
For All The Saints



January 2011

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	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

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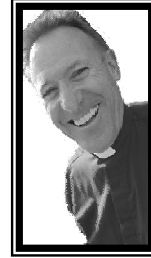
RECTOR: FR. TONY NOBLE, S.S.C.

Cell phone (619) 985-7729

E-mail: rector@allsaintschurch.org

Rector's Administrative Assistant: Kim Niemietz

Business Administrator: Lea Gray



FATHER TONY WRITES

My dear friends,

Since I announced my retirement as Rector I have experienced different emotions. After 31 years as a priest working entirely in parishes, a new lifestyle awaits. I would not be honest if I did not say I am a little apprehensive. It is going to be hard not having the responsibility of being a parish priest, and all that entails. The privilege of celebrating Mass and the other sacraments is something I will not be able to take for granted anymore.

Within the parish there are mixed emotions, too. Many people have expressed both sadness at my decision to retire, and best wishes for what lies ahead. I am sad about leaving All Saints', but I am also looking forward to returning to Australia.

When Jesus was preparing his Apostles for his departure, St John records that he said, "*I have yet many things to say to you*". That is exactly how I feel, as I come to write my final



letter to the parish as Rector of All Saints'. There are, indeed, many things that I have to say to you, my parish family and friends.

So what do I want to say?

THANK YOU

Thank you for the privilege of being your Rector. All Saints' has been a wonderful climax to my ministry. Each of the parishes I have worked in has been different - but All Saints' will have a special place in my heart, and in my prayers. Even at a distance, the friendships I have made will endure forever.

Thank you for taking the risk of bringing a priest from Australia! This was an unusual step - and I am very grateful you did. Not many Australians get to live and work in the USA (unless they are movie stars!) and I have really enjoyed it. I have been visiting America since 1987, and had made many friends. Moving here to live was a great adventure, and living here has been wonderful. It has enabled me to experience the warmth and kindness of the American people in ways that are beyond expressing. For that I particularly thank you.



Thank you for the opportunity to be an American! I have always found Americans to be generous and friendly. This has been the basis for a special bond between Australians and Americans. I will go back to Australia as the greatest ambassador for America you could find! I will not forget American expressions and customs - even if you write the date the wrong way! And I hope that you have a new fondness and appreciation for Australians.

Thank you for being in San Diego. What a wonderful city this is, and what a wonderful place to live. "America's Finest City" says it all. It is now my second home, and I shall keep coming back.

OUR PARISH

The second thing that I want to say is that All Saints' is a wonderful and remarkable parish. It is the combination of Anglo-Catholic worship and tradition with a beautiful church, together with friendly and lovely people who care about their church and each other.

There are so many aspects in the life of the parish that are attractive. Primarily it is the traditional worship and the dedicated people.



I pay tribute to your faithfulness and commitment. The next Rector is a very fortunate priest.

FAITH

Thirdly, keep the faith! All Saints' is, sadly, unique in this diocese. The Anglo-Catholic tradition is something special in the Episcopal Church, and seems to be disappearing. Some may attempt to ridicule or demean it, especially those who think the church of the future must ignore the past in favor of a liberal protestant version of the catholic faith (a contradiction in terms!). The Anglo-Catholic tradition is a precious jewel in the Anglican Communion, and it calls the Episcopal Church back to the fundamentals of the Faith.

So rejoice in the uniqueness of All Saints', keep the tradition alive, and bear witness to the truth of the gospel.

REFLECTION

You will not be surprised to know that I have been reflecting on my ministry at All Saints'. It has been a fascinating 7.5 years. It seems



that every year we faced issues that had to be dealt with. Some were major, like the closing of the school, others the usual things that crop up in the life of a parish. We have achieved much together, and I leave the parish in a much stronger and healthier state than I found it. And we have had fun!

I remember with fondness the many people I have dealt with pastorally: weddings, baptisms, confirmations, visiting the sick, and so many social visits. I also remember the funerals I have conducted, often for people I had ministered to & had become very fond of.

I thank you for putting up with my foibles and particular way of doing things. I am not perfect, of course - so I apologize for my negligences and mistakes. The final words a priest says in the sacrament of Confession are very appropriate: "*Pray for me, for I am also a sinner*".

REVIEW

In reviewing my time here as your Rector, I wondered if I had achieved everything I set out to do - more importantly, what God



wanted me to do. Others will be the judge of that. Recently I looked again at my very first sermon preached as your Rector. I think I have finished as I started, and that sermon really says it all. So I have decided to reprint it in this magazine. It is on pages 9 - 14.

I have, indeed, much to be thankful for - and it is very important to me that these last weeks leading up to my retirement be full of thanks and joy. My final weekend is going to be a wonderful celebration. My final Services will be on Sunday March 6th. The day before there will be an afternoon reception from 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm. This will be held at the Chinese Community Preschool, thanks to the kindness of Dennis & Sally Avery. The address is 5075 Ruffin Rd, San Diego 92123, between Clairemont Mesa Blvd & Balboa Ave in Kearny Mesa.

As I look forward to this great change in my life, and to a wonderful farewell, so now I write to all our parishioners for the last time, as your priest and your friend.

Fr Tony



OFFICIAL FAREWELL to FATHER TONY NOBLE

Saturday, March 5, 2011
2.00 pm – 5.00 pm

SAN DIEGO CHINESE BILINGUAL PRESCHOOL
5075 Ruffin Rd
San Diego, Ca 92123

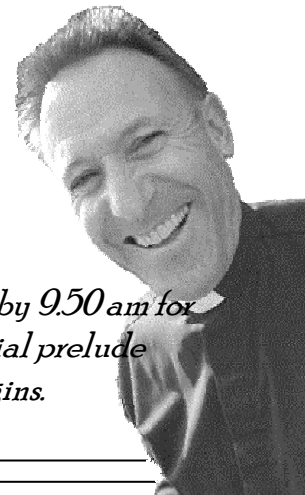
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Father Tony's Final Sunday at ALL SAINTS' PARISH

March 6, 2011

8.00 am LOW MASS
10.00 am HIGH MASS

*The congregation is asked to be seated by 9.50 am for
the High Mass, as there will be special prelude
music before the Service begins.*





**First sermon preached by Fr Tony Noble, SSC
As Rector of All Saints' Church, San Diego
*Sunday: October 5, 2003***

Genesis 28.17: *“Jacob said ‘How awesome is this place! This is none other than the gate of heaven’.”*

I chose this text because it is about Jacob going on a journey. And I have been on a journey. And here, At last, I am! And it is good to be here. With Jacob I want to say: *How awesome is this place! This is none other than the gate of heaven.*

It has been a fascinating journey for me - & no doubt for you. Why on earth choose an Aussie priest for your new Rector? I hope I dispelled any doubts about that when I visited you in July. I do have to admit that I knew nothing about San Diego before considering All Saints'. But then, you probably know nothing about Melbourne, Australia! If you didn't know beforehand, the 1950's movie *On the Beach* was set & filmed in Melbourne. It starred Gregory Peck & Ava Gardner. Ava Gardner was not impressed with Melbourne, & when she was asked her opinion of it by a local reporter, replied: *“I'm here to make a movie about the end of the world, and Melbourne sure is the place for it.”*

I have therefore taken some comfort in the findings of a recent survey of American travellers. They rated SF as America's prettiest city, Portland the cleanest, Nashville



the friendliest, New Orleans has the best nightlife – but San Diego has the best-looking people! Well I knew that 😊

You may be interested to know that to get here I caught the train from LA. It was an interesting journey. Opposite me in the carriage was a rather dreary protestant clergyman in grey suit & shirt. I immediately buried myself in a book! As we sat there, all of a sudden a young man came running through the carriage shouting: “Is there a Roman Catholic priest on board: is there a Roman Catholic priest on board?” I looked up, wondering if I should respond, but said nothing.

Five minutes later, this same young man came running through the carriage again, this time shouting: “Is there an Anglo-Catholic priest on board: is there an Anglo-Catholic priest on board?” I immediately considered if I was the answer to this young man’s problem! But before I could respond, the protestant clergyman stopped him & said: “Can I be of any use? I’m a protestant clergyman!” “No use at all”, said the young man, “I’m looking for a corkscrew!”

Well Anglo-Catholics do like to enjoy themselves! We enjoy life, we enjoy our worship, we enjoy our faith. And that’s the way it should be. But the Anglo-Catholic tradition is about more than just enjoying ourselves. It’s about the fullness of the Faith. It’s about the traditions



of the Church which go right back to the time of the Apostles. It's about the teaching of the Church that we have received, & trying to be faithful to that.

I am delighted that All Saints' has its school. It means we care about the young, and their values. It means that we care about teaching. I am really looking forward to being involved in the school, & of making our faith relevant to both children and their families. To those school families here today I say **welcome**. And please don't worry – I'm as confused as you are about the mysteries of High Mass at All Saints'!

My first responsibility, of course, is to this congregation - so let me say that I will be a teacher of the Faith. And there is much to teach.

Today's celebration is an obvious example. We keep the festival of St Michael & All Angels. But what do you know about them – for that matter, do you actually believe in angels? We couldn't think of Christmas without angels – but that's about all. Yet there has been a recent trend – certainly in Australia, & probably here, too, because that's where our trends usually come from! I have been given several badges of guardian angels, & I often see them on coats & lapels. It bemuses me. Are they advertising a belief in angels or of heaven? I think it's more likely that they regard such things as good luck charms. There's no such thing as good luck for a



Christian. We are blessed. And we are particularly blessed to have the angels to protect us. The angels are also a taste of heaven.

As I prepared to leave St Mark's & come here, I have been reflecting on being a priest. When I went to St Mark's in 1985 a woman in my previous parish gave me a kneeler she had made with words said in tribute to my ministry at St Catherine's, Elizabeth Downs: *To stand before God for the people; & to stand before the people for God.*

These words are a description of what the priestly life is. It is why the Mass is central to my life. It is why I stand here today. As the priest stands at the altar he is, through the Eucharist, making present a foretaste of heaven.

I will work to make our Parish a foretaste of heaven – not just here when we celebrate Mass, but as a place which is a community of love & joy, a place where Jesus may be encountered, a place where we may be inspired. Yes – a taste of Heaven.

You will not be surprised to know that in San Diego I have already linked up with the San Diego Lions Aussie Rules football club! One of the reasons is that it will give me a taste of Aussie football – a bit like an Irish pub gives us a taste of the Irish. Similarly the Church is meant to be a taste of the real thing.



A taste of heaven is also given to us through the Blessed Virgin Mary. You are going to hear me talk a lot about Mary. Anglo-Catholics traditionally have a great devotion to her. She is not a dead Roman Catholic!

We honour her with hymns, devotions, statues and shrines, because she also is a taste of the real thing. Our devotion to Mary sets us apart from most other parishes. She is Our Lady, the Mother of God. She is central in the Anglo-Catholic tradition because she is central to the catholic faith. She safeguards the truth of who Jesus is: God & man. She reminds us that the Incarnation is at the heart of our Faith, leading to the crucifixion & the resurrection of her son.

She also reminds us that the church is called to be a family of love, where all are embraced and welcomed. She acts as a foil against those who are judgemental & exclusive.

Mary points us to the Incarnation. It is that event of all events that is the key to the Christian religion. *The Word was made flesh* is not just a theological statement – it is a challenge to us, that we might make Christ present in our lives, & in our world. It reminds us that God loves His world, and everything in it.

It also reminds us that Christ still is present in His Church and in His Sacraments. And in you & I, his faithful people.



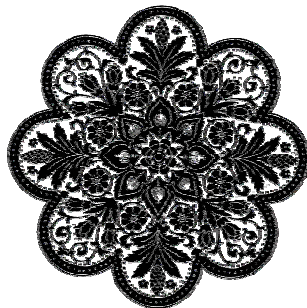
So at the end of High Mass today we will say the Angelus. This is the traditional way we honour the Incarnation in our tradition. It is usually said at morning noon & night, accompanied by a traditional ringing of bells. And what better day to start a devotion entitled *the Angelus* than on the day of the angels?

If the angels did anything important it was when they – through Gabriel - brought the tidings to Mary, and she conceived by the Holy Ghost. So today is a very appropriate day to begin saying the Angelus.

And to those of you who are concerned that a new priest will change things – this is not the first of many changes. Just a developing of the great Anglo-Catholic tradition established by Fr Satrang all those years ago. I am delighted to follow in that tradition, as I take my place among you as your new Rector.

Jacob said: *“how awesome is this place! This is none other than the gate of Heaven”*.

Indeed it is. And it is good to be here!





Pray with the sign of the Cross

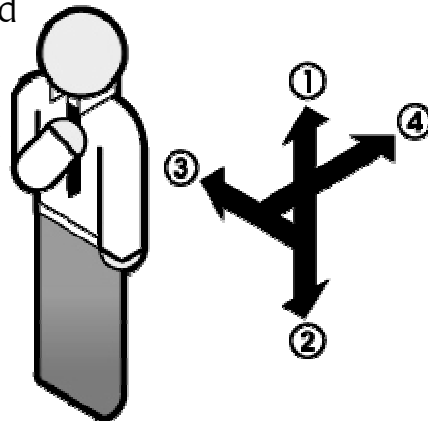
In the Name of the Father,
I lift up my hand
To trace on my forehead the sign of my faith,
A movement from below to up higher,
Which elevates my heart toward God,
The All-Holy, Eternal One,
I pronounce the name of a Father
And I recognize myself as a child of God.

In the name of the Son,
My hand descends to touch my waist.
It traces the movement of a God who became man.
God descended from heaven
And let himself be carried
In the womb of his Mother.
He came to live among us,
He speaks of Love.
In the Son, the Father has placed all his Love
In order to reveal that Love.
He delivered his Body
He poured out his Blood.
God is moved in contemplating the face of a man
Who lived out his Love until the end.



In the Name of the Holy Spirit,
 On the side of the heart, my hand is raised to my shoulder.
 The movement is not horizontal
 Faith is never lived out alone
 Through looking at heaven.
 It invites us to look around
 Beyond our shoulder.
 In order that we may live in brotherly love.
 God gives us his Spirit.

It is a Yes which now engages us.
 I mark it on my right shoulder
 To show that I accept
 To carry the Cross of Christ
 And the live of my brothers and sisters
 I say yes to my baptism
 Which made me a child of God
 I say yes to Love
 From the bottom of my heart
 The dwelling-place of the Holy
 In the name of the Father
 And the Son
 And the Holy Spirit
 I will never be finished saying
Amen.





From the Rector's Administrative Assistant,

I'm sad to tell you that there will be more change coming to All Saints'. I was recently accepted into a Nursing Program in Northern California and, as of January 7th, will no longer be able to serve at All Saints' as the Rector's Administrative Assistant.

This is truly a bittersweet moment for me. I look forward to continuing school, but I will genuinely miss being a part of this wonderful Parish. This past year, I've grown spiritually and I attribute that growth to the people who have surrounded me every day. I've been encouraged by the faithful service of those who come every week and complete the 'behind-the-scenes' aspects of church life. I pray that one day my heart will be as steadfast in the simple service as those I've witnessed giving of themselves here.

Thank you for letting me be a part of the ministry here. I have been blessed more than you'll know.

Melissa M. Lamar

THE NEW HIRE:

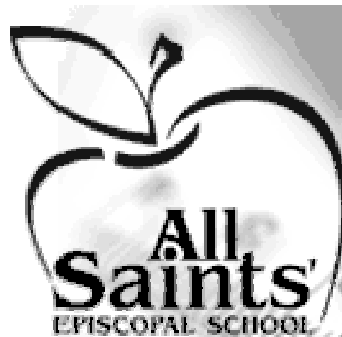
Kim Niemietz, the new Church Administrative Assistant, will be starting her journey at All Saints' on January 3, 2011. I pray she will be a good fit here. She is looking forward to meeting all of you, so let us welcome her with open hearts.



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*

2011