



# Welcome to St Alban's

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

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*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 *Walter Chalmers Smith (1825-1908)*

**1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious,  
the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**2 Unresting, unchanging, 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.**

*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, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.**

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

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

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

**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 (The special prayer of the day)

Almighty God,  
give us reverence for all creation  
and respect for every person,  
that we may mirror your likeness  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Proverbs 8.1, 22–31

New Testament: Colossians 1.15–20

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

GRADUAL HYMN *Daniel Iverson ©1963 Birdwing Music/Emi Christian Music Publishing*

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**  
**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**  
**Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me.**  
**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. (Repeat)**

## THE GOSPEL

*We sing:* **Alleluia, alleluia; alleluia, alleluia.**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 1.1–14

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## THE SERMON

## THE 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 *Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877)*

**1 At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,  
every tongue confess him King of glory now:  
'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,  
who from the beginning was the mighty Word.**

**2 At his voice creation sprang at once to sight,  
all the angel faces, all the hosts of light,  
thrones and dominations, stars upon their way,  
all the heavenly orders, in their great array.**

**3 Humbled for a season, to receive a name  
from the lips of sinners unto whom he came,  
faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,  
brought it back victorious, when from death he passed.**

**4 In your hearts enthrone him; There let him subdue  
All that is not holy, All that is not true;  
Crown him as your captain, In temptation's hour  
Let his will enfold you in its light and power.**

**5 Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again,  
with his Father's glory, with his angel train;  
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,  
and our hearts confess him King of glory now.**

#### 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.**

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.*



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.

*Anyone may come up to receive a blessing. All baptised Christians who receive communion in their own churches are welcome to receive communion.*

#### COMMUNION HYMN *Charles Wesley (1707-88)*

**1 O Thou who camest from above,  
the pure celestial fire to impart  
kindle a flame of sacred love  
upon the mean altar of my heart.**

**2 There let it for thy glory burn  
with inextinguishable blaze,  
and trembling to its source return,  
in humble prayer and fervent praise.**

**3 Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
to work and speak and think for thee;  
still let me guard the holy fire,  
and still stir up thy gift in me.**

**4 Still let me prove thy perfect will,  
my acts of faith and love repeat,  
till death thy endless mercies seal,  
and make my sacrifice complete.**

#### PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

God our creator, by your gift  
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,  
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:  
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth

be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross  
and enjoy the delights of eternity;  
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 God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of his glory;  
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...***

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

Website: [www.stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk](http://www.stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk)  
Facebook: St Alban's Gossops Green and Bewbush

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**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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month

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