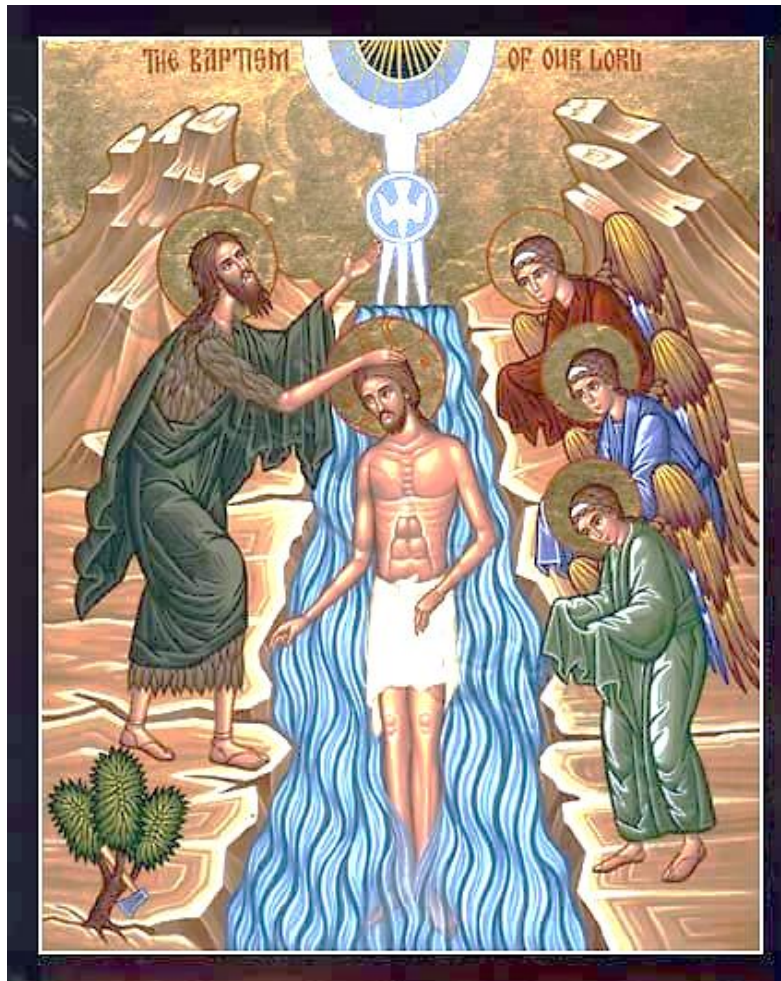


# ST ALBANS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD



SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

9:30AM

THE REVEREND DR WILLY CRESPO  
INTERIM PRIEST

JUSTIN HANSEN, ORGANIST

## Welcome Newcomers!

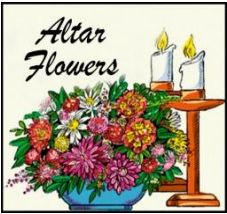
We are pleased to have you with us today. Please sign our newcomer's book at the back of the church, introduce yourself to the priest, and join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall immediately after the service, just across the courtyard.

Our hope is that you find a home among us, in a place where the love of God is shared, the mystery of grace is experienced and the joy and laughter of the Christian life is taught.

To learn more about St. Alban's call the office at (619) 444-8212 or email us at: [generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info](mailto:generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info). Also, check out our website at [www.st-albans-church.org](http://www.st-albans-church.org).



Children are welcome in our worship! Sunday School is available in the building across the courtyard at 9:30am. The children return to their parents at the church for the Communion service.



### Flowers are given today to the glory of God

Have you ever wondered how we get such beautiful flowers at St. Alban's on Sundays? They are paid for by parishioners who dedicate flowers to commemorate a special occasion such as an anniversary, a baptism, a birthday, a graduation, or in memory of departed loved ones. If you would like to dedicate flowers for a special occasion or memorial, you can do so by filling out a flower donation envelope found in the narthex (the main church entrance), place your check or cash in the envelope and put it in the offering plate or in one of the wooden boxes at the front or back of the church. Please remember to mark on your envelope who you are and who you are commemorating with your gift.

To maintain a peaceful worship environment, please silence your cell phone. Thank you!



ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS ARE LOCATED IN THE PARISH HALL ACROSS THE COURTYARD

# *The Entrance Rite*

*Prelude*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Opening Hymn – Hymnal 135, “Songs of thankfulness and praise”**

**Opening Acclamation**

**Celebrant** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**People** **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Celebrant:** Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, **Amen.**

**Gloria – S280**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY –**

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.  
**People** **And also with you.**

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

**FIRST READING – Isaiah 43:1-7**

**Lector:** A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;

I will say to the north, "Give them up,"  
and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth--  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made."

**Lector:** The word of the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm – Psalm 29**

**BCP pg. 620-621**

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, * ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.	7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; * the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; * worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.	8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe * and strips the forests bare.
3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; * the Lord is upon the mighty waters.	9 And in the temple of the Lord * all are crying, "Glory!"
4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; * the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.	10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; * the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; * the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;	11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; * the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.
6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, * and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.	

**THE NEW TESTAMENT – Acts 8:14-17**

**Lector:** A reading from the book of Acts.

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Lector:** The word of the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

*A period of silence is kept.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

## **THE GOSPEL – Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

**Celebrant:** The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**All:** **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

**Celebrant:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Sermon – The Reverend Dr Willy Crespo**

**Celebrant:** Let us stand together and say the Nicene Creed.

### **The Nicene Creed**

*All say together:*

**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 - (Please stand or kneel if you are able)**

**Intercessor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you**

**Intercessor:** Let us pray.

**Intercessor:** We pray for those around us as they live their lives.

**People:** **For those close, for those far away, and for those who have no one else to pray for them.**

**Intercessor:** For our communities, especially El Cajon.

**People:** **For friends, strangers, and the ties that keep them together.**

**Intercessor:** For our nation – we pray for wisdom for its leaders, particularly our President, and for the health and safety for those serving in the military. Especially Riley, Lindzy, Denny, Cris, Bryan, Matt, Clarence, David Nye, Kristyn, Donovan, Christopher and Joshua Ibanez, Brandon, Travis Warner, Phoenix Locken, and for all our veterans.

**People:** **May it shine forth as a beacon of nobility and compassion.**

**Intercessor:** We pray for this earth, your creation;

**People:** **That we may be faithful stewards of its bounty.**

**Intercessor:** We pray for unity in the Church, and peace for all its members;

**People:** **For those who spread your Gospel by word or by action.**

**People:** **We pray for the leaders of our church; for Sean our presiding bishop, Susan our bishop, Willy our interim priest, and for all bishops, priests and deacons.**

**Intercessor:** We pray for people in our world. Most especially for our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Myanmar (known as Burma), Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Pakistan, Tunisia, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Somalia, Israel, and Palestine, and all places on earth where people are in danger and treated unfairly.

**People:** **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

**Intercessor:** We lift up to you our concerns, praying especially for: all who are refugees, Hilda Ro & family, Christine P, Judith Taylor, Victoria, Mike & Penny, Ralph McMillen, Georgina & Phil, Bonnie, George Elia, James M, Ken H, Steve V, Kent C, Ben, Mu Tay, Lothar, Barbara D, Mike, John, Marion & family, and Theresa.

*(Please take a few moments to express thanks to God either vocally or silently.)*

**Intercessor:** We pray for those who have died.

**People:** **Grant rest to their souls and comfort to those they have left behind.**

**Intercessor:** Almighty God, we pray for the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new priest for our church. You know our special needs and the task that lies to our hand. Direct us in our search and give us insight to perceive the leader you would choose for us. And we further pray, O Lord, that in this time of waiting we may all devote ourselves afresh to your service, so that nothing be lost of the faithful work of the past, but rather that it may be brought to a rich harvest in the years to come. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Celebrant:** Lord hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

### **Confession of Sin**

**Celebrant:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*A period of silence is kept.*

**All say together:**

**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.**

## **Absolution**

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**

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Please remember that Passing the Peace is part of our liturgy. It is a time to welcome each other and to share a phrase like: "The peace of the Lord be with you", and to hear a response in kind like "And also with you". It is not intended to be a time for discussion. It is better to keep discussions for before or after church, at Coffee Hour is a great place for fellowship. At this time, you are invited to greet others with a handshake, a wave or hug in peace as you are comfortable.*

**Announcements** – *Sunday School students join their families.*

**Special Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelers:** If you had a birthday, anniversary last week or this week, or if you are going to travel soon, please stand / come forward and we will pray for you.

**Birthday:** O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) \_\_\_\_\_ as *he/she/they* begin another year. Grant that *he/she/they* may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen *his/her/their* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her/their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Many happy returns on the day of your birth. May seasons of joy be given. May God in his mercy prepare you on earth for a beautiful birthday in heaven. Amen.

**Anniversaries:** Lord, we thank you for this couple \_\_\_\_\_ and for all of the years that they have had together. Today, as we celebrate their anniversary, our prayer is that you will continue to bless them. Lord, we pray that you will honor their commitment to each other and to You by granting them many more years of happiness together. Amen.

**Travelers:** O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel \_\_\_\_\_; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Celebrant:** Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

**OFFERTORY** – *"Baptized in water" - Piano Solo – Justin Hansen*

**Doxology** – *Hymnal 380 (all sing)*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise him, all creatures here below.*

*Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts.*

*Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Amen.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**Sursum Corda** (*Please stand, as you are able*)

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**The Sanctus – Hymnal S-130**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Holy, 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.**

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Celebrant and People***

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Officiant:** And now let us pray as our Lord has taught us:

*(To be read in unison)*

<b>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.</b>	<b>And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.</b>
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## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*A moment of reverence is kept.*

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

#### **The Invitation - Celebrant**

This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ.

It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;

you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time;

you who have tried to follow and you who have failed;

come, not because the church invites you; it is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### **Communion Hymn – Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEV) 141, “Shall we gather at the river”**

*Please stand as you are able.*

#### **Post Communion Prayer**

*Celebrant and People:*

**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.**

#### **Blessing**

### **Recessional Hymn – Hymnal 295, “Sing praise to our Creator”**

**Celebrant:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God. Postlude



## PRAYERS



**Please remember in your prayers**, praying especially for: all who are refugees, Hilda Ro & family, Christine P, Judith Taylor, Victoria, Mike & Penny, Ralph McMillen, Georgina & Phil, Bonnie, George Elia, James M, Ken H, Steve V, Kent C, Ben, Mu Tay, Lothar, Barbara D, Mike, John, Marion & family, and Theresa.

**Pray for those serving in the military especially:** Riley, Lindzy, Denny, Cris, Bryan, Matt, Clarence, David Nye, Kristyn, Donovan, Christopher and Joshua Ibanez, Brandon, Travis Warner, Phoenix Locken, and for all our veterans.

We pray for peace in the Holy Land most especially for our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Haiti, Myanmar (known as Burma), Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Pakistan, Tunisia, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Somalia, Israel and Palestine, and all places on the earth where people are in danger and treated unfairly, who are suffering deprivation, torture, and death for confessing Christ as their Lord.

**In our Diocesan cycle of prayer**, we give thanks today for the Clergy and people of St. John's in Chula Vista. And for all those being baptized and those renewing their baptismal covenant in our diocese.

**In the Anglican cycle of prayer**, we give thanks today for The Church of the Province of West Africa.

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### Participants in Today's In-Person and Online Worship

**Interim Priest:** The Reverend Dr Willy Crespo

**Prayers:** Judy Brown

**Streaming Tech:** Hsa Blu Moo

**Vergers:** Judy Brown

**Reader (English):**

**Gospel Readers:** Arabic Nawal Yousif, Mary Zori, Jamil Shorees, Ibtisam Bashee, Nahrien Patak, Intissar Razoq, & Samir  
Karen Angelynn Than

**Usher:** Sharon Hathaway



Thank You for Your Support  
During these challenging times, we  
encourage you to support your home church.  
If you have no home church and like what you see here  
you may support St Alban's Ministries by going to:  
<https://st-albans-church.org/giving>

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## Announcements for the week of 01/12/2025

### ST ALBAN'S ANNUAL MEETING

Please plan to join us on **Sunday, January 26th**, after the worship service for St Alban's Annual Meeting. This meeting is open to everyone involved with St Alban's. If you were head of a class, group or some facet of St Alban's works, **PLEASE submit your report on your 2024 activities no later than Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**. Thank you for your consideration and we'll see you there!

### Weekly Bible Study on Zoom, with Fr Willy

Please join us on Wednesdays, 6-7pm, on Zoom. Contact Fr Willy for details.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83513559709> Meeting ID: 835 1355 9709 Passcode: 139092

### Sunday School

Except on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays (see further information), Sunday School starts **each Sunday at 9:30 am**. The children will be attending in-person at St. Alban's Church in the Education Room. (If your child needs to attend the Sunday School via Zoom please contact Caroline Mahon Hurd for details.)

Children who attend the in-person Sunday School can join their families for communion during the church service.

**We will not be having Sunday School on the 1st Sundays of each month. Please join us for the family service at church on those days. On months with 5 Sundays: on the 5th Sunday please bring your children to service for a children's sermon!**

### Sunday School email: stalbansundayschool@gmail.com

Please use this email with any questions about Sunday School, or special needs attendance.

### Where to Find Other St Alban's Regular Meetings

**The Monthly Vestry meeting - The Vestry meeting is on the 3rd SUNDAY of each month following the worship service.**

**Sunday Worship Service** at 9:30am, in our sanctuary, 490 Farragut Circle, El Cajon, CA 92020. If you cannot attend in person but have access to Facebook our services stream live on Sundays on our Facebook page. We hope you will join us there Sundays, at 9:30 am PDT

**Bi-Lingual (Arabic) Eucharist Service** at 8:30am, on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month followed by the food distribution pantry.

### Regular Notices

**Prayer Requests:** To make a request for the prayer chain or bulletin or to update requests, please call the St Alban's office: 619-444-8212, or email: [generalbusiness@stalbanschurh.info](mailto:generalbusiness@stalbanschurh.info). You are also invited to add a prayer request to be read in our Sunday public prayers. Names added will be listed for three weeks only, unless otherwise requested. We can also now receive prayer requests through our website: [www.st-albans-church.org](http://www.st-albans-church.org)

**Parking:** If you are able-bodied, please park in the lot on Camden or the side streets, saving the prime spots for those who require a closer parking space. Thank you!

**Report Misconduct:** As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a safe haven for everyone, our diocese trains people in the prevention of misconduct and encourages all to report misconduct. All reported incidents are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly and confidentially. If you believe you have experienced misconduct of any kind, please contact Mr. John Seitman, [jseitman@pacbell.net](mailto:jseitman@pacbell.net), [858-793-4555](tel:858-793-4555) or the Rev. Janet Wheelock, [jwheelock@edsd.org](mailto:jwheelock@edsd.org), [952-240-8067](tel:952-240-8067).

St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
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