

AROUND THE PARISH

December 31, 2017

St. Alban's seeks to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community,
committed to sharing Christ's love, empowering people to grow spiritually,
deepening our relationship with Christ and living out our faith in the community and the world.

COMING EVENTS

- 1/2 7:00pm, Prayer Beads, Annex
- 1/4 6:30-9:00pm, Girl Scouts Mtg, PH
- 1/6 9:30-12:30pm, Girl Scouts Mtg, PH
- 1/7 12:15pm, Vestry Officer Mtg, Annex**
- 1/8 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
- 1/9 10:00-11:30am, Bible Study, PH
- 1/14 12:30pm, Worship Mtg, PH**
- 1/15 6:30pm, Girl Scouts, Annex
- 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH

PLANNING AHEAD

- 1/17 **6:30pm, Soup Supper, PH**
- 1/21 **7:00pm, Taize Service, Sanctuary**
- 1/28 **Annual Meeting**
(9:30am service; brunch, meeting)
- 2/13 **4:00pm, Shrove Tuesday Pancake**
Supper, PH
- 2/14 **Ash Wednesday Services,**
(details to follow)
- 2/18 **Dorothy's Piano Bar**



**Some days you will be the light for others, and
some days will need some light from them.
As long as there is light, there is hope, and
there is a way. Jennifer Gayle**



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 7
is Food Bank Sunday**

**The need for donations is always
great, but even more so during
the holidays and our wet, cold winters.**



TWELFTH NIGHT

**From Cattern Cakes & Lace,
By Julia Jones, England, Publ. 1991**

The twelfth night after Christmas is a magical time, signifying the end of yule and the culmination of the Christmas jollifications. It is the time for taking down the decorations and burning the tree (it used to be thought that if you kept holly in the house after this date, each leaf and sprig of berries turns into a mischievous spirit!) Twelfth Night is a pagan festival, but was deliberately swallowed up into Epiphany by the Church in the 4th century. However, many old customs still remain.

Twelfth Night was traditionally an occasion for games, feasting and general merriment. At the royal court in Medieval times, there was much revelry, forfeits, disguisings and play-acting. A Lord of Misrule, appointed at the beginning of the Christmas season, held his final court on this day. He would have led all the festivities for the last twelve days, helped by a band of twenty to forty courtiers dressed in suitably frivolous garb.

In Tudor times, a masque or play would often be presented (such as Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," perhaps), and the revels would be presided over by the King of the Bean or Queen of the Marrowfat (the Pea). A bean is cooked into a cake, and whoever finds it in their portion is crowned (and, in more recent versions, has to buy a round of drinks),

DOROTHY'S PIANO BAR

St. Alban's wonderfully talented Director of Music, John Lehrack, will bring his club Dorothy's Piano Bar and Cabaret to St. Alban's on Sunday, February 18.

Dorothy's first show at St. Alban's will feature John himself and, since it comes right after Valentine's Day, will be an evening of love songs, including a few original songs from John's upcoming solo vocal album.

Tickets will be available shortly at www.DorothysPianoBar.com/tickets. A portion of the proceeds will benefit charity. Look for more information soon.

CELTIC CONCERT UPDATE

The proceeds of the Celtic Christmas Concert were actually \$2,400 because of an additional \$100 donation. Publicity of Fr. Greg and Maryellen presenting the check to Sean Silver, Principal, and Vonya King-Norton, Family Support Coordinator, was covered by both The Beacon and www.myedmondsnews.com. Here is the link for the story and picture. <http://myedmondsnews.com/2017/12/chase-lake-school-receives-2300-check-celtic-christmas-concert/>

JANUARY ANNUAL MEETING

St. Alban's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28, following the one service at 9:30am. Vestry will provide a brunch prior to the meeting in the Parish Hall.

Important events taking place will be:

- (1) Election of three new Vestry members
- (2) Election of convention delegates
- (3) 2017 year-end financial information
- (4) Presentation of our 2018 budget.

We will also be celebrating our many ministries at St. Alban's and reviewing plans for 2018.

Leaders of ministries are being asked to write brief reports, which will be published in a packet of information and available at the meeting. It is requested that reports be sent to Parish Administrator Jeannie Wells by January 18.

ARTICLE ON BISHOP McCONNELL

Attached to this issue of ATP is an article on Bishop Dorsey McConnell, who was a former rector of St. Alban's, and is now Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. It was published in the Episcopal News Services. If you would like to see the full article with pictures, copies are available in the Parish Hall.

MINISTRY CELEBRATION --

Hem of His Garment

Hem of His Garment (HEM) has been active at St. Alban's Church since 2002. Its purpose is to support the congregation when life's challenges require more personal prayer support. Hem of His Garment is also for those who are bursting with joy to share with others giving praise to God. Maybe they want to share an answered prayer that was given for them previously during HEM ministry.

The Prayer Counselors go to the Altar for Communion before their prayer ministry begins. After his or her communion, congregants may stop to ask for prayer aid, and are encouraged to do so. When people today reach out in faith to touch Jesus with one of our Prayer Counselors, they are essentially reaching out to touch the Hem of Jesus garment.

If you wish to join HEM or know more, please contact Rita Bennett or Shirley Wilson.



GRATITUDE QUOTE

I give thanks always for all the saints that have gone before us and especially those known only to God.

THANK YOU FROM PUERTO RICO

St. Alban's has received a Thank You letter from the Rt. Rev. Rafael L. Morales, Bishop of La Iglesias Episcopal, Puerto Rico. Following are some excerpts:

The Diocese of Puerto Rico is committed to realize the mission entrusted by the Master Jesus, encouraging the Church to be Dynamic, Missionary and Evangelizing. Hurricane Maria and its effects have offered us the opportunity to live intensely the missionary spirit from love.

We give thanks for the kindness of each person that God has touched the heart, including Dioceses, congregations and individuals. We have not felt alone in this difficult time. God has made himself present through his accompaniment.

Thank you for your contribution to Puerto Rico.

*The Diocese of Puerto Rico is **The Diocese of Hope** and with your donation has been able to help, and we will continue to help our suffering brothers and sisters.*

2018 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

Envelopes for 2018 are available in the Parish Hall. If you requested envelopes on your pledge card, there is a set with your name on them. If you have not requested envelopes, but would like a set, there are blank envelopes available. Please take a set and sign your name and envelope number on the signup sheet.



2018 OUTREACH DONATIONS PROCESS

Soon it will be time to start identifying charities to receive our quarterly outreach donations for 2018. If you are interested in participating in this process, please contact a member of the

Outreach Donation Ministry: Carrie Cone, Connie Forsberg, Mary Fowler or Maryellen Young.

Christmas Prayer from Forward Movement

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

December 31, 1st Sunday after Christmas

"...you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives..." What kind of light shines through you to reflect your love of God, and your desire to spread that light in the service of others?

January 6, Feast of the Epiphany

Herod commanded the Magi "to go and seek diligently for the child..." As grateful disciples and stewards, we need also to search for Jesus, to listen to his teachings, to worship together as a supporting community, and to carry out his mandate to love and serve others in his name. May we always be led by the star of his generous and eternal love.

January 7, The Baptism of Christ

Our Baptismal Covenant will be renewed in most churches today. Look at the verbs in the statements: Continue in the prayers and teaching; persevere in resisting evil and repent; proclaim the Good News; seek and serve others; strive for justice and peace. Are our time, talents and resources being used to further these “marching orders”?

January 28 – Epiphany 4

(One service at 9:30am)

Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28

9:30 Lector: Shirley Clark

EM: Reilly Mannery, Jim Gilman

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 31 – 1st Sunday after Christmas

Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 147

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7; John 1:1-18

8:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan

EM: Jim Gilman

10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark

EM: Connie Forsberg

January 7 – Epiphany 1

Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 29

Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11

8:00 Lector: Sharon Joy

EM: Howard Hayden

10:30 Lector: Judy Kistner

EM: Dan Mullene

January 14 – Epiphany 2

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20),

Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17

1 Corinthians 6:12-20, John 1:43-51

8:00 Lector: Howard Hayden

EM: Shannon Duggan

10:30: Lector: Mary Fowler

EM: Reilly Mannery

January 21 – Epiphany 3

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:6-14

1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

8:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan

EM: Howard Hayden

10:30 Lector: Barbara Lagozzino

EM: Susie Nichols