

St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
1308 Meadowbrook Drive  
Syracuse, NY 13224-1718  
Website: [stalbansyracuse.org](http://stalbansyracuse.org)

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November 3, 2021

Dear People of St. Alban's,

Enclosed with my letter is the 2022 Pledge Form. This is the month when we all sit down and make the decision of how much we will give to God through St. Alban's. My mother taught me to tithe, to give 10% of one's net income, by example. Since my first paycheck I have always done so. Today, about two-thirds of our joint tithe goes to St. Alban's and the rest to support Episcopal Relief & Development, Covenant House for homeless teens, and several Syracuse charities. Not everyone is fortunate enough to be able to tithe, however. When this is the case it's important to remember the widow's mite. Jesus was watching people put money into the treasury of the Temple and observed a number of people put in large sums. Then a poor widow came and put in two pennies. Jesus' heart was so moved that he called his disciples' together and commended the widow to them. The others contributed out of their abundance; the widow put in all she had to live on. It was a costly gift, freely made.

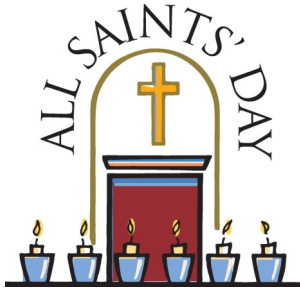
Roughly one-quarter of Jesus' teaching addresses money and possessions because they can have such a hold on us. One of the most well known is "You cannot serve two masters, for you will love the one and hate the other. ...You cannot serve God and money." If we are to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength we can't have divided loyalties. God has to come first.

God has blessed me with fifteen years as the Rector of St. Alban's. Together we have fed the hungry through Bright Chapel's food pantry (which eventually closed), Valley Worship Center's food pantry, and Martha's Kitchen. Several of you still volunteer for Meals on Wheels. Through this summer's food drive we supplied over 300 food items for 20 new pantries in areas of the city where food is hard to be found. We have kept refugees warm through the items placed on the Giving Tree each year and the many coats we've donated to the Center for New Americans. We have loved God by loving our neighbor.

We also have seen each other through a pandemic, death, illness, surgeries, and other hard times. When my son Chris went through brain surgery at the age of fifteen at Ohio State Medical Center we were far away from home. That didn't matter because I could feel your prayers lifting us up. When my daughter-in-law Shelby had a medical crisis that almost took her life and kept her off work for a month you took up a secret collection for her and Russell and surprised me with a check for \$800 to give them. When I was severely injured in a car accident every single day my mailbox had at least one card from you. Mail call was the highlight of my day. The people of St. Alban's make up a true Christian community in which hope, faith, and love abound. It is an honor to serve you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

May God shower you with blessings, ease your way, and give you joy and peace. May you give back to God through your pledge, your time, your prayers, and your talent. May we be a blessing to one another and to the neighbor we are called to serve.

Mother Julie+



### November 7 is All Saints' Sunday

Silent Saints are announced

Festive Coffee Hour after the service

Grand Re-Opening of St. Alban's Boutique

### Martha's Kitchen: Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

We'll be making spaghetti sauce and 36 sandwiches for the clients of the Women's Opportunity Center and their families.

### The Calhoun-Bryants' New Home

The house is inspected and the wheels are in motion to purchase our new home at 104 Single Drive in the Village of North Syracuse. Thanks for all your prayers!

### Thursday Evening Study in Advent

Mother Julie will prepare a program for Thursday evenings December 2, 9, and 16 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

### November 4-11 Calendar, with Zoom Codes where Needed

Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Martha's Kitchen
	11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Bible Study: 835 9000 0245 & 562087
	9:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist: 826 9515 6305 & 446765
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer: 868 3084 1089 & 114552
Thursday	5:30 p.m.	The Saturday service on Nov. 13 service has been moved to Nov. 11 to accommodate Diocesan Convention.

### In Person Weekend Worship

Saturday at 11:30 a.m.  
Recorded for our website

Sunday at 9:30 a.m.  
with organ and hymns,  
also on Zoom

### Use your telephone for Zoom Sunday at 9:30 am

Dial 1-646-558-8656

When prompted Enter **826 9515 6305#**

When prompted Enter **#**

When prompted Enter **446765#**

That will put you in Zoom's waiting room  
and you will be let in.