

MASS INTENTIONS
Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Saturday 18 th November – Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Deacon Nichoas Holmes (Int)
Sunday 19 th November – Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am 11.00am	Henry Hughes (R.I.P) Special Intentions
Monday 20 th November – Feria	9.00am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 21 st November – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00am	Thank God for New Year Emilia Anene
Wednesday 22 nd November – St Cecilia	9.00am	Nigel & Reshma D’Souza Thanksgiving
Thursday 23 rd November – Feria	9:00am	Gods’ mercy for breakthrough
Friday 24 th November – St Andrew Dung-Lac	9.00am	Philip Oates (R.I.P)
Saturday 25 th November – Feria	9.00am	Stella & Clarence Miranda (R.I.P)

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (A)

Saturday 25 th November – Our Lord Jesus Christ the King	6.30pm	Gods’ protection and guidance
Sunday 26 th November – Our Lord Jesus Christ the King	9.00am 11.00am	Kathy Driver Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)

Thought for this week:

Great love and great suffering are the natural gateways to all spiritual transformation and growth, gradually opening us to Divine Union. They are available to all of us if we are willing to be present. Contemplation is a way of maintaining the fruits of great love and great suffering over the long haul. Otherwise, we slip right back into our dualistic thinking and living. The contemplative mind also greases the wheels of consciousness and helps us to be ready and willing to deal with great love and great suffering when they arrive – and hopefully they always will. Otherwise, we face the great tasks of life with only our small and momentary feelings and defences, which are always inadequate to the task of greatness. – **Richard Rohr**



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



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Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
18th & 19th November 2023

Dear Friends,

In today's Gospel we meet a man who brought back to his master everything he had been given, and yet was censured. He was blamed, not for misusing the gifts he had been given, but rather for not having used them at all.

Which of us could say, in all truth, that we always do our best? Do we not bury at least some of our talents? We have all responsibilities in proportion to the gifts we have received from the Lord.

Perhaps we all bury some talent or gift which we won't use or develop. It is not only the man with one talent who buries it but people who have five or ten talents. Instead of reaping double, they become falsely cautious or just plain lazy, and bury their talents. And what is buried is of no earthly use to anyone.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we are the talents. Grant that we may not bury any part of ourselves. Help us to grow so that we may become what we are called to be, and thus one day merit to hear those happy words 'well done, good and faithful servants' We ask this through Christ our Lord. **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, Fr Francis Coveney, 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:

11th & 12th November

Loose

£481.96

Envelopes

£310.67

WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY: – Is Next Sunday the 26th of November 2023 the Feast of Christ the King. World Youth Day is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church, along with the global Church, and is celebrated each year on the feast of Christ the King. There will be a second collection for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, and any money raised will go towards supporting those in need of financial support to go on pilgrimages and to events, as well as allowing the BCYS to continue running events, such as the monthly Youth Masses, provide support and training to those working with young people and so much more. To find out more about the work of the BCYS, please visit www.bcys.net

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 9th December in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

BCYS YOUTH MASS: – Thursday 7th December 2023, 6pm at Brentwood Cathedral. Beginning with pizza & refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm, and an Advent Reconciliation service in the Cathedral before Mass. Youth Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, and sing, serve or read if you wish! No need to book, but do let us know if you have a group coming – just email info@bcys.net

Confirmation Programme

The next session for the Confirmation programme will take place on Saturday 9th December at 4pm.

First Holy Communion Programme 23-2024:

The next meeting for parents and Children will take place on Thursday 30th of November 2023 at 7pm. The Reconciliation Service will take place on Saturday the 2nd of December at 11am. Parents meet at the Church as usual and children 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 each Monday 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 Patricia Garbaldi who died recently, her funeral will take place on the 27th of November at South Essex Crematorium at 10.30am. Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Dennis Doherty who died last Sunday. His funeral arrangements will follow shortly. November is the month specially dedicated to prayer for our departed loved ones and all who have gone before us. If you would like the deceased members of your family remembered, please fill in the form at the back of the church and place it in the box, which is in front of the Altar during November.

Christmas Bazaar:

This year's Christmas Bazaar, which is a combined St Alban's Catholic Primary School and Parish event, will be held at the parish centre next Saturday the 25th of November, running from 12pm until 3pm. Whilst we thank you for your kind donations so far, we still require donations of toiletries, bottles and toys and we thank you in advance for your kindness and consideration. Raffle tickets are to be sold after the 9am and 11am Masses this Sunday. There are many fantastic prizes this year and we hope you bag yourself a winning ticket. Forms remain at the back of the church if you wish to offer your assistance on the day or for the setup of the hall the day before. Alternatively please send your contact details to fosaastalbans@gmail.com. We very much look forward to seeing you, your family and friends, on the day, for some seasonal festivities and fun.

St. Albans Intake for Reception – September 2024:

Father Maurice will be available to sign a Certificate of Catholic Practice next Sunday the 26th of November from 5pm-7pm and again next Monday 27th November from 6pm-7pm.

BCYS Summer Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage – July 2024 (Exact dates to be announced):

Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. The pilgrimage is open to all those in school year 10-13 with all those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders (subject to attending a training weekend) All details and applications can be found on the website www.bcys.net/events/sl24

St Alban's Advent/Christmas Concert 2023:

Our annual Advent/Christmas Concert will be held on Sunday 10 December at 5.45 pm in our Church. It will feature our Parish Choir, St Alban's School Choir, the Children's Choir, Instrumentalists and the South Indian Community Singers, who will entertain you with beautiful and popular Advent and Christmas music. This annual event has become very popular over the years, so please make sure you bring your family and friends along to enjoy the evening. There will also be an Advent Service on the first Sunday of Advent, 3rd December at 6.30pm at St Nicholas Church in Elm Park – all are invited.

Right to Life:

Let us pray for all doctors, nurses and midwives working in maternity wards, that their healing hands would be guided from above during any complications.