



## *The Rectors Ramble*

In January, All Saints' hosted a workshop where four other Episcopal Churches in our area joined us to learn about how to be a more welcoming congregation. There were a lot of ideas shared with us by a nationally known workshop leader from what is called the Alban Institute.

I have to be honest and say that most of what she had to say was not new to me. I have been to numerous workshops and read a variety of books on similar topics. So mostly I was not shaken into new actions at all.

But there was one thing that was said that I have not been able to escape. The leader made a point that there is a difference between institutional measures we might take to be welcoming and spiritual measures we might take. She defined it as the difference between inviting people into the life of our congregation and inviting people into a life with Jesus Christ. She further pointed out that inviting people to Christ was more important than inviting them into the church. I truly appreciated her making that point, because most of my exposure to these things in the past have not made that distinction nor so boldly stated the priority of one over the other.

In my own sort of bumbling way, I raised a question. It seems to me that it is very easy to find ourselves putting the emphasis upon the institutional rather than the spiritual. There seems to be a human weakness that leads us to slip down the slope from one to the other. So I wondered if there were some way that we might more effectively fight this tendency. I got no satisfactory answer to my question. For myself, I have not been able to shake the question since.

A year ago, the Vestry set a goal of working on evangelism. Frankly, we have not done much during the past year. But there is growing interest and energy in putting up directional signs around Whitman, erecting a larger lighted sign on our property with a reader-board and doing some landscaping that would make our building more approachable. We are realizing that All Saints' is a well hidden secret. But I also realize, as important as it is to do these things, that these are the institutional measures of reaching out to others. What I don't want to do is get so caught up in making these things happen that we forget what is most important, inviting people into vital relationships with Christ.

To that end, I am hoping to have a curriculum in place by Fall so that a series of classes may be offered in Evangelism. The most effective way of reaching people is not by the use of the media, nor by signs but by personal invitations. When a real flesh and blood person, who may be friend or family or acquaintance shares the love of Christ the people are more likely to take notice.



## ***Take Notice...what's going on at the Parish.***

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Not everyone is an evangelist. In fact, most of us are not evangelists. But we can all be prepared to share with those around us how Chris has touched our lives. I realize that it is where we live and work and study and play that is the most fruitful place for touching people's lives for Christ.

I find that I keep drifting toward institutional measures, but the Spirit of God keeps whacking me in the head and reminding me of what is most important. It is my hope that we will be able to encourage one another in keeping this focus and prod each other to step out in new ways to share the love of Christ with others.

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION**

Easter (**March 27<sup>th</sup>**) and Pentecost (**May 15<sup>th</sup>**) are especially important days in the church year for baptisms. If you, your child or someone else you know, have not received baptism, consider whether or not this may be the right time to do so. In this act the church proclaims that the one baptized belongs to Jesus, the Son of God. It is the entry rite into the Body of Christ, the Church. For adults and youth, it can be a powerful experience of publicly witnessing to their faith in Christ. It is a wondrous event that can bear with it a movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Confirmation is also a special time of whole-heartedly embracing Christ's claim upon our lives. As a youth or an adult we are proclaiming through Confirmation our commitment to Christ and our willingness to go where he leads us. It is also a proclamation that the Holy Spirit of God is at work in us to empower us and strengthen us to be able to fulfill God's call to us. Confirmation also bears a meaning that is not often emphasized. It is a time when we recognize that we are part of the Church of Jesus Christ that is much larger than our local congregation. This is why Confirmation is performed by a Bishop. Bishops represent to us the wider Christian community, from the Diocese of Massachusetts to the Episcopal Church in the United States, to the Anglican Communion and even to all Christians everywhere. So when we kneel before a Bishop and receive the laying on of hands, we are accepting an obligation as a sibling in the wider family of God. There is an opportunity for Confirmation this Spring.

If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please talk to Rev. Doug or Rev. Patti.

### **A QUOTE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION**

"God loves small churches. God abhors small visions. There in a nutshell lies the dilemma of small churches, urban or rural...Small churches tend to be obsessed with a vision to survive. God calls people to change, grow, journey to promised lands, die and be resurrected, but God never calls people merely to survive."  
-Thomas Bandy



## ***Take Notice...what's going on at the Parish.***

### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

The Revs Doug and Patti have announced the schedule for Holy Week as:

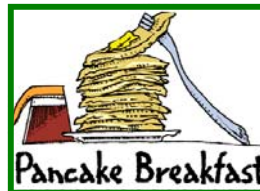
- March 20<sup>th</sup>     **Palm/Passion Sunday** will be celebrated with a procession with palms from the Parish Hall during the 9:30am service.
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>     A short **Tenebrae Service** (Service of Shadows) will be held at 6:30pm.
- March 24<sup>th</sup>     The **Maundy Thursday Service** with the service of foot-washing and Holy Communion will be held at 7:00pm.
- March 25<sup>th</sup>     **Good Friday Services** will be held at Noon and 7:00pm. The stripping of the sanctuary will begin immediately following the 7:00pm service. A **24-hour Prayer Vigil** will begin following the stripping of the sanctuary. You may reserve a time on the sign-up sheet on the Soda Machine. People are encouraged to have a partner, especially during the night, for safety purposes.
- March 27<sup>th</sup>     **EASTER!!!** begins with the **Ecumenical Sunrise Service** at 6:00am in the Park. There will be three **Celebrations of the Resurrection:** 8:00am without music, 9:30am and 11:15am. There will be some baptisms during one or more of the services.

### **VESTRY RETREAT ANNOUNCED**

The Vestry will be having its annual retreat on **March 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>** at the Bertram Center in Duxbury. Keep them in your prayers as they grow as a leadership team and reflect upon the direction for our congregation in the coming year.

### **Prayer Line**

All Saints' Parish is one of many to maintain a strong Prayer Line Ministry. If anyone wishes to add a name or concern to the prayer list, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Kathy Foster (508) 378-4818, or through E-Mail at FosterJK@juno.com. Take advantage of this powerful Ministry!



A savory pancake and sausage breakfast happens on the last Sunday of every month. Come join us for breakfast and a great time of morning fellowship at the Parish Hall, from **9-9:30am**. Hosted by Don McRorie, Ed Welch and others.



**Take Notice...what's going on at the Parish.**

**Birthdays!**

**March:**

- 2 Thelma Beland, Jeff Nawrocki, Zachary Brown
- 3 Hulda Wales, Ernie Morgan
- 4 Tammy D'Antuono, Rosemary Rudolph
- 5 Kenneth Williams
- 9 Christopher Veazie
- 10 Eleanor Corliss, Tim Nawrocki
- 12 Adam Churchill, David Dyson
- 13 Matt Delaney, Alexandra Tillson, Sheila Foster
- 14 David Frazier
- 15 Pat Eunice
- 16 Eleanor Dunbar, Anne Bezio, Lindsay Kelliher
- 20 Laura Andrade, Rachel Burbine
- 21 Kelsey Birk
- 22 Lauren (Frazier) Smith, Pat Delaney
- 23 Robert Bezio
- 24 Tim Norment
- 25 Richard Tingblad
- 26 Al Dunn
- 30 Tom Rudolph, Heather Dunn
- 31 Carol Casieri, Marge Groves

**April:**

- 2 Laura Mahoney
- 4 Ed Welch
- 5 Ken D'Arrigo
- 6 John Reeves
- 7 Jason Eldridge, Emily Brown
- 9 Janet Spadea
- 10 Sarah Delaney
- 11 Joe Bentley, Peter Paluzzi, Paul Andrade
- 14 Dorothy Bazan-Greene, Keara Greene
- 15 Trish Birk - Smith
- 16 Karen Phillips
- 18 Jane Johnson
- 20 Thomas McIntyre
- 22 Matthew Johnson
- 26 Kenneth Belcher, Katie Nelson
- 27 Steven Churchill Jr, Rory McDonald, Ryan McDonald
- 29 Aaron Welch, Susan Frazier Ross Manison

**2005 All Saints' History Calendar**

There's still some of Dick Tingblad's excellent calendars left. They feature our rectors through the years. These great looking calendars also contain bits of historical info relative to All Saints', as well as many other interesting factoids.

Don't forget that just \$5 gets you one of these great calendars, and grab one for a friend! All funds raised will be applied to this year's budget deficit.

Look for the calendars in the parish hall. Check them out next coffee hour! Thank you, Dick.



**Take Notice...what's going on at the Parish.**

**All Saints' Parish Service**

**Schedule:**

Sunday:

8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II, no music

9:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II, traditional hymns, as well as contemporary music.

Sunday School: ages 0-18

Wednesday:

12:00noon: Holy Eucharist Rite II, healing service

6:30pm Holy Eucharist Rite II, healing service

**ALPHA NEWS...**

**Alpha Celebration Dinner on April 3<sup>rd</sup>**



Our next Alpha Celebration Dinner describing the Alpha program is **April 3<sup>rd</sup>**. It includes a full dinner (with desert of course!) and a video describing Alpha. You're invited to come and enjoy a good meal and learn what Alpha is all about. All are invited, whether or not they attend any church. The next 10 week Alpha Course starts the following Sunday, **April 10<sup>th</sup>**. There's no charge for either the Celebration Dinner or the Course. They are our gift to the parish and community as we share our understanding of Jesus and God's love. For more information on the Celebration Dinner or Alpha Course contact Jack Foster at 508-378-4818 or [jfoster103@juno.com](mailto:jfoster103@juno.com).

**Officers of the Church**

Co-Rectors: Revs. Doug & Patti Hale

Wardens:  
Chad Wohlers, Dave Frazier

Treasurer: Caroline Adamson

Asst. Treasurer: Ernest Morgan

Clerk: Richard Tingblad

Saints' Alive Writer/Editor/Publisher:  
Dave Frazier  
([daveartfrazier@aol.com](mailto:daveartfrazier@aol.com))

**Your Vestry:**

Dorrie Bazan (Greene)  
Cheryl Belcher  
Marsha Corliss-Beaulieu  
Elin Duffy  
Norma Gardner  
Jack Foster  
Maureen Mahoney  
Ted Puter  
Dottie Wilhelm

**Church Office Hours**

(781)-447-6106

Doug or Patti will be in the Church Office (unless preempted by another obligation):

Mon.-Fri. 9am-12noon

**Senior Youthgroup Leaders**

Dave and Sue Frazier

**Junior Youthgroup Leaders**

Maureen Mahoney  
Chip and Jolene Durant



## From the Junior Warden...

As most in the parish know, I have been voted in as Junior Warden for All Saints'. I truly think God is moving me into this direction, and I think He has equipped me with the skills and the drive needed to get some things done. This doesn't mean that I am abandoning the other things I am doing, such as my Youth-group Leadership, and in writing the newsletter every month. I truly feel God will make me effective, if I let Him.

There are some definite projects that exist around the church, some very important, and some that are cosmetic clean-ups.

From a "spring cleaning" perspective, the vestry has scheduled a Parish Clean-Up Day for April 9<sup>th</sup>. I have identified numerous areas that need a thorough sprucing up. The bottom line is this—if no one is willing to come and help, there will be a lot that doesn't get done. Personally I think that people want to help. We all have our gifts that can be used in these areas. I invite all of you who wish to help to come and lend a hand. Even an hour of your time helps greatly. Can all of us spare an hour or two? I think so, if you were to make the clean-up a priority. Talk to me and let me know what's up...help me to identify where you could possibly help out.

There are a few major projects shaping up. The kitchen roof has been a pending disaster for a while now. The incidence of leaks is increasing with every rainstorm. The "swimming pool" designed rooftop carries way too much weight in water, with nowhere for it to drain. Thus it leaks all over the place. It has now crept into the new bathroom in the hall and caused some damage. My plan, however bold this may seem to some, is to tear off the old roof (above the kitchen only) and build a correctly pitched and constructed design. I will require tons of help for this one! No way I can accomplish this myself. Anyone remember the days of a "barn-raising"? The entire town came out on the scheduled day and they built a new barn for their neighbor. Many helping hands lightened the load. They built and ate and enjoyed the fellowship found in a job well-done over the course of a day. Everyone pitched in according to their gifts and abilities, and God saw that the effort was rewarded. I'm counting on lots of help when the job is finally scheduled. More to come on this one. There are other smaller roof sealing projects scheduled to try and stop the leaking problems once and for all.

I am working on a new sign for our front lawn. I have driven around and taken about 35-40 pictures of other church's signs for reference. I am in the process of drawing four or five basic designs as a start for discussion. I plan on presenting the information to the Vestry, and perhaps put together the information to keep the parish informed, and get their opinion. More on this as I make info available.

Again I want to stress the importance of people within the parish helping out with the many improvement/repairs that are going to pop up soon. Our church is a beautiful building where God lives, and it would be a great ministry for anyone to help make it as safe and beautiful as we can. God will empower anyone to help, if only they would step forward to do so. Talk to me and let's get it going.

Yours in Christ,  
Dave Frazier