
For All The Saints



December 2010

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

6TH & PENNSYLVANIA, HILLCREST

www.allsaintschurch.org

SAN DIEGO'S TRADITIONAL ANGLOCATHOLIC PARISH



SERVICES

SUNDAYS

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

DAILY MASS

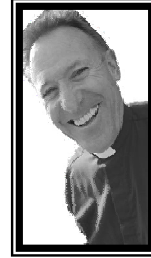
Tuesdays 7:00 am & 12 noon
Wednesdays 9:30 am
Thursdays 6:00 pm
Fridays 9:30 am
Saturdays 9:00 am

CONFESSIONS BY APPOINTMENT

PARISH OFFICE
625 Pennsylvania Avenue
San Diego, CA. 92103-4393
Tel: 619-298-7729
Fax: 619-298-7801

RECTOR: FR. TONY NOBLE, S.S.C.
Cell phone (619) 985-7729
E-mail: rector@allsaintschurch.org

Rector's Administrative Assistant: Ms. Melissa Lamar



FATHER TONY WRITES

My dear friends,

It is hard to believe that Christmas will again be here. I always find myself asking, where has the year gone? Christians have the season of Advent to prepare themselves, and for this we should be grateful. The hymns & scripture readings on the first Sunday focus our attention on the second coming of Christ, and the end of all things. It is a sobering and necessary contrast to the baby Jesus in the manger. The readings at Daily Mass during Advent provide a wonderful build-up and expectation, especially in the last week, when we hear about John Baptist, St Joseph and the Virgin Mary. There is also the genealogy of Christ – always a test for the reader!



CHRISTMAS

The feast of the Nativity of Our Lord is celebrated with special joy and splendor at All Saints'. Those parishioners who are new or have joined us this year are in for a real treat! The Services will be the same as last year - please see the schedule on pages 9/11. As Christmas Day is a Saturday this year, we will return again on Sunday, December 26th to continue our celebrations with the usual Sunday schedule.

For your Advent devotions I would suggest hymn number 2 in our hymnal, the well known, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*. This hymn from the 9th century is based on the antiphons for the Magnificat in the week before Christmas, known as the great O antiphons.

VESTRY CONSULTATION

On October 16th the Vestry had its annual consultation. This was the 5th such consultation that we have had. Previously we have looked at issues or problems facing the parish, and made



plans affecting various aspects of parish life. This year we looked at the past 7 years that I have been your Rector, and going back to 2000, to when my predecessor, Fr McClaskey, left. It was agreed that this was the best consultation we have ever had. To quote one Vestry member, we have had a fun 7 years!

A wonderful presentation was given by Kim Evans, reflecting on what it was like for someone to come to All Saints', and subsequently joining the parish. What Kim outlined in his reflections are the very things that I consider the keys to a lively and growing parish: a friendly welcome, traditional worship & music, preaching & teaching, pastoral care, and what a parish stands for. His presentation is re-printed on pages 12/15.

AN ANGLOCATHOLIC PARISH

As my contribution to reviewing the ministry of the parish, I began by looking at the significance and difference for All Saints' being an anglocatholic parish. Beginning with my experience as a teenager, I said that being an anglocatholic was



not about nice vestments, nor about good music, nor about High Mass with incense - though I like all those things. I became an anglocatholic because it is about the truth. Anglocatholicism is about the full faith and the fullness of truth. All other expressions of Christianity did not appeal to me, because they did not contain all the truth of the gospel.

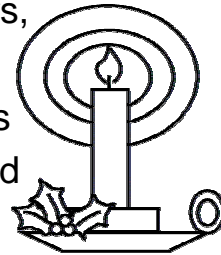
This is expressed well by the quote: "*The Church is intolerant in principal because she believes; she is tolerant in practice because she loves. The enemies of the Church are tolerant in principal because they do not believe; they are intolerant in practice because they do not love.*"

Referring to my 1st sermon as Rector, on October 5th, 2003, I outlined what I saw as the key to being an anglocatholic parish. An article written recently by a priest in Texas about the ministry of a parish church reflects my thoughts, and I reprint it on pages 16/18.



STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Our annual stewardship appeal was held on Sunday October 17th. Mr. John Gray gave an excellent stewardship address at both Masses, and I thank him on behalf of the parish. I have never been disappointed with the stewardship addresses given by our parishioners, and John Gray continued that tradition. Sunday November 7th was the day of our Patronal Festival, and was also the day that we brought our pledges to church, and offered them to God. I thank everyone who has pledged thus far.



ALL SAINTS' CALENDAR

The new parish calendar for 2011 is available at church or from the parish office. It costs just \$5.00. It is very beautiful, with full-page photos from the church each month. (See page 8)



STAFF CHANGE

In November the parish & pre-school business administrator, Mr. Jim Mickelson, finished his employment with us. Mrs. Lea Gray has commenced work as the new business administrator. Lea is a parishioner, and attends the 8 am Sunday Mass



with her husband, Jonathan. Lea will be in the parish office each morning during the week. We welcome her to the staff of our parish.

As I look forward to my 8th Christmas as Rector of All Saints', I convey to all our parishioners and friends my blessings and greetings for Christmas.

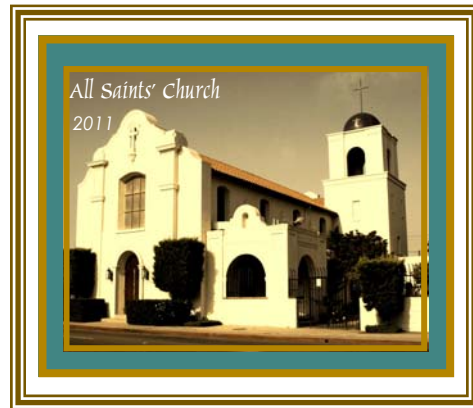
Fr Tony



All Saints' Church Calendar 2011

Includes:

Church seasons
Saints days
Holy days



Each month will feature a beautiful photograph from the church, depicting the church season. These visual treasures were captured by John Gray, our Parish Photographer.

Available at Church or
from the Parish Office

\$5

Each



Christmas Services

- 2010 -

Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24th

6:00pm Solemn Mass

Includes the setting up of the
Christmas Creche

10:30pm Carols

Sung by the Choir and Congregation

11:00pm Midnight Mass

A service with Procession and Blessing of
the Christmas Creche

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25th

9:00am Solemn Mass



Sunday After Christmas

Sunday, December 26th

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

Feast of the Epiphany

Sunday, January 2nd

The day when we celebrate
the arrival of the three wise men
at the Christmas Crèche

8:00am LOW MASS
10:00am HIGH MASS with
Procession of the Kings



Christmas Confessions

Saturday, December 18th
10:00am - 11:00am

Friday, December 24
10:30am - 11:30am





Mutual Ministry Review Presentation

By Kim Evans

I've been asked to answer two questions this morning. "Why did I first visit All Saints'?" And, "Why did I keep coming back?" Although seemingly transparent, the answers are not as superficial as one might believe. In order to ensure accurate answers, I have written my responses. Please indulge me.

A little over six years ago, I was looking for a church of which I would like to become a part. My wife, Cheryl, had been raised, nominally only, as a Roman Catholic, who had been completely un-churched for most of her life. I, however, had been involved as an active member in Church and Chapel communities since childhood, and wanted to find a new place to worship since leaving the 32nd Street Naval Station Protestant Chapel.

On Easter Sunday of that year, I attended the "Eucharist Service" that was held at the Cathedral. It was very well attended, and was a rather lengthy service. The liturgy was nicely executed, and the service music was "serviceable." However, to my amazement, and extreme disappointment, and in such a large and animated crowd, I was able to remain completely anonymous. From the moment I walked through the front door and took my seat on a very crowded pew, until



almost an hour and a half later, not a single soul acknowledged my presence, shook my hand, or said "hello." I vowed not to return.

Being a child, or at least a young person, of the computer age, a few weeks later, I went to the Diocesan online site and looked to find the next closest Episcopal church. The following Sunday morning, I attended All Saints'.

When I arrived, I was greeted warmly, by people at the front door. Once inside the door, my hand was vigorously shaken, and a bulletin was enthusiastically shoved into my grasp. Introductions were made. Upon sitting, I looked around to see a beautifully appointed place of worship with natural light pouring through stained-glass windows. People knelt in quiet devotion. And, the organist was playing some wonderful piece of classic Church Music. My heart was prepared for worship.

We sang traditional hymns (as opposed to pop music). We observed a theologically orthodox and rich liturgy, rather than an impromptu biblical study. We were admonished and challenged by straightforward, contextual homiletics, preached from the Gospel, instead of a "pep talk" delivered by our short sleeved, open-collared "buddy." (By the way, I started these with "We" statements; changed them to "I's" and then back to "We's," because I really did feel I was a part of the worship experience.)

During the exchange of the "Peace" and after the mass, people turned from their seats to welcome me. I remember,



most memorably, one very spry little elderly woman, who has since become a part of our extended family, who couldn't shake my hand enough, or tell me how pleased she was to see me. And there were others. I felt welcomed by the parishioners, warmed by the worship, and nourished by the Sacrament. I continued to attend, hit or miss over that next year.

I am still here for all of those reasons, and more. Most importantly, my wife began to join me in this wonderful worship setting, and we, as a family, began to become quite attached to many of our congregation, not the least of which is our Rector, Father Tony. We both admire and respect him, and we fully accept him as a priest and a human being. Not only is he a priest, but he is "our" priest. Not only is he a human being with the same qualities and characteristics we all possess, he is our fellow and friend.

During the past nearly six years, excepting times of family illness and emergency, we have faithfully attended and co-served with you. We have seen the parish grow both numerically and spiritually. With the addition of one military family, our Sunday School program grew, exponentially, for a period of time; and is still growing as young families become involved in our parish.

We're all aware of the time Father Tony has spent "in the field" visiting the sick and shut-ins and those in need of sacramental ministry. We, Cheryl and I, both have greatly benefited from his home visits and pastoral care. And we have



appreciated his teaching from the pulpit; in Lenten studies; through books we've received from his as gifts; and most importantly, as we attended Confirmation classes. We became Episcopalians in this very parish.

Up until recent changes in the leadership of some of our community's key organizations, All Saints' has been a vital part of and contributed greatly to our neighborhood, and are seeking new, meaningful and continuing ways to do so. We also have reached beyond the physical boundaries of our community to invite people with similar worship and pastoral care needs. We have grown. And Cheryl and I, attempting to be good stewards of God's blessings, just as each of you, have been pleased to contribute our little part.

I initially left the Evangelical tradition and came to the historic faith tradition as a response to a prayer, in the New Testament, attributed to Jesus, "Father, I pray that they will be one, as you and I are one." I'm convinced that, not only does this apply to the one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, but is predicated on a unified Worldwide Communion, National Church, Diocese, and Parish.

By the direct modeling of Jesus, according to that Johannine lesson, his illustration of how that oneness is accomplished, is through prayer. We know that reconciliation and restoration can only be brought by prayer. So the opportunities for unity (faith, hope, and love) are before us. We will incorporate them into our planning for "mutual ministry."



The Parish Church, Crucible of the Faith

Fr. Terence Jordan

Vicar at St. Joseph's in Grand Prairie, TX

Why do we have church? Is it so we can come together to convince ourselves that we are people of value? To form alliances and committees to effect societal change? To feed the poor? To use it as a means of reflecting and implementing the prevailing cultural enthusiasms? Is it to soothe our bruised and broken souls before venturing out into our post-Christian world to live, or try to live, our Christian lives? To all these questions the answer is: No.

The church exists to bring us (note the plural) into contact with Almighty God. When this happens, we are changed. We were created to glorify God and to grow in our knowledge and love of Him. When we are true to our reason for being, certain blessings come to us, by-products of a God-centered life: we receive grace (help) to enable us to live as we were meant to live. We learn how to love-sharing, serving, forbearing. We discover how to obtain forgiveness, and so, how to forgive.

We come to see the difference between what is good and what is worthless; right from wrong; what leads to wholeness, and what is hurtful. We grow in our relationship with Jesus, and by God's grace we become acutely aware of our own besetting sins.

The essential venue where all this is lived out, is the parish church. When someone asked C.S. Lewis why he so often worshipped in a country church instead of the magnificent cathedral and chapels of Oxford, with their brilliant sermons and exquisite music, he related the experience of kneeling next to an



old farmer with squeaky boots, and over time, coming to the realization that he wasn't worthy to wipe the boots of that old saint.

The parish church is the place where the Christian Faith is discovered and lived, where all sorts of people, young and old, rich and poor, simple and educated, black and white, single and married, come together under God to learn lessons of love: to teach and be taught, to admonish and be admonished, to forgive and to be forgiven, and to receive the discipline of prayer. It is the only place where all this can happen.

The parish church may be seen as a type of the Christian Faith, a sacramental, if you will, where the faith is lived out in the lives of its people. To be healthy, the parish church (and indeed the Christian Faith itself) should be true to its reason for being, its purpose.

The purpose of the church is threefold: 1. To worship God. 2. To offer a setting where people can grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord. 3. To share the blessings of the Christian Gospel.

What goes on in the parish church is analogous to our relationship with God. We begin as passive receivers of God's grace: His love, acceptance, forgiveness and solace. As we grow in our relationship with God, we become more Christ-like. We move beyond just the solace of the faith, to accept its challenges. We learn the joys of serving, sacrificing and giving. And we develop a desire to share this way of life with any and with all.

All the churches I have been privileged to serve, large or small, have had one thing in common: a core of committed people that do most of the work. These are the ones with an active lay ministry. They care about the well-being of the church. Often they grow



weary and experience burnout. They fret if the church is not growing in numbers and in money. They are tempted to see these problems as ends in themselves, and devise ways of solving them through elaborate programs, studies and strategies.

They have forgotten the purpose of the church: To worship God in the beauty of holiness—a converting experience that draws us closer to God as we encounter Him in Word and Sacrament, growing in the knowledge and love of the Lord through study, service and social interaction, and developing a desire to share the blessings we have been given.

When we are true to the purpose of the church, wonderful things happen. The core of the mature Christians is replenished and increased as people move from just receiving grace into being empowered by it.

As we become more Christ-like, we learn the blessings of giving more of our money in a sacrificial way to the church, and we begin to share our blessing with others, by inviting our friends and neighbors to come to church with us, which is the best and most effective form of evangelism.

This will have the side-effect of increasing those moving from a passive understanding of the faith into the one that can respond to its challenges, as will as expanding the core of the committed. As all are moving closer to Christ, they grow in their concern for those outside the parish church. This has significant implications for evangelism, outreach and missions, but all as by-products of being true to the purpose of the church, and not as ends in themselves.

As we are true to the purpose of the church, wonderful things will happen.



KB Books COMES TO
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

It's that time again, and Katherine Bunch is once again going to make a stop at All Saints' with those great book and gifts that everyone is waiting to have for Christmas.

Her book display will be set up in the Parish Hall after both the 8am and 10am Masses on:

Sunday, December 19th.



The Rector recommends:

"Foretaste of Heaven Amidst Suffering"

by Dr Peter Toon

Dr Peter Toon was an international Anglican scholar, and President of the Prayer Book Society for many years. In 2008 he was diagnosed with a fatal heart disease, & in January 2009 he moved with his wife, Vita, to San Diego. They attended the 8 am Mass at All Saints' regularly, until his death on April 25th, 2009. In this, his final book, Dr Toon movingly recounts how he & his family dealt with his situation, the questions it raised and how their faith was tested. In turning to scripture and the Book of Common Prayer for spiritual strength, they give wonderful encouragement to us all. All Saints and its ministry is mentioned towards the end, & the final chapter was written by Mrs Toon. This is a book that deals with issues all of us have to face in various ways, and is very inspiring.

Available at the KB Book Stall



A Parable of Priorities

Now it came to pass that a certain man invited a churchman to lunch and they went to a popular restaurant. The waiter was very efficient and the food was good.

As they rose to leave, the churchman observed that his host laid some money under the edge of the plate. The waiter who stood by smiled happily, which being interpreted meant that the tip was satisfactory.

Now with such customs all are familiar and this parable does not enter into the merits of tipping.

But the churchman began to meditate on this experience. Well, he knew the proverbial tip must be at least a tithe, but more properly becomes 15% for those who follow the rule of etiquette - this, lest the waiter turn against you!

And it came to him that few people honor God as they honor the waiter. For they give unto the waiter the tithe, but unto God what little they choose. Verily does a man fear his waiter more than his God? And does he love God less than he loves his waiter?

Truly, truly, a man and
his money are beyond understanding.



Important Note

from the Diocese:

Report Sexual Misconduct

As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a safe haven for everyone, please be reminded that our diocese values the tenet of our baptismal covenant to "respect the dignity of every human being." Part of the way we live into that is to train people in the prevention of sexual misconduct. Another part that goes hand-in-hand with training is reporting incidences of sexual misconduct. Our bishop, the Rt. Rev. James R. Mathes, takes reports seriously and investigates them thoroughly and confidentially. If you believe you have experienced sexual misconduct of any kind, please contact Bishop Mathes immediately:

bishopmathes@edsd.org

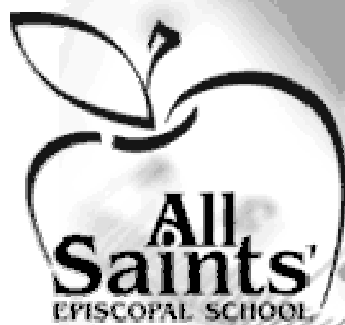
619-481-5450.



PRAYING FOR OUR MILITARY

*Please keep in your prayers
The following members of our Parish
and their families:*

Robert White
Ian Kelley
Michael Leader
Nua Moa
Amy Garrett
Chuck Garrett
Jonathan Gray
Warren Klam



3674 Seventh Avenue
San Diego, CA 92103
(619) 298-167

*Now accepting ages 2-5
Director: Ms. Renika Battles*

Peace
on
Earth



The logo consists of the words "Peace on Earth" in a stylized, calligraphic font. The word "Peace" is on the top line, "on" is in the middle, and "Earth" is on the bottom line. To the right of the text is a circular emblem containing a dove with its wings spread, holding an olive branch in its beak. A decorative flourish extends from the bottom of the word "Earth".