



The Albanac

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

December 2012

ECW Christmas Luncheon & Ornament Exchange

The ECW's annual Christmas luncheon will take place Saturday, December 8, 10:30 a.m. at Main Street Market Café, 902 Cherry Street. Everyone attending is asked to bring a wrapped ornament for the ornament exchange.



The meals at Main Street are always something to look forward to. The meal cost for each person is \$18.00. Plan to come and have a wonderful time.

Calling All Young Adults

Young adults are invited to attend a Chili Dinner at All Saints' Rectory, 2717 Confederate Avenue on Thursday, December 6, 6:30 p.m. Come and enjoy the dinner and the companionship of others in one of the oldest and most beautiful rectories in the Episcopal Diocese. All Saint's College was chartered in 1907 by Bishop Bratton and was recognized as one of the state's most prestigious schools until its closure in 2006. We hope to see you there!

The Reverend Jenkins to Minister to St. Alban's

On Sundays, December 2 and 9, the Reverend John Jenkins, originator of Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC), will return to St. Alban's to conduct Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. and preach the 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist.

The Reverend Jenkins is recognized for his amazing ability to touch people's lives as he preaches and teaches the Word of God. Groups, young and old, gather to hear his heartfelt sermons of God in his life. He is a master teacher and touches the



heart as well as the mind. Endearing moments are those when Reverend Jenkins closes the Sunday School hour having everyone sing, *Oh how I love Jesus, Oh how I love Jesus, Oh how I love Jesus, because He first loved us.* Please join us at St. Alban's as we once again welcome Reverend and Mrs. Jenkins into our church community.

Living Nativity & Christmas Gathering

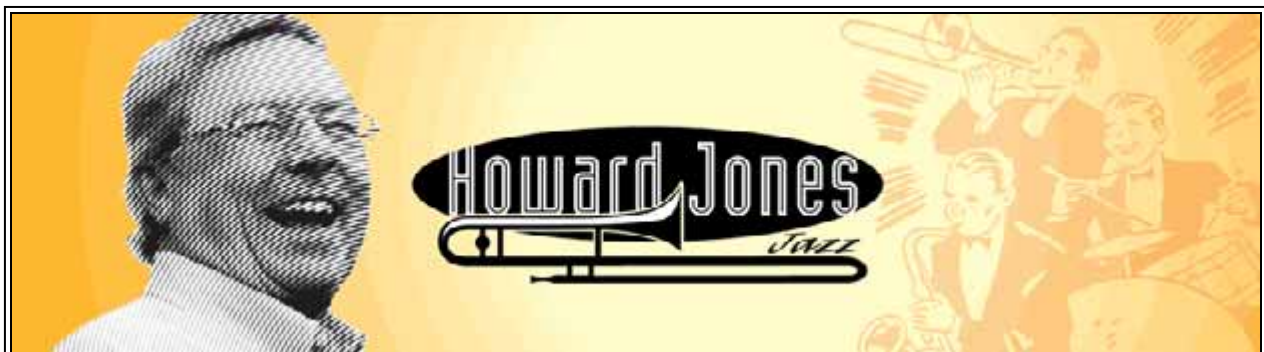
St. Alban's *Living Nativity & Christmas Gathering* will take place on Saturday, December 15, 5:30–7:30 p.m. The Living Nativity will start at 5:30 p.m. with the community driving by to behold the manger scene. While the Living Nativity is taking place outside, church members and guests will enjoy a soup dinner and refreshments in the parish hall. There will also be Christmas craft activities, cookie baking and eating! St. Nicholas will be the guest of honor.

Ann Jones, chairperson, needs volunteers in advance to set up the stable and manger, set out luminaries and assume nativity roles.

St. Mary's Christmas Bazaar & Luncheon

On December 1, 2012, Friends of St. Mary's Church in Bolton and members of St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Bovina, will once again hold a Christmas Bazaar to raise funds for the little church that was reopened in September of 2010 after almost a decade of closure. Last year's event raised \$5,200 which helped to install air-conditioning and heat. The bazaar was a leap of faith for the organizers and everyone was ecstatic over the response from sister churches and local communities.

The Reverend Billie Abraham was instrumental in helping to reopen the beautiful little church that closed its doors some years ago. Thanks to an active and dedicated group, the church now enjoys a new air-conditioning and heating unit, a new roof, and a highly successful Second Sunday service that draws people from Hinds and Warren Counties.



Live Music on the Grounds

- Howard Jones Jazz
- Sid Champion, performing Christmas music (piano)
- Virgil Brawley, electric guitar

The Christmas Bazaar luncheon features Chicken Spaghetti made from a St. Mary's treasured recipe. The recipe dates back to 1937 when the women of the church dished up the tasty spaghetti for church dinners. Plates (\$10) will be served from 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Seating is available in the parish hall and take-outs are welcomed.

The bazaar will begin at 10:00 a.m. with live music on the grounds. There will be quite a number of silent auction items to bid on as well as “white elephant” items for sale in the parish hall.

Dan Mashburn of Bolton will once again display his antique cars and old-fashioned calliope. The happy sound of the calliope always puts everyone in a festive mood.

✠ Billie's Corner

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.”

John 1:14

This one sentence is the entire Christmas story. Simple. Awesome. But—we are not there yet; we have to wait four weeks before *“the Word becomes flesh.”* In the meantime, the world we live in is over stimulated with the frills of the holiday season. As we sing Advent hymns in church, traditional Christmas music has been blaring in every store for weeks. While we practice holy waiting, the world outside our door is racing around for the best bargains, even if that means standing in long lines in the predawn hours.

So how do we live quietly into four weeks of Advent when we are surrounded by so much noise? We must be intentional. No one else is going to arrange a quiet time in our daily schedules, only we can give ourselves the gift of stillness in this hyperactive season of the year.

Why not attend the Healing Service and Eucharist on Wednesday evening at 6:00 a.m.? Come a few minutes early and enjoy the quiet of our church. Spend some silent time each day listening with *“the ear of the heart.”* Advent pamphlets are in the in the church. Daily meditations are available on the Internet. I highly recommend The Reverend Carol Mead's daily email mediation at www.holyordinary.com. Pray the *Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families* in *The Book of Common Prayer*, pages 137-140.

During Advent, our altar is a visual symbol for the spirit of less. The altar sets the tone for *quiet* by its simplicity during Advent—no flowers, nothing to distract from the call to wait in quiet anticipation for the birth of the Infant Jesus. An Advent Quiet Day is scheduled for Friday, December 21. St. Alban's Church will offer a quiet refuge for prayer. The day will include Morning Prayer, Noon Prayer and Evening Prayer, interspersed with quiet time for individual contemplation.



As we light a new candle each week on our Advent wreath, the passage of the four weeks of Advent is marked—until at last, we light the Christmas candle during our Christmas Eve celebrations of the Eucharist.

On Christmas Eve, our altar is no longer bare; it is shining with the radiance of Christmas— *“the Word becomes flesh”* once more. The Incarnate God comes to dwell among us. The festivities have only just begun. We sing Christmas Carols for the *Twelve Days of Christmas*. We commemorate the birth of the Infant Jesus in the stable of our hearts.



Let's don't rush it! Let's take our time to savor the waiting so that we truly appreciate the grand event of the birthing of Jesus into our lives.

May our community have a *Blessed Advent* and a *Glorious Christmas*.

In peace
Billie+

† Josie's Journal

A Hodgepodge

I would like to share with you a few of the things that St. Alban's does for the community at large.

What do the following have in common?

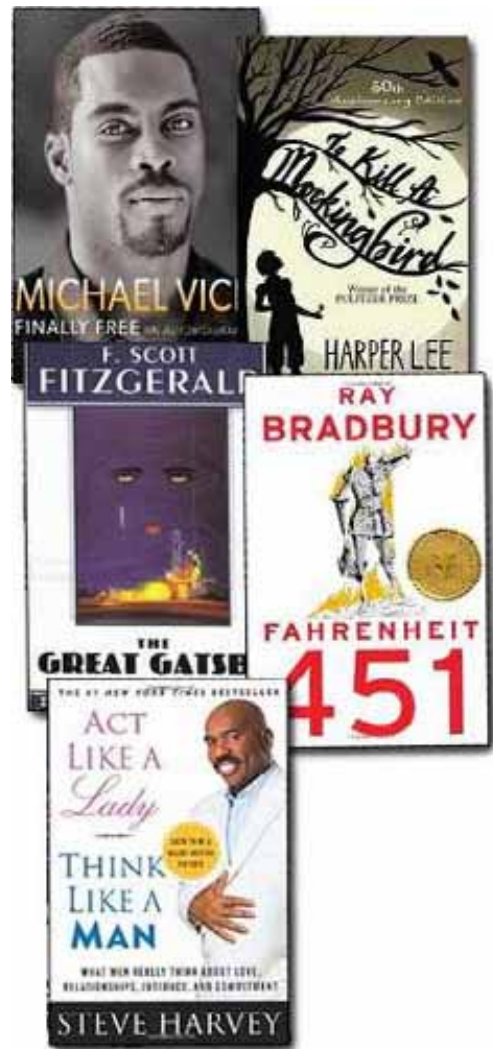
- *Finally Free: An Autobiography* by Michael Vick
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Man* by Steve Harvey

The answer—these titles were donated to the Warren County Juvenile Detention Center by St. Alban's Episcopal Church (you). They are being read by the students detained there. The students requested novels and I selected the above in an effort to encourage them to read.

This note appeared in the Wednesday edition of *School by School* in the *Kids Are Kids* section—“Students completed Halloween crafts and decorations donated by St. Alban's Episcopal Church.”

The inserts saved from St. Alban's Sunday bulletins are donated to the Warren County Jail the following Tuesday.

I am very appreciative of your love and support and I share it any time I get the chance.



Peace

Josie†

December Calendar

December 1, Saturday

Bazaar & Chicken Spaghetti Luncheon

St. Mary's Church, Bolton, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Sunday, December 2 & Sunday, December 9

The Rev John Jenkins, guest teacher/priest

10:00 a.m. Sunday School and 11:00 a.m. Eucharist

Sunday, December 9

No Pot Luck Breakfast

Sunday, December 9

Second Sunday at St. Mary's, 4 p.m.

Galloway Methodist Concordia Ensemble performing Lessons and Carols, reception following in the parish hall

Monday, December 10

Vestry Meeting, 6 p.m.

Saturday December 15

Living Nativity, 5:30—7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 16

Bolton Interdenominational Christmas Candle Light Service

Bolton United Methodist Church

Friday, December 21

A Quiet Day at St. Alban's Church

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Noon Prayer, 4:00 p.m., Evening Prayer

Sunday, December 23

Baptism of Douglas Upchurch, son of Jill and Keith Upchurch

11:00 a.m. Eucharist

Sunday, December 23

St. Mary's Bolton Christmas Celebration

5:30 p.m. St. Mary's choir, Christmas concert

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and reception in the parish hall

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve at Saint Alban's Church

5:30 p.m. Christmas Concert & Holy Eucharist

10:30 p.m. Christmas Concert & Holy Eucharist.

December Birthdays

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

December Anniversaries

3 John & Anita Bonar	23 Allen & Linda Kitchens
14 Jerry & Kay McWilliams	29 Rudolph & Allison Price Nieto
Bill M. & Margarita Davis	David & Mary Ann Wright
16 Jimmy & Ann Jones	31 Bobby & Rachel Sullivan
20 Charlie & Terry Brantley	

Prayers

For those Sick or in Need:

Cathy Ingram	Bob Crawford	Fredrick Hunter
Jay	Jimmy Cheatham	Denny & Norma Allman
Joe Bonelli	John Williams	Harold Lee
Marsha Hammer	Jessie Ross	Amber Ross
Debbie Gorney	Jan & Bobby Robinson	Pat McNair
Jean Roberts	Faith, Bridget & Mike Wildschuetz	
Ed & Bessie Norwood	Ashleigh Ford	Layla Gray
Marjorie Stevenson	Jessica Howell	Elizabeth Hopkins
James Rumfelt	Jim Dantin	Stacy Douglass
Kathryn Chaneu	Edell Mixon	Malcolm Maxey
Bill Brunson	Buz Pickens	Courtney Carrington Rushing
Jewel Miller	Glen Miller	Ada Hubbard
Mary Jane Holman	Pete Phifer	Rick Floyd
Elizabeth Cliett	Tom Biedenbarn	Missionaries in Mali Africa
Tim Davis	Patrick Johnson	Fran Ross
Joan Leese	Beth Rawls	Brandon Marshall
Laura	Mollory Cessna	Bobby Godwin
Karen Magee	Kristi Kitchens	Weesie Biedenbarn
Everette Bexley	Camile Bexley	Elliot Bexley
Madison, Tim & Sandy Raines		

Men and women of the Armed Forces:

Cynthia Horan	Christoph Martin	Billie Hubbard
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Liturgical Schedule Sundays in December

	December 2, 2012	December 9, 2012	December 16, 2012	December 23, 2012	December 30, 2012
	<i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>	<i>First Sunday after Christmas</i>
First Reading	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Baruch 5:1-9	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Micah 5:2-5a	Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm	Psalm 25:1-9	Canticle 4 or 16	Canticle 9	Canticle 3 or 15	Psalm 147 or 147:13-21
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Philippians 1:3-11	Philippians 4:4-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Galatians 3:23-25;4:4-7
Gospel	Luke 21:25-36	Luke 3:1-6	Luke 3:7-10	Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)	John 1:1-10
	The Rev, John Jenkins, guest preacher	The Rev, John Jenkins, guest preacher		Baptism Douglas Upchurch	
	No Pot Luck Breakfast				
Lay Worship Leader					
8:30 a.m.	Tommy Skinner	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner	Harvey Smith	Tommy Skinner
11:00 a.m.	Richard Price	Betsy Selby	Ann Tompkins	Richard Price	Harvey Smith
Master of Ceremonies	Susan Price	Beth Guynes	Jennifer Normand	Beth Guynes	Deacon Josie Williams
Acolytes					
Crucifer	Susan Price	Beth Guynes	Beth Normand	Koury Collins	Caden Black
Gospel Bearer	Kerri & Peter Williams	Kerri & Peter Williams	Deacon Josie Williams	Jeff, Josh and Jonah	Kerri & Peter Williams
Lector	Susan Price	Bertha Kolb	Sharon Hanks	Ed Shelnut	Theo Williams
Prayers of the People	Deacon Josie Williams	Linda Walker	Deacon Josie Williams	Sharon Hanks	Deacon Josie Williams
Oblation Bearers	Linda Gerache Jenni & Caroline Sciro	Clarissa Walker Geneieve Walker	Jennifer Nomand David Normand	Keith Upchurch Jill Upchurch	
Ushers & Greeters	Jay Sciro Jim Drake	Alan Leese Dan Carleton	Charlie Brantley David Normand	Jim Drake Bobby Barlow	Charlie Brantley Jeff Artman
Altar Guild	Susan Price Kerri Williams	Cassandra Price Marge Scott	Sherry Horan Sharon Hanks	Mary Ann Wright Lisa Langford	Judy Morrissey Ann Tompkins
Eucharistic Minister				Ed Shelnut	
Coffee Host	Sherry Horan Margie Scott	Billie Abraham Harvey Smith	Lisa Langford Ruth Green	Billie Abraham Josie Williams	Terry Brantley Charlie Brantley
Wednesday Healing	December 5, 2012 Harvey Smith	December 12, 2012 Tommy Skinner	December 19, 2012 Ann Tompkins	December 26, 2012 Harvey Smith	January 2, 2013 Tommy Skinner