



# Welcome to St Alban's

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

*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 *George Herbert (1593-1633)*

**Let all the world in every corner sing,  
'My God and King!'  
The heavens are not too high,  
His praise may thither fly;  
The earth is not too low,  
His praises there may grow.  
Let all the world in every corner sing,  
'My God and King!'**

**Let all the world in every corner sing,  
'My God and King!'  
The Church with psalms must shout,  
No door can keep them out;  
But, above all, the heart  
Must bear the longest part.  
Let all the world in every corner sing,  
'My God and King!'**

*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 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)

God of all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
Anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*Please sit for the readings.*

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 9.1-4

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Corinthians 1.10-18

GRADUAL HYMN *vs 1-3 John Newton (1725-1807), v 5 John Rees (1828-1900)*

**1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
was blind, but now I see.**

**2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear,  
the hour I first believed!**

**3. Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.**

**4. The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.**

**5. When we've been there a thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.**

THE GOSPEL – Mathew 4.12-23

*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 APOSTLES CREED *Please stand if you are able*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
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 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 *Graham Maule & John L. Bell © 1987 WGRG, Iona Community*

**1. Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you,  
and you in me?**

**2. Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare,  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
in you and you in me?**

**3. Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
in you and you in me?**

**4. Will you love the 'you' you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?**

**5. Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show;  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.**

#### 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.**

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.**

*Sanctus and Agnus Dei from 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 ©1985 Christopher Walker, Published by OCP Publications

**1. Because the Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need.  
He lets me rest in the meadow and leads me to be quiet streams.  
He restores my soul and he leads me in the paths that are right:  
*Lord, you are my shepherd, you are my friend.  
I want to follow always, just to follow my friend.***

**2. And when the road leads to darkness, I shall walk there unafraid.  
Even when death is close I have courage, for your help is there.  
You are close beside me with concert, you are guiding my way:**

**3. In love you make me a banquet for my enemies to see.  
You make me welcome, pouring down honour from your Mighty hand;  
and this Joy fills me with gladness, it is too much to bear:**

**4. Your goodness always is with and your mercy I know.  
Your loving and kindness strengthens me always as I go through life.  
I shall dwell in your presence forever, giving praises to your name:**

*Prayer after Communion*

Almighty Father,  
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:  
May your people, illumined by your word and sacraments,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshipped and obeyed to the ends of the earth;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **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.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN *Estelle White* © Copyright McCrimmon Publishing Company Ltd.

***Walk with me, oh my Lord,  
Through the darkest night and brightest day.  
Be at my side, oh Lord,  
Hold my hand and guide me on my way.***

**1. Sometimes the road seems long,  
My energy is spent.  
Then, Lord, I think of you  
And I am given strength.**

*Refrain*

**2. Stones often bar my path  
And there are times I fall,  
But you are always there  
To help me when I call.**

*Refrain*

**3. Just as you calmed the wind  
And walked upon the sea,  
Conquer, my living Lord,  
The storms that threaten me.**

*Refrain*

**4. Help me to pierce the mists  
That cloud my heart and mind,  
So that I shall not fear  
The steepest mountain-side.**

*Refrain*

**5. As once you helped the lame  
And gave sight to the blind,  
Help me when I'm downcast  
To hold my head 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.*

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## 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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