

MASS INTENTIONS
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Saturday 18 th February – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Laura O'Dwyer (R.I.P)
Sunday 19 th February – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am	Charles Stimpson (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)
Monday 20 th February – Feria	9.00am	Father Jeremy Davies (R. I.P)
Tuesday 21 st February – Feria	9.00am	Father Peter Edwards (R.I.P)
Wednesday 22 nd February – Ash Wednesday	9.00am	Dorothy O'Sullivan (R.I.P)
	7:30pm	Holy Souls
Thursday 23 rd February – Thursday after Ash Wednesday	9.00am	James Brewty (R.I.P)
Friday 24 th February – Friday after Ash Wednesday	9.00am	Jenny Kerr (R.I.P)
Saturday 25 th February – Saturday after Ash Wednesday	9.00am	Thanksgiving

First Sunday of Lent (A)

Saturday 25 th February – First Sunday of Lent	6.30pm	Rakiya Charles (Int)
Sunday 26 th February – First Sunday of Lent	9.00am	Bernard & Margaret Hughes (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Cynthia Bernabe (Int)

Journey of Prayer for Lent 2023

Walk With Me booklets are available at the back of the Church £1 each please take one. This could be a help for us in our meditation in this season of Lent in preparation for Easter



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



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Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)
18th & 19th February 2023

Dear Friends,

In today's Gospel Christ says to us 'Love your enemies' We tend to take these words with a pinch of salt, as if they were meant for the saints, not for us. But they are meant for us. We all have some enemies. Let us think how we treat them, Christ tells us we must not destroy our enemies but love them. Once when someone asked Lincoln why he didn't destroy his enemies he said 'do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?'

ASH WEDNESDAY: 22nd February – the beginning of Lent is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. Times of Masses are 9.00am & 7.30pm. There will be a service held at St. Albans school at 2pm, all parents are welcome. We begin our preparation for Easter. Lent is a great opportunity to come close to the Lord. It is a time of repentance, taking stock of ourselves. We have fallen short but we have the chance to look again at our lives and how we live them. The key words for Lent should be Change of Heart, Repentance, Forgiveness, Prayer and Reconciliation.

To help in our Lenten journey, we have the Stations of the Cross beginning this Friday in our Church at 7.30pm This year we are joining with our brothers and sisters from St Nicholas' in our Meditation. In the Spirit of Ecumenism, there will be Stations of the Cross on alternate Fridays in St Albans and St Nicholas beginning here, as mentioned, this Friday at 7.30pm. Also we have Mass at St Albans's Primary School every Friday during Lent at 8.15am, parents and families are welcome.

***Take care, God bless,
 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, Rose Cahill, John Carty, Sarah Content, Maureen Daly, Katherine Day, 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, Jenny Jones, Julia Joseph, Kathleen Kavanagh, Stuart Keen, Francesca Kelly, Baby Stephen Kelly, Vicky Loik, Mary Lynes, Amaogechi Mbanu, 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, Michelle Pointer, Baby Teddy Rands, Jennie Reddy, Rosetta Reehill, Dorothy Ryan, Mary Sayers, Marina Scarff, Alan Stokes, 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:

12th & 13th February

Loose

£572.86

Envelopes

£368.28

First Holy Communion 2022-2023:

The next session for the first Holy Communion will be this Thursday 23rd February 2023 at 7pm. 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. 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 11th of March 2023 in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023

The annual diocesan pilgrimage led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Monday 24th Saturday 29th July. All are welcome, including those who need assistance. Details regarding booking will follow soon.

Right to Life

As we approach Ash Wednesday and the season of prayer, penance and alms-giving, let us pray for those who need special Heavenly protection, like the unemployed, the aged and infirm, widows and orphans, and mothers expecting babies.

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service Summer Lourdes 2023

Applications are now open for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes from 23rd-30th July 2023. Open to anyone in year 10 and above; info and applications at www.bcys.net/eventssl23.

There will be a meeting at 7pm on the 1st March for the Lourdes group and for all who are supporting them.

Rest in Peace:

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Nellie Ringrose who died recently. Her Requiem Mass will take place on 28th February at 9.30am. There will be no morning mass on this day. **May she Rest in Peace.**

Confirmation 2022/2023:

The next Confirmation session will take place on Saturday 4th March at 4pm.

Gardening Tools Needed

If anyone has any hand gardening tools that they could donate to St Albans Primary School, could they please bring them into the school office?

Job Vacancies

- Vacancy for Head of School at St John Fisher Catholic Primary, Loughton- Start date September 2023. Closing date for applications 27/2/23 For further information please visit - [Catholic Teachers Gazette \(ctgonline.co.uk\)](http://Catholic Teachers Gazette (ctgonline.co.uk))
- Headteacher – St Clare's Primary School, Clacton-on-Sea
Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon) on Monday 20th February 2023
- Headteacher – St Teresa's Primary School, Colchester
Deadline for applications: 9:00 am on Monday 27th February 2023

Parish Variety Show

We are hoping to have a St Patricks variety show in the parish hall on the 18th March at 7:30pm, this is to support our young people's Lourdes fund. More information will be given over the next few weeks.

Earthquakes in Turkey & Syria

Like so many charities and organisations, Caritas Diocese of Brentwood is here in solidarity with those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. **We have a webpage dedicated to ways that people can help, through prayer and financial donations.** All information is at: www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/earthquakes

Empowering Vulnerable Children Uganda - Appeal 25/26 February 2023

This Charity provides a future through education for some of the poorest children in the world. Judi Fawcett, the Founder and a Trustee will give a brief talk at all the Masses about their work. For further information please go to their website at <http://www.evcuganda.org>

Brentwood Cathedral Lent Lecture, "The pain, passion and privilege of supporting Christians who are suffering persecution" to be given by Baroness Caroline Cox at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday 1st March at 7.00 p.m. Free Entry. No need to book. All welcome.