
For All The Saints



October 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

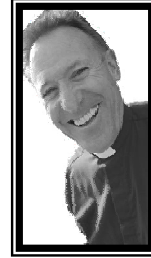
Tuesdays 7:00 am & 12 noon
Wednesdays 9:30 am
Thursdays 6:00 pm
Fridays 9:30 am
Saturdays 9:00 am

CONFESSIONS BY APPOINTMENT

PARISH OFFICE
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E-mail: rector@allsaintschurch.org

Rector's Administrative Assistant: Ms. Melissa Lamar



FATHER TONY WRITES

My dear friends,

On October 1st I began my 8th year as Rector of All Saints'. Is it possible that I have been your Rector for 7 years? It only seems the other day that I was preparing to leave Australia to move to San Diego. On the other hand, so much has been done and achieved in these 7 years. There has been growth in many ways, not least in new people and financial stability.

VESTRY CONSULTATION

Seven is a significant number in the bible, and also features in church tradition. The 7th day of rest & the 7 sacraments come instantly to mind. For the vestry consultation this year it seemed appropriate and helpful to look at these 7 years that I have been your Rector. To see not only what has been achieved, but what we have learnt, as well as looking forward. The 3 years before I became Rector in 2003 were a significant time in this parish, with problems and issues to be faced. So we will also be looking back to that time, as part of the review.



In previous years the vestry has made some significant plans and decisions at its annual consultation. This year it will be more along the lines of a Mutual Ministry Review, as set out in the church by-laws. The consultation will be on Saturday October 16th, and we would be grateful for your prayers.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP LUNCH

As part of our stewardship appeal, a parish luncheon will be held on Sunday October 17th at 12.30 pm. This is the day after the vestry consultation. Mr. John Gray will give the stewardship address at both Masses that morning. At the lunch I will report on the consultation, and give an outline of how I see my 7 years as your Rector. As always, this will be a occasion for good fellowship, as well as looking forward in our life as a parish.

AN ANGLOCATHOLIC PARISH

In reviewing the ministry of the parish, one of the things that defines All Saints' is that we are an Anglo-Catholic parish. This is understood in different ways by parishioners. From the time I came to the parish I have had to explain, teach, and even defend this tradition. It is about much more than vestments, incense and traditional music. Unfortunately, that is how some people see it – just a taste or style in worship.



As the only Anglo-Catholic parish in the diocese of San Diego, we offer something not found in other parishes, as well as having a witness to give to our brothers and sisters in the diocese. This means we may often take a contrary view, or promote a different teaching. This was summed up beautifully by Pope Benedict during his recent visit to Britain, when he said, *“a church that seeks to be particularly attractive is already on the wrong path, because the Church does not work for her own ends - she does not work to increase numbers and thus power. The Church is at the service of another.....she serves to make the proclamation of Jesus Christ accessible.”*

PATRONAL FESTIVAL

All Saints' Day is on Monday November 1st. We will celebrate our Patronal Festival the following Sunday, November 7th. As well as special Masses in the morning, we will, as usual, have Evensong followed by a reception at 5.00 pm.

ALL SOULS DAY

Tuesday November 2nd is the day when Mass is offered for all the faithful departed. There will be 3 Requiem Masses at All Saints': 7 am, 12 noon & 6 pm. As usual we will remember at the altar all the names on our parish Year's Mind list. If you are new to the parish and wish to have someone remembered on All Souls' Day, please use the forms available at church and return them to the office.



CENTENARY OF THE CHURCH

In the September magazine I reported on the plans to mark the centenary of the laying of the foundation stone of our church on Sunday June 10th, 2012. The committee met on Sep19th, and discussed the events we are planning. The dinner will probably be a Saturday lunch at a function center in San Diego.

As well as the 3 events planned, we are also publishing 2 books. Judy Borchert is coordinating an All Saints' cook-book, and would welcome contributions. The most significant thing that will mark the centenary is the publication of a history of All Saints'. Professor Stephen Cox has been working on this book for over a year. Stephen is a member of our congregation and an accomplished writer. This is a very exciting project. I hope It will be officially released at one of the centenary functions.

A NOVEMBER CONCERT

Many of you will remember the excellent concert in the church last year that was presented by the Grossmont Master Chorale. Dr Randall Tweed approached me recently about having another performance by the Chorale this year. We have settled on FRIDAY NOVEMBER 12th, at 7.30 pm It will be an evening of liturgical music. We look forward to another night of wonderful music!



ALL SAINTS' CALENDAR

Last year we produced our own parish calendar for the first time. This was so popular that we exhausted the supply! My secretary, Melissa, has been working with me on a calendar for 2011. This is going to be even more attractive than last year. Each month will have a full-page photo from the church, appropriate to the church season, some highlighting the beautiful flower arrangements we have in the sanctuary. These will be available at a cost of \$5.00 in December. Do not miss out!!

SIN!

On Sunday September 12th I preached on the subject of sin – both personal and in a parish. The response to the sermon was almost overwhelming. It deserves a wider circulation, and so is printed out on pages 11/14. For those not aware, my sermon usually appears on the parish website during the week after I preach it – both the written and audio versions:
www.allsaintschurch.org

This comes, as always, with my blessings and prayers,

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.

\$5

Each

Available in December.



Patronal Festival



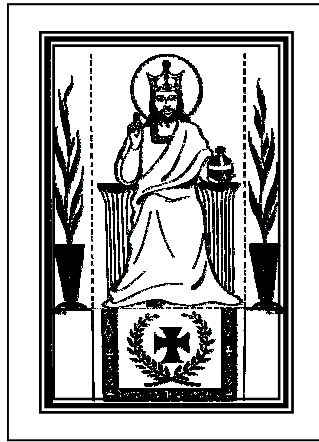
Sunday, November 7, 2010
Sunday after All Saints Day

8:00am Low Mass
10:00am Procession and High Mass
5:00pm Evensong and Benediction
Followed by a reception in the Parish Hall



Days of Celebration

CHRIST THE KING



Sunday, November 21st

8:00am.....Low Mass

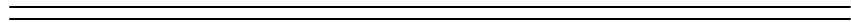
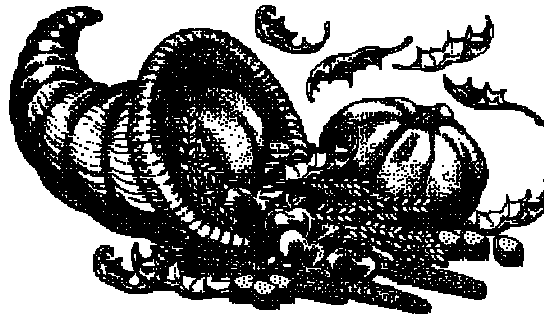
10:00am.....High Mass

Procession of
The Blessed Sacrament
and Benediction

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 25th

9am Solemn Mass





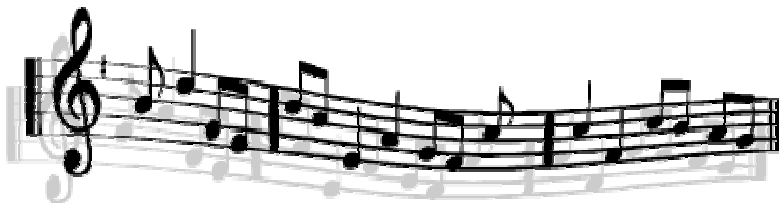
AN EVENING OF
Liturgical Music

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12th

7:30 pm

Grossmont Master Chorale

Director: *Dr Randall Tweed*





SIN
SERMON PREACHED BY FR. TONY NOBLE ON
September 12th, 2010

*Luke 15:10 "There is joy before the angels of God
over one sinner who repents."*

Sin! One of the least romantic aspects of being a priest is that you have to deal with sin. Firstly, your own sin. Scripture says that it is an awful thing to put yourself in the hands of the living God. For a priest, it means acknowledgement of your unworthiness. You know that you'll be judged by a higher standard, not only by God, but by your parishioners.

There's an old saying, "*To stand before the people for God; and stand before God for the people.*" This describes the role of the priest. "*To stand before the people for God, and stand before God for the people.*" But who would dare to stand in the place of the only mediator and advocate, Jesus Christ?

It's not only his unworthiness and sins that the priest must deal with; he also has to deal with the sins of others. In the confessional, he must give advice and counsel, as well as absolution.

Sometimes, the priest is called to deal with sinful situations within the parish. Perhaps, even confront people with their wrongdoings. The spiritual health of a parish and its' people demands this - but it is never something a priest enjoys. Nor is it something he wants to do.



St. Gregory the great summed up the dilemma of a priest and sin when he spoke about the prophet Ezekiel being appointed a watchman - much like the shepherd that seeks the sheep. "A *watchman*," St. Gregory says, "*takes up his position on the heights so that he can see from a distance whatever approaches.*"

He goes on to say about himself, "*When I speak, it is myself that I am reproaching...Since taking on my shoulders the burden of pastoral care, I've been unable to keep steadily recollected, because my mind is distracted by many responsibilities. How can I do justice to the sacred ministry of the Word?*" exclaims Gregory. He goes on to bewail his manifold sins and weaknesses, and concludes, "*Yet the Creator and Redeemer of mankind can give me, unworthy though I be, the grace to see life whole, and power to speak effectively of it. It is for love of him that I do not spare myself in preaching him.*"

These words were spoken and written over 1400 years ago, but they could have been written by me, or any priest, yesterday.

That is why my text, Luke 15:10, is so important. All of us are sinners - but there is joy in heaven when we repent. As St. Paul said in his first Epistle to Timothy, "*Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.*"



Jesus came for that very purpose, because there are two things proper to God:

The honor we must pay him in confessing our sins, and the power of forgiveness, which he pours abundantly over us.

The words of Luke 15:10, where Jesus says that the angels rejoice over one sinner that repents, are quite profound. This verse is a fundamental link between the two parables - the lost sheep and the lost coin - and what follows. These are, probably, two of the best known parables. What follows is one of the most popular parables of all - the parable of the prodigal son. That parable concludes with the father welcoming back his son with joy and tears. The banquet that follows is surely an image of the joy of the angels of God when one sinner repents.

In Luke 15 Jesus begins with these two parables. They tell us that God will search us out, wants to bring back the lost. Then he concludes with the marvelous story of God's overwhelming love and forgiveness as shown to the prodigal son. The link between these two sections is the note of joy in heaven.

Perhaps we aren't great sinners? Most of us are just ordinary Christians, trying to do our best. In fact today, you rarely hear the word 'sin' mentioned in church at all!



If we are not great sinners, we are certainly like sheep. Most sheep don't wander away on purpose. They just keep their heads down while munching on the grass. Their concern is only for the present moment, and what lies directly in front of them. When they look up, the rest of the flock has vanished!

That's how it is with many people. We don't mean to get lost from God. We just get tied up in our own needs and what confronts us – our families, finances, health, time, and priorities. It all gets away from us, doesn't it? And we get away from God in the process.

C.S. Lewis, the great Anglican theologian, said that it doesn't take a big sin to take us out of orbit around God, just a little distraction will do.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. We are like lost sheep, and he wants to bring us back. He came from heaven and gave his life on the cross to make it possible. But we have to go with him. We have to follow the Shepherd, and not be distracted.

He waits for us today, as he always does, on the altar, in the most holy sacrament of Holy Communion. After we've met him at the altar, we will say words that should be our continual response day-by-day:

So to assist us with thy grace that we may continue in that holy fellowship and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in.

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
Johnathan Gray
Warren Klam



Now accepting ages 2-5

Director: *Ms. Renika Battles*
