

MASS INTENTIONS
Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

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| Saturday 7 th October – Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time | 6.30pm | Mr Samuel Nti (R.I.P) |
| Sunday 8 th October – Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time | 9.00am 11.00am | Mark Finnegan (R.I.P) Pray for Abba Family |
| Monday 9 th October– St John Henry Newman | 9.00am | Esther Bikhit (R.I.P) |
| Tuesday 10 th October – Feria | 9.00am | Regan Anthony (Birthday Int) |
| Wednesday 11 th October – Feria | 9.00am | Mary Devlin (R.I.P) |
| Thursday 12 th October – Ss Ethelburga, Hildelithe & Cuthberga | 9:00am | Rev Patrick Egan (R.I.P) |
| Friday 13 th October – Feria | 9.00am | Mark Finnegan (R.I.P) |
| Saturday 14 th October – Feria | 9.00am | Esther Bikhit (R.I.P) |

Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

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| Saturday 14 th October – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 6.30pm | Jim & Nora McDarby |
| Sunday 15 th October – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 9.00am 11.00am | Mark Finnegan (R.I.P) Terence Harmsworth (R.I.P) |

Reflection of the week: St Therese of Lisieux (Feast Day 1st of October)

When one loves, one does not calculate. God would never inspire me with desires which cannot be realized; so, in spite of my littleness, I can hope to be a saint. A word or a smile is often enough to put fresh life in a despondent soul. When something painful or disagreeable happens to me, instead of a melancholy look, I answer by a smile. At first, I did not always succeed, but now it has become a habit which I am glad to have acquired. If I did not simply live from one moment to another, it would be impossible for me to be patient, but I only look at the present, I forgot the past, and I take good care not to forestall the future. – **Story of a Soul: The Autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux.**



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



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Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
7th & 8th October 2023

Dear Friends,

God cares for his people as a good vinedresser care for his vineyard. Today's parable is trying to tell us how God feels towards his people. In spite of all the love, he has shown them, all he gets in return is utter ingratitude. This is our story too. Which of us would make so bold as to claim that we have made a full and adequate response to God's love, shown in and through Christ? Though God loves to the point of foolishness, he does want to see a response from us, not for his own sake, but for ours. He wants to see us make use of the gifts and opportunities he has given us so that we can grow as his children. Our response must be free and given out of love. Now is the time to start making a response. There is no point in waiting for the harvest time. That will be too late. Our response can be summed up like this: he wants us to live as Jesus his Son lived. It takes many vines and many branches to make a vineyard. God's vineyard is the Christian community. This is the vineyard Christ planted and tended with such care that he gave his life for it. He looks to his vineyard to produce the fruits of justice, love and peace. However, of course the vineyard cannot be fruitful unless the individual vines are fruitful.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples: 'I am the vine, you are the branches. Separated from me you can do nothing, but united with me you will bear much fruit'. Lord, strengthen the bonds that unite us with you and with one another, so that we may enjoy the peace and unity of your Kingdom where you live forever and ever. **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, 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:

30th September & 1st October

Loose

£561.70

Envelopes

£287.10

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.

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://stalbaniscic.my.canva.site/>

Baptism Course:

The next Baptism course will take place next Saturday 14th October 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 7th of November at 09:15am, 2pm & 6pm.

Catechist training and Resource Day:

Will take place on Saturday 4th 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 19th 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 on Mondays at 7:30pm in the Presbytery. Any Parishioner who wishes to support this group, is also invited to come along.

R.I.P

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Cathy Driver who died recently, her Requiem Mass will take place next Friday 13th October at 12.00pm. Her remains will be brought into the Church on Thursday 12th of October at 4:20pm. May she rest in peace.

Secondary School Forms

Father Maurice will be signing Secondary school forms (for September 2024) on the 8th October from 5pm-7pm and then the 9th October from 6pm-7pm.

Right to Life

Let us pray for all those in hospices, that they may receive the appropriate palliative care to ease any physical pain, and the psychological and spiritual care to relieve their mind and soul.

Prisoners Sunday – 8th October

There will be a second collection this week in aid of Prisoners Sunday.

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) on Sunday 22nd 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.

Job Vacancy

Attendance and Data Officer. Scale APTC 3 (Spinal Points 14-17) 36 hours per week, 40 weeks per year. Salary £18,657 - £19,623 pa pro rata for part-time. Please contact hfielder@thecampionschool.org.uk for an application form and full details or telephone 01708 452332 Option 9. Closing Date for applications is Friday 13th October at 12:00pm-noon.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Is available every Saturday morning after the 09:00am Mass and on Saturday evening 05:45pm to 06:15pm.