

# FOR ALL THE SAINTS

December 2023 | January 2024



## Envisioning New Beginnings

## ALL SAINTS' MISSION STATEMENT

*"Our mission is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ's love to our entire community through traditional Anglo-Catholic worship, fellowship, outreach, and Christian formation."*

## OUR VISION

*"We strive to be a haven of healing, reconciliation, joy and peace in service to our wider community and beyond, so that our example in prayer and practice may reflect Christ's love for us all."*

## OUR CORE VALUES:

- Welcoming strangers like old friends
- Embracing the Anglo-Catholic tradition
- Being dependable members of a caring community
- Respecting each other's differences
- Being faithful stewards of God's gifts
- Remembering that God loves everyone unconditionally

On the cover: Picture illustrating new beginnings.

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# FROM YOUR RECTOR

## Envisioning New Beginnings



The end of November 2023 marked the end of my fourth year of service as rector at All Saints', and December will mark the beginning of my fifth year of rectorate.

At this point the congregation has already had enough time to get used to my style of leading, my preaching, my way of celebrating, my assets and shortfalls. In other words, the parish already knows the rector. He is not the “new” rector anymore.

Likewise, the rector has had enough time to get to know the lay leaders, the long-standing members, and the newer ones, those who cannot longer attend because of their advanced age or physical disabilities, and those who never fail to come. The rector also already knows the congregation well enough, and has even managed to learn most of the names. Recently we had a one-day retreat with the Vestry. It was a blessed time of devotion and prayer, but also a time to exchange useful ideas and viewpoints related to the mission and vision of our church.

Covid-19 struck just a few months after I started as a rector here, so it was a challenging time with significant limitations in our projections to carry out our ministry, but at the same time these challenges made us modify our views in relation to how certain things can be done.

All Saints' had never thought of livestreaming its main services before, but we were practically forced to do it during the pandemic, and have kept on doing it ever since. We also started to hold certain meetings online instead of doing it in person, and two of our

# FROM YOUR RECTOR

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regular monthly meetings are currently held online as a rule.

We had to be creative, and adapt to the new circumstances, so we used our courtyard as our worship place for some time, and this even attracted some of the members we have at present in our congregation.

Some of the things we tried out after Covid-19 have worked well; others have not. Spanish-speaking services were held in the chapel on Sundays at 1 p.m. for several months, but they had to be cancelled due to lack of attendance. However, two of the people who did attend this service regularly are now members of our regular congregation, and one of them is a new acolyte.

Our parish has been struggling with the fact that after Covid-19 enrollment levels at the Preschool have significantly been reduced, so we have recently relocated all the students and teachers to the space in the old rectory building, and are now making efforts to have a not-for-profit tenant occupy our big educational building.

In the last few months we have been making coordinated efforts with outreach organizations like ECS and others to involve our parish in more social service to the wider community, but we are sure that much more can be done.

One of our greater problems is the lack of children and young people in our congregation. Although it is true that we have failed to acknowledge that the children at the Preschool are in fact our children, the reality is that we do not have practically any children involved in our parish life. At present there is only one girl taking part in Christian formation.

As for the youth, although we do have two or three young people in the congregation, they are not enough to make up a youth group with activities that would suit their age group.

It is a fact that a local church must serve the people that make it up. If our parish is made up of elderly people mainly, these are the people who we must prioritize in our ministry, and we do.

# FROM YOUR RECTOR

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(continued)

But the sad truth is that a local church where there are practically no children and young people is destined to die in time. Who will replace those who pass away? And we are all here on earth for some time only.

So here are some challenges to think and meditate seriously about, if we envision a vital and committed church for the near and not so near future, able to carry out the reconciling mission that God has entrusted us with.

If you have any concrete ideas that can help us have more children and young people in our local church, tell the rector or any of the church leaders about them. We are all eager to start working towards this aim.

If you know of any other useful ways in which we can be of greater loving service to the community out there, do not hesitate to let us know. And, by the way, we need people to carry out these tasks as well.

If you feel called to any of the ministries we already have in our church, or even to a ministry that you think should be started in the parish, do not hesitate to let us know.

A new church year has just started, and it is the perfect time for both the rector and the congregation to envision new beginnings, and to put the vision into practice.

Father Carlos E. Expósito I  
Rector

# PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## ALL SAINTS' MASSES & GATHERINGS

On Sundays we worship in our historic church. The Sunday service will be on Zoom. To join the Zoom Meeting click [here](#).

The following worship services will be held in All Saints' St. Mary Chapel.

- Noon Mass on Tuesdays
- Fridays at 10:00am Morning Prayer
- The next Societies of Mary Day of Devotion will be held on Saturday, December 9 at 11am and in January on the 7th at 11am.

## SPECIAL CLASSES AND PROGRAMS.

- Sundays from 10:00am to 10:45am – Christian Formation and First Communion Instruction for children ages 5-12 in the Parish Hall taught by Lucretia Locke. For registration, call (619) 298-7729 or email us at [info@allsaintschurch.org](mailto:info@allsaintschurch.org)
- Christian Formation—Book Study—the first group is reading and discussing Fr. Nicolosi's Book "Strength in Adversity" and the second group is reading and discussing "A Most Peculiar Book by Kristin Swenson. Group I meets in the Rector's office; Group II in the Library.
- Thursdays – Spanish Class from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Meeting in the Library, taught by Fr. Carlos.

# PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## December

- |    |  |                                  |
|----|--|----------------------------------|
| 1  | Nichols Ferrar, Deacon, 1637<br>Mass (St. Mary Chapel)   | Noon                             |
| 3  | <b>The First Sunday of Advent</b><br>Mass<br>Holiday Arts and Crafts Show and Sale<br>San Diego Music Coterie Christmas Concert  | 10:00am<br>9:00-2:00pm<br>2:30pm |
| 5  | Clement of Alexandria, Priest c 210<br>Mass (St. Mary Chapel)  | Noon                             |
| 7  | Spanish Class (Library) Taught by Fr. Carlos   | 1pm—3pm                          |
| 8  | Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary<br>Morning Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)  | 10:00am                          |
| 9  | <b>Societies of Mary</b> (St. Mary Chapel)<br><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> | 11:00am                          |
| 10 | <b>The Second Sunday of Advent</b><br>Mass<br>Christian Formation—Rector's Office and Library  | 10:00am<br>Noon                  |
| 12 | Jane Francis de Chantal, 1641<br>Mass (St. Mary Chapel)<br>Finance Committee Meeting via Zoom  | Noon<br>6:30pm                   |
| 14 | Spanish Class (Library) Taught by Fr. Carlos   | 1pm—3pm                          |
| 15 | Morning Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)   | 10:00am                          |

# PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## December

17	<b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b> Mass Vestry Meeting (Rector's Office)	10:00am Noon
19	Mass (St. Mary Chapel)	Noon
21	Spanish Class (Library) Taught by Fr. Carlos	1pm—3pm
22	Morning Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)	10:00am
24	<b>The Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> Mass	10:00am
24	<b>Christmas Eve</b> Musical Offering Christmas Eve Mass	8:30pm 9:00pm
25	<b>The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ</b> Christmas Day Mass	10:00am
26	St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr Mass	Noon
28	Spanish Class (Library) Taught by Fr. Carlos	1pm—3pm
29	Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1170 Morning Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)	10:00am
31	<b>The First Sunday after Christmas Day</b> Mass	10:00am

# PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## January

2	Mass (St. Mary Chapel)	Noon
4	Spanish Class (Library) Taught by Fr. Carlos	1pm—3pm
5	Sarah, Theodora and Syncletica of Egypt Morning Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)	10:00am
6	<b>Societies of Mary</b> (St. Mary Chapel) <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 <b>Mass to follow celebrating The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ.</b> After which we will adjourn to the Parish Hall for a potluck luncheon.</i>	11:00am
7	<b>The First Sunday after the Epiphany (The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ)</b> Mass	10:00am
9	Julia Chester Emery, Lay Leader and Missioner, 1922 Mass (St. Mary Chapel) Finance Committee Meeting via Zoom	10:00am 6:30pm
11	Spanish Class (Library) Taught by Fr. Carlos	1pm—3pm
12	Aelred of Rievaulx, Monastic and Theologian, 1167 Morning Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)	10:00am
14	<b>The Second Sunday after the Epiphany</b> Mass Christian Formation — Rector's Office and Library	10:00am Noon
16	Mass (St. Mary Chapel)	Noon

# PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## January

18	Spanish Class (Library) Taught by Fr. Carlos	1pm—3pm
19	Wulfstan of Worcester, Bishop, 1095 Morning Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)	10:00am
21	<b>The Third Sunday after the Epiphany</b> Mass Vestry Meeting (Rector's Office)	10:00am Noon
23	Phillips Brooks, Bishop 1893 Mass (St. Mary Chapel)	Noon
25	Spanish Class (Library) Taught by Fr. Carlos	1pm—3pm
26	Morning Prayer (St. Mary Chapel)	10:00am
28	<b>The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</b> Mass Annual Meeting Parish Hall	10:00am 11:30am
30	Mass (St. Mary Chapel)	Noon

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# PARISH LIFE

## Year-end Treasurer's Report

As we begin our journey through the Advent season, it is an appropriate time to begin preparing for our celebration at Christmas of the birth of Jesus Christ. At the heart of our observance of this holy season will be the celebrations of the Mass on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, as well as weekday and Sunday services throughout the 12 days of Christmas. In addition, it is an appropriate time to consider what special Christmas gifts we might make to support our parish.

It is now more than 47 years since I first attended a Sunday service at All Saints' Episcopal Church. Throughout that time we have relied on generous year-end gifts from parishioners and friends of the parish. Pledge envelopes have long included an envelope marked "Christmas offering." Back in my early years at All Saints', I remember that announcements in the parish newsletter suggested that an appropriate Christmas offering might be an amount equal to the value of the average family Christmas gift. As always, this kind of Christmas offering would seem appropriate for most parishioners, including those who no longer use envelopes for their weekly offerings.

In addition, we encourage year-end gifts from parishioners who may be able to support our mission and ministry while simultaneously lowering their taxes. Checks or on-line donations may be deductible, though it is important that individuals rely on the guidance of their own tax advisers. In recent years, we have received generous year-end contributions through donor-directed trusts created by individuals who wish to be able to designate the religious and charitable institutions they will support with funds previously set aside. Those who have created such a trust are generally able to direct a trustee to send a check to All Saints' Parish in the name of the person who created the trust. Theresa Krist, our talented business administrator, and I will do our best to answer any questions you may have.

# PARISH LIFE

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**(continued)**

During the Advent season, we ask that you prayerfully consider what Christmas gift is appropriate for you. We at All Saints' are grateful for all year-end offerings whether large or small.

Edward V. Heck

Treasurer

[edheck46@gmail.com](mailto:edheck46@gmail.com)

In this December/January issue of our bi-monthly newsletter we continue with our

# PARISH LIFE

## Life Stories of Members of All Saints'

ongoing series of life stories of members of our parish. In this issue Fr. Cherian Pulimootil shares his life story.



I was asked to share some personal information and am happy to do so.

I grew up in South India. As a college dropout and without any special skills, I faced a bleak future. But I never disregarded my Christian faith and continued to be active in the work of the local parish. One day the choirmaster introduced me to his friend, a prominent CPA (Certified Public Accountant) in the town, to get trained in accountancy. After three years, I got a clerical job and gradually I climbed the ladder of success to become the chief accountant of a manufacturing company. I also had a number of clients who wanted me to prepare their accounts for filing annual tax returns. About a decade of hard work resulted in fulfilling my family's financial needs and I felt that God must have been leading me to do something even greater. It was revealed to me through my father when he shared his own failure to follow the family's wish to be an ordained minister. I was thinking about it too, challenged by the Bible verse, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." With prayers and full support from both my parents, I was ready to pursue it.

But lack of a college degree to join for theological studies was my first concern and going back to my previous college to obtain it was unthinkable, where I could be treated as a misfit, when many young high school graduates were plenty to enroll. An evangelist friend encouraged me to seek college admission elsewhere, especially outside the country. He initiated the application process with many such colleges. It was a miracle that I was offered college admission by a church supported institution in Virginia, USA, to complete my bachelor degree. Subsequently, I secured a seat for theological studies at the School of

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## Life Stories of Members of All Saints'

Theology, the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. I was convinced that God was leading me to serve the church as an ordained minister.

While in seminary, I married my college friend, Ann Crumley, a teacher. After my graduation, I met with another challenge — to have an Episcopal bishop ordain me. In the meantime, I got an offer to teach at a Christian School in South India for which I had to earn a Master's degree in Sociology! By the middle of 1979, both Ann and I left the States to work as teachers with hopes for me to be ordained in my native land! Despite my work at a Christian school as well as with the local church, my ordination was delayed which pushed me to experience a period of 'dark night of the soul.' However, I never gave up my hope but kept on praying for the ordination.

Ann continued to teach at the school but her heart was in flame when she experienced the plight of poor mothers and children in the local community. In answer to the prayers, she started a nutritional program, and it was mainly for mothers with children under five years of old, she named it 'Under-Five Clinic.' Our daughter, Hannah, was born in the year 1980. She was baptized in my home parish, the Church of South India, a part of the Anglican Communion. She studied at the same school where we taught. After sixteen years of stay in South India, all three of us welcomed the opportunity to return to the States, which of course, rekindled my long cherished desire to seek ordination again.

People who move from place to place know how difficult it can be with the transition process. First to find a place to stay and then jobs to do! After facing some challenges, the Lord opened the door for me to join the Philosophy & Religion Department at James Madison University to teach a few courses. Ann joined Hayfield Secondary School. Hannah excelled in her high school studies and we attended Sunday worship services at the local Episcopal Church. Their help led me to seek the ordination from the Diocese of Virginia.

Wherever I was sent to work with congregations, committees, and for training sessions, I felt God's hands has been leading me to overcome the trials, anxieties, and at last to fulfill

# PARISH LIFE

## Life Stories of Members of All Saints'

all the canonical requirements to be ordained first as a deacon and then a priest, both in the same year 2009. My own two sisters and their families in India were not able to attend the ordination ceremony because of travel restrictions. My parents had already left for their eternal home, but I deeply felt their presence. Of course, my dad and mom would be seeing this miracle from heaven and rejoicing at my ordination. The local church families and friends joined with my own family did all their best to celebrate that very special day. Though I waited over thirty-five years, it only strengthened my faith to realize the fact that the good Lord would never turn down the fervent prayers of His people, and would only bless them to grow in obedience and faith.

I served as an Assisting priest, Associate, Interim-rector, Rector in several churches affiliated with the Episcopal Dioceses of Virginia, Southern Virginia, and San Diego. My last appointment was to serve St. Paul's Episcopal Church, in Yuma, Arizona, and returned to San Diego to stay with my family, just in time before the outbreak of the Covid pandemic. Like many, I was faced with nothing much to do for about two years except to help a church in Los Angeles with a few on-line and in-person Sunday worship services. I also used this unwanted leisure time to complete my memoirs and published them with the help of WESTBOW Press in 2021. A major reason for this publication was to honor God's name, who would always care for His faithful no matter what travails they would face, but strengthen them to put in use the talents and time for His glory and the welfare of others.

One of the greatest joys now for me and my wife is to stay with our daughter Hannah and her family in San Diego. She is a graduate of the Medical College of Virginia and UCSD, who is now employed at the Rady Children's Hospital. Attending Sunday Services at All Saints' Episcopal Church have always been a great joy for all of us. The Anglo-Catholic liturgy led by the priest and the choir lifts the spirit to worship with others in this church filled with beauty.

I was asked to provide a brief information for the parish newspaper and I tried to condense it as best as possible. But if you obtain a copy of my book titled 'Travails Through Tides' (from West Bow Press Publishing Co., or Amazon), it has more in it to

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## Life Stories of Members of All Saints'

read and realize that the Lord's ways are marvelous. He is a mighty God to save all who trust in Him. We are always surrounded by His love and it moves us to love Him so dearly, and one another.

Blessings to you.

May the joys of the Holy child be with you and your loved ones this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

Fr. Cherian Pulimootil,

# PARISH LIFE

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## *Christmas at All Saints'*

### *Decorating the Courtyard and Church*

The Flower Guild welcomes your help decorating the courtyard and part of the church with greens on Saturday December 16th. The following Saturday, December 23 help assemble the altar flowers, decorate the wall sconces in the church and place the poinsettias around the church. Let Sue Johnston Eaton know you will be there to help on Saturday the 16th and/or the 23rd at 9:00am. All are welcome! Email Sue at [labretired@cox.net](mailto:labretired@cox.net) or 619-840-0620.



### *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 courtyard for Christmas. Orders must be completed by Sunday, December 17th to ensure that all names will be in the Christmas bulletins. We ask for a \$25 donation. Forms are available from the Greeters.

# PARISH LIFE

## *Christmas at All Saints'*

### *December 18, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass Schedule*

- **Sunday December 18 – Festive Coffee Hour**  
Bring Christmas Cookies to share at the Coffee hour. Upon leaving boxes will be available to take shared Parish Christmas Cookies home.
- **Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve**  
Musical Offering – Christmas Music: Organ, Choir, and Carols at 8:30pm  
Solemn Mass at 9:00pm
- **Sunday, December 25– Christmas Day**  
Mass at 10:00am



# PARISH LIFE

## *Military Ministry*



In the parish we would like to highlight the past veterans and current members of our Armed Services. Parishioners are encouraged to share with our community the stories of their family members in the military - past or present. One such member was Captain John Hatheway Irons.

John entered the Navy through the Officer Candidate School, Newport, Rhode Island. He was commissioned as Ensign in the Supply Corps in December 1956. His sea duty tours included the heavy cruiser USS BREMERTON and he was Supply Officer, USS SAINT PAUL, during the Vietnam War. His final afloat assignment was Supply Officer aboard the submarine tender USS PROTEUS in Guam. Captain Irons' shore duty tours included the Naval Retraining Command Camp Elliot, San Diego; Naval Supply Depot, Yokosuka, Japan; Naval Supply Center, San Diego; Staff of the Chief of Naval Operations and Naval Supply Systems Command in Washington DC, when he married Betty Higginbotham; Navy Ships Parts Control Center in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania; Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Naval Supply Center, Pearl Harbor (Commanding Officer); and Staff of the Commander-in-Chief U.S. Naval Forces Europe in London, England.

Among Captain Irons' many awards are the Legion of Merit, four Navy Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy Commendation medals and numerous campaign medals. During his distinguished career, he also obtained his Master's degree from the Naval Postgraduate School and attended the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard University Business School.

After retirement from the Navy in 1987, Captain Irons moved back home permanently to San Diego where he was selected to be the Executive Director of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. He continued to serve both branches of the military there until 2009 and was always so pleased that during those many years he continued to be referred to as Captain.

Captain passed away peacefully in his home on November 7, 2022. His requiem mass was held at All Saints' on December 17, 2022.

# PARISH LIFE

## *Christmas Ideas*

### MARINE CORP TOYS FOR TOTS



In coordination with the Diocesan missionary Randy Cash, we are asking members to purchase new toys for the 2023 San Diego Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign. Bring the toys unwrapped to church the next two Sundays and give them to either Jimmy Hansen or Barbara Wilder. The collected toys will be distributed as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in San Diego by the San Diego Marine Corps.

Lakeshore Learning, in the Hazard Center off of Friars Rd, is a fantastic store to purchase wholesome learning toys for the tots!

### JOURNEYING THE WAY OF LOVE



During the season of Advent, the Episcopal Church invites you to orient yourself to the coming of Jesus at Christmas through the practices of *Journeying the Way of Love*. Click [here](#) for the first week of readings and prayers or copies are available at the back and front tables in the church. Copies of the next three weeks of this Advent journey will be available each week in church or via the link above.

### COOKIE BAZAAR ROSE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17



Bring a plate of Christmas Cookies either homemade or store bought to share at the Coffee Hour on Sun. Dec. 17. Upon leaving boxes will be available to take shared Parish Christmas Cookies home.

# COMMEMORATIONS

Nicolas, Bishop of Myra

December 6, 326



The story of St. Nicholas offers a possible way of dealing with the "Santa Claus" problem, to parents who do not want to lie to their children, even in fun, but do not want to say simply: "Bah, humbug! There is no such thing as Santa. Forget about

him."

Nicholas was a native of the western part of what is now Asiatic Turkey. He became Bishop of Myra in the fourth century, and there are many stories of his love for God and for his neighbor.

The best-known story involves a man with three unmarried daughters, and not enough money to provide them with suitable dowries. This meant that they could not marry, and were likely to end up as prostitutes. Nicholas walked by the man's house on three successive nights, and each time threw a bag of gold in through a window (or, when the story came to be told in colder climates, down the chimney). Thus, the daughters were saved from a life of shame, and all got married and lived happily ever after.

Because of this and similar stories, Nicholas became a symbol of anonymous gift-giving. Hence, if we give a gift to someone today without saying whom it is from, it can be called "a present from Saint Nicholas (or Santa Claus)." Some parents explain this to their children and invite the child to join them in wrapping a toy (either something purchased for that purpose, at least partly with the child's allowance, or else a toy that the child has outgrown but that is still serviceable) or an outgrown but not shabby item of the child's

# COMMEMORATIONS

(continued)

clothing, or a package of food, and then going along to donate it to a suitable shelter that will give it to someone who will welcome it. This gift is then called "a present from Santa," so that the child understands that this is another name for an anonymous gift given to someone whom we do not know, but whom we love anyway. (Presents within the family can be "From Santa" or "From Santa and...")

Pictures of Nicholas often show three bags of gold next to him, and often these bags have become simply three disks or balls. Nicholas became the patron of an Italian city (I think Bari, which is where his body is now buried) that was a center of the pawnbroking business, and hence a pawnbroking shop traditionally advertises by displaying three gold balls over its front. It is thought that some persons looking at pictures of Nicholas confused the three round objects with human heads. Hence there is a story of a wicked innkeeper who murdered three boys and salted their bodies to serve to his guests, to save on the butcher's bill. Nicholas visited the inn and confronted the innkeeper, who confessed his crime, whereupon Nicholas prayed over the brine-tub and the three boys leaped out unharmed. Other stories have him saving the lives of three innocent men who had been condemned to death. Still other stories have him coming to the rescue of drowning sailors (could this be related to the brine-tub incident?). Nicholas has always been popular with children, mariners, pawnbrokers, the Dutch, the Russians, and recently, the department-store owners. (American readers may remember the story of the brine-tub through reading it as children in the book *The Dutch Twins*, by Lucy Fitch Perkins, author of *The Spanish Twins*, *The Italian Twins*, and many similar books, all children's favorites in the middle of the 20th century. They may now be banned as politically incorrect ~ I have no idea. If your children know the brine-tub story, from this book or elsewhere, they may be interested to know how it may have originated.)

In many countries, Nicholas visits children on his feast day, 6 December, and brings them gifts then. In these countries, there is usually no exchange of Christmas presents, but there may be gifts again on January 6, the feast of the coming of the Wise Men, who brought gifts to the Holy Child of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. In America, it may be thought

# COMMEMORATIONS

(continued)

necessary to yield to outside pressure and let Nicholas distribute gifts on December 25.

If you want to show your children (or yourself) how Nicholas is remembered by Christians with a background different from your own (unless, of course, this IS your background), you might want to attend an East Orthodox service at this time. Many Eastern Orthodox congregations have services on the evening before 6 December that feature "visits from Saint Nicholas." He appears as a bishop, with no red suit. The faithful leave their shoes outside the church door, and find in them afterwards gold coins (actually chocolate wrapped in gold foil) representing the gold dowries of the three daughters. To find a service and inquire what it is likely to be like, look up *Churches, Orthodox* in the Yellow Pages. For an English-language service, "Orthodox Church in America" or "Antiochan Orthodox" parishes are likely choices, but do not overlook other possibilities.

We are told, but it is uncertain, that Nicholas was imprisoned for his faith before the accession of Constantine, and that he was present at the Council of Nicea in 325. We may note in passing that the picture of him as roly-poly is a late development. Early stories indicate that he was generous to others, but not given to self-indulgence. Indeed, even as an unweaned infant, he fasted regularly on Wednesdays and Fridays....

Source: *James Kiefer*

# COMMEMORATIONS

## Agnes, Martyr of Rome

January 21, 304



**St. Agnes**, (flourished 4th century, Rome [Italy]; feast day January 21), virgin and patron saint of girls, who is one of the most-celebrated Roman martyrs.

According to tradition, Agnes was a beautiful girl, about 12 or 13 years old, who refused marriage, stating that she could have no spouse but Jesus Christ. Her suitors revealed her Christianity, which was then condemned as a cult, and in punishment she was exposed in a brothel. Awed by her purity and presence, all but one of the Roman youths left her untouched; in his attempt to violate her, the sole attacker was miraculously struck blind, whereupon Agnes healed him with prayer. Later, after refusing to renounce her faith, she was murdered during the persecution of the Christians by the Roman emperor Diocletian and was buried beside the Via Nomentana.

On her feast day two lambs are blessed in the Church of Sant'Agnese in Rome, and from their wool are made the pallia sent by the pope to archbishops as tokens of jurisdiction.

Source: *Britannica*

# PARISH LIFE

Holiday Arts, Crafts Show and Sale, Food and Music,  
& San Diego Coterie Concert    Sunday, December 3



# PARISH LIFE

Pictures by Teri Tremper and Todd Muffatti





## ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**Website:** [www.allsaintschurch.org](http://www.allsaintschurch.org)

**Office Hours:** Mon - Fri: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Rector:** The Rev. Carlos E. Expósito

[rector@allsaintschurch.org](mailto:rector@allsaintschurch.org)

### PARISH STAFF

**Parish Administrator:** Mrs. Louise D. Lawson

[administrator@allsaintschurch.org](mailto:administrator@allsaintschurch.org)

**Business Administrator:** Mrs. Theresa Krist

[finance@allsaintschurch.org](mailto:finance@allsaintschurch.org)

**Organist & Choirmaster:** Robert MacLeod

### ALL SAINTS' PRESCHOOL

3674 Seventh Avenue

San Diego, CA 92103-4321

**Director:** Mrs. Renika Battles



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