



THE SANCTUS

A PUBLICATION OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH



VOLUME VIII ISSUE I

JANUARY 2010

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: Let us make the resolution to identify ourselves more fully with Him Who has fully identified Himself with us!

The secular new year has been kicked off by the Church celebrating a mass for the Feast Day of our Lord's Circumcision. According to the Gospel of Luke, *"Eight days later the time came to circumcise Him, and He was given the name of Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was circumcised."*

To many it might be puzzling why the Church has chosen to create a Feast Day for this short incident of Our Lord's early life. But, really, its theological implications are quite important when it comes to our salvation.

First, I want to touch on the part of Scripture which says *"He was given the name of Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was circumcised."* In this passage we are having it pointed out to us that Jesus was not given His name by Mary and Joseph, but rather from an angel – and the angel was acting as messenger of God Himself. This is noteworthy because it is telling us that, even before His birth into the world, Our Lord belonged to God the Father - *"I come from the Father, and I will return to the Father."* (Matt. 12:44) God the Father, through His messenger the angel, is the One who named Jesus and this showed that Jesus was, from the beginning, the "possession" of the eternal Godhead. Jesus was ever under divine authority, rather than under the authority of the world. In the Book of Genesis, we are told that God had Adam give a name unto all the other creatures upon earth. According to Hebrew tradition, what this means is that God was giving Adam *authority and mastery* over all other creatures. If you gave a name to something that meant that you were its ruler and authority. So, from the very beginning of His life, while He was even yet still in the womb, God the Father was the one whom Jesus had His life dedicated unto and the one whom He would serve. Let us note that at our own baptisms, the Church – God's representative here on earth – gives you your name while pouring the baptismal water upon your head. In other

words, at our baptisms God is naming us and thereby becoming our Lord and Master, the One whom we are to dedicate ourselves unto and serve.

"Eight days later the time came to circumcise Him." Circumcision was something prescribed in the Old Testament. It was the rite used to show the sacred covenant between God and His people. According to Hebrew law it was to be done on the eighth day after a Jewish male child's birth in order to bring about his entry into the body of Israel. It is interesting to note here, that mere human birth was not enough to bring a child into the body of God's chosen people; rather, something else had to be done – a new birth, so to speak. *"God said to Abraham, For your part, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you, generation by generation. This is how you shall keep my covenant between myself and you and your descendants after you: circumcise yourselves, every male child among you."* (Gen. 17:19)

As Our Lord was, of course, a Jewish male child, His holy family made sure to bring Him to the Temple to be circumcised. Circumcision, in itself, presumed that the person receiving was a sinner in need of redemption. And when we witness that Christ Himself was circumcised, what we are being witness unto is the depth He had gone to take the sinners' place. All throughout His earthly Life, from cradle to grave, - including here His humbling Himself to be circumcised, His later demanding to be baptized, and finally with His allowing Himself to be wrongly convicted and crucified – we are witnessing Jesus, the Perfect One, identifying Himself with us sinners and making atonement for our sins.

In this very first act of His humbly identifying Himself with us sinners, we are already seeing a dim suggestion and hint of Calvary. Not even a month old, He was already shedding His blood on our behalf.

In the words of one author: "A Child only eight days old was already beginning the blood-shedding that would fulfill His perfect manhood. The cradle was tinged with crimson, a token of Calvary. The Precious Blood was beginning its long pilgrimage. Within an octave of His birth, Christ obeyed a law of which He Himself was the

Author, a law which was to find its last application in Him. There had been sin in human blood, and now blood was already being poured out to do away with sin. As the East catches at sunset the colors of the West, so does the Circumcision reflect Calvary.

“**M**ust He begin redeeming all at once? Cannot the Cross wait? There will be plenty of time for it. Coming straight from the Father’s arms to the arms of His earthly mother, He is carried in her arms to His first Calvary. Many years later He will be taken from her arms again, after the bruising of the flesh on the Cross, when the Father’s work is done.” (*Life of Christ*, Bp. Fulton Sheen, p. 38)

“**W**ithin an octave of His birth, Christ obeyed a law of which He Himself was the Author, a law which was to find *its last application* in Him.” Jesus has indeed perfectly fulfilled the old Law, but He now calls us His followers unto His new, and greater, Law. No longer is prescribed the circumcision of the flesh for sinful man’s salvation, but now, as His Apostle states, the circumcision of the spirit – “the mortifying of our rebel wills, and the sanctification that comes from the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us – that offering of our whole being, body and soul, in disciplined service to God, and dying to all the evil desires which are aroused by the temptations of the world and the flesh...” (*The Eucharistic Year*, Harold Riley, p. 54)

With this new year, let us make the resolution to identify ourselves more fully with He Who has fully identified Himself with us!

AMEN +

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

Father Schultz will start a six week Bible Study on Sunday, February 14 from 8:30 to 9:15 AM. The topic will be the “I Am” sayings of Jesus in St. John’s Gospel. Seven times in *John*, Jesus uses the phrase “I am the...”; e.g., I am the Good Shepherd and I am the Resurrection and the Life. We will be discussing what these statements mean in light of the fact that “I Am” is also the name of God in *Exodus*. *Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you’”* (*Exodus* 3:13, 14, RSV). Materials will be provided, so there is no book to purchase. However, the class will be based upon the book by Lawrence R. Farley, *The Gospel of John: Beholding the Glory*. Ben Lomond, CA: Conciliar Press, 2006. (This is the same book we used in the fall to study the “Signs” of Jesus in St. John’s Gospel.) This book can be purchased from Amazon.com. If you order the book through the parish website, a portion of the purchase price comes back to the Church.

SENIOR WARDEN’S REPORT

The Vestry met on Sunday, December 20. Following is a summary of this meeting:

- The Treasurer’s Report for November was approved, and the Proposed Operating Budget for 2010 was discussed and will be finalized at the Vestry’s January 17 meeting for presentation at the Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 24.
- Noted that the Parish Christmas Party and the Sunday School Christmas Party were successful, and the ACW “Cookie Walk” exceeded expectations.
- Over 100 items were given for the Annual Mitten Tree Collection for needy children in DuPage Township, with items for older children given to the Bolingbrook F I S H organization.
- It was agreed that \$200 will be added to the 2010 Budget to support our sponsored Venture Crew Scout Troop.
- The contract with J.A.V. Lawn Care, Aurora, for 2010 was approved at a total cost of \$2,425 for the season.
- The “draft” of the 2010 Parish Calendar was reviewed, to be finalized at the January 17 meeting of the Vestry.
- The Vestry Nominating Committee Report was accepted, recommending the election of Chris Oschman, Sue Ross and Isaac Laryea for 3 year terms at the January Parish Annual Meeting, and it was agreed that the one year remaining on the term for Bill Gelert will be left vacant for 2010.
- Father Schultz noted the services for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and expressed appreciation to Chris Hall and the Altar Guild for decorating the Nave for the season.
- It was noted that the parish will receive a mailing on the preparation of the 2010 Parish Directory in early January.
- The new Lectern and Four-Seat Bench for the Sanctuary were delivered by Gunder Company in time for Christmas, well ahead of schedule. The cost of \$3,527 for these two items came from a special donation made to the parish a few years ago.

Please give your attention to the mailing on the 2010 Parish Directory that you have received by now. Please let us know if there are any changes or additions to your entry by January 22. The Directory will be distributed on Sunday, January 31.

Signup sheets for Altar Flowers and the Coffee Hour for the year are available in the Narthex. Also, there is a sheet in the Narthex every Sunday morning to list those whom you would like remembered at the Mass.

Be sure to make plans to attend the Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 24, as we begin what we hope will be another good year for All Saints.

Bill Jepson
Senior Warden

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

The Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 24, is of great importance to the continued success of the parish, and everyone should make plans to attend.

Before we leave the Nave for the Annual Meeting in the Undercroft, Father Schultz will present the "Shield of All Saints Medal," which is not an annual award, but given for meritorious service to the parish, and requires the unanimous vote of the Vestry. There is a plaque in the Narthex that lists the award recipients since this recognition was instituted at the time of the Dedication of the Church in 2003.

Before the Annual Meeting begins, refreshments will be served in the Undercroft, and a packet with the 2009 Annual Reports and complete financial information will be distributed.

In addition to reviewing the final financial statement for 2009, the 2010 Operating Budget will be covered in detail by the Treasurer. The Nominating Committee recommends the following for election to the Vestry for 3-year terms: Chris Oschman, Sue Ross and Isaac Laryea. In keeping with the term limitation rule in the Parish By-laws, Bill Jepson will leave the Vestry after completing two consecutive 3-year terms.

The Vestry will meet after the Annual Meeting and will elect the Junior Warden and appoint the Clerk of the Vestry and the Parish Treasurer for 2010. Father Schultz will announce his appointment of the Senior Warden during the Annual Meeting.

Please be with us for the Parish Annual Meeting. The parish needs your support, and it is an interesting and enjoyable session.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report through November:

	<u>November</u>	<u>2009 YTD</u>
Income	\$15,465	\$134,974
Expenses	\$ 8,603	\$115,126
Difference	\$ 6,862	\$ 19,848

Carol O'Sullivan
Parish Treasurer

BOOK REQUEST

I have received a request from Joyce Komuntale from Kampala, Uganda for help in starting a Resource Center for her community. As some of you may remember, Joyce visited our church a few times this fall and was overwhelmed by the warmth and caring our parish showed to her during her short visit. I became friends with her and she explained to me that she was trying to help her community/church in Uganda by developing, with the women, a garden on church property.

Joyce also wants to open a Resource Center for her community to make available information that is so difficult for them to obtain through their country/government. There is a great need for HIV/AIDS information and also for books for studying and simple enjoyable reading. She has sent me a preliminary list of things she and her children (she has three, one married and living in England and twins just beginning college) thought would be a good start. I have posted the list on the bulletin board and would be grateful if you would take a look at the list and donate any of these books or others that you feel would help fill this need. Joyce will be very appreciative. I will assemble all the books and send them to her. This is a good way to help in a place where libraries and the internet are not readily available, so every little bit of information that is factual is difficult to get.

Please bring the books to church at your earliest convenience, and I'll have a table set up in the basement to collect these. (If you can't go downstairs just leave them at the backdoor and I'll take them down.)

Thanks so much for your help and generosity - I'm excited about the possibilities.

Chris Oschman

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School teachers Cheryl Nash and Jean Edgerton planned a great party for the children of our Sunday School on December 5. With the assistance of other adults, the children played games, pretended to go to Bethlehem to find the baby Jesus, made ornaments for the parish Christmas tree and enjoyed refreshments.

We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated staff for our Sunday School. We thank Cheryl Nash, Jean Edgerton, Norma Stafford, Carol O'Sullivan and Yvette Drayton for their continued commitment.

Chuck Bolton
Sunday School Administrator

ANGLICAN CHURCH MEN

Your ACM would like to thank all of those who participated in our events over the last year. We are looking for new opportunities to fellowship outside of the Church and also continue to look for additional opportunities to minister to those in need. The slate of officers will remain the same in 2010 as it was in 2009, something about a two year term of office.

We would like to thank Bob and Chris Oschman for providing the libations for the Christmas party.

Dan Brush
ACM President

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

The ACW elected the following officers for 2010: President, Jane Munsie; VP, Fabi Brush; Secretary, Yewande Adebowale; Treasurer, Lilli Longinow. We look forward to an active and blessed new year!

Our next gathering will be on February 14 following Mass - we will have a short meeting and then enjoy pancakes provided by the ACM!

Please plan to join us for our winter Girls' Day Out - a trip to Little Traveler in Geneva with lunch at Harner's Restaurant on Saturday, February 20.

Jane Munsie
ACW President

COFFEE HOUR AND KITCHEN

Thanks to all of you who volunteer to provide treats for our weekly coffee hour. It is certainly a time of enjoyable fellowship. We have a good crew of parishioners who set up and clean up, but we can always use new volunteers. Please contact me if you would like to help with coffee hour preparation.

Because of the generosity of our parishioners, we have a very well equipped kitchen. While donations to the kitchen are appreciated, we ask that you check with either Norma Stafford or me before you "drop off" any items. Storage space is limited so we must be selective in accepting donations.

Jan Semaan
Coffee Hour Coordinator

POLICIES ON SCHEDULING AND SOLICITATION

The following policies were adopted by the Vestry in December, 2007, and are to be published annually. They are self-explanatory and have proven to be helpful to everyone in properly handling all parish activities.

POLICY ON "PARISH ACTIVITIES"

Only such fund raising, social events and volunteer efforts scheduled through and approved by the Vestry shall be considered "Parish Activities." Information and advertisement of these activities will be provided in the parish newsletter and the Sunday bulletin, by direct mail or e-mail from the parish office and by use of signup sheets in the narthex. To avoid schedule conflicts and other conflicts of interest, any non-parish activities shall not be advertised through the above mentioned means.

POLICY ON "SOLICITATION"

To avoid conflicts of interest, solicitation of members of the parish will be allowed only for those activities and events which have been approved by the Vestry.

Dates to Remember

Sunday, January 17,
Vestry Meeting
F I S H
Sunday, January 24,
Parish Annual Meeting
Tuesday, February 2,
Purification
Mass, 10:00 AM
Saturday, February 6,
Morning Prayer, 8:30 AM
Saturday, February 13,
Feed My Starving Children, 4:15 – 6:00 PM
Sunday, February 14,
Bible Study, 8:30 AM
ACM Pancake Breakfast after Mass
ACW Meeting
Wednesday, February 17,
Ash Wednesday
Imposition of Ashes and Mass,
10:00 AM and 7:00 PM
Sunday, February 21,
First Sunday in Lent
Wednesday, February 24,
St. Matthias
Stations of the Cross and Mass, 6:30 PM
Sunday, February 28,
Second Sunday in Lent

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

131 East Boughton Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
630.783.8280
630.710.7375 (cell)

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

Office Hours
Tuesday through Friday
9:00 AM – Noon

The Rev. Blair W. Schultz, Rector
The Rev. Mr. Robert L. Wilson, Deacon

Newsletter Editorial Staff

Father Schultz
Deacon Wilson
Marcia Wilson
Amy Leonard

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

