

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

Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	6.30pm	Canon Maurice Gordon (Thanksgiving)
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	9.00am	Bernardita Baradas Azores (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December– Feria	9.00am	Brigid Barulis (R.I.P)
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>St Lucy</b>	9.00am	Thanksgiving Prigo family
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December – <b>St John of the Cross</b>	9.00am	Michael Kelly (R.I.P)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December – Feria	9.00am	Terry O’Hea (R.I.P)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December – Feria	9.00am	Tom McManus (Int)
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> December – Feria	9.00am	Priscilla – Thanksgiving

**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

**Reflections for the week:** Advent is the time of great desiring. We long for God to tear open the heavens and come to save us. Restless and troubled, we long for peace; in the darkness and confusion that surrounds us, we long for light; fearful and anxious, we long for courage; weighed down by sorrow, we long for joy; faced with the bleakness of life in today’s world – poverty, injustice, wars, pandemics – we beg for comfort. For our lack of compassion for people in need, for our failure to acknowledge the damage we are doing to the earth, we seek mercy. If moments of quietness are woven through the weeks of Advent, we will hear the voice of God, speaking gently, leading us out of the darkness, and when Christmas comes, we will see that the Kingdom of God is in our midst. – **Sister Teresa White**

**Times for reconciliation:**

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

Confessions are also 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:**

**1 Ullswater Way, Elm Park, RM12 5JX**  
**Tel: 01708451449**

[parishoffice@stalbansrcchurch.uk](mailto:parishoffice@stalbansrcchurch.uk)

**Parish Deacon: Rev. Ken Carleton**

[kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**Mob: 07971 544921**

**Parish Website: <https://www.stalbansrcchurch.uk>**

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

**Tel: 01708459709**

**St Alban’s Primary School**  
**Heron Flight Avenue, RM12 5LN**  
**Tel: 01708 555644**

**Angela – Gift Aid Organiser**  
**Mobile: 07510 243188**  
**Safeguarding Representatives**  
**Mobile: 07544 842677**

**Third Sunday of Advent (Year A)**  
**10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Dear Friends,

Waiting is associated with inconvenience, frustration, annoyance. We can see that very much at this time of year when everyone is rushing about. The second reading speaks of the patience of a farmer, who faithfully does his job, and sows the seed, but is then compelled to wait for the crop to emerge. St James compares this to the coming of the Lord. The prophets of the Old Testament longed for and foretold the coming of Christ, but the world had to wait, and most of the prophets did not live to see this with their own eyes.

The first reading describes what Christ came to do. It speaks of a desert bursting into bloom, the eyes of the blind being opened, the ears of the deaf cleared, the lame leaping and the mute singing. Christ came to transform the world and put right what was wrong. He came to restore creation after the fall, which should never have happened, but did happen, due to man’s pride, causing disharmony. But now, after much waiting and longing, Jesus comes to amend the destruction and disharmony, and through His power, there is no situation that cannot be restored.

Like the farmer, we do our bit and we try to open ourselves to God and to wait. But we must not lose heart, the first reading says ‘to all faint hearts: courage! Do not be afraid.

**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, Vicky Loik, Mary Lynes, Siobhan McKeon, Norah McLoughlin, Gladys McQuaid, Matthew Milnar, John Morriseon, 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:**

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> December

**Loose**

£547.17

**Envelopes**

£326.89

**Confirmation 2022/2023:**

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

**First Holy Communion 2022-2023:**

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.

**Altar Servers Training:**

The next training session for the altar servers will be held on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> 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 next Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> of January in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

**Right to Life:**

On Thursday, we celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Like the Blessed Virgin Mary, God has lovingly and specially prepared a mission for each of us. Let us pray that all unborn children would be welcomed and cherished so that they, too, may set out to fulfil the mission the Lord has planned for them.

**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.

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

This year's Advent celebration service will take place next 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 6.30pm.

**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**

**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

**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](mailto: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](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us)).

**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 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 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.