



Welcome to St Alban's

Lent 5

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 *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.**

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)

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43.16–21; Philippians 3.4b–14

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

GRADUAL HYMN *Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

**1 When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**3 See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all!**

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 12.1–8

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. (repeat)*

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. (repeat)*

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. (repeat)*

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. (repeat)*

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.**

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.

All sing: **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.**

We sing:

**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.**

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 *Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)*

**1 Just as I am without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bid'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**2 Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**3 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**4 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve,
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**5 Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

**6 Just as I am, of that free love
the breadth, length, depth and height to prove,
here for a season, then above,
O Lamb of God, I come.**

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do
for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **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 ©1961 Timothy Dudley-Smith

**1 Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

**2 Tell out my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name—the Lord, the Mighty One.**

**3 Tell out my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!**

Holy Week and Easter at St Alban's

April 13th 9.45am Palm Sunday Procession and Sung Eucharist

April 14th 8pm Compline

April 15th 8pm Stations of the Cross

April 16th 8pm Tenebrae, a Service of Shadows

April 17th 8pm Maundy Thursday Service

April 18th 9.30-12 noon Good Friday Workshop for children
2pm Good Friday Liturgy

April 19th 8pm Easter Vigil

April 20th 9.45am Easter Day Family Service



Celebrating God's Love
in the Heart of our
Community

St Alban's contact details

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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 Community Morning 10am-12pm

Saturday Prayer Breakfast 9.30am on 12th April

Mass setting: New People's Mass, A Gregory Murray ©1975, 1987 McCrimmon Publishing Co Ltd.

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