



THE SANCTUS

A PUBLICATION OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH



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TAKING LENT SERIOUSLY

Lent is only a few weeks off! The liturgical color will be changing from its current green color (which symbolizes growth) to purple (symbolizing repentance). By this change in color the Church is calling us to bring about change in our lives.

Unfortunately the days are far, far gone from when the particular society Christians lived in was set up in a way that it actually helped them in their effort to keep a “good Lent.” Sure we might notice a restaurant or two today that has “Fish Friday” on their menu as a way to accommodate their Christian clientele who are trying to keep a moderate Lent fast, but that is all the help we really see anymore coming from our modern culture. In the good old days it used to be that there was much more outside help. There was a day when the Church, and her liturgical seasons, used to hold much more sway in the everyday world than it does now: Ash Wednesday used to be a day off for many people, “Fish Friday” used to be offered at most restaurants instead of just one or two, church bells used to peal through the air at the noon hour to remind the town people that it was Lent and that they were under Lenten obligations. In foreign countries they would go so far as to close theaters and other places of amusement since Lent is to hold a somber, not festive, tone. In the more ancient times, even the government courts suspended their activities. All of these things created a certain atmosphere - a kind of Lenten climate - in which personal effort by the individual Christian to keep a good Lent was made easier.

But now we no longer live in a Christian culture. Unlike our Christian brethren of the past we don't live in small, mainly rural communities within one organically Christian world. Our world has been made much bigger in a sense. Ours is an enormous urban society which is pluralistic in its religious beliefs, and mainly secularistic in its world view. This can make a Christian become almost “spiritually schizophrenic” - we go to church on Sunday and participate in Lent, but as soon as we step out the church doors we enter into a secular world

which does nothing to support our Lenten goals. (Actually the secular world usually inhibits our Lenten goals!) Because of this our lives become divided into two parts: the religious and the secular. As Christians we cannot allow such a division to be in our personal lives. We cannot have a “religious life” versus a “secular life” - we are called to always be in communion with God, not just for one hour on Sunday mornings.

As the saying goes, “adversity can bring about great things.” Yes it is a challenge for us Christians to keep a good Lent because of the pluralistic, secularist society in which we live. It does force us to have to be more conscious of our Lenten obligations when we are outside the church walls, and to strive all the harder to find ways to keep to them. But this demanded extra effort can be a good thing. “Ye shall reap what you sow,” the Bible says to us. (II Corinthians 9:6) With the extra effort we are promised an outcome of extra blessing.

Since society is no longer going to aid Christians when they step outside the church walls, it is up to the Christian to aid himself/herself. Therefore make a plan! The Church is on the way to beginning Lent but she gives us a few weeks before that happens. She gives us these weeks so that we can begin preparing ourselves for the endeavor ahead.

Here are a few things to consider making a part of your Lenten plan:

- **Fast** – to fast means to eat less food (or we can “abstain” - give up some little luxury in our life during the 40 days of Lent). This does not have to be a daily exercise, perhaps just on certain days of the week. Or for health reasons, instead of eating less food give up a certain food altogether – such as chocolate. By fasting from food, or by abstaining from a certain luxury, we are quickly reminded that “man shall not live by bread alone, but by God.” (Matthew 4:4)

Amazingly many Christians today recoil at the idea of fasting. Fasting is meant to be an important part of a complete Christian life. Our Lord himself says that evil cannot be overcome “but by much prayer and *fasting*.” (Mark 9:29)

• **Confession** – Confession is a difficult and humbling experience but always rewarding. In it we go to confess the many ways in which we have separated ourselves from God who is our Source and Strength, and in turn we receive both His mercy and His reconciliation. Lent is a very good time to make a confession because by it we are recognizing our unworthiness to approach Almighty God and therefore how much greater the act of the Cross was for our sins.

• **Attend more Liturgies** - Consider attending one of the low Masses offered on the weekdays (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 10 AM; Wednesday – 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross followed by Mass). Come to reflect, pray, repent, and in turn, receive God’s love in the Blessed Sacrament.

• **Less television or radio** - Everyone will no doubt agree that the whole society has been radically altered by radio and television. These media now permeate our whole life. Modern man has lost the ability to “enjoy silence” – we constantly have a television or radio blaring at us in the background. By losing silence we are losing an avenue of contact with God – as Scriptures tell us, “The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep *silence* before him.” (Habakkuk 2:20)

If the Christian of the past lived in great measure in a silent world, giving him ample opportunity for concentration and inner life, today’s Christian has to make a special effort to recover that dimension of silence which alone can put us in contact with higher realities. A suggestion therefore is to try to drastically reduce television or radio consumption during Lent. Don’t try to cut it out altogether because by setting too high a goal one is setting themselves up for failure.

• **Filling the void** - If you choose to tune out the “world’s noises” by turning off the radio or television try to fill this void with positive content. If prayer feeds our soul, our intellect also needs its food for it is precisely man’s intellect which is being destroyed today by the ceaseless hammering of television, radio, etc.

“Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.” (Romans 12:2) Renew your mind with some spiritual reading. This can be simply taking 10 minutes a day to sit and read some passage of the Bible, or it can be reading a spiritual book from our parish library (we have lots of choices mentioned later in this Newsletter). It doesn’t even have to be a “religious” book – not all people are called to be theologians. There are many literary masterpieces out there which will help us meet God’s desire of giving us an enriched mind, and thereby an enriched life! ...Make your list of books in advance so that when Lent comes you will be prepared.

• **At the workplace** - What can we do about Lent during the long hours we spend outside of home – commuting, sitting at our desks, taking care of our professional duties, meeting our colleagues and friends? Lent is a good time to measure the incredibly superficial character of our relations with men, things and work. The “keep smiling” and “take it easy” slogans which we recite everyday really just mean: don’t get involved, don’t question, don’t deepen your relations with human beings; keep to the worldly rule which combines a friendly attitude with total indifference; think of everything in terms of material gains, benefits, advancement.

Instead, let Lent be a time for the search for meaning: meaning of my professional life in terms of a vocation/a calling, meaning of my relationship to other persons, meaning of friendship, meaning of my responsibility. There is no job, no vocation, no relationship which cannot be “transformed” - be it only a little – into something less superficial and more meaningful and purposeful. The world is becoming progressively de-humanizing and impersonal, that is simply not the Christian way. We look to the Incarnation – God is so personal that he became Person.

Those are all some suggestions for you to consider adopting so that you can take Lent seriously. Lent is more than just the recovery of man of his faith. It is also his recovery of life, of its divine meaning, of its sacred depth. It is by fasting and abstaining from food that we rediscover its sweetness and learn again how to receive it from God with joy and gratitude. It is by “slowing down” on music and entertainment, on superficial socializing and relationships, that we rediscover the ultimate value of silence and prayer, of human relationships and human work. And, we rediscover all this because very simply we rediscover God himself – because we return to Him and in Him to all that He gave us in His infinite love and mercy.

Yours in Christ,
Father Hines +

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

A ten week course to study the basics of *our* Faith will begin on Sunday, February 25. We will be using the excellent book, *The Catholic Religion: A manual of instruction for members of the Anglican Communion* by Vernon Staley. We will meet from 8:30 until 9:15 AM. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex - please sign up by February 11. An offering of \$20 is asked to help cover the cost of the book.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

The Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28 went well, and if you were unable to attend, extra copies of the 2006 Annual Reports with the Budget for 2007 are available. We elected Chris Oschman, Lita Petersons and Bill Jepson to three-year terms on the Vestry, 2007-2010, and Father Hines announced that I will serve as Senior Warden again this year. Our pledge income goal for 2007 has been met, and Carol O'Sullivan now takes over as Parish Treasurer. There is no way to adequately thank Bob Wilson, who served as Treasurer since the parish was established in 1996. Our financial affairs are in good order, and most importantly, All Saints has a first class reputation with every firm and supplier we deal with.

The Vestry met after the Annual Meeting and elected Donnie Marini Junior Warden and Sue Peterson Clerk of the Vestry for 2007. The Parish Calendar for 2007 was completed, and a list of projects for completion this year was reviewed. Marcia Wilson will continue as Chair of the Membership Development Committee, which will keep our website up-to-date and attractive, monitor the results of our relationship with the area chambers of commerce we belong to and seek ways in which all of us can help to increase our membership.

The first Morning Prayer Service for this year will be held on Saturday, February 3, 8:30 AM; Lay Reader Bob Wilson will officiate, and Fabi and Dan Brush will provide breakfast afterwards. Morning Prayer will be held on six more Saturdays in 2007, and ACM President Phil Ross is taking care of making breakfast arrangements.

The annual Super Bowl Party will be held at Karen and Ron Waitek's, 4:00 PM on Sunday, February 4. In addition to watching the Chicago Bears crush Indianapolis, a highlight of the party will be the "silent auction" to benefit our Youth Group's Mission to Mexico in June.

The Lenten Season will begin with the "Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper," 5:30 – 7:00 PM, on Tuesday, February 20. Contributions are welcome, which will benefit the ACM's treasury. Ash Wednesday is February 21, and Father Hines will celebrate Mass with the disposition of ashes at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM to best accommodate everyone's schedule. Please bring in your palms, which the Altar Guild needs to prepare for Ash Wednesday.

A class for adults will begin on Sunday, February 25. This ten session course, with the theme "The Catholic Faith," will be held from 8:30 AM to 9:15 AM in the conference room on Sunday mornings. A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex, and \$20 per person is requested to take care of the course materials. Checks

should be made to "All Saints Church," marked "adult class," placed in the collection plate or given to Father Hines. Father's annual Adult Class is always interesting and enjoyable. Not only do we learn, but it's an opportunity to share our questions and opinions on our faith. Sign up – it's well worth it.

The major event for 2007 will be the Synod of the Diocese of the Eastern States which All Saints will host June 7-9. Housing for the clergy and laity from the parishes and missions of the Diocese will be at the Holiday Inn, about 5 minutes away to the south off Route 53, with services and meetings at the church. Complete information on the 2007 Synod will be forthcoming in late February, but mark your calendar as we all need to make plans to participate.

The 2007 Parish Directory will be distributed after Mass on Sunday, February 4. Please pick up your copy in the Narthex before you leave for home. Additional copies of the Directory are always available, and if you have any changes to your information, please let Father Hines know, so we can keep the parish records up-to-date.

Thanks to everyone who has taken on an assignment for 2007. We need to use the Newsletter and Sunday Mass Programs to keep the parish informed on all activities and events. We will continue to rely upon the church office to send out necessary promotional and reminder e-mail messages.

Bill Jepson
Senior Warden

TREASURER'S REPORT

The approved budget for 2007 was presented and discussed at the Annual Meeting on January 28. We are not expecting any major changes from 2006. Our pledges for 2007 have come in just above our plan (+1%). If you are still planning to complete a 2007 pledge card, please drop it in the collection plate, or at the church office in an envelope marked "Treasurer". I'm in the process of calling those who haven't pledged, so if you haven't heard from me yet . . .

January Income	\$10,704
January Expenses	\$10,467
Difference	\$ 238

Carol O'Sullivan
Treasurer

ALTAR GUILD

In preparation for Ash Wednesday on February 21, I would appreciate it if you could return your palms from last year to the church as soon as possible. This will enable us to prepare the ashes in good time for this year's service.

Thank you to all those members of the church who have complimented the Altar Guild on the presentation of the altar since the arrival of the new altar hangings. Each week an Altar Guild member serves the altar with the utmost care and consideration, and your comments have been appreciated.

The current members of the Altar Guild are Libby Bolton, Chris Hall, Lilli Longinow, Chris Oschman, Sue Peterson, Marie Spencer, and Marcia Wilson. Natalie Hall is our current Junior Altar Guild member. Any lady wishing to join the All Saints Altar Guild or Junior Altar Guild is very welcome and Fr. Hines and I will be glad to help you.

Yours in Christ,
Chris Hall
Altar Guild Directress

CHURCH LIBRARY

Need some reading material to make the most of Lent? A display of books appropriate for Lent is displayed on the counter in the Library. These are titles recommended by Father Hines. They are available for circulation. The display includes:

- *Father Andrew's Meditations For Everyday* by Father Andrew
- *The Imitation Of Christ* by Thomas a Kempis
- *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis
- *Interior Castle* by Teresa of Avila
- *Saint Augustine's Prayer Book* by St. Augustine (particularly the daily prayers and Stations of the Cross)
- *No Man Is An Island* by Thomas Merton
- *The Cross And The Beatitudes* by Fulton Sheen

In addition, Father Hines has included some Lenten pamphlets which may be purchased for a small fee.

Please contact me if you have any suggestions, comments or questions about the library.

Sue Peterson
Church Librarian

ALL SAINTS CHURCH YOUTH

As of January 16, we have resumed our meeting schedule of every other Tuesday evening. Our most ambitious plan for 2007 is our mission trip to Mexico. Our goal is to help build a home for a family in Juarez, Mexico. this June 13-23 through Amor Ministries. We will attend in conjunction with our daughter Claire's church in Rushville, Illinois. (Claire will not attend, as her first baby is due on February 1.) The deadline for a list of those attending is mid-February, and we must raise \$500 per person on the roster. Please let us know if you have any great ideas for fundraisers!

Our first fundraiser will be the silent auction to be held in conjunction with the Super Bowl Party. Your generous bids will be greatly appreciated!

Dan and Fabi Brush
Youth Leaders

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

We will be having our regular meeting after church on February 11. We continue to knit and share Angel Comfort Wraps. Please contact one of the ACW officers if you know someone who should be given one.

Please watch for our Dominick's shopping day coupons later this month. Your participation is appreciated!

In His Grace,
Sue Ross

GIRLS DAY OUT

All women and girls of the parish (and female friends and family) are invited to the ACW's "Girls Day Out" on Saturday, February 24. We will meet for lunch at 11:30 AM at Nancy's Tearoom in Downers Grove – it is a delightful place with delicious food (cinnamon bread and strawberry butter, for example) – cost for most entrees is under \$10. (FYI – Nancy's does not accept credit cards.) After lunch, we plan to browse in the shops upstairs and then head into town to check out the specialty and antique stores! Join us just for lunch or for lunch and shopping. Parking can be found on the street or in the rear of the restaurant.

Please let me know by Sunday, February 18, if you would like to make a reservation. Directions and carpool information will be available closer to the date.

Jane Munsie
630-985-0320

Dates to Remember

Friday, February 2, 10 AM Mass
Purification of the BVM
Saturday, February 3, 8:30 AM, Morning Prayer
followed by fellowship and breakfast
Sunday, February 4, 4 PM, Super Bowl Party
And Youth Group Silent Auction
at Ron and Karen Waitek's home
Tuesday and Wednesday, February 6 and 7,
No Mass, Office Closed
Sunday, February 11,
ACM and ACW meetings
Tuesday, February 13, 7 PM
Youth Meeting
Sunday, February 18,
Vestry Meeting
F I S H
Tuesday, February 20, 5:30 – 7:00 PM
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Wednesday, February 21, Ash Wednesday
Imposition of Ashes, 10 AM and 7 PM
Saturday, February 24, 11:30 AM
ACW's Girls Day Out
at Nancy's Tearoom in Downers Grove
Sunday, February 25, 8:30 AM – 9:15 AM
Adult Education Class begins
Tuesday, February 27, 7 PM
Youth Meeting
Wednesday, February 28, 6:30 PM
Stations of the Cross and Mass
Saturday, March 3, 8:30 AM, Morning Prayer
followed by fellowship, breakfast and
ACM and ACW meetings

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

Newsletter Editorial Staff

Father Hines
Marcia Wilson
Technical Assistant
Bob Wilson

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

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.