

*St Albans
Chamber
choir*

Saturday 28 November
7.30pm
St Saviour's Church
St Albans AL1 4DF



BACH
B Minor Mass

Bethany Partridge soprano **Helen Charlston** alto

Hiroshi Amako tenor **Michael Craddock** bass

(Amici Voices)

Amici Baroque Players

John Gibbons conductor

The *Mass in B minor* is arguably Bach's masterpiece, but this stupendous choral setting of the Latin Mass, scored for four soloists and a chorus dividing into up to eight parts, is something of an enigma. Written over a long period (1733 -1749) and probably never performed in its entirety in the composer's lifetime, it is hard to know what prompted the Lutheran Protestant Bach to produce such a large-scale setting of the Roman Catholic Mass, something certainly not required of him in his post as Kapellmeister of St Thomas's Church in Leipzig. What cannot be doubted is Bach's great sensitivity to the text, and his technical brilliance in melding a mosaic of musical styles, idioms and devices into a work of singular breadth and magnificence, a fervent expression of man's devotion to his God.

This concert is a rare local opportunity to hear this great work performed with Early Music professionals of the first rank. The soloists are all members of Amici Voices, a young professional consort group specialising in authentic one-part performance of Bach's sacred works. Formed in 2012 to allow some of the best young voices in the UK to experience first-hand the world of professional consort work, the members are all now experienced consort singers and soloists in their own right, but still perform together regularly. They are accompanied by the Amici Baroque Players, an instrumental consort that includes many top Early Music specialists, led by Miles Golding.

Tickets £20 reserved; £15 unreserved (£5 child/student)
Tel 07570 454744 or email tickets@stalbanschamberchoir.org.uk
or online at www.allaboutstalbans.com

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and the **Dolly Knowles Charitable Trust**

www.stalbanschamberchoir.org.uk