Confirmation 2022/2023:

Next Confirmation session will take place on next Saturday 3rd of December at 4pm.

First Holy Communion 2022-2023:

The next session for the first Holy communion will be on this Thursday 1st December at 7pm. Parents will meet in the church and the children will meet in the Parish Hall. On next 3rd December at 11am we are having our first Reconciliation for this year's First Holy Communion children. All parents are invited to celebrate as well.

Altar Servers Training:

The next training session for the altar servers will be held on Saturday the 10th of December 2022 from 4-6pm.

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 take place on Mondays at 7:30pm in the Presbytery. Any Parishioner who wishes to support this group, is also invited to come along.

Baptism Course: The next Baptism course will take place on Saturday the 10th of December in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

50th Anniversary Mass:

Bishop Alan will be coming to celebrate Mass at St Albans to mark the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the school. This Mass will take place at 11:30 on this Wednesday 30th November. We welcome past members of staff and past pupils to join us in celebrating Mass on that day.

Nigerian Mass:

There is a Nigerian Mass every first Sunday of the Month in our parish. The next monthly Mass will take place on next Sunday the 4th of December at 2pm. All are welcome.

Right to Life:

As we ponder the hope found in the second coming of our saviour, we pray for all those in need of hope. We pray especially for those contemplating having an abortion, that they would be reminded of the hope God brings and His fundamental desire for our good. We also pray that, as a society, we would become channels of God's hope, providing support to all pregnant women

We invite you to join our parish choir

Our Parish Choir that sings at 9.00 am Mass every Sunday needs new singers to join in and add strength to its singing. We invite and welcome parishioners of any age - female or male - who would be interested in becoming part of the Choir, to please contact the Choir Leader Nigel D'Souza after the 9.00 am Mass on Sunday, to express your interest and find out more about the commitment you need to make, and how you could contribute to making the Mass more meaningful through praising our Lord in song. Alternately, you could also give Nigel a call on 07904900815 and have a discussion with him.

Brentwood Diocesan Directory

These are now available in the repository priced at £2.95, ring bound copies are also available priced at £4.15.

Job Vacancies

St Peter's Catholic School in Billericay are looking for a Receptionist/Admin Assistant. The closing date is Midday on next Friday 2nd December. For more information, please visit <http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=82349>

Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall Manager – St Mary & St Helen and Holy Cross - The successful applicant will ideally have administration experience and be able to demonstrate good numeracy skills. Excellent communication skills is also a requirement and Microsoft office skills, including Word and Excel and financial experience. Hours: 3 hours per week. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com. Closing date for applications is 16 December 2022. Job description: [Cathedral Parish Halls Manager – Brentwood JD](#) (full job description is contained on www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us).

Repository

Only weeks to Christmas, your repository shop has a selection of Christmas cards/scented candles/calendars/roseries/crosses/missals/bracelets/reed diffusers etc.. all at reasonable prices. If you are still unable to get to the church, ring me and I will deliver any items needed. Liz Preston 01708 525186.