



The Albanac

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
5430 Warriors Trail, Bovina, Mississippi
www.stalbansbovina.org

April 2012

Holy Week

Holy is the week . . .
Holy, consecrated, belonging to God...

From Kneeling in Jerusalem
Janice Weems

Holy Week and Easter fill the immediate future. Beginning with Palm Sunday, we are invited to make the journey through the week with Jesus. We are invited to share the Last Supper, to pray with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, to walk the way of the cross, to stand at the foot of the cross, to lay Jesus' dead body in the tomb, and finally to approach the empty tomb and discover new life.

A few words of explanation: The core services of Holy Week and Easter take place on **Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, The Great Vigil of Easter** and **Easter Sunday**.

Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem when the crowd waved palms and shouted, "Hosanna in the highest." The same crowd shouted "Crucify him" by the end of the week.

Triduum is a period of three days of preparation for a feast day. The **Easter Triduum** consists of **Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and The Great Vigil of Easter**. The worship service is considered one service spread over three days.

Maundy Thursday is the day of remembering the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of the apostles, when he offered bread and wine to the apostles while saying *This is my Body . . . This is my Blood . . . Do this in remembrance of me*. The word maundy means new commandment. Jesus gave his apostles his new commandment at the Last Supper, *Love one another as I have loved you*.

Good Friday is the solemn day when we commemorate the crucifixion and death of Jesus.

The Great Vigil of Easter is the service when we celebrate the risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by lighting a fire to symbolically represent the light of the resurrected Christ overcoming the darkness of the world.

We sing out *Christ is risen* with lots and lots of *alleluias!*

Bishop Gray's March 11th Visit



Beth and Carroll Sojourner



Janice Herrington with her son, Mark, and Bishop Gray



The 2012 St. Alban's Vestry. Terry Brantley, Jim Drake, Kenon Ruska, Harvey Smith, Bishop Gray, Theo Williams, Betsy Selby, Billy Abraham, Tommy Skinner, Ann Tompkins and Susan Price.



The Very Rev. Billie Abraham and Bishop Gray



Eleanor Price, Bishop Gray and Betty Biedenbarn

It's a Boy!

Announcing the birth of William Douglas Upchurch, son of Jill and Keith Upchurch.

Douglas was born on Thursday, March 29th, at the Baptist Hospital in Jackson. He weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and is 20 inches long. Mother, father and baby are all doing well!

May God, the Father of all, bless Jill, Keith and Douglas with lasting joy and happiness.



† Billie's Corner

Resurrection

Wherever in your life is victory; there is resurrection.

Wherever in your life is joy; there is resurrection.

Wherever in your life is wonder, there is resurrection.

Wherever in your life is resurrection there is Christ calling you to follow him

Out of death into his larger more glorious life.

Brother James Koester

Society of Saint John the Evangelist

Victory, Joy, Wonder ... Resurrection! Death, Life ... Resurrection! Resurrection penetrates our lives. It is not only something that will happen at the end of time, it is happening today, right in the midst of our Saint Alban's community. Jesus rose from the dead and initiated a lasting hope into our lives. What appears as hopelessness or death can be transformed into resurrected life.

How true for Barbara Ramsay, a long time member of St. Alban's! Years ago, Barbara told me about her grandson, Charles, named after Barbara's late husband.

Charles was an absolute joy to Barbara and Charlie who both doted on their grandson. Suddenly, life took an abrupt turn. Barbara's daughter, Bebe, was killed in an automobile accident. Charles was only three years-old at the time. After Bebe's death, the surviving parent would not allow any relationship between the Ramsay's and their grandson. Barbara held fast to her faith and prayed that Charles would get in touch with her when he was old enough.

That is precisely what happened. A few weeks ago, Charles, now eighteen, came to visit Barbara. It was an *Alleluia Day*. The years of separation dissolved into nothingness as they talked for hours and hours. Barbara was happy to learn that Charles, a high school senior, has applied for a scholarship to Ole Miss. Since their reunion, Barbara and Charles communicate on a regular basis. *From death comes resurrected life!*



Charles with Barbara Ramsay

Bubba Gerache's recovery from a life-threatening stroke is the second resurrection story in our church family. On December 3, 2011, Bubba suffered a stroke. At first, it appeared to be a mild stroke, but the stroke escalated into a major stroke by the end of the day. Bubba drifted in and out of consciousness for the next

few months. He doesn't remember anything of December, January and most of February. As if the effects of the stroke were not bad enough, constant complications resulted in setback after setback. Linda was at his side, attending to all that she could and, all the while, praying for his recovery.

On February 22, Bubba transferred out of the Stroke Unit of the University Medical Center and into Neurological Rehabilitation. He began to come out of the dense fog that had descended on his mind. Bubba began to recognize people. He remembered details of his life before the stroke. Linda rejoiced with each sign of new life. Bubba has responded to therapy and is now home where he can continue to recuperate. The road ahead of the Gerache family is still long, but is a life-giving road where, *From death comes resurrected life!*

Jim Dantin, son-in-law of Sharon Hanks and Buddy and Jane Hanks, is the third resurrection story in our church family. Jim is married to Tracey Hanks Dantin, former parishioner of St. Alban's Church. After their marriage, they made their home in Baton Rouge. Recently, Jim was diagnosed with cancer of the jaw. He and his family faced the diagnosis with faith. Jim underwent aggressive radiation treatment prior to surgery. The first surgery to remove his jaw and the tumor was successful in completely removing the cancer; however, the reconstruction to replace the jaw with bone from one of his legs was not successful. He was rushed into emergency surgery to try to use another blood vessel to get blood flow to the bone. This did not take as was hoped due to the damage caused by the radiation therapy, and so they were faced with a third surgery to get bone from his other leg and a blood vessel from the other side of his neck. Thankfully, the third surgery was a success. Within eight days, Jim had undergone almost 40 hours of surgery.

Jim is home now with a feeding tube to supply his nourishment. He can drink water and other liquids and can get around using a walker, which is a blessing. Even though he faces more surgery, he and his family approach the future with a sustaining faith in the healing power of the *Divine Physician*. *From death comes resurrected life!*

Easter Sunday marks the glorious feast day of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. But resurrection cannot be contained in one day a year. No, we experience resurrections all the time. The cycle of death to life is repeated over and over and we are caught up that cycle. Jesus Christ showers us with resurrections.

Let us continue to sing out: ***Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!***

In peace

Billie+

† Josie's Journal

Sharing Our Gifts

Lent is over and Easter has begun. Let us ponder the new life we have been given through Christ's resurrection. How might we share our gift with others? Consider **NetsforLife**® — a partnership of corporations, foundations, nongovernmental groups and faith based organizations including the Episcopal Relief and Development Inspiration Fund — that is working to fight malaria in sub-Saharan Africa.

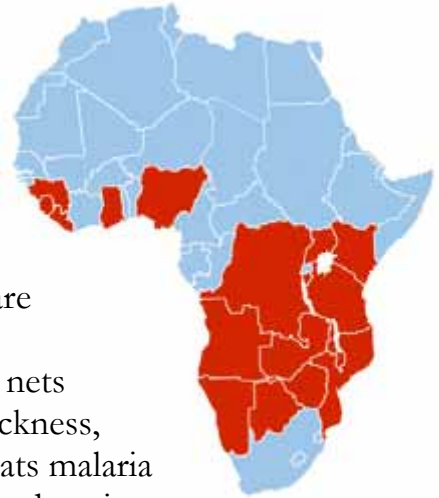
There are an estimated 250 million cases of malaria each year, resulting in nearly one million deaths. The majority of these deaths are children younger than five years old. Children are most vulnerable because they have not built up any immunity to the disease. In addition, pregnant women are at risk because their immune systems are compromised by pregnancy.

NetsforLife has delivered over 7.7 million mosquito nets across 17 countries in sub-Saharan Africa resulting in less sickness, fewer deaths and stronger communities. **NetsforLife** combats malaria by training community agents to deliver the life-saving nets, educating community members about proper net use and maintenance, and providing on-going monitoring and evaluation of net use.

St. Alban's needs a contact person for **NetsforLife**. Please prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to step forward to help save children from malaria. Our goal is for every family to purchase one net at a cost of \$12. When you step forward, I will assist you. Notice I didn't say if, but when. That is just how sure I am that God is speaking to someone at St. Alban's to help save the children.

April 25th is World Malaria Day. St. Alban's Sunday school will focus on World Malaria Day by making a mural.

My prayer is that each family at St. Alban's will purchase one net. Please pray.



In Peace,
Josie

April Events

Palm (Passion) Sunday, April 1

—Palm Procession and Holy Week Eucharist

Monday, April 2

—9:00 AM, Morning Prayer and Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, April 3

—6:00 PM, Evening Prayer and Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, April 4

—6:00 PM, Healing Service and Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, April 5

—6:00 PM, Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday, April 6

—6:00 PM, Good Friday Service

Holy Saturday, April 7

—10:00 AM, Holy Saturday Prayer Service

—11:00 AM, Children's Easter Egg Dying Event and Lunch

—2:00 PM, Baby Shower for Amanda Price Monti at Sherri Horan's

—6:00 PM, The Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Sunday, April 8

—8:30 AM, Easter Holy Eucharist

—Reception and Easter Egg Hunt between services

—11:00 AM, Easter Holy Eucharist

Friday, April 13—Sunday, April 15

—Parish Weekend at the Big House, Gray Center

Saturday, April 14

—Parish Day at Camp Bratton-Green



April Birthdays

1 Charlotte Biedenharn	18 Jennifer Harper
2 Jay Harper	Greg Tierce
3 Sandra Melsheimer	23 Jack Monti
7 Ruth Green	27 Ford Biedenharn
John Scott	Russell Sumrall
8 Olivia Lee	29 Liz Curtis
10 Amy Burr	Frank W. Skinner, Jr.
Hayden Guynes	30 Allison Nieto
Chad Toups	

April Anniversaries

16 Charles & Lisa Langford	23 Joseph & Linda Gerache, Jr.
17 Jim & Joyce Butler	28 Michael & Jana Guynes
18 Gene & Wanda Warren	

Prayers

For those Sick or in Need:

Cathy Ingram	Bobbie Jean Abraham	Betty Pace
Shirley Rumfelt	Jay	Mary Kavanaugh
Joe Bonelli	John Williams	Lauren Stamm
Frances Marble	Betsy Hood	Ethel Kendrick
Johnny Bottom	Jan Robinson	Betty Harrison
Jean Roberts	Jerry Campbell	Debbie Fowler
Ed & Bessie Norwood	Ashleigh Ford	Mary Ellen Dunaway
Sharon Cloud	Rusty Henderson	Ailene Graves
James Rumfelt	Jim Dantin	Walker Biedenharn
Joe Gerache	The Gerache Family	George Hammack
Ann Ammons	Lessye Williams	Bill Mobley
Charlie Floyd	Bill Brunson	Wanda Warren
Jewel Miller	Glen Miller	Lessie Baker
Meghan	Scott	Wilma
Elizabeth Cliett	Karen McCraw	Tom Biedenharn
Tim Davis	Harold Lee	Michael Morrissey
Ada Hubbard	The Herrington family	Buz Pickens
R. A. Logue	Layla Gray	Faith, Bridget & Mike Wildschuetz
	Betsy, Richard, Charles, Lawson, David & Anna Selby	

Pray for men and women of the Armed Forces, especially:

Christoph Martin	Cynthia Horan	Billie Hubbard
Lt. Jonathan Fanelli	Ronald Duplessi	

Liturgical Schedule Sundays in March

	<i>April 8</i>	<i>April 15</i>	<i>April 22</i>	<i>April 29</i>
	Easter	Second Sunday of Easter	Third Sunday of Easter	Fourth Sunday of Easter
First Reading	Acts 10:34-43	Acts 4:32-35	Acts 3:12-19	Acts 4:5-12
Psalm	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Psalm 133	Psalm 4	Psalm 23
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	1 John 1:1-2:2	1 John 3:1-7	1 John 3:16-24
Gospel	John 20:1-18	John 20:19-31	Luke 24:36b-48	John 10:11-18
		Parish Weekend at Camp Bratton-Green		
Lay Worship Leader		Morning Prayer		
8:30 a.m.	Richard Price	Deacon Josie Harvey Smith	Tommy Skinner	Ann Tompkins
11:00 a.m.	Ann Tompkins	Deacon Josie Harvey Smith	Betsy Selby	Richard Price
Master of Ceremonies	Jennifer Normand		Beth Guynes	Susan Price
Acolytes				
Crucifer	Michael Rangel	Harvey Smith	Beth Guynes	Koury Collins
Gospel Bearer	Kerri & Peter Williams	Deacon Josie	Clarissa Walker	Susan Price
Lector	Bertha Kolb	Harvey Smith	Theo Williams	Ed Shelnut
Prayers of the People	Deacon Josie	NA	Deacon Josie	Sharon Hanks
Oblation Bearers	Becki Rangel Max Rangel	Margie Scott	Linda Walker Genevieve Walker	Becky Drake Jim Drake
Ushers & Greeters	Bobby Barlow Jim Drake	John Scott	Ann Jones Easy Biedenbarn	Charlie Brantley Jeff Artman
	All Altar Guild members	Sherry Horan Sharon Hanks	Mary Ann Wright Lisa Langford	Judy Morrissey Ann Tompkins
Eucharistic Minister	Betsy Selby	None		Susan Price
Eucharistic Visitor	Josie & Billie	None	Deacon Josie	Sandra Melsheimer
Coffee Host	Reception Sandra & Becki	Margie Scott Josie Williams	Lisa Langford Ruth Green	Charlie Brantley Terry Brantley
Wednesday Healing	Harvey Smith	Ann Tompkins	Harvey Smith	Tommy Skinner