

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> July – <b>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</b>	6.30pm	Eilish Madden (R.I.P)
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> July – <b>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</b>	9.00am	People of Parish
	11.00am	Janice Laird (R.I.P)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July– <b>St Mary Magdalene</b>	9.00am	Michelle & Family (Int)
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July – <b>St Bridget of Sweden</b>	9.00am	Mark Finnegan (R.I.P)
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July – Feria	9.00am	Daniel & Family (Int)
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> July – <b>St James</b>	9:00am	Richard & Family
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> July – <b>SS Joachim and Anne</b>	10.00am	Michaela Richardson (R.I.P)
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> July – Feria	9.00am	Bill & Edward Shorey (R.I.P)

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**

Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> July – <b>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</b>	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> July – <b>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)</b>	9.00am	Ann O'Connor (R.I.P) Anniversary
	11.00am	Roderick Young (R.I.P)

**Thought for the Week: Falling in love with God, St Ignatius of Loyola (Feast Day 31<sup>st</sup> of July)**

Nothing is more practical than finding God, that is than falling in love in an absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the mornings, what you will do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends. What you read, who you know, what breaks your heart, and what amazes you with love and gratitude. Fall, in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything. – **Joseph Whelam SJ**

**Please Note:** Next week will be the last Formal Newsletter for Summer. Mass intentions for each day will be Published at the back of the Church.



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



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**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**  
**20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> July 2024**

Dear Friends,

There are 150 Psalms in the Bible. They were the common prayers of God's people in Old Testament times. Always, they were sung. (That is what the word Psalm means; sung prayer). Today we have Psalm 23, which, is the most popular one.

The Psalms predate Jesus and were the prayers that he learned and used. Because of his use of them, they have always been special to Christians.

Composed by several authors and at different times, the psalms were the prayers of people of faith. These people lived in a semi-desert region; this accounts for the images that were used to trust in God. For instance, God was a 'rock of shelter'. a 'running stream', a 'shepherd'.

In daily life, a handful of sheep were prized possessions. Furthermore, the shepherd was crucial to the sheep. Without constant attention, they would not survive the rigours of semi-desert life. 'Green pastures' and 'restful waters' were vital. 'The Lord is my shepherd' was the prayer of a person who lived through daunting experiences and found God a sure guide – a 'shepherd'. Anybody who has lived through grief, rejection or depression has had to 'walk in the valley of the darkness'. For us, this psalm-prayer continues to express a faith that is at once tested and well founded.

**PRAYER:**

Compassionate God, from far and near, you gather your Church into one. Safeguard the unity of your flock through the teaching of Christ the Shepherd, that all your scattered children may find in him the guidance and nourishment they seek. Through Christ our Lord.

*God Bless*  
*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, Anne Dunn, Rose Dique, Sarah Content, Maureen Daly, John Detheridge, Katherine Day, Gerry Margaret Dumbrill, Eddie and Martha Dwyer, Fiona Forder, James Francis, Mary Gallet, Anna Gawlik, Ian Gilling, 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, 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, Julia Stokes, Teresa Shorey, John Sinclair, The Salter Family (Bert, Charlie and Bert's Daughter-in-law), Joanne Gardener, 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:**

13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**Loose**

£664.23

**Envelopes**

£332.19

**Mother and Toddlers Group:**

Summer Holidays opening Hours for the Mother and Toddlers Group:

Next week open Tuesday-Thursday as normal.

Closed W/C 29<sup>th</sup> July

Closed W/C 5<sup>th</sup> August

Open 14<sup>th</sup> August & 15<sup>th</sup> August – 10:00 - 11:15am

Open 21<sup>st</sup> August & 22<sup>nd</sup> August – 10:00 - 11:15am

Open 28<sup>th</sup> August & 29<sup>th</sup> August – 10:00 - 11:15am

W/C 2<sup>nd</sup> September - back to normal.

Please contact Maria on 07751 236262 for more information.

**Baptism Course:**

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

**Foodbank:**

There is now a permanent container in the porch of the church for the Foodbank, and for baby milk for the baby bank. Items will be picked up fortnightly, or when full. Contact info: [caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org) / 01277 373959.

**Full time Attendance and Pastoral Support Officer: Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School Upminster**

An opportunity to be part of a dynamic and creative team with a strong ethos of collaborative working. A supportive environment in which your talent and commitment will be encouraged, nurtured and rewarded. The opportunity to work with ambitious and highly motivated students. A warm welcome from a thriving and happy school community with a strong family ethos. Training as necessary to support in the role. Contact: [admin@mary.haverling.sch.uk](mailto:admin@mary.haverling.sch.uk)

**Rediscover your Marriage:**

Retrouvaille offers you the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10s of 1000s headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email : [retrouvilleinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvilleinfo@gmail.com) – or visit: [www.retrouville.org.uk](http://www.retrouville.org.uk)

**Right to Life**

This week, as we celebrate the feast of SS Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus, let us pray for new parents and grandparents, that they may manifest the love and mercy of God to their children and grandchildren.

**R.I.P**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bethel Dike. His funeral will take place next Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July at 10am. May he rest in peace.

**St Alban's – Reception Class for September 2024**

There are currently vacancies in the Reception Class starting this coming September. If you know of any families looking for a Reception space for September, please advise them to contact the school office. Some families who are not practising may have chosen not to apply as they could not complete the Catholic Practice certificate. They would be very welcome to apply. Call 01708 555644 for more information or help with applying.

**Vacancy Walsingham House Retreat Manager**

Walsingham House at Abbotswick, the youth retreat centre for the Diocese of Brentwood, are seeking to appoint a Retreat Manager. The Retreat Manager will work to ensure the smooth and efficient running of retreats, leading and training the volunteer team, and developing the programmes on offer to schools and parishes. Walsingham House has an excellent reputation for the quality of the retreats offered and after a year to rebuild we are keen to develop this further. This is not necessarily a "live-in" role but accommodation can be provided if required. For more information please see: <https://bcys.net/news/vacancies/> Closing date is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August.

**The Bethlehem Nativity Group**

The Bethlehem Nativity Group TBNG, A missionary from Bethlehem, The Holy Land, will visit us on the weekend 27th - 28th July to briefly talk about the Holy Land and sell religious articles made out of Olive Wood to help and support the poor Christian families, any help you could give to them it will be highly appreciated (when you help the poor you help our Lord").

**Welcome:**

We welcome Fr Spencer Nyendwa to our Parish, who will be covering for Canon Maurice while he is on pilgrimage in Lourdes.

**Holy Communion Programme 24/2025**

Application forms for the next Holy Communion Programme starting in September 2024 will be at the back of the Church from this Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of July until Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> of September.