



ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH



The First Sunday of **Advent**

November 27, 2022, 10:00 am

*St. Alban's is an inviting faith community striving to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

330 85th Ave. St. Pete Beach Florida (727)360-8406
stalbansbeach@gmail.com www.stalbanstpetebeach.org

Welcome to St. Alban's Episcopal Church.

*Below is information we hope you will find helpful
as we worship together this morning.*

- Please be sure your phones are turned off or put in airplane mode.
- Bathrooms are located in the narthex (front door entry vestibule). One is also located in the Welcome Center.
- If you are new to St. Alban's, we are glad you are here! We would love to get to know you. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card (found in the pews). Parishioners are also available to greet you and answer any questions you may have; stop in the Welcome Center after the service.
- The current diocesan masking policy is that masks are voluntary. If you feel more comfortable wearing a mask in church, we encourage you to do so. There is also plenty of room to spread out for social distancing.

Once again, welcome to St. Alban's!

St. Alban's welcomes The Rev. Christian Villagomez as today's Celebrant.

December Birthdays: Bernie Doherty (5), Celeste Tingler (8), Charles Gallagher (13), Louisa Thomas (15), Joe MacConnell (17), Gail Johnson (23), Millie Lockwood (26), Gayle Smith (27)

December Anniversaries: Rita and Steve Saible (27)

Email the Parish Office if you have an December Birthday or Anniversary that is not listed! We want to recognize and celebrate you!

Prayers Requested For: Glad McCurtain, Eljeane Gibson, Jim Inmon, Debra Odom (niece of Joan Elder), Hugh and Emma McCullough, Jeanine Nickerson (sister of Elaine Jett), Dallas Ferguson, Grace Bailey, Cordell McKenzie (brother of Joan Elder), Dorothy Schell (Carol Brown's aunt), Mary Kay Thompson (sister of Joanne MacConnell), relatives & friends of Janice M Rustin (friend of Kay L), Candy and Kristina (friends of Kay L), John Paul, Miriam Cone, Dr. Effie Chow, Janelle Puyot, Samaira (friend of Cases), the Thomas family, Danielle Simms (cousin of Bonnie McCredie) **Those who have died:** Phil Thomas, St. Alban's parishioner

If you would like to add a name to the Prayer List, please call or email the Parish Office. Please provide the relationship of the person to you.

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The Word of God

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

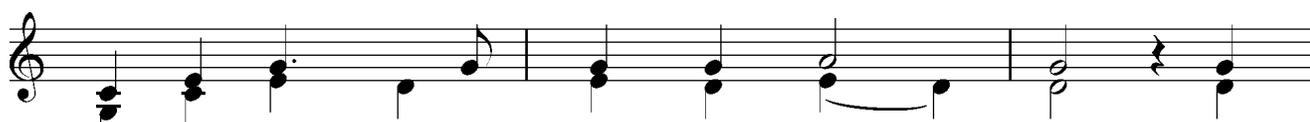
Reader: Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has meaning. The first candle is HOPE. (*The candle is lit.*)

Scripture Reading During the Lighting:

We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. **Psalm 33:20**

Priest: Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give the courage to hope. Give grace to see your plans of redemption of our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN 61 *Sleepers wake! A Voice Astounds Us*



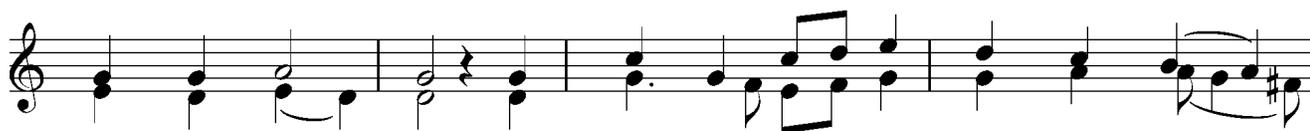
1 "Sleep-ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let



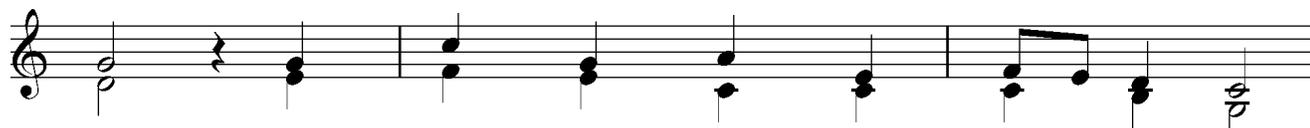
shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as



wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the



cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -



ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -
 sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to
 has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: **You come to your people and set them free.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie S-91

Lord Have Mercy

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
 Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks Be to God.

PSALM 122 *Laetatus sum (said responsively)*

1 I was glad when they said to me, *

"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

2 Now our feet are standing *

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is built as a city *

that is at unity with itself;

4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD, *

the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.

5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *

the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *

"May they prosper who love you.

7 Peace be within your walls *

and quietness within your towers.

(continued)

8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *

I pray for your prosperity.

9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, *

I will seek to do you good."

The Word of the Lord:

Thanks Be to God.

THE SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

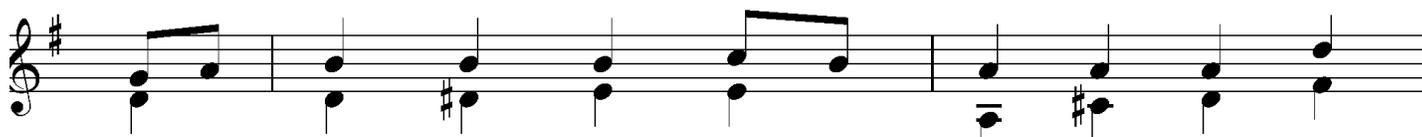
A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church:

Thanks Be to God.

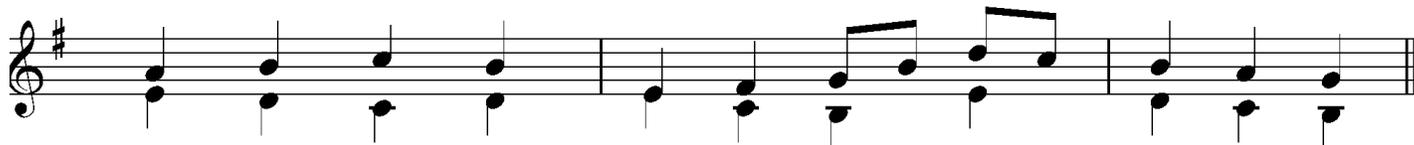
SEQUENCE HYMN 11 *Awake, My Soul, and With the Sun*



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy
2 Lord, I my vows to thee re - new; dis -
3 Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all
*4 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and
perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of
I de - sign, or do, or say; that all my powers, with
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye



joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice:
thought and will, and with thy - self my spi - rit fill.
all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Christian Villagomez

THE NICENE CREED (*in unison, standing*)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit**

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM II *(said responsively, standing or kneeling as able)*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *(Silence)*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *(Silence)*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison; Pray for those in any need or trouble. *(Silence)*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him. *(Silence)*

I ask your prayers for the departed, praying especially for Bill Laubach and Phil Thomas... Pray for those who have died. *(Silence)*

(Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present)

I ask your prayers for _____. I ask your thanksgiving for _____.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *(Silence)*

Celebrant: For yours is the majesty, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; yours is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION *(kneeling, as able)*

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be always with you: **And also with you.**

Announcements & Birthday Blessings

The Holy Communion

Celebrant: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

OFFERTORY HYMN 56 Vs. 1-3 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*



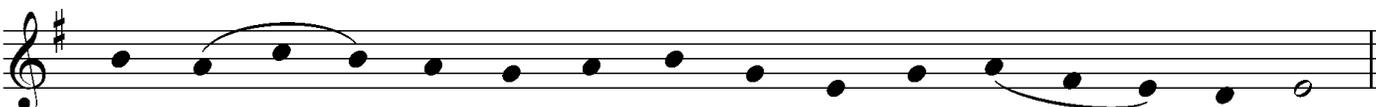
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
(Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

DOXOLOGY *(please stand) Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below,
praise him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

(from Enriching Our Worship)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing :

THE SANCTUS S-130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and Might. Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

(the people stand or kneel)

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah, you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ’s Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the blessed Virgin Mary, Alban, our patron, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(in unison)*

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

RECEIVING OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are invited to take communion. If you would rather receive only a blessing, or wish to decline the communion cup, cross your arms in front of you as the priest approaches. If you wish to pray privately with a church member after communion, please walk towards the chapel to the right of the altar.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (*in unison*)

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant: The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 68

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

✘✘✘✘✘

Join us in the welcome center following today's service for fellowship!

Angel Tree

Thank you St. Alban's; all but two of the Angel Tree Tags have been taken! (If you want one of the two remaining tags, email the office.) Remember to check your instructions to see when your gifts are due back and if they should be wrapped or not, as each group has different guidelines. Reach out to the Parish Office if you have any questions. Also, if you don't have time to do your own shopping, call Aimee "the elf" Case and she will do it for you! 814-882-1163

CASA Christmas Gift Cards

If interested in purchasing or donating \$25 gift cards for CASA clients, please contact Gail Johnson by December 10th (813-841-1622).

2023 Stewardship

Today is the last day of the stewardship campaign. If you are planning on making a pledge commitment for 2023 please let us know as soon as possible; the vestry is beginning their work on the 2023 budget and the stewardship numbers allows them know how much funding the budget can support for each ministry area. Thank you, as always, for your support of our wonderful church.

Collection for the Homeless

We are collecting adult lightly used sweaters and jackets for the homeless through the end of November. A box is available in the Welcome Center.

Father Omar Out of the Office

Father Omar is out of the office until Wednesday, November 30th. If you have pastoral needs during the time he is gone, please reach out to the office.

ECW Luncheon: Message from Gail Johnson

I am sorry to report that we will not be holding our Christmas Luncheon this year. We did not have 20 members sign up for it, which is the minimum required for a private event at Isla Del Sol. I know some of us were looking forward to bringing in the holiday together with an afternoon of fun, friendship and a lovely meal, but a number of members already had travel plans and family commitments. –Gail Johnson

Scheduling Notes

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, and Father Omar's vacation, there will be no morning prayer through Tuesday, November 29th. Morning prayer will resume on Wednesday, November 30th.

Forward Day by Day

Looking to enlarge your spiritual practice? Forward Day by Day daily devotions are available in the Welcome Center!

Bishop Visit

Sunday, December 11th, will be a special day at St. St. Alban's. Our new bishop, the Right Rev. Doug Scharf will be visiting our church and confirming 8, receiving 3, and reaffirming 1, from our parish. A catered luncheon for the parish and the bishop will take place after the service.

Nurse's Corner

The Parish Nurse, Gail Lahdenpera, has written a new nurse's corner to share the latest health updates. Be sure to read your copy of the Fountain for all the details!

Join Us For:

Morning Prayer at 8:30 am on Facebook (Monday - Thursday)

(www.facebook.com/StAlbansEpiscopalChurchStPeteBeach)

Healing Service, Wednesdays at 11:00 am

St Alban's Calendar of Events

Sun, Nov 27 @ 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with music, Church

Wed, Nov 30 @ 10:00 am Healing Service

Looking Ahead

Nov 27 Advent Begins

Dec 4 Confirmation Rehearsal (9:15 am)

Dec 11 Bishop Visits (lunch to follow; mark your calendars!)

Dec 24 Christmas Eve (Carol Sing at 7:30 pm, Service at 8:00 pm)

Dec 25 Christmas Day Morning Prayer

St. Alban's is a Parish in the Diocese of Southwest Florida

The Right Rev. Dabney Smith	Bishop
The Right Rev. Dr. Douglas Scharf	Bishop Coadjutor

St. Alban's Staff & Vestry

The Reverend Omar Reyes	Priest in Charge
The Rev. Marcus Crim	Deacon
Ms. Kay Mann	Organist
Ms. Shae Lime	Cantor
Ms. Beth Gentry-Gould	Office Administrator
Ms. Nancy Titus	Bookkeeper
Mr. Ron Smith	Sexton
Mr. Joe MacConnell	Senior Warden
Mr. Ed Case	Junior Warden
Mr. Scott Roeder	Secretary
Ms. Irene Pavese	
Mr. Dave Gray	
Ms. Barbara Hollar	Treasurer