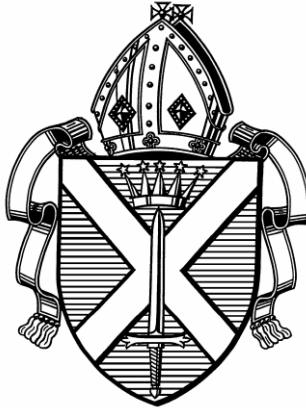


ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL

Following Christ in Alban's Footsteps

The Installation of the Rt Revd Dr Andrew Rumsey as the Eleventh Bishop of St Albans



Saturday 19th September 2026
2pm

A message from Bishop Andrew

Welcome to St Albans Cathedral, friends. Peace be with you in this ancient and holy place.

Among the many stages towards this happy day, the ceremony of paying Homage to HM The King was particularly meaningful for me. Part of what made it so was the small tradition of opening The Bible at a page of each bishop's choosing, while they make their oath.

This choice came easily, being a verse first shown me by my father during early months at secondary school in Luton. It was from Isaiah chapter 41: 'Do not be afraid for I am with you. I am your God: let nothing terrify you'. These consoling words were to become for me a steady handrail at points of change and uncertainty, and I commend them to you, however you are feeling today!

For their hopeful message is that you and I are not alone, but known, loved and understood. Moreover, that there is always help available to us, beyond our own strength and understanding. Places of worship have a way of lifting us to a presence greater than ourselves and my prayer is that this afternoon's service will not only inaugurate my ministry as Bishop of St Albans but also be good for your soul, as we give glory to God.

Rebecca and I are grateful for so many expressions of welcome upon our arrival. Thank you for being here, and with us in all that lies ahead. Along this path, Christ invites us to follow his tried and trusted route, proclaimed here for over a thousand years - from one of our country's earliest stories to each of yours.

Together, may we find it to be the way of life.

+Andrew St Albans.

Welcome from the Dean

On behalf of the Chapter, staff and community of the Cathedral it is a privilege to welcome you all on this day of great joy as the Rt Revd Dr Andrew Rumsey is installed by the Archdeacon of Canterbury as the 11th Bishop of St Albans.

St Albans Cathedral, shrine to Britain's first saint, is the oldest site of continuous Christian worship in Britain and is the Cathedral and mother church for Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Luton and Barnet. Our vision is to Follow Christ in Alban's Footsteps, which is expressed in our commitment to welcome and compassion, worship and witness, courage and justice, leadership and service. In all this, and in our daily life, the Cathedral is committed to safeguarding and to the care of all who come here.

The story of Alban begins with the welcome of Alban to the priest Amphibalus. Holding our Benedictine tradition, today we pray you know that warm welcome and, that as Alban and Amphibalus became friends, we know ourselves united in Christ's love.

A cathedral takes its name from being the home of the cathedra – the seat of the Bishop - and at the heart a cathedral's calling is to serve the mission and ministry of the Bishop of the Diocese. Today we renew that commitment. The rich symbolism of this Service points us also to how Bishop Andrew will take up that mission and ministry, from being welcomed into his Cathedral, placed in his cathedra, being given the crozier of the Bishop of St Albans to be our shepherd and guide, and blessing us and the Diocese.

Here in your Cathedral Bishop Andrew is prayed for every day. Please keep Bishop Andrew and Rebecca, Grace, Jonah and Talitha in your prayers today and in the days ahead. To be a Bishop in the Church of God today is a demanding vocation. He needs our prayers as he leads the Church of England in our Diocese.

Please do stay for refreshments after the Service outside at the West End of the Cathedral as our celebrations continue.

We are so very glad that Bishop Andrew has chosen to come to us, as we are glad for all that has gone before, in his ministry and in the life of the Church our Diocese. May this new beginning inspire us all to grow in God and to step with confidence into all that lies ahead.

**The Very Revd Jo Kelly-Moore,
Dean of St Albans.**

Introduction to the service

The installation of a Bishop in the Church of England is the culmination of a long process of consultation, nomination and election. It marks a new chapter in the life of the Diocese as we gather in prayer and praise and seek God's blessing on Bishop Andrew's ministry and our life together in Christ.

When Bishops are consecrated, they are reminded that their call is to be 'shepherds of Christ's flock and guardians of the faith of the apostles, proclaiming the gospel of God's kingdom and leading his people in mission.' In the service today we welcome Bishop Andrew to his Diocese as pastor, teacher of the faith and leader in mission. The service begins at the West door, the entrance to the Cathedral, on which the new Bishop knocks to seek entry. He is welcomed and led into the Cathedral by the Dean and Chapter and anointed for the service of God and his people.

At the heart of the service is the moment when the Bishop is placed by the Archdeacon of Canterbury, representing the Archbishop of Canterbury, in his cathedra that gives the name cathedral to this ancient church of St Alban. This chair is the historic symbol of the Bishop's office as teacher of the faith and leader of the Christian community, much in the way as we still speak of a professor holding a chair at a university.

At the end of the service, the Dean presents Bishop Andrew with the pastoral staff or crozier belonging to the diocesan Bishop, left on the altar in the keeping of the Cathedral by his predecessor Bishop Alan. The staff is shaped like that of a shepherd's crook reminding him and us of his calling to be a pastor and shepherd of the 'flock of God' after the example of Christ himself.

Following his installation, the Gospel is then proclaimed, and Bishop Andrew preaches his inaugural sermon. After, prayers are led by representatives from across the Diocese and the traditional blessing by the new Bishop of the city and diocese. Today we joyfully welcome Andrew and seek God's blessing on our life together in Christ.

Welcome to St Albans Cathedral



Please switch off mobile telephones and do not use photographic, video or recording equipment at any time.

Those authorised to take photographs will be wearing a lanyard.



There is an **Induction Loop** in the Nave and Crossing, for those using a hearing aid. British Sign Language interpretation is available at this service, please ask a warden if you need to see the interpreter and they will find you somewhere suitable to sit.



Large print orders of service are available on request. Please ask a steward.

The instructions in this booklet are not prescriptive. Please adopt whatever posture is most appropriate for you.

Please be mindful and respectful of personal boundaries when exchanging the peace.

SAFEGUARDING Please note that this service is being live-streamed and the congregation may be in view. As this service will move throughout the building, we are unable to provide assurance that you will not be visible.

The Cathedral Choir is directed by William Fox, Director of Music, and the organ is played by Dewi Rees, Assistant Director of Music and Partnerships.

Before the service, Michael D'Avanzo, Organ Scholar, plays

Suite "Laudate Dominum"

i. Processional: Psalm 93.1-3

vi. Exurgat Deus: Psalm 68.1-3

Peter Hurford (1930 - 2019)

Master of the Music (1958 - 1978)

Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne in C major (BuxWV 137)

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637 - 1707)

Tu es Petrus: Marcia

Jeanne Demessieux (1921 - 1968)

Voluntary in G major (Op. 6, No 7)

John Stanley (1712 - 1786)

*Variations on Old Psalm-Tunes: I.
Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go*

George Dyson (1883 - 1964)

Dewi Rees, Assistant Director of Music, plays

*Prelude and Fugue in C major
(BWV 545)*

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685 - 1750)

At 1.40pm The Procession of Readers, Lay Chairs and Rural Deans enters

Virger
Reader Leadership
Lay Chairs
Rural Deans

At 1.45 The Procession of Honorary Canons enters

Virger
Lay Honorary Canons
Ordained Honorary Canons

At 1.50 The Civic Procession enters

Virger
Mayor of St Albans
Mayor of Bedfordshire Borough Council
Representatives of Central Bedfordshire Council
Representatives of Hertfordshire County Council
Members of Parliament
Chief Constable of Hertfordshire Constabulary

At 1.50 The Procession of Bishops enters

Virger
Honorary Assistant Bishops
Visiting Bishops

At 1.55 The Procession of Ecumenical and Interfaith Dignitaries enters

Virger
Sikh representative
Chair Bedford Council of Faiths
Pentecostal Leader
Roman Catholic representative
Romanian Orthodox representative
Methodist District Chair
Baptist Regional Minister
URC Moderator
Coptic Orthodox representative

At 1.57 The Procession of His Majesty's Lords-Lieutenant enters, please stand.

Virger
Under Sheriff of Greater London
High Sheriff of Bedfordshire
High Sheriff of Hertfordshire
The Dean
His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire
His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire

Please stand as The Cathedral Procession enters

Cross and lights
Choir
Director of Music
Minor Canons
Virger
Salisbury Cathedral Chapter
Chapter Clerk
Lay Members of Chapter
Residentiary Canons and Archdeacons
Virger
The Bishop of Guyana and The Bishop of Linköping
Suffragan Bishops
Virger
Cathedral Warden
The Dean
Virger
The Diocesan Registrar
The Diocesan Chancellor

The Greeting and Welcome

The Very Reverend Jo-Kelly-Moore *Dean of St Albans*

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

All Amen.

The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

The Dean welcomes the congregation.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome to this Cathedral Church of St Alban. We gather to welcome Andrew, our new Bishop, to place him in his Episcopal chair as shepherd of Christ's flock and guardian of the faith, and to ask God's blessing on his ministry. With all across our diocese, we pray for him, that together we may grow in faith, hope, and love, and with him, serve the people of this diocese with joy.

Let us pray

God our Father, Lord of all the world, through your Son you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church:

hear our prayer for all your faithful people that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love,

and give to your servant Andrew, now to be installed, the needful gifts of grace; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

During the hymn, the Dean is virged to the West End.

Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation



- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:
all ye who hear,
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea so gently sustaineth:
hast thou not seen
all that is needful hath been
granted in what he ordaineth?
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:
ponder anew
all the Almighty can do,
he who with love doth befriend thee.
- 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for ay we adore him!

Words: Joachim Neander, tr Catherine Winkworth

Tune: CP 558 Lobe den Herren

If you are seated in the Nave, please turn to face the West Door.

The Welcome to the new Bishop

The Bishop strikes the door three times with the Pastoral Staff used in his ministry as Bishop of Ramsbury. The doors are opened and a fanfare is sounded.

The Canterbury Vesturer, The Provincial Registrar, The Archdeacon of Canterbury, The Bishop's Chaplain and Bishop Andrew Rumsey enter the cathedral.

The Bishop is greeted by Liz Toogood, Bedfordshire Homelessness Partnership who says

On behalf of this congregation, we welcome you.
Who are you and why are you here?

The Bishop replies

I am Andrew, a servant of Jesus Christ.

The Bishop is asked by David Jonathan, Director, GRASSROOTS Luton

Why have you been sent to us?

The Bishop replies

I am here to serve you as your Bishop and pastor, to proclaim the love of Christ, to worship Christ with you, and to encourage you in following Christ, that together we may flourish.

The Bishop is asked by Helen Doubal, Head of Grants, Hertfordshire Community Foundation

How will you serve us?

The Bishop replies

I come knowing nothing except Jesus Christ, and him crucified; loving our God with heart and soul, mind and strength.

The questioners conclude

We welcome you, and we pray for you, that together we may flourish.

A representative of the Dean and Chapter of Salisbury Cathedral says

Dean Jo, on behalf of the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Salisbury and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Salisbury, we commend to you our brother Andrew, for whose ministry we give thanks to God, believing that in him the Diocese of St Albans will have a true shepherd and a wise teacher.

The Dean says

Thank you for your commendation of Andrew. With you, we pray that the gifts with which God has blessed our new Bishop will bear rich fruit among us.

Bishop Andrew, we have looked forward to this day with joy. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we welcome you into your Cathedral church.

All In the name of the Lord, we welcome you.

The Bishop greets the congregation and says

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

All and also with you.

The choir sings, please sit. During the anthem the Bishop and the procession move to the Nave Platform.

Anthem

I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is builded as a city, that is at unity in itself.
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

Music: Charles H. H. Parry
Words: Psalm 122.1-3, 6, 7

The Reading of the Mandate

The Archdeacon of Canterbury hands the mandate to the Dean, saying

Dean Jo, I bring you greetings from Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, and present to you her mandate for the installation.

The Dean receives the mandate and hands it to the Chancellor, saying

Let the mandate be read.

The Chancellor of the Diocese reads the Mandate.

The Bible is presented to the Bishop, who places his right hand upon it and facing the congregation he says

The Oath of Allegiance

I, Andrew Paul Rumsey, Bishop of St Albans do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles the Third His Heirs and Successors according to Law: So help me God.

The Bishop faces the Archdeacon of Canterbury and says

The Oath of Due Obedience

In the name of God. Amen.

I, Andrew Paul Rumsey, Bishop of the Church and See of St Albans do profess and promise all due reverence and obedience to the Archbishop and to the Metropolitan Church of Canterbury and to their successors: So help me God, through Jesus Christ.

The Declaration of Assent

The Dean says

Right Reverend Father in God,
having already taken the Oaths of Due Obedience and of Allegiance
in the presence of the Metropolitan's representative,
I now ask you, in the presence of God and before this congregation,
to make the Declaration of Assent which you in turn will require of
those to be licensed to any office within this Diocese.

The preface to the Declaration of Assent is read by the Dean

The Church of England is part of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church worshipping the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It professes the faith uniquely revealed in the Holy Scriptures and set forth in the catholic creeds, which faith the Church is called upon to proclaim afresh in each generation. Led by the Holy Spirit, it has borne witness to Christian truth in its historic formularies, the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion, the Book of Common Prayer and the Ordering of Bishops, Priests and Deacons. In the declaration you are about to make will you affirm your loyalty to this inheritance of faith as your inspiration and guidance under God in bringing the grace and truth of Christ to this generation and making him known to those in your care?

The Bishop replies

I, Andrew Paul Rumsey do so affirm, and accordingly declare my belief in the faith which is revealed in the Holy Scriptures, and set forth in the catholic creeds and to which the historic formularies of the Church of England bear witness; and in public prayer and administration of the sacraments, I will use only the forms of service which are authorized or allowed by Canon.

The Oath of Fidelity

The Dean says

I now invite you to take the Oath of Fidelity to the Constitution and Statutes of this Cathedral Church.

The Bishop replies

I, Andrew Paul Rumsey, by divine permission Bishop of St Albans, duly elected and confirmed, do swear by almighty God that I will be a faithful pastor and true Father in God to the clergy and people of this diocese, and I do solemnly declare that I will faithfully uphold and observe the Constitution and Statutes, Ordinances and Laudable Customs of this Cathedral Church of St Alban, so far as they are not contrary or repugnant to the law of God and the statutes of this Realm, and will promote such works as may be fitly done therein for the service of God and the benefit of his Church. So help me God.

The Bishop signs the Book of Oaths.

The Anointing

The Bishop of Bedford says

Brothers and sisters in Christ, I bid you pray for Andrew our Bishop, as he is anointed with the Oil of Chrism for his ministry amongst us, as pastor, teacher and servant of all.

The Bishops of Bedford and Hertford anoint Bishop Andrew. The Bishop kneels as the choir sings

How good it is, how wonderful, wherever people live as one. It is like the sacred oil upon the head, flowing down Aaron's beard, down to the collar of his robe. It is like the dew of Hermon, flowing down the mountains of Zion. There God gives his blessing, life for ever.

Music: Judith Bingham
Words: Psalm 133

The Bishop of Hertford says

Andrew, as the Father anointed our Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, so may he pour upon you his abundant grace, to reconcile, strengthen and sanctify his people. May the Lord guard you and guide you now and for ever.

As we pray to the Father

All Lord send your Spirit.

Vesting in the Diocesan Cope

Bishop Andrew is vested in the Cope of the Bishop of St Albans.

The Bishop prays

O Lord, who said: my yoke is easy and my burden light: grant that I may bear it well and follow after you with thanksgiving. Amen.

The Installation

The Dean says to the Archdeacon of Canterbury

Mr Archdeacon, I ask you to place Bishop Andrew in his seat according to the mandate of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

During the hymn The Cathedral Procession moves to the Quire.

The congregation stands to sing:

Hymn

I heard the voice of Jesus say



1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'Come unto me and rest;
 lay down, thou weary one, lay
 down
 thy head upon my breast':
 I came to Jesus as I was,
 weary and worn and sad;
 I found in him a resting-place,
 and he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'Behold, I freely give
 the living water, thirsty one;
 stoop down and drink and live':
 I came to Jesus, and I drank
 of that life-giving stream;
 my thirst was quenched, my soul
 revived,
 and now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'I am this dark world's light;
 look unto me, thy morn shall rise,
 and all thy day be bright':
 I looked to Jesus, and I found
 in him my star, my sun;
 and in that light of life I'll walk
 till travelling days are done.

Words: Horatius Bonar
 Tune: CP 469 Kingsfold

The congregation sits. The College of Canons remain standing. Holding the Archbishop's Mandate, the Archdeacon of Canterbury places the Bishop in his Cathedra saying

By virtue of the Mandate of the Most Reverend Sarah Elisabeth by Divine Providence Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, I William Jonathan Adam, Archdeacon of The Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ in Canterbury, induct and install you Andrew Paul Rumsey into possession of The Bishopric of St Albans with its rights and dignities and all its opportunities for service; and I place you in the episcopal seat of this Cathedral Church of St Alban, in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choir sings

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that He may bide with you for ever. Ev'n the Spirit of truth.

Music: Tallis
Words: John 14.15-17

Children address the Bishop

Jesus says, 'Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' Bishop Andrew, never forget that first and foremost you are a child of God.

The Bishop replies

With the help of God, I will; for you, I am your Bishop; but with you I am a Christian.

The Presentation

The Dean presents the Bishop, saying

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
I present to you Andrew, our Father in God,
duly installed as Bishop of our Diocese.
Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God!

The congregation greets the Bishop with applause

The Peace

The congregation stands as the Bishop says

We are the Body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

During the anthem, ecumenical and interfaith representatives greet the Bishop.

Anthem

The choir sings

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor: He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord; To give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; So the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. As the earth bringeth forth her bud. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel.

Music: Edward Elgar

Words: Isaiah 61 Luke 4.18-19

Reading

1 Corinthians 15.35-37,42-45

Read by Margaret Peart, Reader, St Andrews Totteridge

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

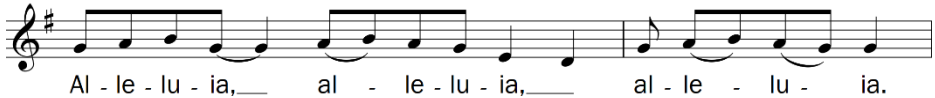
Luke 8.4-15

Please stand.

Read by José Tamayo, Assistant Curate, St Mary's Ware

The choir leads a sung acclamation to herald the Gospel reading to which all respond

Choir



All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

All Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Music: Stephen Darlington

Words: The Alban Responses, based on Bede's Ecclesiastical History

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All Glory to you, O Lord.

When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to Jesus, he said in a parable: 'A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold.' As he said this, he called out, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!' Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. He said, 'To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that "looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand."' 'Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you O Christ.

Please sit.

The Sermon

The Rt Revd Dr Andrew Rumsey *Bishop of St Albans*

Please sit or kneel.

Prayers of Intercession

The Bishop says

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father

Led by Ruth Carl, Governance and HR Operations Manager, St Albans Diocese

Almighty God, we pray for your church throughout the world. We pray that your church may be rooted in your word and bear fruit for your kingdom, we give thanks for those called to serve your church and pray for Bishop Andrew as he begins his ministry as Bishop of St Albans, pour out your Holy Spirit upon him that he may serve with wisdom, courage, humility and compassion.

Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

Led by Andy Prophet, Chief Constable, Hertfordshire Constabulary

God of grace, we pray for your world and for peace in all war-torn lands. Bring healing and mercy to every place of despair; comfort those who mourn, protect those who are displaced, strengthen all who work for justice and reconciliation. Guide the leaders of the nations in the ways of wisdom and peace and teach us to care faithfully for the earth and for one another, that your whole creation may flourish.

Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

Led by Anna Rogers, CEO, Diocese of St Albans Multi-Academy Trust

God of wisdom, we pray for all our schools, colleges and places of learning; for children and young people, for teachers, support staff, governors and families. May every school be a place where each person is welcomed, safeguarded and encouraged to flourish, and where knowledge, kindness and hope take root.

Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

Led by Claire Banham, The 267 Project and Haven Hope

God of love, we pray for the communities of our diocese, for neighbours known and unknown, and for all who serve the common good. Bless those who care for people who are lonely, vulnerable, unwell or in need, and strengthen the bonds of trust and friendship among us.

Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

Led by Luke Quinlan, Chaplain, University of Bedfordshire

God of mission, inspire us to reach beyond our walls with the good news of Jesus Christ. Bless every work of welcome, service and outreach across our parishes, chaplaincies and communities; give us courage to listen, generosity to serve, and grace to invite others into the life and hope of your kingdom.

Lord in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the words our Saviour 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.**

Please stand.

During the next hymn the collection is taken from the congregation which will support the mission and ministry of St Albans Diocese. A contactless plate is available. If you are a UK taxpayer, please complete a gift aid form for your offering. You can also donate through our website by scanning the QR code on the right.



Offertory Hymn

Lord of the Church, we pray for our renewing



- 1 Lord of the Church, we pray for our renewing:
Christ over all, our undivided aim.
Fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduing,
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,
the will that lacks the courage to be free,
the weary labours, all but unavailing,
to bring us nearer what a church should be.
- 2 Lord of the Church, we seek a Father's blessing,
a true repentance and a faith restored,
a swift obedience and a new possessing,
filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!
We turn to Christ from all our restless striving,
unnumbered voices with a single prayer:
the living water for our souls' reviving,
in Christ to live, and love and serve and care.
- 3 Lord of the Church, we long for our uniting,
true to one calling, by one vision stirred;
one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,
one in the truth of Jesus and his word.
So lead us on; till toil and trouble ended,
one Church triumphant one new song shall sing,
to praise his glory, risen and ascended,
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith
Tune: A&M 497 Londonderry Air

Please sit.

Prayer at the Shrine of St Alban

The Bishop says

Among the roses of the martyrs:

All brightly shines Saint Alban.

Almighty God,

All 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:

All that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

The Blessing of the Bishop

The Bishop of Guyana and The Bishop of Linköping say

May the Father, whose glory fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you to proclaim his word.

May Christ, who has ascended to the heights,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

May the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Giving of the Diocesan Crosier

The Dean presents the crosier to Bishop Andrew saying

Keep watch over the flock
of which God has appointed you shepherd.
Encourage the faithful,
restore the lost,
build up the body of Christ,
for the sake of him who gave his life for the sheep:
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Please stand.

The Blessings

The Bishop says

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

All Both now and for ever.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All Who made heaven and earth.

May God,
who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

All Amen.

May he give you joy and fellowship
and a share in their praises.

All Amen.

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness
and to come to the full radiance of glory.

All Amen.

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

All Amen.

During the hymn the Bishop of St Albans processes to the West End of the Cathedral, with the Bishops of Bedford and Hertford and the Chaplain to the Bishop of St Albans.

Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling



- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.
- 2 Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
- 3 Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley
Tune: CP 516(ii) Blaenwern

Blessing by Bishop of the City and the Diocese

God bless this City and Diocese, and all who live and work here
may God visit you with his mercy,
surround you with his love,
and fill your lives with joy and peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Cross and lights
Cathedral Wardens
Virger
The Dean
His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire
His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire
The Diocesan Chancellor
The Diocesan Registrar
Virger
Residentiary Canons and Archdeacons
Lay Members of Chapter
Chapter Clerk
The Canterbury Vesturer
The Provincial Registrar
The Archdeacon of Canterbury
Salisbury Cathedral Chapter
Virger
The Bishop of Guyana and The Bishop of Linköping
Visiting Bishops
Honorary Assistant Bishops
Ordained Honorary Canons
Lay Honorary Canons
Virger
Ecumenical and Interfaith Representatives
Virger
Rural Deans
Lay Chairs
Reader Leadership
Minor Canons
Director of Music
Choir

