

Welcome to St Alban's

3rd Sunday before Lent Dedication Service

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 © 1961 Timothy Dudley-Smith

- 1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.
- 2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name! Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mercy sure, from age to age the same; his holy name—the Lord, the Mighty One.
- 3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by. Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
- 4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

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.

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.

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.

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...*

Son of the Father, all glory and worship; praise and thanksgiving to you, Lamb of God. *Glory, glory...*

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us, receive our prayer. Glory, glory...

Seated in pow'r at the right of the Father,
Jesus alone is the Lord, the Most High. *Glory, glory...*

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 FOR DEDICATION

Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer: we praise you for the many blessings you have given to those who worship you here: and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you, and, being filled with the Holy Spirit, may become a living temple acceptable to you; 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.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Exodus 24.12–18 New Testament: 2 Peter 1.16–21

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

THE GOSPEL

We sing: Alleluia, alleluia; alleluia, alleluia.

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

Matthew 17.1–9

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

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 Marty Haugen, b. 1950 ©1994 GIA Publications, Inc.

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus. All are welcome...

3 Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat: a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us. All are welcome...

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger. All are welcome...

5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.

All are welcome...

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 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.**

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 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 @McCrimmon Publishing Co Ltd.

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 *Walter Chalmers Smith (1825-1908)*

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; Thy justice like mountains high soaring above Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all life Thou givest, to both great and small; In all life Thou livest, the true life of all; We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, And wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.
- 4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight; All laud we would render: O, help us to see 'tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee.

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Father in heaven, whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace, an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem: grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage that, fed with the living bread of heaven, and united in the body of your Son, we may be the temple of your presence, that place of your glory on earth, and a sign of your peace in the world; 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

Christ, whose glory is in the heavens, fill this house and illuminate your hearts; and the blessing ...

Like living stones, precious in his sight, go in peace, to proclaim the mighty acts of God. 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 damps; I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps; his day is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah...

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. Glory, glory, hallelujah...

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.
Glory, glory, hallelujah...

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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

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