



Welcome to St Alban's

Mothering Sunday

OPENING HYMN *McClellan, Pac, Rycroft ©1974 Kingsway's Thankyou Music.*

**1 Colours of day dawn into the mind,
the sun has come up, the night is behind.
go down in the city, into the street,
and let's give the message to the people we meet.**

*So light up the fire and let the flame burn,
open the door, let Jesus return.
Take seeds of his Spirit, let the fruit grow,
tell the people of Jesus, let his love show.*

**2 Go through the park, on into the town;
the sun still shines on, it never goes down.
The light of the world is risen again;
the people of darkness are needing a friend.
*So light up the fire...***

**3 Open your eyes, look into the sky,
the darkness has come, the sun came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun disappears,
but Jesus is living, his Spirit is near.
*So light up the fire...***

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)

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 2.1–10

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Colossians 3.12–17

GRADUAL HYMN *John Newton (1725-1807), 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

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Today's Gospel: John 19.25–27

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

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 *Sydney Carter ©1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd*

**1 One more step along the world I go,
One more step along the world I go,
From the old things to the new
Keep me travelling along with you.
*And it's from the old I travel to the new,
Keep me travelling along with You.***

**2 Round the corners of the world I turn,
More and more about the world I learn.
And the new things that I see
You'll be looking at along with me.
*And it's from the old ...***

**3 As I travel through the bad and good
Keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go
You'll be telling me the way, I know.
*And it's from the old ...***

**4 Give me courage when the world is rough,
Keep me loving though the world is tough.
Leap and sing in all I do,
Keep me travelling along with you.
*And it's from the old ...***

**5 You are older than the world can be,
You are younger than the life in me.
Ever old and ever new,
Keep me travelling along with you.
*And it's from the old ...***

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God 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 receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN *Charitie Lees Bancroft (1841-1892)*

**1 Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea:
A great High Priest whose name is love
who ever lives and pleads for me .
My name is graven on His hands ;
My name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heav'n He stands
no tongue can bid me thence depart.
No tongue can bid me thence depart.**

**2 When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see Him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died
my sinful soul is counted free.
For God the Just is satisfied
to look on Him and pardon me.
To look on Him and pardon me.**

**3 Behold Him there, the risen Lamb!
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die,
my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my saviour and my God,
with Christ my saviour and my God.**

**4 I bow before the cross of Christ,
and marvel at this love divine;
God's perfect Son was sacrificed
to make me righteous in God's eyes.
This river's depths I cannot know
but I can glory in its flood,
the Lord Most High has bowed down low
and poured on me his glorious love,
and poured on me his glorious love.**

Prayer after Communion

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 the Father,
from whom every family in earth and heaven receives its name,
strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being,
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith;
and the blessing ...

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

CLOSING HYMN *Traditional*

**1 Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
give me joy in my heart I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Keep me praising till the end of day.**

***Sing hosanna! Sing Hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings!
Sing hosanna! Sing Hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King!***

**2 Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
give me peace in my heart I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.
Keep me resting till the end of day.**

**3 Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
keep me serving 'till the end of day.**

**4 Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
keep me burning 'till the end of day.**

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*Celebrating God's love in the
heart of the community*

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