



# The Albanac

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
5930 Warriors Trail, Bovina, Mississippi  
[www.stalbansbovina.org](http://www.stalbansbovina.org)

March 2013

---

## 186th Annual Council Convenes in Jackson

On Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, members of the diocese attended the 186<sup>th</sup> Council held at the Jackson Convention Center. The weekend was a busy one—visiting with friends, attending business meetings, seeing the exhibits, enjoying the food and entertainment and attending the Sunday Holy Eucharist.

Host churches for this year were: *All Saints*, Jackson; *Grace Church*, Canton; *St. Luke's*, Brandon; *St. Mark's*, Raymond and *St. Andrew's*, Jackson.

During the bishop's address on Friday night, Bishop Gray surprised the audience by calling for a bishop coadjutor: "I am formally and officially issuing a call for the election of a bishop coadjutor who would service for a brief time with me before assuming the role as bishop diocesan at the 188<sup>th</sup> Annual Council." Bishop Gray has served as the ninth diocesan bishop for ten years, having served two years before as bishop coadjutor. He will continue to serve the diocese until February 2015, at which time he will formally retire.

The diocese's elected standing committee will oversee the nomination and election process.





## 2013 Lenten Arts Series

---

Wednesday, March 6  
*Tammy Luke and the  
Holy Trinity Conservatory String Students*

Wednesday, March 13  
*The Bovina Bell Choir*

Wednesday, March 20  
*Josh Nichols, Organist*

---

*Each presentation begins with  
Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 – 6:30 PM  
Soup Dinner, 6:30 – 7:00 PM  
Arts Program, 7:00 PM*

*Admission—Free  
Donations Accepted*



## † Billie's Corner

Dear Saint Alban's Community,

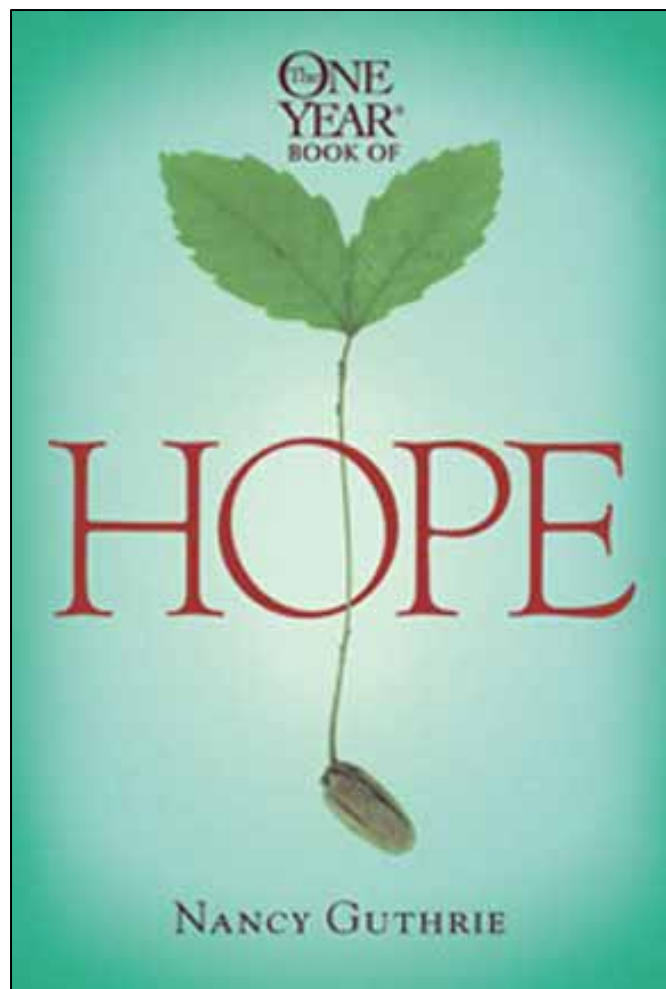
One of our Lenten practices this year has been a commitment to get better acquainted with HOPE—the virtue of HOPE. A definition of HOPE seems to be a good place to start. According to *The Dictionary of Theology*—HOPE is the active anticipation of future blessings. Another definition comes from Philip Yancy's book, *Where Is God When It Hurts?*—HOPE is the expectation of a favorable future under God's direction.

The virtue of HOPE has little to do with wishful thinking. It has everything to do with the certainty of God's providence—God's all-wise, all-loving, all-encompassing guidance and presence in our future.

During the first weeks of Lent, I have been reading various references that mention HOPE. I came across a book entitled *The One Year Book of Hope*. It is a daily meditation book that is based on the story of a child named *Hope*. The author is Nancy Guthrie, the mother of *Hope*. In Nancy's daily reflections she relates in a touching way, the brief life of her daughter named *Hope*.

For years, Nancy and her husband had the name *Hope* in mind for a daughter. So, when the child was born there was no question what they would name her. Nancy commented, "To me, it was a sweet and simple name, but I could not have told you at the time what the word really meant."

*Hope* was born with the deadly metabolic disorder of Zellweger Syndrome, a disease that affects the body's ability to remove fatty acid build-up.



Nancy and her husband clung to hope in God—HOPE for the future of their daughter and HOPE in the truth of the resurrection. *Hope's* disease was fatal, but her future was eternal. During the days of caring for their daughter, it was the virtue of HOPE that sustained them—and continues to sustain them. Nancy describes the on-going process of growing into the fullness of HOPE—“a God-secured, God-infused, God-glorifying future.” The strength of her HOPE has begun and will continue forever.

We may not be faced with a desperate situation that pushes us into seeking God's support, but we can use this Lenten period to seek HOPE in our ordinary lives—to look to the future of Easter Sunday and give thanks for the HOPE of Jesus' resurrection that ensures us of an eternal future with God—a future that begins now and goes on forever.

Nancy writes about HOPE in the reality of her life. She has discerned—“Perhaps our biggest struggle to HOPE is not the lack of it, but our desire—bordering on demand—that God fulfill what we are hoping for, what has promised to us, *here and now*. . . . Biblical HOPE is not hope for something, but hope in Someone. And that someone is Jesus. All of our deepest longings will be fulfilled when we are in his presence.”

Let us look for HOPE, expect HOPE and be assured of HOPE. Let us make our Lenten journey with eyes that see HOPE and ears that hear HOPE and hearts that are filled with HOPE.

*“I pray that God, who gives you hope,  
will keep you happy and full of peace as you believe in him.  
May you overflow with hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

Romans 15:13

In peace  
Billie+

## “Hope Admits Me into the Room Called Beautiful”



Fanny Crosby, a beloved 19<sup>th</sup> century lyricist and composer, blessed the world with her hymns of praise including all-time favorites such as: *Safe in the Arms of Jesus*, *Rescue the Perishing*, *This is My Story – This is My Song*; *Blessed Assurance* and *All the Way My Savior Leads Me*.

What stands out about this remarkable woman of faith was that she was accidentally blinded in the weeks following her birth. Unwilling to accept the constraints of her affliction, she pushed forward accomplishing miracles.

By the age of eight she had memorized most of the New Testament. Nurtured by a loving grandmother, Fanny was eventually accepted into the New York School for the Blind where she studied and taught for twenty-three years. During this time she penned the lyrics to over 8,000 of America’s best-loved hymns. With the help of her husband who was also blind, Fanny became a composer and played various instruments. The loss of her infant child led Fanny to compose *Safe in the Arms of Jesus*, one of her most beloved and often sung hymns.

Of her affliction, Fanny wrote, *Blindness cannot keep the sunlight of HOPE from the trustful soul. One of the easiest resolves that I formed in my young and joyous heart was to leave all care to yesterday, and to believe that the morning would bring forth its own peculiar joy.*”

Fanny understood the need for HOPE no matter what form it took: hope for the poor and needy; hope for the suffering; hope for the homeless; hope for the dying and her hope to someday see Jesus *Face to Face*. She often wrote of HOPE in her journal: *I am constantly writing about HOPE for downcast souls... Mine has been an experience that has ripened into faith as strong as the hills. It has given me a HOPE that admits me into the room called ‘Beautiful.’*

Rebecca B. Drake

## ✝ Josie's Journal

I am reading *Addicted to Hurry: Spiritual Strategies for Slowing Down*, one of my Lenten disciplines. I thought I was learning how not to hurry. Well I received quite a humbling comeuppance on Monday of last week. I went to the post office to get two money orders to send to my nephews—one was for a birthday gift and the other to purchase Girl Scout cookies. I purchased the money orders and filled out the top portion and mailed them to my nephews. The only problem was I mailed the receipt portion. I had to call both nephews and explain that I had goofed because I was in a hurry—not a good thing to admit. I told them I would mail the money orders to them the next day. I did. Lesson relearned! S L O W D O W N ... My discipline of Lent Madness is going better I am happy to report.

I have discovered some unusual facts about some of the saints that I found interesting. Here are a few of the “Did You Know?” that I discovered:

- Frances Perkins, the first woman to hold a cabinet position in the U.S., witnessed the tragic Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in 1911 which killed 146 people (mostly young women), a pivotal event in her life.
- The monks living with Saint Benedict tried to poison him. He left the group and founded another monastery.
- Harriet Tubman, noted abolitionist, was born Araminta “Minty” Ross to slave parents. She escaped slavery and used the Underground Railroad to free other slaves.
- Li Tim-Oi, the first woman ordained priest in the Anglican Communion in 1944, took the name of Florence when she was baptized because of her respect of Florence Nightingale.
- Martin Luther King, Jr.’s legal name at birth was Michael. His father changed both their names from Michael to Martin Luther in honor the Protestant reformer.
- Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, dropped out of seminary several times before ordination and worked as a carpenter.

Theo and I are enjoying reading with the Bishop. We read from different translations of the Bible to get different views of the Scripture. Language makes all the difference in the world. We are also reading *Give Up Something Bad for Lent*.

*Stations of the Cross* allow time for reflection and quiet as we move from one station to the other and observe the face of Christ in all fourteen stations. It is a humbling experience to realize that Christ did this for me, the undeserving person that I am.

How blessed I am that Jesus loves me, warts and all, in spite of my imperfections.

Peace  
Josie+

## March Schedule

### Friday, March 1

*Stations of the Cross*, 6:00 PM

### Monday, March 4

Yoga, St. Alban's Parish Hall, 6:00 PM

### Tuesdays in Lent

Monday Prayer, 8:30 AM

### Wednesday, March 6

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness, St. Alban's Rectory, 7:00 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Soup Dinner, 6:30 PM

**Lenten Arts Series: *Holy Trinity Conservatory of Music String Ensemble***, 7:00 PM

### Thursday, March 7

DOCC, All Saints' School Chapel, 6:00—8:00 PM

### Friday, March 8

*Stations of the Cross*, 6:00 PM

### Saturday, March 9

Men's Work Group and Cook-Out, 9:00 AM-Noon

### Sunday, March 10

***Second Sundays at St. Mary's***, 4:00 PM

"*Stations of the Cross*," Sacred Music performed by Mississippi College students

### Monday, March 11

Yoga, St. Alban's Parish Hall, 6:00 PM

Vestry Retreat, 4:30 PM, Betsey Selby's home

### Wednesday, March 13

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness, St. Alban's Rectory, 7:00 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Soup Dinner, 6:30 PM

**Lenten Arts Series: *Bovina Baptist Church Bell Choir***, 7:00 PM

### Friday, March 15

*Stations of the Cross*, 6:00 PM

### Saturday, March 16

Altar Guild Brass Polishing, 8:30 AM

ECW Meeting, 9:30 AM



**Wednesday, March 20**

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness, St. Alban's Rectory, 7:00 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Soup Dinner, 6:30 PM

**Lenten Arts Series: Josh Nichols, Organist, 7:00 PM**

**Friday, March 22**

Stations of the Cross, 6:00 PM

**Tuesday, March 26**

**"Time with the Bishop,"** 6:00 PM

Open discussion with Bishop Gray in the Parish Hall

**Holy Week**

**Sunday, March 24**

*Palm Sunday*

**Monday, March 25**

*Stations of the Cross, 8:30 AM*

**Tuesday, March 26**

Morning Prayer, 8:30 AM

**Wednesday, March 27**

Eucharist & Healing Service, 6:00 PM

**Thursday, March 28**

*Maundy Thursday*

Eucharist & Foot Washing, 6:00 PM

Prayer Vigil at Altar Repose following the service

**Friday, March 29**

*Good Friday*

Worship Service, 6:00 PM

**Saturday, March 30**

*Holy Saturday*

Morning Prayer, 8:30 AM

Flower & Altar Guild preparation, 9:00 AM

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

The Great Easter Vigil of Easter, 6:00 PM

**Sunday, March 31**

*Easter*

Worship Service, 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Reception & Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 AM

### March Birthdays

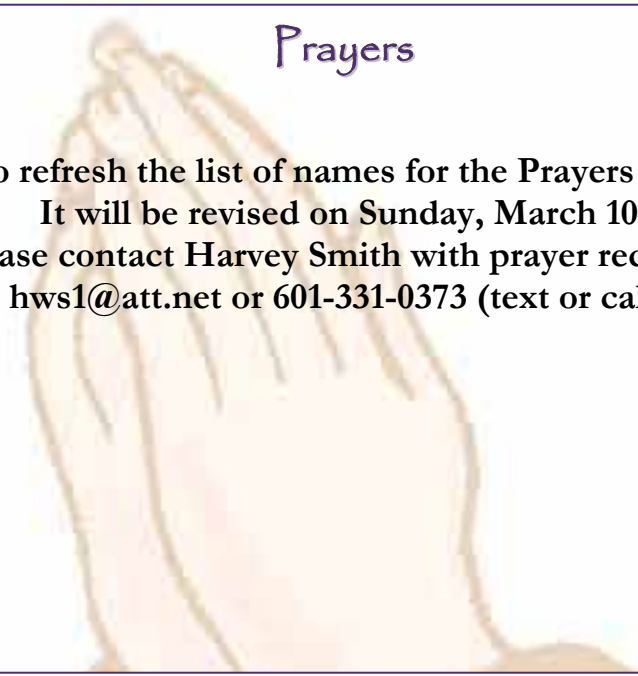
- |    |                |    |                |
|----|----------------|----|----------------|
| 1  | Michael Guynes | 15 | Ben Harper     |
|    | Lisa Langford  | 22 | Becki Ferguson |
|    | Parker Ramsay  | 24 | Jeff Artman    |
| 2  | Casey Ferguson |    | Olivia Curtis  |
| 10 | Michael Rangel | 27 | Stacey Sumrall |
| 11 | Sherry Horan   | 31 | Clare Huntley  |
| 12 | Jeanne Lunz    |    | Bobby Sullivan |
| 15 | Lanore Fulgham |    |                |

### March Anniversaries

- |    |                          |    |                   |
|----|--------------------------|----|-------------------|
| 9  | Greg & Beth Williamson   | 16 | Bill & Liz Curtis |
| 11 | Michael & Ashley Abraham |    |                   |

### Prayers

**It is time to refresh the list of names for the Prayers of the People.  
It will be revised on Sunday, March 10.  
Please contact Harvey Smith with prayer requests,  
hws1@att.net or 601-331-0373 (text or call).**



## Liturgical Schedule—Sundays in March

	<b>March 3</b> <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>	<b>March 10</b> <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>	<b>March 17</b> <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	<b>March 24</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i>	<b>March 31</b> <i>Easter</i>
<b>First Reading</b>	Exodus 3:1-15	Joshua 5:9-12	Isaiah 43:16-21	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Isaiah 65:17-25
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 63:1-8	Psalm 32	Psalm 126	Psalm 31:9-16	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
<b>Second Reading</b>	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 2:5-11	Acts 10:34-43
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 13:1-9	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	John 12:1-8	Luke 22:14-23:56	Luke 24:1-12
					<b>Reception 10:00 AM</b>
<b>Lay Leader</b>					
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Tommy Skinner	Harvey Smith	Harvey Smith	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	Ann Tompkins	Betsy Selby	Harvey Smith	Richard Price	Betsy Selby
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Jennifer Normand	Deacon Josie	Jennifer Normand	Beth Guynes	Jennifer Normand
<b>Acolytes</b>					
<b>Crucifer</b>	Beth Guynes	Koury Collins		Beth Guynes	Ann Tompkins
<b>Gospel Bearer</b>		Kerri & Peter Williams	Genevieve, Heaven Leigh, & Sunny Faith	Kerri & Peter Williams	Jeff, Jonah & Josh Artman
<b>Lector</b>	Marry Carleton	Ed Shelnut	Bertha Kolb	Sharon Hanks	Kelsey Artman
<b>Prayers People</b>	Deacon Josie	Deacon Josie	Mary Carleton	Deacon Josie	Sharon Hanks
<b>Oblation Bearers</b>	Janice Herrington Lisa Langford	Jenni Sciro & Caroline Sciro Linda Gerache	Keith, Jill, & Douglas Upchurch	Becky Drake Jim Drake	Linda Gerache, Caroline & Jenni Sciro
<b>Ushers &amp; Greeters</b>	Allen Leese Dan Carleton	Jay Sciro Joey Gerache	David Normand Dan Carleton	Bobby Barlow Charlie Brantley	Jay Sciro & Joey Gerache
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marry Ann Wright Lisa Langford	Judy Morrissey Ann Tompkins	Susan Price Kerri Williams	Cassandra Price Margie Scott	Sherry Horan Sharon Hanks
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>		Ed Shelnut			
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Sherry Horan Margie Scott	Harvey Smith Reverend Billie	Lisa Langford Ruth Green	Terry Brantley Charlie Brantley	Lisa Langford Ruth Green Betsy Selby Ann Jones
<b>Wednesday Healing</b>	<b>March 6</b> Tommy Skinner Harvey Smith	<b>March 13</b> Tommy Skinner	<b>March 20</b> Ann Tompkins	<b>March 27</b> Harvey Smith	<b>April 3</b> Harvey Smith