

FOR ALL THE SAINTS



FEBRUARY 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

PARISH OFFICE

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FATHER TONY WRITES...

Dear friends,

When you get this magazine Lent will be upon us. This year is the earliest that Easter can fall, so Ash Wednesday is February 6th. It hardly seems possible - I still have Christmas carols in my head! As a grand finale before Lent, on Sunday February 3rd we celebrated Candlemass, with its lovely ceremony of the blessing of candles & procession at High Mass. Three days later the purple was in & the flowers were out!

CHRISTMAS

Before we get into Lent I would like to say how wonderful the Christmas Services were. At the Vigil Mass I had fun with the children, the Midnight Mass was superb, especially the music, and Christmas day saw two more beautiful masses. Then on the Feast of the Epiphany we concluded Christmas with the traditional Service of Nine Lessons & Carols. This was a beautiful service & was followed by a very enjoyable potluck supper. Despite the rainy day 75 people attended. This prompted the remark: "I suppose this will become an annual event now?". Indeed it will!

The attendances over Christmas were a big increase on last year. The Midnight Mass attracted a packed church, with 150 communicants. This is the best attended Service since I have been Rector. More significantly, the total acts of communion for the four Masses was 264 - an increase of 62 on last year. This is quite a jump, & an indication of the growth of our parish.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Parish Annual Meeting was held on January 27th, and the growth of our parish was evident in all the reports and discussions. My annual Rector's Report is printed on 9/14. We have a balanced budget again - and this time we knew in advance, thanks to a 15% increase in pledging. This is very encouraging to your Rector and the new Vestry. I thank all those who have pledged for 2008.

FIRST COMMUNION

On the first Sunday in Lent five of our children will make their first Communion. It has been quite a while since this happened in the parish, and they need the prayers and interest of all parishioners if they are to continue to grow in the Faith. It is a privilege for me to prepare children for the sacraments - and quite a challenge too! The task was made easier by the full support and help of their parents. Please pray for Andrew White, Matthew White, Eva Dreyer, Lacey Wilson & Sarah Woodward.

CONFIRMATION

Our bishop will be at All Saints' on the Sunday after Easter, March 30th. I will be presenting several adults for Confirmation at the High Mass. The usual arrangements will apply: at 8 am I will be the celebrant and the bishop will preach. At 10 am the Bishop will celebrate & preach, attended by his chaplain.

LENT PROGRAM

We are having the same program as last year. Even though Lent has started, I hope you will take advantage of it. As well as the Daily Mass we have the following extra Services:

Wednesday 6 pm Mass

Friday 6 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 6 pm An hour of silent prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction at 7 pm.

People can come to the hour of silent prayer at any time and stay for as long as they like. We all need to have more silence in our lives, and there has developed in recent years a desire for silent prayer in a church setting. Come and spend time with Jesus!

We also have two weekly study groups - Wednesday nights and Friday mornings. We are looking at the book: *"Every Comfort at Golgotha"* by Canon Gordon Reid, Rector of St Clement's, Philadelphia. It is an enjoyable challenge for me each year to offer a Lenten devotional book for daily use and our weekly study groups. I think everyone will get a lot from this year's book.

CONFESSION

Lent is a penitential season - a time for focussing on the Passion and Death of Our Lord. Traditionally we undertake works of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. We try and unite ourselves with Our Lord, and grow in grace. Many Episcopalians make their confession at the conclusion of Lent. This is not only a practical result of keeping the season, but an important way of celebrating Easter.

On pages 15/19 there is an article about the Sacrament of Reconciliation, commonly known as "*making your confession*". This is the continuation of the Church Teaching Series that we publish in the magazine. I am always happy to talk to parishioners about this sacrament - especially if you would like to make your first confession.

So now we venture into the season of Lent. May it be a time of spiritual growth, strength and blessings for all of us - and a time of renewal for our parish.

Your priest and friend,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr Tony". The "Fr" is written on the left, followed by a horizontal line, and then the name "Tony" is written in a flowing cursive style.

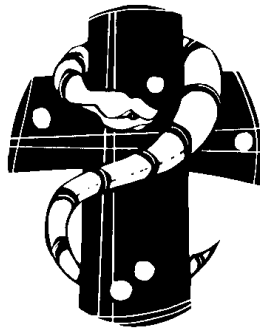


Sunday, March 9th, 2008
at 5:00pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Choir will lead this Service, which will
include an anthem and homily
and conclude with Benediction

PREACHER: Fr. Doran Stambaugh
Assistant Priest at St Michael's, Carlsbad



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SPECIAL SERVICES
during
LENT 2008

6:00pm on WEDNESDAYS

Mass followed by Study Group

6:00pm on FRIDAYS

Stations of the Cross and Benediction

SATURDAYS

6:00pm

Hour of Silent Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament

7:00pm

Intercessions and Benediction

RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Parish Annual Meeting 2008

Something interesting happened to our parish this year. In the Episcopal Church there are five categories of parishes, based on Average Sunday Attendance. Five years ago All Saints' was in the lowest category, called *Family*. In my first year as Rector we moved into the category termed *Pastoral*. Most Episcopal parishes fall in either of these two categories. This year we have moved into the category called *Transitional*. The ASA range for this is 140-225. For your information the remaining two categories are *Program* (225-400) and *Resource* (400+). I want you to know I have no desire for us to enter into either of these categories, for then the personal relationship between priest and people - which is such a feature of our parish - would be lost.

This jump will come as no surprise to us. For several years now we have seen our congregation grow, activities increase, and new people join our parish. In some cases older parishioners might be threatened by this – but not so at All Saints'. Quite the reverse! When I came to the parish it was made quite clear to me that you wanted to grow. Now your prayers and hard work have borne fruit.

STATISTICS

A glance at the statistics for 2007 will confirm my observations. Those of you who attended Midnight Mass experienced a packed church. It was the best attended Service since I became Rector. More significantly, the total acts of communion at our Christmas Services = 264 – an increase of 62 on last year. This is a phenomenal increase in just 12 months.

Other Services during the year also encouraged us. As well as baptisms the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to seven adults last January, and there were three parish weddings. It has been several years since we have had these numbers. To the surprise of many, it is our Sunday 8.00 am Mass that continues to grow. Recently there were more people at 8 am than at 10 am. This, of course, had nothing to do with the fact that the Chargers were playing at 10 am!

Not only have attendances continued to grow, but also our finances. Last year I challenged you to meet a balanced budget. For the first time in many years, we did. Now we are looking at a similar budget – and instead of hoping you will meet the challenge, you already have! Our stewardship appeal has resulted in pledges totalling over \$230,000 - an increase of 15%.

PARISH STRENGTHS

Why has there been such growth in our parish? There are three particular reasons, I believe.

1. Our Anglo-Catholic tradition.

At All Saints' the catholic faith is preached and taught, and expressed in our worship. This makes us different to other parishes – and we wouldn't want it any other way. The bible is our foundation, along with the unbroken teaching of the church, and this makes for a significant and inspiring community of faith.

2. The worship.

To experience the Eucharist at All Saints' is a window into heaven. Again, we are different to most other churches. The Eucharist is offered with reverence and devotion, and the great traditions of the

Catholic Church. And this is because we know Jesus is present in the Mass, and it is him we proclaim and worship. When we come to Mass we are not looking inwards at our needs, nor engaging in a radical agenda to change the church or the world. These may result from it – but our eyes are on Jesus as the object of our faith, and not just as the example of faith.

3. Our Community.

The third reason I suggest is that All Saints' is a friendly church. Catholic teaching and inspiring worship need to be accompanied by an accepting and friendly community. There is a place for everyone at All Saints'. We have experienced it ourselves, and we see it as we look around on Sundays. Again I pay tribute to the older members of this congregation, going back to Fr. Satrang's time. I hesitate to use the word inclusive because in the Episcopal Church this now means even atheists can receive Holy Communion! We Anglo-Catholics know that the sacraments are means of grace, not magic charms to make us feel better. And we know that the church is the body of Christ, not just another club for people who like that sort of thing!

PROJECTS

Last year we undertook some significant projects. Our Pre-school was firmly established under a committee headed by Mrs Sheila Hilliard, and has made excellent progress. It is now contributing to parish finances, along with other tenants using the former school buildings.

The income from our properties has been deposited into a special account. This has allowed us to build up a fund for maintenance and significant work on our properties. So last year we were able to repaint the school buildings - long overdue.

The Vestry now has a fund which will enable significant work to be done on our properties, and the facilities committee can now plan major works previously beyond our resources. I would particularly like to mention the new lighting in the sanctuary, paid for as a memorial to Frances Chamberlain. What a transformation this has been. As I commented at the time - the priests and choir who previously walked in darkness have now seen a great light!

PERSONEL

The Outreach Committee under the leadership of Kim Evans initiated new outreach and publicity during the year. Two new things were the Newcomers' Dinner and the welcome packs. This committee has an important role to play, and is another reason for our growth in people and fellowship. Other committees have done equally important ministries. A fantastic garden party was organized by our fund-raising committee, and the chair of that committee, Cheryl Evans, repainted and renovated the Fireside Room virtually single-handed.

The most obvious improvement has been in our Sunday publications. I hesitate to call them bulletins, because they are almost works of art! For this we have to thank our new Parish Administrator, Terry. Bringing him from England was almost as big a step in faith as bringing your Rector from Australia! But what a great change it has been. He has brought youthful enthusiasm, talent and professionalism to every aspect of the parish office. And as I express my appreciation I would like to also pay tribute to George Garrison and Charles Randall, who both retired last year after many years of assisting with the administration and office.

MUSIC

Another challenge 12 months ago concerned the music ministry of the parish, and this has been another wonderful success. Parishioners responded to the appeal for the music fund, and we were able to engage four paid section leaders in the choir. The standard and quality of the music has increased as a result, enhancing our worship and giving us real pleasure. I would like to thank Mr Robert MacLeod, and all the members of the choir. Bob has even more enthusiasm, and we are the beneficiaries. I would like to make particular mention of the High Mass on Ascension Day to mark my 60th birthday. What a wonderful Mass it was, thanks to the superb music.

Our worship is more than High Mass and music. It is the center of our life as a community. Everything we do finds its focus and purpose at the altar. I pay tribute to all the acolytes, to Norma Dreyer and the altar guild, to Laura Shell and the flower guild, and to all those who help in so many ways: readers, sidesmen, greeters, coffee hour hosts, etc. There is also Ralph Gordon, our Sunday Sexton, and Homero Zapata, our full-time Sexton. Thank you everyone.

PERSONAL THANKS

There are many people I would like to thank personally. Firstly to Fr Krulak, my ever - obliging assistant. To the other associate priests, Fathers Edwards, Thrumston & Barta - thank you also.

The Wardens, Vestry, Treasurer and Secretary have all worked hard for the parish, and never lose their sense of humor! Thank you for what you have given this year. Thank you also to Jim Mickelson, our business manager, who I rely on for much of what happens in the day-to-day administration of the parish.

Finally 2 things beyond our parish, but for its benefit:

Pilgrimage

Last August 12 parishioners went on pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in England. This was a wonderful experience for us all. It will also have an ongoing spiritual benefit for the parish - not least because All Saints' is now very much a part of that holy place, and its ongoing life of prayer and healing.

Sabbatical

According to diocesan regulations I am due for sabbatical leave. After consultation with the Bishop and the Vestry, it has been arranged that I will have five weeks sabbatical this summer. I will be spending the month in Sicily as chaplain of St George's Anglican Church, Taormina. This will be a time for me to reflect on my ministry, do some good reading and reflection and take things at a slower pace. I am looking forward to this, knowing that whilst I am away you will be ably served by Fathers Krulak and Edwards. And, of course, that I will not be far from your thoughts and prayers.

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

I conclude by paying tribute to three parishioners who died during the year, all of whom had long connections with the parish:

Betty Williams, Mae Wiley and James Fallon.

Rest eternal grant to them O Lord: And let light perpetual shine upon them.

CHURCH TEACHING SERIES

NUMBER 8

MAKING YOUR CONFESSION

A Change of Heart

When people met Jesus it often changed their lives. One such person was a tax-collector called Zacchaeus. He was rich, probably dishonest, and unpopular. When he heard about Jesus he climbed a tree to catch a glimpse as he passed. Jesus called him down and invited himself to dinner.

The crowd complained that Jesus was going to dinner at a sinner's house. But Jesus still went. For Zacchaeus, it was the moment his life changed. He said to Jesus, "Sir I am going to give half of my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody, I will pay him back four times the amount".

Zacchaeus had changed. He left behind his selfish, greedy past and began a new life. Jesus answered, "Today salvation has come to this house!".

What had come over Zacchaeus?

When he met Jesus, he suddenly saw his faults and weaknesses. He wanted to change. He knew Jesus would understand. So he was able to make a new start.

Authority to forgive

When Zacchaeus opened his heart to Jesus, the Lord offered him more than a listening ear. In the Gospels we find Jesus claiming the authority to forgive sins.

Zacchaeus knew for certain that his sins were forgiven. Now he was reconciled with God, he could also be reconciled with other people and live with them at peace.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

We sometimes feel like Zacchaeus. If only we could meet Jesus we could open our hearts to him and make a new start. We would know that we, too, were reconciled with God.

Jesus has made it possible for us to meet him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He has passed on his authority to forgive sins to his Church: "If you forgive peoples' sins, they are forgiven". (*John 20: 23*)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is sometimes called "going to Confession". It gives us the opportunity and the courage to open our hearts to Jesus and to be honest about our faults and weaknesses. We can be sure our sins are forgiven when the priest gives us Absolution.

"I don't need to go to Confession"

People sometimes say or think that. They argue that they can confess their sins just as well in their own rooms as in the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the presence of a priest. But do they really do it?

Preparing to go to Confession helps us to make sure we are not being lazy in our relationship with Christ. The priest can help us to be clear about what is a sin and what is not. He can help us stop pulling the wool over our own eyes and to be really honest with God and ourselves.

The priest also forgives our sins with the authority of Christ. God gives us the gift of being certain we have received his forgiving love. We accept his gift in the Sacrament of Reconciliation - by using it.

How do I begin?

Making your confession is an opportunity for a thorough self-examination. It will be helpful if that is already part of your daily prayer. The four areas of sin are - thought, word, deed and omission: "the evil we have done, and the good we have not done". It is important to be specific when you confess. Most people find it helpful to write out their confession beforehand; (but make sure you destroy this after). It is wise to consult a priest before making your first Confession.

What should I do about it?

Most of us wish we could meet Jesus like Zacchaeus and have our lives changed. But we are reluctant to do anything about it. We may need to ask God to help us to be courageous and take the plunge.

You may feel embarrassed at the idea of going to Confession. Do not worry! That is something almost everyone who has made their Confession has to face. You may think it will be awkward if you meet the priest afterwards. But he will not behave differently because he has heard your Confession and he is bound to keep the seal of the Confessional. That means he will never mention anything you say in Confession to anyone. He will not mention it to you unless you specifically ask him.

Perhaps you are not sure what you should confess. If you want help and encouragement in preparing for your first Confession, or if you are coming back to the sacrament after a long time, you can talk to a priest.

The more important thing is to think about what Jesus offers in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There are a hundred and one ways of putting off going to Confession. But when we avoid the Sacrament of Reconciliation we are missing an opportunity to meet Christ and experience his forgiving love.

Many people who met Jesus found their lives changed. They opened their hearts to him and received God's forgiveness. They were reconciled with God and could live at peace with the people around them.



How do I make my Confession?

Kneel by the side of the Priest and read the form of Confession in front of you.

Penitent: Bless me Father for I have sinned.

The Priest blesses you

Penitent: I confess to Almighty God that I have sinned very much in thought, word, deed and omission by my grievous fault especially since my last Confession which was...HERE LIST YOUR SINS SIMPLY, CLEARLY AND HONESTLY. For these and all my other sins that I cannot know remember, I am very sorry, firmly resolve not to sin again, and humbly ask pardon of God, and from you Father, advice, penance and Absolution.

The Priest advises the penitent. He gives a penance which is usually a prayer to say later as a sign of sorrow; he then he then solemnly announces God's pardon to the penitent.

“Our Lord Jesus Christ who has left power to his Church to absolve all sinners who truly repent and believe in him, of his great mercy forgive you your offences and by his authority committed to me, I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen”.

The penitent returns to the main body of the Church to say the penance and thank God for his love and forgiveness.



BOOKS THE RECTOR HAS READ *(followed by a "senior moment")*

ANGLICAN PAPALISM by Michael Yelton

This book describes the theology, ecclesiology and history of those Anglicans who believe that the Anglican Church is definitely part of the Western Church. Such parishes and priests reflect this, as also their worship, devotion and spiritual lives.

Fr. Tony loaned this book to a parishioner and is anxious to have it back - but he can not remember who the person was!

EXCELLENT WOMEN by Barbara Pym

This book describes the life of the daughter of an English Vicar, who attends an Anglo-Catholic church in Central London. The area seems to be the same part of London where Fr. Tony lived in 1975, so he really enjoyed it!

This book was given to Fr. Tony by a parishioner - but once again, he can not remember who it is!

Fr. Tony would love to hear from these two parishioners ☺

NEWCOMER'S DINNER

This will take place in the Parish Hall at 4:00pm on Saturday, February 16th, 2008.

This is a get-together for those who have become new parishioners within the last year from our 8am or 10am services. Come meet, and get to know other newcomers, the Rector, and members of the Outreach Committee.

Dinner will be followed by the special Lenten hour of silent prayer at 6:00pm in Church.

To reserve your place, please contact Kim Evans at (619) 459 7067 or anyone else on the Outreach Committee, or by calling the Parish Office at (619) 298 7729.



★ **PARISH ANNUAL MEETING:** the following elections and ★
★ appointments were made: ★

- ★ Senior Warden: Sue Johnston
- ★ Junior Warden: Clare Gates
- ★ Vestry Secretary: Rick Ochocki
- ★ Treasurer: Sam Dreyer
- ★ Head Verger: George Garrison
- ★ Head Acolyte: Jerry Kirtley
- ★ Altar Guild President: Norma Dreyer
- ★ Flower Guild Convenor: Laura Shell
- ★ Welcoming Ministries: Abb and Ruth Scarbrough

★ **Chairs of Committees**

- ★ Outreach: Kim Evans
- ★ Facilities: Ruby Littler
- ★ Stewardship: Rick Ochocki
- ★ Fundraising: Cheryl Evans

★ **ALL SAINTS' VESTRY MEMBERS 2008**

- ★ Fr. Anthony Noble
- ★ Susan Johnston
- ★ Clare Gates
- ★ George Garrison
- ★ Ruby Littler
- ★ John Ireland
- ★ Gerald Kirtley
- ★ Lucretia Locke
- ★ Otis Robertson
- ★ Michelle Banta
- ★ Kim Evans
- ★ Jessica Kelley

Praying for our Military

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

On active duty

Fr David Thames
Amy Garrett

At Home

Robert White
Ian Kelley
Mark Llewellyn
Nua Moa
Mike Wilson
Ben Apple

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ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL PRE-SCHOOL

3674 Seventh Ave, San Diego 92103

Phone: (619) 298 4335

Director: Ms Remika Battles

now accepting ages 2 -5

