



Welcome to St Alban's

Advent Sunday

The first candle of the Advent Wreath is lit and we all pray...

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,
born in David's city of Bethlehem, born like him to be a king:
be born in our hearts at Christmas, be King of our lives today.
Amen.**

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 *J.R. Peasey ©Mrs Mildred Peasey*

**1 Awake, awake: fling off the night!
For God has sent his glorious light;
and we who live in Christ's new day
must works of darkness put away.**

**2 Awake and rise, like people renewed,
and with the Spirit's power endued,
the light of life in us will glow,
and fruits of truth and goodness show.**

**3 Let in the light; all sin expose
to Christ, whose life no darkness knows.
Before his cross for guidance kneel;
his light will judge and, judging, heal.**

**4 Awake, and rise up from the dead,
and Christ his light on you will shed.
Its power will wrong desires destroy,
and your whole nature fill with joy.**

**5 Then sing for joy, and use each day;
give thanks for everything alway.
Lift up your hearts; with one accord
praise God through Jesus Christ our 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.

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light
the things now hidden in darkness
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins...

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations
into the peace of your kingdom:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory with salvation for your people:
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.**

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

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

Old Testament reading: Isaiah 64.1–9

New Testament reading: 1 Corinthians 1.3–9

GRADUAL HYMN ©1977 Carey Landry and NALR

***Abba, Abba, Father, you are the potter,
We are the clay, the work of your hands.***

**1. Mould us, mould us and fashion us
into the image of Jesus, your Son,
of Jesus, your Son.**

**2. Father, may we be one in you
As he is in you, and you are in him,
And you are in him.**

**3. Glory, glory and praise to you,
Glory and praise to you for ever. Amen,
for ever. Amen.**

THE GOSPEL

We sing...Alleluia, Alleluia; Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 13.24–37

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

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*

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of 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 *C E Oakley (1832-65)*

**1 Hills of the north, rejoice;
river and mountain-spring,
hark to the advent voice;
valley and lowland, sing;
though absent long, your Lord is nigh;
he judgement brings and victory.**

**2 Isles of the southern seas,
deep in your coral caves
pent be each warring breeze,
lulled be your restless waves;
he comes to reign with boundless sway,
and makes your wastes his great highway.**

**3 Lands of the east, awake,
soon shall your sons be free;
the sleep of ages break,
and rise to liberty.
On your far hills, long cold and grey,
has dawned the everlasting day.**

**4 Shores of the utmost west,
ye that have waited long,
unvisited, unblest,
break forth to swelling song;**

high raise the note, that Jesus died,
yet lives and reigns, the Crucified.

5 Shout, while ye journey home;
songs be in every mouth;
lo, from the north we come,
from east and west and south.
City of God, the bonds are free,
we come to live and reign in thee!

THE PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

Blessed are you, Lord God of 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 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 when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so, we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory for ever 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Traditional Caribbean*

**1 Our Father, who art in heaven,
*hallowed be thy name.***

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
hallowed be thy name.
*hallowed be thy name.***

**2 On earth as it is in heaven. *Hallowed be ...*
Give us this day our daily bread. *Hallowed be ... etc***

**3 Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**4 And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from all that is evil.**

**5 For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever, and for ever and ever.**

**6 Amen, amen, it shall be so.
Amen, amen, it shall be so.**

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

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 come to receive a blessing

COMMUNION HYMN *Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

**1 Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favoured sinners slain;
thousand, thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:**

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

God appears on earth to reign.

**2 Every eye shall now behold him
robed in glorious majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.**

**3 Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
 with what rapture,
 with what rapture, with what rapture,
gaze we on those glorious scars!**

**4 Yea, amen, let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own.
 Come, Lord Jesus!
 Come, Lord Jesus! Come, Lord Jesus!
Everlasting God, come down!**

Post communion prayer:

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service and joyful in his praise;
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.**

May God himself, the God of peace,
make you perfect and holy,
and keep you safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body,
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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 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...



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@stalbangossopsgreen.co.uk

Parish Office: Jo Browse 01293 344860

office@stalbangossopsgreen.co.uk

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