

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)**

Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	6.30pm	Lydia & Raphael Akinwumi – Wedding Anniversary
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	9.00am	Terry O’Hea (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Luis Gaca
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December– Feria	9.00am	Tom McManus (Birthday Int)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December – Feria	9.00am	Margaret (Peggy) North (R.I.P)
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December – Feria	9.00am	Helen Ging
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December – Feria	9.00am	Rose Hunter (R.I.P)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December – Feria	9.00am	Barbara Carter (R.I.P)
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December – Feria	9.00am	Brian Dickinson (R.I.P)

**The Nativity of the Lord (Year A)**

Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>	6.30pm	Frances Nolan (R.I.P)
	12.00pm	Dora Corry (R.I.P)
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>	9.00am	Paul Tolhurst (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Rob Brown

**Reflections for the week:** Have you ever done something that you are deeply ashamed of? Are you embarrassed or anxious about something which causes you great upset and loss of sleep? Have you ever had this thought: ‘I must go to confession’? Believe it or not, this is a work of grace, it is God’s gentle light leading us towards mercy and healing. The Holy Spirit nudges and moves us towards the fount of mercy and forgiveness. A guilty or troubled conscience is a sign of God’s mercy. When we are sensitive to these interior movements of grace we want to go to the Sacrament of Confession and receive God’s mercy and healing.

“For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless.”  
**Psalms 71(72):12**

“Give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins”  
**Matthew 1:18-24**

Father, through the Sacrament of Mercy may I come to a new awareness of the depth of your love, forgiveness and mercy. **Amen**

**Times for reconciliation for Christmas will take place after all the Masses this Sunday and during the week.**



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



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Parish Website: <https://www.stalbansrcchurch.uk>  
Fr. Joseph Farrell (Retired) – 2B, Langdale Gardens, RM12 5LA  
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St Alban’s Primary School  
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**Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)**  
**17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Dear Friends,

In the fuss of Christmas business, let us take time to thank God for his blessings and turn to him for light in our darkness. The circle of the Advent wreath is now complete. Four candles are lighting.

In the Liturgies of the last few weeks, the Church has been calling us to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. He came on earth so that we might be free to become what we were created to be: Children of God. In his life is our life.

Let us acknowledge our sinfulness, which blocks the God of hope entering our lives. This week we have an opportunity to take time to look at our attitudes and actions and ask if they hinder the work of justice and peace. What values do I have? This weekend there will be ample opportunity to be reconciled with God and neighbour in the Sacrament of Reconciliation after each Mass. Let us not pass over God’s gift of hope to us.

**PRAYER:** Eternal God, in the psalms of David, in the words of the prophets, in the dream of Joseph your promise is spoken. At last, in the womb of the Virgin Mary your Word takes flesh. Teach us to welcome Jesus, the promised Emmanuel, and to preach the good news of his coming, that every age may know him as the source of redemption and grace. We ask this through him who’s coming is certain, whose day draws near: Jesus 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 Dumbrell 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, Vicky Loik, Mary Lynes, Siobhan McKeon, Norah McLoughlin, Gladys McQuaid, Matthew Milnar, John Morrison, Jim Nolan, Brian Nash, Iivan Opoku-Agyemang, Baby Teegan Oakley, Cecilia O'Connor, Vincent Okolo, Dean Partleton, Teresa Pitman, Michelle Pointer, 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, 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:**

10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> December

**Loose**

£452.28

**Envelopes**

£370.05

**Confirmation 2022/2023:**

Next Confirmation session will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023, at 4pm.

**First Holy Communion 202-2023:**

The next session for the first Holy Communion will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Parents will meet in the church and the children will meet 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 take place on Mondays at 7:30pm in the Presbytery. The last session before Christmas will take place on this Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> December and then we will return on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023. 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 14<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

**Advent Celebration – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Our Advent celebration service will take place Today 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 6.30pm. All are welcome.

**Feast of St Stephen:** On December the 26<sup>th</sup> is the feast of St Stephen the Patron saint of Altar servers. All the servers are invited to attend this Mass at 10am. Some will be presented with St Stephen's medal.

**Right to Life:**

Last Monday, we commemorated the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We ask for the intercession of this patroness of the unborn, saying: 'Let us *implore the gift of children for families without children, respect for conceived life and the openness of hearts to Gospel values*

**Deputy Headteacher Vacancy - Our Lady and St George's Primary School,**

**Walthamstow** Salary: L11-L15 (£57,436 - £62,926) Outer London. Contract:

Permanent/Open to job share. Starting: April 2023. Our Lady and St George's Primary is a highly respected and successful Catholic school. The Governors invite applications from experienced, enthusiastic and suitably qualified practising Catholic leaders to play a key role in building on the success of our friendly school. Prospective candidates are warmly encouraged to visit the school. For more information or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office on 02085208500 or email [office@olschool.org](mailto:office@olschool.org) Closing Date: **12 noon 16th January 2023** Shortlisting: 23rd January 2023 Formal Interviews: 3rd February 2023

**General Assistant – East London:** The role is to support the day to day running of a charity.

The successful applicant will require administration experience and be able to demonstrate excellent communication skills. Microsoft office skills, including Word and Excel are also a requirement. Hours: Full time – 35 hours per week – 3-year contract. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter to [HR@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:HR@dioceseofbrentwood.org) Closing date for applications is 29<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Job description: General Assistant – East London (full job description is contained on [www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us)).

**Repository**

Only one week 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.

**Christmas Cards**

Please take a copy (or copies if you would like to pass one on to a neighbour or someone else) of the Christmas Card home as this contains all of the times for the Masses over the Christmas period.

**St Albans School**

Our School finishes this Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December for our children and returns on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023. We wish all our teachers, staffs and parents all of God's blessings during this Christmas season and we pray for our school as Mrs Gail McBride takes over as our new headteacher as we begin the New Year 2023. We thank Mrs Parker the acting headteacher for leading our school from September to December. We wish her all of God's blessings for her future happiness and wellbeing. We also thank Miss Hollie Westmore and Mrs Zammit for their dedication to our school over the years and we wish Hollie all the best in her new school. She will be greatly missed.

**St Peter's Primary school Billericay:**

We are yet to fulfil the vacancy of Receptionist/Administration Assistant position that has become available at our school.

<http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=83083>

Closing date is Midday on 6th January 2023.