

# The Verulamium Times

23 June 2019

## Young Christian executed

A young man, who was hiding a Christian priest in his house and was a Christian himself, was executed yesterday.

Yesterday afternoon, a young man called Alban, a rich Roman citizen, was executed by Roman soldiers on a hill outside of Verulamium. He was condemned to death because of his religion. Additionally to that, he was keeping a Christian priest in his house. When the soldiers neared his home, he made them think he was the priest and led them away from the house, giving the priest time to escape. He was then caught and brought to the Roman judge. He was punished for letting a priest stay with him and for committing that he's a Christian.

On the way to his execution strange things happened which were interpreted as signs of God. Alban then became Britain's first Christian martyr.

## Young Man Died For His Religion

Yesterday afternoon, a young man – his name was Alban – was executed by Roman soldiers on a hill outside Verulamium.

So many people followed Alban when the soldiers took him to the hill to execute him that they could not cross the bridge over the river Ver. Alban then prayed that a way would be made across the water and the river went dry so that they could walk to the other side. On the hill Alban asked God for some water and a fountain suddenly came up from the ground. Finally the executioner's eyes fell from his head onto the grass when he killed Alban.

When the judge saw what happened he was so impressed that he stopped persecuting Christians.



Dublin, Trinity College, MS E.I.40, c. 1240-50.

Texts written by third form students.