

MASS INTENTIONS
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Saturday 15 th July – Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Richard Mahoney (R.I.P)
Sunday 16 th July – Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	Gregory Adams (R.I.P)
	11.00am	John Finan (R.I.P)
Monday 17 th July – Feria	9.00am	Leslie Dearman (R.I.P)
Tuesday 18 th July – Feria	9.00am	Josie Keane (R.I.P)
Wednesday 19 th July – Feria	9.00am	Ann Larkin (Ints)
Thursday 20 th July – Feria	10:15am	Funeral Mass for Sidney Galley
Friday 21 st July– Feria	9.00am	Natalie & Adeline Rosario (R.I.P)
Saturday 22 nd July – St Mary Magdalene	9.00am	Joseph's Intentions

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Saturday 22 nd July – Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Clemencia Patros (R.I.P)
Sunday 23 rd July – Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	People of the Parish
	11.00am	Richard Mahoney (R.I.P)

Thoughts for the week:

Because Christ has changed death to life, and suffering to redemption, the sufferings of those who love him will be a communion between them. All that hidden daily suffering that seems insignificant will be redeeming the world, it will be healing the wounds of the world. The acceptance of pain, of old age, of the fear of death, and of death itself will be our gift of Christ's love to one another. No man's cross is laid upon him for himself alone, but for the healing of the whole world, for the mutual comforting and sweetening of sorrow, for the giving of joy and supernatural life to one another. For Christ receives our cross that we may receive his. He gives us his hands to take hold of this power to make it a redeeming thing, a blessed thing. His life causes us to grow, his heart enables us to rejoice in accepting our own cross and one another's burdens. "If any man has a mind to come my way, let him renounce self, and take up his cross, and follow me. The man who tries to save his life shall lose it; it is the man who loses his life for my sake that will save it." – **Caryll Houselander**



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



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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
15th and 16th July 2023

Dear Friends,

In today's Gospel Jesus tells a parable of a Sower sowing seeds. He explains that the seed is the word of God and the soil is the heart of those who hear the word. Some seed yield a rich harvest. For the seed to grow it needs to be planted in good soil. What kind of soil do we offer God's word?

The word of God has the power to change and transform us. It is always preached at a particular situation. In times of violence, it is a word of peace; in times of hurt, it is a healing word; to hearts engulfed in despair, it is a word of consolation and hope. Listening to the word of God, a person has new perspective. They can see that the way things are is not the way things are meant to be. They receive a new vision, new encouragement, and a new determination to change the cause of their dissatisfaction.

Hearing the word of God is not just knowledge but is it a power and has the authority of God. Therefore, a person living by the word will transform themselves, and their own situation. Listening to the readings and the homily at Mass; recognising words of wisdom we speak to each other; hearing what the Lord is saying in our heart; this is receiving the word in rich soil and guaranteeing an abundant harvest.

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, Rose Cahill, Marlene Camay, John Carty, Macmillan Chitoma Bras-Goncalves, 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, 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, Elizabeth Smith, Alan Stokes, Teresa Shorey, John Sinclair, Charles Stimpson, Crystal Stimpson, Julia Thomas, Theresa Wiseman, Elizabeth Wyles, 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:

8th & 9th July

Loose

£726.33

Envelopes

£342.10

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.

Right to Life:

Let us pray for the ears to hear God's call to help the vulnerable in our midst, including people with disabilities, people in hospital, those in nursing homes, the housebound, and the unborn.

Toddlers Group:

Mothers and Toddlers Group A toddler group takes place every Thursday and Friday in the Hall between 10- 11:30am - all parents are welcome. Please call Maria on 07751 236262.

St Albans School

The school finishes next Friday the 21st July. We wish all of the children and staff a well earned rest and a good break.

Thank you:

The McNeela/Friel family wish to thank everyone for the Masses and cards on their recent loss. A Mass will be said for your intentions in the near future.

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. Families can contact BCCS directly by emailing Catherine Munns 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

Rest in Peace:

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Richard Mahoney who died recently. He was a much loved Parishioner and a dedicated Family man. We extend our sympathy to his wife Mary and to his children. As we pray for his family in their loss, we pray for Richard. His remains will be brought into the church next Thursday the 20th of July at 4pm and his Requiem mass will take place on Friday the 21st of July at 11am. Please also pray for Sidney Galley who also died recently, his funeral Mass will take place on Thursday 20th July at 10:15am. **There will be no 9am Mass on that day.** Eternal rest grant upon them O' Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them, May they Rest in Peace.

Help Your Marriage

Retrouvaille is a program to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a virtual weekend on 6-9 July or a Face-to-Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023., call 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Lourdes

Bishop Alan will lead the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 24-29th July, Canon Maurice will be going on the pilgrimage and if any parishioners would like to give him prayer petitions, he will bring them to the Grotto of our Lady on your behalf. There is a box at the back of the Church so if you would kindly put them in and he will bring them with him.

Annual GK Chesterton Pilgrimage:

The 13th Annual GK Chesterton Pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 29th July. Bishop David Oakley of Northampton will preach at the Mass at 2.30pm at The Bridgettine Convent, Fulmer Common Road, Iver, SL0 0NR. Please send any prayer requests to; CatholicGKCSociety@yahoo.co.uk or text them to 07795205114. Details of the many different ways in which you can be involved on the day, as well as printable GKC prayercards can be found on our website, www.CatholicGKChestertonSociety.co.uk

World Youth Day (2nd of August – 6th of August 2023):

World Youth Day at home: World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with Pope Francis, taking place in Lisbon this summer. If you can't attend the main event, why not join WYD in London run by the Religious of the Assumption - a day celebration on Saturday 5th August 2023 from 11am-5pm in the church by Leicester Square. Programme: music • prayer • talks • activities • Mass, bringing together a young community of different nationalities in one faith! Venue : Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. Donations only. To register a group or individually, fill in the form: [//bit.ly/wydlondon](http://bit.ly/wydlondon)