

The Albanac

JANUARY 2013

Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop calls for prayer following the Connecticut tragedy

"Will you pray and work toward a different future..."

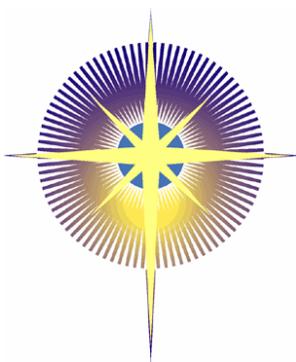
[December 14, 2012] Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori calls for prayer following the tragedy in Connecticut:

We grieve with the many families and friends touched by this shooting in Connecticut. We mourn the loss of lives so young and innocent. We grieve that the means of death are so readily available to people who lack the present capacity to find other ways of responding to their own anger and grief. We know that God's heart is broken over this tragedy, and the tragedies that unfold each and every day across this nation. And we pray that this latest concentration of shooting deaths in one event will awaken us to the unnoticed number of children and young people who die senselessly across this land every day. More than 2000 children and youth die from guns each year, more than the soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Will you pray and work toward a different future, the one the Bible's prophets dreamed of, where city streets are filled with children playing in safety (Zechariah 8:5)?

**The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori
Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church**

CREATING SNOWFLAKES for SANDY HOOK

As you read these words the families in Newtown, Connecticut are enduring unspeakable heartache and loss. When school resumes for the Sandy Hook students it will be in a different school in the nearby town of Monroe. Parent volunteers are working to ensure that the students are welcomed back to school by a "winter wonderland" with the entire school decorated with as many different snowflakes as possible, made by people around the country and around the world. St. Alban's will be creating snowflakes on **Sunday, January 6th** to send to the students of Sandy Hook to decorate their new school. Please join us by creating a unique snowflake made with love to send to Newtown.



Michele Capeci

Epiphany Open House at the Rectory

Sunday, January 6th

Immediately following the 10AM service

Bring a brunch item or finger food to share

Please join together with our parish family as we close out the Christmas season with a festive gathering at the rectory following the service on The Feast of the Epiphany, January 6th. We'll enjoy fellowship around the fireplace. The youth center will be open and supervised for all the kids! We will also share the traditional King's Cake with hidden token surprises inside.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join together on this great festival of Light!

The Bishop is Coming ... The Bishop is Coming!!

On Sunday, January 13th The Right Reverend Mark Beckwith, Bishop of the Diocese of Newark, will be with us as our preacher and presider as part of his regular Episcopal Visitation. The Canons require the Diocese to visit each congregation every other year.

At the Bishop's request we will hold one combined service of worship in the course of a morning that will include worship, a parish forum, and a lunch meeting with the vestry. We will also have the renewal of Baptismal vows as part of the liturgy. A special component for the Sunday school children is also being planned.

The Vestry will be making final decisions about the logistics of the day at the December meeting. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for further details.

2013 Stewardship

Thank you for prayerfully completing and returning your Pledge Card for 2013.

If for some reason you were unable to get to it until now
we appreciate your prompt attention.

Thank you!

LIFELINE SCREENING AT ST. ALBAN'S

Saturday, January 19th

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.

What's going on with the organist search?

Since Lou's retirement to Florida in October we have been served by a series of supply organists (if only they were interested in a regular position!) While this works for the short-term it is important to the ongoing worship life of the parish to have a regular organist with whom we have an ongoing relationship and who comes to know the unique character of this family. A church organist has the responsibility to lead congregational singing and nurture and develop music programs within the congregation. While many people play the piano and some play the organ, a truly gifted Minister of Music is hard to find.

Rest assured that we are actively seeking our next Minister of Music. Postings have been made within the Diocese of Newark and the Diocese of New Jersey. We have also been intentional in requesting our job description to be posted within musician and organist 'circles'. Four members of the choir have agreed to serve on an interview committee and input has been sought from the current members of the choir. All that being said, finding a solid candidate who will work within the pay parameters that we are able to provide is challenging. We do believe that we have identified two viable candidates and we will be moving forward with them in the new year. We look forward to welcoming a new member to our staff within the next couple months.

Until that time we know that Dr. Leonard Lehrman will be with us December 16, 23 and 24th. George Wesner, our Radio city connection, will be with us on January 6 for the Feast of the Epiphany and January 13th when Bishop Beckwith is with us for his Episcopal visitation.

Please keep this process, our choir and candidates in your prayers as we continue to move through this transition time.

BUILDING BRIDGES OF HOPE

On Sunday, January 27th The Reverend Lynn Czarniecki, Deacon, will be with us to preach and lead a forum on living with and supporting those in our families and communities who are living with any form of Mental Illness. Lynn is a chaplain at St. Barnabas Hospice and Palliative Care and has begun a new ministry as part of her life of service in Christ's name. Lynn has recently launched **Bridges of Hope** to support those encountering mental illness in those they love and to raise the level of understanding and compassion to those who support them. Mental illness is often something kept hidden and shrouded in shame. This is not God's way

and not our way. You are invited to come, listen, learn and join as we, as a community, seek to fling open ever more widely the doors of welcome to all.

ANNUAL MEETING MOVED TO FEBRUARY 3rd

Due to the Bishop's visit on January 13th and the long holiday weekend (Martin Luther King) the next week, the Wardens and Vestry have decided to move the Annual Parish Meeting to Sunday, February 3rd. As is our custom we will gather for a single service of Holy Eucharist at 10AM. The meeting will take place during the service with the Rector's report occurring at the sermon time. A full parish brunch will follow.

At the Annual Meeting, which is required by our By-Laws and State Statute, we will hold a general meeting of the members of the parish, hold elections for Vestry, hear a budget presentation by the Finance Committee, and take up such other reports as deemed necessary for our common life.

This is an important aspect of our life together and all are strongly encouraged to be in attendance. Nursery care and children's program will be provided.

Reminder to all Committee Chairpersons:

Annual reports are due in the church office by **January 13th**
(ready to be copied format or e-mailed, please!)



The Messiah College Concert Choir

Sunday, March 17th 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.

A NEW SCHEDULE FOR A NEW YEAR!

Service and compassionate action is how the church carries out its call to serve God and others. There are so many people who offer their time and talents here at St. Alban's. A new way to participate in the activities of St. Alban's is coming in the new year.

If you would like to set your own schedule and would like to be able to know instantly when and where you are serving; keep on the lookout!

If you are retired or.....a new grandparent, and want to be able to set your own schedule (so you can enjoy your new grandchild or grandchildren); coming soon!

If you would like to have more control over you and your family's schedule; the new year will have some very helpful information for you!

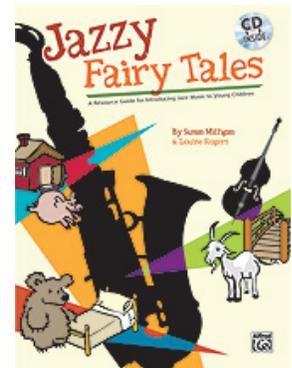
The way to handle ALL of these situations will be coming to St. Alban's in February. More details will be coming up. Watch your mailbox for the next *Albanac* and your Sunday Bulletin!!!!

Kathleen Kerin



A Free Concert /Open House for Toddlers and Preschoolers!

Come dance, sing and be captivated by **Jazzy Fairy Tales** at St. Alban's Church and Pre-School on Saturday, January 12th at 11:30 AM. Parents – come and be transported with your children as the playfulness of JAZZ gives new life to favorite fairy tales. Enter a world where chocolate pudding tames a wolf while trolls and goats scat and dance over bridges!



St. Alban's invites you to enjoy the fun 40 minute concert and then visit our pre-school for refreshments and a look around our beautiful facility. St. Alban's Pre-School has a well deserved reputation of excellence in early childhood education and formation in a non-sectarian setting where all are welcome. We now offer traditional pre-school with wrap-around before and after hours care to enable each family to create a seamless combination of care that will best support the needs of their family. Our new facility, built in 2004, includes bright classrooms with natural lighting, indoor play space and a nearly 2 acre park-like playground with a Sport Court. Our certified and credentialed staff creates a nurturing educational environment with individual attention to each child. Our director, Teresa Ercan, and her staff will be on hand to greet you and your children and answer any questions you may have about our program.

Come to sing and dance with **Jazzy Fairy Tales** at 11:30 AM, then enjoy refreshments and a visit to St. Alban's Pre-School. For more information and to RSVP, call 201-337-5928 or email stalbanspreschl@optonline.net.

Being a Eucharistic Minister

Eucharistic Ministers assist the clergy in the consecration and distribution of the Sacrament and at St. Alban's they also read the Prayers of the People. They and other members of the Worship Committee: lectors, ushers, greeters, altar guild, choir and contribute to making the celebration a meaningful experience for the parish each Sunday, and on special occasions.

All adult members of St. Alban's and teens who have been confirmed are encouraged to join in this ministry. Eucharistic members may also sit in the congregation during the service without vesting, and assist on the altar after the offering. Arrangements can be made for family members to serve together on the same day.

A meeting for experienced and new Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMS) was held after church on Sunday, December 9th, led by Reverend Kathryn King. Changes in the procession to and from the altar, and in the current standing communion procedure were discussed and displayed. For more information, or to join this ministry, please see me or a clergy member.

Jeanne Sylvester, Vestry Liaison Worship Committee

Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

R. Amen.

--St. Francis of Assisi

Christopher Guzzo, Carol Flug, Nicholas and Kathryn King loading up the van with food donations that they delivered to the Center for Food Action. Thank you to all who so generously donated!



Women's
Interactive
Network

The Lisbeth Linley Foundation

RESCHEDULED EVENT



“If you can imagine it, you can achieve it, if you can dream it, you can become it.” - Sonia Satra

Saturday January 26th, 2013 at 3:00pm

**St. Alban's Episcopal Church
1 Church Lane, Oakland, NJ**

Certified coach, professional speaker and an accomplished adventurer, SONIA SATRA creator of the Women's Empowerment Hub, and a successful actress with starring roles on Guiding Light and One Life To Live will be drawing from her experience and training, helping you make life changing breakthroughs, to raise your bar, fully envision your dreams and create actionable steps to make them a reality.

Light refreshments will be served following the speaker. Free admission and babysitting provided.

**Please RSVP By Thursday, January 24th to
Lorraine Knox: lorknox@optonline.net or (201) 651 0988**

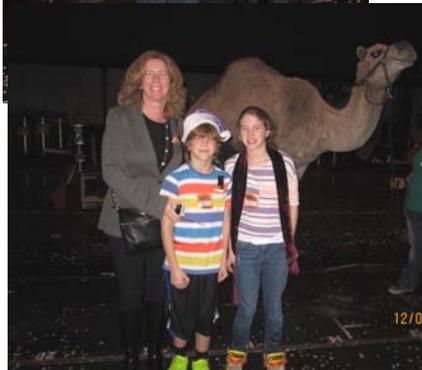
ADVENT WREATH MAKING





RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

On Wednesday, December 5th, over 30 parishioners boarded a bus and headed to NYC to see the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. A special backstage tour was arranged by Radio City organist, George Wesner, who has recently played at St. Alban's. It was a magical night!



THE FEAST



OF ST. NICHOLAS



A Prayer for Being Ourselves

Let us be still and know that we are not God!

Let us be aware of God's continuing and compassionate presence.
Let us be sensitive to our particular strengths and weaknesses.
Let us be open to new faces, new ideas, new ways.
Let us be quiet long enough to hear God's voice and our neighbor's cry.
Let us be fair, be friendly, be faithful.
Let us be adults in the world and yet still Children of God. Amen.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

-Taken from: Intercessions for the Christian People

JANUARY MILESTONES

Birthdays: 7th Bob Barker, 8th Bill DeLorenzo, 9th Heidi McCallum, Leigh Beck, 10th Nicole Beyda, 11th Carolyn O'Neill, Judy White, 13th Bob Block, 15th Heather Potash, 18th Will Nedds, Gabi Dugan, 23rd Bruce Gilliard, 25th Pam Hellenen, 28th Bob White, 30th Jim McCallum

Anniversaries: 8th Jane & Leigh Lydecker



- ❖ Jim McCallum for portraying St. Nicholas on his feast day
- ❖ Office Angels Louise Gilliard, Diane Rees, Shirley Allen and Meaghan McCallum for all their help
- ❖ Ron and Keith Potash for replacing many light bulbs around the church
- ❖ Kathryn King for hosting the December Vestry meeting and dinner
- ❖ Everyone who responded so generously with Christmas gifts for families in need, the Veteran's Home residents and the men of St. Paul's Shelter

**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 16
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Canticle 9
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

Sunday, December 30
Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 147
Galatians 23-25; 4:4-7
John 1:1-18

Sunday, December 9

Baruch 5:1-9

Canticle 4

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

Sunday, December 23

Micah 5:2-5a

Psalm 80:1-7

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45

Prayers of the People - January

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, Mercedes, Brian, Cathy, Annette, Karen, Peter, Terry, Sally, Patti



We pray for those who have died, especially Rosemarie Habick. 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.orgThe 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-SchoolTeresa 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”