



THE SANCTUS

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FIVE TEACHINGS OF FALSE PROPHETS

During this Eastertide many of our lessons give focus to Jesus as the “Good Shepherd”, the one who “lays down His life for His sheep.” In contrast, many of His teachings tell us to beware of *false* shepherds (or false prophets) who do not truly care for God’s sheep.

The following is a summary of my sermon for the 8th Sunday after Trinity, 2004. In the sermon I described five false teachings of false prophets. The five false teachings are listed below. All quotes are by William Barclay (1) except as noted.

1. “Teaching is false if it produces *a religion which consists solely or mainly in the observance of externals.*” This is the religion of the scribes and Pharisees. To them, religion consisted in the observance of ceremonial law. It is easy to confuse religion with religious practices. But religious practices, *per se*, are not religion. Christianity does not consist solely “in going to Church, observing the Lord’s Day, fulfilling one’s financial obligations to the Church, and reading one’s Bible. A man might do all these things and be far...from being a Christian, for Christianity is an attitude of the heart to God and to man.”

2. “Teaching is false if it produces *a religion which consists in prohibitions.*” There are some who teach that Christianity is based upon a series of ‘thou shalt not.’ They teach that the Christian way consists in abstaining from the pleasures of life. This is an old heresy which says life and the material world are bad and we should abstain from them. Christianity “does not consist in *not* doing things; it consists in doing things. A negative Christianity on our part can never answer the positive love of God.”

3. “Teaching is false *if it divorces religion and life.*” This refers to people who feel they have to live apart by themselves in order to avoid the temptations of life. As Christians we are clearly called to live our lives in the world. Referring to his disciples Jesus said, “I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that

thou shouldst keep them from evil” (John 17:15). “No [one] can be a good soldier by running away, and the Christian is the soldier of Christ.” Or to put it another way, Christianity is not a spectator sport. We are called to play the game. We are not called to watch from the sidelines.

4. “Teaching is false if it produces *a religion which is arrogant and separatist.* Any teaching which encourages a man to withdraw into a narrow sect, and to regard the rest of the world as sinners, is false teaching...Exclusiveness is not a religious quality; it is an irreligious quality.” Jesus calls us to be one. He says, “And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd” (John 10:16).

5. “Teaching is false if it produces *an easy religion.*” Too many Christian denominations have this problem today, they teach an easy religion - a religion where sin is overlooked and sacrifice is unheard of. “Any teaching which takes the iron out of religion, any teaching which takes the Cross out of Christianity, any teaching which eliminates the threat from the voice of Christ, any teaching which pushes judgment into the background and makes men think lightly of sin, is false teaching.” Fr. Andrew wrote, “God did not die just to make us decent people.” (2). He also wrote, “There is something that all of us are meant to be and are called to be, and we shall never be happy until we are. We are all called to be saints.” (3) Any religion which does not call us to be saints is a false religion.

(1) “Matthew” in *The Daily Bible Study Bible*, 2nd Ed., William Barclay, Westminster Press, Philadelphia, 1957.

(2) *The Seven Words from the Cross, Devotions for the Three Hours*, “The Second Word”, Fr. Andrew, A.R. Mowbray & Co., London, 1954, p. 29.

(3) *The Seven Words from the Cross, Devotions for the Three Hours*, “The Sixth Word”, Fr. Andrew, A.R. Mowbray & Co., London, 1954, p. 63.

Father Blair Schultz +

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Morning Prayer will be held on Saturday, April 5, with Chuck Bolton and Bill Nash officiating. The Boltons are providing breakfast after the service. The ACW will also meet and work on their comfort wrap project, followed by a light luncheon.

The ACM sponsored Theatre Party is Saturday, April 12 at Pheasant Run in St. Charles. The performance of the award-winning mystery play "Drood" begins at 5:00 PM with the buffet dinner at 7:30 PM. Contact Bob Oschman or Dan Brush if you have any questions about the evening.

Give your attention to the signup sheet in the Narthex for the Adult Education Class that begins on Sunday, April 13, 8:30 AM to 9:15 AM in the Conference Room. Father Hines and Father Schultz will review the Scripture, prayers and ritual of "The Mass." This will be an ideal opportunity to have your questions answered on any part of the service.

As you have noticed, there is now a refrigerator in the kitchen area, and the cabinets and other major appliances have been delivered. Additional electrical outlets have been installed, and the plan is to have the cabinets, new countertops, double sink and disposal in place by mid-April. ACM President Bob Oschman is handling this project, and the time and work involved is greatly appreciated.

After being on our "wish list" for a few years, there are now window treatments in the Rector's Office and the Conference Room. This was taken care of by Marcia and Deacon Wilson and Barbara Jepson during Easter week. It's a fine improvement, and we thank them.

The cracks that developed between the crown molding and the ceiling and walls in the Narthex and hallways were taken care of by Dan Brush. The siding on the south end of the building that was damaged last month was replaced by Greenway Construction, Naperville, at a cost of \$250. Don Otton is replacing the weather stripping on both rear doors of the building. The air conditioning system will be inspected in May, similar to what was done with the furnaces a few months ago. Both systems are over 25 years old, and we need to give them careful attention.

Our lawn service begins the first week of April. Winter debris will be removed, the planted areas around the building will be properly edged and a pre-emergent treatment for weeds will be applied. J.A.V. Lawn Care, Aurora, will take care of our property for this 2008 season at a cost of \$1,955. In May, mulch will be added where necessary, and this will be taken care of by the ACM.

The 2008 Synod of the Diocese of the Eastern States takes center stage for All Saints on May 7, 8 and 9.

This Synod will be far different than the Synod we hosted in June of last year, and an article on the basic information appears in this issue of "The Sanctus."

From Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday, seven separate services were held during "Holy Week." Father Hines, Father Schultz and Deacon Wilson gave a great deal of time and effort to do all of this for us, and it is greatly appreciated. The contributions of the Altar Guild and the Choir were very important, and thanks, too, to those who provided flowers for the Nave and the Narthex.

As announced by Father Hines, Archbishop Provenca will be with us on the first weekend of November to celebrate a special High Mass and to conduct the "Rite of Consecration of a Church." This rite is only done at the time when a parish has retired its debt, and as you know, the mortgage was completely paid in early February. We can look forward to a full weekend of activity and fellowship to mark this occasion, to also commemorate "All Saints Day" and to look back on all that our parish has accomplished since it was founded in the fall of 1996.

Bill Jepson
Senior Warden

2008 SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE

The 17th Annual Synod of the Diocese of the Eastern States will be held at All Saints Church on Wednesday, May 7, through Friday, May 9. This Synod will differ from the Synod we hosted in June last year in that there will be a smaller number of clergy and laity from the parishes that now constitute the Diocese.

In addition to conducting the necessary business of the Diocese, prayer and fellowship will be central to this Synod. The Synod will begin on Wednesday morning with a three hour retreat in the Nave, and Mass and Evening Prayer will highlight each day.

Both clergy and laity will be together for a dinner on Thursday evening. The Synod will conclude on Friday morning with a Solemn Eucharist celebrated by Archbishop Provenca at 9:30 AM followed by a reception in the Narthex. All Saints Parish will be invited to attend the Friday morning Mass and will have the opportunity to be with our Archbishop and to meet others from the parishes in our Diocese.

All Saints Church is the Administrative Center for our Diocese. Archbishop Provenca has appointed: Father Hines, Administrator; Father Schultz, Secretary; and Carol O'Sullivan, Treasurer. Marcia Wilson will serve on the Standing Committee, Bill Jepson on the Board of Directors, and Wayne Holman will serve on both

of these administrative bodies. A Diocesan ACW Board of Directors is also being formed.

This Synod will discuss plans to expand the Diocese, both in seeking to establish new parishes and to increase membership overall. The work of the Province, our Seminary and the progress being made for union with other Anglican denominations will receive attention, as well as the need for effective communication on all levels of the Province.

All Saints Church is pleased to have been selected to host the 2008 Diocesan Synod. More information is forthcoming to our parish family in mid-April.

ANGLICAN CHURCH MEN

As you noticed last month, we received the kitchen cabinets and appliances including a full size refrigerator. New outlets were installed for countertop use. The cabinets will be installed in April. We will need to run a gas line to the stove which should be fun. If you like to work on your back in crawl spaces and run gas pipe, please sign up - it is first come, first serve.

We will also be getting quotes to install electric starters for the furnaces so the pilot lights stop going out. The RPZ Valve was delivered and will be installed this month also. We plan on updating the bathrooms in June. Since the Boltens made such a generous donation for the kitchen improvements, we will also look into updating the flooring in the kitchen and restroom with the extra funds.

Donnie Marini and Ron Waitek are planning a 9 hole best ball golf tourney in June or July. We will be having a picnic afterward for both players and non-players. To encourage participation we will be awarding one hundred thousand dollars to the winner. Just kidding - I am checking to see if you are reading any of this.

It is not too late to sign up for the Theatre Party at Pheasant Run. We have room for a few more people.

Bob Oschman
ACM President

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

In addition to our "work" meeting on Saturday, April 5, our next ACW meetings are scheduled for April 13 and May 11 following Mass. We are looking forward to another Girls' Day Out on Saturday, June 7, following Morning Prayer. Our excursion that day will be to Long Grove. Look for details in the next newsletter!

Jane Munsie
ACW President

Dates to Remember

Saturday, April 5,
Morning Prayer, 8:30 AM
followed by fellowship and breakfast
ACW "work" meeting and luncheon
Saturday, April 12,
ACM Theatre Party, 5:00 PM
Sunday, April 13,
Class - "The Mass," 8:30AM to 9:15 AM
ACM and ACW Meetings
Sunday, April 20,
Class - "The Mass," 8:30 AM to 9:15 AM
F I S H
Vestry Meeting
Wednesday, April 23,
Mass, 7:00 PM (St. George)
Friday, April 25,
Mass, 10:00 AM (St. Mark, Evangelist)
Sunday, April 27,
Class - "The Mass," 8:30 AM to 9:15 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
Sunday, 9:30 AM
Low Mass
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10:00 AM
Wednesday, 7:00 PM
The Rev. John A. Hines, Rector
The Rev. Blair W. Schultz, Assistant Priest
The Rev. Mr. Robert L. Wilson, Deacon

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.