

MASS INTENTIONS
Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Saturday 29th August – Twenty Second Sunday of Ordinary time	6:30pm	Amita 25 th Wedding Anniversary
Sunday 30th August – Twenty Second Sunday of Ordinary time	9:00am	Graham Wood Intentions
	11:00am	Andrew & Kathryn Turner Intentions
Monday 31st August – Feria	9:00am	Manuel Rosales (R.I.P)
Tuesday 1st September – St Sebba	9:00am	Mrs Anne Sullivan
Wednesday 2nd September – Feria	9:00am	Mark Finnegan (R.I.P)
Thursday 3rd September – ST George the Great	9:00am	Marie Claire Birthday Intentions
Friday 4th September – Feria	9:00am	K K Onima Thanksgiving
Saturday 5th September – Feria	9:00am	Linda Shalidy

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Saturday 5th September – Twenty Third Sunday of Ordinary time	6:30pm	Denis Woods
Sunday 6th September – Twenty Third Sunday of Ordinary time	9:00am	Gary Palmer (R.I.P)
	11:00am	Gift Agwuncha (R.I.P)

Thought for the Week:

Today's message puts before us the paradox of the Gospel: we gain life by letting go of it. If I put my happiness, me being loved, at the centre of my life, then I will surely fail, even though to be loved and to be happy are really important. If on the other hand I put the happiness of others first and love them unconditionally, then I too will know unselfish love and deep happiness. This is the very insight and wisdom that Jesus puts before us as the key not just to love but to life and within that, the key to authentic discipleship precisely as a way of life.

Teach us, Lord, That nothing is more life giving than to love and be loved in return. Amen.



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



Presbytery:

1 Ullswater Way, Elm Park, RM12 5JX

Tel: 01708451449

elpark@brcdt.org

Parish Deacon: Rev. Ken Carleton

kencarleton@brcdt.org

Mob: 07971 544921

Parish Website: <https://www.stalbansrcchurch.uk>

Fr. Joseph Farrell (Retired) – 2B, Langdale Gardens,
 RM12 5LA, Tel: 07507666891

St Alban's Primary School

Heron Flight Avenue, RM12 5LN

Tel: 01708 555644

Head Teacher: Ms Gail McBride

Angela – Gift Aid Organiser

Mobile: 07510 243188

Safeguarding Representatives:

Mobile: 07896 639525

Mobile: 07904 144606

Mobile: 07774 719 806

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)
29th & 30th August 2026

Dear Friends,

To follow Christ is to suffer, but there are great rewards. Today's Gospel contains some of the most serious words of Christ. He says to his disciples and to us, "What good will it do to you, if you gain the whole world and lose your soul?" These words surely cannot fail to make us stop and think. We should recall them whenever we are faced with important decisions, when we have tough choices to make, and when we are setting goals for our lives. People can be faced with very difficult choices.

Jesus knew that a child of God always must be prepared to move from the comfortable known to the fearful unknown. If we set out on the path of Jesus of Nazareth, we have no idea where it will bring us. There will be mountain top experiences where we feel happy and secure and close to God and to our family and friends. However, the seductive message of the world will be that we can stay there, on the mountain top with nice views and loving company in our hi-tech electronic homes fulfilling private wishes and goals. However, God points us towards the valley where our cross carrying, needy brothers and sisters live. That means all of us.

God calls us to see through the make-believe designer world of the influence of today's culture and ignore the seductive hi-tech voices of those who say that we can live without suffering or that we can be good or reach out to others without pain.

There is a price to be paid for discipleship, for following the path of Christ, and our Mass every week is not soothing to lull us into self-satisfaction but a stimulant to open our eyes and ears and to rouse us into action. We should not be afraid to act on God's prompting even if we do not know what the consequences might be.

Help us Lord to put our deepest trust in you. Amen.

God Bless,
Canon Maurice



Online Version

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

Nell Addison, Domingos De Albuquerque, Christophe Amblard, Sheeba Antony, Eva Au, Julian Avasiloaia, Michael Balfour, Ralph Batrum, 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, Kathleen McGuire, John Morrison, Ann Mount, 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, Graham 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:

22nd & 23rd August 2026

Loose

£791.27

Envelopes

£362.31

Monthly Youth Mass

The next Youth Mass is on **Thursday 3rd September** at Brentwood Cathedral 7:30pm.

Post Confirmation Group:

The next meeting will be on **Friday the 4th September** at 6:30pm – 8pm. Our discussion will be on next year's pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Baptism Course:

The next session for the Baptism course will take place next Saturday the 12th of September at 9am in the Parish Hall. To attend please register with Mr & Mrs Law on 07454 962277.

Holy Hour:

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

Bank Details

Parishioners have been asking for the Bank details for their donations. Please make sure if you want to pay directly to the Bank you go to the office to fill out a gift aid form. If you do not pay tax please still see the office as we need details for the records.

BANK: HSBC

Sort Code: 40-13-22

Account Number: 31019848

Holy Communion Programme 2026/27:

Application forms are available from the back of the church until Sunday 13th September 2026. There will be a parent meeting on Sunday 13th September at 4:30pm in the Parish centre for all parents wishing their child to receive First Holy Communion in May 2027. Applications are open to children who will be in Year 4 or above from September 2026.

Retreat for Ministers of Communion

There will be an afternoon retreat for all Ministers of Holy Communion on Sunday 20th September from 4.00pm to 7.00pm, beginning in the Parish Hall. All ministers are expected to attend. Please speak to Deacon Ken if you have any questions.

Urgent: Stop assisted suicide - postcards available:

The vote on assisted suicide is on 11th of September. Not Dead Yet UK have provided postcards you can send to your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons on 11th of September. ***Please take action now - collect a red and white postcard, fill out your details, add a stamp and post it to your MP today!***

Retrouvaille:

MARRIAGE IN A RUT? Or need help with deeper issues?

Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage.

Next dates: **2nd - 4th Oct.** www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info **Tel: 0788 7296983**

Confirmation Expression of Interest:

If you will be in Year 10 or above in September 2026 and wish to join confirmation, could you please let us know by e-mailing the parish using 'Confirmation' as the subject and send your name, and contact information. We will be in touch after the summer with an update.

Gift Aid

If you are a taxpayer and are putting into the Church collection if you fill out a form and give it into the office the Church can reclaim from the taxman 20p in every pound you donate.

200 Club

If you wish to join the 200 club, please ask in the office. It is £5 a month and a way for the Church to make up funds for our expenses with an added bonus of a monthly draw whereby a member's name will be picked out and half the 200 monthly income will go to that member. You will be helping the church and possibly getting a little bonus once in a while.

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA:

On *Saturday, 12th September* the Diocese of Brentwood will host the Visitation of the National Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco, at the **Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Helen, Brentwood.** This will be a Day of Prayer & Devotions, with the opportunity for the veneration of the relics. Bishop Alan accompanied by Priests of the Diocese will concelebrate Holy Mass (10:30am), this will be followed by the Consecration Prayer of the Diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Bishop Alan.

As this is a Day of Prayer, we ask all those participating to bring a packed lunch, teas and coffees will be available in the Cathedral Parish Hall. Following lunch, there will be a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with recitation of the Chaplet of Adoration and Reparation. Communal Recitation and reflection on the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed, and then a Docu-film and Talk in the Parish Hall on "Fatima Message for the World." Finally, the Enrolment and Investiture of the Brown Scapular will be facilitated in the Parish Hall. Please see poster for full details.

Rest in Peace:

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rosina Cahill who died recently. Her Requiem Mass will take place on 30th September at 11am. May she rest in peace.

Mother & Toddler Group:

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