The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

The Right Reverend Jeff W. Fisher, D.D.
Bishop Suffragan of Texas

December 11, 2021

Dear Friends at St. Alban's,

Congratulations on the occasion of your 75th Anniversary! Susan and I are so pleased that we can join you, in person, for the celebration.

My relationship with St. Alban's actually began 40 years ago, in May of 1981. At that time, St. Alban's hosted a Happening weekend, a renewal weekend for teenagers that continues to this day in our diocese. At the Happening weekend that I attended in 1981, I worshipped in the beautiful nave of St. Alban's and I slept on the floor in a sleeping bag, in the area that is now called The Crèche. In God's good timing, 25 years later, almost to the day, I stepped into the pulpit at St. Alban's, as your tenth Rector.

Before I was elected as Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of Texas and the bishop for the east region, I was your Rector from 2006 until 2012. During my tenure, I witnessed what makes St. Alban's so special: faithful, fantastic, and fun lay people. Clergy come and go; yet lay people stay, as they make Jesus Christ the sure foundation.

St. Alban's is where our two sons, Scott and John, were raised in the faith, and where Susan used her gifts for ministry. Our family still cherishes our time in Waco, during BG. (BG = Before Gaines, as in Chip and Joanna). We remember decorating the church for Christmas Eve, Advent worship with the kids from the Central Texas String Academy, acolyting for countless services, making pancakes then burying the Alleluia on Shrove Tuesday, serving on the altar guild while stripping the altar on Maundy Thursday, funerals for faithful saints, weddings full of love and hope, and mission trips with youth.

Strong and relevant preaching, excellence in music and worship, and connection and outreach to the community - throughout the history of St. Alban's, these have been pillars in the service of Jesus Christ and his people. Susan and I give thanks for 75 years, and for many years to come. We love you, St. Alban's!

Faithfully yours,

+ Jeff W. Fisher

The Rt. Rev. Jeff W. Fisher
Tenth Bishop Suffragan of Texas