

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: [11: Southend Street Pastors][12: Market Pl, Royal Terrace] [13: Clifton Mews, Clifftown Parade] [14: Forum, Southend Central Station] [15: LGBTQI* +community, Sam our chaplain, the future of the Cliff] [16: Scratton Rd, Clifftown Rd][17: Weston Rd, Clarence St]

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

Recently departed: Joan Young

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 12 : Morning Prayer at 9am, Low Mass 1pm

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

11 January 2026
Baptism of Christ



Lorenzo Ghiberti, **Baptism of Christ**, [1427] Baptistry, Siena

From the 4th century until the 9th century adult baptism with full immersion was the norm and as many people were baptised together, a baptistry was constructed close to the cathedral (because you had to be baptised in order to enter the sacred building). As infant baptism became the standard, baptistries were no longer built. However, in 12th century Italy, with the rise of civic pride, the baptistry began to be a feature in cities such as Siena, Pisa, Florence. Dedicated to St John the Baptist, the Sienese baptistry was designed to incorporate gilded bronze panels commissioned from the most gifted artists of the day. Ghiberti's panel, carved in low relief and showing the Baptism of Christ is wonderfully expressive and elegant. God leans out at the top, bestowing the blessing with which Jesus begins his ministry. **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](http://www.saintalbanthew MartyrwestcliffonSea-AChurchNearYou)