

St. Alban's Anglican Catholic Church



An Instructive Service Guide

The Administration of the Lord's Supper

Or

Holy Communion

Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness. Psalm 96:9

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him. Habbakuk 2:20

St. Alban's Anglican Catholic Church

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To learn more about St. Alban's, please visit: www.saintalbansanglican.org

Other Websites

Anglican Catholic Church (ACC) Denomination: www.anglicancatholic.org

ACC Mid-Atlantic Diocese: www.dmas-acc.org

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Holy Communion Service Outline

Use this guide in place of the Book of Common Prayer's Communion Service

The Liturgy of the Word

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Movement During Service

We genuflect (bow) before the Body and Blood of our Lord. To genuflect, kneel momentarily on your right knee as you leave your pew, keeping your left foot on the ground.

We revere the King of Kings by kneeling during worship. Kneel when the priest says "Let us pray."

We honor God by standing whenever the Gospel is read (scripture from Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John).

You may also bow to the cross anytime you walk in front of the altar.

*Words in ***bold italics*** are said together by the congregation.

**See Weekly Bulletin for Hymn numbers, Propers, and other information.

***St. Alban's uses the 1928 Book of Common Prayer (BCP) and 1943 Hymnal for its services.

****The order and content of this booklet may vary depending on the liturgical season.

The Liturgy of the Word

I. Procession

Prelude

Processional Hymn

Introit (see bulletin insert)

The Introit is a call to worship.

IN THE NAME (✠) of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

AMEN.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

To mark yourself with the sign of the Cross (✠), touch your right hand to your forehead, then chest, left shoulder, right shoulder, and finally your heart. This signifies that Christ was in the Godhead, came down to earth, became subject to evil and death, rose again, and is seated in glory at the right hand of the Father and now dwells in our hearts by faith.

II. Collects

The Collect for Purity (BCP p.67)

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

AMEN.

Other Collects

III. The Law

The priest will either choose the Decalogue (p.4 or BCP p.68) or proceed to the Lord's "Summary of the Law" (p.5 or BCP p.69).

The Decalogue

Said on 1st Sunday of the Month.

All kneeling, the priest speaks, and the people respond. When the Decalogue is read, the hymn, Kyrie Eleison, will be skipped.

GOD spake these words, and said:

I AM the LORD thy God; Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them; for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, and visit the sins of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, and show mercy unto thousands in them that love me and keep my commandments.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless, that taketh His name in vain.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. Six days shalt thou labor and do all that thou hast to do; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God. In it, thou shalt do no manner of work; thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, thy cattle, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days, the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the LORD blessed the seventh day and hallowed it.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt do no murder.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is his.

LORD, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

For reference, see Dan 6:10, Mt 9:18, Eph 3:14, 1Ki 8:54, 2 Ch 6:13, Ezr 9:5, Mt 8:2, 15:25, 17:14, 20:20; Lk 22:41, Ac 7:60, 9:40, 20:36

Summary of the Law (BCP p.69)

Hear what our Lord JESUS CHRIST saith:

THOU SHALT LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THY HEART, AND WITH ALL THY SOUL, AND WITH ALL THY MIND. THIS IS THE FIRST AND GREAT COMMANDMENT. AND THE SECOND IS LIKE UNTO IT; THOU SHALT LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF. ON THESE TWO COMMANDMENTS HANG ALL THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS.

Matt 22:37-40

Kyrie Eleison

Congregation, kneeling, sings together.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

As the Kyrie Eleison hymn ends, the congregation stands and segues straight into Gloria in Excelsis.

There may be a substitution during Advent and Lent (penitential seasons), or it may be omitted altogether.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth, peace, goodwill towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee,

we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly king, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father;

that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

Art (†) most high in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

IV. Lectionary

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Today's Collect

The appointed collect for the day will be read by the priest. You can find it in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). There may be other collects read for specific Holy Days and liturgical seasons, such as Ash Wednesday or Advent.

Lessons

Please be seated for the Epistle.

The lay reader announces the book, chapter, and verse of the Epistle and then reads the Epistle.

See the bulletin for which page to turn to in the BCP to read along.

New Testament Epistle

Lay Reader: Here endeth the Epistle.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual & Alleluia (see bulletin insert)

Please stand for the Gradual, Alleluia, Gospel and Nicene Creed.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The priest announces the book, chapter, and verse of the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel is written...

Glory be to thee, O Lord. (†)

The Gospel of the Lord

Please stand as the gospel is read.

The priest finishes reading the Gospel and raises up the Missal.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Proceed to the Nicene Creed.

Nicene Creed

I BELIEVE *in one God the Father Almighty,* Rom 10:8-10; 1 John 4:15; Deut 6:4, Eph 4:6; Matt 6:9; Ex 6:3

Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible: Gen 1:1, Col 1:15-16

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God; Act 11:17; John 1:18; Matt 14:33; Matt 16:16

Begotten of His Father before all worlds, John 1:2

God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Ps 27:1, John 8:12; Matt 17:2,5; John 17:1-5

Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; John 3:16, 10:30

By whom all things were made: John 1:10; Hebrews 1:1-2

Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, 1 Tim 2:4-5; John 6:33,35

And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, Luke 1:35

And was made man: John 1:14

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; Matt 15:25; 1 Cor 15:3

He suffered and was buried: Mark 8:31; Luke 23:53; 1 Cor 15:4

And the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures: Luke 24:1; 1 Cor 15:4

And ascended into heaven, Luke 24:51; Acts 1:10

And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: Mark 16:19; Acts 7:55

And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Matt 24:27; Acts 10:42; 2 Tim 4:1

Whose kingdom shall have no end. 2 Peter 1:11

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, and Giver of Life, John 14:26; Acts 5:3-4; Gen 1:2

Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; John 15:26

Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Matt 3:16-17

Who spake by the Prophets: 1 Sam 19:20; Ezekiel 11:5,13

And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: Matt 16:15-18; 1 Pet 2:5,9; Acts 2:42; Eph 2:19-22

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: Eph 4:5; Acts 2:38

And I look for the Resurrection (†) of the dead: John 11:24; 1 Cor 15:12-49

And the life of the world to come. Mark 10:29-30

AMEN.

V. Announcements and Blessings

Please be seated.

The Priest will present announcements and bless those who are having birthdays and anniversaries this week.

VI. Sermon

Sermon Hymn

The priest then prays before starting the sermon:

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of our hearts be alway acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and redeemer.

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (✠)

AMEN.

Sermon

The Liturgy of the Sacrifice

I. Offertory

Here the alms (offerings) are taken up by passing the plate. You may also give a prayer or thanksgiving on a slip of paper. The priest may begin the Offertory with a verse of Scripture. Otherwise, skip to the Proper and Doxology.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said:

IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE.

Acts 20:35

LAY NOT UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES UPON EARTH, WHERE MOTH AND RUST DOTHTH CORRUPT, AND WHERE THIEVES BREAK THROUGH AND STEAL. BUT LAY UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES IN HEAVEN, WHETHER NEITHER MOTH NOR RUST DOTHTH CORRUPT, AND WHERE THIEVES DO NOT BREAK THROUGH NOR STEAL.

Matt 6:19-20

Offertory Proper (see bulletin insert)

Offertory Hymn

To be sung, sitting, while the offering is being collected.

Doxology

Stand while the offering is being presented to God.

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.

The Intercessions of the Faithful (BCP p.74)

The Priest may say an Opening Prayer of Intercession first. Then he will say:

Orate Fratres & Suscipiat Dominus

Brethren, pray, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

The congregation responds:

The Lord receive the sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his name; both to our benefit and that of all his holy church.

AMEN.

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's church.

Eph 1:22-23;6:18-20; Jude 20; Col 1:18,2:19; John 14:15

Almighty and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy Holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Eph 4:3,13;6:18; 1 Tim 2:1-2; Ezekiel 20:40;44:33; Ps 4:3, 133:1

We beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of all Christian Rulers, [especially, Name] that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.

Prov 8:15; Rom 13; Eph 6:12;Ex 22:28; Isa 45:1; Jer 25:9, 43:10; 1 Tim 6:15; Rev 1:5

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops [especially, Name], and other Ministers, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Matt 28:19; Acts 2:38-41; 1 Cor 10:16-17,11:23-26; John 6:32-58

And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Deut 5:22; Luke 4:30; Acts 2:46-47,5:12; Rom 12:5; Matt 22:29; 2 Pet 1:20-21; John 14:10,23-24; Isa 57:15; Heb 10:19-22; Rev 22:19

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially, Name] [moment of silence for personal prayer].

2 Cor 6:2; Her 2:18; Isa 61:2; Matt 5:4, 9:22; Mark 10:49; John 14:16

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear [especially, Name] [moment of silence for personal prayer]; beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service, and to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate.

Gen 9:26;14:20; 1 Chr 29:11-12; 1 The 4:13-14; John 8:51;10:34; Rev 2:11

AMEN.

The Confession of Sin (BCP p.75).

Neh 1:5-7; Prov 28:13; Jer 3:24-25; Isa 6:51; John 1:8-10; Luke 15:17-24

The priest shall say to all who intend to receive the Holy Communion:

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

This General Confession shall be made by the Priest and all those who intend to receive the Holy Communion, humbly kneeling:

ALMIGHTY GOD, *Father of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, maker of all things, judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord JESUS CHRIST's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee in newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.*

AMEN.

Absolution (BCP p.76).

John 20:21-23; Matt 18:23-35; Luke 5:20-21; 7:36-50; 15:11-32

Then the priest shall stand up and, turning to the congregation, say:

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon (†) and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through JESUS CHRIST our Lord.

AMEN.

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him:

COME UNTO ME, ALL YE THAT TRAVAIL AND ARE HEAVY-LADEN, AND I WILL REFRESH YOU.

Matt 11:28

SO GOD LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON, TO THE END THAT ALL THAT BELIEVE IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.

John 3:16

Hear also what Saint Paul saith:

THIS IS A TRUE SAYING AND WORTHY OF ALL MEN TO BE RECEIVED. THAT CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS.

1 Tim 1:15

Hear also what Saint John saith:

IF ANY MAN SIN, WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE WITH THE FATHER, JESUS CHRIST THE RIGHTEOUS; AND HE IS THE PROPITIATION FOR OUR SINS.

1 John 2:1-2

II. Consecration

In the consecration, God the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit, transforms the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. The Consecration begins with the ancient dialogue between the priest and congregation.

Sursum Corda (may be said or sung)

Priest: The Lord be with you.

And with thy Spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

It is meet* and right so to do. (*fit)

Then the Priest shall turn to the Holy table and say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Proper Preface (see bulletin)

Here shall follow the Proper Preface, according to the liturgical calendar (see BCP, pp. 77-79), if appropriate. The Priest says the Proper Preface.

Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory;

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed (✠) is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Consecration (BCP p.80)

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son, JESUS CHRIST, to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in His holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that His precious death and sacrifice, until His coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, He took Bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake 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.**

Likewise, after supper, He took the Cup; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying:

**DRINK YE ALL OF THIS; FOR THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT,
WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU, AND FOR MANY, FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS;
DO THIS, AS OFT AS YE SHALL DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.**

Luke 22:19-20

The Oblation

WHEREFORE, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Saviour JESUS CHRIST, we thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy Divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

The Invocation of the Holy Spirit

AND we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy Almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Saviour JESUS CHRIST's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

The Sacrifice of the Church

AND we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness, mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son JESUS CHRIST, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

The Sacrifice of Each Christian

AND here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son JESUS CHRIST, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

There may be a prayer recognizing the Sacrifice of the Saints said here. Otherwise, the priest will proceed to the Supplication.

The Supplication

AND although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice; yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through JESUS CHRIST our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

AMEN.

Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer (BCP p.82)

And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

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.

World without end.

AMEN.

III. Fraction

Here the priest breaks the consecrated Body of Christ, places a particle of it into the Precious Blood, and prays silently (congregation may also pray silently): "May this mingling and consecration of the Body and Blood of JESUS CHRIST our Lord be unto us who receive it an approach unto everlasting life. AMEN."

The Peace

The priest then proclaims to the congregation the first words that the resurrected JESUS CHRIST spoke to His Church.

John 20:19

The peace of the Lord be always with you;

And with thy Spirit.

Agnus Dei

Cantor(s): O Lamb of God...

That takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Cantor(s): O Lamb of God...

That takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Cantor(s): O Lamb of God...

That takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Prayer of Humble Access

Then the Priest, standing at the Lord's Table, with the congregation kneeling, shall say:

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son JESUS CHRIST, and to drink his Blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us.

AMEN.

May I receive Holy Communion?

If you have not been baptized or confirmed and are seeking a closer relationship with Jesus Christ, we invite you in love to the rail with us to receive a blessing from the Priest by crossing your arms over your heart during Holy Communion.

The ancient and universal discipline of the Church requires that in order to receive this Sacrament of Holy Communion, you:

- Must have been baptized with water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost
- Must have been confirmed by a Bishop in the succession of the apostles OR be desirous of Holy Communion and be prepared to be Confirmed

AND

- Must repent of your sins, as said during The Confession of Sin earlier in the service.

IV. Holy Communion

When one receives Holy Communion, he or she is confessing before God and His Church and are in agreement with God's teachings.

Turning to the congregation with the Body and Blood of Christ, the Priest invites all people to the altar, saying:

BEHOLD (☩), the Lamb of God; behold Him that taketh away the sins of the world. John 1:29

The Priest and congregation then says the following thrice:

Lord, I am not worthy, that thou should come under my roof.

But speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed. Matt 8:8

The Priest receives the Holy Communion himself and then delivers it to any Bishops, Priests, or Deacons who are present. Then the people of the congregation shall come forward to the altar rail. Ushers will help direct.

Words of Administration

The Body of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, which was given for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy heart by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Blood of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, which was shed for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

Communion Hymn(s)

To be sung, sitting, after receiving Communion.

Communio (see bulletin insert)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, *we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son, our Saviour JESUS CHRIST; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most precious death and passion. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through JESUS CHRIST our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.*

AMEN.

V. Blessing & Dismissal

The Lord be with you.

And with thy Spirit.

Let us pray.

Closing Prayer(s)

The priest will say closing prayers.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy Spirit.

Depart in Peace.

Thanks be to God.

The Peace of God, which passes 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 Almighty, the Father (✠), the Son, and the Holy Ghost be amongst you, and remain with you always. Phil 4:7

AMEN.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy Spirit.

Please stand while the Priest dismisses the congregation.

The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory be to thee, O Lord. (✠)

Here the priest reads, 1 John 1.

When finished, he raises the missal, and the congregation says:

Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

Dismissal

The choir and clergy depart the front of the church while singing the Recessional hymn.

The service is now concluded.

About St. Alban

According to Bede's *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*, Alban lived in Verulamium, sometime during the 3rd or 4th century, but some authors, on the basis that Gildas says he crosses the Thames before his martyrdom, place his residence and martyrdom in London. 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 *Amphibalus*, 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 the priest and soon converted to Christianity. Eventually, it came to the ears of authorities that Alban was sheltering the priest and gave orders for Roman soldiers to make a 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 the 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 priest's place, Alban was sentenced to endure all the punishments that were to be inflicted upon the priest unless he complied 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 enraged judge ordered Alban 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 ordered for Alban to be beheaded.

As Alban was led to execution, he came to a fast-flowing river that could not be crossed (believed to be the River Ver). 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. As the other executioners hesitated to pick up his sword, Alban went about 500 paces to a gently sloping hill, which was covered with all kinds of wild flowers and overlooking a beautiful plain.

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. As he bent down to drink from it, his head was struck off by the executioner who had picked up the sword and followed Alban. He also beheaded the first Roman soldier who was miraculously converted and refused to execute Alban. However, immediately after delivering the fatal stroke, the eyes of the second executioner popped out of his head and fell to the ground along with Alban's head so that this second executioner could not rejoice over Alban's death.

-found on wikipedia.org. *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* by Bede.

Glossary

Book of Common Prayer (BCP): Used by the Church for Administration of the Sacraments and Other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church.

Cantor: Lead singer of propers (introit, gradual, alleluia, offeratory, communio).

Collect: a prayer which often summarizes the doctrine in the scripture lessons for the day.

Consecration: the process of making something holy.

Decalogue: the Ten Commandments

Fraction: breaking of bread and wine

Genuflect: bow, or slightly kneel, before the cross

Liturgy: a particular arrangement of services; or, a particular form or type of the Eucharistic service.

Missal: the book containing the prayers and rites used by the priest in conducting Mass over the course of the year.

Vestry: a committee of parishioners by whom the official business of the church is discussed and decisions made. All church members are invited to attend these meetings. Meets on 2nd Sunday of each month.

Verger: the newsletter for St. Alban's Anglican Church