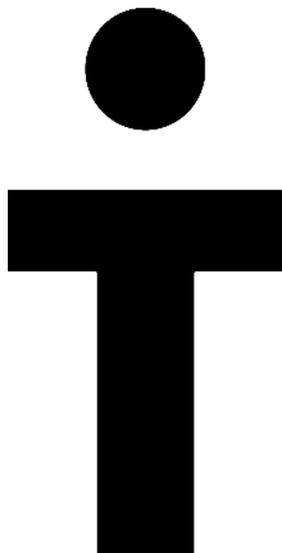


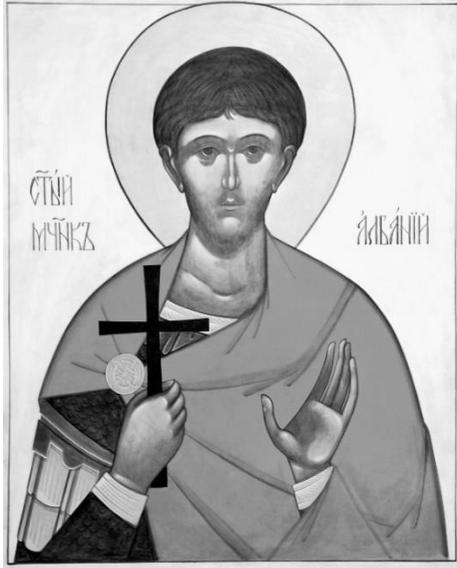
**ST. ALBANS
CATHEDRAL**



**St Albans Cathedral
Patronal Eucharist**

21 June 2020

*President: The Bishop of St Albans
Preacher: The Revd Richard Coles*



Among the roses of the martyrs brightly shines Saint Alban.

**Almighty God,
We thank you for this place built to your glory
and in memory of Alban, our first martyr.
Following his example in the fellowship of the saints,
may we worship and adore the true and living God,
and be faithful witnesses to the Christ,
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.
Amen**

**Pray for us Alban, pray for us all Saints of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Organ music before the service
pre-recorded by Tom Winpenny, Assistant Master of the Music

Prelude & Fugue in G BWV 541 JS Bach
Choral Prelude on 'Gelobet sei Gott' H Willan

The Gathering

Virtual Procession

Welcome to our virtual pilgrimage for this Feast of St Alban.

At the beginning of the service there is a procession of images and video representing the people and parishes that would have been attending this year's pilgrimage, and recalling the events of previous years. The introit is Peter Hurford's Truly the Lord is in this place, recorded in 2019 by the Cathedral Choir, after which we sing the opening hymn together.

Introit

Truly the Lord is in this place;
this is no other than the house of God;
truly the Lord is in this place;
this is the gate of heav'n.

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good;
his mercy is for ever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom heaven and earth adore,
from men and from the angel-host
be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

*Words: Genesis 25: 16-17 & William Kethe
Music: Peter Hurford*

Hymn

sung virtually by the Cathedral Choirs



We sing of holy Alban and his suffering for the Lord,
of resounding words of witness for the Christ whom he adored;
of his boldness and his daring and his dying by the sword'
his faith is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah! ... His faith is marching on.

I worship and adore the true and living God, he said,
as the darkening world of evil raged in torment round his head;
in the strength of Christ he trod, as he to martyrdom was led;
his words are marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah! ... His words are marching on.

We celebrate the courage of a martyr true and bold;
we remember now his witness for the Lord in days of old;
we rededicate ourselves today, his Gospel to be told;
the Good News marches on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah! ... The Good News marches on.

Words: D Pepin

Tune: Battle Hymn of the Republic

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

All **and also with you.**

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayers of Penitence

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.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry 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 grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
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.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

sung virtually by the Cathedral Choirs

David Thorne



Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God,
Glo-ry to God in the High - est. Glo-ry to God in the High - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al -
migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we_
praise you for your glo - ry. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God,
Glo - ry to God in the High - est. Lord, Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther. Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us; You are
sea - ted at the righ - t hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

f Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the High - est.

f For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,

You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spi - rit, in the Glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. *ff* Glo-ry to God,

Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God in the High - est.

The Collect

The president says

Let us pray.

Eternal Father,
 when the gospel of Christ first came to this land
 you gloriously confirmed the faith of Alban
 by making him the first to win a martyr's crown:
 grant that, following his example
 and strengthened by his fellowship,
 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.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

From Bede's History of the English Church and People
read by Daisy Cooper MP

A reading from the Ecclesiastical History of The Venerable Bede

Saint Alban, 'born in fertile Britain's land', suffering during the reign of Diocletian and Herculian. Whilst still a pagan, he gave shelter to a Christian priest who was fleeing from his persecutors. When Alban saw the holy man spending all his time in prayer and vigils, he was suddenly touched by the grace of God. He was moved to follow the priest's example, and began to emulate his faith and devotion. In the course of time he thoroughly imbibed the priest's salutary teaching, renounced the darkness of idolatry and wholeheartedly professed the Christian faith. Soon, however, word got out that Alban was sheltering a Christian, and when the soldiers arrived to search the house, Alban dressed himself in the priest's clothes and gave himself up in the place of his guest and teacher.

The judge was incensed that Alban should have surrendered himself in place of his guest; and when he refused to offer sacrifice to idols, ordered him to be scourged, in the hope that he could shake his constancy by torture. But Alban bore all his severe torments with joyful patience for Christ's sake. When the judge saw that no torture could break him or induce him to repudiate his faith in Christ, he ordered him to be beheaded.

Saint Alban suffered on the twenty-second day of June near the city of Verulamium. When the peace of Christian times was restored, this beautiful church worthy of his martyrdom was built.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 2: 3-13

read by the Revd Christer Staaf

Canon Precentor of Linköping Cathedral, Sweden

A reading from the second letter to Timothy

Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving in the army gets entangled in everyday affairs; the soldier's aim is to please the enlisting officer. And in the case of an athlete, no one is crowned without competing according to the rules. It is the farmer who does the work who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things.

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
if we endure, we will also reign with him;
if we deny him, he will also deny us;
if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
for he cannot deny himself.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Please stand to greet the Gospel.

The Cathedral Girls Choir and Lay Clerks lead the pre-recorded acclamation:

Among the roses of the martyrs:
Brightly shines Saint Alban.
I am called Alban;
and I worship and adore the true and living God.

*Words: based on Bede's Ecclesiastical History
Music: S Darlington*

When the Gospel is announced the President says

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

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

Jesus said, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.'

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

Please sit.

Sermon

The Revd Fr Richard Coles
Vicar of St Mary the Virgin, Finedon

The Creed

Please stand.

All **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,
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

led by Elizabeth Fotheringham, Cathedral Warden

The president introduces the Prayers of Intercession

United in the company of St Alban and all the faithful
and looking for the coming of the kingdom,
let us offer our prayers to God,
the source of all life and holiness.

Please kneel or sit.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy or Lord, hear us.
All **hear our prayer.** **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Once we were far off,
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.

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

Preparation of the Altar Taking of the Bread and Wine

The altar is prepared and bread and wine are place upon it.

*During the preparation of the altar we sing the **Offertory Hymn***

Offertory Hymn

pre-recorded by the Cathedral Choir

1. | 2. **Refrain**
Here I am, Lord. Is it
I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord,
if you lead me. I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Refrain

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them,
they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone,
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?
Refrain

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them,
my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied,
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
Refrain

Words: D L Schutte
Tune: Here I am, Lord

The president takes the bread and wine and says the following prayers

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.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

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.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All 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 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.

Therefore with joyful hearts we echo on earth
the song of the angels in heaven
as they praise your glory without end.

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

St Alban and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Uniting our prayers with St Alban
and the whole company of heaven,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Giving of Communion

The president says

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Spiritual Communion

You might like to make an act of spiritual communion using the following order.

Revelation 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any one
hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in
to them and eat with them, and they with me.

An act of spiritual communion based on a prayer of St Alphonsus

Jesus Christ,
True God and True Bread,
I believe that you are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive you sacramentally,
I pray that you come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you, and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

Communion Motet

pre-recorded by the Cathedral Choir

*Locus iste a Deo factus est,
inaestimabile sacramentum,
irreprehensibilis est.*

This place was made by God,
a priceless sacrament;
it is without reproach

Words: Gradual for a Mass of church dedication

Music: A Bruckner

Prayer after Communion

The president says

Let us pray.

O God our redeemer,
whose Church was strengthened
by the blood of thy martyr Alban:
so bind us, in life and death, to the sacrifice of Christ,
that, our lives being broken and offered with his,
we may carry his death
and proclaim his resurrection in the world;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The president says

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

May the true and living God, who created all things,
lead you with Alban to proclaim his living Word;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The Alban Prayer

Among the roses of the martyrs
brightly shines St Alban.

Almighty God,
we thank you for this place,
built to your glory
and in memory of Alban, our first martyr.
Following his example in the fellowship of the saints,
may we worship and adore the true and living God,
and be faithful witnesses to the Christ,
who is alive and reigns,
now and for ever and ever.
Amen.

Pray for us Alban, pray for us, all saints of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

pre-recorded by the Abbey Singers and Lay Clerks



▲ Refrain

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:
Thine be the glory...

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to our home above:
Thine be the glory...

Words: French, 19th century, Edmond Budry, tr Richard Hoyle

Tune: Maccabæus

Descant: P Moore

Organ music after the service

Pre-recorded by Tom Winpenny, Assistant Master of the Music

Toccata op. 12 F Germani

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