

FOR ALL THE SAINTS



GIVE WITHOUT THOUGHT OF RECEIVING

OCTOBER 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

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

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

625 Pennsylvania Avenue
San Diego, CA, 92103-4321
Tel: (619) 298 7729 Fax: (619) 298 7801

RECTOR: Fr. Tony Noble, SSC

Cell: (619) 985 7729

Email: rector@allsaintschurch.org

ASSOCIATE PRIEST: Fr. Victor Krulak, SSC



FATHER TONY WRITES...

Dear friends,

Many of you know that my sabbatical was a great experience for me. It was quite beneficial in many ways, not least in being responsible for the church of St George's, Taormina, and living in that lovely town for a month and it certainly made me appreciate what a wonderful parish All Saints' is. Mind you, I should have chosen a month other than August - the weather was very hot & there were tourists everywhere. Without the responsibilities and pastoral work of a busy parish like ours, I had plenty of time to reflect, read and relax. Perhaps it was a bit **too quiet** for your Rector!! One ongoing affect is that I seem to be taking things a bit slower. This is quite a surprise to me.....I hope it continues :-)

On the Sunday after I returned it was wonderful to be back at the altar, offering Mass in our lovely church. The choir were also back, and the music at the High Mass was superb. At High Mass there was a group of young people from the Chinese Evangelical Church. They had been learning about other Christian traditions, and had come to experience High Mass.

Afterwards I met with them, and answered their questions. They were quite impressed by our worship and devotion, and had many questions. Most of them were what one would expect from young evangelicals. In answering them, I think they were surprised at my logical responses and continual references to the bible. The catholic faith is, of course, both biblical and logical! I was delighted to be able to enthusiastically present the anglo-catholic tradition to them.

MY WEBSITE

A number of people said they looked at my website whilst I was away and followed my daily diary on the Blog. I have a confession to make: I did not take any of the pictures that are on the Blog. These were put on the Blog by Terry! The Blog of my time in Sicily is still on the website. If you haven't looked at it, please do. My personal website: frtonynoble.org

PARISH DINNER

On the Sunday after I returned, September 7th, we had a marvelous parish social. Over 90 people, attended, and it was a great night of fellowship. The social committee served up a great meal - as good an Italian dinner as I found in Italy! Then I entertained you with stories of my 5 weeks away, accompanied by the 16 photos I took. Excerpts from the talk are printed on pages 14/17.

Another parish dinner is happening in October. The parish stewardship dinner, which has become a feature of our stewardship appeal in recent years, will be held on Friday October 24th. Invitations for this will be posted soon. There will be some different aspects to the stewardship appeal this year, which you will hear about. As usual, I will give a report on developments in our parish, and you will hear about the plans for the centenary of the church, which is in 2012. We also have some exciting building developments we want to share. The stewardship dinner is a catered dinner. This allows all parishioners to sit down & enjoy the evening. I think stewardship is important enough that we should have such a parish dinner.

ALL SAINTS' DAY

Our Patronal Festival is coming. November 1st is the actual feast of All Saints' in the calendar. As it is a Saturday this year, there will be a special Mass at 11.30 am. This will be the first time the beautiful new gold vestments in memory of Mr. Ying Hing Tsui will be used.

On Sunday November 2nd we will have our usual Masses at 8 am & 10 am. The traditional Evensong & Benediction will be at 5.00 pm, followed by a reception. The preacher will be Fr Ned Kelly, the Naval chaplain who occasionally worships with us. I hope that many parishioners will return for this beautiful act of worship. It is, of course, **NOT** a substitute for Sunday Mass!

ALL SOULS' DAY

November 2nd is All Souls' Day - the day when Mass is offered for all the faithful departed. Because it is a Sunday this year, we will celebrate All Souls' Day on Monday November 3rd, Requiem Masses will be celebrated at 9:30am and 6.00 pm.

Praying for the departed is one of the traditional Christian practices restored to the Anglican Church by the Oxford Movement. I wrote of this in the August magazine. In my *Church Teaching Series* in this edition I feature an article about *Praying for the Departed*. It is on pages 10/13.

Parish life is now in full swing. After my sabbatical I can truly say there is no other parish like ours for wonderful worship, fellowship and community.

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.

THE PARISH ANNUAL DINNER



*FRIDAY, October 24th 2008
4pm - 8pm*

All parishioners are invited for a BBQ

*Please note the date and plan to attend.
Please RSVP by October 10th.*

FOR ALL THE SAINTS - PAGE 7

PATRONAL FESTIVAL 2008

Saturday, November 1st, 2008

ALL SAINTS' DAY

11:30am MASS

Sunday, November 2nd, 2008

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

8:00am LOW MASS

10:00am PROCESSION & HIGH MASS

5:00pm EVENSONG & BENEDICTION

Followed by reception in the Parish Hall

PREACHER:

Fr. Ned Kelly

Monday, November 3rd, 2008

ALL SOULS' DAY

9:30am & 6:00pm

LOW REQUIEM MASSES

DAYS OF CELEBRATION



CHRIST THE KING ***Sunday, November 23rd***

8:00am LOW MASS

**10:00am HIGH MASS,
Concluding with Procession of the
Blessed Sacrament and Benediction**



THANKSGIVING DAY ***Thursday, November 27th***

9:00am HIGH MASS

11:00am Community Thanksgiving Day Lunch

CHURCH TEACHING SERIES

NUMBER 13

PRAYING FOR THE DEAD

Protestants have argued as to whether it would be right to pray for the dead.

So let us consider - *Why pray for the dead?* But first we must ask the question "Why pray at all?"

Can we persuade God to do something for us that he would otherwise not do? He knows our needs, and provides for them. Why trouble him? To answer this question, we need to remember that when God in his infinite love, made mankind, he gave man the great privilege of co-operating with him. So, while God sends the sun, the rain and the wind, he leaves it to man to till the soil, and sow the seed in order that we may enjoy the harvest. A moments reflection will show how widely this is true. God gives to each of us special abilities in order that we might be a great surgeon, or a great musician or the more humble ability to be a craftsman, a housewife, a gardener. In each case we have to co-operate with God in developing these gifts by training - the surgeon has to learn his work from the beginning, the musician has to start with simple scales, the craftsman by an apprenticeship, and so forth. Without this human element, the gifts would remain useless. Prayer is the highest and the best way of co-operating with God - in a way, it is co-operating with him in his loving care for all of us. It is also co-operating with God in the fight against all that is evil.

So when someone is ill, we pray for him or her. When someone is bereaved we pray for their comfort in their time of sorrow. When some great disaster occurs, we pray for the victims.

Likewise when someone dies we continue to pray for them, but this begs the question - "Do they need our prayers?". Unfortunately there is a rather shallow idea that whenever anyone dies, they go straight to heaven. Some years ago a small English newspaper printed this pathetic rhyme, "*The angels blew the trumpets, and they all said 'Come'. They opened up the door, and in walked mum*".

This sums up a good deal of the attitude to the life after death in popular thought today. If we stop to think, we shall see how impossible that is. If we are honest, we shall admit the fact that most of us, when we depart this life, are still far from perfect. We still have faults and failings, and one doubts whether "Mum" was an exception to this rule.

It is a salutary thought for most of us that if we were to take our earthly faults and failings with us to heaven - then it would no longer be heaven.

The Church has always believed and taught that there is a time after death when we are delivered from the burden of the flesh, when we are made ready for the joy and happiness of the heavenly kingdom by being cleansed of all our earthly faults and failings. This is a process in which all of us, who as Christians are members of the Body of Christ, are called upon to share by our prayers. And as members of the Body of Christ we remember that we are all saved not by our own efforts but by the love of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us. So we pray for the dead that they may be delivered from sin.

There is an additional thought. One of the hardest things is to hear of someone we love being taken from us by death. So often people speak of death as being final as if there is nothing more that can be done. Likewise, when a friend loses a loved one in death we so often think of ourselves as being useless in not knowing what to say or what to do in order to help them in their sorrow. The Christian teaching about prayers for the dead fills that gap. We need never to feel that there is nothing we can do for our departed loved ones. We can pray for them.

Prayers for our departed loved ones help them in their preparation for eternal joy and peace but also lightens the burden of our sorrow in bereavement.

All men and women in every age experience a desire to pray at some time in their lives and from the earliest Christian times we find the practice of offering prayers for the dead.

To pray for those who have died is an act of Faith and Love.



PRAYERS

For the Dying

O Lord Jesus Christ, in your last agony you committed your spirit into the hands of your heavenly Father: have mercy on all sick and dying persons: may death be to them the gate of everlasting life: and give to them the assurance of your presence even in the dark hour of passing; for your name's sake; for you are the resurrection and the life: and yours is the glory for ever and ever.

For all the Departed

Remember, O Lord, your servants who have departed from this life in the Faith, especially we pray for our own loved ones. Grant them eternal rest and peace in your heavenly kingdom, and to each of us such a measure of communion with them as you know to be best for us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The traditional prayers for the departed

- Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.
And let light perpetual shine upon them.
- May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

*AN EXCERPT FROM THE RECTOR'S TALK
ABOUT HIS SABBATICAL IN SICILY
AUGUST, 2008*

I thank the Vestry for approving my sabbatical. It was a wonderful experience for me, not least because I did nothing for a lot of the time - and wasn't agitated that I had nothing to do. Can you imagine me sitting around with nothing to do and wondering what to do next?

As the time went on I started to enjoy this experience of no obligation and no requirements during the week. The door bell rang just twice - on the last two nights of my month in Taormina - and the phone went about five times. I would say "Pronto" and then would hear Italian - so I would say "Parla Inglesa" (Do you speak English?). If they did they would say something in English, if they didn't the phone would go blank! So I wasn't bothered much. It was an interesting experience to be responsible for a church without the activity that is expected from a parish like ours. It was a chance for me to reflect, and I did a lot of reading and praying.

The view from the town of Taormina is most beautiful, and Taormina's great attraction. In the distance is Mount Etna, the only active volcano in Europe. There was always a bit of smoke coming out of it.

August is the hottest month in Europe, and in Sicily it is very, very hot. So even though there is a volcano smoking, it was in the hottest of weather that you could imagine.

Taormina is on a mountain, and it goes steeply down to the ocean. The only way to get up is by car or a bus. After I had been there for three days I thought I would walk down to the station - because I would be catching a few trains. So I proceeded down a very steep path, and it kept getting steeper and steeper - and then it just suddenly disappeared! There was no path anymore - I understood why it was overgrown with weeds, because everyone else knew it didn't go anywhere! I very adventurously kept on going down and eventually got to the bottom. It was quite a walk.

At the bottom, where the railway station is, I walked along the seafront. I thought about returning by walking up the road. But it's very difficult - only built for one vehicle - and you have buses and scooters and cars all vying for space. So I did what any American would do - caught the chair-lift up the hill for two Euros - which took me right up to the town.

Around the base of Mount Etna is an old-fashioned train. It goes around the base of Mount Etna for 100 kilometers. Actually it's three trains, because it goes for an hour, then you all get out and you catch the next train, which goes for

another hour, and then you all get out again to catch the next train. It's a very old Italian train that stops at little villages. The point of the journey is that you get to see Mount Etna from the base. It was a fun journey on this train and it's rather old-fashioned. Some people just use the train as a train - they got on and off at little villages. In some cases there wasn't anything there - just a name on a railway platform. The interesting thing about the train trip was that as we went around we could see rocks which were obviously lava spills, perhaps even a hundred years ago. They looked like spills of lava, only they were rock.

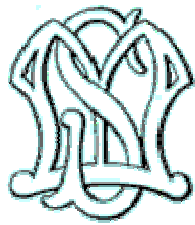
We could see Mount Etna in the distance. There was an eruption in 2002 which destroyed the ski-lift that goes to the top of Mount Etna, as well as explosions over the years. Some towns have been left damaged, and occasionally I would see the remains of a little villa or house which was left after the lava flowed through.

There was one very interesting thing about staying in Taormina: To get to the town you have to drive up very narrow roads, which I did on the only form of public transport, the busses. The bus station was conveniently only 5 minutes walk from St George's. The roads are winding and with many sharp bends, so when the busses had to navigate the bends, they took up the whole road. You can imagine the buses coming up or going down, and we would get to this sharp bend.

It immediately goes to the left side of the road so that it can move easily, but of course there are cars and scooters coming down! The cars would stop - or in some cases they would have to reverse - but the young Italians on their scooters don't care! They would just whip in between the bus and cars. It was very scary and sometimes I felt we were either going to scrape the mountain or go over the edge. But we never did. I admired those bus drivers very much.

Other trips from Taormina included the nearby towns of Messina & Syracuse. Both have wonderful cathedrals. The capital of Sicily is Palermo, and I visited there twice. As it is a 5 hour train I stayed overnight on each occasion. I also went to Malta for 3 days. Malta is where St Paul was shipwrecked, and I was able to visit the cave where he lived for 3 months, as well as other places associated with him. It is quite an experience to be standing in places that go back to the beginning of the Church in the 1st century. At the beginning and end of my time away I stayed in Rome. This was wonderful, indeed. Every Christian should visit Rome!

There are so many other things and places to tell about. These are all reported on the Blog that I kept. It will remain on my personal website, so please do look at it.



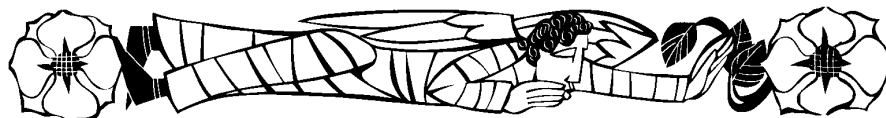
Society of Mary

*This month's meeting
will be on:
Saturday, October 11th, 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
Warren Klam

At Home

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

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL PRE-SCHOOL

3674 Seventh Ave, San Diego 92103

Phone: (619) 298 1671

Director: Ms Remika Battles

now accepting ages 2 -5