

FOR ALL THE SAINTS



AUGUST 2008

*The Magazine of the Parish of
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, San Diego*

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SIXTH & PENNSYLVANIA, HILLCREST

SAN DIEGO'S TRADITIONAL ANGLO-CATHOLIC PARISH

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SERVICES

SUNDAYS

8:00am LOW MASS
10:00am HIGH MASS

DAILY MASS

Tuesdays 7:00am & 12 noon
Wednesdays 9:30am
Thursdays 7:00am & 6:00pm
Fridays 9.30am
Saturdays 9:00am

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD BY APPOINTMENT

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RECTOR: Fr. Tony Noble, SSC
Currently on Sabbatical

ASSOCIATE PRIEST: Fr. Victor Krulak, SSC



FATHER TONY WRITES...

Dear friends,

As you read this you are probably imagining me enjoying Sicilian pasta & a glass of Italian red wine in the sun of Sicily. More probably I am comparing a congregation of less than 20 at a very simple Mass in St George's, Taormina with over 100 at High Mass at All Saints'!

MY SABBATICAL

I am writing this before I leave for my sabbatical. The fact that you have received this August parish magazine is testimony to the fact that All Saints' parish continues life as usual, under the pastoral care of Fathers Krulak & Edwards, and aided by Terry, our Parish Administrator. Having such excellent staff enabled me to go away on sabbatical for 5 weeks, without any concerns about the parish. This will certainly aid my relaxation – one of the aims of a sabbatical.

You know me well enough by now to have observed that my vacations are usually short trips, often for only a week into which I cram as much as possible – and that includes discovering new cities and cultures or catching up with old friends.

A sabbatical is something else. It is a time for a priest to step away from normal parish routine and to renew his energy and vision – to take time to smell the roses, as they say.

St George's, Taormina, will certainly allow me to do that. It is a small congregation in a non-English speaking country which relies on priests coming to spend a month there – this will be quite a change for me. No parish to administer, no finances to worry about, no activities apart from Sunday Mass. Of course there are plenty of catholic churches in the town where I can visit or attend Mass each day, and I am expecting that my spiritual life will be rejuvenated. It goes without saying that the parish will be in my daily prayers – and I trust that I will be in yours.

MY INTERNET BLOG

It is my intention to try to keep a Blog of my time in Sicily. Blogs are the latest thing amongst clergy, and I invite you to check mine. It is part of my new personal website: www.frtonynoble.org

THE OXFORD MOVEMENT

My sermon on Sunday July 13th concerned the Oxford Movement, which celebrated its 175 anniversary. This movement began in the University of Oxford, and is responsible for the revival of Anglo-Catholicism throughout the Anglican Communion. Our parish is a product of that movement. Indeed, the Episcopal Church has been greatly affected by it. Many people commented on my sermon, and I have edited it for the latest in my *Church Teaching Series* in this edition. It is on pages 7/10.

SEPTEMBER

I return to the Parish on September 4th. Parish life will be starting up again after the summer. The choir will be back and activities will begin. We have some adults & young people who are interested in the sacrament of Confirmation. I have arranged for the Bishop to visit us and celebrate this Sacrament in the evening of Wednesday March 25th. This is the feast of the Annunciation and will allow us to celebrate a festival during Lent.

There is a note about Confirmation study groups on page 6 of this magazine.

This comes with my best wishes & prayers from Sicily!

Your priest and friend,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr Tony". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

CONFIRMATION STUDY GROUP

The Sacrament of Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments of the church, and completes Baptism. It is often the occasion for first Holy Communion, or joining the Episcopal Church as an adult.

Bishop Mathes will be visiting All Saints' to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation in Lent, 2009. The Service will be held in the evening of Wednesday March 25th - the feast of the Annunciation of our Lord.

The Rector will hold weekly classes for both adults & teenagers/children from October. Anyone who is interested in the sacrament of Confirmation, joining the Episcopal Church, or learning about the Anglo-Catholic tradition is asked to indicate what days & times suit them. The adults will be either Wednesday or Thursday evenings & the teenagers Wednesday or Thursday afternoons or Saturday mornings. Please speak to Terry in the parish office, or with Fr Tony when he returns from his sabbatical.

CHURCH TEACHING SERIES

NUMBER 12

THE OXFORD MOVEMENT

*Adapted from a sermon preached by Fr. Tony Noble,
Sunday, 13th, July 2008*

On July 14th, 1833, a sermon was preached in Oxford, England which was to have repercussions within the Church of England, and throughout the whole Anglican Communion - so that what happened then has affected every parish of the Anglican Communion throughout the world.

That sermon was preached by John Keble, a priest and Oxford don, in the university church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford - still the most visited parish church in England. The occasion was what was called the annual Assize Sermon, when the whole university would gather to hear a sermon preached by an eminent preacher. To understand its significance, we need to have some background.

In the early days of the 19th century, the Church of England was in a parlous state - so much so that Matthew Arnold reported that some 12 people attended Christmas Day Mass in St Paul's Cathedral, London. He said that the Church of England as it was could not survive. Hardly anyone went to Church, and the Churches were not kept clean or beautiful. The Holy Sacrament of the Altar was not highly esteemed and people rarely made their communion. In fact the Eucharist was usually only celebrated four times a year. In the previous century Charles Wesley's Methodists had been responsible for a revival in church life - but they had long since been marginalized and cast out.

Thus the Church of England was in a terrible state, and was really regarded as a department of the state - the national church of the British nation. Bishops and priests were regarded as employees of the state - and were conspicuous not for their presence in their parishes and dioceses, but by their absence. Nor were they conspicuous by their diligent pastoral work and holiness of life. Apart, that is, from a remnant, a faithful remnant who kept alive in their hearts and in their families the Catholic tradition - being faithful to the Book of Common Prayer, and the worship of the Church.

And so it was that in the year 1833 the government in Westminster decided to suspend a number of Irish bishoprics of the Church of Ireland. If you have been to Ireland you will know that most Irish are proud Roman Catholics, and the established Church of Ireland - the Anglican Church in that country - is really a protestant rump, occupying all the old medieval buildings, which are usually empty! Even today the Irish Prayer Book forbids the use of incense in church services.

So to suspend a number of the bishoprics of the Church of Ireland seemed perfectly reasonable at the time, and quite justifiable. But John Keble saw it differently. For him this move was state interference in the established Church. In his sermon on that day he contended the state had no right to do this - for the Church was not a department of the state, and nor were its bishops and its clergy public servants of the government.

This was new thinking, and to some they were strange ideas - and it was scandalous. For if the Church of England was not a department of the state, what was it? The answer of course was implicit in what was said in the sermon - and soon became explicit.

The Church of England was the Catholic and Apostolic Church of the nation. She had been ordained by Christ himself and was under his authority, not the state's. This authority was traced back to the twelve apostles through the laying-on of hands at the consecration of bishops. And she had within her hands the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist.

Yes - the Church of England was shackled by her subordination to the civil power at the time.

Yes - the purity of her doctrine had been sullied by the reformation and accumulated error; and also by the weakness of her ministers.

Nevertheless, she was still the Catholic and Apostolic Church, the Bride of Christ, and his body on earth.

This teaching took Oxford by storm, and was emphasized by other Oxford dons - particularly Edward Pusey and the famous John Henry Newman. These three - Keble, Pusey, and Newman - became the leaders of the movement in the colleges of Oxford University, where they soon gathered around them young seminarians and students. This movement was taken up enthusiastically by clergy - and is known to this day as the Oxford Movement.

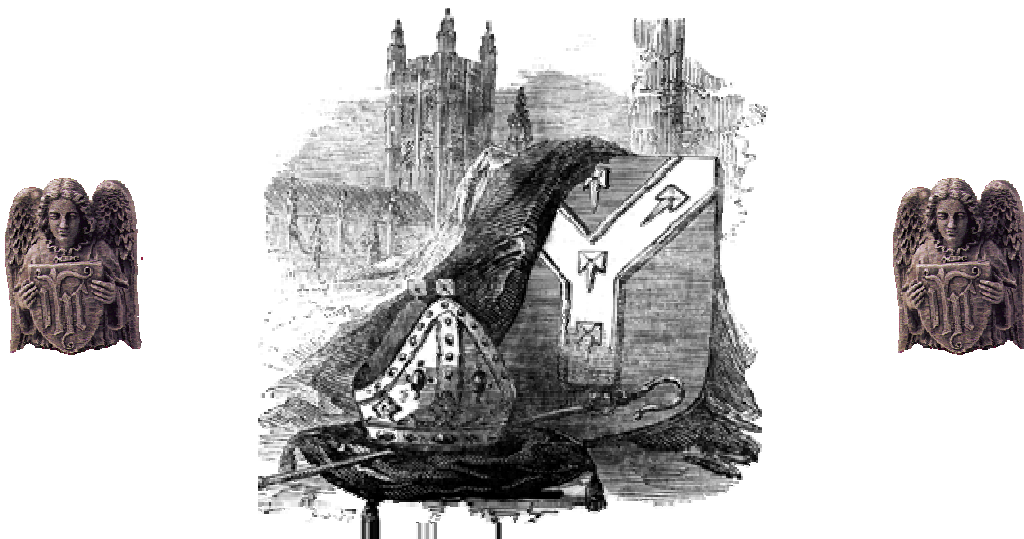
In 1833 it encountered opposition, criticism, and even outrage. Evangelicals could not accept that the Church of England was a continuation of the undivided Church before the Reformation. Liberals found distasteful a renewed emphasis on the sacraments and holy living. And Roman Catholics thought it was impertinent and a fraud. But as loyal Churchmen contemplated the meaning of those familiar words: "*I believe one Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church*", the movement spread.

But let us be clear - the Anglo-Catholic movement was never about a style of worship, or what we wear in church, or what language we speak, or just taste. What we do and what we say expresses what we believe.

Thus has our mission always been. In a Church in which bishops will say that Jesus is one of many ways to God, we know we still have work to do as Anglo-Catholic Episcopalians!

175 years later, traditional Anglicans are still a minority, and still regarded as out of step - yesterday's men they call us. Indeed, only last Monday the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, described Anglo-Catholics as a “necessary abrasion”. I like that! I like being a necessary abrasion.

The seed planted 175 years ago still has a harvest to produce. Thank God we can be part of that planting and harvesting.





SAVE THE DATE

Sunday afternoon
September, 7th 2008

Come join us for a special spaghetti dinner in honour of Fr. Tony's return, and enjoy past memories of All Saints'.

More details to come!



Vestry Consultation
Working Now and Planning for the Future

by Rick Ochocki

In late June, members of the Vestry participated in an annual consultation meeting held in Ocean Beach. The morning session of the meeting addressed current issues before the Vestry, while the afternoon portion of the consultation concerned longer-term planning for the future of the Parish. A break for lunch gave the Vestry the opportunity to relax and socialize between both of the productive work sessions.

Among the matters reviewed in the morning were the status of the Church audit, the addition of new teams to count the Sunday collections, an examination of the state of the parish pledged budget compared with actual giving to date, the continued growth of the preschool and pending Church outreach activities.

Ruby Littler took some time to recap a long list of Parish facilities maintenance needs. The Vestry spent some time to discuss each of these in detail. At the end of this portion of the discussion, some important projects were deferred while others were moved to the top of the list to received attention in the short term.

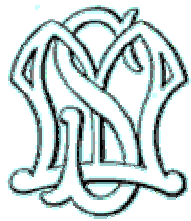
A much longer discussion took place regarding the need for a new copy machine and printer in the office. In light of the growth of the Parish, the variety of service bulletins and frequent mailings from the Church, the Vestry agreed that the current equipment is inadequate to the tasks now required to produce documents in a timely manner. The best way to replace the old equipment was debated with spirit. Ultimately, it was agreed that more information was required before the Vestry would feel comfortable making a decision on the matter.

Finally, the morning session concluded with updates from both the Personal Review Committee and the Rector's Review Committee. The Rector's Review Committee noted that Fr. Tony is approaching his five-year anniversary with the Church and recommended a bonus to be given on his anniversary. The Vestry approved this recommendation and looks forward to continued energetic ministry from the Rector for years to come.

The afternoon session of the Vestry Consultation largely consisted of a discussion of the Parish building Centenary on 12 June 2012, the Sunday after Corpus Christi. The Vestry endorsed the idea that celebration of this milestone will be a yearlong event for the entire Parish community. A committee to organize the celebration is forming now, chaired by Rick Ochocki. Additional subcommittees will work on different aspects of the commemoration including publicity for the Centenary, a dinner to celebrate the anniversary of the Parish, and special worship services to give thanks for the life of the Church. Of particular interest would be photographs from the life of the Church and any written history of the Parish to date.

Planning for this year's Stewardship campaign was another matter raised at the Vestry consultation. In addition to meeting the growing financial needs of the Parish in the coming year, this year's Stewardship campaign will invite members of the Church to get involved in more of the serving groups and organizations that support the worship and life of the Church. Shared time and talents are key ways that even new members can help this growing Parish family meet the needs of each of its members in prayer, service and worship. There is no need to wait until next year; our Parish Administrator, Terry, is available at (619) 298-7729, to help anyone interested in serving a particular ministry connect with group leaders.

An extremely productive Vestry consultation meeting closed in the early afternoon with a blessing from Fr. Tony.



Society of Mary

*This month's meeting
will be on:
Saturday, August 16th, 2008*



*11:00am
Recitation of the Rosary*

*11:30am
Mass
followed by potluck lunch*



Praying for our Military

Please keep in your prayers
the following members of our Parish
and their families

On active duty

Fr David Thames

At Home

Robert White
Ian Kelley
Mark Llewellyn
Nua Moa
Mike Wilson
Amy Garrett
Warren Klam

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ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL PRE-SCHOOL

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Director: Ms Remika Battles

now accepting ages 2 -5