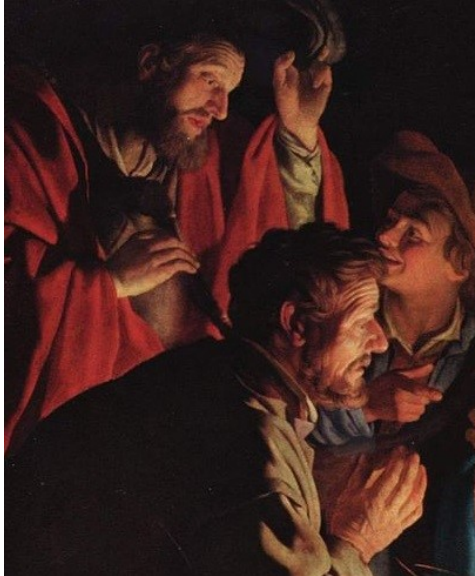


FOR ALL THE SAINTS



DECEMBER 2016 | JANUARY 2017

A publication of ALL SAINTS' CHURCH: *An Anglo-Catholic Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego*



ON THE COVER: Adoration of the Shepherds by Gerard van Honthorst (4 November 1592 – 27 April 1656) who was a Dutch Golden Age painter. Early in his career he visited Rome, where he had great success painting in a style influenced by Caravaggio. Following his return to the Netherlands he became a leading portrait painter. The painting hangs in the Wallraf-Ridhartz Museum in Cologne, Germany.

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INTERIM RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Background, Interim, Advent

For my introductory article, I have three things I'd like to share with you: a little family background, some information on the position of Interim Rector, and a major endeavor for Advent which places the parish in just the right place for the work of holy discerning.

Family Background

At 23 and 25, respectively, my wife Angela and I, and our first daughter, Jenna, came into the Church Divinity School of the Pacific seminary community (the same seminary from which both Fr. Victor Krulak and Fr. Ted Atwood graduated several years prior). Angela and I were the youngest couple in the Master of Divinity program at that time, the fall of 1980. We had been married for two years. We really were the babies of the community, since the average age of graduates from seminaries across the US was steadily climbing, and at that time around 40 or 41 years old. My mom and dad had us beat as youngsters, though, since they entered the same CDSP as a newly married couple right out of graduating from San Jose State. I was born in Portland, Oregon, 6 months after Dad graduated from seminary, and they were both 24.

We took our first daughter, Jenna, with us to seminary. Our second daughter, Shauna, would be born just as we were getting ready to take an intern year at a parish in Roseville, in Northern California. We managed to finance seminary primarily on the wages of Angela. It was not easy, but we finished seminary in the spring of 1984, and then headed back to our home state and diocese of Oregon. We spent 5 years on the staff at one of the premier west coast parishes at that time, in Salem, where I was ordained a priest.

Oregon was our pilgrimage homeland. That's where I went to attend university (Go Ducks!), and that's where Angela and I met, at her parish church. We were both confirmed in Oregon, married there, our first daughter born and baptized there, and even though it has been quite a long time since living there, it still does feel like homeland.

In 1989, we moved to Tulare, which is on Hwy 99, mid-point between Fresno and Bakersfield. It was quite the environmental and culture shock. But we felt it was God's

INTERIM RECTOR'S MESSAGE

(continued)

calling by vision, and we committed to staying there by God's grace at least until our daughters got through high school. Which they did, and more: six grandchildren later between the two of the them, and now Oregon has a run for its money in gravitational pull. San Diego feels a lot like western Oregon, and especially the coast which we loved. We have some natural affinity here by climate, but we also sense from our Anglo-Catholic roots that this time together with you all is going to also be a good time together emotionally and spiritually. In any case, I can assure you that although we may feel a pull elsewhere, you will have my full attention as your Interim.

This is a very short background bio, and there is lots more to share about my own background and my family's. I have no doubt that we will share more mutually as we spend time in ministry and prayer and life together.

The Interim Ministry

I want to share the basics of what Interim ministry is about. The following is a bit densely written, so keep this article around and you can refer to it later, and again. The preamble to the Letter of Agreement says "The Interim Clergy shall lead the Church as a pastor, priest and teacher, sharing in the councils of this congregation and of the whole Church, in communion with the Bishop. By word and action, informed at all times by the Holy Scriptures, the Book of Common Prayer, and the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese, the Interim Clergy shall proclaim the Gospel, love and serve Christ's people." That's the way it is and should be with every priest in charge of a congregation!

But the Interim has some particular tasks, as the Letter of Agreement goes on to outline - "The interim period, with settled pastoral leadership, is seen as a prime time for renewal and reenergizing the parish in its life and mission. Beyond maintaining effective ministry during this period, the Vestry and Interim Rector shall work together to prepare for healthy transition to the next rectorship. Specific tasks to be addressed include:

INTERIM RECTOR'S MESSAGE

(continued)

- Coming to terms with the history of this congregation and its relationships with previous clergy.
- Discovering the congregation's special identity, what it dreams of being and doing apart from previous clergy leadership.
- Dealing with shifts in leadership roles that naturally evolve in times of transition, allowing new leaders to come to the fore constructively.
- Renewing and reworking relationships with the diocese, so that each may be a more effective resource and support to the other.
- Building commitment to the leadership of the new rector in order to be prepared to move into the future with openness to new possibilities.”

Although there's not enough space to include all of the Agreement and the objectives in this column, (I will talk about them some more in the next month's column), it's important to also understand that your Senior Warden, Lucretia Locke, and I as the Interim Rector share the leadership of the Vestry. And that is a very good symbol of the interaction of the Vestry and the Interim for the benefit of the parish as the search begins for your new Rector.

In regard to the Search process, the Interim Rector is tasked to work with the Vestry appointed search committee, including any consultants employed, for the purpose of compiling a parish profile. The Interim Rector shall provide guidance and advice in the compilation of the parish profile. My first bit of advice for the Vestry has been that there is no reason in my estimation for building a new profile (a “best foot forward” narrative and description of the parish). We are establishing a review team to freshen up the existing profile. That advice will help the vestry get to the next phase a few months ahead of schedule. And regarding the Search team's work, I want to be clear that, “the Interim Rector shall not work with the Calling Committee as they solicit, develop, and screen candidates for call to be the next permanent Rector.” In other words, I'm not here to influence who is called. But I am here to help prepare the parish to be able to call and receive your next Rector.

INTERIM RECTOR'S MESSAGE

(continued)

Season of Prayer — Advent

The first job and the constant job of the entire congregation is prayer.

As you will hear me preach, YOU have a work, a task in this season of Interim. There is the work of every Christian to keep their eyes on Jesus by working, praying and giving for the sake of the Kingdom of God. During this Interim season it particularly means the stewardship of love with each other, and working to assist the developmental tasks of the Interim Rector. And also, with each other and as a parish there is the work of prayer to be done. To that end, I'm asking the parish to engage in a season of prayer during most of the Advent season and through the Feast of the Epiphany, to make 30 Days of Prayer. I'll be providing you with daily prayers, a scripture focus, sometimes a verse to memorize, a quote from a classic author on prayer, reflection questions, and some daily prayer objectives, all for the purpose of learning to deepen your ability to listen to our Lord Jesus Christ, and to focus your prayers on "discernment" for the parish. I'll also be focusing the Sunday sermons during that time on the how-to's and the benefits of prayer. What I ask YOU to give is a commitment to follow through the Days of Prayer ~ daily. It will be extremely beneficial to you in your growth as a disciple of the Lord if you would also make every effort to meet weekly for about one hour with some other members of the parish for prayer and sharing how you are doing with it all. The weekly groups would last for the duration of the 30 days, so you would meet 4 times.

Together in this Advent beginning of discerning, let us watch and wait for Jesus.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob" followed by a small cross-like flourish.

PULSE OF THE PARISH

Message from The Stewardship Committee

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

One of the highlights of Father Rob Eaton’s first Sunday as our interim rector was the ingathering of pledge cards on the feast of Christ the King. After a two-month stewardship campaign focusing on the theme of “Generosity,” we received 38 pledges for a total of \$87,710 to support the general operating budget of the parish in 2018. In a perfect illustration of the power of generosity, we also received 15 pledges for an unprecedented sum of \$12,040 for the support of our choir and music program.

After placing the pledge cards on the Altar, Father Eaton blessed our offerings, using words taken from a prayer originally composed by the Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, Bishop of the Diocese of Olympia. “Gracious and Loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving,” Father Rob prayed, “These cards represent our sweat, our lives, even our dreams. The pledges we make on them are but tokens of the awesome gifts and provision that have been given to us, and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place.” At the end of this prayer of blessing, the congregation joined in saying or singing the traditional Doxology, “Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.”

In celebrating the ingathering of pledge cards as we welcome a new interim rector, we have before us a powerful symbol of the needs and opportunities of our parish in the coming year. As a vital part of his interim ministry at All Saints’, Fr. Rob will be working with us to begin the process of calling a new rector. Among the challenging tasks we will undertake together are coming to terms with our history and discovering the dreams and goals for the future that constitute our congregation’s special identity.

As we move into this time of transition, it is the hope and prayer of the Stewardship Committee that we may more fully realize the guiding principle that stewardship is an ongoing, year-round activity of thanksgiving for God’s gifts, embracing all offerings of treasure, time, and talents. Although Ingathering Sunday represents an important step in our stewardship of God’s gifts each year, the simple fact is that it is never too late to make

PULSE OF THE PARISH

(continued)

a pledge. Additional pledges received through the first three Sundays in Advent will be used by the Vestry in establishing the parish budget for 2018. This budget will mark a crucial step toward our goals of welcoming a new rector, while also assuring the viability of the parish in the future by pursuing the diocesan-mandated goal of achieving a balanced budget by 2019.

Pledge forms and pencils will be available in the pews and on the table at the back of church throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. Completed pledge cards may be placed in the offering plates any Sunday or delivered (in person, through the U.S. mail, by email, or by phone) to the parish office. And if you are able to offer your time and talents for any of the ministries or activities of our parish, all you need to do is let Fr. Rob or any member of the Vestry know how you can help during this time of transition.

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 2 | Societies of Mary | 11:00am |
| | <i>All are welcome to join the Societies of Mary for their monthly day of devotion, beginning in the Chapel with Rosary at 11:00am with Mass to follow. After which we will adjourn to the Parish Hall for a potluck luncheon.</i> | |
| 3 | The First Sunday of Advent | |
| | Mass | 8:00am |
| | Solemn Mass | 10:30am |
| 5 | Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, C.342 (tr) | |
| | Mass | Noon |
| 10 | The Second Sunday of Advent | |
| | Mass | 8:00am |
| | Solemn Mass | 10:30am |
| 12 | Lucy, Martyr in Sicily, 304 (tr) | |
| | Mass | Noon |
| | Finance Committee Meeting | 6:30pm |
| 17 | The Third Sunday of Advent — Rose Sunday | |
| | Mass | 8:00am |
| | Solemn Mass | 10:30am |
| 19 | St. Thomas the Apostle (tr) | |
| | Mass | Noon |
| | Vestry Meeting | 7:00pm |

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------------------------|
| 24 | The Fourth Sunday of Advent
High Mass with Christmas Hymns | 9:30am |
| 24 | Christmas Eve (The Nativity of Our Lord)
Christmas Musical Offering – Organ, Choir, Carols
Solemn Mass
Christmas Eve Cookie Party | 10:30pm
11:00pm
12:00am |
| 25 | Christmas Day
Low Mass with Hymns | 10:00am |
| 26 | St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr
Mass | Noon |
| 31 | First Sunday after Christmas
Mass
Solemn Mass | 8:00am
10:30am |

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 1 | New Year's Day – <i>Office Closed</i> | |
| 2 | The Most Holy Name Of Our Lord Jesus Christ (tr) | |
| | Mass | Noon |
| 6 | Societies of Mary | 11:00am |
| | <i>All are welcome to join the Societies of Mary for their monthly day of devotion, beginning in the Chapel with Rosary at 11:00am with Mass to follow. After which we will adjourn to the Parish Hall for a potluck luncheon.</i> | |
| 7 | The First Sunday after the Epiphany | |
| | Mass | 8:00am |
| | Solemn Mass | 10:30am |
| 9 | William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645 (tr) | |
| | Mass | Noon |
| | Finance Committee Meeting | 6:30pm |
| 13 | 90th Birthday Party for Doris Edwards (Parish Hall) | 11:30am |
| 14 | The Second Sunday after the Epiphany | |
| | Mass | 8:00am |
| | Solemn Mass | 10:30am |
| 16 | Antony, Abbot in Egypt (tr) | |
| | Mass | Noon |
| | Vestry Meeting | 7:00pm |

PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

21	The Third Sunday after the Epiphany	
	Mass	8:00am
	Solemn Mass	10:30am
23	The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (tr)	
	Mass	Noon
27	WillanWest 2018 Celebration	
	Votive Mass	7:00pm
28	The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany	
	Mass	8:00am
	Solemn Mass	10:30am
30	Charles Stuart, King of England and Scotland, 1649	
	Mass	Noon

PARISH LIFE

Christmas Poinsettias



We are offering an opportunity for parishioners to dedicate a Christmas poinsettia in memory of a loved one. These flowers will be used to decorate the High Altar and Sanctuary for Christmas. Orders must be completed by Monday, December 18th to ensure that all names will be in the Christmas bulletins. We ask for a \$25 donation. Forms are on the front and back tables in the church.

We will be preparing the Church and the patio for Christmas on Saturday the 23rd and will meet at 9am in the Flower Room. All are welcome!

Christmas Eve/Day and New Year's Eve Mass Schedule

- Sunday, December 24—Christmas Eve
Mass with Carols at 10:00am
Musical Offering – Christmas Music: Organ, Choir and Carols at 10:30pm
Solemn Mass at 11:00pm
Christmas Eve Cookie Party at 12:00am
- Sunday, December 25—Christmas Day
Low Mass with Hymns at 10:00am
- Sunday, December 30—New Year's Eve
Low Mass at 8:00am
Solemn Mass at 10:30am

PARISH LIFE

Garden Improvement Update – By Sue Johnston



I met with a landscaper/designer to glean some thoughts and ideas from him for the most advantageous way to use the space next to the Preschool for our cutting garden. He is also committed to repurposing what is currently present (railroad ties that are still usable, etc.) and ridding the space of ground squirrels, which are not. I was able to put forth my ideas about what I would like to see planted that the Flower Guild could put to good use on Sundays. I think we have come up with a viable plan and I wish to speak to one or two others so that I might have some different suggestions as well. Once our path (no pun intended) has been decided upon, I will have a simple grid plan drawn up and present it to the Vestry for consideration. I have had several people volunteer to help with the actual cleanup and to bring shovels to rework the soil once we have completed the rototilling and added some amended soil. Others have offered to donate plants and I will have a list of the plants we wish to incorporate into our space. My goal is to have this project completed with donations of time, money and muscle with no expense to All Saints'. This project will be a work in progress but I hope to make it a pleasant and relaxing environment as is our garden in the courtyard.

TREASURER'S CORNER

By John Gray III



Operating income is over budget for the month of October, and expenses were under budget.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<i>Revenues</i>	\$31,505	\$26,760	\$4,745
<i>Expenses</i>	\$23,817	\$41,575	\$(17,758)

Key *REVENUE* deviations from plan were:

- Current month pledges were \$342 under budget
- Music revenue was \$189 under budget
- Property Management revenue is over budget by \$1,186 due to rent increases
- Investment income was \$4,218 over budget due to distribution timing differences
- Fund donations were over budget by \$27
- Other income is \$229 over budget

Key *EXPENSE* deviations from budget were:

- Pastoral expense was \$9,835 under budget
- Business expenses were \$3,320 under budget
- Facilities expenses were \$1,393 under budget
- Music Program expense was \$682 under budget
- Property Management expense was \$2,050 under budget

Totals through October:

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<i>Pledges</i>	\$93,164	\$104,489	\$(11,326)
<i>Total Revenues</i>	\$278,959	\$279,105	\$(146)
<i>Expenses</i>	\$381,299	\$431,751	\$(57,452)

For the first ten months of 2017, we are under budget by \$57,307

PRESCHOOL CORNER

By John Gray III



Operating income is over budget for the month of October, but expenses were also over budget.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<i>Revenues</i>	\$48,642	\$44,675	\$3,967
<i>Expenses</i>	\$49,511	\$43,472	\$6,039

Key *REVENUE* deviations from budget were:

- Current month tuition was \$3,612 over budget

Key *EXPENSE* deviations from budget were:

- Operating expenses for October were \$6,039 over budget, mostly due to having substitute teachers and buying new tables and chairs for the classrooms

Net Loss for October was \$869

Preschool Update for December:

We currently have 78 children enrolled for December – of those 22 are part-time and 11 are toddlers. We continue to have waiting lists for both Toddlers and Pre-K.

The Annual *Christmas pageant* in the church and party in the Parish Hall will be on December 15th at 5 pm. If you miss enjoying a children's pageant and party, All Saints' parishioners are invited to join the All Saints' Preschool children and families for this holiday event.

ALL SAINTS' HOSTS

WILLANWEST 2018 willanwest.org

Dr. Ruben Valenzuela, Artistic Director

Mr. Angel Mannion, Co-Artistic Director



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH has been announced as the home of Willan West 2018. Willan West will be a year-long Southern California celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the death of English-Canadian composer Healey Willan. Willan is one of the most prolific composers of liturgical music since J.S. Bach, and one of the most important organist-composers of the Anglican Church.

WILLAN WEST will be offering 14 events at All Saints' that includes Masses, Evensong and Benediction, and two concerts. These events will focus on Willan's lesser-known repertoire, with a particular emphasis on the choral music written for the parish of St. Mary Magdalene (Toronto) where Willan was Precentor and Organist from 1921-1968. Many of these events will be preceded by pre-event symposia on topics related to Willan's life and music.

Each of the 14 events will be sung by the WILLAN COLLECTIVE, a local professional chamber choir under the direction of Dr. Ruben Valenzuela. The Willan Collective will be divided into 2 choirs: Gallery Choir & Ritual Choir, in keeping with the choral

ALL SAINTS' HOSTS

WILLANWEST 2018 willanwest.org

tradition of St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto. The Gallery Choir of 12 singers will sing the polyphonic repertoire (Mass Ordinary & Motets) from the West end of the church, whereas the Ritual Choir of 4 singers will sing the Gregorian Propers from the chancel at the East end of the church. This will be an opportunity to hear this repertoire sung in its proper Anglo-Catholic context.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH:

All events begin at 7PM. A free-will offering will be received.

27 JANUARY: Votive Mass

24 FEBRUARY: Solemn High Mass

24 MARCH: Votive Mass

28 APRIL: Votive Mass

29 APRIL: Evensong & Benediction

26 MAY: Solemn High Mass

23 JUNE: Votive Mass

24 JUNE: CONCERT: Choral Works of Healey Willan

28 JULY: Votive Mass

22 SEPTEMBER: Votive Mass

12 OCTOBER: CONCERT: Marking Healey Willan's Birthday

14 OCTOBER: Evensong & Benediction

27 OCTOBER: Votive Mass

17 NOVEMBER: Solemn High Mass

In addition to the events listed above, additional events will be held at All Souls' Episcopal Church (1475 Catalina Blvd., San Diego 92107). Check the Willan West website schedule for a complete listing.

ALL SAINTS' HOSTS

WILLANWEST 2018 willanwest.org

ABOUT HEALEY WILLAN

DR. HEALEY WILLAN, C.C. (b. Balham, England, Oct. 12, 1880; d. Toronto, Feb. 16, 1968) composer, organist and teacher. Admitted as an Associate of the Royal College of Organists, 1897 and Fellow, 1899, from 1903-13 he was organist and choirmaster at St. John the Baptist Kensington. He moved to Toronto in 1913 as Head of the Theory Department of the Toronto Conservatory of Music (Vice-Principal 1920-36). From 1921 till his death he was Precentor of the church of St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto, which became a mecca for church musicians. He was appointed Lecturer and Examiner for the University of Toronto (U of T) in 1914. In 1934 he founded the Tudor Singers, which he conducted until 1939. In 1937 he was appointed Professor of Music at U of T, a position he held until his retirement in 1950. An influential teacher, Willan was also active as the University Organist. In 1953 he was the first ever non-Briton commissioned to write an anthem for the coronation of Elizabeth II in Westminster Abbey (*O Lord Our Governour*) and in 1956 he received the Lambeth Doctorate, Mus. D Cantuar from the Archbishop of Canterbury.

More than half of his output of over 850 compositions was sacred works for choir which include many anthems, hymn anthems and mass settings. His secular music includes over 50 choral works, over 100 songs and song arrangements for voice and piano, many works for piano, for voice and instrumental ensemble, for voice and orchestra, two symphonies, a piano concerto, chamber works, incidental music for stage works, ballad operas and the opera *Deirdre*.

Willan was a staunch conservative, grounded in counterpoint and fugue. Interested in new trends, he saw no reason to abandon his roots, and in *Deirdre*, which he regarded as one of his finest works, he centred on a post-Wagnerian idiom. His choral music composed for St. Mary Magdalene has had a significant influence on composers of all denominations. His major works signaled the acceptance in Canada of large scale composition. Frequently known as the Dean of Canadian Composers, he was made a Companion of the Order of Canada at its inception in 1967.

ALL SAINTS' HOSTS

WILLANWEST 2018 willanwest.org

ABOUT RUBEN VALENZUELA (conductor, organist, musicologist)

Ruben Valenzuela is the Artistic Director of Willan West 2018. He is also the Director of Music and Organist of All Souls' Episcopal Church (San Diego), as well as the Founder and Artistic Director of the Bach Collegium San Diego, one of this country's leading early music ensembles. Upcoming guest appearances in 2017-18 will include directing Bach Vespers at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New York City and performances of Bach's *St. John Passion* at Boston University (Marsh Chapel). Valenzuela holds a BMus in Church Music and Organ from Loma Linda University, an MA from San Diego State University in Musicology, and a PhD in Musicology from Claremont Graduate University.

HONORARY ADVISORS

Mary Willan Mason
Albert Mahon

ADVISORY PANEL

Andrew Adair
Nathan Costa
Anne-Marie Dicce
The Reverend Joseph Dirbas
Fr. Scott A. Haynes, SJC
Stephanie Martin
Stephen Sturk
Holly Teetzel

COMMEMORATION

Thomas the Apostle



The Apostle Thomas (Hebrew or Aramaic for "twin") was also called "Didymus" (Greek for "twin"). He was absent when the Risen Lord appeared to the other apostles on the evening of Easter Day, and refused to believe that Christ had indeed risen until he had seen him for himself, but when he had seen Him, he said to Him, "My Lord and My God." (John 20:19-29)

Because of this episode, he has been known ever since as "Doubting Thomas." But we ought also to remember his earlier words, when Jesus announced His intention of going to the Jerusalem area, brushing aside the protests of His disciples that His life was in danger there, at which Thomas said to the others: "Let us also go, that we may die with him." (John 11:7,8,16) If Thomas was pessimistic, he was also sturdily loyal.

COMMEMORATION

Thomas the Apostle (continued)

At the Last Supper, Jesus said: "I go to prepare a place for you.... And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know." Thomas replied: "Lord, we know not whither thou goest, and how can we know the way?" To this Jesus answered: "I am the way, the truth and the life." (John 14:1-6)

Thomas is mentioned again (John 21) as one of the seven disciples who were fishing on the Sea of Galilee (Sea of Tiberias) when the Risen Lord appeared to them. Aside from this he appears in the New Testament only as a name on lists of the Apostles. A couple of centuries later a story was circulating in the Mediterranean world that he had gone to preach in India; and there is a Christian community in India (the Kerala district) that claims descent from Christians converted by the the preaching of Thomas.

The tradition among Christians in India is that Thomas was speared to death near Madras, and accordingly he is often pictured holding a spear. Paintings of martyrs often show them holding or accompanied by the instruments with which they were put to death.

From James Kiefer's BIO's

COMMEMORATION

The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle



On January 25 we remember how Saul (or Paul) of Tarsus, formerly an enemy and persecutor of the early Christian Church, was led by God's grace to become one of its chief spokesmen.

Our chief sources of information about the Apostle Paul are (1) several of his own letters, preserved for us in the New Testament, and (2) the account of him given by Luke in the book of Acts.

One naturally asks whether we can be sure that the letters attributed to Paul are in fact his. A partial answer is that a forger would run into difficulty. If he wrote a letter, say, to the church at Corinth during Paul's lifetime, and signed Paul's name, the Corinthians would naturally mention it the next time they sent a message to Paul, and Paul would naturally reply: "What are you talking about? I never wrote anything like that!" If a letter supposedly to Corinth were circulated after Paul's death, sooner or later a copy would reach Corinth, and the members of the church there would ask, "If Paul wrote this letter and sent it to us while he lived, how does it happen that no one here has ever heard of it?" Thus, it would be difficult to obtain credence for a forged letter to a congregation. This argument does not apply to a letter to an individual (such as Timothy or Titus). Moreover, it arguably does not apply to the Letter to the Ephesians. Although some ancient copies of this letter begin:

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are [at Ephesus and] faithful in Christ Jesus:

COMMEMORATION

The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle (continued)

other ancient copies read simply "also" instead of the bracketed words. Thus, it is widely supposed that the letter was written as a general form letter to many churches, with the name of the church to be filled in in each particular copy. This view is supported by the fact that the letter contains no personal greetings and makes no references to the past history of the congregation addressed. Now, a forger might write such a form letter, circulate it after Paul's death, and escape detection, since no particular congregation could say, "Since we did not hear of this letter before, Paul could not have written it." And accordingly, we find that it is precisely Ephesians and the Pastorals (the letters to Timothy and Titus) that are questioned by some scholars who acknowledge Paul's authorship of all the other letters claiming to be by him. (I am not counting the letter to the Hebrews, which is not signed.)

Our other source of information is the book of Acts, where Paul (at first called Saul) appears in 7:58-8:1; 9:1-30; 11:25-30; 12:25-28:31. Here we read how Paul at first opposed and persecuted the Church, how he had a vision of Christ and was converted, and devoted the rest of his life to spreading the Gospel of Christ.

Portions of this account include statements like "we then crossed over to Troas," which are taken to mean that Luke was a companion of Paul for part of Paul's journeys. Since these accounts, particularly those of the shipwreck on Paul's last voyage, show every sign of being accurate eyewitness accounts (see the book *The Voyage and Shipwreck of Saint Paul*, by James Smith of Jordan Hill, FRS) and since a comparison of the style of various portions of the book of Acts makes it highly improbable that it is a scissors-and-paste job, with portions of one man's work inserted into a story by someone else, many scholars consider the claim that Acts was written by a companion of Paul to be well established.

On the other hand, it is not always clear how the chronology of Luke's account of the life of Paul is to be fitted with the autobiographical snippets we find in Paul's own writings, and for this reason some scholars dispute the genuineness of the book of Acts.

From James Kiefer's BIO's

NOTES

NOTES



ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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