

MASS INTENTIONS
Third Sunday of Easter (Year C)

Saturday 3rd May – Third Sunday of Easter	6.30pm	James Dunne (R.I.P)
Sunday 4th May – Third Sunday of Easter	9:00am	Pope Francis (R.I.P)
	11:00am	Alan Stokes (R.I.P)
Monday 5th May – Monday after Third Sunday of Easter	9:00am	Albert Anilni Nuamah (R.I.P)
Tuesday 6th May – St John Payne	9:00am	May Swanawa (90 th Birthday)
Wednesday 7th May – Wednesday after The Third Sunday of Easter	9.00am	David Lynch (Int)
Thursday 8th May – Thursday after The Third Sunday of Easter	9.00am	Josie Keane (R.I.P)
Friday 9th May – Friday after Third Sunday of Easter	9:00am	Holy Souls
Saturday 10th May – Saturday after Third Sunday of Easter	9:00am	Mary Coleman (Int)

Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

Saturday 10th May – Fourth Sunday of Easter	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 11th May – Fourth Sunday of Easter	9:00am	Confirmation Candidates
	11:00am	Gavin Turner (Birthday Int)

Prayer for Our Lady's Month:

O most beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendour of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me, that you are my Mother and my protector. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to aid me in my need.

May is a beautiful time to deepen your relationship with the blessed Mother and seek her intercession in your life. Our Parish Procession in Honour of Our Lady will be on 25th of May at 3pm.



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



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Third Sunday of Easter (Year C)
3rd & 4th May 2025

Dear friends,

In today's Gospel (John 21:1-19) the disciples recognise the Lord standing on the shore of Tiberius. Peter's three denials were uppermost in his mind, and he felt great shame. St John notes that Peter puts on his clothes before jumping into the water and moving towards Christ. This subtle detail is reminiscent of Adam and Eve in the garden, who covered themselves in shame after original sin. The same is true for us – when we let Jesus into our lives, we become more aware of our sinfulness. The light shows up the smudges on the windows, but that is a good sign, because it shows that God is operative in our lives. It is the Holy Spirit who convicts us of sin and moves us to repentance. Christ isn't looking to humiliate Peter, but to reinstate him. He leads him through a process of repentance. As Peter denied Jesus three times by a charcoal fire, now, also by a fire, Christ asks Peter to reaffirm his love. Three times he asks, 'Do you love me?' Christianity is not a philosophy. It is not a set of abstract ideas. It is a relationship with the Person of Jesus. Peter says humbly that he loves Christ. His love is sincere, and now he knows his own weakness, he trusts not in himself, but completely in Christ. Now Christ can do in Peter what Peter wanted to do but could not do on his own. He receives his mission – to take care of the sheep. And ultimately, he gives his life for Christ and the Church. What is our mission? Peter receives a special commission as the first Pope, but the call to give ourselves and feed others belongs to all of us. "I was hungry, and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me to drink, a stranger and you made me welcome." We pray that the Lord may illumine our lives, and lead us into a deeper relationship with Him, so that He can work through us as we serve others.

God Bless
Canon Maurice

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

Nell Addison, Christophe Amblard, Paul & Eva Au, Michael Balfour, William Bradbury, Rose Cahill, Marlene Camay, John Carty, Bernard Carantinos, Macmillan Chitoma Bras-Goncalves, 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, Julia Joseph, Kathleen Kavanagh, Rev Tom Keighley, Baby Stephen Kelly, Vicky Loik, David Lynch, Mary Lynes, Amaogechi Mbanu, Siobhan McKeon, Norah McLoughlin, Gladys McQuaid, John Morrison, Ann Mount, Jim Nolan, Brian Nash, Livan Opoku-Agyemang, Baby Teegan Oakley, Dean Partleton, Michelle Pointer, Baby Teddy Rands, Dr Nikhil Rao, Jennie Reddy, Louis Russo, 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, Melon Vigo, 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:

26th & 27th April 2025

Loose

£573.29

Envelopes

£488.37

Right to Life:

Let us pray for all those who care for people with disabilities, including family members and professionals, that the Lord would revive their spirits and that they would get the necessary respite care they require to relieve body and mind.

Holy Communion Programme:

The next session will be this Thursday 8th of May at 6pm which will be a practice session for the children who are receiving their First Communion this Sunday 11th of May. For those who are receiving their Communion next Sunday 18th of May the rehearsal will be next Thursday 15th of May at 6pm.

Baptism Course:

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

Confirmation Programme 24/2025:

The next session for the confirmation programme will be on Sunday 25th for the Procession in Honour of Our Lady. The Confirmation Candidates will lead us in the Fifth Glorious Mystery of the Rosary.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage and Family Life:

The Mass will take place on 21st of June in Brentwood Cathedral. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, please let Canon Maurice know. Bishop Bosco MacDonald, the lead Bishop for Marriage and Family Life writes "The hope of marriage is that it becomes a source of stability and happiness showing us the endless love that God has for all of us".

Mother & Toddler Group:

If you would like to join us in 2025, please contact Maria at stalbanstoddler@yahoo.com or 07774 719 806 for more information.

The Acts Of The Apostles:

Throughout the Easter period we read each day in the Liturgy from the Acts of the Apostles. Talks by Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park, are available on www.whatgoodnews.org Please go to 'Faith Talks' and scroll down to 'Acts of the Apostles' and 'Paul in Acts'.

Holy Hour:

You are invited to spend time in prayer, face to face with Jesus in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: each Sunday evening 6pm – 7pm. You can pray with scriptures, rosary or simply in your own words as you enjoy his presence. It was suggested during our Mission last year that we pray for the following intentions:

- For the Young People of our Parish
- For those caught up in addictions of one kind or another
- For the spiritual and temporal wellbeing of married couples and the families of our Parish
- For those struggling with emotional and psychological wounds
- For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life
- For the successor of Pope Francis

Youth Mass, First Thursday of the Month, Brentwood Cathedral, from 6pm

Join the BCYS to celebrate Youth Mass each month with other young Catholics from all around the Diocese.

There will be pizza in the Parish Hall from 6pm, with a different input each month - speakers, workshops, prayer and worship, Reconciliation or more!

Youth Mass is then celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. **Next date: Thursday 5th June.**

Dates for your Diary

- **Sunday 11th May and Sunday 18th May** – First Holy Communion at 11am Mass
- **Sunday 25th May** – May Procession at 3pm and BBQ after
- **Wednesday 4th June** – Pastoral visit by Bishop Alan and Confirmation
- **Saturday 12th July** – First Communion Families Pilgrimage to Aylesford, coach leaves at 9am
- **Saturday 14th June** – Horticultural Summer Show in the Parish Hall

May Procession:

The May Procession in Honour of Our Lady will take place on the 25th of May at 3pm. Invitations will be given out to all Parishioners during the next few weeks.

Parish Social Committee:

Our Parish needs a social committee to organise Parish Events. For those interested in helping we invite you to a meeting in the presbytery on Monday the 12th of May at 7pm. We need helpers to organise the May Procession and to help with the BBQ afterwards. We would be very grateful for your help in this matter. Thank you.

St John Bosco Children's Camp – Brentwood Diocese:

The St John Bosco Camp provides an opportunity for children to have an exciting, activity-packed camping holiday in the Essex countryside. Children live in tents, in groups of seven or eight and the entire week is taken up with a full programme of planned and supervised activities. This camp will be for children in Year 5, 6 and 7. For application please visit: <https://boscocamp.co.uk/child-applications>

Come and See Weekends 2025:

For Catholic women aged 25 – 45 who are discerning a vocation to religious life please visit the website: www.hcawhitland.co.uk or Email comeandsee@hcawhitland.co.uk