

Welcome to St Alban's 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

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 D.J. Mansell ©1982

1 Jesus is Lord! Creation's voice proclaims it, for by his power each tree and flower was planned and made.
Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it - sun, moon and stars in heaven cry: 'Jesus is Lord.'

Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord!
Praise him with alleluias, for Jesus is Lord.

2 Jesus is Lord! Yet from his throne eternal in flesh he came to die in pain on Calvary's tree.

Jesus is Lord! From him all life proceeding - yet gave his life a ransom thus setting us free.

Jesus is Lord...

3 Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror; from death he rose and all his foes shall own his name.

Jesus is Lord! God sends his Holy Spirit to show by works of power that Jesus is Lord.

Jesus is Lord...

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.**

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Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
Glory to God, glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Glory to God, glory to God,

Glory to God in the highest.

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.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

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

THE GOSPEL

We sing... Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Matthew 4.12-23

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.

OFFERTORY 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 Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

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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.

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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.

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 Melody Green, based on Scripture © 1982

1 There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

2 Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain. *Thank you...*

3 When I stand in glory, I will see his face, and there I'll serve my King for ever, in that holy place. *Thank you...*

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 *Frances J. van Alstyne* (1820-1915)

1 To God be the glory! Great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, Who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son;

And give him the glory,

great things he has done!

- 2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood! To every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
- 3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son: But purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see!



Celebrating God's love in the heart of the community

Website: www.stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk
Facebook: St Alban's Gossops Green and Bewbush

REGULAR SERVICES AT ST ALBAN'S - everyone is very welcome

SUNDAY SERVICES: Sung Eucharist 9:45am weekly

WEEKDAY SERVICES:

Thursday 9:30am Said Eucharist followed by Heart of Welcome Café 10am-12pm

Morning Prayer 9am Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Saturday Prayers 9.30am on the 2nd Saturday of each month

Vicar: Rev'd Ann Alexander 01293 277078

ann@stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk

Parish Office: Jo Browse 01293 344860

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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