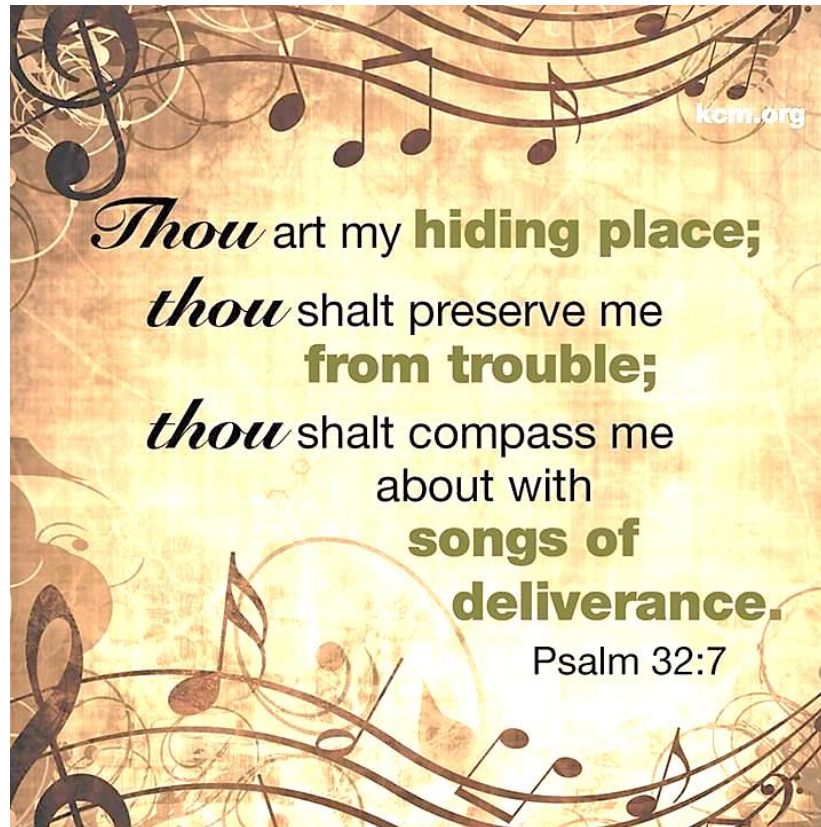


ST ALBANS EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025  
9:30AM

THE REVEREND DR PAUL CARMONA  
GUEST CELEBRANT

JUSTIN HANSEN, ORGANIST

## Welcome Newcomers!

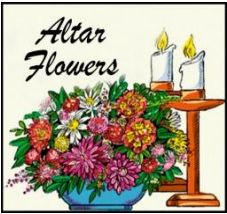
We are blessed to have you with us today. Please sign our newcomer's book at the back of the church, introduce yourself to the priest, and join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall immediately after the service, just across the courtyard.

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 495, “Hail, thou once despised Jesus!”**

## Opening Acclamation

**Celebrant:** Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People:** His mercy endures forever.



**Celebrant:** Lord, have mercy.

**People:** Christ, have mercy.

**Celebrant:** Lord, have mercy.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY –

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

**People** And also with you.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### Old Testament – Joshua 5:9-12

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

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

**All:** Thanks be to God.

<p>1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, * and whose sin is put away!</p> <p>2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, * and in whose spirit there is no guile!</p> <p>3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, * because of my groaning all day long.</p> <p>4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; * my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.</p> <p>5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, * and did not conceal my guilt.</p> <p>6 I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." * Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.</p> <p>7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; * when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.</p>	<p>8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; * you surround me with shouts of deliverance.</p> <p>9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; * I will guide you with my eye.</p> <p>10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; * who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."</p> <p>11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; * but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.</p> <p>12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; * shout for joy, all who are true of heart.</p>
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**The Epistle – 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

**Lector:** A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

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

*A period of silence is kept.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

**The Gospel – Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

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

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

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!

I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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

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

## Sermon – The Reverend Dr Paul Carmona

**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, Gavin B, Mike, John, Marion & family, Jennie F and family, Claudia, Ibtisam, and Lothar W.

*(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.

*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

**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

**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:** Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

**OFFERTORY** – *"Last Spring", by Edvard Grieg, (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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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)*

<p><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></p>	<p><b>And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from all that is evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen, amen, amen.</b></p>
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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) 149, “In Remembrance of Me”*

*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 448, “O love, how deep, how broad, how high”, verses 1, 2, 6*

**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, Gavin B, Mike, John, Marion & family, Jennie F and family, Claudia, Ibtisam, and Lothar W.

**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 youth and leadership of Nightwatch-- waking up in All Soul's in Point Loma this morning.

**In the Anglican cycle of prayer**, we give thanks today for Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo.

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

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

**Guest Celebrant:** The Reverend Dr Paul Carmona

**Prayers:** Judy Brown

**Streaming Tech:** Hsa Blu Moo

**Vergger:** 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 03/30/2025

### 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](mailto: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@stalbanschurch.info](mailto:generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.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 or the Rev. Janet Wheelock, [jwheelock@edsd.org](mailto:jwheelock@edsd.org), 952-240-8067.

**St. Alban's Episcopal Church**

**490 Farragut Circle**

**El Cajon, CA 92020**

**Phone: 619-444-8212**

**E-mail: [generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info](mailto:generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info)**

**Website: [www.st-albans-church.org](http://www.st-albans-church.org)**

