



THE SANCTUS

A PUBLICATION OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH



VOLUME IV ISSUE XII

DECEMBER 2006

ADVENT MESSAGE

At this time of year, we Christians are involved in change. As the calendar has turned to fall and soon winter, our Church lives will soon be turning from Trinitytide to the season of Advent when the Church asks us to withdraw from learning about Christ to anticipating His birth at Christmas. It is also a time when our already busy lives become busier, causing us to neglect both our physical and spiritual needs. Poor diet, lack of sleep, and little or no exercise leave us drained. We place God on the sideline of our lives as well.

A few months ago I experienced this personally when I was laid down with a virus. When I was forced to bed for a few days, God underlined for me the fact that I often sideline Him when I become immersed in parish and personal busy-ness. During my hours of inactivity, God forced me to reflect on my life and my place in God's purpose. In the quiet and solitude that accompanies sickness, we realize that most of what we consider important is, after all, quite unimportant.

Trying to view things from God's perspective, I came to realize that my time in bed was an opportunity for Retreat. I was in no condition to deal with the busy-ness of life. Upon my reflections I recognized my need for greater discipline, both personal and spiritual. If we are to serve God daily, we must spend time with Him daily. Personal prayer, the Mass and the Sacraments, His Holy Word, are the pillars on which our lives in Him must rest.

Jacob, Moses, David, St. John the Baptist, and many others of the Church have spent time alone with God. After St. Paul's conversion, God did not immediately send him out to evangelize and build up the Church. At first glance this is puzzling because St. Paul was steeped in Jewish scriptures, had perhaps the most dramatic of conversions in history, and throughout his life burned with a desire to serve God; however, God first exiled him to the desert for three years to live in solitude before launching him on his ministry.

May this Advent be a time of some retreat and solitude for you from the busy-ness of daily life, a

time to reflect, reorganize priorities, and recommit to Christ's Way.

"Superficiality is the curse of our age. The doctrine of instant gratification is a primary spiritual problem. The desperate need today is not for a great number of intelligent people, or gifted people, but for deep people."

- Richard Foster

Yours in Christ,
Father Hines

MORE ABOUT ADVENT

The Church begins its year the first Sunday in Advent, which this year falls on December 3. Over the centuries the Church Kalendar has evolved quite a bit. For example, in the 4th century the Western Church began its year on Christmas Day, while the Eastern Church still begins its Kalendar year on Easter Day.

The Church seasons are called *tides*, navigating the faithful through the entire life of our Blessed Lord. Just as the earth adorns itself with the colors of the four seasons, and as the sunlight lessens and strengthens during the course of the year, so the Church observes its seasons, symbolized by the changing of colors which clothe the Altar and Her priests.

Advent culminates on Christ Mass Eve. Advent ("Coming") is essentially a little Lent with a similar penitential tone. As Lent prepares us for the glories of Easter, Advent prepares us for the glories of Christ's Mass – note that the color of both seasons is violet, symbolizing penance.

As stated in the article above, Advent applies the brakes to our hectic observance of the secular holidays which threaten to overwhelm the purpose of the Season. By observing the Kalendar, and the rich opportunity it provides in seasonal Masses, we are nourished on our journey with Mary and Joseph toward Bethlehem. Advent and Christmas provide what we need; however, they require participation to fulfill God's Purpose.

Father Hines+

CHRISTMAS EVE

This year December 24 falls on a Sunday. The Church calendar has it that we are to celebrate the Fourth Sunday in Advent as well as Christmas Eve on that day.* The Christmas schedule therefore is as follows:

**Sunday, December 24,
Advent IV Mass, 9:30 AM**
**Sunday, December 24,
Christmas Eve Family Mass, 6:30 PM**
**Sunday, December 24,
Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, 10:30 PM**
**Monday, December 25,
Christmas Day Mass, 10 AM**

*If you attend the Advent IV mass and one of the Christmas Eve masses, you are allowed to receive Holy Communion twice - the Church views them as being separate days.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

The Annual Parish Christmas Party is Saturday, December 2, 5:00 PM at the home of Carol and Val Petersons in Warrenville. If you haven't had a chance to sign up, call Carol at (630) 393-4353.

The ACW's Cookie Walk, Jane Munsie, Chair, will be held on Sunday, December 10. Please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Narthex. In addition to raising funds for our ACW, this popular event is an easy way to bring home a supply of cookies for the holidays.

The Mitten Tree collection is underway, and the Chair, Libby Bolton, asks that you bring in your donations by Sunday, December 10, and leave them on the special tree in the Narthex.

The Altar Guild's project to purchase new Altar Hangings and Vestments has been a great success. You have already seen the White and Green sets in the Sanctuary; the Purple set has arrived; the Red set is on order, and with some additional contributions, the complete Black set can be ordered by year's end. At its meeting on Sunday, November 19, the Vestry discussed the need to obtain cabinets for the Sacristy for the proper storage of all these items.

A new cabinet will soon be in place at the end of the hallway leading to the kitchen and Rector's office. This cabinet will provide storage for permanent parish files and the "Remembrance Book," which lists all material contributions to the parish since it was founded, and the "Shield of All Saints Medal" award record will be on permanent display.

If you are interested in service on the Vestry, please let Father Hines or me know. The 2007 Nominating Committee is to complete the slate before Christmas, for publication in the next Newsletter, with the Vestry election to be held at the January Annual Meeting.

If you have not already done so, please submit your Pledge for 2007. Place your pledge in the collection plate or send it to the parish office or to Bob Wilson, Treasurer. The Budget for 2007 needs to be finalized within the next few weeks so that the Vestry can approve it prior to the Annual Meeting in January.

Looking ahead, the ACW and the ACM will meet after Mass on Sunday, January 7, at which time both groups will elect officers for 2007. The Vestry selected Sunday, January 28, for the Annual Meeting. This is the "open" Sunday between the Divisional Championships and the Super Bowl on February 4. With the Chicago Bears having their best start in 20 years and with hopes of going all the way, the Annual Meeting will be on January 28, so ALL football fans can attend.

On Tuesday, November 21, Father Hines marked the 7th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood. Father was ordained on that day in 1999 by Archbishop Morse in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and he came to All Saints as Rector in September, 2001. So much has been done since Father came to us, and he has certainly been "the right man at the right time."

This has been a fine year for All Saints, highlighted by the Ordination of Father Blair Schultz and our Tenth Anniversary observance. We will host the Synod of our Diocese next June, so 2007 will be another challenging and productive year.

Bill Jepson
Senior Warden

THANK YOU, THANK YOU !!!!

We hope you all agree that the new vestments and hangings are spectacular and have added so much beauty to our church and worship service. We have the complete sets for white, purple and green. The red set is currently on order. Bob Wilson has informed us that we are only \$700 short of our goal for the complete black set. We sincerely wish to thank everyone for their generous donations and the speed with which you have responded.

Chris Hall, Chris Oschman and Libby Bolton

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH
LIBRARY

Have you been meaning to do some reading to enrich your spirit during Advent? We've gathered some books from the library's collection and put them in a display from which you can check them out. Look on the top shelf to the right when you walk in the library.

The books include *Interior Castle* (Teresa of Avila), *A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life* (William Law), *The Imitation of Christ* (Thomas à Kempis) *Meditations for Every Day* (Fr. Andrew), *Mere Christianity* (C. S. Lewis). There are also several pamphlets including *He Comes! He Comes! The Magnificent Advent Companion*, in the display which do not need to be checked out. Come into the library and browse, there are many more you might find enriching during the Advent season. If you have any questions, please see me.

Sue Peterson
Church Librarian

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Because of your generous donations for the Thanksgiving Baskets we exceeded our goal and were able to provide Thanksgiving dinner for six needy families. Our families consisted of 14 adults and 18 children ranging in age from 2 to 18. Each family received the ingredients for a "traditional" dinner including a turkey along with a canned ham, extra canned goods, flour, sugar, coffee, tea, hot chocolate mix and special treats. Thank you!

Of course we couldn't do this without the help of shoppers. To Barbara Jepson, Carol O'Sullivan, Kim Solomon and our neighbor, Linda and her 20 month old son, Kyle. Thank you!

This year, members of the youth group not only helped load the groceries in our families' vehicles, but they shopped for one of the families. We understand it was a learning experience for everyone. Thank you!

And to our families, thank you for the many lessons you teach us. Please remember the families we helped this Thanksgiving and the many other families who need help throughout the year by contributing to our on-going non-perishable food collection for the Bolingbrook FISH food pantry.

Yours in Christ,
Will and Marie Spencer

ALL SAINTS CHURCH YOUTH

We had a meeting on November 14 to shop for Thanksgiving supplies for a family of five that the church is sponsoring. Natalie, Tai, Yewande, and Kenny attended and we all trekked over to Jewel. Not only did we buy food, but some special extra treats including chocolates and a jigsaw puzzle for the family to enjoy. On Saturday morning, Tai and Kenny helped to distribute the care packages to the families in need.

After shopping, we returned to the church and discussed a potential trip to Mexico this coming summer to build a shelter for a family there. We have many bugs to work out, so more details will be forthcoming, but in essence we must raise \$500 per person. We will spend ten days there in mid-June and camp during our stay. The trip is organized by AMOR Ministries and can be researched on www.amor.org.

During the Advent Season, we will be selling beautiful 2007 wall calendars in the Narthex for \$8.00 each. We will leave them out with a collection basket alongside. The proceeds will go partly to the Youth Group fund, and partly to Cheryl Nash's sister's mission organization, African Inland Mission.

Our next meeting will be held November 28 at the church at 7 PM.

Dan and Fabi Brush
Youth Leaders

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Advent, the birth of Jesus and Epiphany will be topics stressed in all Sunday School classes in the coming weeks. Stories, hands-on activities and discussions are a few of the methods the teachers will be using to accomplish these parts of our curriculum.

On Saturday, December 9, the children will gather at the church to decorate the Christmas tree in the narthex. This will be followed by punch and cookies hosted by the teachers.

Many thanks to Paul and Yvette Drayton who donated beautiful wood book shelves for the nursery room. Their generosity is much appreciated.

I can't stress enough the importance of regular attendance at Sunday School. Since learning is a progressive process, irregular attendance means that children get only bits and pieces of their religious education. Sunday School will not be held on December 24 and 31, but will resume on January 7.

Chuck Bolton
Sunday School Administrator

THIRD ANNUAL COOKIE WALK

Please plan to participate in this popular event on December 10! Each family is requested to contribute six dozen homemade cookies that we will then sell for \$6.00 per styrofoam container. After Mass, we hope all parishioners will enjoy viewing the beautiful display of cookies of all kinds and then purchase an assortment of your choice. We also have Christmas tins available for \$1.00 each. Friends of parishioners are invited to participate – we will begin “the walk” at 10:45 AM. A signup sheet will be in the narthex. Please call me with any questions. Cookies should be brought to the church by 9:15 AM on December 10. Please call me at 985-0320 if you need to have your cookies picked up. Proceeds from the Cookie Walk are contributed to our seminary.

Jane Munsie
Cookie Walk Chairman

MITTEN TREE

The ACW is sponsoring a “Mitten Tree” outreach project with the hope that the entire parish family will participate. On November 26 a tree will appear, ready to be decorated with new mittens (or gloves) to warm the hands and hearts of needy school children in our local DuPage Township area. On Monday, December 11, they will be delivered for distribution as a Christmas blessing before the holiday break. Last year, All Saints contributed 81 pairs of mittens and gloves. Let’s hope that we do as well or better this year!

Libby Bolton
Chairman

Dates to Remember

Saturday, December 2,
Baptism of Judah Ruff, 1:00 PM
Parish Christmas Party, 5:00 PM,
hosted by Val and Carol Petersons
Sunday, December 10,
Annual Cookie Walk, 10:45 AM
Mitten Tree Collection ends
Sunday, December 17,
Vestry Meeting
F I S H
Sunday, December 24,
Advent IV Mass, 9:30 AM
Christmas Eve Family Mass, 6:30 PM
Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, 10:30 PM
Monday, December 25,
Christmas Day Mass, 10:00 AM

All Saints Anglican Church
(Traditional Episcopal)
Using the
1928 Book of Common Prayer

131 East Boughton Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
630 783-8280

WEBSITES

www.allsaintsanglicanparish.org
www.anglicanpck.org

Holy Eucharist and Church School
Sundays at 9:30 AM
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
At 10 AM and Wednesdays at 7 PM
The Rev. John A. Hines, Rector

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH: A parish in the Anglican Province of Christ the King. A nationwide body of traditional Anglican churches dedicated to the Anglo-Catholic Faith and traditional Episcopal liturgy. For more information visit : www.anglicanpck.org or www.allsaintsanglicanparish.org. Tell people about us – there are many fellow Christians out there who are hurting and are feeling both hopeless and lost.

Newsletter Editorial Staff
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If you have any questions, comments, suggestions or wish to contribute in any way, please contact Fr. Hines or Marcia Wilson.