

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent (B)**

Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>	6.30pm	Fr Adrian Graffy (Int)
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>	9.00am	Mireya Moraly
	11.00am	Laura Dwyer (R.I.P)
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent</b>	9.00am	Thomas Megoran (R.I.P)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent</b>	9.00am	Vincent Prosper Family
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Wednesday of the Fourth Week Of Lent</b>	9.00am	Fr Adrian (int)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent</b>	9:00am	John Moody (R.I.P)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent</b>	9.00am	Lily Follon (R.I.P)
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent</b>	9.00am	Bridie Lyons

**Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)**

Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>	6.30pm	Margaret Mellor (R.I.P)
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b>	9.00am	Mary Rose Scott (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Paddy & Michael Dear (R.I.P)

**Thought for the Week:**

God himself needed a mother: how much more so do we! Jesus himself gave her to us, from the cross: 'Behold your mother!'. He said this to the beloved disciple and to every disciple. Our Lady is not an optional accessory: she has to be welcomed into our life. She is the Queen of peace, who triumphs over evil and leads us along paths of goodness, who restores unity to her children, who teaches us compassion. Mary, take us by the hand. Lead us by the hand to rediscover the bonds that unite us. Gather us beneath your mantle, in the tenderness of true love, where the human family is reborn. –  
**Pope Francis**



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



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**Fourth Sunday of Lent (B)**  
**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> 2024**

Dear Friends,

As we approach the halfway mark in our Lenten season, it is a time to review Lenten resolutions and to ask if our lives are joyful responses to God's love. Is his love finding expression in the way we live? What are we doing to bring the love of God into the lives of others? Lent is a call to step out of the ways of darkness into the light of Christ.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Today is Mother's Day. Our prayers and best wishes go out to all Mums, past, present and today. Thank you all for being you. May Mary, our Heavenly mother, be with you all.

PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

Lord, through our mothers we have received from you the wonderful gift of life.

May all mothers be blessed

for their special place in your plan of salvation.

We thank you for the gift of our own mothers.

Be good to them, Lord,

and grant them the grace

of your eternal love.

**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, 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, Fiona Forder, James Francis, Mary Gallet, 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, Dean Partleton, Michelle Pointer, Baby Teddy Rands, Dr Nikhil Rao, 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, Julia Thomas, Bernie Whoriskey, 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:**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> March

**Loose**

£546.46

**Envelopes**

£579.80

**Mother and Toddlers Group:**

Mothers and Toddlers group has now reopened. For more information, please visit <https://stalbanscic.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 on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 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 on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 at 4:00pm.

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

The next meeting for parents and Children will take place next Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 at 7pm.

**R.I.P**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Barry who died recently. His Requiem Mass will take place on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 11am. Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Father John Taylor, a Priest of our Diocese who also died recently. His Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 12 noon at the Church of our Lady of Light and St Osyth, Clacton-on-Sea. May they rest in peace.

**Dates for your Diary:**

- 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2024: St Patricks Variety Show at St Albans Parish Hall at 7:30pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2024: Chrism Mass at Brentwood Cathedral at 11am. Coach leaves St Albans at 09:30am.

**St Patricks Celebration & International Variety Show – 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm**

Tickets for the St Patricks night celebration will be on sale this weekend after all Masses. Prices for tickets are £5 adult and £3 for children (Under 16).

**Diocesan Pilgrimage 2024:**

Join Bishop Alan on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Friday 19 – Friday 26 July). To book, please go online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours \(tangney-tours.com\)](http://Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours (tangney-tours.com)) If you wish to discuss any aspect of the pilgrimage, please e-mail Kathryn Young: [kathrynyoung@mail.com](mailto:kathrynyoung@mail.com)

**Stations of the Cross:**

To help us in our Lenten journey we have our Stations of the Cross this Friday at St Nicholas at 7:30pm.

**Pro-Life Amendment:**

Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. Postcards are at the back of the church, please collect one and post it to your MP asking them to support this amendment.

**Justice and Peace Group:**

The Justice and Peace group of St Albans will be gathering in the parish meeting room on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm** in anticipation of Holy Week. In this meeting we will discuss the logistics of collecting and distributing the items that you parishioners have been kind enough to donate in the spirit of Lent. We would like to encourage you all to be generous and to donate whatever you can before Holy Week begins! We would also like to extend an open invitation to anybody in the parish who wishes to join. We have people of all ages and backgrounds in this group and everybody is welcome to come along and help in any way they can. In our meeting we'll be discussing other initiatives and ideas for how we can help the local community so please do come along.

**TALK ON THE READINGS AT THE EASTER VIGIL**

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7 pm, in preparation for Holy Week, Fr Adrian Graffy will give a talk entitled 'The Readings at the Easter Vigil - the four nights of salvation'. The talk will take place in the parish hall at Gidea Park (410 Brentwood Road, RM2 6DH) and will last about 40 minutes. Refreshments will be available from 6.30 pm. No booking necessary. The church is 5 minutes' walk from the station (Elizabeth Line). Ample free parking is also available at the church. All are welcome, especially Readers, Special Ministers of the Eucharist and Catechists.

**Volunteer at the St John Bosco Children's Camp**

From 27<sup>th</sup> July – 3<sup>rd</sup> August help give 100 children a holiday. Helpers must be 18+, and the Camp will arrange for a DBS check, and appropriate training. To help at the Bosco Camp is a wonderful experience, but there are limited places. Applications open until the end of March. Details: <https://boscocamp.co.uk/volunteer-applications>

**Apprenticeships at Walsingham House**

Walsingham House are offering a two-year apprenticeship course in Youth Ministry & Chaplaincy, ideal for those finishing Year 13 in July or for anyone up to age 21. Participants will live and work at Walsingham House, running retreats for young people across the diocese whilst studying with St Marys University, Twickenham. For more info, email [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org) or visit the website [www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/](http://www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/)

***Altar Servers meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> of March at 02:00pm. All altar servers please make every effort to attend to prepare for the Easter Triduum. Thank you!***