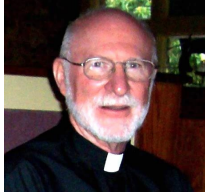


All Saints' Herald

Newsletter of
All Saints Anglican Parish
Aiken, South Carolina

A Parish of the
Anglican Catholic Church
Diocese of the South

From Fr. George's notebook...



Sound Parish, Solid Faith, Promising Year

As we reported to the Parish at the Annual Meeting, the Parish is fiscally sound. The Vestry have been good stewards of God's Bounty. You, members of All Saints', have been the instruments of God providing that Bounty.

We have shared the Bounty within our Parish family, within our community, and, through our Province, with the entire world.

As Anglicans, we share a solid faith in Jesus Christ, a faith grounded in Orthodoxy, adhering to our English heritage and its centuries of tradition.

With that solid foundation, we look to the coming year as an opportunity to grow: to grow not only spiritually but also to grow as a Family in Christ, to expand, enlarge, and to reach out.

There are challenges still to be met, obstacles to be overcome, and, in the words of the poet Frost, "miles to go before we sleep".

We have nearly 60 individual families that make up our Parish Family, among whom there is a diversity of talents, skills, and abilities.

We are just what St. Paul would have ordered for one of his churches!

St. Paul talks about the Church being one body with many members; so here we are, one body in Christ, many members with so much to offer.

We have the foundation and we have the building blocks; we have the talent, skills,

and abilities: that makes for a "promising year".

What is the promise?

First, it is spiritual growth: the opportunity to increase in the knowledge and love of God; an opportunity to share in the worship of God in a tradition that transcends centuries, even millennia.

The sacrificial worship of the Old Covenant has been transformed through the Redemptive Act of Jesus Christ into the living sacrificial worship of the New Covenant, where we can offer ourselves, our lives, our souls, our very being to God as never before could have been done.

Our corporate worship strengthens us in our private worship; it brings us into a vibrant, spiritual relationship with Him; and, as we receive Him in the Consecrated Bread and Wine, we become at one with Him and find the "Peace that passes all understanding."

Second, it is corporate growth: the opportunity for our family to increase in numbers.

If we have something special in our Anglican Faith and Practice, then we should want to share it with others and give them the opportunity to experience the soundness and beauty of our liturgical worship.

Let us not become an anachronism; let Anglicanism become the future as well as the past and a bright and shining light for all to see.

Third, it is personal growth: carrying the torch of Anglicanism, requires our individual participation and a contribution of self to our Family in Christ that brings with it personal growth.

Each of us has commitments, interests, personal projects, hobbies, businesses, and families. We join clubs, volunteer, and go about our daily lives.

Somehow, though, in all that we do, what should be one of the most important things in our lives is pushed aside and relegated to one day a week for an hour or so.

However, in moments of quiet contemplation, we may feel a stirring that grows into the realization that we are incomplete, that there is something lacking in our lives.

What is lacking is our active participation in our adoptive family: our Family in Christ.

It is through giving of self and active participation that we experience personal growth.

Thus, for the promise to reach fruition, we must be willing participants.

There is a **fourth part** of the promise: **it is hope and joy.**

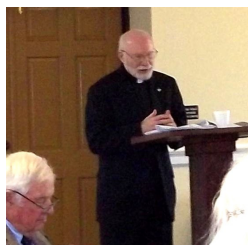
For what is the Gospel but the hope and joy of everlasting life united with God. We glimpse that promise when we fully incorporate ourselves into the life of the Church as active members of His Family.

So much for sounding like a sermon; but I find it difficult not to take the "opportunity" whenever it avails itself to share the promise given to us at All Saints' through the Church and the Grace of God.

Annual Meeting....

The Parish Annual Meeting went well, the food was excellent, and a large percentage of the membership attended.

The 2011 Parish Budget was approved as presented and the Parish By-Laws were amended to reflect our affiliation with the ACC.



The slate presented by the Vestry for nominations to the Vestry was approved

unanimously and we welcome to our 2011 Vestry, Larry Byers, who will be finishing our the term of Frank Newkirk,



as well as those re-elected to two-year terms: Alan Wingard, Susan Thomas, Ken Gordon, and Fred Colley. They are joined by Sara Wood, Phoebe Marshall, and Bobbie Graves.

Perhaps, the best way to summarize the meeting is to reprint here the Rector's Report:

We are in the 34th year of the establishment of All Saints' Anglican Church and I am happy to report that we are fiscally and spiritually sound.

As you can see from the statistical report, we were up in some areas and down in others. Importantly, we ended the year with 92 active members.

The numbers on attendance are a little deceiving, especially when compared to the number of communions. The reason for this is simply that we have for a number of years counted attendance at services external to the Parish as part of our statistics, services such as the Blessing of the Hounds in Hitchcock Woods. This will be changed this year to more accurately account for church attendance in our Parish.

I am confident, when we report the statistics at the 2012 Annual Meeting, there will be significant increases in the numbers for attendance, communions, and services.

During this year, we will strive to remain true to our Anglican heritage, faithful in our liturgical worship, and strictly adhere to our theology as expressed in the 1928 Book of Common Prayer and through the centuries of tradition of the Church in England.

(Continued on next page)

2010 was a momentous year: we said good-by to Fr. Clanton as rector with the hope that he would remain here during his retirement. Unfortunately for us, circumstances changed and he and Ruth will be retiring to Alabama to be near their daughter and grandchildren in Daphne. All is well with the Clanton's and we wish them all the best in their retirement together.



With Fr. Clanton's retirement, the Parish graciously welcomed a new rector, who, God willing, will be instituted by the bishop in May of this year.

Change is good when it is tempered and the Parish is dynamic and receptive to change as necessary.

We've experienced significant change in the last year and we look to this year as a year of promise.

I have stressed so many times the Parish as a Family. Indeed, we are a Family in Christ. What else could we be? We have been adopted by God, each of us; so we are brothers and sisters in Christ, a Family.



And, as a family, let us work together to fulfill the potential of our Parish and grow together spiritually, corporately, and personally.

God willing, we will grow as a Parish; we will add more services, more activities; and there will be more opportunity for you to give to God's service your special talents, skills, and abilities.



With that report, we begin the year with earnest.

Keeping with the desire to expand worship at our Parish, one of the additions to our service schedule will be celebrating the feast days of the Early Church Fathers, this in addition to the feast days of the Apostles and other Prayer Book Holy Days.

Coming Up in February....

We have a lean calendar of events in February but we do have a number of services scheduled.

In keeping with a new outlook for 2011, we will be celebrating the Feast of St. Ignatius on February 1st. He is one of the Early Church Fathers.

We will also celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph of Arimathea on the 22nd and the Feast of the Apostle St. Matthias on the 24th.

Looking ahead....

March appears to be a busy month as we head into Lent.

As always, we'll have our traditional Spaghetti Supper on Shrove Tuesday (March 15th)....

Ash Wednesday Services will begin at 5:30 pm with the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion....

Also in Lent we have the Stations of the Cross each Friday at 5:30 pm....

And plans are underway for a series of Lenten programs.

Easter Sunday is April 24th and we are planning a very festive time. If all goes well, we may be able to have a traditional Easter Even High Mass as well as our festive Easter Morning celebration of the Eucharist.

Good news from our Bishop: he has confirmed a date for his annual Visitation. It will be the weekend of May 21st-22nd. At that time he will also institute the rector-elect.

So, mark your calendars and plan to be present to greet our Bishop.

January News in Review....

Despite the cold, the ice, and the snow, we had a busy month in January.

ACW

By Susan Thomas

The ACW greeted the new year by focusing on healthy eating in their January meeting.



Susan Thomas brought ingredients for making a variety of pizzas on pita bread. These small pizzas are low in calories, nutritious and "as much fun to make as they are to eat," as we found out.

Shelby Ruddy brought delicious chicken bites with a low calorie sauce. After the pizzas came out of the oven, the ladies shared healthy eating tips, dieting pitfalls to avoid, and some much needed encouragement.



Enjoying the healthy snacks were **Susan Thomas, Lainey Keller, Sara Wood, Phoebe Marshall, Jo Cunningham, Beverly Kimmel, Carol Sue Roberts, Onesta Carswell, Bobbie Graves, Trina Crocker, Shelby Ruddy, and Betty Alexander.**

Susan also shared a thank you note from **Mary Ann Troy**, mother of serviceman **Michael Troy**. Mary Ann said that Mike and the other servicemen and women appreciated our Christmas cards.

For some, our cards were the only Christmas wishes that they received, which is why Mike specifically sent us their names.

Please plan to attend ACW's February meeting on **Tuesday, February 1st** at 2:00 in the Parish House. **Forrest Roberts** of our parish will give a presentation featuring some of his wonderful wildlife photographs. Forrest has traveled all over the world studying wildlife. We think that this presentation will be so special that are inviting the gentlemen of the parish to join us.

The ACW met at Malia's for their January Luncheon. The Tuesday luncheon was well attended and included:



Danielle Falk, Onesta Carswell, Betty Alexander, Susan Thomas, Connie

Beveridge, Lainey Keller, Shelby Ruddy, Mardena Ehret, and Jo Cunningham.

In February, we will meet for lunch on Tuesday the 15th at Travinia's at 11:30. Please call Susan Thomas at 648-4431 to reserve a spot.

Men of All Saints'

By Ken Gordon

Sorry we had to cancel the January Meeting, but Mother Nature just wouldn't cooperate. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 15th. We are moving to the 3rd

Tuesday to accommodate Parish Night Out which has been moved to the 2nd Wednesday. I didn't think having church events on back to back nights would maximize attendance at either event. We will meet at the West Side Bowery at 6 PM for social and eat about 6:30 - 6:45.

I thought we would change the agenda this month to encourage broader attendance. In place of a set meal, we will order off the menu during social time and can sit for dinner when the food is ready. This will allow for last minute attendance and appetites of all ranges to be satisfied. Each person will pay their own tab. Hopefully our new format will encourage more men to attend our meetings. Even with these changes, I would appreciate a call from those who know they will be attending so I can give the restaurant an idea on how to set up for us.

If this flexible approach proves satisfactory, we could add a lunch from time to time on the same basis that might fit some men who prefer a daytime venue to coming out at night. All suggestions regarding our meetings is welcome.

I look forward to seeing many of you on Feb. 15th.

Parish Night Out

We re-visited *Up Your Alley* for **Parish Night Out**. It was a larger but jovial group



including **Chuck & Danielle Falk, Allen & Phoebe Marshall, Jack & Pat Miller, Ken & Diane Gordon, Chris Roberts, Dn. & Cecelia Davies, and Fr. And Betty Alexander.**

Our next outing is February 9th and we are

now taking suggestions for a restaurant to visit. Let us know what you think..

A Special "Thank You" to our Vestry....

As we settle down into the new year, perhaps this is a good time to recognize and thank one group who have given of themselves to the Parish in a number of ways.

There is no doubt that we have a good Vestry. No, we have a "great" Vestry! and each member has worked hard to see that our Parish operates on sound footing.

In 2010, **Sara Wood** led the Vestry as Senior Warden. She has been a tireless leader, balancing other community involvement while always putting the best interests of the Parish first.

Whether decorating at Christmas and Easter, planting and weeding the Parish garden, singing in the choir, or just attending Vestry meetings, Sara has been a stalwart of the Parish and a source of information about the operation of the Parish throughout the years.

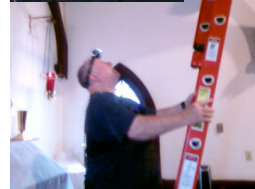


Fred Colley served as Junior Warden this past year, tackling some rather testy tasks.

He discovered a problem with the ducting in the Fairfield House and proceeded to make initial repairs until



the contractor could finish off the project. Fred also replaced the lights in the Chancel of the Church with new fluorescent bulbs and new fixtures making it

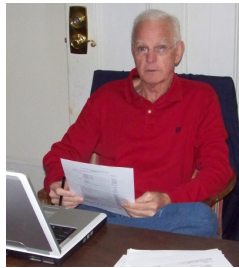


possible to see the print on the Missal. That was some climb to the ceiling to get to those fixtures!

As always, **Bobbie Graves** kept up with everything during the meetings so we could have timely minutes and a record to leave behind for the future. Keeping track of all the conversations that go on during a Vestry meeting can be quite a job. Might could say, a formidable job!



Balancing a number of duties including Acolyte Master, Usher, and Treasurer, **Alan Wingard** has always been there when needed. Not only that, he has been a great source of information and assistance when we've had technology problems; he can even climb a telephone pole but so far we haven't needed him to that!



Susan Thomas helps to keep us focused. She has been on the Vestry a number of years and for quite a while as Treasurer. She now serves as the president of the ACW and keeps track of supplies for the Parish House from paper towels to coffee. Susan's attention to detail has been a real asset.



Just retiring from the Vestry is **Frank Newkirk** who served many years as Junior Warden. Frank knew just who to call when something broke, that is if he couldn't fix it. He certainly was instrumental in keeping our entire facility is the best of condition and retains a wealth



of knowledge about the workings of the Parish facility.

Sharing her time with the choir, **Phoebe Marshall** brought to the Vestry a different perspective and insight. She, too, has been instrumental in keeping the Vestry focused.



Keeping the mix, **Ken Gordon** has spent a year on the Vestry introducing a lot of new ideas and ways of doing things. He brought to All Saints' a number of years of experience with Vestry matters from other Parishes and is not shy when it come to sharing them! Ken also serves as chairman of the **Men of All Saints'**



Thank you, members of the Vestry, for your dedication and outstanding work!

Now, we welcome a new member to the Vestry: **Larry**



Byers. Congratulations, Larry, on your election to the Vestry and our appreciation for your willingness to serve God and our Parish as a faithful representative of the Parish Family.

Newsletter...

We're always looking for news, information, articles, poetry, and photos for the newsletter, the **All Saints' Herald**.

Any items you think would be of interest to the Parish, please submit to Fr. Alexander. The newsletter is usually printed the last Friday of the month.

Orthodoxy: *The Guardian Against Heresy*

By Fr. Alexander

Since its very beginning, Christianity has been faced with those who, with and without good intention, have subverted and perverted the Faith as once delivered to the Apostles by our Lord.

There are assaults on the Faith, often-times defined as heresies, against which our defense has been Orthodoxy.

Orthodoxy is an oft misunderstood term, often misapplied, resisted and resented; but, nevertheless, necessary for the continued existence of an undiluted Christian Faith in a constantly changing world.

From the earliest times of the Church, efforts were made to redefine the Faith to conform with the thinking of an Hellenistic world. The first heresies fell under the term Gnosticism and we see both St. John in his Gospel and St. Paul in his Epistles responding to the dangers posed by these perversions of the Faith.

Simply stated, Gnosticism undermined the redemption of mankind by attacking the very Nature of our Lord, contending that either Jesus was divine or He was human, but not both.

The positive result of the heretical movements was a defining of the Faith through the efforts of the early Church Fathers and the Church Councils.

Still today, the Faith is under assault, frequently from a fervor to reduce it or simplify it, sometimes in an effort to purify it, as we saw in the Protestant Reformation.

With so many denominations and schools of thought developing, in particular over the last five centuries, what is "Right Belief"?

The opposite question could logically be posed, what is "Wrong Belief"? But that would be much more difficult to define with such a diversity of approaches to Christianity in the world today.

The Faith has been defined through the three Creeds of the Church: the Apostles

Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed.

These Creeds undertake to tell us what is "Right Belief"; what that Faith is that was delivered to the Apostles by Jesus Christ Himself.

These are the very basics, the practice of which is further defined by the Church.

Aside from understanding "Right Belief," perhaps the next greatest misunderstanding is the practice of that Belief or Faith.

While Orthodoxy represents the defining of the Faith, in a broader sense it can also represent the practice of that Faith.

The Protestant Reformation attacked not only the definition but also the practice of the Faith. The purifying zeal of the reformers stripped away not only the human errors but also many of the core elements of the worship of God that had their beginnings with Abraham and formed the standards of worship passed on to the Christian Church through the New Covenant.

Thus, if we look at Orthodoxy from two perspectives, as representing "Right Belief" on the one hand and "Right Worship" on the other, we find it a formidable guardian against heresy.

From our Anglican perspective, Orthodoxy is defining the Faith. It transcends all Christian denominations and should always be the measure of their relevancy. Regardless of what the world thinks, there **must** be a standard of Belief.

Also, from the Anglican perspective, our form of worship contained in the 1928 Book of Common Prayer remains true to the ancient worship of the Church, retaining all the elements and permitting the fullest form of worship that Tradition has carried over and practiced since the early days of Christianity.

In a very real sense, we Anglicans are "Guardians of the Faith":

We keep and practice the Orthodox Faith once delivered by our Lord to the Apostles, affirmed by the Creeds, and practiced in the Apostolic Tradition.

February Birthdays

- 3 William Crocker
- 6 Fred Colley
- 7 Tamara Cannon
- 9 Andrew King

February Anniversaries

- 9 Jadwin & Marian Sorter
- 23 John & Jo Cunningham

Saint of the Month: *St. Ignatius of Antioch*

From the arms of our Lord to the lions of the Colosseum, St. Ignatius truly witnessed for the Christian Faith.

Legend places him as one of the children taken up in the arms of Jesus and blessed; but years later, good authority has Ignatius as appointed to the See of Antioch by St. Peter, succeeding St. Evodius, who died around the year 67 AD.

Also known as "Theophoros" or "bearer of God" (perhaps, "borne by God"), St. Ignatius wrote seven letters that are still in existence and provide great insight into the Apostolic teaching. Indeed, St. Ignatius, along with St. Polycarp, was a disciple of St. John. One of his letters was even addressed to Polycarp.

The seven letters considered to be authentic are the letters to: the Ephesians, the Magnesians, the Trallians, the Romans, the Philadelphians, the Smyrnaeans, and Polycarp.

His writing was centered on the episcopacy and his insistence that the best safeguard of the Christian Faith is the bishop.

His consuming desire for martyrdom is reflected in his Epistle to the Romans. St. Ignatius was eventually arrested and taken to Rome where, in 107 AD, he met his death in the Colosseum, eaten by lions.

That trip from Antioch to Rome is well recorded and there were many stops along the way. He was received in

Smyrna by Polycarp and greeted by crowds of Christians in Troas. He passed through Macedonia and Illyria to Dyrrhachium where he embarked for Italy, arriving in Rome in mid-December.

He was accompanied on the journey to martyrdom by Agathopus and a deacon, named Philo, who provided a detailed account of the trip.

St. Ignatius joins with other early Church Fathers and the councils that followed in the next several centuries in defending the Faith against heresy, in particular a Judaizing heresy that played on the elements of Docetism, that is, the belief that Jesus Christ is only an apparition.

Outside of the Gospels and Epistles of the New Testament, the letters of St. Ignatius are among the most important and earliest Christian writings and include instruction on the Church, marriage, the Trinity, the Incarnation, Redemption, and the Eucharist.

We celebrate the Feast of St. Ignatius on February 1st.

Church Humor :)

Children and Prayer

Minister: "So your mother says your prayers with you every night? What does she say?"

Little Boy: "Thank God, he's in bed."

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The minister was invited over for dinner and asked to lead in prayer for the meal. After a brief prayer, little Fred said approvingly, "You don't pray so long when you're hungry, do you?"

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A seven-year-old boy was overheard praying, "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

All Saints' Herald

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All Saints' Parish Calendar

February 2011

		Abt. Abbot Ap. Apostle B(b). Bishop(s) C(o). Confessor(s) D. Doctor K. King M. Martyr Q. Queen Pr. Priest S. Saint V. Virgin Wid. Widow					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 S. Ignatius, B.M. ACW meets at 2 pm in Parish House H.C. 5:30 pm	2 Purification of the BVM HC 5:30 pm Anglican Studies 6:15	3 S. Blase, B.M.	4 S. Gilbert of Sempringham, Abt.	5 S. Agatha, V.M.	
6 Epiphany 5 MP & HC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 HC 10:30 Healing Service 11:40	7 S. Romuald, Abt.	8 S. John of Matha, C. Vestry meets at 2 pm in Parish House	9 S. Cyril of Alexandria HC 5:30 pm Parish Night Out 6:15	10 S. Scholastica, V.	11 Feria	12 S. Benedict Biscop, Abt.	
13 Epiphany 6 MP & HC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 HC 10:30	14 S. Valentine, M.	15 The Martyrs of Japan ACW Luncheon 11:30 at Travinia's Men of All Saints' 6:00 pm at Bowery	16 Feria HC 5:30 pm Anglican Studies 6:15	17 Feria	18 S. Simeon, B..M.	19 Feria	
20 Septuagesma MP & HC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 HC 10:30	21 Feria	22 S. Joseph of Arimathea, C. H.C. 5:30 pm	23 S. Peter Damian, B.C.D. HC 5:30 pm Anglican Studies 6:15	24 S. Mathias, Ap.M. H.C. at 5:30 pm	25 Feria	26 Feria	
27 Sexagesima MP & HC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 HC 10:30	28 Feria						