

Saint Alban's

 **MESSAGE**

Vol. 16, No. 3 | December 13, 2020 | WeAreStAlbans.org



The Third Sunday of Advent

This Week's Readings

[Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#)

[Psalms 126](#)

[1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#)

[John 1:6-8,19-28](#)

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Find out about this week's events:
[Go to the Calendar.](#)



Because 2020 has had enough bad news, here's something good:
CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING IS BACK!

[Contact Kate Wettstein](#) or [click here for more details!](#)

Have you sent in your pledge for 2021?
Every pledge, no matter the amount, helps us plan our ministries for the coming year. [**If you haven't pledged, you can do so here.**](#)

Please park only along the fence on the right side of the parking lot as you enter. This will keep your vehicle out of the path of construction equipment entering and leaving our grounds.

St. Alban's Online Sunday School



Advent Lesson Three: To Practice Joy

This Sunday, we will learn what it means to practice joy. We learn about the story of the shepherds who were surrounded by joy from the angels announcing the birth of Jesus. We don't

have to wait for a special occasion to experience joy; joy is all around us every day and joy is contagious!

Look for the 5-to-7 Sunday School video this Sunday morning!

Accompanying materials (Coloring Sheets, Activities, and a Family Devotional Guide) will be mailed to families each week so that kids **and families** can learn and experience the meaning of Advent together.

If you are interested in learning more about this series or would like to be added to the mailing list, please email Adam Hutson. For more information regarding the curriculum, please click [here](#).

Capital Campaign Reminder

For Annual, Semi-Annual and Quarterly pledgers, please remember to submit the full 2020 balance of Capital Campaign pledges by December 31. The Kitchen Restoration line-of-credit allows St. Alban's to pay construction costs with cash-on-hand before drawing funds from the bank. Less money borrowed means less interest paid so every dollar received on-time is important. For questions, please email [Bill Calvert](#) and [Linda Cummings](#).

ACCA's "Family Emergency" Ministry needs volunteers to serve as Money Captains. This is a VERY busy area of ACCA! [Click here for more information.](#)

Your Altar Guild Updates

1. Thanksgiving for Joyce Aument.. Joyce is retired as our Co-Director and head of our weekly flower arrangements...SHE WAS THE BEST!

2. Thanksgiving for Delores Baisden...Delores is now our new Co-Director and head of our flower arrangements.

3 Thanksgiving for Kate Wettstein... Team Captain #1. Kate has been taking care of our weekly altar flower arrangements (and more), since the pandemic began.

We Thank Them All So Much and Can't Wait To Be Back With Everyone

From: Dottie & Melinda

Barbara Hallman is offering her recent pressed flower art for sale in support of St. Alban's 2020 "non-bazaar!" Framed and unframed art 5x7 frame-able cards, print cards and resin pendant necklaces and more are available. All are made from God's precious "art materials"- flowers, leaves, ferns, grasses, barks.

All sales benefit St. Alban's. Free local delivery. Please [email Barbara](mailto:Barbara@stalbans.org) for the most recent catalog.



Chatting Fingers will offer our catalogue of handmade items for

two more weeks. We have already made over \$4000 for St Alban's thanks to your purchases! Email Betsy Anderson at Betsy.anderson@me.com for a catalogue.

National Cathedral offers Blue Christmas Service Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 7 pm

2020 has been a difficult year for so many, with grief, loss and hardship around every corner. Maybe the holidays are always hard for you, or you're just not feeling very holly jolly this year. If you're in search of hope and healing as we enter the Christmas season, we invite you to find it in this service of prayer, music and reflection. Access the service at cathedral.org

Thanks,
Theresa

Sunday Worship

Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion
10 am on YouTube

Join us! [WeAreStAlbans.org/live](https://www.westalbans.org/live).
[Order of service here.](#)



Kitchen Update

The concrete trucks rumbled into the parking lot this week, (very early I am told), to pour the concrete floor. Outside, the area behind the addition is being prepped for the new sidewalk. The construction is progressing as scheduled and looks to be completed on or about January 23rd, 2021!



Engineers taking samples of concrete for strength testing



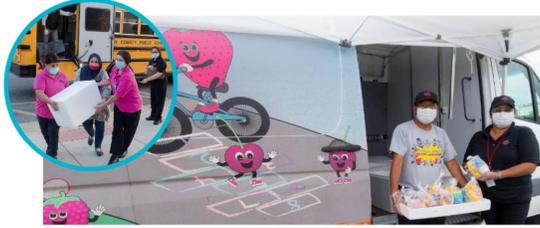
Leveling the site

FREE TESTING FOR COVID19
Click [here](#) for details.

Friday Social Hour will be tomorrow at 4:30pm- another reminder with log in details will go out tomorrow morning. Hope you can be there!

GRAB & GO

Breakfast and Lunch



Free breakfast and lunch meals served
Monday-Friday • 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. until
December 31, 2020 with both breakfast and lunch served at the same time.

ALL FCPS students as well as other Fairfax County children under the age of 18, are eligible for free grab-and-go breakfast and lunch until December 31, 2020 (excluding holidays).

Specific information about meal distribution locations and bus distribution schedules are available here:
<https://www.fcps.edu/return-school/food>.

New for this Fall:

Saturday and Sunday breakfast and lunch distributed on **Fridays**.
Meals will be distributed at all sites and bus routes.



Food and Nutrition Services "This institution is an equal opportunity provider."

Trivia

While most Anglicans and Protestants do not honor this as a Feast Day because it is based on an event not found in scripture, many Christians around the world celebrate this Feast on December 8th. What is the event?

Do you know the answer? [Click here to submit your answer and win fantastic prizes & notoriety!](#)

Our first three answers to last week's trivia came in within a minute of each other, but this week the glory goes to Gail. Last week's question was, "this saint, whose name means "light," was martyred around the year 303. It is said she plucked out her eyes in an attempt to discourage a persistent suitor who greatly admired them. When guards came to take her away to be executed, they were unable to move her, even after hitching her to a team of oxen. Bundles of wood piled around her wouldn't burn, so she was put to death by the sword. Who is this plucky saint?" The correct answer was "Lucy." Her name in Latin, *Lucia*, comes from the word for "light" – *lux*. St. Lucy was inspired by the witness of St. Agatha, who had been martyred about 50 years earlier. Lucy was about 20 when she was martyred for her faith. Her feast day is December 13th.



[December edition of The Word available now!](#)
[Previous issues available here.](#)

FOR INFORMATION ON ACCA'S FOOD PANTRY AND WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE, PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#).

Socially Distanced but not Distant

Let us know what you're up to during these strange times.

[Email us](#) we'll share your story in our Saturday update.



When shopping online, go to smile.amazon.com and a portion of your sale will go to St. Alban's.
Thanks for your support!

PRAYERS

For the Sick and the Suffering in our Parish: Laura Barker, Ava Campbell, Evangeline Clark-Wiles, Don Craver, Casey Cummings, David Hamnett, Nancy Harrell, Mary Ann Daymont, Mary Daymont, Bob Fones, Anne Monahan, Ginny Peters, Jerry Sare, Sally Sare, Debbie Schrag, Ginger Shea, Dottye Stacy, Bari St. Cyr, Evie Tanner, Trudy Van Balen, Kenneth Youngert.

For the Sick and the Suffering – Family and Friends: Bud Alligood, Ruth Anderson, Michael Arnold, Larry and Jean Babb, Gladys Baugham, The Berry family, Chris, Andi Coleman, Barbara Cook, Jean Cothran, Jean & Greg Cox, MerriBeth Cully, Dan Daddario, Grace Davidson, Tom Davidson, Elizabeth Durning, Don Garner, Barbara Gilbert, Lisa Groulx, Daniel Hamnett, Lee Helfrich, Rev. Jackie Holcomb, Dwight & Lydia Hutchinson, Heidi Kharbanda, Frank Korff, Lee Sr. and Lee Jr., Norman Lesko, Liz Lybrand, Sue Marshall, Pat Matthes, Donell Mathews, Maryanne Moyers, Wilmot O'Loughlin, Priscilla, Harry Rees, Mark Roosma, Anne Sibert, The Rev. Lauren Stanley, Brooks Travis, Tyler Walinsky, Dick Youngblood.

New on the prayer list: Aly Bailey, David Williamson.

Prayers for the departed:

Prayers for those who are travelling and for our military and civilians who serve their nation working for peace: Jed Andrews, Cory Curran, Bobby Dubas, Mike Fitzpatrick, Matthew Hanson, Ian Jarvis, Mason Lybrand, Susan Matthews, Annie Robinson, and Matthew Trollinger.

Birthday Prayers: Cheryl Sinsabaugh 12/17; Jim Kilby 12/19.

In the Parish Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for people in danger everywhere; for those suffering the loss of home and family; and for safety of those in the path of fires or hurricanes. Pray for the people of Nicaragua and Honduras, in the aftermath of Hurricane Theta, as the people work to recover from another devastating storm. Pray that the hungry are fed, that the sick and injured are healed, that the homeless are fed, that the grief-stricken are comforted, and that compassion will move our hearts and hands to help. Pray for victims of natural disaster in Central America, and throughout the world.

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Asaph's, Bowling Green; St. James,

Montross.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union around the world.

*To place a name on the prayer list contact the parish office at
703-256-2966 or email **Tammy Thomas**
Updates regarding those on this list are greatly appreciated.
For pastoral emergencies please call (571) 383-6096.*

Deadline for submitting announcements for SAM is every Tuesday at 5pm.

