



# The Albanac

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
5430 Warriors Trail, Bovina, Mississippi  
[www.stalbansbovina.org](http://www.stalbansbovina.org)

**September 2011**

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## Fall Founders' Festival Planned

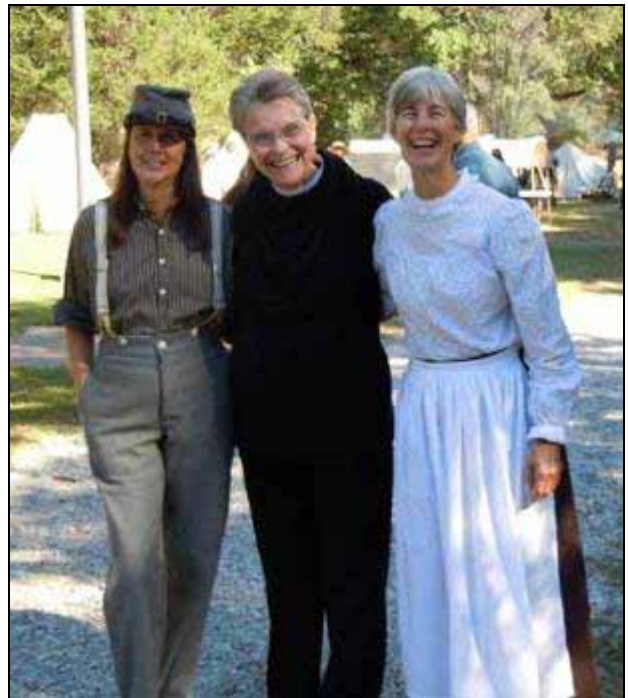
On October 28-29, 2011, St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Bovina, will host its annual Fall Founders' Festival, an event featuring *Dinner on the Grounds* and a weekend of fun and fellowship. This year's festival will mark the 156th Anniversary of the founding of St. Alban's.

The weekend of activities will feature Civil War re-enactors and Boy Scouts who will be camping on the spacious grounds of the church. The re-enactors will be dressed in period costumes and remain in camp throughout the weekend. Living history demonstrations will take place at the Civil War encampment and, on Saturday afternoon, Union and Confederate re-enactors will skirmish in the woods between St. Alban's Church and the rectory. During the day, a light lunch, featuring Stromboli, will be served.

As festival goers stroll through the beautiful grounds of the church and cemetery, they will see memorial stones dedicated to the memory of Confederate soldiers who now sleep in the "bivouac of the dead."

Saturday evening will begin with the lighting of the luminaries followed by the *traditional All Saints' Memorial Service* with The Reverend Billie Abraham officiating. Following the memorial service, the crowd will stroll the cemetery where re-enactors will play the roles of individuals who are buried in the historic cemetery.

After the cemetery stroll the Boy Scouts will light a bonfire and toast marshmallows. The dim fires of the re-enactors' campsites will be burning only a short distance away.



Karen McCraw, Billie Abraham and Kenon Ruska



On Sunday morning, the re-enactors and Boy Scouts will attend the 11 o'clock service in uniform and period dress. Sunday afternoon activities will include: *Dinner on the Grounds*, wagon rides, live music, and a country market selling homemade jams

and jellies along with other items. The Fall Founders' Festival is one of St. Alban's favorite celebrations of the year and church members look forward to greeting everyone for a weekend of fellowship. For more information visit [www.stalbansbovina.org](http://www.stalbansbovina.org).

## Homecoming at St. Mary's

One year ago, September 12, 2010, St. Mary's Church, Bolton, reopened its doors for the first time in almost two decades. The day was filled with excitement as the nave filled to capacity and the processional advanced down the aisle "lifting high the cross." Many of the former members held back tears as they witnessed the reopening of their beloved church, a church whose doors they thought would be closed forever.

The reopening of St. Mary's in 2010 was an emotional experience for all who attended the special service. In that *Holy Space*, with the stained



Henry LeBatard, Billie Abraham and Gordon Cotton visiting at the 2010 reopening of St. Mary's

glass window of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, prominently displayed over the altar, The Very Reverend Abraham celebrated the Holy Eucharist.

Over the past year, in a series known as *Second Sundays at St. Mary's*, the church has opened its doors monthly for worship services. Some of the wonderful programs that have been presented as a part of the *Second Sundays* series are: *Organ Dedication* by J. T. Anglin; *Advent Lessons and Carols*, Holy Trinity Choir accompanied by Dorothy Brasfield; *The Jubilee Singers conducted by Dr. Bobby Cooper*; Schumann Song Cycle, Viola Dacus, mezzo soprano, Carol Sparkman accompanist; *The Story of Judas*, a monologue performed by John Maxwell; *Stations of the Cross and Sacred Motets*, The Reverend Deacon James Henry LeBatard; *Brick Street Barbershop Quartet*; *Pentecost Jazz Eucharist*, music by Howard Jones Jazz and an *Ave Maria* medley, Anna McDonald, mezzo soprano, accompanied by Don Messer.

The 2011 Homecoming celebration is scheduled for September 11, 4:00 p.m. Reverend Billie Abraham will celebrate the Holy Eucharist in memory of the victims of 9/11 and in honor of Bolton and Bovina firefighters and first responders.

St. Alban's Choir, Joan Leese choirmaster and organist, will present a program of sacred music. Following the service, a reception featuring Sandra Melsheimer and *Bridging the Gap*, will take place in the parish hall. Prepare to enjoy an evening of Irish music.

Rebecca Blackwell Drake



## † Billie's Corner

*"I lay my hands upon you and anoint you in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit"*  
*Service of Healing*

I am frequently asked how I found my way to the Episcopal Church. It is one of my favorite questions because I get to tell about one of my favorite people. Some of you knew her, some of you have heard me speak of her, and some will not know to whom I am referring.

Glo Bottom introduced me to the Episcopal Church. Glo was a member of Holy Trinity Church. Her physical frame was tiny, her spiritual frame was giant. She was a born evangelist.

Glo was old enough to be my mother and mother me she did! Glo was my confidant. She knew I was struggling with some significant issues. She invited me to attend the Healing Service at Holy Trinity Church.

How did I get to the Episcopal Church? It was by way of the Healing Service and Glo and the community of people who attended the weekly service. Not only was I welcomed by the faithful congregation who showed up at noon every Wednesday, I was anointed while prayers for my healing were offered by The Reverends David Elliott and Sherry Travis. The Healing Service so influenced my life that I was drawn to the Episcopal Church. It was the Healing Service that facilitated a sense of spiritual well being within me.

Just what are we praying for when we pray for healing? We are praying for wholeness and the awareness of the Divine Physician's loving care for us, God who is the source of all healing. Is there a difference between curing and healing? Curing refers to a physical restoration. Healing refers to a spiritual transformation. Healing can take place in spite of illness.

Should we pray for a cure? YES! We pray for a cure when we are ill or when someone we love is ill or for all the sick and suffering. We are called to be persistent and faithful when we pray for a cure just as the Canaanite woman who begged Jesus to cure her daughter. She couldn't be quieted, "Lord, help me." The apostles asked Jesus to send her away because she was making such a loud fuss. She wouldn't let up. She was a Gentile who swallowed her pride and asked a Jew for a miracle. And Jesus finally responded, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

Pray for a cure, and pray for a healing too. Healing that will lead us to the fullness of God's intention for us.

Healing that will revive our tired souls . . .

Healing that will give rest to our weary minds . . .

Healing that will nourish our hungry spirits . . .

Healing that will open our hardened hearts to God's love and mercy.

*May God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to that heavenly country where God lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.*

*Final Blessing for the Service of Healing*

Afterwards — Glo Bottom lived to be 93 years old. In her final days, when her world was confined and limited, she told me that she finally had the opportunity to pray all day. Glo was fragile as she approached death, but she was still a spiritual giant.

In peace  
Billie+



## What is Cursillo?

The Cursillo Movement consists of proclaiming the best of the best reality, that God, in Christ, loves us. The initial experience of Cursillo consists of a three day retreat that offers time with God to reflect, sing, pray, talk and listen. It is three days of community formation and self reflection. It is three days of opportunity to experience the lavish love of God. It is three days and the rest of your life!!!

Are you longing for something, but you are not sure of what it is? Are you hungry for God? Are you curious? Are you willing to give Cursillo a chance? The fall Cursillo will take place from Thursday, October 13–Sunday, October 16, 2011. The Spring Cursillo will take place on Thursday, May 3–Sunday, May 6, 2012. Gray Conference Center is the site. Scholarships are available. Please ask questions!

Sunday, September 25 is designated as Cursillo Sunday. We will sing Cursillo hymns during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. We will pray for the participants of the upcoming Cursillo. We will hear more about the Cursillo experience.

### *Cursillo Invocation*

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth.*

*O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy Your consolations through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.*

## Summer Vacation Schedule

### **Second Sundays Schedule, “Bring a Friend”**

Pot Luck Breakfast, 9:00 a.m. in the parish hall  
Holy Eucharist, 10:00 a.m., one service only.

### **Wednesdays**

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness, 7:00–8:00 a.m.  
Men's Work Force, 10:00 a.m.  
Healing Service & Holy Eucharist, 6:00 a.m.

### **Tuesday**

Bible Study will reconvene, 9:30-11:00 a.m. every Tuesday, beginning September 13.

## September Events

### **Sunday, September 11.**

#### **Second Sunday at St. Alban's, “Bring a Friend”**

Pot luck breakfast in the parish hall, 9:00 a.m.  
Holy Eucharist, 10:00 a.m., one service only.

### **Sunday, September 11, 4:00 p.m.**

#### **Second Sunday at St. Mary's, Bolton**

“Homecoming” denoting the 1st Anniversary of the re-opening of St. Mary's. Holy Eucharist and St. Alban's Choir featured. Sandra Melsheimer and Bridging the Gap will provide entertainment at the reception following the service.

### **Saturday, September 17, 9:00 a.m.**

#### **ECW Brunch and Meeting, rectory**

### **Monday, September 19. 6:00 p.m.**

#### **Mini Vestry Retreat, rectory**

### **Wednesday, September 28, 6:00 p.m.**

#### **Home Eucharist & Healing Service**

Sandra Melsheimer home, Pot Lunch Dinner

### **Sunday, September 25**

#### **Cursillo Sunday**

## September Birthdays

4 Tommy Skinner	14 Linda Walker
5 Riley Kitchens	16 Judy Morrissey
7 Josie Williams	18 Margarette Swett
8 Richard Price	19 Del Price
10 Everett Bexley	23 Clark Huntley
12 Jim Horan	24 Jerry McWilliams
14 Genevieve Walker	29 Terry Brantley

## September Anniversaries

4 Mickey & Bobby Barlow	25 Amanda & John Monti
16 Jennifer & Jim Harper	

## Prayers

### For those Sick or in Need:

John Wheelless	Bobbie Abraham	Tommie Walker
Allen Teeter	Tim Davis	Sarah Kelly
Bill Mobley	Ruthie Gray	Bryan Brabston
Christian Hampton	Sam & Sherry Scott	Charlotte Valentine
Mary Lipe Mintz	Carol Bowden	John Meritt
Mike Ray	Jay	Mary Kavanaugh
Ray Ugilini	John Williams	Lauren Stamm
Frances Marble	Kay & Jerry McWilliams	Johnny Bottom
Jean Roberts	Louis Field	Lessye Williams
Ed & Bessie Norwood	Ashleigh Ford	Lorrayne Cox
Pat Pierce	Jan Robinson	Lessie Baker
Walker Biedenarn	Frances & George Hammack	
Faith, Bridget & Mike Wildschuetz	Charles & Lou Housholder	

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

Christoph Martin	Cynthia Horan	Billie Hubbard
Dawn Wandembergh	Carlos Wandembergh	

## Liturgical Schedule Sundays in September

	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
	<i>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
<b>First Reading</b>	Exodus 12:1-14	Exodus 14:19-31	Exodus 16:2-15	Exodus 17:1-7
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 149	Psalm 114	Psalm 105:1-6,37-45	Psalm 78:1-4,12-16
<b>Second Reading</b>	Romans 13:8-14	Romans 14:1-12	Philippians 1:21-30	Philippians 2:1-13
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 18:15-20	Matthew 18:21-35	Matthew 20:1-16	Matthew 21:23-32
<b>Lay Worship Leader</b>				
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Tommy Skinner	<b>10 a.m. Eucharist</b>	Harvey Smith	Tommy Skinner
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	Betsy Selby	Richard Price	Ann Tompkins	Harvey Smith
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Beth Guynes	Ann Tompkins	Jennifer Normand	Beth Guynes
<b>Acolytes</b>				
<b>Crucifer</b>	Clarissa Walker	Michael Rangel	Shay Sullivan	Mignon McDaniel
<b>Gospel Bearer</b>	Megan Norris	Kerri & Peter Williams	Josh Sullivan	Joshua McDaniel
<b>Lector</b>	Genevieve Walker	Sandra Melsheimer	Bobby Sullivan	Ed Shelnut
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Deacon Josie Williams	Susan Price	Deacon Josie Williams	Linda Walker
<b>Oblation Bearers</b>	Jeff Artman Kelsey Artman	Becki Rangel Max Rangel	Jennfier Nomand David Normand	Becky Drake Jim Drake
<b>Ushers &amp; Greeters</b>	John Scott Ann Jones	Bobby Barlow Jim Drake	Bobby Sullivan Greg Tierse	Kevin McDaniel Charlie Brantley
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Cassandra Price Margie Scott	Sherry Horan Sharon Hanks	Mary Ann Wright Lisa Langford	Judy Morrissey Ann Tompkins
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>		Susan Price Richard Price		Ed Shelnut
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Sherry Horan Margie Scott	Oversee Breakfast Becki Rangel Sandra Melsheimer	Lisa Langford Ruth Green	Terry Brantley Billie Abraham
<b>Wednesday Healing</b>	<b>September 7</b> Ann Tompkins	<b>September 14</b> Tommy Skinner	<b>September 21</b> Harvey Smith	<b>September 28</b> Tommy Skinner