



Welcome to St Alban's

1st Sunday of Lent

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 *Arthur C. Ainger (1841-1919)*

**1. God is working his purpose out,
as year succeeds to year;
God is working His purpose out,
and the time is drawing near;
Nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God,
as the waters cover the sea.**

**2. From utmost East to utmost West,
where'er man's foot hath trod,
by the mouth of many messengers
goes forth the voice of God;
give ear to me, ye continents,
ye isles, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God,
as the waters cover the sea.**

**3. March we forth in the strength of God
with the banner of Christ unfurled,
that the light of the glorious gospel of truth
may shine throughout the world:**

**Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin,
to set their captives free,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God,
as the waters cover the sea.**

**4. All we can do is nothing worth,
unless God blesses the deed;
vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
till God gives life to the seed;
yet nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God,
as the waters cover the sea.**

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.**

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)

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days
in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 10.12-19

GRADUAL HYMN: *Daniel Iverson ©1963 Birdwing Music/EMI Christian Music Publishing*

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

We stand for the Gospel reading and sing...

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

THE GOSPEL – Matthew 4.1-11

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

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 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 *John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)*

**1. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him; the Lord is his name.**

**2. Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**3. Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.**

**4. These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling, and hope for our fear.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The president blesses the elements, and the response each time is
Blessed be God for ever.

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.

*The president prays the preface then invites us to join with the whole company of
heaven to sing....*

**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*

The president recalls the last supper

Great is the mystery of faith
Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

The president continues to praise God for his mighty acts. At the end we say...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.
And 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 sins of the world, have mercy on us;
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

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

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 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: *James Edmeston (1791-1867)*

**1. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our Father be.**

**2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know,
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.**

**3. Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.**

Prayer after Communion

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope, and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word that proceeds
from out of your mouth; through 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

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 *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.**

Walk with me, oh my Lord....

**2. Stones often bar my path
and there are times I fall,
but you are always there
to help me when I call.**

Walk with me, oh my Lord...

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

***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.***

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

Walk with me, oh my Lord...

**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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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



Celebrating God's love in the heart of our community