

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

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March – <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>	6.30pm	John Black (R.I.P)
Sunday 03 <sup>rd</sup> March – <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Mgs Canon H Turner Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Monday of the Third Week of Lent</b>	9.00am	Lar Fennessy (Int)
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent</b>	9.00am	Richard Mahony (R.I.P)
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Wednesday of the Third Week Of Lent</b>	9.00am	Fr Richard Moroney (R.I.P)
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Thursday of the Third Week of Lent</b>	9:00am	Fr John McKeon (R.I.P)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Friday of the Third Week of Lent</b>	9.00am	Maureen Dixon
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> March – <b>Saturday of the Third Week of Lent</b>	9.00am	Sajan (Int)

**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 11.00am	Mireya Moraly Laura Dwyer (R.I.P)

**Thought for the Week:**

The Lord Jesus comes into your life expecting to find a place ordered to the worship of the one true God, but what he finds is 'a marketplace'. What does this mean? It means that Christ finds a place where things other than God have become primary. To bring such idolatry closer to our cultural experience, how much of your life is given over to materialism, commercialism or the accumulation of things? What rivals to the one true God have you allowed to invade the sacred space of your soul? – **Bishop Robert Barron**



**ST ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER**

Langdale Gardens RM12 5LA

PARISH PRIEST: Canon Maurice Gordon



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**Third Sunday of Lent (B)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024**

Dear Friends,

Jesus was outraged at the “business” of the Temple, which tended to exploit the poor and encourage superstition. The popular image of “Jesus meek and mild” is shattered in these verses as he single-handedly drives people and cattle out of the Temple precincts. When it comes to injustice, God is not meek and accepting.

By purifying the Temple in Jerusalem, Jesus gave a ‘sign’ that God would raise up a new temple, cleansed of all corruption. The body of Jesus, raised from the dead, would be this new temple: ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up’. Baptised into the risen Christ, we too have become God’s temple. Enabled by the Spirit’s power, we can love the Lord with a zealous and undivided heart. Yet so often our hearts become caught up in other things, loving them more than we love God. The result is that we do not satisfy God’s desire that we love him with all our heart, soul and might – that we place no other gods before him.

As human beings our greatest glory is that we, of all God’s creation, can worship the Lord. We alone, the beloved sons and daughters of God the Father, can love our Father – he made us to do so. God loves us – and we can love him in return!

**Prayer:**

Father, you have made us living temples of your Spirit. Purify our hearts from all the desires that draw us away from you. Give us the grace to love you above all things. Set us on fire with zeal for your name. **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, 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:**

24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> February

**Loose**

£696.30

**Envelopes**

£361.70

**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 this Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 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> of March 2024 at 4:00pm.

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

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

**Vocation:**

The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> of March at Brentwood Cathedral. The speaker will be Deacon Frank Westcott. For Further information please contact Fr Mark Swires [vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**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.

**Job Vacancies:**

- [Deputy Headteacher - Convent High School, Grays](#)

Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**St Patricks Celebration & International Variety Show**

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 \(tangney-tours.com\)](#) If you wish to discuss any aspect of the pilgrimage, please e-mail Kathryn Young: [kathrynyoung@mail.com](mailto:kathrynyoung@mail.com)

**Lourdes group** meet in the presbytery this Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of March at 7pm to discuss the St Patrick's Variety Show and to continue the planning for the young people who will be going to Lourdes this summer 19-26<sup>th</sup> of July.

**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](http://www.bcys.net/events/sl24)

**Stations of the Cross:**

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

**Pro-Life Amendment:**

Thank you for supporting the pro-Life Amendment to reduce our abortion time limit 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 the abortion law. More envelopes will be given out next Sunday to support this cause.

**Justice and Peace Group:**

Recently we set up a Justice and Peace group. The first initiative of this group was the Lenten Calander which was handed out 3 weeks ago before Ash Wednesday. The Calander invites each of us to collect items for the Rainham food bank then, in the weekend before Holy Week, the items should be put in the porch of the church to be collected. Next meeting will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> of March at 7pm in the Church's meeting room. Everybody is welcome!

**CAFOD:**

This year we missed the CAFOD family fast day, but this week the envelopes will be given out. Throughout Lent we are invited to join our self-denial to almsgiving, and supporting CAFOD is one way of doing that. Please take your envelop this week and return it next Sunday.

**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, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, 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.