



Welcome to St Alban's Church Patronal Festival

Before the children leave for Junior Church we pray:

**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 *Sydney Bertram Carter ©1971 Stainer & Bell Ltd*

**1 One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go,
from the old things to the new
keep me travelling along with you.
*And it's from the old I travel to the new,
keep me travelling along with you.***

**2 Round the corners of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn.
And the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me.
*And it's from the old...***

**3 As I travel through the bad and good
keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go
you'll be telling me the way, I know.
*And it's from the old...***

**4 Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough.**

**Leap, and sing in all I do.
Keep me travelling along with you.
*And it's from the old...***

**5 You are older than the world can be.
You are younger than the life in me.
Ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you.
*And it's from the old...***

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

The saints were faithful unto death and now dwell in the heavenly kingdom for ever. As we celebrate their joy, let us bring to the Lord our sins and weaknesses, and ask for his mercy.

We are often slow to follow the example of Christ.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

We often fail to be known as Christ's disciples.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

We often fail to walk the way of the cross.
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.**

GLORIA ©1983 Mike Anderson

Gloria, (clap) gloria, (clap) in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, (clap) gloria, (clap) in excelsis Deo.

**1 Lord God, heavenly King, peace you bring to us;
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we sing our song of praise. *Gloria...***

**2 Jesus, Saviour of all, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away our sins, O Lord, have mercy on us all. *Gloria...***

**3 At the Father's right hand, Lord receive our prayer,
for you alone are the Holy One, and you alone are Lord. *Gloria...***

**4 Glory, Father and Son, Glory Holy Spirit,
to you we raise our hands up high,
we glorify your name. *Gloria...***

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Eternal Father,
when the gospel of Christ first came to our land
you gloriously confirmed the faith of Alban
by making him the first to win a martyr's crown:
grant that, following his example,
in the fellowship of the saints
we may worship you, the living God,
and give true witness to 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.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah 43.1-7

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

GRADUAL HYMN *John Newton, John Rees*

**1 Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
was blind, but now I see.**

**2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear,
the hour I first believed!**

**3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**4 The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

**5 When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we first begun.**

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 12. 24-26

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

At the end of the prayers we say together:

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers,
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

THE PEACE *Please stand if you are able*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN *@Christopher William Herbert, 2006*

**1 In a town below the hillside,
as the sun began to set,
came a priest, beseeching shelter
from a man he'd never met.
Alban hid him from the soldiers;
learnt from him of God's own Son,
took his place before the Governor,
with his life in Christ begun.**

**2 With rough hands and ropes they bound him,
dragged him to the river's side.
There, he looked upon the water,
saw the flow of Jordan's tide,
walked barefoot across the streambed
and continued on his way.
Reached the trees upon the hilltop
in the early light of day.**

**3 'You are charged with grave offences',
said the Judge upon the hill.
'Do you bow to Caesar's power,
his divine and perfect will?'
'I am Alban,' cried the martyr,
'and I worship and adore
neither Caesar nor his servants -
but the true and living Lord.'**

**4 With a sword-stroke, there they killed him:
Felled his body to the ground,
jeered and mocked the martyr's witness,
laughed with cruel, spiteful sound.
But, just where his blood had fallen,
like the rain upon the earth,
flowers sprang at once to blossom -
signs of Alban's grace and worth.**

**5 On a hill beside a river
stands the shrine of Britain's saint;
honoured, loved by those who know him,
freed at last from all restraint.
For he stands with saints in glory,
with his prayers, our feet are shod.
May our courage never fail us
as we journey home to God.**

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

God of faithfulness,
your servant Alban praised you in his death.
Receive all we bring before you this day
and give us the strength of will
to proclaim your righteousness and love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For following the example of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, your holy martyr Alban shed his blood for the glory of your name.

His death reveals your power made perfect in our human frailty. You choose the weak and make them strong in bearing witness to you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

With joyful hearts we echo on earth
the song of the angels in heaven
as they praise your glory without end:

**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.**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Saviour
taught us so we pray:

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...*
Give us this day our daily bread. *Hallowed...***

- 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

God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Any member of the congregation may come to receive a blessing. All baptised Christians who receive communion in their own church are welcome to receive communion.

COMMUNION HYMN *Stuart Townend ©1996 Thankyou Music*

**1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul.**

***And I will trust in you alone,
and I will trust in you alone,
for your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.***

**2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights. *And I will trust...***

**3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know. *And I will trust...***

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer,
whose Church was strengthened
by the blood of your martyr Alban:
so bind us, in life and death, to Christ's sacrifice,
that our lives, broken and offered with his,
may carry his death and proclaim his resurrection 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.**

**1 The Spirit lives to set us free,
walk, walk in the light.
He binds us all in unity,
walk, walk in the light.**

***Walk in the light, walk in the light, walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.***

**2 Jesus promised life to all,
walk, walk in the light.
The dead were wakened by his call,
walk, walk in the light.**

**3 By Jesus' love our wounds are healed,
walk, walk in the light.
The Father's kindness is revealed,
walk, walk in the light.**

**4 The Spirit lives in you and me,
walk, walk in the light.
His light will shine for all to see,
walk, walk in the light.**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and love and steadfastness; and the blessing ...

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

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