

MASS INTENTIONS

Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

Saturday 7 th February – Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time	6.30pm	Eddie O'Dwyer (R.I.P)
Sunday 8 th February – Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.00am	Michael Palmer (R.I.P)
	11:00am	Thanksgiving
Monday 9 th February – Feria	9:00am	Billy Hudson (R.I.P)
Tuesday 10 th February – St Scholastica	9:00am	Good Health
Wednesday 11 th February – Our Lady of Lourdes, Principal Patroness of the Diocese	9:00am	Paddy Kirk (R.I.P)
Thursday 12 th February – Feria	9:00am	Nora & John Fennessey (Wed anni)
Friday 13 th February – Feria	9:00am	Richard Kelya & Family (Int)
Saturday 14 th February – St Cyril & St Methodius	9:00am	Thomas Turner (Birthday Int)

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

Saturday 14 th February – Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time	6:30pm	Willie Dwyer (R.I.P)
Sunday 15 th February – Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time	9:00am	Charles Stimpson (R.I.P)
	11:00am	Mr Pat Ruane (Int)

Thought for the Week: Day of Prayer for the victims of Abuse

Lord, forgive us our many sins. We grieve and repent with all our hearts for having offended you, for our great failings and neglect of the young and vulnerable. We place all of those who have been hurt by the Church in any way into your loving hands and under the protection of Our Blessed Mother. Lord, bring peace to their broken lives and show us all the way out of darkness and into the light of your Word. May we as the people of God be more fully human, more fully Christ-like and more fully your people, that we may see the errors of the past and go forward with renewed hope and faith in Christ and in our Church. Amen.



ST ALBAN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Langdale Gardens RM12 5LA

PARISH PRIEST: Canon Maurice Gordon



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Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

7th & 8th February 2026

Dear Friends,

Salt adds flavour to food and keeps it from going bad. Light brightens up the world and shows people the way. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that they are to be like light and salt. This is a challenge to us because we are so prone to laziness, selfishness and cowardice.

Christ affirms us in who we are. "You are the salt of the earth; you are the light of the world! He has given us the responsibility of Christian living and given us the freedom to accept or reject it. It is because of who we are that we are invited to live in a certain way. Jesus encourages and inspires us to live with dignity as we are. But what does it mean to be 'salt' and 'light'?

Just as salt gives flavour and adds taste we, as salt should have a positive influence, make an impact on life where we find ourselves. As light shines out in the darkness, however small its flame, we too should be shining examples of love, care and forgiveness of Christ.

We are called to live our lives fully as Christians in the situations in which we live whether we are married, single, young or old, working or unemployed. We bring with us the values of Christ – honesty, integrity, generosity and truth. Then our good example will not go unnoticed and may be an inspiration to others to do the same. Our lives will then be witnesses to the Eucharist we celebrate, living examples of God's love on earth.

*God Bless
Canon Maurice*

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

Nell Addison, Domingos De Albuquesque, Christophe Amblard, Sheeba Antony, 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, 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.

<u>PARISH FINANCES:</u>	<u>Loose</u>	<u>Envelopes</u>
31 st January & 1 st February 2026	£605.18	£326.10

Baptism Course:

The next session for the Baptism course will take place on Saturday the 14th 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 on Thursday the 26th of February 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 for confirmation programme will be on Saturday the 7th of March.

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 17th - Friday 24th July 2026. Booking details will be available in the new year.

Holy Hour:

Please note Holy Hour continues every Sunday 6 -7pm.

Mother & Toddler Group:

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

Monthly Youth Mass

The next Youth Mass is on Thursday 5th March at Brentwood Cathedral 7.30pm.

Post Confirmation Group:

The next meeting will be on Friday the 6th of March at 6:30pm – 8pm.

R.I.P:

Please pray for Catherine Friel whose Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 11th of February at 12:45pm. Her remains will be brought into the Church on Tuesday 10th February evening at 5pm. Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Christmas Boina who also died recently. His funeral will take place on Thursday the 26th of February at 11am. May they Rest in Peace.

Dates For Your Diary:

- Ash Wednesday – 18th of February**
- Easter Triduum – 2nd – 5th 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/ or contact Julie (jabbott@bccs.org.uk or 07912277413).

St John Bosco Children's Camp:

If you are in school year 12 or students age (or any age over 17!) you are very welcome to apply at www.boscocamp.co.uk. The application process includes references and a DBS check, which we can help with, as well as a training and support before and during camp. The camp provides over 100 children a week with a summer holiday – for many their only holiday. As a volunteer you use your skills in assisting with different sporting and fun activities, as well as the practical aspects of camp life. **Volunteer for 25th July – 1st August or 1st – 8th August.** The camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood and also seeks financial donations – all information on the website.

Curious about the Camino?

This Friday, 13th February 7-8pm. Clodagh and Luke Benning, experienced Camino pilgrims, will join Fr Dominic (who walked from Fatima to Santiago last summer) for an hour of information, memories, tips and hints. Ideal if you are a Camino walker who wants to reminisce, or if you are thinking of walking the Camino in the future. St Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, 5 Park End Road, Romford RM1 4AT.

SERIES OF FOUR LENTEN LECTURES 2026:

Will take place at Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall commencing Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 7.30pm. The theme this year is: "What does it truly mean to be Catholic?" This invitation is to the whole Diocese of Brentwood. All Welcome!

- Talk 1: Wednesday 25th February at 7:30pm. Abbot Hugh Allan, O Praem. "I Believe..." Living and Proclaiming the Catholic Faith.**
- Talk 2: Wednesday 4th March at 7:30pm. Rev Msgr Kevin W Hale, VG. Being Catholic and the call to holiness as seen in the lives of some recently canonised saints.**