

**MASS INTENTIONS
Pentecost Sunday (B)**

Saturday 18 th May – Pentecost Sunday	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 19 th May – Pentecost Sunday	9.00am	Michael McGarvey (R.I.P)
	11.00am	Departed souls in purgatory.
	3:00pm	Confirmation Mass
Monday 20 th May – Mary, Mother of the Church	9.00am	Lar Fennessy (R.I.P)
Tuesday 21 st May – Feria	9.00am	Mary Deirdre Brennan (R.I.P)
Wednesday 22 nd May – Feria	9.00am	Vincent Okolo (R.I.P)
Thursday 23 rd May – Our Lord Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest	9:00am	Mark Finnegan (R.I.P)
Friday 24 th May – Feria	9.00am	Josie Keane (R.I.P)
Saturday 25 th May – St Bede the Venerable	9.00am	John Barry (R.I.P)

The Most Holy Trinity (B)

Saturday 25 th May – The Most Holy Trinity	6.30pm	Veronica Dowling (R.I.P)
Sunday 26 th May – The Most Holy Trinity	9.00am	People of the Parish
	11.00am	Vincent Okolo (R.I.P)
	3:00pm	Procession in Honour of Our Lady

Thought for the Week: Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Spirit of **Light**, let your wisdom shine on us.
 Spirit of **Silence**, make us aware of God's presence.
 Spirit of **Courage**, dispel the fear in our hearts.
 Spirit of **Fire**, inflame us with Christ's love.
 Spirit of **Peace**, help us to be still and listen to God's word.
 Spirit of **Joy**, inspire us to proclaim the Good News.
 Spirit of **Love**, help us to open ourselves to the needs of others.
 Spirit of **Power**, give us all your help and strength.
 Spirit of **Truth**, guide us all in the way of Christ.



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



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**Pentecost Sunday (B)
18th & 19th May 2024**

Dear Friends,

In today's Gospel we see how Jesus says to his disciples "Receive the Holy Spirit". He breathes on them as a sign that through the Spirit they will share his life and continue his ministry of forgiveness. Jesus had not come to take their breath away but to breathe new life into them, the life of the Holy Spirit.

Today, Jesus calls us to come closer, to feel the breath of his spirit in our lives. Sometimes, like the breath of a mother on her baby, Jesus' Spirit is comforting and soothing. Yet the story of Pentecost reminds us that the Spirit also inspires and enlivens us to move on from contemplating God by ourselves in sharing our faith with others.

As St Paul says in our second reading, the Spirit works in many ways and our life of faith is made up of many aspects. We serve God not merely by meditating on his greatness but by opening ourselves to him, especially through the sacraments and by sharing the good news with others. In our lives there will always be some moments when we are overcome with wonder, with gratitude or even, with sorrow. It is important that we do not try to cling forever to these moments but allow the Holy Spirit to breathe new life into us, so that God's purpose may be fulfilled in us.

Action Plan:

- Reflect on whether your personal prayers and beliefs leads you to reach out to others.
- What could be done in our church to make the wider community more aware of God's love and will for all of us?
- Keep the Parish Mission (9th – 14th of June) in your hearts and minds as a way forward.

**God Bless you,
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 Margaret Dumbrell, Eddie and Martha Dwyer, Fiona Forder, James Francis, Mary Gallet, Anna Gawlik, Ian Gilling, Maisie Glennon, Maureen Gorham, Kevin Harty, Bernadette Hedde, 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, Iivan 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:

11th & 12th May 2024

Loose

£830.79

Envelopes

£282.50

Mother and Toddlers Group:

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

Baptism Course:

The next Baptism course will take place on Saturday 8th June in the Parish Hall at 9am. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

Confirmation Programme:

Today we have 10 young people from our Parish who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at 3pm this afternoon. Please pray for them.

First Holy Communion Programme 23-2024:

Congratulations to the 39 children who received their first Holy Communion over the last 2 weekends. The Thanksgiving Mass will take place on 9th June at 11am.

Dates for your Diary:

- **26th May 2024:** May Procession at 3pm (**Next Sunday**) Followed by parish BBQ
- **09th – 14th June 2024:** Parish Mission Week (*We continue to say our Mission prayer*)

Vigil of St Rita:

On Tuesday 21st May, the Vigil of St Rita, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support.

www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

Church Cleaners:

Would you like to help Our Lady keep her Son's house - The Church clean. If you are interested, please come along on Monday mornings after Mass.

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 or visit the website www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/

R.I.P:

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Artur Berisha who died recently. His funeral Mass will take place this Monday at 1pm. Please also pray for the soul of Janice Laide. Her funeral will take place on Tuesday 28th May at 10.30am at Corbets Tey, Upminster Cemetery. May they rest in peace.

Youth Mass, Thursday 6th June 2024, Brentwood Cathedral

This may be a busy and stressful time for many of you, particularly those taking exams. The Cathedral and Parish Hall will be open for you to socialise, pray and celebrate Mass with us, or pop in for a break from revision, change of scenery or quiet personal prayer. Pizza from 6pm in the Parish Hall, Mass at 7:30pm in the Cathedral.

Revive. Discover. Empower." Retreat for Young Adults, 22nd – 23rd June at Walsingham House at Abbotswick

This young adult retreat is an opportunity for spiritual growth and reflection, to **revive**, **discover** and **empower** you in your faith. *This retreat is aimed at those aged 18+, having left school, to roughly 30.* All details can be found at www.bcys.net/events

Walsingham House Anniversary Mass, 31st August at Walsingham Hse at Abbotswick

Celebrate 40 years of team at Walsingham House with us, beginning with Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan at 12pm followed by celebrations at our beautiful retreat house just outside Brentwood.

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

Right to Life

As the Easter season draws to a close, may the spirit of Easter and new life remain with us. Let us pray that the good works and charity of our church community continue, especially towards the needy among us preparing for the birth of a child.

Prayers for the Parish Mission this Sunday

This Sunday evening, we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 6pm -7pm to pray for the intentions of our Parish Mission. All are invited.

New Lectionary:

You may have heard that a new translation of the scripture readings for Mass has been authorised and will come into use from Advent this year. Various editions of people's missals will be made available from the usual publishers; if you are looking to buy one for yourself or as a gift do take care to make sure you get the new version which will typically only be on pre-order at present.