

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> October – <b>Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	6.30pm	Jim & Nora McDarby
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> October – <b>Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Mark Finnegan (R.I.P) Terence Harmsworth (R.I.P)
Monday 16th October– Feria	9.00am	Thanksgiving
Tuesday 17th October – <b>St Ignatius of Antioch</b>	9.00am	Christine Halls (Int)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October – <b>St Luke</b>	9.00am	Esther Bikhit (R.I.P)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October – Feria	9:00am	Thanksgiving
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October – Feria	9.00am	Mark Finnegan (R.I.P)
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> October – Feria	9.00am	Ramon Galit Jr (R.I.P)

**Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> October – <b>Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	6.30pm	Neil Nagle (R.I.P)
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October – <b>Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Reshma D’Souza Thanksgiving Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)

**Thought for this week: The Human Race:**

Who was it that said competition was a good idea? Who reckoned that it was important to be the first, the best, the strongest, the richest, the fastest and the most popular? It was not Jesus – that is for sure. Yes, he had his chances in the desert, to be tempted by the lure of self-promotion. He knew that the secret lay in recognising and celebrating the unique gift of each person; in co-operation rather than competition; in listening to the hidden heart-songs of all who are unnoticed – and inviting them to join their voices to the chorus of all humanity. Pursuit of excellence is part of growth and important in our lives. But that has nothing to do with standing on others to increase our own stature or leaving others behind in orders for us to get out in front. – **Fr John Cullen**



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



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**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**  
**14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Dear Friends,  
Through the Gospels during October, God is portrayed as inviting us to a noble life of loving service. God is inviting, not coercing. This notion is worth pondering on at length. God calls us to work in his vineyard and to celebrate divine union. God calls us to life in which social obligations and divine authority go hand in hand. God first loves us that we might pass on his love to others. The idea of God seeking our response has inspired a beautiful passage on prayer in the catechism. The encounter of Jesus with a woman at the well sets the scene. 'The wonder of prayer is revealed beside the well where we come seeking water: there Christ comes to meet every human being. It is he, who first seeks us and asks us for a drink. Jesus thirsts: his asking arises from the depths of God's desire for us. Whether we realise it or not, prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him'. The Lord calls us all to feast with him. The Eucharist we share on earth reminds us of his loving self-sacrifice for us and is a foretaste of the eternal banquet in heaven. Let us pray for ourselves as we celebrate this Eucharist together. Nourished by the living Christ, may we bring his love and sense of Joy to all we meet.

*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, John Detheridge, 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, 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, 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:**

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> October

**Loose**

£776.83

**Envelopes**

£310.70

**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.

**Mother and Toddlers Group:**

The Mothers and Toddlers group are now open on Tuesdays-Fridays. On Tuesdays and Fridays there are different classes and on Wednesdays and Thursdays there are two playgroup sessions per day. For more information, please visit <https://stalbanscic.my.canva.site/>

**Baptism Course:**

The next Baptism course will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

**St Albans Primary School Open Day:**

For those who are interested to join Reception 2024, the open day will be on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of November at 09:15am, 2pm & 6pm.

**Catechist training and Resource Day:**

Takes place on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of November at Sacred Heart of Mary Girls School in Upminster from 10am to 3:30pm.

**First Holy Communion Programme 23-2024:**

The next meeting for parents and Children will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7pm. Parents meet at the Church as usual and children at 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 each Monday at 7:30pm in the Presbytery. Any Parishioner who wishes to support this group, is also invited to come along.

**Confirmation Programme:**

The next session for the Confirmation candidates will be held on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> November from 4.00-6.30pm after which they will attend Mass of Inscription.

**October Month of the Holy Rosary:**

October is the month of the Holy Rosary, please join us to pray the Rosary each day after 9am Mass.

**Right to Life:**

Let us pray for politicians and other decision-makers, that they would work to safeguard and increase provisions available to all vulnerable groups, including expectant mothers, newborns and the unborn.

**Baby Loss Awareness Week:**

This week is Baby Loss Awareness Week. Today (15<sup>th</sup> October) the week ends with the global "Wave of Light" event. At 7pm join families around the world to light a candle leaving it burning for at least one hour to remember all babies that have died too soon.

**ST. ALBAN'S CARE GROUP SPONSORED WALK - SUNDAY, 22nd October 2023:**

Members of the Care Group will be doing a Sponsored Walk from the St Albans Church at 1pm through Dagenham Chase and Harrow Lodge Park to St Albans Church (circular walk) next Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October to raise funds for the activities they organize in the Parish. The funds we raise are used to provide events for our senior citizens and the sick and housebound of the Parish, who have done so much in the past to give us the parish that we have today. We provide a "High Tea" in the Summer and next January we will again have the Christmas Lunch. We therefore ask, if you are unable to join us on the walk, to please be as generous as possible with your sponsorship. If you can join us on the walk, please phone Tom 07840 760907 for a sponsorship form. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OVER SO MANY YEARS - IT HAS AND IS ALWAYS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. God Bless Tom.

**Christmas Bazaar:**

As you will have heard, the Christmas Bazaar, which is a combined St Alban's Catholic Primary School and parish event, will be held at the parish centre this year on 25<sup>th</sup> November, running from 12pm until 3pm. If at all possible, we would very much welcome donations of toiletries, bottles and toys. Also, if you feel that you could lend assistance, either on the day, or to help set up the event, the night before, please write your name and contact details on the form at the back of the church or send them to [fosaastalbans@gmail.com](mailto:fosaastalbans@gmail.com). We very much look forward to seeing you, your family and friends, on the day, for some seasonal festivities and fun.