



St Alban and St Stephen Catholic Church invites you to celebrate with us this Christmas

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST ALBAN AND ST STEPHEN
CHRISTMAS 2024 AND NEW YEAR 2025**

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Wishing you and yours the Peace of Christ and the Joy of Christmas now and in the year ahead

Let us joyfully celebrate the coming of our salvation and redemption. Let us celebrate the hallowed day on which the great eternal day came from the great eternal day into this, our so short and temporal day. He has become our justice, and our sanctification, and our redemption. And so, as scripture says: 'Let him who glories, glory in the Lord.'

Truth, then, is sprung out of the earth: Christ who said, 'I am the truth', is born of a virgin. And justice looked down from heaven: man, believing in him who has been born, has been justified not by himself, but by God. Truth is sprung out of the earth, for the Word was made flesh.

And justice looked down from heaven, for every best gift, and every perfect gift, is from above. Truth, then, is sprung out of the earth – flesh born of Mary. And justice looked down from heaven, for man cannot receive anything, unless it be given him from heaven.

From a Sermon by St Augustine – Sermon 185

Pupils from Years 5 and 6 of St Alban and St Stephen Primary School – one of our two parish primary schools – designed many varied and colourful entries for our illustrating Christmas competition. The cover of this year's Christmas card was one of the winning entries.