



The Albanac

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
5430 Warriors Trail, Bovina, Mississippi
www.stalbansbovina.org

May 2011

Clarissa Visits England

My Dear St. Alban's family,

I want to thank you all again for helping me complete my journey to the United Kingdom. It was extremely exciting and packed with lots of sightseeing. I will be discussing a presentation date with Billie, so that I can describe the full trip to you all. We did far too much to ever divulge in a single article here.

The best part I think was getting to stay with our host families from Bridgwater College. They were all so helpful and I had a lot of fun getting to know them. We were then given a chance to help co-host our Bridgwater friends, when they visited the states. I will be able to talk about that in my presentation, as well.

Getting to stay with the families is the unique part about the trip between Hinds Community College and Bridgwater. The culture is much more fun to experience firsthand. This trip has given me a newfound love for travel. I hope that I shall return to England to visit my friends soon, but in the mean time, I'll be able to share all of my wonderful memories with you.

Thank you,
Clarissa Walker



The Season of Lent and Easter



Members and friends of St. Alban's Episcopal Church received blessing after blessing during the days and weeks leading up to Easter. Five Lenten Arts Programs were featured following the Holy Eucharist Healing Service on Wednesday evenings.

The Arts Programs were enjoyed by people from all walks of life. The programs featured: *An Evening of Irish Music*, Sandra Melsheimer and Bridging the Gap; *An Evening of Organ Music*, Bro. Vincent Ignatius of St. Joseph Monastery, Natchez; *An Evening of Sacred Music*, The Jubilee Singers, Hinds Community College, Utica; *An Evening of Sculpture*,

Dr. Sam Gore, Mississippi College; and *An Evening of Choral Music*, St. Alban's Choir with Joan Leese, director and organist.

During the Lenten season John Maxwell, playwright, presented *The Story of Judas*, a monologue portraying the betrayal of Jesus. The program took place at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Bolton. Also during Lent, The Rev. Billie Abraham, Karen McCraw, Rodney Ham and Mary Carleton, presented a program of music and poetry at Bolton Methodist Church. The program was also enjoyed by members of First Presbyterian Church in Vicksburg as well as St. Alban's. Old favorites such as *Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child*, *Amazing Grace* and *Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?* struck a chord with the audiences.

During Holy Week, everyone was blessed to be a part of the daily events leading up to the resurrection. At the Holy Saturday Evening Service, as the congregation gathered, everyone lit candles as they entered the darkened sanctuary. Midway into the service, the church bell began to peal and the sanctuary was filled with light as Rev. Billie Abraham proclaimed, "*Alleluia. Christ is Risen. The Lord is Risen Indeed. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*" The congregation responded by ringing handbells in joyful celebration. At the close of the service, with the sight and smell of Easter lilies surrounding the high altar, Deacon Josie William's voice rang out proclaiming, "*Go in Peace to Serve the Lord.*"

*For I remember it is Easter morn,
And life and love and peace are all new born.*

† Billie's Corner

The gospel stories describing the resurrection tell us that Jesus was not recognized immediately. He appeared to those who knew him and yet they didn't discern the resurrected Jesus when they encountered him. Jesus' disciples saw him die on Good Friday. They knew his dead body was in the tomb. Although Jesus had foretold his resurrection, his followers didn't comprehend. Who could blame the disciples for not grasping the meaning of resurrection?

Unlike the disciples, we are post-resurrection people; we can recognize resurrection when we see it. Yesterday proved that from death comes life. I stepped into the charred remains of Jim and Jennifer Harpers' home. The air was dense with the smell of smoke. Ashes were all that was left of most of their belongings. Everything was water-soaked. Jim and Jennifer were working to rescue what could be salvaged. As they worked, they remembered cherished items that were now gone forever. They were in shock and overwhelmed by their loss.

The scene appeared to be much like Good Friday. But, Resurrection was present. Jim and Jennifer were grateful to God that their sons were safe. They were thankful that their pets were alive. They were able to look at the destruction and say, "It's just things."

Resurrection was manifested in their family and friends who rushed to help them. Neighbors gathered in the pouring rain and literally supported the Harper family as they watched their home burn. The firefighters rescued whatever they could, including a framed print of Saint Alban's Church. Family and friends arrived before sunrise to help. Friends sifted through ashes to find the jewelry that belonged to Jennifer's mother. Food and beverages were provided by their loved ones. Shelter was offered over and over.

Hopeless? Not in the least!! What I witnessed was Hope, Faith and Gratitude. The glory of the resurrection arose from the smoldering remnants of the Harpers' home and from the Harpers' spirit! I will celebrate the Holy Eucharist in the midst of the present destruction and I will celebrate the Holy Eucharist when they eventually move into their new home. Their home will be a gathering place for feasting on the Word of God, the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation.

I will keep you informed as to the physical needs of Jim and Jennifer. In the meantime, we will support the Harper family with our prayers and words of comfort and encouragement. Cards and letters will be forwarded to their temporary housing. Their mailing address continues to be: 217 Henry Road, Vicksburg, MS 39183.

*Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

In peace,
Billie+

Weekly Schedule

<u>Sundays</u>	Adult and Children's Sunday School 9:50 – 10:50 AM
<u>Tuesdays</u>	Bible Study 9:30 – 11 AM
<u>Wednesdays</u>	12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness, 7:00–8:00 AM Men's Work Force, 10:00 AM Healing Service & Holy Eucharist, 6:00 PM

May Events

Morning Prayer at St. Alban's

May 1, 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Harvey Smith

Mother's Day

May 8, 10:30 AM

Only one celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Mother's Day.

Included in the Eucharist will be presentation of crosses.

No Adult & Youth Sunday School.

Mother's Day Celebration Feast

May 8, Noon

At noon, following the Eucharist, the men of the church will honor their mothers by serving dinner to the ladies and moms. Chef Harvey and his skilled staff, Dalton Glatt, Tommy Skinner and Frank Skinner and will once again prepare a gourmet meal to celebrate Mother's Day.

Second Sundays at St. Mary's, Bolton Mother's Day Old-Fashioned Hymn Fest

May 8, 4 PM

Sundays at St. Mary's to feature a ***Mother's Day Old-Fashioned Hymn Fest*** with Sid Champion, organist, and Roger Alford, song leader. Harvey Smith, St. Alban's, will lead Evening Prayer. A reception will follow in the parish hall.

May Birthdays

2	Scott Burr	17	Cary Price
	Robin Toups	18	Lillie Lovette
4	Christopher Price		John Tompkins
5	Tanner Kitchens	19	Dan Carleton
9	Lindsay Bailey	22	Billie Abraham
10	Grant Toups	24	Dalton Glatt
16	Mathew Guynes	27	Ben Porter

Anniversaries

22	Buddy & Jane Hanks	29	Newell & Mary Margaret Brabston Richard & Susan Price
----	--------------------	----	--

Prayers

For those Sick or in Need:

Anne Grogan	Debbie Lowery	John Stout
Becky Jabour	Tim Davis	Sarah Kelly
John Williams	Ruthie Gray	Bryan Brabston
John Jenkins	Anne Meadows	Allison Blount
Pat Pierce	Isabelle Kelly	Sheila & Bubba Evans
Alvin Barrett	Carol Bowden	Lewis Montgomery
Parker Ramsay	Marvin Pritchard	Newell Brabston
Mike Ray	Jay	Darlene Meisenholder
Whit Porter	Julia Gates	Bob Cannon
Frances Marble	Phyllis	Johnny Bottom
Jean Roberts	Faith, Bridget & Mike Wildschuetz	Louis Field
Ed & Bessie Norwood	Ashleigh Ford	Charles & Lou Housholder
Fannie Mae Gibbons	John Tompkins	Jerry Mayfield
Walker Biedenharn	Allen Teeter	Rowdy Bridges
Carol Steed	Jeff Dennis	Tedi Levi
Becky Louge	Karthy McCormick	Jan Robinson
Charlotte Biedenharn	Dr. James Valentine	Frances & George Hammack
Bobby Armstrong	Wanda Pitcher	Paul Trebotich

Pray for men and women of the Armed Forces, especially:

Bo McLoud	Christoph Martin	Cynthia Horan
Billy Hubbard	Dawn Wandembergh	Carlos Wandembergh

Liturgical Schedule Sundays in May

	May 1	May 8	May 15	May 22	May 29
	Second Sunday of Easter	Third Sunday of Easter	Fourth Sunday of Easter	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Sixth Sunday of Easter
First Reading	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Acts 2:14a,36-41	Acts 2:42-47	Acts 7:55-60	Acts 17:22-31
Psalms	Psalm 16	Psalm 116	Psalm 23	Psalm 31:1-5,15-16	Psalm 66:7-18
Second Reading	1 Peter 1:3-9	1 Peter 1:17-23	1 Peter 2:19-25	1 Peter 2:1-10	1 Peter 3:13-22
Gospel	John 20:19-31	Luke 24:13-35	John 10:1-10	John 14:1-14	John 14:15-21
Eucharistic Minister	Harvey Smith	Mother's day		Deacon Josie	
8:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	10:30 am	Tommy Skinner	Morning Prayer	Harvey Smith
11:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Ann Tompkins	Richard Price	Morning Prayer	Betsy Selby
Crucifer		Michael Rangel	Koury Collins		
Torch Bearer					
Gospel Bearer		Joshua McDaniel	Susan Price		Beth Guynes
Acolytes		Mignon McDaniel Joshua McDaniel Michael Rangel	Koury Collins Susan Price		Beth Guynes
Lector		Sandra Melsheimer	Ed Shelnut		Bertha Kolb
Prayers of the People		Deacon Josie	Linda Walker		Deacon Josie
Oblation Bearers		Becki Rangel Max Rangel	Clarissa Walker Genevieve Walker		Becky Drake Kay McWilliams
Ushers & Greeters	John Scott Jim Horan	Charlie Brantley Kevin McDaniel	Greg Tierce Theo Williams	Jeff Artman Ann Jones	Jim Drake Bobby Barlow
Altar Guild	Mary Ann Wright Lisa Langford	Judy Morrissey Ann Jones	Susan Price Kerri Williams	Cassandra Price Margie Scott	Sherry Horan Sharon Hanks
Eucharistic Minister		Kerri Williams	Ed Shelnut		Susan Price
Eucharistic Visitor			Deacon Josie		Deacon Josie
Coffee Host	Margie Scott Sherry Horan	Harvey's Mother's Day Luncheon	Lisa Langford Ruth Green	Ann Jones Betsy Selby	Terry Brantley Kay McWilliams
Wednesday Healing	May 4 Ann Tompkins	May 11 Tommy Skinner	May 18 Ann Tompkins	May 25 Tommy Skinner	June 1 Harvey Smith