

**St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
Syracuse, New York**

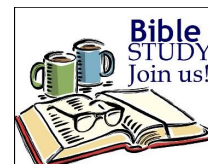
**November News & Inspiration**

**Sunday Morning**

**8:30 a.m.**

**Bible Study  
In Rector's Office and on Zoom**

\* Zoom Codes: 835 9000 0245 and 562087



**9:30 a.m.**

**Holy Communion  
Spiritual Communion on Zoom and Facebook  
(To use your phone for Zoom, dial 1-646-558-8656)**

\* Zoom Codes: 826 9515 6305 and 446765

**10:30 a.m.**

**Coffee Hour**

**Holy Day Celebrations**

**All Saints' Sunday is November 3**

9:30 a.m. Baptism of Jamie Westmoreland and Holy Eucharist  
10:30 a.m. Brunch



**Thanksgiving Eve Services: November 27**

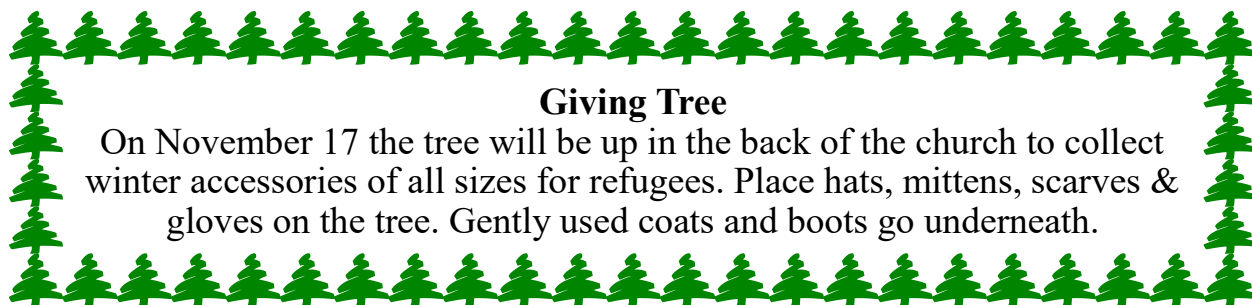
3:00 p.m. Emmanuel  
5:30 p.m. St. Alban's

**Tuesday Morning Prayer at 10 a.m. on Zoom.**

Codes: 849 7442 6644 & 031228

**Wednesday Bible Study at 2 p.m. on Zoom.**

Codes: 840 0349 8213 and 586548  
(Repeated the following Sunday.)



**Giving Tree**

On November 17 the tree will be up in the back of the church to collect winter accessories of all sizes for refugees. Place hats, mittens, scarves & gloves on the tree. Gently used coats and boots go underneath.

## Priestly Ponderings

Each year I reflect on tithing in the November newsletter as we enter our annual pledge drive. This year Stewardship Sunday is November 17, when pledges from both the people of St. Alban's and Emmanuel for our merger in 2025 will be gathered and blessed. (Letters will be mailed the first week in November.) Pledging is first and foremost about your relationship with God. As Jesus tells us, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." We cannot separate our relationship with God from our relationship with our financial treasure and possessions. The amount to be given to God is the tithe, or 10% of our net income. Most of us have to give something up in order to tithe. It may be electronics, new clothes/shoes, eating out, concerts or theatre, travel, or a variety of other things. That's why the first tenth of our income goes to God. If we only give what's left over then we know where our priorities lie.

### Some things to consider:

Filling out a pledge is a way of practicing intentional giving. God intentionally sent Jesus Christ, through whose death and resurrection we have received forgiveness, healing, grace, and blessing upon blessing. The only thing God desires in return is our "sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving." A grateful heart is an open heart, and an open heart is a generous heart - in many and varied ways. God loves a cheerful, thankful, open-hearted giver!

Are you preparing for the pleasures of this life or for the pleasures of eternal life?

Wealth isn't good or bad, morally speaking. It is, however, a particularly powerful source of temptation. Whether a person has it and wants even more, or doesn't have it and wants it, money can lead us quickly away from God as few things can. Money and possessions capture our attention in this consumer-driven culture, and tempt us to find our security and self-worth in them. That's why it's easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God. Jesus reminds us to put our trust in God and God alone.

If you're not yet tithing start by figuring out what percentage of your income you are contributing and go from there. It may be a few years before you can work your way up to 10%.

A while back the suggestion of the 50-50 tithe was suggested by the Church, 50% of your tithe to your parish and 50% to other charitable causes like Episcopal Relief & Development. I use a 2/3-1/3 model personally, giving 2/3 to my parishes.

A note here. If you are truly unable to tithe - and some of you are - remember the story of the widow's mite. Jesus was in Jerusalem watching people put their offerings into the treasury box. He remained silent as he observed rich men put in large sums of money. Then he witnessed a poor widow put in two copper coins, worth about a penny. Jesus called his disciples and praised her to them, for he knew that she had given all she could give.

- Mother Julie+



**Fun Things to Celebrate in November**  
(from [Holidayinsights.com](http://Holidayinsights.com))

International Drum Month  
Native American Heritage Month  
World Vegan Month

1-National Author's Day  
2-Devised Egg Day  
3-Housewife's Day  
6-National Saxophone Day  
7-International Merlot Day  
9-Chaos Never Dies Day  
12-Young Reader's Day  
13-Caregiver Appreciation Day  
14-National Pickle Day  
15-Clean Your Refrigerator Day  
16-International Tolerance Day  
19-Play Monopoly Day  
20-Absurdity Day  
21-World Hello Day  
23-Eat a Cranberry Day  
25-National Parfait Day  
27-National Jukebox Day  
30-National Mason Jar Day



*We remember  
our veterans...*

Ben Watson  
William Houck, Jr.  
David Leader  
Rob Lombardo  
Denis (Skip) Visco  
Hamilton White

Amy Donahue  
Jim Kowalczyk  
Matthew Leader  
Adam Proffitt  
Dorothy White  
Andrew Wickenden



**COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS**

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



© 2007 Michael D. Waters  
[www.joyfultoons.com](http://www.joyfultoons.com)

Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—

— PSALM 103:2 NIV

## **St. Alban's**

**Rector:** The Rev. Julie E.  
Calhoun-Bryant

### **Wardens**

Senior: Mary "Kiki" White  
Junior: Gina Odell  
Emerita: Gelene Lewis

### **Vestry Members**

David Houston  
Bobbi Lombardo  
Steve Pekich  
Art Pichette  
Wendy Wickenden  
Fred Wilson

Kate Bell, Vestry Clerk

### **Parish Secretary**

Lisa Wojtaszek

### **Organist**

Cynthia Bromka-Skafidas

### **Treasurer**

Kathleen Eckermann

### **Financial Secretary**

Fred Wilson

### **Ministry Team Leaders**

#### Communications Team

David Houston

#### Congregational Life Team

Kiki White

#### Mission Team

Bobbi Lombardo  
Dottie White

#### Property Team

Steve Pekich

#### Spiritual Life Team

Mother Julie  
Altar Guild: Bobbi  
Lombardo  
Music: Jan Bookhout



## **November Birthdays**

**13 Hamilton Andrew White**

**16 Carson Richardson**

**21 Teddy Morris**

**29 Kathleen Eckermann**

**30 Bobbi Lombardo**

### **Giving to St. Alban's**

Send us a check or to give online go to  
[cnyepiscopal.org/give-to-my-parish](http://cnyepiscopal.org/give-to-my-parish)

## **St. Alban's Episcopal Church**

1308 Meadowbrook Drive  
Syracuse, NY 13224-1718  
(315) 446-3490

Website: [stalbansyracuse.org](http://stalbansyracuse.org)

Facebook: [stalbanschurchsyr](https://www.facebook.com/stalbanschurchsyr)

#### Secretary's Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Secretary's Email: [stalbans.syr@gmail.com](mailto:stalbans.syr@gmail.com)

#### **Contacting Mother Julie**

- Call the secretary during office hours.
- Email: [julieatalban@gmail.com](mailto:julieatalban@gmail.com)
- 315-416-7133 (cell)

**Please don't leave urgent or time sensitive  
messages on the church answering machine.**