

MASS INTENTIONS
Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Saturday 9th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter	6:30pm	Charles McLaughlin (R.I.P)
Sunday 10th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter	9:00am	Steven Hughes (Int)
	11:00am	Pears Gene (R.I.P)
Monday 11th May – Monday of the Sixth Week of Easter	9:00am	David Eyres (Int)
Tuesday 12th May – St John Houghton	9:00am	Julia Wreford (R.I.P)
Wednesday 13th May – St Erconwald	9:00am	Carol & Michael Blake (Int)
Thursday 14th May – The Ascension of the Lord	9:00am	Arnold & Family
	7:30pm	People of the Parish
Friday 15th May – Friday of the Sixth Week of Easter	9:00am	Chole (Int)
Saturday 16th May – Saturday of the Sixth Week of Easter	9:00am	Chole (Int)

Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Saturday 16th May – Seventh Sunday of Easter	6:30pm	David Evans (R.I.P)
Sunday 17th May – Seventh Sunday of Easter	9:00am	Marjorie Finney (R.I.P)
	11:00am	Rene Pears (R.I.P)

Thought for the Week:

Jesus speaks about being still alive even after his death. Mostly we find Jesus to be alive for us in the love of others. There is an energy of love which is connected to the energy of God, for God is love. This is the working of the Spirit of God, alive in love, care and compassion, and in all other good works. Love is evident in action and any activity can be tiring. I do not need to rely on my own resources but turn to God who promises to help me, ready to send the Holy Spirit. Like a bargain-hunter or a bird-spotter, I train my heart to recognise the ways of God.



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



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Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A)
9th & 10th May 2026

Dear Friends,

In two weeks' time, we celebrate the feast of Pentecost. It is hard to believe we are already more than halfway through the seven-week season of Easter. As we get closer to the feast of Pentecost, we will begin to hear more references to the Holy Spirit in the readings that are proclaimed at Mass.

Today's Gospel reading Jesus says to his disciples, 'the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.'

Jesus then hasn't left us, He simply taken on a new role assumed a new position. He whom has made himself our saviour has now become our Lord and Advocate with the Father. Jesus is closer to us than ever and in a better position to help us. The first Christians understood this very well, they knew that Jesus was still with them even if not as the same way as before, they believed He still shared their lives, and that death would mean being united with Him in glory forever.

In the meantime, He is relying on us to make His presents felt in the world. For He has no hands now but ours to raise up the fallen. He has no feet but ours to seek out the lost. He has no eyes but ours to see the silent tears of the suffering. He has no ears but ours to listen to the lonely. He has no tongue but ours to speak a word of comfort to the sad. He has no heart but ours to love the unloved. Christ often picks the unknown people to do His greatest work. Have a good week!

God Bless
Canon Maurice

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

Nell Addison, Domingos De Albuquerque, Christophe Amblard, Sheeba Antony, Eva Au, Michael Balfour, Mary Bowdler, William Bradbury, Rose Cahill, Marlene Camay, John Carty, Macmillan Chitoma Bras-Goncalves, Maureen Daly, Katherine Day, Gerry Margaret Dumbrell, Martha Dwyer, Zain Falzon, Fiona Forder, James Francis, Jean Floreutin, Mary Gallet, Anna Gawlik, Ian Gilling, Maisie Glennon, Maureen Gorham, Kevin Harty, Bernadette Heddle, Peter Hemsley, Ellen Hurley, Mathew John, Julia Joseph, Kathleen Kavanagh, Ann Keaney, Baby Stephen Kelly, Mary Williams, 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, 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:

2nd & 3rd May 2026

Loose

£537.09

Envelopes

£471.32

Right to Life:

As we approach the Ascension of the Lord, this coming Thursday, we ask the Lord to protect in body and spirit, all those who are in hospice care and all those who are terminally ill. May they feel the warmth of God's comforting presence and find strength and hope in their time of need.

Baptism Course:

The next session for the Baptism course will take place on Saturday the 13th of June 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 be the rehearsals for Children receiving their First Holy Communion on:

17th of May – Rehearsal on 14th of May at 6pm.

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 the rehearsal on Monday the 18th of May at 7pm. *All Candidates and sponsors are expected to attend.* The Vigil will take place on Saturday the 23rd of May at 6:30pm – 9:30pm.

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 this **Thursday 4th June** at Brentwood Cathedral 7:30pm.

Post Confirmation Group:

The next meeting will be this Friday the 12th of June at 6:30pm – 8pm.

St John Bosco Children's Camp, summer 2026:

Applications are now open for children currently in school year 5 – 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026) to spend a week at camp. 25th July – 1st August or 1st – 8th August. Activities include archery, fishing, Aquapark visit, football, kayaking and much more. The camp is especially for children who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200, but full bursaries are available. All application details are at <https://boscocamp.co.uk>. Places are likely to go quickly – early applications are encouraged.

Dates For Your Diary:

- **Day of First Holy Communion** – Sunday 17th of May at 11am Mass
- **Day of Confirmation** – Sunday 24th of May at 3pm
- **Procession in Honour of Our Lady** – Sunday 31st of May at 3pm

Rest In Peace:

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Charles Kephelas who died recently. His Requiem Mass will take place on Friday the 22nd of May at 11:15am. May he Rest in Peace.

First Holy Communion:

This Sunday had 18 Children receiving our Lord for the First time in Holy Communion at the 11am Mass. Next Sunday we will have 15 more Children receiving the First Holy Communion at the 11am Mass. Do pray for the Children and their families.

Vocations Group:

We have started a vocations group. This will be for young people, year 10 and upwards. The next meeting will take place on Friday the 26th of June from 6:30pm – 8pm.

Westminster assisted suicide Bill has fallen:

The assisted suicide Bill has failed to pass all stages in the House of Lords. This means that Kim Leadbeater's assisted suicide Bill has fallen and will not become law! This is a major milestone, but the battle is not over. Assisted suicide campaigners have said they are going to try to bring the Bill back in the next parliamentary session and use the Parliament Acts to bypass the Lords. To find out more about this significant milestone and what comes next, visit: <https://righttolife.org.uk/LeadbeaterBillFalls>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:

Join Bishop Alan and pilgrims from across our diocese in Lourdes this summer: Friday 17th - Friday 24th July 2026. Bookings are open at <https://www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood>. There are some hard copies of the application available at the back of the Church for anyone interested.

Petition on Conscience Protection:

Defend NHS staff conscience rights. Following the fall of the Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill, fresh bids to introduce an assisted dying law in England and Wales are anticipated. Any new law would likely pressure NHS staff to be involved in some way and offer even less protection to institutions like hospices. You can help protect healthcare workers and hospices by signing the Bios Centre online petition at [Petition on Conscience Protection - Bios Centre](#) or using the QR code.

