



# The Albanac

DECEMBER 2012

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

### Christmas Eve

4PM Holy Eucharist with children's pageant with choir

10PM Festal Holy Eucharist with choir

### Christmas Day

10AM Holy Eucharist



## ADVENT STUDY 2012

**A Thrill of Hope: The Christmas story through Word and Art  
Wednesday Nov. 28, December 5 and 12 @ 10AM**

A newly available study pairing the art work of John August Swanson with the birth narratives in Matthew and Luke. I have long been an admirer of Swanson's vivid and faith-filled art. I am excited to be able to share it through this adult education offering.

We will meet at the rectory so that we will have a large screen TV for enhanced viewing of the art. Coffee and tea will be available. All participants will be given a book of the art in the study.



## A Quick Glance into Advent Sundays

### December 2<sup>nd</sup> The First Sunday of Advent

- ❖ Great Litany
- ❖ Ingathering of pledges
- ❖ Enrollment of Confirmands
- ❖ Making of Advent Wreaths

### December 9<sup>th</sup> The Second Sunday of Advent

- ❖ Feast of St. Nicholas Celebration with special visitor for all
- ❖ Pageant rehearsals for all children and youth—9 AM

## **December 16th The Third Sunday of Advent**

- ❖ Service of Lessons and Carols
- ❖ Pageant rehearsals for all children and youth—9 AM
- ❖ All parish caroling at the Veterans Home in Paramus followed by Hot Chocolate and cookies at the rectory

## **December 23rd The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- ❖ Greening of the Church
- ❖ Dress rehearsal for Pageant following greening of the church

## **An Advent Gift from the Rector**

As has become my custom I will offer to you a gift to support you and your family in keeping the days of Advent in preparation for the celebration of the coming of the Messiah at Christmas. Beginning on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and continuing for a couple weeks I will have available books with devotions and seek-and-find picture puzzles for the children.

The key words for Advent are WAIT and WATCH. Each of these resources is intended to help you keep waiting and watching during the days of Advent. It is a long wait but it is worth it!

Kathryn+

## **2012 PLEDGE REMINDER**

**The end of the year is fast approaching. Is your Pledge up to date? Please check your 3rd Quarter Pledge Sheet or call Diane Firkins at 201-337-4909 if you are uncertain.**

**Thank you!**

## **RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR!**

**Wednesday, December 5th**

On Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, a bus will transport over 30 parishioners and friends to New York city for the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. Following the show, the group will take a backstage tour led by George Wesner, organist for Radio City and, on occasion, for St. Alban's. The bus will return to St. Alban's at around 11:30 pm. It promises to be a spectacular evening! There is room on the bus if you would like a ride into NYC at a cost of \$20 per person.

## **THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**



December is an exciting time for children of all ages in the parish. It's Christmas Pageant time and everyone is welcome to participate whether it's having a speaking role, singing or acting in a role such as shepherd or angel. We would love to have children who play instruments perform. Sunday, December 2 at 9am is the first rehearsal and all who want to participate should attend. Mrs. Helen Franke will once again be our director with the assistance of Lizzie Kordonsky.

This is a great opportunity for the children to live and learn the story of the birth of Christ. The weekly rehearsals will run from 9 to about 10:45 and will take the place of Sunday School in the classrooms. In January we will continue regular Sunday School with our "Learning the Bible" Unit. A special thanks to our Fall Sunday School teachers - Meaghan McCallum, Kathy Miles, Sandy Dugan and Allison Philhower.

Look for additional December children's activities in weekly emails and the bulletin. We will make another visit to the Center for Food Action and caroling.

## UPDATING OUR FAMILY TREE!

One of the wonderful traditions at St. Alban's is the children and youth decorating the Christmas tree during the greening of the church. Placing the ornaments on the tree brings back many memories – especially as the photo ornaments of the children go up. It is part of telling our family story.



We have lots of new faces and now we even have new photos from the directory. So, it's the perfect time to update our family tree! On each of the Sundays in Advent we will set up in the parish hall an ornament center where everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and make a new ornament. Supplies will be available for making ornaments with the family photos both from the directory and from other events in our parish family life.

Projects will be available for all levels of skill and all lengths of attention! So come one and all and help us update our family tree!



## ALL ABOUT FIRE SAFETY

The students of St. Alban's Pre-School enjoyed their annual visit from the Franklin Lakes Fire Department. The children had the opportunity to climb through a real fire truck and learn about fire safety from the dedicated volunteer firefighters.





## ST. PAUL'S CHRISTMAS GRAB BAG

Christmas is a happy time for some people and a sorrowful time for some people. We, the Outreach Committee, would like to make it a happy time for all the men at the shelter. We are asking each family to purchase at least one grab bag gift consisting of:

- 1 new, warm, long sleeved shirt (L or XL)**
- 1 new pair of winter gloves (XL)**
- 3 pairs of regular socks**

All items should be placed in one box and wrapped. Please put the size of the shirt in the corner of the box for us to see. We will be collecting them in the Narthex until Sunday December 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your help.

The Outreach Committee

## St. Alban's and Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Joint Worship

Members of St. Alban's had the wonderful experience of worshipping and celebrating the Eucharist through the efforts of Reverend Kathryn King and the cooperation and consideration of Pastor Julie Haspel and the members of Messiah Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 4, 2012. This was a welcome opportunity for me, as well as other St. Alban's members to pray for strength and courage for ourselves as well as for others during the difficult time after the hurricane. I'm sure many of us there were also thankful that we were safe and healthy. We were warmly welcomed by this church and its members, before, during and after the service at coffee hour. Rev. Kathryn provided a hot lunch of sloppy Joe's and soup enjoyed by St. Alban's members over which they shared their personal storm related experiences and supported one another.

I was surprised by how similar the service was to that at St. Alban's, from the Hymns, through the prayers, the bible readings, the friendly Peace, and announcements. Reverend Kathryn celebrated and shared the Eucharist with us, offering her own special spiritual gifts and strength. The sermon by Pastor Julie focused on saints as it was the celebration of All Saints' Day: first the youth were called forward to discuss being a saint, and given sparkly halos, then Pastor Julie focused her sermon for the adults. During the service three children were celebrated as they received their First Communion. I am thankful for this opportunity to worship and pray and am strengthened in Christ through this experience.

*Jeanne Sylvester, Worship and Parish Life Vestry Liaison*

Advent Prayer

Rev. Henri Nouwen



Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light. To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"



Brooke Dugan is the new Sunday Nursery childcare provider.  
Thank you, Brooke, for your care!

## ANNUAL MEETING

**A date for the Annual Meeting will be announced as soon as possible!**

### LOOKING AHEAD INTO

A large, stylized number "2013" in a vibrant green color. The numbers are rendered in a 3D, blocky font with a slight shadow underneath, giving them a sense of depth. The "2" and "0" are connected, and the "1" and "3" are also connected.

**Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>:** Bishop Beckwith will make his semi-annual visitation to St. Alban's. On this day the Vestry will host a special coffee hour and the Bishop will preach and preside. More details to follow.

**Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>:** All day, we will host Lifeline Screening in the Parish Hall. Keep your eyes out for more information and tell your friends so that they can take advantage of this low cost and efficient way to get these medical tests and assessments done in one convenient stop! **St. Alban's will receive \$10 for each person who signs up through us – pass the word!** Please see below:

### LIFELINE SCREENING INFORMATION

Thank you again for partnering with Life Line Screening in our effort to save lives on 1/19/2013. We truly value the organizations who believe in our mission of helping people identify undetected health problem by offering to host a preventive stroke/vascular screening event. **We are so excited to be able to give back, not only by hopefully saving lives, but**

by being able to offer you a \$10 donation for every member that signs up and attends your Life Line Screening event!

***Please remember that in order for you to receive the \$10 donation for members of your organization who participate, your members MUST sign up by calling the specific Helping Hands phone number, which is 1-800-324-9458.***

**Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 2PM, The Messiah College Concert Choir** will perform a concert with a wide range of selections. Please mark your calendars and save the date for this wonderful afternoon of beautiful music. The Messiah Concert Choir will be on their Spring tour and we have been able for them to arrange to make St. Alban's one of their stops! This is a great opportunity to share with your family and friends.



## **WELCOME KATHLEEN KERIN TO ST. ALBAN'S**

### **Kathleen Kerin**

If you were with us for our parish Thanksgiving on November 18<sup>th</sup> you met Kathleen Kerin when I introduced her and her family (husband John and son Brian) at milestones. Kathleen will be with us a couple Sundays a month as part of her discernment and education for her process to become an ordained pastor in the Lutheran Church. The arrival and aftermath of 'Sandy' meant that the *Albanac* was not published before she was introduced but I am happy to be able to share this with you now. I have asked Kathleen and Cathie Studwell to oversee the implementation of a new internet based program that will enable us to create service participant and volunteer schedules based on a profile of preferences that you will complete. I will continue to meet with both Cathie and Kathleen twice a month for sacramental and pastoral training.

Welcome Kathleen!

Hi, my name is Kathleen Kerin and I have been friend of St. Alban's for more than 18 years. My early association with St. Alban's came by way of the summer Vacation Bible School (VBS) that was, and still is, supported by many of the churches in Oakland and Franklin Lakes. This wonderful program has been running for more than 35 years, and it was through VBS I came to know the great people of St. Alban's Church. I saw how you were able to serve the community and beyond with the dedication and love of your congregation. Over the years I have continued to love and support St. Alban's as I traveled my journey of service to God and God's people. I have served on the staff of your Pre-School, working with Teresa Ercan for eight years, and my husband, John, is also a member of the welcoming community of St. Alban's.

I am writing today to let you know that I am so excited to be joining you as my journey continues with God and God's people. I am a baptized Lutheran have been serving at Messiah Lutheran Church here in Oakland for over 35 years. Just over two years ago I was accepted at Drew University in Madison, NJ in order to attend their Theological School. I am currently working towards ordination in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). As a seminarian, I am very interested in learning about how churches "do" ministry, and even more so, those who do it well. Over the years I have watched St. Alban's do ministry well and would like to be a part of the "behind-the-scenes" work of your ministry together.

The Episcopal Church has an agreement of Full Communion with the ELCA, and as an Ordained Minister in the ELCA, I would be able to serve an Episcopal Parish were the need to arise. I have a few more years to go until I am ordained, and I am looking to accomplish the requirements for ordination in both the ELCA and the Episcopal Church. I have spent some time with your Rector, Kathryn King, and have requested of her the opportunity to learn how she does ministry in this place. As a certified and active teacher I have seen many ways to teach and serve and, in Kathryn, I feel a very strong sense that I am watching a leader of community that “does ministry well.”

Throughout the coming academic year, I will be participating in some of the activities of St. Alban's as well as some of the work that Kathryn does among you. I will be serving as a Eucharistic Minister and Lay Reader and perhaps, there is even the possibility of preaching later on. Basically, I am here to learn how a church family and community builds “awesomeness” and oneness into a thriving and loving place. Then, I pray that I can take that learning and share it on my journey. I very much appreciate the opportunity to work with you and get to know you as I participate in your community. I am looking forward to being a part of “awesomeness.” I share with you God's peace for the wonderful community that is St. Alban's.

### **HAMMERING 4 HABITAT 2013**



**“What will you build?”... Join Paterson Habitat for Humanity on **January 26<sup>th</sup>**** for a fun morning of building walls of hope! At this event, participants will help build and decorate actual framed walls that will be used in an upcoming Habitat home. Throughout the morning, there will be food, kids activities, giveaways, special displays and more! Hammering 4 Habitat will take place at the Paterson Habitat Restore, 415 Hamburg Turnpike, Wayne from 9am -12pm.

This is a great event for the whole family, youth groups, extended family and individuals. Feel free to come for an hour or stay for the entire morning! To learn more about Hammering 4 Habitat and how to register visit our website [www.patersonhabitat.org](http://www.patersonhabitat.org). Please contact Kerri Schaefer, Faith Relations Coordinator for more information at 973-595-6868 or email [faith@patersonhabitat.org](mailto:faith@patersonhabitat.org). *Habitat for Humanity is a Christian ministry that seeks to provide decent and affordable housing to all and is based on the conviction that to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ, we must love and care for one another.*

### **Thanks from St. Paul's**

I just want to thank you all for the support that you all give to the St. Paul's Men's Shelter outreach program.

It is a very moving moment when we are in the kitchen getting ready to serve the men and they come up and thank us before they even get fed.

We need to thank Sandy and Wally for continuing St. Alban's involvement in this outreach because this is a very close project for both Sandy and Wally and we have a great time when we get ready to feed the men.

The best part for me is to see the young adults come down and really enjoy helping and supporting the homeless men. They go out and sit and eat with the men and learn what they have been through and come away with a better outlook on what they have.

Please keep St. Paul's in your prayers and in your continued support as we need it to keep going forward.

Don LaCass

## DECEMBER MILESTONES

**Birthdays:** 1<sup>st</sup> John Murphy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Phyllis Alsdorf, 3<sup>rd</sup> Gabriel Felici, 5<sup>th</sup> Trish Beck, 6<sup>th</sup> Joe Mahonchak, Jr., 7<sup>th</sup> Shirley Allen, 8<sup>th</sup> Travis Mingalone, 14<sup>th</sup> George O'Neill, Elizabeth Van Winkle, Katie Mahonchak, 15<sup>th</sup> Nicholas King, 24<sup>th</sup> Matthew Kordonsky, 27<sup>th</sup> Cindy Felici, 29<sup>th</sup> Sarah Zadoyko, 30<sup>th</sup> Christopher Beyda

**Anniversaries:** 12<sup>th</sup> Judy & Bob White

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS Sunday, October 7th





# OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 20th





- ❖ Leigh Lydecker for refinishing the outdoor bench – it looks beautiful!
- ❖ Don LaCass for the fall plantings all around the church
- ❖ Office Angels Louise Gilliard, Diane Rees and Shirley Allen for all their help
  
- ❖ Carolyn and George O'Neill for the wonderful statue of St. Francis just in time for the Feast of St. Francis and Blessing of the Animals
- ❖ Cindy Ludwig, Don LaCass and Paula Hoffman for planning a fun and delicious Oktoberfest celebration and all the volunteers who helped
- ❖ All the veterans who participated in honoring our servicemen, past and present
- ❖ For all the food donations for the Center for Food Action
- ❖ For a wonderful Parish Thanksgiving Celebration and to all who brought food for the feast
- ❖ Carol Guzzo, Christopher Flug, Kathryn and Nicholas King for delivering the food to CFA

**Thanks to all the saints of St. Alban's who give generously  
of their time, talent and treasure.**



## **BIBLE READINGS**

### **Sunday, December 2**

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-9  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36

### **Sunday, December 9**

Baruch 5:1-9  
Canticle 4  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6

### **Sunday, December 16**

Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Canticle 9  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

### **Sunday, December 23**

Micah 5:2-5a  
Psalm 80:1-7  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45

## Prayers of the People - December

Our thanksgivings and intercessions:

We continue to pray for all who are affected by war, hunger and other calamities and ask for God's grace upon those who work for peace and restoration.

We give thanks for all the blessings of life. We pray for our companions in Paterson.

We pray for those who are unemployed and under-employed.

We pray for those who are ill: especially Brenden, Judy, Evelyn, Brian, Cathy, Rosemary, Margaret, Kathy, Teresa, Antonio, Annette, Patti, Heather, Keith, Lucas, Janet, Lind, Diane, Dan, Kevin



We pray for those who have died. May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

### ***St. Alban's Episcopal Church***

1 Church Lane, Oakland, NJ 07436  
201-337-4909 Fax: 201-651-9486  
[www.stalbansflow.org](http://www.stalbansflow.org)

The Most Rev. Katharine J. Schori, *Presiding Bishop*  
The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith, *Bishop, Newark Diocese*  
The Rev. Kathryn L. King, *Rector*  
The Rev. Barbara Harriman, *Deacon*  
Cathie Studwell, *Seminarian*  
Kathleen Kerin, *Seminarian*  
Diane Firkins, *Parish Administrator*

Don La Cass, Cindy Ludwig, Ron Potash, *Wardens*  
Pam Hellenen, *Clerk* Kathy Miles, *Treasurer*

*Vestry:* Gary Friedman, Carol Guzzo, Paula Hoffman,  
Jim McCallum, Linda Nazare, Jeanne Sylvester

### ***St. Alban's Pre-School***

Teresa Ercan, *Pre-School Director*

*Teachers:*

Cathy Connolly, Elisa Farhi, Dawn Ferraro, Cathy Mazzola,  
Christy Macagne, Rosa Mignogni, Beth Schall, Freida Scillieri, Jill Zuidema

***"Welcoming All To Share God's Love"***