



Welcome to St Alban's

Lent 2

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 *Ernest Sands © 1981*

**1 Sing of the Lord's goodness,
Father of all wisdom,
come to him and bless his name.
mercy he has shown us,
his love is for ever,
faithful to the end of days.**

***Come then all you nations,
sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.
Ring out the Lord's glory,
praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.***

**2 Power he has wielded,
honour is his garment,
risen from the snares of death.
His word he has spoken,
one bread he has broken,
new life he now gives to all.**

Come then all you nations...

**3 Courage in our darkness,
comfort in our sorrow,
Spirit of our God most high;
solace for the weary,
pardon for the sinner,
splendour of the living God.**

Come then all you nations...

**4 Praise him with your singing,
praise him with the trumpet,
praise God with the lute and harp;
praise him with the cymbals,
praise him with your dancing,
praise God till the end of days.**

Come then all you nations...

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,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please sit

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Genesis 12.1–4a

New Testament: Romans 4.1–5,13–17

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

THE GOSPEL

We stand for the Gospel reading and sing...

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

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 3.1–17

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 *Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

**1 And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me? *(Repeat)***

**2 'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:
who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine!
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds inquire no more.**

**3 He left his Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite his grace;
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me.**

**4 Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.**

**5 No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine.
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.**

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

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 receive a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN *Stuart Townend ©1995 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

**1 How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss –
the Father turns his face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.**

**2 Behold the man upon a cross,
my sin upon his shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life –
I know that it is finished.**

**3 I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no power, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
his death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from his reward?
I cannot give an answer;
but this I know with all my heart –
his wounds have paid my ransom.**

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities
which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
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

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....

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

CLOSING HYMN *Estelle White ©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,
Through the darkest night and brightest day.
Be at my side, oh Lord,
Hold my hand and guide me on my way.*

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...

3 Just as you calmed the wind
And walked upon the sea,
Conquer, my living Lord,
The storms that threaten me.

Walk with me...

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...

5 As once you helped the lame
And gave sight to the blind,
Help me when I'm downcast
To hold my head high.

Walk with me...



*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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Parish Office: Jo Browse 01293 344860

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