



The Albanac

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

December 2016



*“His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God,
The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace”*

Isaiah 9:6

Christmas Memories



2014 Christmas



2013 Epiphany Pageant



2015 Christmas Pageant



2011 Nativity Scene



2013 Epiphany Pageant



2015 Christmas Pageant



2014 Christmas Pageant



2014 Christmas Pageant



2011 ECW Ornament Exchange



2014 Christmas Pageant

Dinner on the Grounds, November 6, 2016









Dinner on the Grounds Featured Liturgical Tablescape



Advent by Cassandra Price

Table setting features purple and pink colors, reflective of Advent - Advent wreath, Advent icons and a table setting of colorful china and crystal



Epiphany by Dale Gibson & Tommy Skinner

Table setting features a green & white tea set with green napkins. A life-sized camel poster sets the tone for the arrival of the wise men. The table is decorated with camel and wise men figurines while the poster is outlined with lights - the centerpiece features a star that led the wise men to the stables



Christmas by Rev. Billie Abraham

Table setting features a neutral-brown color scheme - simple in nature to reflect the stable where Jesus was born - place setting is adorned with blue metal dishes, wooden candlesticks, bamboo flatware and a hand-carved wooden nativity scene



Lent by Susan Price

Table setting is draped in swirls of purple with a meditative setting - prayer books, meditation books, a bowl of ashes with a cross, a finger labyrinth and a chair for quiet prayer



Easter by Mary Ruth Jones

Table setting features a wooden cross instead of a crucifix - elegant china & silverware with white linen napkins, and silver containers



Pentecost by Lynn Gerhardt

Table setting features the color red - red dinner plates with a backdrop of red gladiolus and a white dove signifying the Holy Spirit

✠ Billie's Corner

SHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

(Quiet Please)

*Now the silence
 Now the peace
 Now the Spirit's visitation
 Now the Son's incarnation
 Now the Father's blessing
 Now Now Now
 Episcopal Hymnal*

The season of Advent is one of those times when the Church seems so out of step with the world. While the advertising industry promotes fighting the crowds in stores to get the best bargains, the Church is inviting us to slow down and ponder the wonder of the coming birth of Immanuel, *God with us*. While sounds of “*Here Comes Santa Claus*” are amplified into businesses, the Church sings “*Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free . . .*” While holiday magazines feature houses decorated with glitz and glamour, the Church lights purple and pink candles that are nestled in a wreath of simple greenery. While holiday recipes tempt us with rich cuisine presented on ornate bedecked tables, the Church prepares the feast of Bread and Wine assembled atop an altar draped with a plain and fair linen.

All of the above describes the Advent that I anticipate. I long for the quiet—I treasure the short days and long nights—I want to hear the Advent hymns that are sung for only four brief weeks before Christmas—I yearn for time to prepare for the birthing of the Infant Jesus. But this is not the Advent of my younger days when I was caught up in the entire commercial Christmas extravaganza. I didn’t pull open a little window on an Advent Calendar that offered a daily pre-Christmas meditation. Instead, I checked how many shopping days were left before Christmas. I decorated, cleaned, shopped, cooked and partied! I worked myself into a frizzy in the attempt to arrange the perfect Christmas for family and friends. Can you imagine being around me as I raced through each day and night? The person I was in those days is the person I want to avoid today!

I still enjoy a Christmas tree; my small tree sits on my screen porch and glows with tiny white lights. I no longer require a tall tree that is adorned with so many ornaments that the tree is no longer visible. The nativity scene that was a wedding gift to my grandparents in 1914 is the centerpiece on my coffee table. Some of the figurines are more glue than whatever the original material might have been. The only Christmas parties I attend are the ECW Christmas Luncheon & Ornament Exchange and the celebration following the Children's Christmas Pageant. The holiday meal that I share with my family is the highlight of the season. Less is more!

My Advent wish for you is silence and peace. My Christmas wish for you is joy and amazement.

"This is a sign for you; you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."
Luke 2:12

In Peace

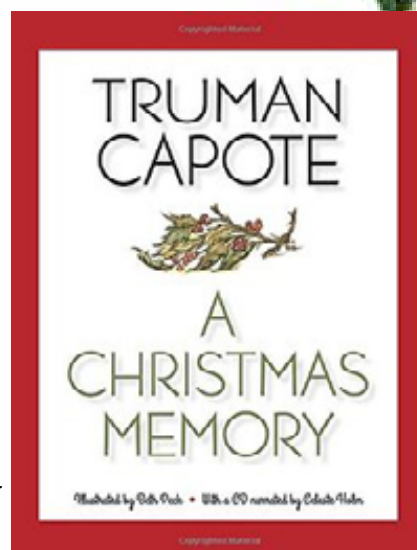
Billie+

Sunday, December 11
St. Alban's Nave, 10 AM

Mary Ruth Jones

Reading

Truman Capote's
A Christmas Memory



† Josie's Journal

ENTRANCES AND EXITS

We are entering the season of **Advent** and exiting the season of Ordinary Time. I think we are charged with the entanglements of the commercialization of Christmas. The hustle and bustle of the secular Christmas season beckons us to join in the fun - shopping for gifts and merrymaking. But, we must decide as to what extent we wish to participate. The most important thing, as we await the birth of our Savior, is to approach Advent in thoughtful meditation and prayer.

Throughout our lives we enter and exit many times. We enter school and exit by graduation. We enter work and exit by retirement. We enter the world through birth and exit by death to our eternal home. I believe we learn from our entrances and exits while we are on this side of the thin veil. Hopefully, the lessons we learn will allow us to become the person Christ would have us to be. Advent gives us the opportunity to slow down, think, wait and anticipate.

In all our entrances and exits, the most important thing that we can do is to not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of our minds that we may prove what is the good, acceptable and the perfect will of God?

In Peace
Josie+

Schedule of Events

Weekly Activities & Services

Church Office Hours

Monday–Wednesday: 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

Sunday

Eucharist, 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Adult Sunday School, 10:00 AM

Choir Practice, Nave, 10:00 AM

Wednesday

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness Meeting, 7:00 AM

Centering Prayer Support Group, 8:30 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Thursday

Cursillo Grouping, Noon

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

Wednesday, December 7—Quiet Day, *Come In, Light a Candle, Say a Prayer, Be Still, Leave in Peace*, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Saturday, December 10—ECW Christmas Luncheon & Ornament Exchange, All Saints' Rectory, 10:30 AM, 2717 Confederate Ave., \$20 per person

Saturday, December 10—*Christmas To Go* bake Sale, St. Mary's Bolton, Terry Brantley Parish House, 10:00 AM—2:00 PM

Sunday, December 11—Mary Ruth Jones reading Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory*, St. Alban's Nave, 10:00 AM
Buffet luncheon at Cedar Grove, everyone invited, cost \$13 per person

Sunday, December 11—Second Sundays at St. Mary's, Bolton, 4:00 PM. featuring The Galloway Methodist Concordia Ensemble, *Seasons and Holy Days*

Tuesday, December 13—Vestry Meeting, Rectory, 6:00 PM, Holiday refreshments

Sunday, December 18—Christmas Pageant, 11:00 AM Eucharist

Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Pageant, 10:00 AM

Adult Sunday School, 10:00 AM

No choir practice

Potluck "Christmas Goodies" between services & following the Pageant

Saturday, December 24—CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Carol Concert, 5:30 PM, Holy Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Christmas Carol Concert, 9:30 PM, Holy Eucharist, 10:00 PM

Sunday, December 25—CHRISTMAS DAY

One Service, Morning Prayer, 8:30 AM

CHRISTMAS TO GO
HEAVENLY HOLIDAY
BAKE SALE

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
TERRY BRANTLEY PARISH HOUSE
BOLTON, MISSISSIPPI

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10
10AM UNTIL 2PM

~ FEATURING ~

- APPETIZERS**
- FROZEN CASSEROLES**
- CAKES & PIES**
- COOKIES & CANDIES**
- JAMS & JELLIES**
- SHELLED PECANS & PEANUTS**
- RAFFLE ITEMS**

December Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Harvey Smith, Jr. | 18 Kristen Gayle |
| 3 Ashley Abraham | 22 Jennifer Normand |
| 10 Patti Dunham | 26 John Bonar |
| 11 Clarissa Walker | 27 Linda Gerache |
| 12 Pam McCoy Ethridge | 28 Dominick McCarthy |
| Joan Leese | Sara Margaret Porter |
| 13 Michael Bailey | 29 Buddy Hanks |
| 15 Jim Butler | Ann Jones |
| Jim Harper | |

December Anniversaries

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 14 Jerry & Kay McWilliams | 29 Rudolph & Allison Price Nieto |
| 16 Jimmy & Ann Jones | 29 David & Mary Ann Wright |
| 23 Allen & Linda Kitchens | |

Prayers for the People

For those Sick or in Need:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Angie Standish | Hallie Jo Ragsdale | Mary Ruth Jones |
| Ann Hanks | Hannah Hulsey | Martha Benson |
| Aryana Strawn | Jackson Monti | Norma Jones |
| Barbara Ramsay | Jim & Sherry Horan | Parker Ramsay |
| Bertha Kolb | Jim Dantin | Paul E. Rachel |
| Betty Biedenharn | Joan Leese | Peter Meyers |
| Brian Buchanan | Joan Parsons | Rachelle Ferris |
| Carol Guion | Key Davis | Richard & Margo Massey |
| Charlie Brantley & Family | Kristi Biedenharn | Rt. Rev. A. C. "Chip" Marble |
| Dale Gibson | Larry Lambiotte | Sallie Terry |
| Dalton Glatt | Linda & Jim Dooley | Shirley Lowery Powers |
| Damion Hansford | Liz Curtis & Family | The Anita Collins Family |
| Dan & Mary Carleton | Lucas Guynes | The Selby Family |
| Dr. Peter Boelens | Mary Ann Seage | Wilma Mitchell |

Victims of Flooding in Louisiana & Mississippi

For the Departed:

Gene Mulloy, Libby Mulloy, Mittie Towne Warren, Albert Bush

Lurgical Schedule—Sundays in December

	December 4 Second Sunday of Advent	December 11 Third Sunday of Advent	December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent	December 25 Christmas Day
First Reading	Isaiah 11:1-10	Isaiah 35:1-10	Isaiah 7:10-16	Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Psalm 146:4-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18	Psalm 96
Second Reading	Romans 15:4-13	James 5:7-10	Romans 1:1-7	Titus 2:11-14
Gospel	Matthew 3:1-12	Matthew 11:2-11	Matthew 1:18-25	Luke 2:1-14(15-20)
		Christmas Reading by Mary Ruth Jones Parish House 10:00 AM	Children's Christmas Pageant & Eucharist	One Service Only Morning Prayer 8:30 AM
Master of Ceremony	Betsy Selby	Ann Tompkins	Beth Guynes	
Lay Worship Leader				
8:30 a.m.	Harvey Smith	Harvey Smith	Tommy Skinner	
11:00 a.m.	Herb Jones	Richard Price	Betsy Selby	
Old Testament Lector				
8:30 a.m.	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan	
11:00 a.m.	Ed Shelnut	Lance Stewart	Lawson Selby	
Standing Communion Station	Deacon Josie Herb Jones	Richard Price Susan Price	Deacon Josie Herb Jones	
Epistle Lector		Canada Stewart	Canada Stewart	
Psalm Leader			Canada Stewart	
Crucifer & Acolyte	Koury Collins Canada Stewart	Ann Tompkins	Beth Guynes Gloria & Sam Hall	
Banner Bearer			Peter Williams	
Crucifer (Wooden)			Harris Southall	
			Michael Southall	
Gospel Bearer	Deacon Josie	Deacon Josie	Gabby Rushing	
Torch Bearers			Mary Ellen Dunaway	
			Brantley Dunaway	
Violin Music			Heaven Leigh	
			Sunny Faith	
Prayers of the People	Deacon Josie	Sharon Hanks	Bruce Carleton	
Oblation Bearers	David Pruett	Dalton Thames	Mary Ellen Dunway	
	Bonnie Pruett	Sara Margaret Porter	Brantley Dunaway	
Ushers & Greeters	Sally Southall	Lance Stewart	David Normand	
	Michael Southall	Leigh Divine	Jennifer Normand	
Altar Guild	Ann Tompkins	Kerri Williams	Cassandra Price	Sharon Hanks
	Beth Sojourner	Judy Morrissey	Beth Guynes	Betty Rushing
Coffee Host	Courtney Taylor	Dalton Thames	Potluck Christmas Goodies	
	Rev. Billie & Rev. Josie	Sara Margaret Porter	No Nursery	
Nursery Assistant	Betty Rushing	Bonnie Pruett		
Children's Chapel	Betsy Selby	Betsy Selby		
Offertory Counters	Rymn Parsons	Rymn Parsons	Rymn Parsons	
	Herb Jones	Ann Tompkins	Ann Tompkins	
	Janice Herrington	Sharon Hanks	Jennifer Normand	
	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
Healing Service	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner	David Pruett	Tommy Skinner