



The Albanac

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
5930 Warriors Trail, Bovina, Mississippi
www.stalbansbovina.org

February 2020



The Rev. Elisabeth Jane Malphurs

Ordination of Elisabeth Jane Malphurs St. Andrew's Cathedral, January 18, 2020

Approximately forty members of St. Alban's Church attended St. Andrew's Cathedral for the ordination of Rev. Elisabeth Jane Malphurs to the priesthood. Also ordained were Joseph Hegwood, Jr., Myron Lockey, Jr. and Brenda Mae McClendon. Presenting Elisabeth for ordination were: The Rev. Randy Sellers, The Rev. Elizabeth Henry-McKeever, Sarah Bentley Allred, Beth Guynes, Ann Tompkins and Betsy Selby. Vesters for Elisabeth were: James B. (Buck) Cooper, Jr., Henry Cooper and Andrew Cooper. David Pruett served as Banner Bearer carrying our St. Alban's banner in the processional.

The Eucharist was enhanced by the observation of rituals, the beautiful voices in the choir and the majestic sounds of the pipe organ. During Holy Communion, the newly ordained priests had the honor of serving the Bread and the Wine to all who came forward. For Rev. Elisabeth it was a touching moment when, for the first time, she gave communion to her immediate family and to her church family. During the closing hymn, *Go Forth for God*, the spirit of God was ignited in everyone's hearts, admonishing all to go forth into the world in peace—with love, strength and joy.





Elisabeth Malphurs, Brenda Mae McClendon, Bishop Seage, Myron Locky, Jr. & Joseph Hegwood Jr.





Rev. Elisabeth and Family: (L-R) Leesha Faulkner (mother-in-law), Ojus Malphurs (father), Buck Cooper (husband), Mary Malphurs (sister-in-law), Henry Cooper (son), Jane Malphurs (mother), Kevin Malphurs (brother), Andrew Cooper (son), and Julie & Lucy Malphurs (nieces)



Rev. Elisabeth with John & Laura McAllister, dear friends from North Carolina. The following day, January 19th, Rev. McAllister delivered the sermon at St. Alban's Church

Forty Church Members Attended the Ordination





Bishop Seage's Annual Visitation

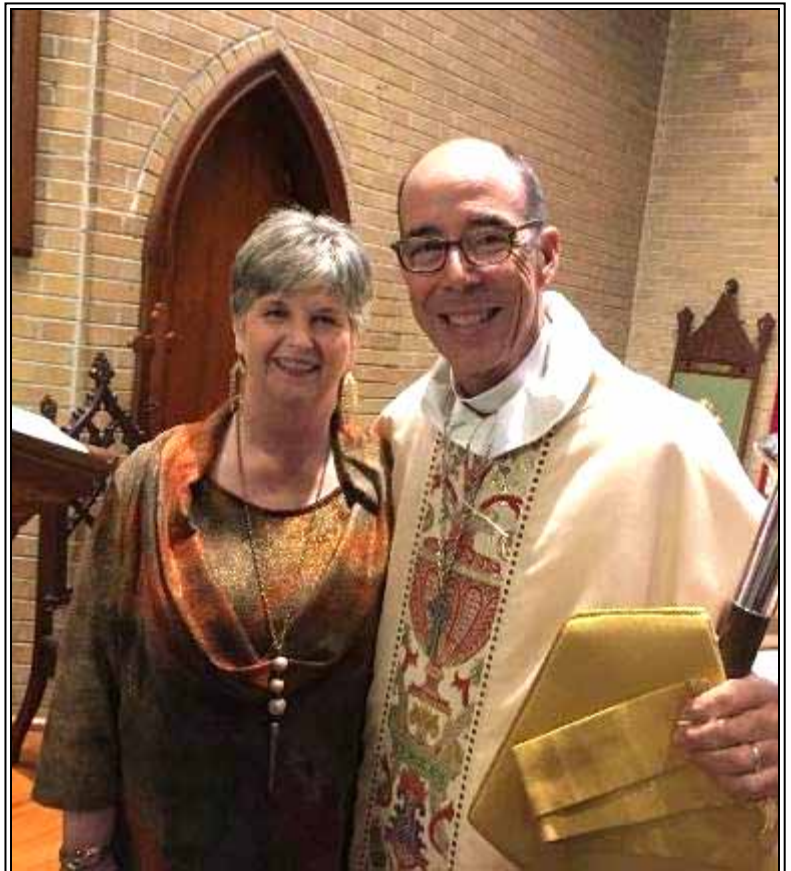
January 12, 2020

On January 12, Bishop Brian Seage arrived at St. Alban's Church for his annual visitation to the "Church in the Country." The visitation is always a joyous time for the congregation. Two confirmations took place during this year's visit: **Carolyn Anne Gent** and **Andrew (Andy) Scott Hall**. Carolyn was sponsored by her sister, Elisabeth Gent, and Andy by his wife, Kristi Hall. Special music for the service was provided by Wanda Warren, soprano soloist, and Patsy Simpson, organist.

Following the service, a lovely reception honoring the bishop was held in the Parish House where church members and guests enjoyed a "meet and greet" with the bishop.



CONFIRMATIONS: (L-R) Elisabeth Gent sponsored her sister **Carolyn Anne Gent**; **Andrew Hall** was sponsored by his wife, Kristi Hall



Bishop Seage takes one of his “signature selfies” with **Carolyn, Elisabeth, Andy and Kristi** before posing with organist & friend, **Patsy Simpson**

Bishop Seage Gathers the Little Children



*Children are a gift from heaven, each soul trusting and unique;
God's example of faith's journey, for all people who will seek;
Children are a priceless treasure, sent from heaven like a dove;
Poetry yet to be written, they bring laughter, joy and love.*

*Children need our care and guidance, teaching with each word and deed;
For they watch our actions closely, learning how to serve and lead;
Children are a priceless treasure; sent from heaven like a dove;
Poetry yet to be written, they bring laughter, joy and love.*

Lyrics by John Simmons

Annual Parish Meeting



Beth Guynes, Senior Warden & Sharon Hanks, Clerk

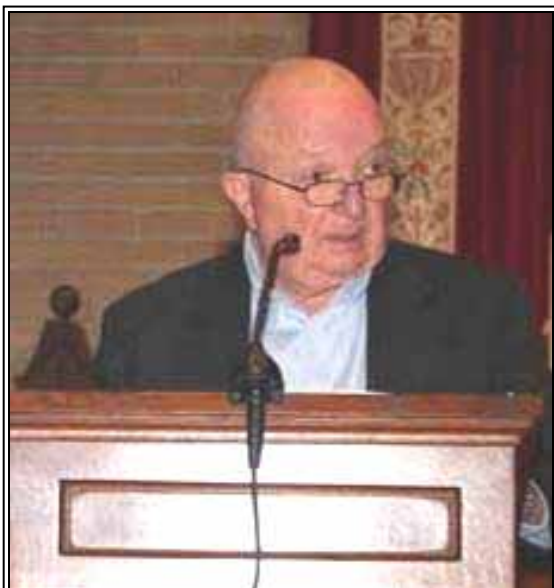
The *Annual Parish Meeting* was held in the church nave on January 26 with Beth Guynes, senior warden, presiding and Sharon Hanks, clerk. Rev. Elisabeth opened the meeting with a lovely prayer. The major business conducted was the election of senior warden and two vestry members. Richard Price was elected senior warden. Herb Jones and Dalton Thames were elected to the vestry. Rev. Elisabeth thanked Beth Guynes for her service as senior warden and presented her with a gift.

The following reports were given by committee chairpersons:

- **Wardens**—Beth Guynes, Sr. Warden/Shane Lauritzen, Jr. Warden
- **Treasurer**—John Bonar
- **Outreach**—Deacon Josie Williams
- **Lifting Lives Ministry**—Stacy Weaver
- **Christian Education**—David Pruett/Betsy Selby
- **ECW**—Sharon Hanks
- **Altar Guild**—Beth Guynes
- **Cemetery Committee**—Harvey Smith
- **Choir**—Sharon Hanks
- **Dinner-on-the-Grounds**—Michael and Sally Southall



New elected officers: **Richard Price**, Senior Warden; **Herb Jones & Dalton Thames**, Vestry



John Bonar, Treasurer

John Bonar, treasurer, provided a detailed account of the Capital Campaign. The original goal for the newly renovated Sessions Annex and classrooms was \$300,000. Three-year pledges amounted to \$209,200. Pledged funds received totaled \$148,829. Pledges outstanding were \$60,371 and one-time gifts and unpledged receipts totaled \$93,371. Construction costs to date totaled \$411,263 not including additional interest expense of \$15,000. The projected shortfall, including the cost of borrowing, totals \$123,231. We welcome anyone who would like to extend their initial pledge or make a new pledge to the Capital Campaign. Pledge cards are available at the church.

Senior Warden Report

By Beth Guynes

What a wonderful year we've had at St. Alban's! We have Elisabeth as our new priest and her family as members of our church family. We have completed and are settled into a beautiful new space in Sessions Hall. We are beginning this new year with a growing membership, strong Christian education and youth programs, and an outreach program that helps many, many people in our local I area. Elisabeth has already implemented excellent new programs and provided educational opportunities and creative activities for all generations of our members. We are blessed in so many ways.

The long, long, LONG construction period on Sessions Hall has taught me many things but, two things stand out; first, deferred maintenance is a death sentence for structural integrity of buildings and second, you, the congregation, will step up to whatever challenge comes our way. As problems with the building mounted and construction delays increased, it became more and more difficult. It to conduct services and programs each week. But you stepped up with resources, encouragement, and patience to make things go as smoothly as possible. I thank you for that. Thanks to you, we literally have a solid foundation for the future and beautiful spaces to "Gather and Grow."

Your vestry spent this last year making many tough decisions related to the construction project at the church and maintenance and repair work at the rectory. I thank them for their input, their wise-counsel, and their willingness to serve on the vestry. It's a tough job and it's not over yet. Waterproofing efforts continue as the abundance of rain shows us where problems are, and we have found that moisture problems caused significant wood rot around windows in the nave. The water intrusion and window repairs must be addressed quickly to limit further damage and to ensure the integrity of our beautiful windows.



I want to thank John Bonar whose financial expertise has guided us through some difficult decisions; he always does what's best for the financial health of our church. I especially want to thank Ann Tompkins. The vestry and church administration couldn't function properly without her organizational skills, knowledge and work ethic. Ann is the Senior Warden's right hand. Thank you, Ann for your kindness and help to me during my term. I also want to recognize our outgoing vestry members, Michael Southall and Mark and Stacy Weaver for their service. Michael, Mark and Stacy provided valuable input and insight on the issues we dealt with this past year. I appreciate their leadership and diligence in supporting this church.

Mark and Stacy prepared a draft of a new facilities maintenance manual for the vestry. This is the first step towards a consistent and reliable maintenance program for our buildings. Mark and Stacy resigned from the Junior Warden position last year due to unexpected changes in work and family schedules which conflict with vestry responsibilities. The vestry appointed Shane Lauritzen to complete the remaining year of their term. Shane has some great ideas about how best to keep up with maintenance at the church and the rectory.

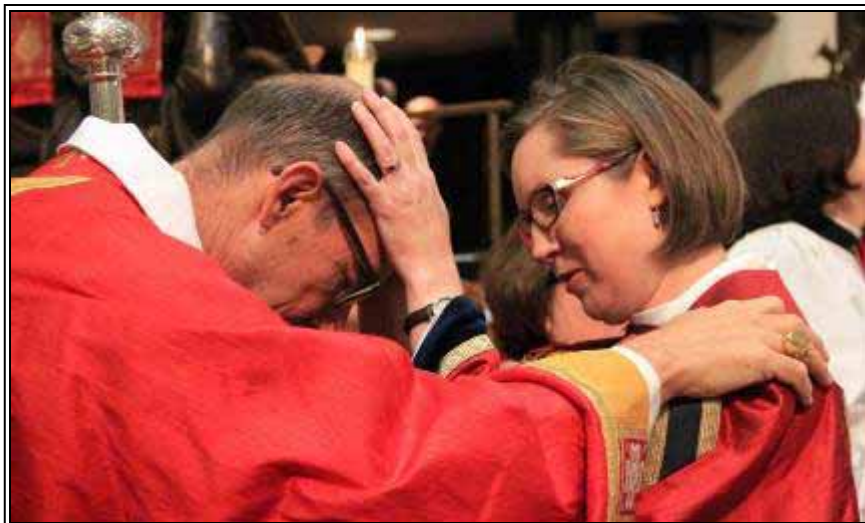
I want to thank Michael and Sally Southall for organizing and implementing one of our most successful Dinner on the Grounds event ever! Through their efforts, almost everything for the dinner was donated. Sally expertly organized and executed a very successful art auction. The art auction raised \$2000 for the Lifting Lives family shelter and the dinner ticket sales raised approximately \$3000 for our Capital Campaign. Every Dinner on the Grounds event has some unexpected issue come up and last year's event was no exception. We ordered barbequed chicken quarters for the dinner. When the chicken arrived at the church Sunday morning, the chickens were still whole! Michael spent the entire day cutting up over 100 whole barbequed chickens. Thank you, Michael and Sally, for your service and for a job well done!

The vestry met with Bishop Seage during his last visit and he was very impressed with the vitality of our programs at St. Alban's and with the amount of outreach we are able to accomplish. He encouraged us to look for even more opportunities to serve our community. I agree with his advice to take on new challenges. While we have accomplished a lot this last year with improvement of the physical aspect of our church, we cannot rest on our laurels. The success of all of our programs at this church depends on the willingness of this congregation and the church leadership to step up to new challenges, to present new ideas, to bring solutions to problems and to work together for the good of all our membership.

St. Alban's is growing in many ways and I think our future is very bright.

Elisabeth's Epistle

People throw around the word “blessed” a lot these days. #blessed is almost its own cliché. But I’ve been thinking a lot about blessings during the past month. In part, because I feel so very blessed after the wonderful month we’ve had as a church. And in part, because in my new role as a priest, I have the privilege of pronouncing the church’s blessing. Rebecca Drake caught the astonishing moment right after



ordination when Bishop Seage asked me to bless him. He asked each new priest in turn, but to say I was surprised would be an understatement!

Yet over the course of the weekend, I found myself blessing not only the bishop, but my friend’s baby in the womb, my little niece at the communion rail, and

a dear friend as he got ready to leave for home. And, of course, I was almost brought to tears when I stood for the first time in front of the church to pronounce the blessing at the end of our Eucharist. So many opportunities for blessing!

The oldest words of Scripture we have in written form are on silver amulets that date to the late 7th–early 6th c. BCE. They are on display at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. What are the sacred words that someone wanted to carry close? They are a blessing that God gives to Moses. It is known as the “priestly blessing:”

The Lord bless you and protect you.

The Lord deal kindly and graciously with you.

The Lord bestow His favor upon you and grant you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

For millennia, we have known the power of seeking and declaring God’s blessing. God has given us this gift of blessing to remind us that God is with us, closer than our skin, every moment of every day. Blessing helps us remember this truth and pay attention to how God is working in our lives. So, my friends, may the blessing of God be among us and remain with us always!

Josie's Journal

Lent Madness 2020

Who Will Win the Golden Halo?



St. Julie Billiart

Can you identify Julie Billiart, Eustace or Elizabeth the Martyr? Or try Florian, Elizabeth Fry and Simon Gibbons. Who are these people? Well, they are the saints for this year's **Lent Madness**.

Now, what is Lent Madness? Thirty-two saints are placed in tournament style, single-elimination bracket. The number dwindles down to sixteen;



St. Eustace

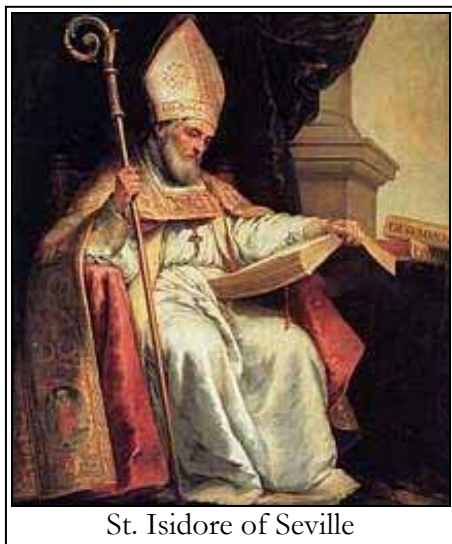
eight for the Elate Eight; four to the Faithful Four;

two to the Championship and the winner is awarded the **GOLDEN HALO**.

You can log on at www.lentmadness.org and vote for your favorite saint and compare your choice with the giant Lent Madness Bracket in the parish hall. Should you choose not to vote you can read and learn about thirty-two saints.

Who will win the Golden Halo at the end of Lent Madness? Will it be James Solomon Russell, Romanos the Melodist, Eva Lee Matthews, Margaret of Castello, Junia or Isidore of Seville?

We will also have our Lenten coins and coloring posters to remind us of this penitential season.



St. Isidore of Seville

Christ's Peace

Josie

February Birthdays

1	Charlie Brantley	19	Linda Kitchens
5	Sharon Hanks	20	Christine Nelson
6	Lucas Guynes	21	David Selby
11	Bonnie Pruett	22	Jane Hanks
14	Beth Guynes	25	Walker Biedenharn
	Charles Langford	27	Barbara Torrey
18	Janice Herrington		

February Anniversaries

11 Josh & Maggi McCarthy

Prayers for the People

For those Sick or in Need:

Andy Katzenmeyer	Cindy Crevitt	Lee Davis Thames
Ann & Jimmy Jones	Clarence Lentz	Linda & Jim Dooley
Ava Ahner	Cynthia Strawn	Newell Graham
Barbara Ramsay	Dalton Glatt	Nita Tassin
Bertha Kolb	Dan & Mary Carleton	Norma Jones
Beth Sojourner	David Wright	Peggy Bowie
Betty Biedenharn	Diane Bailey	Peter Meyers
Bob Schyberg	Dianne Carlton	Rachelle Ferris
Bobbie Carlisle	Eugene Quarles	Ron White
Brandi Tony	Gilda Faye Miller	Sara Wilkerson
Charley Chesnutt	Glenda Ferguson	Sarah Rickard
Charlie Brantley & Family	Jackson Monti	Scott
Christine Nelson	Jeff Colvin	Sheila Rosser
Charlie Lutz	Joan Leese	Steve Webster

Victims of Violence & Natural Disasters

For the Departed:

Jim Farrell, Ruby Mae Coleman, Mary Washington, Rachel Sullivan,
Mary Clyde Ellis, Dorothy Mayfield, Sue Schyberg, Callie Bryant

Schedule of Events for February

Weekly Activities & Services

Church Office Hours

Monday–Wednesday: 9:00 AM–4:00 PM. Phone: (601) 636-6687

Sunday

Eucharist, Rite I, 8:30 AM & Rite II, 11:00 AM

Christian Education, 9:30 AM

Nursery, 10:00 AM

Children's Chapel, 11:00 AM

Tuesday

Bible & More Discussion Group, Parish House, 6:00–8:00 PM

Wednesday

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness Meeting, 7:30 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Thursday

Cursillo Grouping, Parish House, 12:30 PM

Saturday, February 1—*ECW Meeting*, Parish Hall, 10:00 am

Sunday, February 2—*The Feast of the Presentation with Blessing of Candles*, Holy Eucharist, 8:30 & 11:00 am

Wednesday, February 5—Church Maintenance Team Meeting, 6:45 pm

February 7–February 9—*Annual Council*, BancorpSouth Arena, Tupelo

Sunday, February 9—**Morning Prayer, 8:30 am & 11:00 am**

Sunday, February 9—*Second Sundays at St. Mary's*. Evening Prayer. Presenting, "Chicago Bound" by the Mississippi School of the Arts Chorale, 4:00 pm

Sunday, February 16—Holy Eucharist, 8:30 & 11:00 am. Youth Sunday. *Mardi Gras Pancake Lunch*, mask making and beads, 12:00 pm

Thursday, February 20—Vestry Meeting, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, February 26—*Ash Wednesday* services, 12:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Sunday, March 1—*Hunger Banquet*. Holy Trinity, 5:30 pm. Join the youth group for an event raising awareness about hunger

Sunday, March 15—*Lenten Labyrinth Walk*. Learn about the practice of prayer in motion while walking the labyrinth, 12:00 pm

April 19—*Creation Care Sunday*. Join in activities celebrating creation, 12:00 pm

May 17—*End of School Picnic*. Picnic on the grounds with waterslide, 12:00 pm

Liturgical Schedule

		February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23	
			<i>Morning Prayer</i>			
LWL	8:30 am	Tommy Skinner	David Pruett	Harvey Smith	Theo Williams	
	11:00 am	Richard Price	Ann Tompkins	Betsy Selby	Harvey Smith	
MC		Beth Guynes	Ann Tompkins	Beth Guynes	Ann Tompkins	
OT Lector	8:30 am	Penny Freund	Penny Freund	Penny Freund	Penny Freund	
	11:00 am	Herb Jones	Wilma Mitchell	Gloria Hall	Ed Shelnut	
Psalm				Henry Cooper		
Epistle				Blair Harris		
Crucifer & Acolyte		Susan Price Henry Cooper	N/A	Beth Guynes Sam Hall	Koury Collins	
Wooden Cross				Harris Southall		
Gospel Bearer		Deacon Josie	N/A	Gabby Rushing	Deacon Josie	
Prayers of the People		Sharon Hanks	N/A	Buck Cooper Andrew Cooper	Dawn Rickard	
Oblation Bearers		Betty Rushing Gabby & Alison	N/A	The Southalls	Dalton Thames Sara Margaret Porter	
Ushers & Greeters		Buck Cooper Andrew Cooper	Dawn Rickard Allan Leese	Josh Artman Jonah Artman	Richard Price Susan Price	
Standing Communion Station		Rev. Deacon Josie Susan Price	N/A	Rev. Deacon Josie Harvey Smith	Rev. Deacon Josie Ed Shelnut	
Altar Guild		Tommy Skinner Susan Price	Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner	Kerri Williams Judy Morrissey	Beth Guynes Liz Gent	
Coffee Host		Ann Tompkins	Dawn Rickard	Pancake Lunch after 11:00 service	Jennifer Normand	
Offertory Counters		Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks	
		February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26	
Healing Service		Tommy Skinner	Theo Williams	David Pruett	Tommy Skinner	