



# CATHEDRAL OF ST ALBAN THE MARTYR

## Anglican Diocese of Pretoria

### CHRISTMAS DAY



**25 DECEMBER 2025**

**Dean:** The Very Revd Moses Canon Thabethe (0609941331) **Curate:** Revd Deacon Tshepo Moreothata (0833662250)

**Parish Office Tel:** 012 322 7670

**Churchwardens:** Clement Sibiya (0824909191) & Sizakele Shongwe (0726434977)

**Alternate Churchwarden:** Kutelani Mulaudzi (0828400881)

#### **Cathedral Mission statement:**

**“We shall be a spiritual home in which the Love of God, His Compassion and His Living Word comforts and enlivens all God’s people through various ministries.”**

#### **Diocesan Theme:**

**“The holy people of God, a Covenant people”**

**– Ezekiel 36:28b**

**COLLECT:** O Christ, light of the world, born into human pain and joy: let our celebration of your birth make us bold witnesses of your love; to the glory of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

<b>09h00 Celebrant:</b>	<b>The Very Revd Canon Moses Thabethe</b>
<b>09h00 Preacher:</b>	<b>The Very Revd Canon Moses Thabethe</b>
<b>09h00 Synaxist:</b>	<b>Ms Mantie Motlohi-Moloi</b>

Processional Hymn	O come, all ye faithful	SOF 408
Introit Hymn	Hail to the Lord's anointed	SOF 150
Gloria	English	Sung
Kyrie	English	Sung
First Reading	Isaiah 52: 7-10	
Psalm	98	APB page 727
Second Reading	Hebrews 1: 1-12	
Hymn For The Gradual	While shepherds watched their flock by night	AMNS 37
Gospel	John 1: 1-14	
Sermon		The Very Revd Canon Moses Thabethe
Nicene Creed	English	Insert
Prayers		Ms Keledi Mazibuko
Song For Peace		
Offertory Hymns	Hark! The herald angels sing Away in a manger, no crib for a bed	SOF 155 SOF 36
Sanctus	English	Sung
Acclamations	English	Sung
The Lord's Prayer	English	Sung
Agnus Dei	English	Sung
Communion Hymn	O little town of Bethlehem Tlang lo je Mmele o itshephileng	SOF 420 seTswana 281
Post Communion Hymn	There is a redeemer	SOF 544
Recessional Hymn	Joy to the world! The Lord has come	SOF 314

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS:** Heavenly Father, you are the source of all blessings. With hearts full of gratitude, we present our offerings and tithes, offered electronically and physically. Help us to be generous givers, dear Lord, of our money, our gifts, and our lives; that through them, we may extend your kingdom in this church and the wider world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A PRAYER FOR HEALING AND WELLNESS:** O Lord of light and endless compassion, we are always in need of your mercy and grace. Amid sickness and infirmity, heal the sick, bind up the broken-hearted, and forgive sin. Give us comfort in our anxiety and fear, courage and strength in our suffering, patience and compassion in our caring, and consolation in our grieving. Strengthen our faith and hope, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

## NOTICES

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

#### SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE ROSTER:

- Sunday, 28 December 2025 – Choir.

**THE SICK AND THE HOUSE-BOUND:** Sylvia Bowker, John Mojapelo, Revd Martha Lebethe, Malesela Kale, Nobulali Nhantsi, Priscilla Motsogi, Ronny Chabalala, those suffering from Covid-19 and all those suffering from incurable diseases.

**WELCOME:** We welcome everyone to our service of worship, especially those joining us for the first time. May you be refreshed and renewed through this act of worship today.

Should you wish to join our parish, feel free to contact one of the Churchwardens (contact details are on the first page).

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:** We wish all parishioners who will be celebrating their birthdays and wedding anniversaries this coming week everything of the best. May God continue to shower you with blessings and joy. May He always keep you in His tender and loving care.

**HOME VISITS:** Parishioners who wish to receive a visit from the Dean, whether for pastoral reasons or for sick communion, are encouraged to contact the office.

**MORNING & EVENING PRAYERS:** Morning and evening prayers will continue until Friday, 19 December 2025 then break for the holiday season. They will resume on Monday, 12 January 2026.

**LECTIONARIES:** Lectionaries for 2026 are now available. They may be purchased from the office for R 50.00 or from the Churchwardens after the Sunday services.

**A.W.F GBV CAMPAIGN:** Fellow parishioners, for 365 Days, let us actively campaign and prevent all forms of violence against women and children under the theme ***UNITE to End Digital Violence against All Women and Girls.***

**WEEKLY PAYMENTS:** Following a meeting of Parish Council, guilds and ministries are urged to consider planning their withdrawals from their saving accounts in advance, instead of requesting a withdrawal on Monday for Friday (for example). This request comes after an in-depth review of the additional charges associated with weekly payments made by the office. To mitigate these additional charges, attempts will be made to only load and release payments twice a month i.e. mid-month and month-end. Exceptions from this will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**PARKING FEE:** A few months ago, the Council conducted a survey relating to parking fees. Based on responses from the survey, respondents expressed the view that they are willing to contribute to the cost of parking on Sundays; the preferred parking fee is between R 100.00 and R150.00. The preferred frequency of payment is on Sundays in church and on a monthly basis. The preferred payment methods are a hand held machine in church, and an electronic transfer into the Cathedral account. The reference should be ***Parking***, followed by the name of the Parishioner.

**SERVING TEA AND COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY SERVICES:** The Parish Council would like to express sincere gratitude to the Guilds, Ministries, and Individuals for their faithful commitment to serving tea and coffee after the 07h30 and 09h30 services. Your generosity is truly valued by the congregation. May we continue to grow together in this spirit of fellowship.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** There is a need for vigilance in safety and security on the church premises. Parents are kindly asked to sit with their children after the communion/blessing as teachers return to their pews in the church and there is no adult supervision when the children are playing outside. Thank you for your continued support.

**RECYCLING:** The parish has a recycling project of plastic, glass and ordinary bottles. Parishioners are welcome to bring their recycling bottles from home. Let us contribute towards a cleaner environment.

**PARISH ROLL:** Parishioners who wish to update their details may do so by either using the link <https://forms.office.com/r/zJgFGPtIEy> to access the membership form, or by visiting the website <https://www.stalbanscathedral.org.za/> and clicking on the “membership form” button at the bottom of the page, or by contacting the office via e-mail at [bookkeeper@stalbanscathedral.org.za](mailto:bookkeeper@stalbanscathedral.org.za). For those who would like assistance with the updating of their details on the parish roll, the Dean and the Parish Council have asked the Technical Team to help. Members of the Technical Team will be available with laptops to assist with parish roll registrations and update. In accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), the Cathedral Office, the clergy, Churchwardens and Parish Councillors are duty-bound to take adequate precautions in collecting, processing and storing personal information.

**REGULATION ON THE SHARING OF PEACE:** Parishioners are reminded that the sharing of peace is limited to the forms we currently follow, we continue to wave to each other. If people feel comfortable, they may do a fist or handshake.

**REGULATION ON COMMUNION:** Parishioners are reminded that communion in two kinds has been made available for those who wish to share in the common cup. As has always been the case, persons who wish may continue to choose to receive communion in one kind only. Intinction (by placing the host into the blood by either the minister or the communicant) is not permitted for health reasons. The person’s hand touching the contents of the cup or the clerics touching the communicant’s mouth is unhygienic

**PARKING:** Parishioners who wish to make donations towards the payment of the monthly parking structure are encouraged to do so.

**COMMUNICATION:** Parishioners who do not receive communication from the Cathedral office are requested to submit their communication details to the office via e-mail.

**COLLECTION AND PLEDGES:** Kindly use the banking details provided below for contributions to the collection and pledges.

*“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (ESV).*

Tel: 012 322 7670

Website address:

[www.stalbanscathedral.org.za](http://www.stalbanscathedral.org.za)

Facebook: [The Cathedral Church of St Alban-Pretoria](#)

**Emails:**

[info@stalbanscathedral.org.za](mailto:info@stalbanscathedral.org.za)

[dean@stalbanscathedral.org.za](mailto:dean@stalbanscathedral.org.za)

[assistpriest@stalbanscathedral.org.za](mailto:assistpriest@stalbanscathedral.org.za)

[verger@stalbanscathedral.org.za](mailto:verger@stalbanscathedral.org.za)

[bookkeeper@stalbanscathedral.org.za](mailto:bookkeeper@stalbanscathedral.org.za)

**Banking Details:**

**Name of account:** St Alban’s Cathedral

**Account no.:** 010 626 816

**Bank Name:** Standard Bank

**Branch code:** 051001

**Reference:** Use initials and Surname + Collection or Pledges, as applicable

**CATHEDRAL RENOVATION & RESTORATION APPEAL**

*“Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain.” – Psalm 127:1*

The St. Alban's Cathedral has embarked on a R2.99 million renovation project to restore and preserve our sacred and historic place of worship. The renovation includes urgent roof repairs, improved lighting, walkway and driveway upgrades, waterproofing, crack sealing, bathroom refurbishments, and restoration of heritage features.

This effort reflects our commitment to maintaining the Cathedral as a safe, dignified, and welcoming space for all generations to come.

### **How We're Raising Funds**

The Fundraising Committee is actively rolling out a variety of activities, and your support is needed. Planned fundraising efforts include:

- Music Concerts at the Cathedral
- Golf Day (August/September)
- Youth Movie Day with popcorn and wors rolls (June)
- High Tea for the Cathedral
- Walk for the Cathedral
- Spring Market & Merchandise Sales
- Cathedral Merchandise Sale (clothing, candles, and more)
- Gala Fundraising Dinner & Auction
- Individual Pledges and Donations
- SnapScan, EFT, Card Machine and Envelopes available

### **Get Involved**

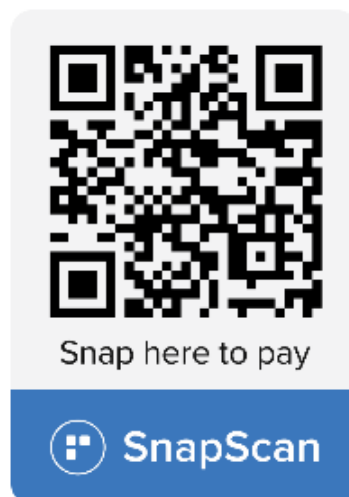
We need all hands on deck! You can:

- Join the Fundraising Team
- Pledge monthly (Reno25\_Surname\_Initial as reference)
- Offer your time, talent, or resources
- Suggest sponsors or funding leads
- Invite friends and family to our events

### **Let's build together!**

Contact: Churchwardens: Clement Sibiya (082 490 9191) | Sizakele Shongwe (072 643 4977)  
Alt. Churchwarden: K. Mulaudzi (082 840 0881)  
Fundraising Chair: V. Qwalela (079 032 3885)

*"God loves a cheerful giver."* – 2 Corinthians 9:7



<https://pos.snapscan.io/gr/PXW231075>

### Processional Hymn: SOF 408

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of angels:

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
Glory to God  
In the highest:

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesu, to Thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

### Introit Hymn: SOF 150

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED,  
Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression,  
And rule in equity.

He comes, with succour speedy,  
To those who suffer wrong;  
To help the poor and needy,  
And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth,  
Love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
Spring in His path to birth;  
Before Him, on the mountains,  
Shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness, in fountains,  
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before Him,  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore Him,  
His praise all people sing;  
To Him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend,  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,  
He on His throne shall rest;  
From age to age more glorious,  
All-blessing and all-blessed.  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand for ever,  
His changeless name of Love.

### Gloria: English

Glory be to God in heaven,  
Songs of joy and peace we bring,  
Thankful hearts and voices raising,  
To creation's Lord we sing:  
Lord we thank you, Lord we bless you  
Glory be to God our King. (X2)

Lamb of God, who on your shoulders  
Bore the load of this world's sin,  
Only Son of God the Father,  
You have brought us peace within:  
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy,  
Now your glorious reign begin. (X2)

You, O son of God are holy,  
You we praise with one accord,  
None in heav'n or earth is like you,  
Only you are Christ the Lord:  
With the Father, and the spirit,  
Ever worshipped and adored. (X2)

### Psalms 98

1. O sing to the Lord a new song:  
For he has done marvellous things;
2. His right hand and his holy arm:  
They have got him the victory.
3. The Lord has made known his salvation:  
He has revealed his just deliverance in  
the sight of the nations.
4. He has remembered his mercy and  
faithfulness towards the house of Israel:  
And all the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.
5. Shout with joy to the Lord all the earth:  
Break into singing and make melody.

6. Make melody to the Lord upon the harp:  
Upon the harp and with the sounds of  
praise.
7. With trumpets and with horns:  
Cry out in triumph before the Lord the  
king.
8. Let the sea roar and all that fills it:  
The good earth and those who live upon  
it.
9. Let the rivers clap their hands:  
And let the mountains ring out together  
before the Lord;
10. For he comes to judge the earth:  
He shall judge the world with  
righteousness and the peoples with  
equity.

### **Hymn For The Gradual: AMNS 37**

1. While shepherds watched their flock by  
night,  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.
2. 'Fear not' said he (for the mighty  
Had seized their troubled mind);  
'glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind.
3. 'To you in David's town this day  
Is born of David's line  
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:
4. 'The heavenly babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
And in a manger laid.'
5. Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus  
Addressed their joyful song:
6. 'All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be peace;  
Good will henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.'

### **Nicene Creed**

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  
Was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
And 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  
Who with the Father and the Son is  
worshipped  
And glorified  
Who 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**

### **Song For Peace**

#### **Offertory Hymn 1: SOF 155**

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING  
'Glory to the new-born King!  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'  
Hark! the herald angels sing:  
'Glory to the new-born King!'

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, the incarnate Deity!

Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing:  
'Glory to the new-born King.'

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings,  
Mild, He lays His glory by;  
Born that men no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth,  
Hark! the herald angels sing:  
'Glory to the new-born King.'

### **Offertory Hymn 2: SOF 36**

AWAY IN A MANGER, no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet  
head;  
The stars in the bright sky looked down  
where He lay;  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes:  
I love You, Lord Jesus! Look down from  
the sky  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask You to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in Your tender  
care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with You  
there.

### **Communion Hymn 1: SOF 420**

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by:  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fear of all the years  
Are met in thee to-night.

O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heaven.

No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him still,  
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descended to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in:  
Be born in us to-day.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell:  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.

### **Communion Hymn 2: seTswana 281**

1. TLANG, lo je Mmele o itshephileng  
Mme lo nwe Madi a yo lo swetseng.
2. Poloko yotlhe e tswa mo Mmeleng  
Le mo Mading a yo re mmapoletsweng.
3. Ene ke Kwana e r' e tlabetsweng,  
Le Mopresita yo re emelang.
4. 'Tlhabelo tsa mola' o fetileng  
Tsa tshwantsha se jaanong re se dirang.
5. Jesu o naya ba mo ikanyang  
Thuso Losong, le 'sedi mo 'fifing.

### **Post Communion Hymn: SOF 544**

THERE IS A REDEEMER,  
Jesus, God's own Son,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
Holy One.

*Thank You, O my Father,  
For giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit –  
Till the work on earth is done*

Jesus my Redeemer,  
Name above all names,  
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,  
O for sinners slain.

When I stand in glory  
I will see His face,  
And there I'll serve my King forever  
In that holy place.

*Thank You, O my Father,  
For giving us Your Son,  
And leaving Your Spirit –  
Till the work on earth is done*

### **Recessional Hymn: SOF 314**

Joy to the world! The Lord has come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,

And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns;  
Your sweetest songs employ.  
While fields and streams and hills and  
plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy!

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove.  
The glories of His righteousness,  
The wonders of his love,  
The wonders of his love,  
The wonders, the wonders of His love.