



Saint Alban's

A PLACE TO GROW TOGETHER

Welcome to St. Alban's! We are excited about our search for our next Rector, and thankful that you have found your way to us. We invite you to join us in reading and praying as we discern whether you may be the right priest for us, and we may be the parish where your ministry will continue to unfold. If you feel drawn into conversation with us, we would love to hear from you. The way to begin that dialogue is to submit an application (<https://www.episcopalmaine.org/congregations/search#appsteps>). We promise to consider your candidacy with due care, to guard your confidentiality, to keep you informed about our progress, and to join you in seeking what God has in mind for all of us.

St. Alban's is a vibrant parish. Our congregants vary in age, in their backgrounds and heritage, in their styles of worship, in their levels of participation, in their personal faith stories, and in the myriad gifts each brings to our community. We are able to worship in ways that honor and reflect our differences as well as our similarities. What we all share is the knowledge that God is present with us in our church and in the groups or activities in which we gather. Together we plan, we celebrate, we study, we serve, we work, we play, we support each other, we make music, we read, we learn, we teach, and we keep each other in our prayers.

We are a very active parish. Lay participation is a strength of our community. Numerous people contribute their time and gifts to outreach ministries in the Portland area and in Haiti. You will find that our vestry and a wide range of committees are extremely engaged and focused. Lay leaders play a strong role in our worship, particularly at our innovative and popular Celtic Eventide service. In summary, there is a strong sense of shared ownership of our missions and ministries, which speaks to the sense of "home" so many of us feel about our special community.

This has been a difficult year for everyone everywhere, including our parish. It's hard to hold onto our sense of community when we don't see each other except on Zoom, and that sense of community is what maintains and strengthens our faiths individually. Losing both our Rector and Assistant Rector in the middle of all of this has made it even more challenging. People are yearning for connection. We are in need of a Rector who can help us restore our sense of togetherness.

We are a well-established Parish who is boldly planning for our future. Over the last two years we have engaged in a process of reimagining both the centrality and the vitality of worship and music at St. Alban's. Through the combined efforts of many people in our parish, we have embarked on a capital campaign to fund a new pipe organ and a functional redesign of our worship space. We envision attracting new members by enriching our services with top notch music and improvements in how we use our worship space. We also intend to be even more welcoming to families by building upon our beloved children and youth programs. A strong, collaborative, and visionary leader will inspire and enable us to bring all of these missions, and more, to fruition.

We wish you well as you pursue your calling, and we look forward to meeting you if you decide to include St. Alban's in your search. Godspeed!