



St Alban's Parish Church



Sunday 21st December The Fourth Sunday of Advent

As we stand on the threshold of Christmas, we give thanks to God for the precious gift of Jesus Christ. Let us come before God with praise and gratitude.

9.00 am Said Mass Fr Graham

10.00 am Parish Mass (All Age)
President and Preacher Fr Graham
Readings Andrew Mould
Intercessions Sr Julie
Eucharistic Minister Geraldine Rainey

6.00pm Carol Service Fr Graham

Today at the Parish Mass:
Hymns: NH&WS 299, 382, 224, 32

During the Week

Tues 23rd **19.00** Said Mass Fr Graham

Christmas Eve **16.00** Nativity Fr Graham
23.30 Midnight Mass Fr G

Christmas Day **10.00** Mass Mtr Linda

Fri 26th St Stephen **10.00** Said Mass Fr Graham
Sat 27th St John **10.00** Said Mass Mtr Linda

WELCOME We are really pleased to see you. If you have any queries or are unsure about anything please ask.

Serving the parish with you:

Vicar: Fr Graham Thornalley
Telephone: 01482 443566
Email: vicar@stalbanhull.com
Associate Priest: Mtr Linda Gillard
Website: www.stalbanthemartyrhull.com

*Also on Facebook and ACNY
 Information and Notices for Pew Sheet to
 Elizabeth Franklin elmfranklin@gmail.com*

Next Sunday 28th December The Holy Innocents

Into our darkness a light has come; the Saviour has been born. Yet in that light the darkness of oppression still holds power. Let us worship the God whose love is stronger than all the world's hatred.

Readings

First Reading **Jeremiah 31:15-17**

At a time of national crisis, when death is all around, God's people are urged to hold on to their hope of God's plan for a better future.

Second Reading **1 Corinthians 1:26-29**

The smallest and least significant of God's children matter to God just as much as the great and powerful.

Gospel **Matthew 2:13-18**

The joy of the Saviour's birth comes at a terrible cost.

Services

9.00 am Said Mass Fr Graham

10.00 am Parish Mass
President Mtr Linda **Preacher** Fr Graham
Readings Liz Pacey
Intercessions John Hotchin
Eucharistic Minister Jim Weller
6.00pm Evening Prayer Jim Weller

Digital and Online Giving

St Alban's relies solely on donations to maintain services and our work in the community. We know people want to be generous but don't always have the means at hand to make a donation when they are in church.

You can now use this QR code to make a donation online at any time via our secure website.



A message for the PCC

Dear Fellow St Alban's Christians,
 The PCC has completed the Budget for 2026. Once again we are facing a deficit of several thousand pounds. It has been calculated that if every member of our congregation was able to give just £1 extra per week we could break even. Please consider doing this.
 Thank you.
 Your PCC

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Psalm 80, 1-8



Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you that led Joseph like a flock;
Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the
cherubim,
before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. **R.**

Stir up your mighty strength
and come to our salvation.
Turn us again, O God;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall
be saved. **R.**

O Lord God of hosts,
how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?
You feed them with the bread of tears;
you give them abundance of tears to drink. **R.**

You have made us the derision of our neighbours,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
Turn us again, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance, and we shall
be saved. **R.**

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son;
They will call him Emmanuel, a name which means
'God-is-with-us'.

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-end

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Intercessions

We pray for the Church; that it may grow in courage and trust, and become more deeply alive to God's mysterious workings in our world.

We pray for the world, fractured and torn apart by strife and injustice; that it may become more fully aware of Christ's light shining in the darkness.

We pray for our local communities and for all those who work so tirelessly for their good; that they may be alive to the presence of God's active love and compassion in their midst.

We pray for ourselves; that we may be alert to the signs of God's leading, willing to step out in trust, even when we do not fully understand where we are being led.

We pray for the departed, especially those we have known and loved. This week we remember Christine Martin, Kevin Martin, Robin Dales, Gordon Corrick, Jabez Griffin, Doris Marshall, David Batten, Margaret Rogerson.

