

## MASS INTENTIONS

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> January – Second Sunday of Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Maureen & Noreen Walsh (R.I.P)
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> January – Second Sunday of Ordinary Time	9:00am	James O'Brien (R.I.P)
	11:00am	Deceased Members of the Abela & Borg Families
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> January – Feria	9:00am	Ron McKertich (Int)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January – Feria	9:00am	Teresa Morris (R.I.P)
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January – St Agnes	9:00am	Joe Mahony (R.I.P)
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January – Feria	9:00am	Thanksgiving
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January – Feria	9:00am	Mark Finnegan (R.I.P)
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> January – St Frances de Sales	9:00am	Vincent Brady (R.I.P)

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> January – Third Sunday of Ordinary Time	6:30pm	Liam McDonald & Clement Janganant (R.I.P)
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> January – Third Sunday of Ordinary Time	9:00am	Susan Williams (R.I.P)
	11:00am	Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)

### Thought for the Week:

John 'Saw Jesus coming towards him.' – Jesus is always coming towards us, too. Why? Because he loves us. He never imposes himself. He doesn't burst through the door and force us to accept him or even acknowledge him. But he does remain close, hoping we will catch a glimpse of his love and, in that instant, recognise that he is everything our hearts long for. What will happen if we open the door of our life, of our heart, to Christ? He will call us to abandon the tight confines of our egotism, greed, lust, envy, and selfishness. He will open new dimension to our poor, fleeting days on this earth.



## ST ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Langdale Gardens RM12 5LA

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### Second Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Friends,

In this Octave of prayer for Christian Unity, we are called upon to deepen our appreciation of the riches of other religious traditions. When we pray for Church Unity, we do not pray that Presbyterians, Methodists, Anglicans, Catholics will forget their own separate history, traditions and identity to form one big, vague Christian merger. Just as in marriage, unity does not mean uniformity or sameness. The day when Christians can worship as one and the same people, in one and the same place, is still a long way off. But let us begin. We pray that the different religious families will become stronger and closer.

The Universal Catechism of the Catholic Church points out that Christians must pray and work to maintain, reinforce and perfect the unity that Christ wills. To respond adequately to that call, it holds that certain qualities are needed, a permanent renewal of the Church in her own vocation.

Cardinal Mercier in his Testament says simply 'In order to be united we must love one another, to love one another we must know one another, to know one another we must meet one another'

The Octave of prayer for Christian Unity falls between 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> January. Next Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> of January we gather with our brothers and sisters from our local Churches at St Albans Church at 6:30pm to meet and to celebrate together in prayer and song our Christian witness, everyone is welcome.

*God Bless  
Canon Maurice*

**Please pray for all who are sick, including:**

Nell Addison, Domingos De Albuquesque, Christophe Amblard, Eva Au, Michael Balfour, William Bradbury, Rose Cahill, Marlene Camay, John Carty, Macmillan Chitoma Bras-Goncalves, Maureen Daly, Katherine Day, Gerry Margaret Dumbrill, Martha Dwyer, Fiona Forder, James Francis, Catherine Friel, Mary Gallet, Anna Gawlik, Ian Gilling, Maisie Glennon, Maureen Gorham, Kevin Harty, Bernadette Heddle, Peter Hemsley, Ellen Hurley, Mathew John, Julia Joseph, Kathleen Kavanagh, 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, Robin Stinson, Julia Stokes, Teresa Shorey, John Sinclair, The Salter Family (Bert, Charlie and Bert's Daughter-in-law), Charles Stimpson, Julia Thomas, Melon Vigo, Heather Wood, 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:**  
10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026

<b><u>Loose</u></b>	<b><u>Envelopes</u></b>
£741.51	£540.11

**Baptism Course:**

The next session for the Baptism course will take place on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> of February at 9am in the Parish Hall. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

**Holy Communion Programme 2025/26:**

The next session will take place this Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 2026 at 7pm. Children will meet in the Parish Hall and Parents in the Church. We also continue the sessions every Sunday for the children and parents not attending Catholic Schools at 10.10am to 10.45am,

**Confirmation Programme:**

The next session will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of February at Brentwood Cathedral. The coach will leave the Church at 5:30pm. It is expected that all our confirmation candidates will attend.

**Journey in Faith Programme (RCIA):**

Anyone who wishes to know more about the basics of the Faith or is interested in joining the Church is invited to the weekly session every Monday at 7:30pm in the Presbytery.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:**

Join Bishop Alan and pilgrims from across our diocese in Lourdes next summer: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Booking details will be available in the new year.

**Holy Hour:**

Please note Holy Hour continues every Sunday 6 -7pm. But next Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> there will be no Holy Hour as we meet for our Christian Unity Service at 6:30pm.

**Mother & Toddler Group:**

If you would like to join us in 2026, please contact Maria at [stalbanstoddler@yahoo.com](mailto:stalbanstoddler@yahoo.com) or 07774 719 806 for more information.

**BCYS Summer Lourdes:**

Applications are now open for the pilgrimage next July, for those in Year 10 and above. Sign up by January: <https://bcys.net/events/sl26/>.

**Monthly Youth Mass**

The next Youth Mass is on 5<sup>th</sup> February at Brentwood Cathedral 7.30pm

**Post Confirmation Group:**

We are hoping to start a post confirmation group meeting every month starting from Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of February at 6:30pm. There is a felt need for young people to be supported, and this project could enhance the Spiritual development of our young people. The strength of our young people is in working together as a group.

**R.I.P:**

We pray for the repose of the souls of Rosalinda Mesina who died recently. Her Requiem Mass will take place this Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of January at 1pm. Please also pray for Margaret Keating her Requiem Mass will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> of January at 10:45am. Please also pray for James Akinyemi who died suddenly in Nigeria, funeral arrangements later. May they Rest in Peace.

**Holy Father's Intention for January:**

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope for your communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

**Elm Park Horticultural Society**

It is with regret that we announce the sad death of Bernie Williams the chair of the horticultural society. His funeral will be this Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at South Essex Crematorium 2.30pm.

**Dates For Your Diary:**

- **Ash Wednesday** – 18<sup>th</sup> of February
- **Variety Show** – 21<sup>st</sup> of March
- **Easter Triduum** – 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> of April

**BCCS Afternoon Tea**

The Brentwood Catholic Children Society is delighted to kick off the year with an invitation to Afternoon Tea. Hosted in the opulent surroundings of the Roslin Beach Hotel in Southend-on-Sea on **Tuesday 17th February 2026 (13:30-15:30)**.

Set in the elegant ballroom of this prestigious venue, this fundraising event promises an experience of true luxury.

Tickets are £35 per person - for more information or to book your place search [www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/](http://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/) or contact Julie ([jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) or 07912277413).

**Social Committee:**

We would like to organise a social committee with people that will be available to help at any parish events like the Bazaar, variety show and tea making for other events. The meeting will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February at 7pm, anyone interested is welcome to join us. Thank you