

**THE FELLOWSHIP OF
ST ALBAN AND ST SERGIUS**

Registered Charity No. 245112

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PATRONS

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Dr Rowan Williams,
Archbishop of Canterbury

The Most Revd Archbishop
Gregorios of Thyateira and Great Britain

The Most Revd Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia

The Most Revd Archbishop Elisey of Sourozh

The Rt Revd & Rt Hon Richard Chartres, Bishop of London

The Right Revd Bishop Angaelos (Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate)

GENERAL SECRETARY

The Very Revd Stephen Platt

THE FELLOWSHIP exists to work for Christian unity. It provides opportunities for Christians of East and West to meet and to get to know one another, and so to deepen their understanding of each other's theology and worship. It was founded in 1928 at a student conference in St Albans, by clergy and laity of the Church of England and the Orthodox Churches. They found that they could not only talk together but pray together, even though they could not share in sacramental communion. Since then the Fellowship's membership has widened to include Christians from other traditions. Branches of the Fellowship exist throughout the world.

THE AIMS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship is a Christian association united in prayer "for the peace of the whole world, for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all" (from the Liturgy of St John Chrysostom). In an atmosphere of trust and openness, growing out of personal friendship, members witness to the truth as they have received it in their own church, and are ready to share the wealth of their own tradition with others and to learn from them. The Fellowship, as an unofficial body, welcomes official dialogues between the churches and strives to make their work a reality at a local and parochial level.

ITS ACTIVITIES

Every member of the Fellowship is entitled to receive its journal *Sobornost* (incorporating *Eastern Churches Review*), published twice a year, and containing important

articles on various aspects of Eastern and Western Christian traditions, book reviews, items of news from Eastern Churches and Fellowship reports. All members receive the *Fellowship Newsletter*. The Fellowship also publishes a small number of books, which are available for purchase at our website or through placing an order by post.

The **annual conference**, held in Great Britain each summer, brings together members of the Fellowship from around the world. During the time that they spend together, there are celebrations of Anglican and Orthodox liturgies, together with the opportunity of hearing a variety of speakers and of joining in lively discussion. The conference enables Christians of different traditions and of all ages to meet and become friends in a relaxed and informal setting.

Retreats and study days are held from time to time, and each year an **ecumenical pilgrimage** is made to St Albans Cathedral as close as possible to the feast of the saint. Central to this is a celebration of an Orthodox act of worship in honour of St Alban, Britain's first martyr and the Fellowship's patron saint.

The Fellowship administers the **Zernov Fund**, from which it makes a number of **grants** each year to projects that further its aims. Through our sponsorship of a wide range of church-related and scholarly activities, both in Britain and overseas, we are able to form new contacts between Christians of Eastern and Western traditions. Application forms for financial assistance are available on line, or by post from the General Secretary. In addition, the Fellowship has its own programme of activities in several Orthodox countries. These include publications, conferences and exchange visits.

The fellowship offers an **information service** for enquirers wishing to know more about the Orthodox Churches and their relationship with western Christian denominations, and can provide speakers for groups wishing to know more about the Orthodox tradition and its relationship with the other Christian traditions

HEADQUARTERS

The Fellowship's administrative office and headquarters are in Oxford, England, in the House of St Gregory and St Macrina. This is a centre for inter-Church meetings and a residence for Christian students, which brings together Orthodox and non-Orthodox in various ways. There is an Orthodox church in the same grounds, and the Fellowship's library is also located at the house. The library, which holds a varied and unusual collection of books and a wide selection of periodicals, is open to readers by appointment with the Librarian, Rebecca White (01865 513117 or rcswhite@ntlworld.com).

ST ALBAN AND ST SERGIUS

St Alban, a Roman soldier converted to Christianity by the example of a priest, was the first British martyr, who gave his life for Christ probably at the beginning of the third century.

St Sergius of Radonezh played a decisive part in the revival of the Russian church and people in the fourteenth century, founding the famous monastery of the Holy Trinity at the place now known as Sergiev Posad (formerly Zagorsk). He was instrumental in consolidating the Russian monastic tradition.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Fellowship is open to any Christian who wishes to pray and work for a deeper understanding and closer cooperation between Christians of East and West, who is a communicant member of a recognised church and who has had, or is prepared to have experience of the worship of other churches. Members are expected to pray regularly for the Fellowship and its work and to play as full a part as they can in its life.

After joining the Fellowship, all new members receive their own copy of the Fellowship's prayer/membership card. The annual subscription (see overleaf) can include the cost of *Sobornost* which is published bi-annually. For students, senior citizens, the unemployed and members of religious communities the subscription rate is reduced. Please send completed application form to the General Secretary at the address overleaf.

Members who pay income tax or capital gains tax in Great Britain are asked to consider stating that they wish this to be reclaimed on their donation; in this way the Fellowship can benefit by reclaiming tax at no extra cost to the donor. All members are also asked to remember our work when making a will, or by making a gift donation. For further details, please write to the Fellowship Treasurer.

THE FELLOWSHIP PRAYER

O CHRIST, Who didst bind Thine apostles in a union of love: unite us likewise, Thy sinful but trusting servants, in this Fellowship, and bind us firmly to Thee. Give us strength to fulfil Thy commandments and truly to love one another, for Thou livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Title (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Dr, Revd, etc) _____

Names _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Church affiliation _____ Date of birth _____

Occupation _____

Membership type: I wish to become a member of the Fellowship of St Alban and St Sergius and would like to contribute annually (tick one):

UK/Europe

- £25.00 Full rate, including one year's subscription to *Sobornost/ECR*.
- £15.00 Concessionary rate — students, senior citizens, unemployed, members of religious communities), including subscription to *Sobornost/ECR*.
- £5.00 Reduced rate, excluding subscription to *Sobornost/ECR*.

USA/Rest of world

- £30.00 Full rate, including one year's subscription to *Sobornost/ECR*.
- £20.00 Concessionary rate — students, senior citizens, unemployed, members of religious communities), including subscription to *Sobornost/ECR*.
- £5.00 Reduced rate, excluding subscription to *Sobornost/ECR*.

Payment Method: I wish to make my initial subscription contribution by the following means:

- Cheque* I enclose a cheque with this form in the amount indicated above
- Bankers Standing order:* I enclose no funds with this form, and request that the Fellowship send me a Bankers Standing Order form in order that payment may be made directly from my bank and renewed automatically each year.

(Please note that if you wish to pay by credit card, you may do so by enrolling for membership online at our web site, www.sobornost.org, rather than using this form.)

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Gift Aid Eligibility:

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can indicate that you would like your membership contribution to be treated as a Gift Aid donation, allowing the Fellowship to reclaim tax on your contribution. Please note that you must be a UK taxpayer in order to make a Gift Aid declaration.

- Declaration for Gift Aid:* By ticking this box and presenting my signature I confirm that I want the Fellowship of St Alban and St Sergius to reclaim income tax annually on my contribution.

Signed _____ Date _____
(Signature only required if making a Gift Aid Declaration)

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