



Welcome to St Alban's

Lent 5

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

OPENING HYMN *John Ernest Bode (1816-1874)*

**1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou for ever near me,
my Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.**

**2. O let me feel thee near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.**

**3. O let me see thy foot-marks
and in them plant mine own;
my hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.**

We gather together as one body

† 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)

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know
eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 43.16-21

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Philippians 3.4b-14

GRADUAL HYMN: *Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

**1. When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**3. See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all!**

We remain standing for the Gospel reading and sing...

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

THE GOSPEL – John 12.1-8

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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: *Timothy Dudley-Smith © 1976 Timothy Dudley-Smith*

**Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.**

**Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.**

**Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us –
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone**

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: *Noel and Tricia Richards © 1987 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

**All heaven declares
the glory of the risen Lord;
who can compare
with the beauty of the Lord?
Forever He will be
the Lamb upon the throne;
I gladly bow the knee,
and worship Him alone.**

**I will proclaim
the glory of the risen Lord,
who once was slain
to reconcile man to God.
For ever You will be
the Lamb upon the throne;
I gladly bow the knee,
and worship You alone.**

Prayers after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever . **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: *Fred Dunn (1907-1979)© 1977 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

(sung twice)

**Jubilate, ev'rybody,
serve the Lord in all your ways, and
come before his presence singing;
enter now his courts with praise.
For the Lord our God is gracious,
and his mercy everlasting.
Jubilate, jubilate, jubilate Deo.**

*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.*

Common worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included

FOR OUR PRAYERS:

The Parish: *Collins Road, Colwyn Close and Compassion Close, Dairyfields and Derwent Close*

Prayers for: *Alistair and Marcia, Sophie Baker, Judith Aldridge, Emma Perry, Eslin, Douglas, Fran, Linda Ballard, John Romaine, Peter Hill, Kerry, Gordon, June, Keith Ford, Rose, Julie, Liam, Cruse, Jayne, Freddie, Robert and Janette*

The Departed: *Joan Makey*

Year's Mind: *Marion Sutcliffe, Frank Atkinson, Eleanor Woodrow, June Hobey and Pauline Berry*

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. Thursday 11th April will be your very last chance this Lent to enjoy one of the fabulous Lent Lunches! Don't miss it! Simple in style-enjoyable in fellowship-great in purpose. Thank you to Helen Ford who will be hosting this last lunch, but our thanks must also go to Sarah and Alan Magrath, Madeleine Taylor and Mary and Brian Eastman for hosting so far this Lent .Proceeds from the lunches will all be going to Open House. Thank you 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 have had financial and trading issues and are no longer able to sell us our usual range of produce and goods. For that reason, we will be aiming to sell off all our products by Easter. Please come and buy from us in the next few weeks so that St Alban's can benefit from our final sales. There will be a few Easter Eggs for early customers plus a reduced range of products. **All must go – Hurry, Hurry, Hurry.**

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.

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.

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: Taizé -Thursday 11th April). Thank you Alan and Sarah Magrath (Tel 01293 512604).

Easter Lilies. Sign up at the back of church to buy a lily at £3 in memory of a loved one. Please leave the money in the pot. Also contributions to Easter flowers can be placed in the flower box.

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).

Simon's Licensing Thursday 13th June at Brockenhurst. Simon's new parish have asked us to tell them the number of parishioners who are expecting to attend Simon's licensing on the Thursday evening so that they can make arrangements for seating and a reception after the service. Please give Mave, in the parish office, your names if you plan to attend and also indicate if you would like a seat on the coach we plan to run if there are sufficient numbers.

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

Vicar: Rev'd Ann Alexander 01293 277078
vicar@stalbangossopsgreen.co.uk

Parish Office: Mave Eshun 01293 537578 *office@ifieldparish.org*

Website: www.stalbangossopsgreen.co.uk

Facebook: St Alban's Gossops Green & Bewbush