

Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church FEAST OF SAINT ALBAN



From Wikipedia

Saint Alban (/ˈoːlbən, ˈæl-/; Latin: Albanus) is venerated as the first-recorded British Christian martyr, [1] for which reason he is considered to be the British protomartyr. Along with fellow Saints Julius and Aaron, Alban is one of three named martyrs recorded at an early date from Roman Britain ("Amphibalus" was the name given much later to the priest he was said to have been protecting). He is traditionally believed to have been beheaded in Verulamium (modern St Albans) sometime during the 3rd or 4th century, and his cult has been celebrated there since ancient times.

Hagiography

Alban lived in <u>Roman Britain</u>, but little is known about his religious affiliations, socioeconomic status, or citizenship. According to the most elabo-

Wednesday, 21 June 9:30am

Announcements and Welcome

Rev. Allison Cornell

Salutation

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen. **People**

The Collect for Purity

Presider: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify you Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria— H1982 #S-278

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, you alone are the Most High, we praise you for your glory. 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. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the day:

Presider The Lord be with you. And also with you. People

Presider Let us pray.

All: Almighty God, by whose grace and power your holy martyr Alban triumphed over suffering and was faithful even unto death: Grant us, who now remember him in thanksgiving, to be so faithful in our witness to you in this world that we may receive with him the crown of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

The Word of God —(Please be seated for the reading of the lessons) First Lesson: 1 1 John (3:13-16):

Do not be astonished, brothers and sisters, that the world hates you. We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. All who hate a brother or sister are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

Reader The Word of the Lord People Thanks be to God

The Psalm

Psalm: (34:1-8): *(read in unison)*

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; *

his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

2 I will glory in the Lord; *

let the humble hear and rejoice.

- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; * let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me * and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, * and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me * and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who fear him, * and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; * happy are they who trust in him!

Gospel Lesson: (Please stand as you are able)

Reader:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (10:34-42):

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

.Reader The Gospel of the Lord

People Praise to you, Lord Christ

HOMILY

Nicene Creed: Traditional Version (Said aloud by all, in unison)

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 the People: Form VI— The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who

are alone.

Leader: For this community, the nation, and the world;

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the

needy.

Leader: For reconciliation with Native American people

People: For healing and justice with all who share this land.

Leader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader: For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Jennifer, our Bishop; and for

all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

(The People may add their own petitions, aloud or silently)

Leader Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

(The People may add their own thanksgivings, aloud or silently)

Leader We will exalt you, O God our King;

People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your

eternal kingdom.

(people remember those who have died)

Leader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People: Who put their trust in you.

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for *The Diocese of Toliara* –

The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

People: Lord, bless and keep them.

Leader: In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Mary's, in Phoenix

People: Lord, bless and keep them.

Deacon: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

(a short pause)

All: Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Exchange of the Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

(The Ministers and People exchange socially distant signs of peace (peace sign, namaste, virtual hug)

The Offertory:

Presider Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Doxology #380 vs. 3 (Peoples' offerings are brought to the altar

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise him all creatures here below

Praise him above ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. ♪

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving - BCP Rite II Prayer C

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People: Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation.

But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus S#S124

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

The Presider continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving:

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Sarah and Abraham, Rebekah and Isaac, Rachel and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Lord's Prayer: (Traditional)

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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread bread

Fraction Anthem G#806 Eat this

Eat this bread, drink this cup come to him and never be hungry. Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst

Invitation to Communion:

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

(All are invited and welcome to come forward and receive communion in this church. The bread is gluten free. To intinct/dip your bread into the wine, please go to the left communion rail. To drink a sip from the cup of wine, please go to the right communion rail. If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine, you may choose either rail and then cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing instead.)

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing, Travel, Gratitude

Post Communion Prayer (*The people stand as they are able.*)

Presider; Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction/Blessing:

Presider: May the peace which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. And the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you now and always. **Amen.**

Dismissal:

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

People: We are called to love and serve.

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in God's Spirit.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, (Alleluia!)

Continued from front

rate version of the tale found in <u>Bede</u>'s <u>Ecclesiastical History of the English People</u>, in the 3rd or 4th century (see dating controversy below), Christians began to suffer "cruel persecution", and Alban was living in <u>Verulamium</u>. However, <u>Gildas</u> says he crossed the Thames before his martyrdom, so some authors place his residence and martyrdom in or near London. Both agree that Alban met a Christian priest fleeing from persecutors and sheltered him in his house for a number of days. The priest, who later came to be called <u>Amphibalus</u>, meaning "cloak" in Latin, prayed and "kept watch" day and night, and Alban was so impressed with the priest's faith and piety that he found himself emulating him and soon converted to Christianity. Eventually, it came to the ears of an unnamed "impious prince" that Alban was sheltering the priest. The prince gave orders for Roman soldiers to make a strict search of Alban's house. As they came to seize the priest, Alban put on the priest's cloak and clothing and presented himself to the soldiers in place of his guest.

Alban was brought before a judge, who just then happened to be standing at the altar, offering sacrifices to "devils" (Bede's reference to pagan gods). When the judge heard that Alban had offered himself up in place of the priest, he became enraged that Alban would shelter a person who "despised and blasphemed the gods," and, as Alban had given himself up in the Christian's place, Alban was sentenced to endure all the punishments that were to be inflicted upon the priest, unless he would comply with the pagan rites of their religion. Alban refused, and declared, "I worship and adore the true and living God who created all things." (The words are still used in prayer at St Alban's Abbey). The enraged judge ordered Alban to be scourged, thinking that a whipping would shake the constancy of his heart, but Alban bore these torments patiently and joyfully. When the judge realized that the tortures would not shake his faith, he gave orders for Alban to be beheaded. [2]

Alban was led to execution, and he presently came to a fast-flowing river that could not be crossed (believed to be the <u>River Ver</u>). There was a bridge, but a mob of curious townspeople who wished to watch the execution had so clogged the bridge that the execution party could not cross. Filled with an ardent desire to arrive quickly at martyrdom, Alban raised his eyes to heaven, and the river dried up, allowing Alban and his captors to cross over on dry land. The astonished executioner cast down his sword and fell at Alban's feet, moved by divine inspiration and praying that he might either suffer with Alban or be executed for him. [2][4]

The other executioners hesitated to pick up his sword, and meanwhile, Alban and they went about 500 paces to a gently sloping hill, completely covered with all kinds of wild flowers, and overlooking a beautiful plain. (Bede observes that it was a fittingly beautiful place to be enriched and sanctified by a martyr's blood.)^[2]

When Alban reached the summit of the hill, he began to thirst and prayed God would give him water. A spring immediately sprang up at his feet. It was there that his head was struck off, as well as the head of the first Roman soldier who was miraculously converted and refused to execute him. However, immediately after delivering the fatal stroke, the eyes of the second executioner popped out of his head and dropped to the ground, along with Alban's head, so that this second executioner could not rejoice over Alban's death. [2]

In later legends, Alban's head rolled downhill after his execution, and a well sprang up where it stopped. ^[5] Upon hearing of the miracles, the astonished judge ordered further persecutions to cease, and he began to honour the saint's death. ^[2]

Cont. online

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Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update	Giving Envelope	s Mail News Letter
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