

MASS INTENTIONS
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Saturday 27 th January – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Mary Ahern (R.I.P)
Sunday 28 th January – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am 11.00am	Susan Williams (R.I.P) John O’Keane (R.I.P)
Monday 29 th January – Feria	9.00am	Bridie Seymour
Tuesday 30 th January – Feria	9.00am	May Shanahan
Wednesday 31 st January – St John Bosco	9.00am	Florence Lynch (R.I.P)
Thursday 1 st February – Feria	9:00am	Cathridna Bennet & Family
Friday 2 nd February – The Presentation of the Lord	9.00am	Eoin McCambridge (Int)
Saturday 3 rd February – St Anne Line	9.00am	Lita Ron & Family

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Saturday 3 rd February – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Clement Janganant & Liam McDonald (R.I.P)
Sunday 4 th February – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am 11.00am	Michael Palmer (R.I.P) Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)

Thought for the Week:

We need to rethink among other things the question of human power, its meaning and its limits. For our power has increased frenetically in a few decades. We have made impressive and awesome technological advances, and we have not realised that at the same time we have turned into highly dangerous beings, capable of threatening the lives of many beings and our own survival. Today it is worth repeating the ironic comment of Solovyov about an ‘age which was so advanced as to be actually the last one’. We need lucidity and honesty in order to recognise in time that our power and the progress we are producing are turning against us. Let us be guided by the power of God’s Holy Spirit to use everything in our power for the glory of God and good of humanity.



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



Presbytery:

1 Ullswater Way, Elm Park, RM12 5JX

Tel: 01708451449

parishoffice@stalbansrcchurch.uk

Parish Deacon: Rev. Ken Carleton

kencarleton@brcdt.org

Mob: 07971 544921

Parish Website: <https://www.stalbansrcchurch.uk>

Fr. Joseph Farrell (Retired) – 2B, Langdale Gardens, RM12 5LA

Tel: 01708459709

St Alban’s Primary School

Heron Flight Avenue, RM12 5LN

Tel: 01708 555644

Head Teacher: Ms Gail McBride

Angela – Gift Aid Organiser

Mobile: 07510 243188

Safeguarding Representatives

Mobile: 07957 131646/07896 639525

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
27th & 28th January 2024

Dear Friends,

His teaching made a deep impression on them. These words are taken from today’s gospel. George worked as a Toolmaker. On Monday morning Richard asked him what he had done during the weekend. George had a moment of panic. Should he tell Richard he had spent most of Sunday attending a Parish Day at his local Church or should he keep quiet about it? In the end he did, trying to tell Richard in an as matter of fact manner as possible. Richard said nothing. It was when his sister was seriously ill in hospital that Richard came to George, ‘why her’ he asked, ‘you believe in God, what’s it all about?’ In today’s Gospel – Jesus teaches with authority and the people ask one another what it is all about. It is when we allow Christ to be seen in us and others recognise us as his followers, that they ask the same question.

Question

How can we be more open to Christ so that he can shine through us?

Question

What can you do in your life this week to encourage others to ask what’s it all about?

Prayer:

May your mercy, we beseech you, O Lord, be with your people who cry to you, so that what we seek at your prompting we may obtain by your generosity.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Have a good week!
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, 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, 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, Julia Stokes, Teresa Shorey, John Sinclair, Charles Stimpson, Crystal Stimpson, Julia Thomas, Theresa Wiseman, Elizabeth Wyles, Jay Spencer, Irene (Evelyn's sister), Clara Yankey and Dr Nikhil Rao. For those we know and the many we do not know, we pray to the Lord.

PARISH FINANCES:

20th & 21st January

Loose

£354.77

Envelopes

£592.80

Mother and Toddlers Group:

Mothers and Toddlers group has now reopened. For more information, please visit <https://stalbanesci.my.canva.site/> We thank Maria, Sarah and all of the staff who support our Mother and Toddlers group.

Baptism Course:

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

Confirmation Programme

The next session for the Confirmation programme will take place this Saturday 3rd of February 2024 starting at 11:30am. This is the day of retreat for all our candidates.

First Holy Communion Programme 23-2024:

The next meeting for parents and Children will take place next Thursday the 8th February 2024 at 7pm.

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 takes place each Monday at 7:30pm in the Presbytery. Any Parishioner who wishes to support this group, is also invited to come along.

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service

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

Young Adults:

BCYS Youth Mass will be held this Thursday 1st February at Brentwood Cathedral. Beginning with pizza and refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm. Youth Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7.30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, sing, serve or read if you wish!

VOLUNTEER AT WALSHINGHAM HOUSE for the academic year 2024/2025 – applications are now open for anyone currently in year 13 or above.

All information for the above can be found on their website – www.bcys.net

Job Vacancies:

- Headteacher – St Patrick's Primary School, Collier Row

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Monday 12th February 2024.

RIP:

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Toufica (Philomena) Griffin who died recently. Her Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday the 15th February at 11am. May she Rest in Peace.

Right to Life:

We pray for our government, that their ability to support pregnant women would increase and that they would anchor themselves in the desire to protect all human life.

A message of thanks from Father Joseph:

'Sincere thanks for your kind good wishes and cards on the Golden Jubilee of my Ordination at St Mary's Hornchurch on January 19th. Deo Gratias! Father Joseph'

Health and safety and fire precautions:

Last year a fire risk assessment was carried out. This was done by the health and safety consultants used by the diocese. Every parish in the diocese is involved. A number of requirements were highlighted, and most have been carried out. One however was the provision and training of fire marshals. The duties are not onerous but will ensure the ongoing safety of parishioners and the premises. A 45-minute training video has been provided by the H & S consultants, which covers, fire safety, evacuation, good housekeeping and use of fire extinguishers. If anyone is interested in assisting with this important role, could they let Fr Maurice or myself know or sign the sheet in the church porch leaving contact details. Once numbers are known a training session will be arranged. This could be done at a convenient time to everyone. Weekday evening, Saturday or Sunday during the day. Please let us know your preference. Frank

Retrouvaille: Do you need help in your Marriage?

Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidential for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 8 – 11 February 2024 or there is a Face-to-Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14 – 16 June 2024. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com – or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Crib Offerings

Your crib offerings will go towards supporting the work of the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. This wonderful Diocesan organisation does not receive Government funding, so is heavily dependant on all charitable diocesan contributions, it works with thousands of children and families each year.