

All Saints' Herald

*January
2024*

Newsletter of
All Saints Anglican Parish
Aiken, South Carolina

A Parish of the
Anglican Catholic Church
Diocese of the South

From My Notebook....

Growing as a Parish

A New Year, New Opportunities



Here we are in a new year — 2024. How quickly time has gone by.

As we look back on the past year, we also look to this new year with mixed emotions, especially considering the pressures being put on us as a nation, individually as its citizens, and, even more concerning, as Christians.

Despite the world around us, we Christians always have hope found in Jesus Christ. But we must be careful not to become complacent in that hope.

Early Christians did not bring about such a dramatic change in the world by being complacent. Neither can we expect to sustain Christianity, the Church, without being proactive in our religious lives.

It all begins, not just with us individually, but also within the Parish where we, as a particular family, come together to share our Faith, our Faith in Jesus Christ as the only-begotten Son of God.

As we begin this new year, we do so with the potential to elevate our Parish in the community as we elevate ourselves in the practice of our religion,

specifically, in our heritage given us through the Church as it developed and grew into its own in the British Isles. We refer to it as our **English Church Heritage**.

With a new deacon well-versed in Church Music, Liturgy, and History, we have a renewed opportunity to embrace more of what had been lost with the Reformation but regained in the **Catholic Revival** of the English Church in the 1800s.

With **Fr. Garrett Clanton**, as Rector, the Parish set out on that pathway. He reintroduced many of the threads of Anglicanism that had been unraveled during the past history of our Heritage.

After his retirement in 2010, we continued on that pathway, yet not at the pace many of us would have liked, though with the understanding that embracing change is a slow process.

So often, we have explored in writing the beauty of worship as it affects our senses, all of our senses, raising our spirituality to new heights as we engage in our corporate worship of God, Our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

Services & Meetings for January 2024

Monday the 1st....

Circumcision of Christ:

Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday the 3rd....

Octave of St. John, Apostle:

Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday the 6th....

Feast of The Epiphany:

Holy Communion with music at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday the 9th....

Of the Octave of Epiphany:

Vestry at 5:15 p.m. in Parish Hall.

Wednesday the 10th....

Of the Octave of Epiphany:

Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m., followed by **Parish Night Out** at 6:30.

Tuesday the 16th....

Bl. William Laud, Bishop & Martyr:

ACW Lunch at 11:30 at *Jade of China*.

Men of All Saints' meet at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday the 17th....

St. Anthony, Abbot:

Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday the 21st....

Epiphany 3:

Annual Meeting & Potluck following the 10:30 Service.

Wednesday the 24th....

St. Timothy, Bishop & Martyr:

Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday the 25th....

Conversion of St. Paul:

Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday the 31st....

St. John Bosco, Confessor:

Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

We have begun to enhance our worship with the introduction of music that connects us to our Anglican roots, thanks to the efforts of our Cantor, **Tony Harris**, and our Choristers, **Larry Byers** and **Dominique Corbett**, under the direction of **Chris Roberts**, not to mention **Carol Sue Roberts**, who has been a mentor.

At the same time over the years, we have broadened our **Liturgy** to include more of the beautiful prayers that had been omitted in the past, while slowly raising our practice of religion to re-

flect more clearly our **Catholicity**.

Now, with the addition of Deacon Davis, we can look forward in 2024 to moving further down the pathway that leads us closer to the **Anglican Heritage** we lost in the transition from England to America that took place during the colonization of our continent.

You may wonder at this point where I am going with this....not to worry, there is no cliff to jump off but a gentle path toward our goal to "**Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness**".

(Continued on page 17.)

Announcements & Parish News

Scoured from the Weekly Bulletins & Elsewhere

Annual Parish Meeting & Potluck

The *Annual Parish Meeting* is on Sunday, January 21st following the 10:30 service, and will include a *Parish Potluck*. This is when **Parishioners** elect members to the **Vestry** and approve the **budget** for 2024. Four members are to be elected/re-elected to fill Vestry terms that expire in January 2026. Vestry members serve two-year terms. Those whose terms expire in 2024 include: **Carl Bottomley, Carol Sue Roberts, Don Michelinie, and Chris Roberts.**

Altar Guild Needs More Members

The **Altar Guild** is in need of more members to assist with Altar Duties following the various services, in particular, at the 10:30 service. If you are interested in this very important service in the Church, please contact **Betty Alexander.**

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed for the New Year

Coffee Hour is a wonderful tradition at All Saints', and we need volunteers to join in preparing the Sunday Coffee Hour. It doesn't have to be elaborate or involved, and two or more may team up for a particular Sunday. If you're interested in joining in with preparing a Coffee Hour, please contact **Lena Whittaker**, who is chair of

the *Hospitality Committee*, or just sign up on the bulletin board.

Remembering the Faithful Departed at the Altar

It is customary in **Anglican Tradition** to remember our departed loved ones and friends at the **Altar** on special occasions, especially on their birthday or date of departure. If you would like to have a family member, or special friend remembered at the **Altar** on a certain Sunday, please let Fr. Alexander know.

Altar Flowers

Flower Chart is on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall for those who would like to dedicate flowers for family or friends, special occasions, or in memory of loved ones. There is no specific amount to donate for **Altar Flowers**; however, the normal cost of the two arrangements that sit on both sides is about \$80.

Prayer List

Please check and update the **Prayer List**. Perhaps, there are some who should be removed, as well as some to be added. Let **Kathy Clark** or Fr. Alexander know of any changes or additions that need to be made to the list.

Visitors

We have had many visitors to our Parish lately, so please join our clergy in showing them how warm, friendly, and welcoming we are at All Saints'.

Altar Guild Work Day

Readying for Christmas

Members of the **St. Catherine's Altar Guild** met on Saturday, December 16th, to prepare the church for Christmas. The tasks involve polishing brass and silver as well as cleaning the Sanctuary area.

Taking care of the *Advent Wreath* is also a responsibility of the **Altar Guild**.

Many hands make the work easier and faster. Those lending their hands were: **Dominique Corbett, Carol Sue Roberts, Betty Alexander** (Altar Guild Director), **Jean Drake,** and **Ann Zouck.**

The **Altar Guild** prepares the Sanctuary for each service, attends to the vessels and linens used, makes sure the linens are properly washed and ironed, and changes the Fair Linen quarterly. The candles are filled with liquid wax weekly.



Annual Parish Meeting is the 21st

The **Annual Parish Meeting** is not just a requirement under the By-Laws and Canons, it is an important function in the fiscal and physical operation of the Parish, touching also on the spiritual side. And, more to the point, it is the coming together of the membership in partnership with the Vestry and the Clergy to conduct the business of the Church.

First, the Treasurer reports on the fiscal status of the Parish and presents a budget proposal for the new year. Then the Parish membership considers what is presented and proposed, discusses it as necessary, and acts upon it by accepting the reports and the proposed budget, or they take action to amend the budget presented.

Fortunately, All Saint's operates on a balanced budget, has no debts, and has significant assets. All of this may be attributed to a fiscally conservative and responsible Vestry, and the generosity of our Parishioners.

Of course, our physical operation has needs that require attention and planning, such as the maintenance on Fairfield House, which, partly due to age, is continuous in need of repairs. Of course, there is routine maintenance required on all our facilities.

In the course of the year, there will naturally be other projects presented to the Vestry for consideration, pro-

jects to enhance our facilities.

The Annual Meeting is also when new members are elected to the Vestry, and current ones are re-elected.

Four members, which is half of the Vestry, are elected each year

Current members of the Vestry are: Larry Byers, Sharon Padgett, Marion Terrell, Jerry Burns, Carol Sue Roberts, Chris Roberts, Carl Bottomley, and Donald Michelinie.

Those whose terms end this month are: Carol Sue Roberts, Chris Roberts, Carl Bottomley, and Donald Michelinie. Carol Sue and Carl are not seeking another term.

Although not done during the Annual Meeting, but in the next regular Vestry meeting, the rector appoints the Senior Warden, while the members of the Vestry elect a Junior Warden.

The officers of the Parish are the Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, and Treasurer. Only the Treasurer does not need to be a member of the Vestry.

Currently, the Senior Warden is Larry Byers; Junior Warden is Jerry Burns; Secretary is Carol Sue Roberts; and Treasurer is Jeff Kern.

Kathy Clark is our bookkeeper and Administrative Assistant to the Rector.

ACW News

by Betty Alexander

Full of the Christmas spirit, an ebullient (boisterous?) group of ACW ladies met for the December luncheon at *Park Avenue Oyster Bar & Grill*. Setting the tone for the gathering, Sylvia Riggan wore her festive holiday pants. Also attending were Patricia Sharp, Clare Michelinie, Carol Sue Roberts, Pat Hardwick, Kim Hardwick, Betty Alexander, and Ann Zouck. Topics of conversation included some of the usual, such as dogs – Clare and Carol Sue, both owners of standard poodles, discussed how smart they are, and Betty showed pictures of Lillie's latest escapade, entitled "Lillie and the Lipstick." Another favorite topic was that of ailments, but they were too numerous to fit into this report. A new topic was the "Nine Lessons and Carols" service held at the church the previous Sunday. All enthusiastically agreed that the service was a beautiful and impressive event, as played by our new

deacon, Rev. Dcn. Lance Davis, an accomplished organist in his previous life, with an outstanding baritone solo by David Nunnally, and followed by a wonderful parish dinner, coordinated by Lena Whittaker and Bob Sukovich. Another topic was the parish's preparations for Christmas, with volunteers bringing donations of greens from their yards to decorate the church on Saturday, December 23, and three services planned for Sunday, December 24 (10:30 AM to observe Advent 4, and two Christmas Eve services (5 PM, 11:15 PM), as well as

(Continued on page 16.)



Men of All Saints'

A small but festive group met on Tuesday, December 19th, for the monthly gathering of the **Men of All Saints'**.

Much of the conversation centered on religion, of course, ranging from what's happening in the Parish to the religious crises around the world, including the persecution of Christians.

Naturally, the group was concerned about how liberal the various denominations were becoming, and the breakdown in what

always seemed to be absolute Christian Biblical Standards, as well as individual Christian moral behavior.



In attendance were: **Kevin Riordan, David Nunnely, Larry Byers, Don Michelinie, Tony Harris, Forrest Roberts, Dcn. Lance Davis, Chris Roberts, Dieter Voegele, and Fr. Alexander.**



*Photos
By
Forrest Roberts*

(Except for two.)



Decorating the Church Amazing the Transformation

The results were beautiful as volunteers arranged greenery and positioned poinsettias to make the church ready for our Christmas festivities.

Many thanks to those who lent their time and talent, including: **Susan Thomas, Phoebe Marshall, Kim Hardwick, Pixie Keating, Kathy Clark, Carol Sue Roberts, Sylvia Riggin, Ann Zouck, Dcn. Lance Davis, Patty Scarf, Desiree Voegele, and Betty Alexander.**



It wasn't all just work, as everyone enjoyed the time spent together, along with cookies and coffee. And a thank-you to **Susan Thomas** for directing the work on the Creche.



The Office of the Deacon

By *The Rev. C. Lance Davis*



One of the things that has struck me in the month since my ordination is just how unfamiliar the role of the Deacon is to many Anglicans today. This is not really surprising, given that we have a clergy shortage, and most of our parishes never encounter the often-brief diaconal period our clergy experience before inevitably being priested. I thought it might be helpful, therefore, to provide us with an overview of the duties and theology of the Diaconate in our Anglican Catholic tradition.

The history of the Diaconate begins in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 6. It would seem that a dispute arose at this time concerning the care of widows and others amongst the Christian community who were in especial need. The Apostles, as the consecrated Bishops of the Church, were busy evangelizing the Empire and governing the local Christian churches over which they had been placed, and were unable to devote much time to quotidian needs in the parishes. Thus, it was decided that an order should be

formed which would assist the Bishops in their ministrations. Seven men “of honest report” were sought out, and by the laying on of hands and the invocation of the Holy Ghost were set aside for the office and work of *Diakonos*—“servant”. One amongst these was Stephen, who shortly thereafter gave up his life as the first Christian martyr (and whose feast we celebrated on December 26th—a sober reminder from the Church that the blessings of Christmas and Holy Orders may yet require of us the very greatest sacrifice).



As the diaconal ministry developed in the early Church, St. Paul wrote to St. Timothy with advice on what sort of men should be chosen as Deacons: “Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.

Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus” (1 Tim. 3:8-13). We can see that the order of Deacon is of apostolic institution and Scriptural witness, and indeed this is the Catholic faith of the English Church: “It is evident unto all men, diligently reading Holy Scripture and ancient Authors, that from the Apostles' time there have been these Orders of Ministers in Christ's Church: Bishops, Priests, and Deacons” (BCP 529).

In the Ordinal as found in the Book of Common Prayer, the Deacon is specifically appointed “to assist the Priest in Divine Service, and specially when he ministereth the Holy Communion, and to help him in the distribution thereof; and to read Holy Scriptures and Homilies in the Church; and to instruct the youth in the Catechism; in the absence of the Priest to baptize infants; and to preach, if he be admitted thereto by the Bishop. And furthermore, it is his Office, where provision is so made, to search for the sick, poor, and impotent people of the Parish, that they may be relieved with the alms of the Parishioners, or others” (BCP 533). There are therefore three basic prerog-

atives of the deacon: 1) education; 2) service in divine liturgy; and 3) works of mercy.

Practically speaking, the diaconate usually functions in most parishes as an apprenticeship period for the man who, it is generally presumed, will yet “be found worthy to be called unto the higher Ministries in thy Church” (BCP 535). Nevertheless, no matter how brief a man's diaconate may be, his ministry therein is of utmost importance in the parish. At All Saints, your new Deacon will be most visible in his liturgical role, which comprises four main functions: chanting the Holy Gospel at Mass, bearing the Chalice of the Precious Blood at Holy Communion, offering incense at the Mass and



the Divine Office, and preaching regularly. I will also be accompanying Fr. George on sick call visits, assisting in expanding our educational offerings at the parish, and praying “Deacon's Masses”, at which Holy Communion will be given from the reserved Sacrament. One of the Deacon's most vital roles, however, is to serve as something of a “bridge” between the world and the Church. As Ormonde Plater writes in his book *Many Servants*, “The role of a Deacon is to learn and communicate to the church the needs, hopes, and concerns of the world.” This is not an easy

(Continued on page 19.)

Lessons & Carols Well-Attended — Dinner Highly Successful



What better way to prepare for the Christmas Season than with the *Service of Lessons & Carols*, followed by a festive dinner!

On Sunday, the week before Christmas Eve, we did just that, and the attendance was overwhelming.

The service was quite lovely, so lovely that we are thinking about doing an



Epiphany Lessons & Carols following the same format. A date for that has not been decided.

The food was excellent, as was the wine, all for the price of \$10 person.



Our thanks to **Dcn. Davis** for his hard work in putting together the *Lessons & Carols* with help from **Chris Roberts**; Choristers, **Tony Harris, David Nunnally, Larry Byers, and Noah Bartel**; and Lectors, **Larry Byers, Ken Connor, Bruce Drake, David Nunnally, Kevin Riordan, Chris Roberts, and Fr. Alexander.**

For the wonderful food, we must thank **Lena Whittaker**, for coordinating the menu, preparing dishes, and the decorations.

Our hats off to **Bob Sukovich** for his outstanding ribs and sirloin.





*More Photos
from the Dinner
following
Lessons & Carols*



*Lessons & Carols
Photos
by
Forrest Roberts*

ACW News continued....

one Christmas Day service (10:30 AM). Betty said that, if she attends all three services on December 24, she will have exceeded all previous limits on her holiness. (Attending the Christmas Day service exceeds the possible!)

The next **ACW luncheon** will be on Tuesday, January 23 at 11:30 AM at *Jade of China*.

Please let us know if you plan to attend, so we can be sure to have enough seating (and so we can warn the restaurant that the All Saints' ladies are coming).

From My Notebook....continued....

So, where am I going with this? (Remember, I am considered an elderly Priest, so I can't hobble too far too quickly!)

Simply to take advantage of the opportunities afforded us with the addition of a deacon, primarily to expand our service schedule so we can observe more services, offered both in the Prayer Book and the Missal, such as, for starters, monthly Sunday Evensong and a Saturday Solemn High Mass, as suggested by Parishioners.

We hope soon to begin, again, *Adult Bible Study*, though it may be necessary to hold it at a different time.

Also in the plans is the return of the Wednesday evening *Anglican Stud-*

ies, as well as an in-depth *Inquirer's Class* (or *Confirmation Class*).

As we welcome younger members to our flock, we see the opportunity to reach out more to those who are seeking a more liturgical church, solidly-based on a *Catholic Heritage*.

That means us — All Saints'. We are solidly based on our *English Church Catholic Heritage*, of which we should be quite proud!

So, be assured....we are not planning to jump off a cliff but we do want to take advantage of new opportunities, in a new year, to grow spiritually individually and as a Parish, together, as truly a **Family in Christ**.

God's Blessings & Happy New Year!

*The church all ready
for Christmas Eve
services.*



Looking for Volunteers

All Saints' to Host Annual Diocesan Synod in April

The Parish of **All Saints'** has been selected to host the **2024 Annual Diocesan Synod**.

The Vestry has selected **Don Michelinie** as chairman of the *Synod Committee*. Don has already made great progress in addressing the many activities and needs associated with hosting the Synod.

In addition to being a great honor to be selected as host parish, it also means a lot of work and preparation, and, of course, the need for volunteers to help with various tasks during the four days beginning on April 23rd.

It is anticipated that there will be about 85 attendees, the majority being here on Thursday, April 25th, extending into the morning of the 26th.

The Synod will meet in full session on Thursday the 25th, ending the morning of the Friday the 26th (as needed).

The service schedule during the Synod is a Chrismal Mass on Wednesday morning, during which the Holy Oils are blessed by the bishop; Evening Prayer on that Wednesday; Synod High Mass on Thursday morning, with Evening Prayer following the sessions

and before evening festivities; and a closing Mass on Friday morning.

Generally, delegates begin arriving on Tuesday of the week for preliminary meetings such as the **Commission on Ministry** and **Council of Advice**, both of which are during the day on Wednesday.

There is a dinner for the **Council of Advice** on Wednesday evening following Evening Prayer.

Thursday is the full Synod meeting which runs through the day, ending with Evening Prayer.

Evening activities begin with a *Attitude Adjustment Hour*, followed by the *Synod Banquet*.

The Synod may adjourn on Thursday, or continue on Friday, if need be.

Don has a list of activities for which volunteers are needed to keep the Synod flowing. If interested, please see Don as soon as possible. The time will sneak up on us!

Parishioners may attend the services during the Synod, and other activities upon approval.

Deacon's Bench continued....

task, as it can often make us uncomfortable when we evaluate ourselves and our own spiritual health, especially in order to learn where we must grow in order to better serve the world we are called to evangelize.

It can be tempting to think of the Diaconate as a "junior" ministry one must necessarily pass through before Priestly ordination. Though understandable, this is a real injustice to the Biblical role of the Deacon. It is true that every Priest and Bishop had to be a Deacon first, but this does not make Deacons a lesser order of ministry. To the contrary, this makes the Diaconate the fountainhead of all ordained life. The Diaconate is so important that it is a lesson all clergy must engage personally before heading towards other orders.

One final role of the Deacon, which is

often entirely behind the scenes, is that of prayer. All clergy, upon ordination to the Diaconate, are bound by the law of the Church to pray the Divine Office, those ancient hours of daily prayer from Mattins through Evensong. Your Deacon wishes to assure you that at my daily offering of Mattins and Evensong,



I will have each one of you in mind. It is my job to support you, to pray for you, and to help you in whatever material or spiritual way I can. Please feel free to bring your prayer requests to me, and know that they will be remembered every day as I offer the "sacrifice of praise" at Morning and Evening Prayer.

I have deeply enjoyed my first month here at All Saints, and I am very excited to work with and for you in the months and years to come. Please pray for me as I pray for you. May the Holy Deacons St. Stephen, St. Lawrence, and St. Vincent pray for us!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January Birthdays		30	Patricia Sharp
1	Pixie Keating	31	Lynwood Rabon
5	Sharon Padgett	January Anniversaries	
10	Sylvia Riggan	10	Wallace & Darlene Rabon
11	Lena Whittaker	23	David & Connie Beveridge
14	Pat Franca	24	Fr. George & Betty Alexander
20	Dominique Corbett	25	Jack & Tamara Cannon



Nature

As Seen through the Lens

by Forrest Roberts

Peacock Displaying

Location: *India*

A Happy New Year to all.

will note in *image 4*. As noted in *image 5* he looks a lot better from the front.



When we arrived home I was editing the images and decided to play around with a couple as orbs in *PhotoShop*. I liked *image 6* and printed it 16"x16".

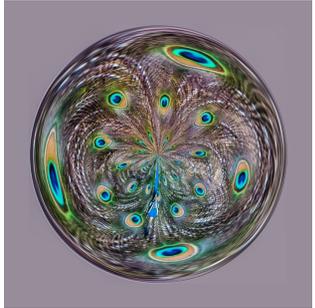
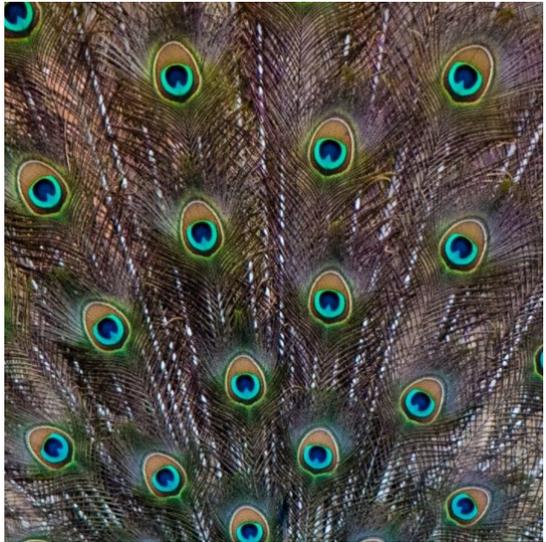
Image #1 above.

I entered it in the *Aiken Artist Guild* show at the *Aiken Center for the Arts*, and it won a prize, and it also sold.

We saw this Peacock displaying in the distance and were able to get within distance for great photography. He was slowly doing 360's where any female in sight could easily see him. He completely ignored us as he was seriously looking for a girl friend. There was a fairly strong breeze as you



Images
#3 is top right;
#4 is below;
#5 is bottom left; and
#6 is bottom right.



From the Clerical Kitchen....



By Fr. Alexander

An Experiment! Tortilla Casserole

As we have welcomed a clerical competitor, next page, to our newsletter, I thought it time to do a little experimentation with a casserole I had run across some time ago in a magazine.

It sounded interesting but when I made it, well, it was a little bland. Not good when preparing Mexican cuisine, which is seldom bland — or shouldn't be. So, here is my kicked up version after a little experimentation.

Tortilla Casserole (8 servings)

Ingredients:

2 lbs ground beef
1 cup onion, chopped
1 can black beans, rinsed, drained
3 Tbs chili powder
2 tsp ground cumin
1 tsp salt
1 tsp pepper
5 (or 10) flour tortillas (8 inches)
1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted (or see recipe)
1 can diced tomatoes & green chiles, not drained
1 cup Mexican cheese mix, shredded
4 oz Sour Cream

Directions

In a large skillet, cook beef and onion with the chili powder and cumin along with the salt and pepper until the meat is browned.

Add the beans and stir well then

drain. Add the additional chili powder and cumin, along with a little salt and pepper according to taste, and mix well.

Remove the mixture to a greased 13x9 in. baking dish. Arrange tortillas over the top by cutting 4 of the tortillas in half and leaving one whole as the final topper. You may also do the same to line the bottom of the dish.

Next, combine soup, tomatoes, and sour cream, and pour over the tortillas. Sprinkle evenly with cheese.

Bake, uncovered, at 350° for 25-30 minutes or until heated through.

Note: For additional heat, add about a ¼ tsp cayenne pepper along with the chili powder.

As an alternative to the cream of mushroom soup for the sauce, I made my own substitute, as follows:

Sauté 8 oz of chopped mushrooms in 2 Tbs (no more than 3) of olive oil with a light sprinkle of salt and pepper until they glisten. Drain excess oil.

Melt 3 Tbs of butter in the microwave. Stir in 1 Tbs flour, and add the mixture to the mushrooms over medium low heat. Then gradually add 8 oz of half and half, stirring well as it begins to simmer and thicken. Add one tablespoon tomato paste and stir well to incorporate. Remove from heat and continue the recipe as above.

As we noted at the beginning, this recipe is a result of some experimentation, so you may need to make adjustments to suit your taste.

Andiamo a Mangiamare! — Bon Appetit!

From the Deacon's Kitchen....



By Dcn. Davis

Flourless Brownies

[Having heard by good report that our young Deacon is well-known for his kitchen skills, I thought it only fair to invite this new Clerical Chef to our food forum. Admittedly, we have not had the opportunity to sample any of his fare; nevertheless, it is only fair to offer him the opportunity to claim a place amongst the tried and true Clerical Chefs, if we may be so bold to call ourselves. Perhaps, it is time for Chef Deacon Davis to don a chef's hat and apron as an addition to his clerical attire. So sharpen your knives, Deacon Chef, and step up to the challenge. So, with that, we, in the Clerical Kitchen, welcome Chef Deacon Davis to our newsletter.]

I have fooled dozens of people with this recipe, none of whom can imagine that these brownies are made without flour and granulated sugar! The trick is to finely grate the raw sweet potatoes—if you have a food processor with a fine grate attachment, that is certainly the easiest way to do it!

Ingredients

1 medium sweet potato; 2-3 cups when grated

2 whole eggs
1/2 cup melted coconut oil
1/2 cup honey
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1/2 cup raw cacao powder, sifted
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
2 tablespoons coconut flour

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 365 °F; make sure the oven is hot before you put the brownies in.

2. Combine grated sweet potato, eggs, vanilla, honey, and coconut oil in a large mixing bowl and stir together until well incorporated. Then add cacao powder, baking powder, and baking soda and stir. Finally add coconut flour. Avoid adding too much coconut flour as it will absorb too much moisture, which will result in drier brownies.

3. Once combined, pour the mixture into a baking tray lined with greased baking paper. I used a 9" square tin.

4. Bake for 25-30 minutes. Remove the tin and cool for 5-10 minutes before carefully removing the brownie cake from the tin. Cut them into squares and dust with a little cacao powder or melt some dark chocolate in a double boiler or in a microwave and drizzle it over the top.

Serve with raspberries or strawberries and maybe some fresh cream to be extra decadent.

Bon Appetit!

Saint of the Month

King Charles, Martyr (1600 - 1649)

By Dcn. Lance Davis

It often surprises American Anglicans to learn that the only post-reformation saint canonized by the English Church is a King condemned to death by a Parliament zealous for religious revolution.



In a country such as the United States—founded on principles of freedom from foreign monarchy and freedom of religious

expression—it may seem counterintuitive to venerate an English king martyred both for his defense of the English Church as established by law, and for his commitment to the hierarchical Episcopacy and Priesthood as of divine institution.

Charles Stuart, known to secular history as King Charles I of England, and popularly called the “Royal Martyr”, was born in 1600, and crowned King of England on Candlemas Day (February 2nd) in 1626. His father, who had been James VI of Scotland and af-

terwards became James I of England (whose benevolent reign produced the incomparable Authorized Version of the Scriptures), was an ardent convert from Scottish Calvinism, and laboured diligently throughout all his dominions to exalt the doctrines of the Priesthood and the Sacraments as of divine institution and necessary for the Catholic faith, which the Calvinists had denied. In particular, he restored the Apostolic Ministry to Scotland, with the hope of thereby gradually supplanting the new Calvinist system with the ancient heritage of our Religion. And when Charles acceded to his father’s throne, he also was diligent in all these matters. But when he attempted to impose liturgical worship and the use of the Book of Common Prayer on Scotland, the Calvinists became alarmed, and stirred up an irreverent mob to prevent the use of it; and thereafter the opposition grew until it was evident that the Scots as a nation could not be reconciled to the Church in this fashion. Nevertheless, the succession of the Catholic Priesthood, which had been instituted in his father’s reign, continued its labours, whereof the episcopal Scottish Church was once the fruit.

Meanwhile, Charles, with the help of his Chancellor, William Laud, the Archbishop of Canterbury, introduced numerous ecclesiastical reforms in England, and enforced the discipline of the

Church. Under the leadership of King Charles, Archbishop Laud worked diligently to overturn the Protestant excesses of the previous centuries: wooden Communion tables were removed from the churches and high altars restored to their proper place; the liturgy of the Book of Common Prayer was enforced; beautiful vestments and ancient Catholic ceremonies were reintroduced to public worship; and commitment to the feasts and fasts of the Church was renewed amongst the English peoples. For these efforts, great antagonism was stirred up against the King and his Archbishop, as a result of which they both were finally brought to martyrdom.

For this was the time when the Commons first began the struggle for a constitutional monarchy, which same was contrary to the King’s prerogatives as they had hitherto been understood and as Charles tried to defend them. However, it was not only because he opposed the politics of his enemies—but also because he steadfastly refused to do away with the Catholic constitution of the Anglican Church—that Parliament finally condemned him to death. Whereat he was able to show how he

had within himself the power to undergo all sorts of indignities with true greatness and serenity. For he had ever been a man conspicuous for devotion to God, and for penitence and prayer, as well as for faithfulness to Christian duties. Therefore, even though he regarded the death sentence passed upon him as unlawful and unjust, he accepted it as a fitting punishment from the mercy of God because of his own sins.

Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, who knew him well, wrote of him in this manner: “He was, if ever any, the most worthy

of the title of an honest man; so great a lover of justice was he that no temptation could dispose him to a wrongful action except it was so disguised to him that he believed it just; he was the worthiest gentleman, the best master, the best husband, the best father, and the best Christian, that the age in which he lived produced.” Others have testified that he was marked by a virtue of purity and a practice of prayer that shone wonderfully amidst the temptations and distractions to which he was exposed. He was well known for his strict sobriety in food and clothes, and he ever showed a noble insensibility to flattery. All who knew him were im-



pressed with a certain innocence in him, for even his bitter enemies said of him: “He is God’s silly vassal.”

From his arrest, he spent most of his time in prayer and contemplation. On the day of his execution—January 30th, 1649—he gladly made his preparation for death, with the aid of one of the Chaplains allowed to him; with whom he first recited the Office of Mattins for the day, and then listened with great devotion to the reading of the Passion according to Saint Matthew. Thereafter he received the last Sacraments; by which fortified, he went bravely and cheerily to his death. Requesting that he might be given an extra tunic to wear on account of the bitter cold, lest his subjects think him shivering from fear, he was led to the scaffold outside Whitehall in London at about 2 o’clock in the afternoon. Prior to placing his head on the block, he affirmed that he was a faithful member of the Holy Catholic Church, declaring: “This is my second marriage-day, for today I will be espoused to my blessed Jesus. I declare before you all that I die a Christian, according to the profession of the Church of England, as I found it left me by my father. I go from a corruptible, to an incorruptible Crown; where no disturbance can be, no disturbance in the world. Remember!” According to one observer, there was such a despairing moan by the crowd “as I never heard before and desire I may never hear again”. Many townsfolk immediately ran up to the

scaffold and dipped their handkerchiefs in the martyred King’s blood, from which holy relics many miracles and healings took place in the years that followed Charles’ death.

Afterwards, his body was laid in Saint George’s Chapel, Windsor; but at the command of his enemies he was buried without the Church’s rites, for their



hatred of him and of the Priesthood was not satisfied, even when they had accomplished his destruction. The decade that followed the King’s death saw great misery upon the people of England. The ungodly Puritan “protectorate” led by Oliver Cromwell was a time of hardship and sorrow for the English, wherein the faith of the Church was all but eradicated, and her public worship abandoned—even down to the total abolition of Christ-

mas, Easter, and Whitsunday. But by the mercy of God, Cromwell died in 1658, and his son proved unequal to the task of safeguarding the new Puritan government. Weary of their trial, Parliament recalled the exiled son of King Charles to England in 1660, and the following year he was crowned King of the restored Monarchy. In 1662, a revised edition of the Book of Common Prayer was issued, and on its sanctoral kalendar for January 30th was inscribed “King Charles, Martyr”.

King St. Charles the Martyr is venerated for his defense of Episcopacy and Priesthood as of the divine constitution of the Church, for his conviction that the Anglican patrimony is a true expression of the Holy Catholic Church, and for his unmatched bravery in facing a cruel and unjust execution. Today, the Society of King Charles the Martyr promotes his cause amongst traditionalist Anglicans, Roman Catholics, and Orthodox, and has a large presence, both in the United States and in our

Anglican Catholic parishes. Last year, the annual Society Mass for the Royal Martyr was offered at St. Barnabas’ in Dunwoody, the Cathedral of Bishop Chad Jones of the Anglican Province of America. According to the ordo kalendar of the Anglican Catholic Church, St. Charles’ feast is observed on January 30th. For more information, please see the website of the Society: <http://www.skcm-usa.org/> .

May we follow Charles’ good example, defending the whole faith “once delivered to the saints” and as we have received it in our English Catholic heritage.

“Ere his death one word was spoken:

That ‘Remember’ was the token
Of his coming victory.

So his blood brought life and healing,
And the Church’s triumph sealing,
Never shall forgotten be.”

St. Charles, pray for us!

Volunteers Needed
for 2024 Annual
Diocesan Synod
Hosted by
All Saints’
April 23 - 26
See Don Michelinie
for Information

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Parish Monthly Calendar

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Circumcision of Christ HC 5:30 pm	2 Octave of St. Stephen	3 Octave of St. John HC 5:30 pm	4 Octave of Holy Innocents	5 Vigil of the Epiphany	6 The Epiphany HC at 10:30 am
7 Epiphany 1 MP & HC at 8:30 am HC at 10:30 am	8 Of the Octave of Epiphany	9 Of the Octave of Epiphany Vestry meets at 5:15 pm	10 Of the Octave of Epiphany HC 5:30 pm	11 Of the Octave of Epiphany	12 Of the Octave of Epiphany	13 Octave of Epiphany
14 Epiphany 2 (Comm. St. Hilary) MP & HC at 8:30 am HC at 10:30 am Healing Service 12:00	15 St. Paul, First Hermit	16 Bl. William Laud ACW lunch 11:30 Men meet at 6:00	17 St. Anthony HC at 5:30 pm	18 St. Prisca	19 Feria	20 Sts. Fabian & Sebastian
21 Epiphany 3 (Comm. St. Agnes) MP & HC at 8:30 am HC at 10:30 am Annual Meeting/Potluck	22 Sts. Vincent & Anastasius	23 Feria	24 St. Timothy HC at 5:30 pm	25 Conversion of St. Paul HC at 5:30 pm	26 St. Polycarp	27 St. John Chrysostom
28 Septuagesima (Comm. Bestowal of Anglican Catholic Episcopate 1978) MP & HC at 8:30 am HC at 10:30 am	29 St. Francis de Sales	30 Bl. Charles Stuart	31 St. John Bosco HC at 5:30 pm			