



Welcome to St Alban's

Lent 3

This church is fitted with an induction loop system. Please switch your hearing aid to 'Two beeps' (T)

OPENING HYMN *Martin J. Nystrom © 1984 Restoration Music Ltd*

**1. As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.**

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.*

**2. I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.**

**3. You're my friend and you are my brother,
even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.**

† In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Before the children leave for Children's Church we pray together....

Dear God, this church is a family.

**Help us to learn together, to worship together,
to share together and to pray together.**

In Jesus' name. Amen.

CONFESSION

God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.**

We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;**

and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light.

Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, †pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life
eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Eternal God,
give us insight to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please sit.

*After each reading...This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God***

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 55.1-9

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Corinthians 10.1-13

GRADUAL HYMN: ©Ateliers et Presses de Taize, 71250 Taize Community, France

**Bless the Lord my soul, and bless his holy name,
Bless the Lord my soul, who leads me into life (Sing 3 times over)**

We stand for the Gospel reading and sing...

**Hear us O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have sinned against
thee.**

THE GOSPEL – Luke 13.1-9

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you
O God**

At the end of the reading: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O
Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand if you are able*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten not made,
of one Being with the Father, through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
he was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand
of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE: Lord, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

At the end of the prayers we say together:

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

THE PEACE: *Please stand. We share a sign of peace with those standing near us.*

We meet in the name of Christ and we share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915)*

**1. Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine:
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God;
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.**

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Saviour all the day long.*

**2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

**3. Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blessed;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.**

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed are you.....

Response: **Blessed are you forever**

THE EUCHARIST

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.
For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline
we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again.
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word you open our eyes
to your presence in the world and free our hands
to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

New People's Mass, A Gregory Murray © 1975, 1987 McCrimmon Publishing Co Ltd.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread
and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them
and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
Do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again, he praised you,
gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new
covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with
confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Alban and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come, your will be done;
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory, are yours,
now and for ever. AMEN**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace**

New People's Mass, A Gregory Murray © 1975, 1987 McCrimmon Publishing Co Ltd

Invitation to communion

God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father

All baptised Christians who receive communion in their own churches are welcome to receive communion. Any member of the congregation may come to receive a blessing

COMMUNION HYMN: *Augustus Montague Toplady (1740 - 1778)*

**1. Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.**

**2. Not the labour of my hands
Can fulfil thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone:
Thou must save, and thou alone.**

**3. Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress;
Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly:
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.**

**4. While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyes shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See thee on thy judgement throne,
Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee.**

Prayer after Communion

Merciful Lord,

grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord . **Amen**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Through Him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself,
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts. And the blessing.... **Amen.**
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *Melody Green, based on Scripture © 1982 Birdwing/Music/BMG Songs Inc/Ears to hear music/EMI Christian Music Publishing/CopyCare Ltd*

**1. There is a Redeemer,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.**

***Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.***

**2. Jesus, my Redeemer,
name above all names,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
O for sinners slain.**

**3. When I stand in glory,
I will see his face,
and there I'll serve my King for ever,
in that holy place.**

*Everyone is warmly invited to stay for refreshments after the service.
If you are new or just visiting please feel welcomed as one of the family.*

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FOR OUR PRAYERS:

The Parish: *Runcorn Close, Salvington Road and Samaritan Close,
Rickfield and Rosedale Close*

Prayers for: *Alistair and Marcia, Sophie Baker, Judith Aldridge, Emma Perry, Freddie, Eslin, Fran, Austin, Linda Ballard, John Romaine, Graham, Brian, Jan, Mike, Debs, Michael, Peter Hill, Roger, Sonia, Kerry, Gordon, June, Keith Ford, Eileen Robinson, Rose, Julie, Liam, Cruse and Robert*

The Departed: *Edna Barnett*

Year's Mind: *George Dixon and Eric Foulkes*

Church Flowers Donation List. Any person who would like to donate towards the cost of church flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate an anniversary or birthday, please put the relevant details on the list provided at the back of the church. Please give your donation to Sue Richardson (Treasurer) or Revd. Ann in a Flower Donation envelope.

Lent Lunches. Do join us for Lent Lunches on Thursdays in the church hall at 12 noon. We do need a couple more people to lead these, that is making the soup etc. Many thanks to Sarah and Alan for hosting last Thursday's. Proceeds will go to Open House. Merle

Computer Group. Why not come along to our friendly computer group in the Church Hall - Tuesdays from 10 am, Wednesdays from 10.30 am. **We need more helpers** with this group. You don't need to be an expert, just prepared to be a friendly support. Could you help by sharing your computer skills? Please speak to Ann.

Traidcraft- Please note that Traidcraft will now be available on the second Sundays of the month.

House Group. This friendly group now meets at St Alban's on Friday mornings at 10 am for a time of sharing, prayer and study. New members are welcome: more details from Madeleine.

If you were unable to make either of the **House Groups** offered by the Parish this year please note that Sarah and I have restarted our House Group this Lent. It will meet on Thursdays at 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm at our home, Monkshood, Old Horsham Road (next to St Wilfred's School).

Each week will be a standalone session so you don't need to worry if you miss any. The final week will be a Taizé service followed by a buffet supper. If you can't make anything else you will be welcome to the service and supper. Please let us know if you would like to come to any of the sessions (Dates: Thursdays 28th March, 4th April, Taizé -Thursday 11th April). Thank you Alan and Sarah Magrath (Tel 01293 512604).

Notice of Parish **APCM 7th April at 11 am** (after the morning service). Please stay on to hear about what the parish has been doing over the past year as well as electing our Parish Wardens and new PCC members.

Bishop Martin will be visiting the Deanery on 8/9/10 April. There will be a special Deanery Synod meeting which is open to everyone on Monday 8th April at Holy Trinity School Crawley 7.30 pm for an 8 pm start, refreshments will be available. Please do come to this meeting if at all possible as the Bishop would like to meet as many people as he can during his Visitation.

As you may have heard, Rev'd Simon Newham will be leaving for a new post as vicar of Brockenhurst in the New Forest. His last service will be on **28th April at 11 am at St Margaret's**. We would like to give him a leaving gift to say 'thank you' for all he has done for St Alban's over the years (as the Rector for many years). If you would like to donate please give your donation to Caroline Edwards (Parish Warden).

REGULAR SERVICES AT ST ALBAN'S
Everyone is very welcome

SUNDAY'S SERVICES:

Sung Eucharist 9:30am weekly

'Out of the Box' family worship on 2nd Sunday of each month 11.15 to 12 noon

WEEKDAY SERVICES:

Said Eucharist (Thursday 9:30am) Followed by Community Morning 10am-12pm

Morning Prayer 9am Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Saturday Prayers 9am on the 2nd Saturday of every month

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