



Welcome to St Alban's Church

Last Sunday before Lent

Before the children leave for Junior 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 *Bianco da Siena (d. 1434)*

**1 Come down, O love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**2 O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in
its heat consuming;
and let they glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round,
the while my path illuming.**

**3 Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become
mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings
weeps with loathing.**

**4 And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling,
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.**

† 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.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

By the mercies of God, let us confess our sins and present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to him, which is our spiritual worship.

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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 Michael Perry ©Mrs B Perry/Jubilate Hymns

**Glory be to God in heaven, peace to those who love him well;
on the earth let all his people speak his grace his wonders tell.
Lord we praise you for your glory, mighty father, heavens king;
Hear our joyful adoration and accept the thanks we bring.**

**Only Son of God the Father, lamb who takes our sins away;
now with him in triumph seated, for your mercy, Lord we pray.
Jesus Christ, most high and holy, saviour you are God alone.
In the glory of the Father, with the Spirit three in one.**

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 34.29–35

We sing....**Alleluia, alleluia; alleluia, alleluia.**

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

THE GOSPEL

Luke 9.28–36

After 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

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*

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.
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.

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.

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son
Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from
sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels
praising you, and singing:

**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.**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, 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 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

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 *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.
(Repeat)**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful Father,
who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:
draw us to the Lord in faith and love,
that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom,
where he is alive and reigns, 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

May God, who in Christ
gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;
and the blessing ...

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

CLOSING HYMN *Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910)*

**1 Mine eyes have seen the glory
of the coming of the Lord;
he is trampling out the vintage
where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he hath loosed the fateful lightning
of his terrible swift sword;
his truth is marching on.**

**Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.**

**2 I have seen him in the watchfires
of a hundred circling camps,
they have gilded him an altar
in the evening dews and damp;
I can read his righteous sentence
by the dim and flaring lamps;
his day is marching on.**

**3 He has sounded forth the trumpet
that shall never sound retreat;
he is sifting out the hearts of all
before his judgment seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer him;
be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.**

**4. In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom
that transfigures you and me;
as he died to make us holy,
let us make all people free
whilst God is marching on.**

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