



# The Albanac

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

November 2024

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Baby Caroline - Sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism

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## Baby Caroline - Marked as Christ's Own Forever!

On the chilly morning of October 20, the church gathered at the outdoor chapel to celebrate the baptism of baby Caroline. Caroline has been in our prayers for the past year, after her very surprising early birth and stay in the NICU. It was a delight to welcome the now crawling, smiling, happy Caroline into the church as we “marked her as Christ’s own forever.” Immediately after her baptism, a hawk swooped down, calling loudly, leading one church member to comment on how Jesus had a dove at his baptism, but Caroline had a hawk! After the baptism, we gathered in the church for cake and punch and watched Caroline show off her impressive crawling skills.



# The Albanac

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AJ, Rev. Elisabeth, John, Ashley, Baby Caroline, and Barbara



Caroline practices crawling!



A lovely reception



Happy Caroline & Barbara

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## The Blessing of the Pets



On Sunday, Oct. 6, we gathered for both services at the Outdoor Chapel to bless pets. In addition to lots of dogs, we were joined this year by two horses, brought by neighbors of Betsy Selby. We enjoyed biscuits and sausage in between services, and collected lots of pet food for our friends at PAWS Rescue.

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## The Blessing of the Pets



## 95th Anniversary of the Consecration of St. Alban's



Sunday October 20, 1929, was a special day in the history of St. Alban's Church. The consecration of the new Gothic church was taking place and everyone, church family and friends, wanted to be present for the long-awaited occasion.

The money to build the new church was a gift from Matilda Townsend Palmer, the daughter of Samuel and Caroline Townsend, who were charter members of St. Alban's Church. Matilda and her younger sister, Louisa, grew up faithfully attending Sunday school and church at St. Alban's but, after the siege they were sent to Connecticut to live with their grandparents. Both later married into the wealthy Palmer Family. Toward the end of life, each sister left a large endowment to St. Alban's Church—Louisa the gift of a \$30,000 in trust and Matilda an equal amount to build a new and beautiful church.

Church members were delighted that the 1870s church was not torn down but instead remodeled to become the parish hall. The wood-framed church was turned from east to west to north and south using matching bricks on the exterior.

Attending the consecration service in 1929 was Dr. James Fox, grandson of Rev. James Angel Fox, who later wrote his memories of the consecration. His grandfather had played an important role in the history of St. Alban's church, having supported the building of the 1st church in 1857-1858 then serving as rector of the second church that he helped to rebuild in 1870.

Dr. Fox recalled the consecration of the 'new church' vividly: "During the processional Bishop Bratton and Rev. Sessions (rector of St. Albans) led the processional while everyone lifted their voice in song, God my King, thy might confessing, ever will I bless thy Name; day by day thy throne addressing, still will thy praise proclaim. As the congregation took in the beauty of the nave, they were filled with nostalgia seeing sentimental things that had been a part of the old church now in the new church: the St. Paul stained glass window dedicated to his grandfather; the marble baptismal font dedicated to Adeline Hebron and a beautiful brass cross on the altar gifted in 1897 by Matilda and Louisa Townsend Palmer.

It was a glorious Sunday for all. The consecration signified that St. Alban's Church had come full circle, rising from the ashes to once again become a beautiful place of worship.

*Rebecca Drake*

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## Elisabeth's Epistle



I love this time of year. In particular, I love our sometimes under-celebrated church feast days of All Souls and All Saints. I love remembering the people who have touched our lives who have passed on to greater glory, that group we call the “communion of saints.” If you have lost someone close, you know that your relationship with that person changed, but didn’t end, after their death. This is echoed in a prayer we use at the burial service, when we pray, “For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.”

The communion of saints is this idea that we are bound together as the body of Christ with all those who have gone before us. The word “saint” can sometimes confuse us into thinking we are only talking about exceptional people. But when the apostle Paul first used the word “saints” to describe the members of the church, he didn’t mean only exceptional people, he meant all of us. “Saint” means “holy one,” and to be baptized is to be set apart, or made holy. We don’t become perfect when we are baptized, but we do become saints, those people set apart or called by God to witness to his love.

The author of Hebrews uses another phrase for the communion of saints when he writes that we are “surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses.” I love this image of all the faithful departed cheering us on, praying with us, and surrounding us on all sides. It is one reason I love that we have a graveyard at the church. My children may tease me, but I do enjoy walking around the graveyard and remembering both those I have had the privilege to know, and those whose stories I have learned over the years. This year, we’re going to try something over All Souls/ All Saints weekend to remind us of the communion of saints. In addition to reading the names of the departed during our Saturday evening service of remembrance, we’re also asking everyone to bring photos of their loved ones that we can display around the church. This will help us learn more about that great cloud of witnesses that surrounds us, and also remind us of the incredible breadth and depth of the body of Christ.

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*Join us as we celebrate those we love but see no longer...*

## The Feast of All Souls

**Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024**

4:00 PM-until: Grilling with the Protein Club & Setting Up  
Luminaries in the Cemetery (BYO Protein & Drinks)

6:00 PM Evening Prayer with a Reading of the Necrology  
at the Outdoor Chapel

*To submit names of departed loved ones for the necrology,  
please call the office or submit online by [clicking here](#).*

## DINNER ON THE GROUNDS

+ *ECW Country Market*

**SUNDAY NOV 10TH 12-2 PM**

*Benefiting Lifting Lives Family Shelter*

### TICKETS AVAILABLE 3 WAYS:

**CALL the church office at  
601-636-6687**

**ORDER ONLINE at  
[stalbansovina.org](http://stalbansovina.org)**

**VENMO + comment with your  
name to have tickets held at event**



**\$15 per plate includes fried catfish, hushpuppies,  
corn on the cob, slaw, dessert & drink.**



In Memory of Jerry McWilliams



September 24, 1936 - October 3, 2024

*Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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## Prayers of the People

### *For those sick or in need:*

Allan & Joan	David	Kathy	Norma
Allen K.	Ed	Kelley	Pat
Anita	Eva	Kristin	Richard
Arthur	Harold	Lawson N.	Ricky
Bill	Jackson	Leigh Ann	Ron
Billie	James A.	Mary Lou	Ruth
Cecil	James W.	Melissa	Sarah
Clarence & Betty	Jane	Mike D.	Steve
Dan	Jimmy	Mike & Nancy	

*For the departed:* Jerry McWilliams, Kathy Brewer, Dan Marble, David Harpole, Laurie Wells, Fran Barland Ross, and Preston Mosley.

## Liturgical Schedule

	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
<b>Rite I - 8:30 AM</b>				
Lay Worship Leader	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner
Lector	Tommy Skinner	Sharon Cummins	Nancy Montague	Ann Tompkins
Healing Minister	Tommy Skinner	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner	Ann Tompkins
<b>Rite II - 11:00 AM</b>				
Lay Worship Leader	Harvey Smith	Carolyn Burton	Richard Price	Dawn Rickard
Greeters/ Ushers	Barnie Gavin Judy Gavin	Joey Minter	Buck Cooper	Betty Rushing
Lector	Dawn Rickard	Kristi Hall	Susan Price	Harvey Smith
Prayers of the People	Buck Cooper	Harvey Smith	Dawn Rickard	Sharon Hanks
Chalice Bearer	Dawn Rickard	Barnie Gavin	Susan Price	Carolyn Burton
A/V System	Buck Cooper	Harvey Smith	Buck Cooper	Jim Drake
Acolyte				
Healing Minister	David Pruett	Harvey Smith	Carolyn Burton	Betsy Selby
Vestry Person of the Day	Harvey Smith	Carolyn Burton	Judy Gavin	Sharon Hank
Altar Guild	Beth Guynes Nancy Hester	Nancy Montague Sharon Hanks Barbara Frey	Tommy Skinner Susan Price	Harvey Smith Judy Morrissey

## Wednesday Healing Service

The Healing Eucharist will be at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, November 6th,  
followed by a simple supper

*Photography by Carolyn Gent Burton, Beth Guynes, and Rebecca Drake.*