**St. Alban’s Chapel, Baton Rouge, LA**

**Report to Diocesan Convention 2015**

Now in our 87th year of ministry, the congregation of St. Alban’s Chapel continues to pursue its mission to provide support, refuge, and encouragement to the students, faculty, and staff of Louisiana State University. That mission is enabled by the generous support of the diocese and the annual giving of non-students at St. Alban’s Chapel.This congregation remains committed to paying the full diocesan request, to funding programs for students, as well as building a capital repairs fund and organ fund.

Our student ministry is focused on the Sunday evening dinner and worship, the “Lunch with C. S. Lewis”, our student ministry intern program, and our scholarship music program. The Sunday evening service remains a largely student service drawing around fifty or so, and always followed by a dinner that is provided and served by teams from the congregation. Our student ministry intern program continues to a major factor in the growth of our ministry to students, currently led by Janey Noble, Evan McMichael, and Camille Young. We also employ around twelve LSU undergraduates who serve as our weekly Sunday School teachers who support our growing Children’s Education program. Our primary outreach to students continues to be the *Lunch with C. S. Lewis*. We began the fall semester with a record attendance of 147 students from a wide variety of cultural and religious backgrounds. The meals are provided by generous donations from churches and some individuals throughout the diocese and are served by a loyal team of hosts from St. Alban’s. Over the years, that program has served to strengthen the university’s perception of St. Alban’s as a place of generosity and support for students. Finally, we enjoy a strong music program at both the morning and evening services, largely due to the leadership of our Director of Music, Ali Allerton, and six paid singers from the LSU School of Music. We continue to cultivate our relationship with the LSU School of Music regularly hosting recitals in the sanctuary. Other ongoing programs at St. Alban’s include a growing Children’s Education ministry, a Sunday morning Bible study led by Deacon Linda Armstrong, several AA groups, the Julian Gathering (contemplative prayer), and an annual summer retreat at the SECC.

In keeping with longstanding tradition, the St. Alban’s sanctuary remains open 24/7 and attracts all sorts of students seeking a place to reflect and prayer. Following discussions with the Executive Board, we now have in place clear and thoughtful plan to address our ongoing building maintenance needs drawing from funds donated to St. Alban’s Chapel and held by the diocese on our behalf.

I was thankfully able to take a three-month sabbatical (Easter through the end of July). The Rev. Skully Knight covered services in my absence and continues to be involved here as a regular guest preacher and celebrant, for which I am most thankful.

As I enter my 12th year as chaplain here, I again thank the entire diocese for supporting me, my family, and the congregation of St. Alban’s Chapel in the particular mission to which we have been called.

Faithfully yours and Geaux Tigers!

The Rev. Andrew S. Rollins

Chaplain