

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**The Herald:** Articles and photos for the January Herald are due Sunday, December 17th. Please email your submissions to [stalbanssalisbury@gmail.com](mailto:stalbanssalisbury@gmail.com). The deadline is the 3rd Sunday of each month.

**2024 Pledge Reminder:** Thank you to everyone who has already submitted a pledge for 2024. For those of you who have not yet submitted a pledge, please put your completed pledge card in the box in the breezeway or email the details (total value annual pledge, pay via plate or online, and if you want pledge envelopes) to [shelly\\_madsen@yahoo.com](mailto:shelly_madsen@yahoo.com).

**Poinsettia Christmas Flowers:** Please help us decorate the Altar for Christmas by purchasing a Poinsettia. Forms will be in the breezeway. Please make check payable to St. Alban's Church and write "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. Return by December 17th. (Flower Offerings can be put in the offering plate on a Sunday morning or sent to the parish post office box: St Alban's Church, PO Box 1511, Salisbury, MD 21802)

**Save the date:** The 2024 Vestry, pledge secretary, and treasurer will be installed at the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, January 21st. Please plan on joining us.

**Greening of the Church:** One of the fun holiday traditions of St. Alban's is the greening of the church for Christmas. We cannot officially green the church until after the last Advent church service which takes place this year on December 24. Therefore, this year the greening will take place in two parts. **Part 1:** We will make the wreaths, pew swags and get all the decorations staged and stored in the nursery on Wednesday, December 20, from 4-6pm. **Part 2:** We will decorate the church immediately following the 10am service on Christmas Eve. Bring evergreens, holly, magnolia branches, clippers, and work gloves.

**Donations are still being accepted:** Our Faith Partner, WiHi has asked us to help again this year. Requested donations are: spaghetti, mac & cheese, cereal, poptarts, ramen, PB&J, and anything microwavable is appreciated. They also need: umbrellas, clear reusable water bottles, fleece blankets, and female hygiene products. Please take donation to the parish hall. Thank you!

**Blue Christmas:** Thursday, December 21st at 5pm at St. Philips in Quantico, (6457 Quantico Rd, Quantico, MD) there will be a Blue Christmas Service with Holy Eucharist and Healing/Anointing. Service will be led by Rev. Elizabeth Phillips, Rev. David Michaud, Rev. Margaret Brack, Rev. Andrew Cropper, and Rev. Dennis Morgan. This service is a time of renewal and to help loved ones suffering from grief during the Holiday Season. There will be a lite dinner served following the service by the Men's Group of St. Philips. All are welcome to attend.

**Please consider donating items to Salisbury Middle's Annual Holiday Shop.** Bring items to church and drop them off in the Joy room. The Holiday Shop will be on December 14-15, from 10:30-1:00. Please email Katherine West ([kwest@wcoeb.org](mailto:kwest@wcoeb.org)) if you would like to be a volunteer wrapper. Thanks for supporting Salisbury Middle! Items we LOVE receiving for donations: brand new, clean, with tags clothes, children's toys, books for both children and adults, candles, trinkets, decorations, mugs & dishes, purses, bags, wallets, jewelry, belts, sunglasses, scarves, gloves, mittens, hats, holiday decorations (all holiday's), wrapping paper, tissue paper, gift boxes, gift bags.

## Weekly Schedule

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

12:00 pm Wednesday Midday Service

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I Service

**LECTORS: Geoff Smoot**

**TECH TEAM: Donna Parks**

9:10 am Adult Education, Faith Room

10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II Service with hymns

**LECTORS: Carrie Connelly, Howard Doak**

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Jim Cockey**

**VESTRY PERSON/USHER: Brian Raygor**

**ALTAR GUILD: Sandy Grim**

**TECH TEAM: Mary Doak**

**COFFEE HOUR: Advent Lunch**

**GREETER: Michelle Ben**

Advent Lunch following the service

## Happy Birthday

**Mae Esh 12/18**



MESSAGES  
FROM

*Rev. Margaret*

'GAUDETE SUNDAY' is December 17, 2023

Gaudete is a Latin term that translates to "rejoice" in English. It is commonly associated with the third Sunday of Advent in the Christian liturgical calendar, which is known as Gaudete Sunday. This term is used to emphasize the joyful anticipation and celebration of the upcoming birth of Jesus Christ during the Advent season. Overall, gaudete signifies a state of happiness, excitement, and gladness. The liturgical color is rose or pink. This is why the third candle on the Advent Wreath is pink and lit on this upcoming Sunday. REJOICE!!

*"...And so, rejoice we shall, no matter what rages around or against or within us. Our souls shall magnify you O Lord, for you are with us, even when all else that we trust is gone...."*

*We rejoice in each other. We rejoice in our faith. We rejoice in your Gospel. And, we rejoice in your presence here this morning. In all things we shall rejoice, Amen." Allen Vander Meulen III.*

**Link to Vestry Minutes and Financials:**  
Please click [HERE](#) for the approved Vestry Meeting Minutes and approved Financial Statement.  
(Minutes and Financial are posted once they are approved.)

# Greening of the Church

**\*\*Greening of the Church - Update from the Herald's Calendar\*\***

One of the fun holiday traditions of St. Albans is the greening (or decorating) of the church for Christmas. This is a great holiday activity that is appropriate for people of all ages including out of town company and friends. People who think they are creative and those who think they aren't can all help and have fun.

Since the season of Advent is different from the season of Christmas, we cannot officially green the church until after the last Advent church service which takes place this year on December 24. Therefore, this year the greening will take place in two parts.

**Part 1: We will make the wreaths, pew swags and get all the decorations staged and stored in the nursery on Wednesday, December 20, from 4-6pm.**

**Part 2: We will decorate the church immediately following the 10am service on Christmas Eve.**

If you have them, bring evergreens/holly/magnolia branches, clippers, and work gloves.

*(This information overrides the Herald which stated that the greening will take place at 2pm on Christmas Eve.)*

Image by BIZkettE1 on Freepik

## Journey of the Holy Family-2023

Advent has begun and Mary and Joseph are beginning their journey towards the Nativity Bethlehem inside St. Alban's. In the meantime, they will be visiting members of the church, as well as exploring Salisbury.

This week Mary and Joseph want to thank Betty Anthony for welcoming them to her home. The Holy Family loves animals and they were especially happy to meet her dog Danny Boy.

Who will the Holy Family visit next?

