

MASS INTENTIONS

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Saturday 12th July – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Mr Bose Guntupalli (R.I.P)
Sunday 13th July – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Henry Hughes (R.I.P)
	11:00am	People of the Parish
Monday 14 th July – Feria	9:00am	Gregory Adams (R.I.P)
Tuesday 15 th July – St Bonaventure	9:00am	Mary Abel (R.I.P)
Wednesday 16 th July – Feria	9.00am	Onodu Family (Int)
Thursday 17 th July – Feria	9.00am	Grace Abel (R.I.P)
Friday 18 th July – Feria	9:00am	Breda Shepherd (R.I.P)
Saturday 19 th July – Feria	9:00am	Nell Addison (100 th Birthday Int)

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Saturday 19th July – Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Darleny McInally's (Int)
Sunday 20th July – Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00am	Prosper Family (R.I.P)
	11:00am	Appleton Family (Int)

Reflection for the Week: Silence

It's difficult to find silence these days. Even on the bus, I often find my self having to put in earbuds to listen to some gentle music to block out all the frenetic conversations going on around me, whether it's people catching up with friends and loved ones around the world, or others sharing details of their everyday lives – what he said and she said, what I said we said... The Theologian and staunch resister of the Nazi dictatorship Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, 'In silence is embedded the marvellous power of clarification, purification and concentration on essentials'. Bonhoeffer's words tell us that silence is never a waste of time; rather it helps us to find our way, to get the right perspective and to recharge the batteries of the soul.

- Alan Hilliard



ST ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Langdale Gardens RM12 5LA

PARISH PRIEST: Canon Maurice Gordon



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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

12th & 13th July 2025

Dear friends,

Our God is a God of surprises. His guidance is to be found all around us. He asks us to live so that all people will care for each other in a world where things can be very difficult at times.

TO SEE, TO FEEL AND TO GIVE:

No word has been cheapened so much today as love. The teaching of Jesus brings out its practical nature in the actions of the Good Samaritan. He saw; he felt pity; and he did something to remedy the situation. The first step in love is in paying attention to other people. We open the shutters of our aloofness and see other people and hear them. By paying attention to people, we are letting them come to knock on our doors, seeking entry into our lives. Sometimes we erect barriers to prevent people from knocking on our doors. Certain people are barred because of prejudice or discrimination. Or we shrink from the demands of love, so we are too busy to hear their knock.

The next step is to answer the knock and let the person in. The Samaritan was 'moved with compassion'. Compassion means accepting the pain of the other and responding to it. When others knock on our door compassion lets them in and is willing to reach out to them whether they are asking us to share tears in their sorrow or laughter in their joy, to pity them in their pain or celebrate with their thankfulness, to give to their emptiness or receive from their fullness.

The third step of the good neighbour is to take practical action. Feeling is empty if it does not lead to concrete action, practical generosity which forgets about personal convenience and gives. Love begins at home; with the people we meet every day. The law that I enjoin of you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach..... The Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance'. (First Reading) Now is the favourable time. Today is the day to see, to feel and to give.

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 Dumbrell, 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), 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:

5th & 6th July 2025

Loose

£579.14

Envelopes

£408.35

Right to Life:

Let us pray for the ears to hear God's call to help the vulnerable in our midst, including people with disabilities, people in hospital, those in nursing homes, the housebound, and the unborn.

Mother & Toddler Group:

Our final session of this academic year is Tuesday 22 July, but we will be open on Wednesdays at 10am for holiday playgroup throughout the Summer holidays, older siblings are welcome to attend too. We are also looking for new volunteers to join us from September. Even an hour a week would help us; you can be any age! If you're passionate about early years and supporting families and the community, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Maria for booking details or to apply as a volunteer on 07774 719806 or stalbanstoddler@yahoo.com

Fast Day:

Please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia on Thursday 24th July, the Vigil of the Feast of St James. See attached poster. These days seem quite dark, what with Parliament voting to partly decriminalise abortion and voting to legalise euthanasia. Please invite others to join us in praying and fasting for life, you can do so with this link, <https://www.facebook.com/events/1419157822872567>

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025:

Canon Maurice is going on the pilgrimage next Friday the 18th July to Lourdes which is led by Bishop Alan and anyone wishing to give petitions or intercessions Canon Maurice will be happy to bring them with him and he place them at the grotto of Our Lady and St Bernadette. There is a box at the back of the Church for you to put them into.

Maranatha:

Join us for Mass and Prayer and Praise on Thursday 17th July from 7.00 to 9.00pm at the Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 9BX. All are welcome and there is no need to book, just come along. CCR Team.

R.I.P

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Gion Rozzo who died recently. His funeral will take place this Monday the 14th of July at 1pm. May he rest in peace.

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 intentions of Pope Leo XIV

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 7th August.**

Holy Communion Programme 2025/26:

Applications for this year's First Holy Communion programme will be available from the back of the church from Saturday 25th July until 14th September 2025. The parents meeting will be held on Sunday 21st September at 4:30pm in the parish hall.

Knights of Saint Columba Holy Relic Tour

The Knights of Saint Columba are delighted to announce that between Friday 1st August and Sunday 10th August we will be touring the First-Class Holy Relics of St Columba, St Margaret of Scotland and St Andrew throughout the Diocese of Brentwood. Visiting Clacton, Kelvedon, Chelmsford (Blessed Sacrament), Eastwood, Basildon, Brentwood Cathedral, Hornchurch, West Ham, Elm Park and Chingford. The Holy Relics will be available during periods of each day for private prayer and veneration. Next week we will announce the exact timings and venues as we build up to this remarkable opportunity to be close both physically and spiritually to these remarkable saints. For further information please email Liam Rand prov10.ippgk.liamrand@gmail.com

Volunteers Needed to Serve the Parish Community from September onwards:

- Safeguarding is an important part of our parish community we are looking for people who would be willing to help in the capacity of a safeguarding officer. Knowledge and experience would be helpful, but not necessary as training is available. Please contact the Office, Emma Rix, Deacon Ken or Canon Maurice.
- We need six volunteers to count the weekly offertory; this will allow a rota system to be established which would minimise the commitment. Please contact the Office, Deacon Ken or Canon Maurice.

Second collection will be taken today to help Seafarers and fishers who face dangerous, isolation and hardship. Your Kindness brings hope, faith and support.