

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:

[28: Barons court School, all who are home-schooled][29: Other Faith Groups in the parish][30: 10th Southend [St Mark's Own][31: All those who use our hall/church[1: Hamlet Rd, Prince St] [2: Ashburnham Rd, Gordon Pl][3: Gordon Rd, Napier Av]

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, Tony, Kat, Judith, Rosetta, Jean Wren, Diana, Sarah, Laura, Gabby, Ann and Terry, Gary, June and Sally Binks.

Recently departed: Maff

And all who have died with no-one to pray for them.

In Memoriam: December

Ronald Walter Rouse 5/12, Helen Sandover 12/12; Alan Conner 2/12; Patricia Swinford 24/12, Flora Sleebush 27/12, Ginny Savoury 27/12. 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 29 : Morning Prayer at 9am,
Epiphany Children's Party: January 11



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

28 December 2025

Holy Innocents



The Massacre of the Holy Innocents, Léon Cogniet [1824]

Last week's artwork depicted the gentle Joseph, a man whose integrity and faithfulness leads to him being entrusted with the care of Mary and the baby Jesus. This week we hear of another man and how his greed, selfishness, weakness and lack of empathy led to a terrible massacre of the most vulnerable in society. In this painting the artist focuses on a mother desperately hoping to save her baby from the soldiers. It is not part of the Christmas story that makes for a lovely nativity play but it does remind us of the those most vulnerable around the worlds, caught up in the political upheavals, wars and conflicts perpetuated by the powerful. Let us pray for all those innocents. **Blessings, Mother Cherry**

Contact Details

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St Mark's Website:

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

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