

MASS INTENTIONS
Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Saturday 11 th March – Third Sunday of Lent	6.30pm	Tony Eastman (R.I.P)
Sunday 12 th March – Third Sunday of Lent	9.00am	Robin Brown (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Garry Honeyball (R.I.P)
Monday 13 th March – Feria	9.00am	Christine Johnson
Tuesday 14 th March – Feria	9.00am	John Moody (R.I.P)
Wednesday 15 th March – Feria	9.00am	Holy Souls
Thursday 16 th March – Feria	9.00am	Kathy Gill (Intentions)
Friday 17 th March – St Patrick	9.00am	Paddy & Michael Dear (R.I.P)
Saturday 18 th March – Feria	9.00am	Kathryn Turner (Intentions)

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)

Saturday 18 th March – Fourth Sunday of Lent	6.30pm	Jack Fadden
Sunday 19 th March – Fourth Sunday of Lent	9.00am	Alma O’Sullivan (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Robin Brown (R.I.P)

Reflection for the Week:

When an encounter with God is called as “ecstasy”, it is because it takes us outside of ourselves and raises us up, overwhelming us with God’s love and beauty. Yet we can also step outside of ourselves when we see the hidden beauty in other human beings, in their dignity and grandeur, how they have been made in the image of God and the Son. The Holy Spirit urges us to step outside of ourselves, embrace others with love and seek out their goodness. This is why it is always better to live in faith together, to show our love in a community, to share our affection, time and worries with other young people. The Church offers a wide range of opportunities for living one’s faith in community; together, everything is easier. – **Pope Francis**



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



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Third Sunday of Lent (Year A)
11th & 12th March 2023

Dear Friends,

When we have a need that is not met, it is easy to take out that frustration on someone – just as the Israelites, who desperately needed water in the wilderness, got angry with their leader, Moses, and used him as their scapegoat.

But, if we turn to God, we find help, though not always as obviously or dramatically as the Israelites did when they got water from a rock.

Living water is available to us, as it was to the Israelites and to the Samaritan woman at the well. If we wonder, “surely not for me; I’m not good enough” then we should remember that Jesus chose to reveal himself as Saviour, source of living water to a most unlikely person – a woman, with whom rabbis were not supposed to interact; a Samaritan, regarded as unclean by the Jews; and an immoral woman, who lived with enough shame that she came to the well when others would not be there, But Jesus offered to meet her deepest need, and continues to do the same for us, today.

Through him, we can have the greatest peace, share God’s glory and thrive on the love God pours into our hearts, like the water poured from the rock and the well.

PRAYER: Generous God, I open my heart to your love, poured in like refreshing water for my thirsty soul. Help me to pour out that love on to others. Amen

***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 Hedde, 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:

4th & 5th March

Loose

£645.08

Envelopes

£315.00

First Holy Communion 2022-2023:

The next session for the first Holy Communion will be on Thursday 23rd March 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.

Confirmation 2022/2023:

The next Confirmation session will take place on Saturday 1st April at 4pm.

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

Let us pray for new parents and grandparents, that they may manifest the love and mercy of God to their children and grandchildren.

Pastoral Care

If anybody is going into hospital and would like pastoral care, please contact Helen Marando on 01708 477890

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.

Parish Variety Show

Tickets are still on sale this weekend for the St Patricks variety show in the parish hall on the 18th March at 7:30pm. Tickets are £5 for adults and £3 for children (under 16s). This fundraiser is being held to support our young people's Lourdes fund. There are limited tickets available so please buy your tickets as soon as possible. This promises to be a great evening of entertainment.

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

Gidea Park Talk On The Holy Eucharist

On Wednesday 22nd March at 7 pm in the church hall at Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and Member of the Pope's Biblical Commission, will speak about the Eucharist. The talk, entitled *Do this in memory of me*, will examine the New Testament material, and trace the understanding of the Eucharist through the centuries, including the latest teaching of Pope Francis. This talk is in person, and can also be followed live stream by going to www.whatgoodnews.org

Diocese of Brentwood - Foundation Governor Vacancies

Vacancies for Foundation Governors have arisen at a number of Catholic schools across the Diocese and expressions of interests are being sought from practising committed Catholics for the ministry. The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment. Foundation Governors are personally appointed by the Bishop to Diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole. Our schools would benefit from people with a range of skills and experiences including Finance, Education, Special Needs, Legal and Administration. Anyone interested in the role and mission of Foundation Governor should not be put off by a lack of experience. Appropriate training is available during the period of service. If you are interested in becoming Foundation Governor please email your expression of interest to victoriabarnes@dioceseofbrentwood.org or call Victoria on Telephone: (01277) 265284

Job Vacancy

St Alban's Primary School are looking to appoint an experienced or qualified teacher to join our school from 1st of September 2023. The deadline for the application is 12pm (noon) on Friday 31st April 2023. Further information can be found on the school's website: www.stalbansschool.net

250 Club Winners

Winners of the 250 club are - L Schaberg, M Dwyer, B Coyle and G McQuaid – please see Father to collect your cheque. Congratulations.