



# Welcome to St Alban's

## Feast of the Epiphany

*Today we welcome Adryel into the family of God at his Baptism.  
Please keep him in your prayers.*

*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**

### OPENING HYMN John Henry Hopkins (1822-1900)

**1. We three Kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and  
mountain,  
following yonder star.**

***O Star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

**2. Born a King on Bethlehem plain  
gold I bring, to crown him again.  
King for ever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign.**

***O Star of wonder...***

**3. Frankincense to offer have I,  
incense owns a Deity nigh.  
Prayer and praising, all are raising,  
worship him, God most high.**

***O Star of wonder...***

**4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume  
breaths a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.**

***O Star of wonder...***

**5. Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and sacrifice.  
'Alleluia, alleluia!'  
earth to heaven replies.**

***O Star of wonder...***

*We are gathered 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**

*The wise men are brought to the crib.*

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us therefore confess our sins.

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
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.**

GLORIA *George Salazar© 1993 OCP Publications*

**Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.  
Glory to God in the heights of the heavens,  
peace to God's people, all people on earth.**

**Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.  
Son of the Father, all glory and worship;  
praise and thanksgiving to you. Lamb of God  
Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.**

**You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us, receive our prayer.  
Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.**

**Seated in pow'r at the right of the Father,  
Jesus alone is the Lord, the Most High.  
Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.**

**And with the Spirit of love everlasting,  
reigning in glory for ever. Amen  
Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.**

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Grateful for the glory revealed today through God made flesh,  
let us pray:

O God, who by the leading of a star  
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:  
mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith,  
may at last behold your glory face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please sit for the readings...*

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 60.1-6

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Ephesians 3.1-12

***Chorus: Water of Life, cleanse and refresh us:  
Raise us to life in Christ Jesus.***

**1. All you who thirst come to the waters  
And you will never be thirsty again**

**2. As rain from heav'n, so is God's word,  
Waters the earth and brings forth life.**

**3. Dying with Christ, we shall rise with Him  
Death shall have no more pow'r over us.**

**4. Turn to the Lord, cast off your wickedness  
You will find peace in his fatherly love.**

THE GOSPEL – Matthew 2.1-12

*We sing...Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

THE SERMON

THE BAPTISM

***Presentation of the Candidate***

Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.

We thank God for Adryel who has come to be baptized today. Christ loves him and welcomes him into his Church.

So I ask you all:  
Will you support Adryel as he begins his journey of faith?

**All: We will.**

Will you help him to live and grow within God's family?

**All: We will.**

*The minister then addresses the candidate:*

God knows each of us by name and we are his.  
Adryel do you wish to be baptised?

**Candidate: I do.**

### ***The Decision***

We all wander far from God and lose our way: Christ comes to find us and welcome us home. In baptism we respond to his call. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin? **I do.**

Do you reject evil? **I do.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour? **I do.**

Do you turn to Christ as Lord? **I do.**

### ***Signing with the Cross***

Christ claims you for his own. Receive the sign of his cross.  
Do not be ashamed of Christ. You are his forever.

**All: Stand bravely with him against the all the powers of evil,  
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness and lead you  
in the light and obedience of Christ.

**All: Amen.**

### ***Prayer Over the Water***

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

**All: who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

We praise you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son Jesus. He was baptised in the River Jordan, where your spirit was poured out upon him and revealed him as the Son you love. He sent his followers to baptise all who turn to him. Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water (+), that those who are baptized in it may be cleansed in the water of life, and, filled with your Spirit, may know that they are loved as your children, safe in Christ for ever.

**All: Amen.**

### ***What we Believe***

Do you believe and trust in God the Father who made all things?

**All: We believe and trust in Him.**

Do you believe and trust in His son, Jesus Christ who redeemed the world?

**All: We believe and trust in Him.**

Do you believe and trust in His Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God?

**All: We believe and trust in Him.**

This is the faith of the church:

**All: This is our faith, we believe and trust in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

### ***The Baptism***

I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**All: We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

### ***Giving of a Lighted Candle***

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All: Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.**

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Today the wise men knelt before our Saviour. Let us also come to worship him with great joy, and make our prayer to his heavenly Father.

*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 if you are able*

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
since as members of one body you are called to peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.  
*We share a sign of peace with those standing near us.*

COMMUNION HYMN *William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)*

**1. As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright,  
so, most gracious God, may we  
evermore be led by Thee.**

**2. As with joyful steps they sped,  
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
thee whom heaven and earth adore,  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy-seat.**

**3. As they offered gifts most rare  
at thy cradle rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.**

**4. Holy Jesus, every day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and, when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last**

**where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.**

**5. In the heavenly country bright  
need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
thou its sun, which goes not down.  
There forever may we sing  
alleluias to our King.**

#### THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Lord, accept your people's gifts, not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts and voices raised in praise of Jesus Christ, our light and  
our salvation. **Amen.**

#### 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.**

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God,  
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:  
for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst.  
In the coming of the magi the King of all the world  
was revealed to the nations.  
In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ,  
the Saviour sent to redeem us.  
In the water made wine the new creation was revealed  
at the wedding feast.  
Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices  
to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy, holy**  
**Lord of power, Lord of might.**  
**Heav'n and earth are filled with glory.**  
**Sing hosanna evermore.**  
**Blest and holy, blest and holy,**  
**He who comes from God on high**  
**Raise your voices, sing his glory,**  
**Praise his name for evermore.**

*Israeli Mass, Anthony Hamson*

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, the sin of all the world. Give us mercy, give us mercy, give us mercy Lamb of God. (repeat)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin, the sin of all the world. Grant us peace Lord, grant us peace Lord, grant us peace O Lamb of God.**

*Israeli Mass, Anthony Hamson*

*Invitation to communion*

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*All those baptised into the Christian faith are welcome to come forward for communion. Everybody is welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

COMMUNION HYMN *Reginald Heber (1811)*

**1. Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**2. Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining;  
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.**

**3. Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,  
odours of Edom, and offerings divine,  
gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?**

**4. Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
vainly with gifts would his favour secure:  
richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

**5. Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

*Prayer after Communion*

Lord God,  
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:  
may we who, with the wise men, have been drawn by your light  
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,  
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in your hearts  
and fill your lives with his joy and peace. And the blessing....  
**Amen.**

We have seen his glory, the glory revealed to all the nations.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**1. Thanks be to God whose love has gathered us this day;  
thanks be to God who helps and guides us on our way.  
Thanks be to God who gives us voice that we may thank him:  
*Deo gratias, Deo gratias, thanks be to God most high.***

**2. Thanks be to God for all the gifts of life and light;  
thanks be to God whose care protects us day and night.  
Thanks be to God who keeps in mind us who forget him:  
*Deo gratias, Deo gratias, thanks be to God most high.***

**3. Thanks be to God who knows our secret joys and fears;  
thanks be to God who when we call him always hears.  
Thanks be to God our rock and strength ever sustaining:  
*Deo gratias, Deo gratias, thanks be to God most high..***

**4. Thanks be to God who never turns his face away;  
thanks be to God who heals and pardons all who stray.  
Thanks be to God who welcomes us into his kingdom:  
*Deo gratias, Deo gratias, thanks be to God most high.***

**5. Thanks be to God who made our world and all we see;  
thanks be to God who gave his Son to set us free.  
Thanks be to God whose Spirit brings warmth and rejoicing:  
*Deo gratias, Deo gratias, thanks be to God most high.***

*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.*

## SERVICES AT ST ALBAN'S

*Everyone is very welcome*

### **SUNDAY 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:**

Thursday 9.30am Said Eucharist followed by Community Morning 10am-12pm

Morning Prayer 9am Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Saturday Prayers 9am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month

**Vicar:** Rev'd Ann Alexander 01293 277078  
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**Website: [www.stalbangossopsgreen.co.uk](http://www.stalbangossopsgreen.co.uk)**

**Facebook: St Alban's Gossops Green & Bewbush**

## **Our Prayer for Vision and Leadership**

Lord, we come before you with grateful hearts  
for the tremendous talent within our church.

We are a body filled with gifts yet  
we sometimes lose sight of why  
we were so richly blessed in the first place.

Forgive us when we fail to heed Your calling in our lives,  
or as a community.

Despite our forgetful nature, we know you love us dearly  
and want us to partner with you:  
not as servants, but as your children.

Bring us a renewed vision of ourselves from your perspective.  
Help us to embrace your love  
so that we may share it with others.

Guide us as we look to the future  
of this Parish of Gossops Green and Bewbush.

Grant us a renewed vision as we seek you in your word.

Give us dreams that make us come alive because  
we are doing what you created us to do.

Let our joy overflow from the vision of the future you give us.  
Let us honour you with our work,  
with our families and with our lives.

**Amen**