

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter (A)**

Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> May – <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	6.30pm	David Evans (R.I.P)
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> May – <b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Patrick McLoughlan (R.I.P) Mary-Deirdre Brennan (R.I.P)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May– Feria	9.00am	Thanksgiving
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May– Feria	9.00am	James Sydney Watson (R.I.P)
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May– Feria	9.00am	Stephen & Celia Woolward (R.I.P)
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May– <b>St Bede the Venerable</b>	9.00am	Tom McManus (R.I.P)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – <b>St Philip Neri</b>	9.00am	Benedict Stell Swarnamali De Silve (R.I.P)
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> May– <b>St Augustine of Canterbury</b>	9.00am	George Mure-Ravaud (R.I.P)

**Pentecost Sunday (A)**

Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – <b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	6.30pm	Barry McManus (R.I.P)
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> May – <b>Pentecost Sunday</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Mary Bates Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)

**Thought for the Week:**

**Silence** – I urge you to cultivate silence. In this age, we talk, we talk...Silence. Especially before the celebrations – a moment that is at times taken for social gathering. We talk: 'Ah, how are you? Is everything going well? Why not?'. Silence helps the assembly and concelebrants to concentrate on what is to be done. Often sacristies are noisy before and after celebrations, but silence opens and prepares for the mystery: it is silence that enables you to prepare for the mystery, it permits its assimilation, and lets the echo of the Word that is listened to resound. Fraternity is beautiful; greeting one another is beautiful, but it is the encounter with Jesus that gives meaning to our gathering, to our coming together. We must rediscover and cherish silence! – **Pope Francis**



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



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**Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year A)**  
**20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2023**

Dear Friends,

Today's liturgy prompts us especially to consider the Church as a community of prayer and to reflect on the nature and importance of prayer in our lives. The behaviour of the disciples in the first reading shows us that prayer is waiting and giving our attention to God. Prayer is different from saying prayers; prayer is an attitude of attention, a personal relationship, which can be continuous, even when the person in prayer is engaged in other activities. The disciples in the upper room were not only the very first disciples awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost but also Christians of all times to whom the Holy Spirit is coming at every moment. It is by the attentiveness, which we call prayer that we prepare ourselves for the Holy Spirit. And it is through this attentiveness that the Holy Spirit comes to us.

**Suggested Prayer in preparation for The Feast of Pentecost**

O Holy Spirit, give me the stillness of soul in you.  
Calm the turmoil within with the gentleness of your peace,  
Quiet the anxiety within with a deep trust in you,  
Heal the wounds of sin within with the awareness of your presence,  
Confirm the hope within with the knowledge of your strength,  
Give fullness to love within with an outpouring of your love.  
O Holy Spirit, be to me a source of light, strength and courage,  
So that I may hear your call clearly and follow it.

*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, Rose Cahill, Marlene Camay, John Carty, Sarah Content, Maureen Daly, Katherine Day, 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, Jenny Jones, Julia Joseph, Kathleen Kavanagh, Rev Tom Keighley, Francesca Kelly, Baby Stephen Kelly, Vicky Loik, Mary Lynes, Amaogechi Mbanu, Siobhan McKeon, Norah McLoughlin, Gladys McQuaid, Matthew Milnar, John Morrison, Ann Mount, Jim Nolan, Brian Nash, Iwan 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, Elizabeth Smith, 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:**

13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> May

**Loose**

£730.75

**Envelopes**

£519.50

**Donations and Gift Aid Form:**

We have been asked to provide details so that parishioners can pay their donations by direct debit or standing order. It is an easier form of donation the details are as follows:

***Bank HSBC***

***Account name: Catholic Church Elm Park St Albans***

***Sort Code: 40-13-22***

***Account number: 31019848***

We can still collect the gift aid for these donations so please remember to fill in the gift aid form.

**Confirmation 2022/2023:**

The next Confirmation session will take place next Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May beginning with the 6.30pm Mass followed by the vigil in preparation for the reception of the Holy Spirit to be received by the Confirmation candidates next Sunday the Pentecost day 28<sup>th</sup> May, at 3.00pm.

**Baptism Course:**

The next Baptism course will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> of June in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

**Right to Life:**

In this month dedicated to Our Lady, let us pray for the grace to always be close to the Lord as the Blessed Virgin is close to Him, especially in our prayers for our vulnerable neighbours, including the sick and infirm, the widow and orphan, and the unborn

**BCCS Child & Family Counselling Services:**

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society offers therapeutic support directly to children, young people, families and parents through their Child and Family Counselling Service (CFCS) located in their head office in Billericay. Their CFCS team consists of several experienced and highly qualified therapists working in specially adapted therapy rooms. Families can contact BCCS directly by emailing Catherine Munns [cmunns@bccs.org.uk](mailto:cmunns@bccs.org.uk) who will outline the type of support that will be provided for them or their child. There is a charge for this service but they urge any families needing support to contact them. More information is available on their website: [www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk)

**Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage and Family Life:**

Bishop Alan will be celebrating the annual Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage and Family Life in the Cathedral at 3pm on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> of July. As last year, the Mass will be followed by a reception in the hall.

**R.I.P:**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Walter McNeela of Romford Parish (brother of Catherine Friel) who died recently. His funeral will take place at St Edwards Church this Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023 at 11am. Please also pray for Josephine Keane who died recently, her Requiem Mass will take place this Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am. Her remains will be brought into the church this Wednesday at 5pm. Please also pray for the soul of Victor Correa (husband of Mabel Rita) who died recently. His Requiem Mass will take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> June at 11am. Please also pray for Samuel Nti (Father of Vicky Kankan) who died recently in Ghana. May they rest in peace.

**Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023:**

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023:** Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> of July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangey Tours \(tangey-tours.com\)](http://Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangey Tours (tangey-tours.com))

**The Universe Newspaper:**

The Universe is going back in to print. If you would like to subscribe, you can do so by calling Michelle Jones on 07436 617650 or by visiting [michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk)

**BCYS Youth Mass, 1<sup>st</sup> June at Brentwood Cathedral**

Beginning in the Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall from 6pm, there will be pizza and refreshments available, with the Cathedral open for quiet prayer, music and reflection, particularly thinking of those in the middle of, or nearing the end of, exams who may need a quiet space to rest and revitalise. Join us for as long or short a time as you wish to enjoy the peace of the Cathedral before we celebrate Mass with Fr Michael at 7:30pm. Anyone who wishes is very welcome to bring instruments or sing with our Youth led music group, or if you would like to serve, read, or be involved in the Mass in any way you would be incredibly welcome!

**Calais Light:**

We're off to Calais! Calais Light, the refugee charity, invites you to come on our July weekend convoy to volunteer with Care4Calais in N France. It's our 23rd trip, & spots are going fast so sign up fast now on our website. Dates: Fri 7th -Sun 9 July. We book everything for you. About £95 all in. You'll never regret helping refugees. To register go to:

[www.calaislight.com](http://www.calaislight.com)