



Welcome to St Alban's

Feast of the Baptism of Christ

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 E Perronet adapted by M Forster ©1999 Kevin Mayhew Ltd

**1 All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem,
to crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**

**2 Crown him, all martyrs of your God,
who from his altar call;
praise him whose way of pain you trod,
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**

**3 O prophets faithful to his word,
in matters great and small,
who made his voice of justice heard,
now crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**

**4 All sinners now redeemed by grace,
who heard your Saviour's call,
now robed in light before his face,
O crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**

**5 Let every tribe and every race
who heard the freedom call,
in liberation see Christ's face,
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**

**6 Let every people, every tongue
to him their hearts enthrall:
lift high the universal song
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
crown him Lord of all.**

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.

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, unstopp 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.**

GLORIA

All sing

***Glory, glory to God, glory to God in the highest heav'ns;
peace, peace, peace on the earth;
peace to God's people, all people on earth. (Repeat)***

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
*Glory, glory...***

**Lord Jesus Christ, Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy, mercy on us. Have mercy, mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand, at the right hand of the Father,
receive, Lord, receive our prayer. Receive, Lord, receive our prayer.
*Glory, glory...***

**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, glory of God, the glory of God the Father.**

Glory, glory...

Amen, amen.

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 42.1-9; Acts 10.34-43

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

GRADUAL HYMN *Traditional*

**1 I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
how Jesus the Saviour did come for to die
for poor ord'n'ry people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.**

**2 When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall
with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
and the promise of ages it did then recall.**

**3 If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
he surely could have it, 'cause he was the king.**

THE GOSPEL

Please stand if you are able

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 3.13–end

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

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

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*

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and is a pledge of what is to come, has given us the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Reginald Heber (1783 - 1875)*

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and ever more shall be.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see;
only thou art holy, there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth, and sky, and sea:
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

You celebrated your new gift of baptism in signs and wonders at the Jordan.

Your voice was heard from heaven to awaken faith in the presence among us of your Word made flesh.

Your Spirit was seen as a dove, revealing Jesus as your servant, and anointing him with the oil of gladness to preach the good news to the poor.

Therefore, as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven, we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven for ever praising you and singing:

We sing **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and God of might:
Heaven and earth, heaven and earth
are full of your glory, your power and might.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens.
*Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens.***

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
blessed is he, blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord. *Hosanna...***

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.

We sing **Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus come, Lord Jesus come;
Lord Jesus come in glory.
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heav'ns!
*Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heav'ns!***

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.**

We sing **Jesus, Lamb of God, Bread of Life for us;
Jesus, Lamb of God, Wine of Joy for us;
Jesus, Lamb of God bearing all our sin;
Have mercy on us, give us your peace.**

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

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

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 *Graham Kendrick © 1986 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

**1 Meekness and majesty, manhood and deity,
in perfect harmony, the Man who is God.**

**Lord of eternity dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility and washes our feet.**

*O what a mystery, meekness and majesty.
Bow down and worship for this is your God,
this is your God.*

**2 Father's pure radiance, perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience to death on a cross.**

**Suffering to give us life, conquering through sacrifice,
and as they crucify prays: 'Father forgive.'**

**3 Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible,
love indestructible in frailty appears.**

**Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.**

Prayers 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 of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen

CLOSING HYMN *Graham Kendrick © 1986 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

**1 Make way, make way,
for Christ the King in splendour arrives.
Fling wide the gates
and welcome him into your lives.**

*Make way! (Make way!) Make way! (Make way!)
for the King of kings (for the King of kings).
Make way! (Make way!) Make way! (Make way!)
and let His kingdom in.*

**2 He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see. Make way...**

**3 And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh;
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify. Make way...**

**4 We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all.
To have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall! *Make way...***

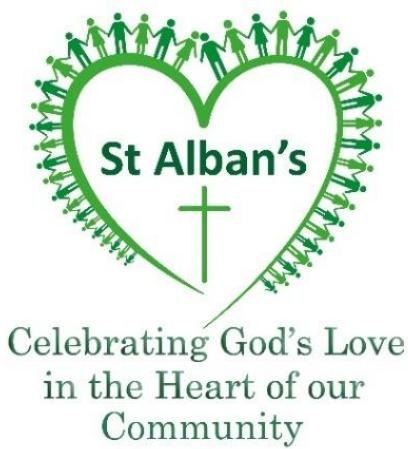
Regular services and events at St Alban's

**SUNDAY SERVICE:
Sung Eucharist 9:45am weekly**

**WEEKDAY SERVICE:
Thursday 9:30am Said Eucharist
*followed by Heart of Welcome Café 10am-12pm***

Saturday Prayer Breakfast 9.30am next one Saturday 14th February

Tiny Toes Toddler Group every Monday in term time, 9.30 – 11am



St Albans contact details

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