

**We pray for the church around the world:**  
Especially those who are persecuted for their faith.  
We pray for compassion and kindness, inclusion and love for all. We pray for all who have not yet let Jesus into their lives.

**We pray for our world:** All the casualties of war and conflict; victims of natural or manmade disasters; those who are living in poverty or under oppressive regimes; for all who have no safe place to live in. For the earth and all the damage done to it by humankind. For more empathy and compassion

**We pray for our local community:** [4: Elmer Av, Elmer Approach] [5: Luker Rd, High St] [6: Queen's Rd, London Rd] [7: College Way, Park St] [8: Park Rd, Avenue Rd, Park Lane, Parkgate] [9: Our local government councillors and MPs] [10: South Essex College, Uni of Essex, Southend Campus]

**We pray for all on our long-term list.**

**Prayers for all sick in hospitals, hospices, care homes and at home. For those who are caring for them. For all sick or in need:**  
Margaret, Mark, Terry, Ken, Valerie, Toy, Kat, Judith, Rosetta, Jean Wren, Diana, Sarah, Laura, Gabby, Ann and Terry, Gary, June and Sally Binks.

#### Recently departed:

**In Memoriam: January.** Muriel Stevens 1/1; Graham Rogers 3/1, Joel Kirk 5/1; Betty Crabtree 7/1, Pat Boosey 10/1; Mike Tunley 11/1; Andrew Chapman 19/1; Elsa Cook 22/1  
Michael Evans 25/1; Gill Hinton 27/1  
Alastair Ross Ker 29/1  
All who have died with no-one to pray for them.

**NOTE: Words for final prayer for the departed and for Hail Mary is in Mass Book**

#### Notices:

**Monday 5 : Morning Prayer at 9am, Low Mass 1pm**

**Epiphany Children's Party: January 11**

**Sub Committee Meeting: January 18**

Our parish is a member of Inclusive Church. This means that we are committed to work towards being a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate on grounds of disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality. Please help us to work towards our aims.



## Parish of St Alban, Martyr & St Mark the Evangelist, Southend

4 January 2026  
Epiphany



Benozzo Gozzoli, **Procession of the Youngest King Caspar**, east wall [1459] Medici Palace

Epiphany was a hugely significant celebration in fifteenth-century Florence. This was partly because the feast of the Magi on 6th January coincided with another religious celebration, the Baptism of Christ by St John the Baptist, who was Florence's patron saint. But Renaissance Florence was also a prosperous centre of banking and trade, and the manufacture of luxury goods, and it was populated by wealthy and powerful men who sought to articulate religious devotion through association with the Magi. This fresco painted on the chapel walls of the Medici chapel in their palace. One of the most important activities of the confraternity of the Magi was the organisation of festive processions in honour of the Magi on Epiphany. Florentine citizens would perform as the Magi and their retinue, processing across the city in elaborate costumes. The architectural fabric of Florence was also incorporated into the procession. Bethlehem was at the Convent of San Marco. [Blessings, Mother Cherry](#)

#### Contact Details

Associate Priest: Mthr Cherry Sandover

[revcherrysandover@gmail.com](mailto:revcherrysandover@gmail.com)

Children & Families' Worker: Nikki Firth: 07309749495

[stmarksfcy@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksfcy@gmail.com)

LGBTQ+ Chaplain: Rev Sam Mackie: 07719285635

[revsmackie@gmail.com](mailto:revsmackie@gmail.com)

St Mark's Website:

<https://www.stmarkschurchsouthend.org/>

St Alban's Website: [Saint Alban the Martyr, Westcliff-on-Sea - A Church Near You](#)