



Welcome to St Alban's

Baptism of Christ/Epiphany 1

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 *K Getty, K Getty, S Townend ©2007 Thankyou Music*

**1 Come, people of the risen King,
who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
to the Morning Star of grace.**

**From the shifting shadows of the earth
we will lift our eyes to Him,
where steady arms of mercy reach
to gather children in.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Let every tongue rejoice!

One heart, one voice,

O Church of Christ, rejoice!

**2 Come, those whose joy is morning sun
and those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,
and those struggling in the fight.**

**For His perfect love will never change,
and His mercies never cease,
but follow us through all our days
with the certain hope of peace.**

Rejoice! Rejoice...

**3 Come, young and old from every land,
men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
find the riches of His grace.**

**Over all the world, His people sing,
shore to shore we hear them call
the truth that cries through every age:
'Our God is all in all'.**

Rejoice! Rejoice...

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 grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour
Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.
Let us confess our sins.

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:
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.**

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 43.1–7; Acts 8.14–17

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

GRADUAL HYMN *Prudentius (348-413) tr. JM Neale and HW Baker*

**1 Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!**

**2 By his word was all created:
He commanded, it was done:
Heaven and earth and depth of ocean,
universe of three in one,
all that grows beneath the shining
of the light of moon and sun:
evermore and evermore!**

**3 Blessed was the day for ever
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Saviour of our race,
and the child, the world's redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face:
evermore and evermore!**

**4 O ye heights of heaven, adore him;
angels and archangels sing;
every creature bow before him
Singing praise to God our King;
Let no earthly tongue be silent,
all the world with homage ring,
evermore and evermore!**

THE GOSPEL

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

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 3.15–17, 21, 22

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

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 are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN *John Mason Neale (1818-1886)*

**1. Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now:
Christ is born today,
Christ is born today!**

**2 Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this.
He hath opened heaven's door,
and we are blessed for ever more:
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this.**

**3 Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save;
Calls you one, and calls you all,
to gain his everlasting hall:
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save.**

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Open the heavens, Holy Spirit,
for us to see Jesus interceding for us;
may we be willing to share his baptism,
ready to share his cup
and strengthened to serve him for ever. **Amen.**

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.**

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator,
ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:
for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst.

In the coming of the magi
the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.

In the waters of baptism
Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us.

In the water made wine
the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was
turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

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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 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.**

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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.

**1 Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the holy One is here;
come bow before him now
with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the holy One is here.**

**2 Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.**

**3 Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place;
he comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister His grace.
No work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him;
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.**

Prayer after Communion

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
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 *Graham Maule & John L. Bell ©1987 WGRG*

**1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?**

**2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?**

**3 Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?**

**4 Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?**

**5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show;
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

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 Community Morning 10am-12pm

Saturday Prayer Breakfast 9.30am on 2nd Saturday of each month



Celebrating God's Love
in the Heart of our
Community

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