



The Sanctus

VOLUME XV - ISSUE VI

DECEMBER 2017 - JANUARY 2018



WHO IS THIS?

Who is this? - S. MATT. XXI. 10

In the Gospel for Advent Sunday we read: 'And when He was come into Jerusalem all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said, 'This is Jesus the prophet.' That was a wholly insufficient answer. Angels could have told them that it was the Divine Person of the Everlasting Sun, making His progress to the place of sacrifice.

The nature of God is wholly other than our own. We are created in God's image, but we must not create Him in ours. The life of God in its immense richness and spiritual priority existed before ever He called a creature into being. We are not necessary to God. He is altogether and completely sufficient for Himself. In Him alone is absolute holiness and absolute freedom. S. Augustine has a very deep thought, that God's freedom is His holiness. He says, 'Whereas this is already a great freedom, to be able not to sin, here is the perfect freedom, not to be able to sin.' It is quite impossible for God to sin. If sin could have come into His nature, He would not have been God.

If we ask ourselves, 'Who is this?' it is the Eternal God, come from that rich life which the Incarnation could never wholly reveal. Our Lord came to reveal to us in a human nature as much as could be revealed by a human nature of that Divine Life. It was an amazing revelation, but even that revelation is a small thing compared with the richness that eye hath not seen nor ear heard.



First Sunday in Advent
"Meditations for Every Day", p. 1
Rev. Fr Andrew, S.D.C.
(London, A.R. Mowbray & Co.)



The Rector's Ramblings

I want to again thank the parish for your support and for your generous gift on the occasion of my consecration as Suffragan Bishop. After the consecration Bishop Hansen and I had our official photographs made. A large copy was given to me by the Diocese of the Atlantic States Anglican Church Women. That copy hangs in my office along with my ordination certificate. A smaller framed copy of the photograph was placed in the narthex next to the photographs of Archbishop Morrison and Bishop Upham.

The seminary, as you know, has online courses for postulants, clergy, and lay people. In the past, Paul Drayton, Samuel Talabi, Sandy Spencer and myself have taken courses. This semester Samuel and I are taking a course in Ecclesiastical Latin taught by Bishop Donald Ashman. I took Latin my freshman year in high school which turned out to be a bad idea, don't get me started on that. But this course has been going surprisingly well. From time to time, I may use a sentence or two of Latin in the service. This doesn't mean that I have 'Gone to Rome'. It's just a chance for me to use some of what I have learned.

I have written two articles for this edition of the *Sanctus*. I hope they will be the start of a series of articles on that branch of the Christian faith that we call Anglican Spirituality. The first article is called Christian Proficiency. I hope in this series to summarize Fr. Martin Thornton's book *Christian Proficiency*. I will talk about such questions as what is a 'proficient' Christian? What is a Rule of Life and how do I develop one? What is private prayer and what are the different kinds of private prayer? Should you be interested in reading *Christian Proficiency*, the Church library has a copy.

The second article is called The Anglican Divines. As you have probably noticed, I frequently quote Anglican authors in my sermons. I generally try to describe who the person was by saying, for example: Thomas Ken, the 17th Century Bishop of Bath and Wells. I do this to give you an idea of who the person was. I decided it would be a good idea to include short biographies of the theologians and authors who have fashioned what can be called English, or Anglican, Spirituality. I'm using the title 'The Anglican Divines.' The title is derived from the term 'Caroline Divines.' The Caroline Divines were a group of English theologians of the 17th century who espoused High Church principles. That is, they emphasized the historical continuity of the Church of England "as a branch of the Catholic Church and upheld 'high' conceptions of the divine basis of authority in Church and State, of the rights of monarchy and episcopacy, and the nature of the sacraments." The term 'Caroline' comes about because these people wrote mostly during the reigns of Charles I and Charles II. The term, however, is not limited to those reigns.

"The season of Advent restores ... a hope which does not disappoint for it is founded on God's Word. A hope which does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! ... Let us think about and feel this beauty."

- Pope Francis

Christian Proficiency

The Rev. Martin Thornton wrote a book called *Christian Proficiency*. The title comes from Fr. Thornton's belief that there are a number of Christians, who were called by medieval writers, "Proficients." He writes, "they are 'ordinary' Christians exposed to all the common difficulties, dangers, temptations and sins. They claim no remarkable gifts of prayer or learning, but, in modern context, they are not 'beginners' like the average confirmation candidate; they feel a genuine vocation and are of a solid faith. They are far, very far, from 'Perfection' yet they have attained to a certain maturity, they may be weak yet they are spiritually adult."¹ In other words, these "Proficient Christians," or the faithful laity or "Faithful Remnant" are people just like you and me.

Fr. Thornton goes on to say that unless his pastoral experience is different from other clergy, "it is certain that this group of Proficients is larger than is generally recognized [and that they are] of incalculable importance to the Church and to the world . . ."² He then notes that they have certain characteristics ". . . they are very much in the world and rightly concerned with its problems, they face the dark clouds around them without wishing to escape into a sentimental 'other-worldliness.' They realize nevertheless that the love and power of God, manifested in Christ, offer the only possible hope; despite everything they have faith in the redemption of the world by Jesus Christ in and through his Church, and they want to play their full part in the process."³

But Fr. Thornton notes that these Proficients sometimes feel a sense of frustration because "Sunday worship, untutored personal religion, a brave attempt at some ethical standard, and an occasional 'Day of Prayer for peace:' all this satisfies neither their religious desires, their minds, nor their conscience. Doubtless God can use these things, but might not He demand, and the world need, something a little more solid?"⁴

This brings us to the purpose of the book and a discussion of prayer. He concludes, "My assumption is that the faithful, the serious but perfectly 'ordinary' Christian to whom I write, does not want to be particularly 'pious' or 'devout' or even vaguely 'good:' he wants to be *efficient*. He does not aspire to the mystical flights of prayer but he wants to be a good sound tradesman. Nor does he seek profound theological knowledge, but, if he is to play a really creative, efficient part in the Church's work, he will want to know precisely what he is doing and why. He will be humble enough, and sensible enough, to seek direction, but he will need reason as well as authority upon which to base his daily venture of faith."⁵

¹ Martin Thornton, p. ix.

² *Ibid.*

³ Thornton, p. x.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Thornton, p. x., xi.

The Anglican Divines

The first Anglican Divine I'm going to highlight is the Caroline Divine **Thomas Ken (1637–1711)**.

Ken “an English priest, was the most eminent of the English non-juring bishops [see below], and one of the fathers of modern English hymnology. His *Three Hymns* (1700) contains the original version of the hymn ‘Praise God from whom all blessings flow,’” (1940 *Hymnal* 139). Ken was educated at Winchester and Hart Hall, Oxford and became a Fellow at New College, Oxford in 1657. From 1672 he taught at Winchester College where he wrote a manual of devotion for boys, and his two most famous hymns: ‘Awake, my soul, and with the sun’ (1940 *Hymnal* 151 and 152), and ‘Glory to Thee, my God, this night.’ Ken was appointed chaplain to Charles II in 1680, and in 1684 he was appointed Bishop of Bath & Wells even though he had refused to let the King’s mistress, Nell Gwyn, use his house the year before. Ken was deposed from the See of Bath & Wells in 1691 because of the Nonjuring schism. The Nonjurors had refused to swear allegiance to the new King and Queen, William III and Mary II, because they had previously sworn allegiance to James II who was still alive although living in exile. Ken spent the rest of his life in retirement living in Longleat, the home of his college friend Thomas Thynne, 1st Viscount Weymouth. Although, “a Nonjuror, Ken remained deeply tied to the Anglican tradition. [And] Nonjuror liturgical, theological, and devotional writing proved to have a considerable impact upon the Anglican tradition, in part due to the influence of the nineteenth-century Oxford Movement.”



In his will Ken wrote, ‘I die in the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Faith, professed by the whole Church, before the disunion of East and West: more particularly I die in the Communion of the Church of England, as it stand distinguished from all Papal and Puritan Innovations.’

Ken’s most famous work is *A Manual of Prayers for the Use of the Scholars of Winchester College*, 1675. This and some of his other writings can be found online at <http://anglicanhistory.org/ken/index.html>.

His works have also been reprinted, search Thomas Ken at Bookfinder.com.

Sources:

F. L. Cross and E. A. Livingstone, (Eds), *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, 3rd Ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997), p. 922.

Anonymous. “Caroline Divines.” *Wikipedia* 24 Nov. 2017

URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caroline_Divines

Senior Warden's Report

Winter is here, as is the time of year when we look to help others in need.

We will be replacing the entrance outdoor mat at the back door. The Bishop has picked out the mat he prefers and it will be ordered shortly.

We will have an opportunity to donate new and lightly worn coats, hats, gloves and mittens to children in the local elementary schools over the next couple of weeks. Please go through your closets and if you have anything there that your children have outgrown, bring those items to the Church. If you don't have children any longer, please consider purchasing a pair of gloves or mittens and hat for a child.

We will also have an opportunity to provide foodstuffs and Christmas gifts to a local family or two. Please consider these opportunities as a way to give back to the local community.

We are waiting on the work to be done in the back hallway of the Church to remove the ceiling tiles, drywall and paint the ceiling to match the rest of the Church.

Your junior warden, Bob Oschman, and I will speak about security after Church one Sunday soon, just to reinforce the measures we have in place and how we should react. Recent events continue to point to the extremely small chance of us having to enact these measures. I recently drove to North Carolina to have Thanksgiving with my son and his family and I went to their Church the Sunday I was there. They, like us, have taken measures to insure the safety of their congregation. In fact, they have gone so far as to form a security committee and hold monthly meetings to ensure their families feel safe.

Please talk to me if you have an issue or concern or question. I look forward to seeing you all at Church.

Dan Brush
Senior Warden

The ACW Will Hold Their Annual

**Cookie
Walk**

**Sunday, December 10
After Mass**

Treasurer's Report

| | October 2017 | 2017 To Date |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Income | \$11,253.00 | \$121,523.00 |
| Expense | \$11,223.00 | \$125,415.00 |
| Difference | \$30.00 | (\$3,891.00) |

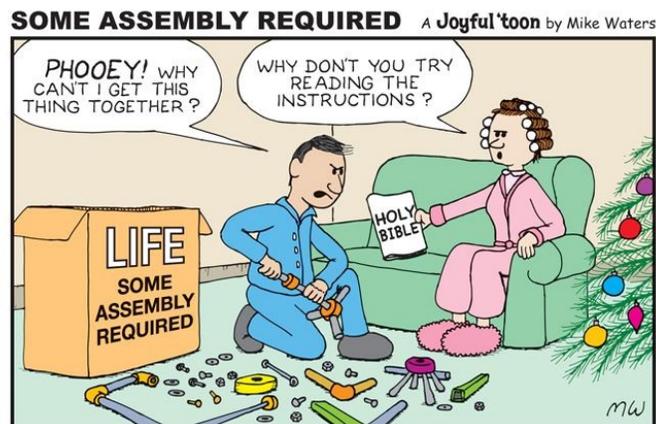
Our October expenses almost exactly matched our income. The table reports our 2017 income and expenses as of November 20th, showing that we currently have a small deficit for the year.

Sunday the 19th was Pledge Sunday and I handed out a pledge card and letter to those at church. I will be mailing out the 2018 pledge cards to those who couldn't be there and these should arrive in your mailbox after Thanksgiving. I have asked that you return your pledge card by December the 24th so that the Vestry can finalize the 2018 budget before the annual meeting in January.

I have put the 2018 proposed budget on the church website with a link to it on the newsletter page. All Saints has a history of being open about our finances, so if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any member of the Vestry.

Thank you for keeping current on your pledges, and flower and coffee hour donations.

Paul Drayton
Treasurer



Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.
— PROVERBS 3:5-6 NIV

Anglican Church Women

The Anglican Church Women hosted the consecration luncheon after Bishop Schultz's first mass as Suffragan Bishop. The parish family provided a wonderful variety of food and enjoyed the time of fellowship and celebration. Thanks to the Flower Guild for providing flower arrangements for the tables and to all the parishioners who helped set up for the luncheon and clean up after.

Bishop Schultz will be holding a Mass for healing each quarter. The date set for the next special Mass is Wednesday, December 6th. If you or someone you know is in need of intercessory prayer for healing, please inform Bishop Schultz so their need can be included.

The ACW donated funds to the Diocesan ACW, to a California APCK priest who lost his home and belongings in the recent fires, and to Heifer International in loving memory of Fabi Brush.

The next regular ACW meeting will be held on Sunday, January 14th 2018. Officers for 2018 will be elected at that meeting. The ACW is scheduled to be in charge of coffee hour that day. All women of the parish are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings.

The monthly luncheons have been well attended. All women and men of the parish are invited to attend. The next luncheon will be held on Thursday, January 18th, 2018. We will gather at the Wheat Stack Restaurant at 11:30. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex.

The annual ACW Cookie Walk will be held on Sunday, December 10th. You will be able to sample and purchase a variety of cookies after Mass. Please plan to bake for the Cookie Walk as well as to purchase an assortment for enjoyment at home. The Cookie Walk is the ACW's main fund-raising activity for the year. Your generous donations and purchases are greatly appreciated!

In His Service

Marcia Wilson, ACW President

Church School

With grateful hearts, we thank God for a wonderful Thanksgiving time and for His many blessings!

The children enjoy church school and we continue to be grateful and prayerful for all our teachers and helpers.

The Advent season is here! The children will receive their advent calendars to help them reflect more clearly on the season.

“What do you love most about Christmas? Most of us might say, PRESENTS! And probably all the grown-ups will laugh and want us to say something more worthy. But actually do you know what? You're right. That IS the best, most important thing about Christmas. Because, you see, Christmas is all about a present—a gift. The greatest, most magnificent gift there has ever been...”

Sally Lloyd-Jones' introduction in the Jesus Storybook Bible Advent Guide

Jennifer Akinyemi

Church School Superintendant

Outreach

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring several projects that will culminate in mid-December:



New and gently used outerwear for elementary age children is being collected.

The Mitten Tree has been set up and will soon be decorated with mittens, gloves, hats and scarves. These cold weather items will be delivered to Bolingbrook elementary schools before the Christmas break.

Carol is chairing the outerwear collection; Libby is chairing the Mitten Tree again this year. Both of these collections will end December 17th so please bring your donations to the church by then.

The Ornament Project is also underway. B. J. Ward Elementary has provided 42 ornaments. Each ornament lists the age, gender and gift requested. The gifts should cost about \$10 each. Will is chairing this outreach project which will begin Sunday, December 3rd and will end December 17th.



One of the Bolingbrook schools has provided information about a family that needs assistance for Christmas. The parish will be notified when we have more details about their specific needs.

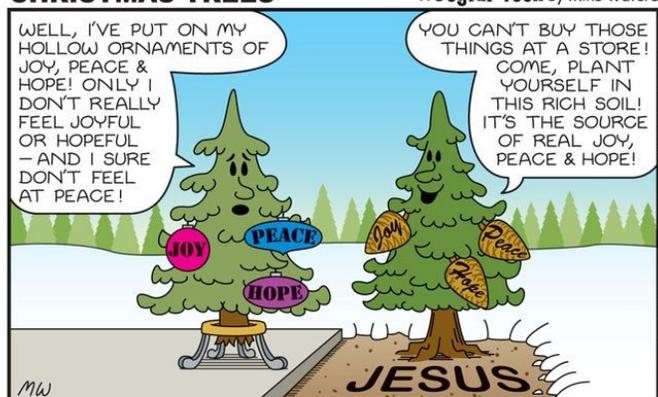
Several individuals who needed help with rent and utilities were given financial assistance using Outreach funds. Thanks to the benevolence of All Saints parishioners we are able to meet the needs of many local families. Your continued generosity and support of our projects is greatly appreciated.

Outreach Committee

Deacon Wilson, Libby Bolton, Carol O'Sullivan, Sue Ross, Will Spencer

CHRISTMAS TREES

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- ROMANS 15:13 NIV

Church Library

Advent is coming! Thinking about ways to enhance your devotions during this time? Just want some light reading relating to Christmas? Books to read to the children in your life? There is something here for everyone. A display with Advent materials will be available December 3.

The display includes devotional materials, including:

Advent and Christmas Wisdom from G. K. Chesterton

Advent and Christmas Wisdom from Saint Benedict: Daily Scriptures and Prayers Together with Saint Benedict's Own Words

The Uncluttered Heart: Making Room for God During Advent and Christmas

In addition to the devotional material, some fiction and other Christmas related books are available, including:

Stories Behind the Greatest Hits of Christmas

The Treasury of Christmas, A collection of three short novels from Melody Carlson. (This treasury includes The Christmas Bus, Gift of Christmas Present and Angels in the Snow)

Shepherd's Abiding by Jan Karon

The Women of Christmas: Experience the Season Afresh with Elizabeth, Mary and Anna

For a light, but very enjoyable seasonal read, I highly recommend *Shepherd's Abiding*. Some of the other books in the Mitford series contain chapters about Christmas. You will be refreshed.

Some children's books about Christmas are also highlighted.

Please note that any books that are on display may be checked out. Come in the library and browse!

Sue Peterson
Parish Librarian

A Prayer for Christmas Morning

Henry Van Dyke

The day of joy returns, Father in Heaven, and crowns another year with peace and good will.

Help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wisemen.

Close the doors of hate and open the doors of love all over the world...

Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil, by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children,

And the Christmas evening bring us to our bed with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus' sake. Amen

from "A Treasury of Christmas Stories"
edited by James S. Bell, Jr.
Harold Shaw Publishers, 1993

Dates and Events to Remember

SERVICES

(except where indicated)

Sunday mornings at 9:30 am - Holy Eucharist

Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm - Mass

*Fridays are days of Abstinence **except** the two between
Christmas and New Year*

Ember Days, days of Fasting and Abstinence

December

Saturday, December 2

Parish Christmas Dinner at Jameson's

Sunday, December 3 - **Advent 1**

Wednesday, December 6

Healing Mass

Sunday, December 10 - **Advent 2**

ACW Cookie Sale

Mitten Tree Collection Ends

Sunday, December 17 - **Advent 3 (Gaudete Sunday)**

Vestry meeting

Wednesday, December 20 - **Ember Day**

Thursday, December 21 - **St Thomas the Apostle**

Friday & Saturday, December 22 & 23 - **Ember Day**

Sunday, December 24- **Advent 4 (Christmas Eve)**

9:30 am Holy Eucharist

5:45 pm Carol Sing

6:00 pm Solemn High Mass

Monday, December 25 - **Christmas Day**

10:00 am - Mass

Tuesday, December 26 - **St Stephen Deacon and Martyr**

Wednesday, December 27 - **St John the Evangelist**

Thursday, December 28 - **Holy Innocents**

December 26 - December 30 - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday, December 31 - **First Sunday After Christmas**

January 2018

Monday, January 1 - **The Circumcision of Our Lord**

Wednesday, January 3 - NO MASS

Saturday, January 6 - **The Epiphany of Our Lord**

10:00 Children's Epiphany Party

Sunday, January 7 - **First Sunday After Epiphany**

Sunday, January 14 - **Epiphany 2**

ACM & ACW meetings with election of officers

Sunday, January 21 - **Epiphany 3**

Vestry meeting

Thursday, January 25 - **The Conversion of St Paul**

Sunday, January 28 - **Septuagesima**

Annual Parish meeting

Post Vestry meeting

All Saints Anglican Church

Traditional Episcopal

Using the

1928 Book of Common Prayer

131 East Boughton Road

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email

allsaintschurch131@gmail.com

www.allsaintsanglicanparish.org

www.anglicanpck.org

Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The Right Reverend Blair W. Schultz

Rector and Bishop Suffragan

The Rev. Mr. Robert L. Wilson, Deacon

All Saints Anglican Church

All Saints is 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 using the 1928 Book of Common Prayer as the basis of our worship.

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.

O, Come let us adore Him

