



ALL SAINTS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

January 2010

“New Year: New Opportunities to Serve”

The Reverend Sandy Casey-Martus

Fear not.” Gabriel’s familiar exhortation is spoken to Joseph in Matthew’s gospel and to Zachariah and Mary in Luke’s gospel. It continues to appear in various conversations throughout the four gospel narratives. “Fear not,” whether on the lips of Gabriel, the visiting angel, or Jesus’ himself, alerts the hearer to take note and listen, for something old and heavy is being asked to leave and something new is begging to be born.

According to John, “Perfect love blots out fear.” When fear is penetrated by the light of the Divine Presence, it may be rendered defenseless, and love in its most courageous guise may take birth. With Zachariah, Mary, Joseph, and the many disciples to follow, we stand in a long lineage of those who have been touched and transformed by God’s love. Thus touched, the incarnation takes root and expresses itself in our world. Whether that be in the form of a babe in Bethlehem or a martyr who lays down his life for friend and foe alike makes little difference. Love’s strength is in its ability to adapt and bring about goodness and sustain life. It is this love that we are experiencing in our New Year at All Saints’.

We have much to be grateful for and much to accomplish in the years to come. Motivated and empowered by God’s love, the opportunities to reach out to those in need within our own community and the broader world are unlimited. Fear limits; love expands and embraces. It is the unifying bond of our universe, and we have great

opportunities to hear and embrace the voices of those in need.

Our Compassionate Living Ministries do exactly that, whether the need be in the local Corpus Christi area, the jungles of Africa, or the streets of Haiti. As Divine Light reaches in to our hearts, we are well able to reach out to our neighbors, those we

know we are to love as our very own selves. This is the mystery of incarnation, and, properly understood, unveils the incredible dignity of what it means to be a human being as the temple of the Holy Spirit. As we enter our new year with all its challenges and

“Let us not lose sight of our interconnectedness with all others on the planet who are our sisters and brothers in Christ.”

opportunities, let us not lose sight of our interconnectedness with all others on the planet who are our sisters and brothers in Christ. Jesus humbled himself and became as one of us so that we, too, might be so humbled to be like Him. Compassionate, Divine Love reaching out to its own self makes all things new.

Won’t you join the members of our Compassionate Living ministry and participate in the transformation of our world? May we hear these words addressed to each of us personally and collectively: “Fear not!” God has chosen each of us to bear his Son into the world, so shall our name also be “Emmanuel,” “God is with us.” With such a name, much is expected. Please consider this year contributing some expression of your Presence to the work of our volunteers as we contribute to the up building of the Kingdom. Become the gift and be that gift for others. *In Christ, Sandy+*

The Messenger


All Saints’ Episcopal Church

The Rev Sandy Casey-Martus, Rector

The Messenger

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From the Parish Administrator . . .

The New Year is a good time to make changes, and here in the office, it will not be "business as usual." There'll be "some changes made." 

We have discovered in the past year that our traditional office setup has not been fully functional. Although each of us--Janine, Sheila and I--have specific jobs, we also step in for each other as needed. Both our specific jobs and our filling-in require space management, and often privacy, so we have moved some things around to accommodate our needs in order better to serve you.

When you walk into the office now, Sheila will be in Janine's former office. Janine will be in the back office, aka "Mini Conference Room" and back further, "Faith's office." I'll still be in my office.

We have a few requests of parishioners in the adjustment to this new functioning. First and foremost: ***we need office volunteers!*** Although Sheila was hired as a "receptionist," she rarely functions in that capacity, since we are making better use of her training and work ethic. She is

still my assistant (and often assists Janine and Rev Sandy in their projects), but she also is the bookkeeper, a task that requires privacy and concentration. Therefore, when you come into the office, you may find her door closed. Please direct all of your requests of Sheila (including financial reports) to me so that I can manage her time efficiently.

This arrangement has left us--for the past year, at least--without a fully-functioning receptionist to answer the phone and direct traffic, as needed. So . . . **WE NEED YOU!** Ideally, parish volunteers would act as receptionist every morning and every afternoon. The following positions are open:

- **Monday afternoons**
- **Tuesday mornings**
- **Wednesday mornings**
- **Wednesday afternoons**

I hope you will review your personal schedule and make room for one of these shifts. In order for us to function at peak efficiency for you, we need your help! Please call Janine to step into a slot!

Beverly

Membership "Drive"

from Parish Administrator Beverly Ann Randolph

Several issues fall into this project we're calling "Membership Drive." First, we want to completely update the church database with accurate information. That means I need everyone's (1) birthdate, (2) baptism date, (3) confirmation date, (4) address, (5) phone, (6) email, (7) marriage date, and (8) city, state and church of all of the above.

Second, we want to make sure we have the same "status" for your membership that you consider yourself. Some people believe they are members of All Saints', but they have never indicated to the priest or the PA that they desire membership. Therefore, we may have you listed as "Friend of the Parish" rather than "Active Member." You may have children we don't have listed. We want them in the database!

The canon describes "communicants in good

standing" as "*all baptized members of the congregation who have received Holy Communion at least three times during the preceding year and are faithful "in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented," and "in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God."* There is also a category we would designate "Friend of the Parish" for "*others who are active whose baptisms are not recorded in the Membership Register.*" Note that "pledging" is not stipulated; but giving of one's time, talent and money is.

I anticipate this task will take a year. Letters requesting information will be mailed to you throughout the year. I hope you will return the information promptly after you receive a request. Thank you for your assistance with this massive project.

Dime for Your Time: A Blessed New Year

from Reverend Sandy+

I am in Florida as I write this, visiting my mother and reflecting on the marvelous Advent/Christmas season we have been immersed in. The many opportunities for meaningful worship, fellowship, and genuine service these past few weeks have filled me with great joy. Happy New Year! Certainly a new year brings new opportunities. I would like to see us take a close look at everything that has helped make All Saints' the welcoming, intellectually astute, theologically inquisitive and socially engaged faith community that so many have found attractive.

As we approach our 60th anniversary and receive the History Committee's report, we will have ample opportunity to celebrate our legacy. Every congregation is more than the sum of its parts. Our influence necessarily extends beyond our immediate geographic boundaries. All Saints' has a long tradition of contemplative prayer and practice that roots us deeply in the Divine. I would like to see us revisit and strengthen these practices that are so vital to our spiritual growth effectiveness as a body. "Reaching in" compels us to "reach out" in service to meet the needs of a wider community. We have a tradition of mission that is sensitive to both local and global concerns.

How to grow our parish is directly proportionate to each individual's commitment to growing ever deeper in intimacy and relationship with God. It is the power and presence of the Spirit unveiled in each of us that may be attractive to others. To incarnate Christ in our everyday exchange creates an atmosphere that is personally transformative

and attractive to others. Growth in the fruits of the Holy Spirit are natural by-products of our personal and collective intimacy with God and these are what we have to offer any who would come and join us. They are most nourishing and often irresistible. Building up the Body of Christ is an on-going process.

Dedication to our practices, fidelity to God, compassion for others, and whole-heartedness in mission are the building blocks of effective, joyful parish life. I, for one, am committed to extending this life in the coming year. I want to acknowledge just how much I appreciate my ministry here at All Saints'. This has been a year of tremendous opportunity and learning for me and you have all been most gracious.

I also must let you know that recently, having been initially nominated by Bishop Thornton and subsequently petitioned by the clergy and laity of Wyoming, I have accepted nomination to stand in their upcoming election for Diocesan Bishop of Wyoming. This decision did not come lightly nor without prayer, consultation, and discernment. I must trust the work of the Holy Spirit among us. This process may result in an invitation to episcopate ministry in Wyoming, or it will reconfirm my call to be here with you at All Saints' serving you faithfully to the best of my ability. The election will be held on March 20th.

Please keep me in your prayers, and I assure you of mine. This comes with my best wishes to you for a blessed New Year.

Blessings to you in the New Year, Sandy+

Coming to All Saints': Two January Celebrations in Music

from Arlene Long, Music Director

SONGS OF LIGHT Sunday, January 10, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary: The season of Epiphany follows the Christmas season. Epiphany is associated with LIGHT: the light of the star leading the Magi; the light of Christ's presence appearing through the Incarnation; in Egypt, January 6—our date for Epiphany—was celebrated as the winter solstice when the sun god made his appearance. Come on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. and help us celebrate the coming of Light in the midst of Winter's darkness.

MISSA GAIA: EARTH MASS Sunday, January 31, 10:00 a.m. service: Paul Winter's MISSA GAIA, a Mass in Celebration of Mother Earth, combines wolf calls, whale songs, and baby seal voices with music from humans in a joyful explosion of music honoring the Sacred Space that is our earthly home. Come experience this glorious music together, including instrumentalists along with the Choir and the Congregation, which is our Larger Choir!

Meditation

Budgetary Challenges

from Finance Chair John Otto

One of the privileges of sitting on the finance committee is seeing the incredible generosity of our All Saints' congregation. This year is no exception. Our average pledge has increased 6% over 2008 from \$3,799 to \$4,032. This is also higher than the diocesan average of \$3,213. All Saints' has had a history of generosity and this is just one way in which we live out our blessings.

Having said this, we are still faced with a challenge for this year's budget. To begin with, we lost through death or transfer over \$55,000 in pledges this year. In addition,

we currently have not received pledges from families still attending All Saints', totaling \$54,855. Assuming that all of these folks did pledge at their 2009 level, we are left with a budget shortfall of \$36,829. The finance committee will make an interim report at the formation hour on January 10th to update you on where we stand for the 2010 budget. Obviously we want to have a balanced budget and your finance committee, under the guidance of your vestry, is committed to making that happen. Please come to the meeting on the 10th and help seek the best solution to balancing the budget for 2010.

Reverend Sandy's Christmas Open House

A good time was had by all!



Rev Sandy & Bob Harper



Phyllis Finley, George & Charlotte Hutchinson



Sue Millard & Beverly Randolph



Sandra Snyder & Rev Sandy

TAMU-CC Graduate Students' Display

All Saints' Hall Gallery Exhibit, "Collegial Printmakers", displays works by six graduate students from Texas A&M Corpus Christi, along with work by their professor Mark Anderson, reports Creative Expression Commission chair Cathy Chatham. The exhibit spokesperson, Jenifer Hartsfield Pichinson, writes, "As printmakers, we share a lab, printing presses, and knowledge about printmaking processes. We collegial printmakers dialogue; we share our personal observations, desires and good will as we work together. Each hand-pulled image is born from the heart of the artist. It offers viewers a unique perspective on experiences of life lived in the amazing world we all share. You, the viewer of this exhibit, are invited to enter our collegial printmaking dialogue. Every heart has 'eyes to see and ears to hear.' We invite you to be present in your heart to any and all images, allowing each to speak a word, a thought or feeling in your heart. Respond and dialogue in your own unique way. As collegial co-creators together, therefore, we may facilitate the birth of something new."

Come and enjoy the exhibit!



**NEED SOMETHING?
HAVE SOMETHING?**

**HELPING HANDS
can link you up!**

- 1. POST A NOTE OF YOUR NEED WITH PHONE NUMBER.**
- 2. IF YOU CAN MEET THE NEED, PLEASE CALL AND GIVE A HELPING HAND.**

The Helping Hands signup sheet is on the entryway bulletin board.



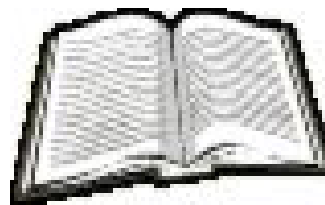
All Saints' Scarlet Ladies Thursday, Jan. 14th, 1:00 p.m.

The Scarlet Ladies have new royalty: Queen Barbara (Robinson) invites you to lunch at

SUGAR BAKER'S

2766 Santa Fe

Call **949-2946** to RSVP.



Garden of Readin' – New Name – New Schedule – Same Location!

The Library will be open on **Friday, January 15, 2010**, for the **Creativity Crowd** to gather to share what else? Their **Creativity!** Sponsored by the Creative Expressions Commission, the gatherings are now scheduled for every alternate month, instead of quarterly. Creative offerings at the November gathering included readings of original poetry as well as stirring renditions of old poetry from past masters, the performance of a couple of love songs, and an informative explanation of a scale reproduction of the Galveston Ships Port following World War II. If you have never tried it, come, meet, share, observe and appreciate. We start at 7:30 p.m. and close at 9:00 p.m. EXPECT to be SURPRISED! (Come as you are - NO reservations are needed!)

Bulletin Board

Symposium: "Exploring Integral Life Practice"

Facilitated by Allan Johnson

Six sessions: Mon. 1/11/2009 thru Mon. 2/15/2009; 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Join us in exploring Ken Wilber's Integral Theory and Integral Life Practices. Each night will contain three modules: teaching, practicing, sharing. Whether you have studied Wilber's theory or never heard of it, this time together will enrich your understanding of mind, body and spirit within the context of self, culture, and nature. Please complete the following steps to participate in our journey together.

- Step 1: *Enroll in the class.* (See enrollment instructions in the e-blast announcement.)

- Step 3: *Come be with us.*

- Step 2: *Purchase one or more recommended books* (available on line at Barnes & Noble or Amazon): *Integral Spirituality: A Startling New Role for Religion in the Modern and Postmodern World*; *Integral Life Practice: A 21st-Century Blueprint for Physical Health, Emotional Balance, Mental Clarity, and Spiritual Awakening*; or a summary text *The Integral Vision: A Very Short Introduction to the Revolutionary Integral Approach to Life, God, the Universe, and Everything.*

"Emerging Church" Videos Beginning January 17th

In March 2009, a large group of followers of Jesus, people from a wide range of denominational traditions, met to share experiences and to learn from each other. The inspirational theme revolved around the strong feeling that something new was emerging. Even though no one knows exactly what this emergence is or where it is taking us, the wind of the Spirit is moving through many faith communities.

What is emerging? What does this really mean? Five teachers shared their insights to enrich the dialogue. By experiencing this dynamic conference through these recordings, your perspective may deepen and your faith may strengthen. Presenters include Richard Rohr, Phyllis Tickle, Brian McLaren, Shane Claiborne, and Alexie Torres-Fleming. Join us for the presentation of this thought-provoking conference.

BALANCED LIVING PROGRAMS 2010

On **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13th**, 2010, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Library, Balanced Living Commission will hold a workshop called "Dispute Mediation as a Community Resource for Resolving Conflict," with presenter Ruth Reid, executive director of Nueces County Dispute Resolution Services, and mediators Chuck Shamel and Jo Ann Luckie.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

- "Solutions to Violence and War" study series from Center for Teaching Peace will be scheduled if enough interest develops in the topic.
- Studies in "Environmental Justice in the 21st Century" will be scheduled if parish members want information and conversation about hazardous landfill issues, racial issues with toxic waste, and recycling and conservation issues.

For more information contact Jo Ann Luckie at 854-8781 or joann.luckie@gmail.com.

THE WISDOM CLASS BEGINS A NEW BOOK Tuesday, January 26th

The Wisdom Class will start reading *But I Tell You* by Karen L. Oberst at the latter part of January. This book takes the verses from the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5-7) in the original Greek and expands upon them to challenge us in our modern era.

Walter Wink, author of *The Powers That Be*, writes: "The Sermon on the Mount is the most radical statement of Jesus' new reality, and *But I Tell You* is a good place to engage its challenge to new life. This lively and readable book is made the more valuable thanks to the author's knowledge of Greek. Read, and enjoy."

Please join us the last Tuesday in January when we start reading *But I Tell You*. The Wisdom Class meets on Tuesday mornings in the library 10-11:30. Books will be available in the office in January for \$15.00 each.

January Birthdays

Joe Cecil-1st
Louise Pettigrove-1st
Hannah Niemann-3rd
Bell Vance-4th
Stephen Carson-5th
Kai David Harvey-6th
Jim Sedwick-7th
Ryan Carson-8th
Rhett Price-8th
Jason Otto-9th
Becky Mathis-11th
Deidra Meyer-11th
Deliahla Clark-12th
Bill Grady-13th
Brian Hart-13th
Bill Johnson-13th
Bryan McDowell-13th
Josie Solis-13th
Molly Armstrong-15th
Catherine Oliver-16th
Libby Averyt-17th
Allen Merriam-17th
Michael Mason-18th
Kendall Price-20th
Raley Von Price-20th
Joyce Hawthorne-21st
Beth Reese-22nd
Lisa Wright-23rd
Eric Brauchle-24th
Janine Canady-25th
Jenifer Pichinson-26th
Bernie Brauer-29th
Gary Chatham-31st
Bevin Oliver-31st
Christine Price-31st
Valorie Ryan-31st
Eli Taieb-31st



Kitchen Angel Teams

for 2010 11:00 a.m. Service

Hospitality teams, aka "Kitchen Angels," after 11:00 a.m. service are in need of some new leaders in 2010. It is suggested that two couples or three individuals manage a month of hospitality. Each team leader or "Guardian Angel" is responsible for seeing that the hospitality hour is staffed. Duties include bringing goodies, making coffee prior to coffee hour, or following the 11:00 a.m. service, and completely cleaning up the kitchen, coffee pots, and table prior to leaving on Sunday.

We have a few months which have no leaders, due to folks moving and family illness. Sign up for the month of your choice or to help another team. Please contact Charlotte Otto, 884-6234, 947-3849, or charlotte.otto@gmail.com, if you can help. **Vacancies** are in **June and August through December**. A "**Kitchen Angel Coordinator**" is also needed. Please call for more information.



African Team Ministries Fifth Craft/Jewelry Sale Success!

African Team Ministries again allowed us to keep their beautiful crafts and jewelry for the whole season of Advent this year. The extra time afforded many of you the opportunity to leisurely look, admire, and purchase. While we did not exceed our previous sales of last year, we still raised \$1,101.50 to help fund **African Team Ministries'** continued outreach and support to our brothers and sisters in Dioceses in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda through their respective Anglican, Methodist and Lutheran Bishops. This is, I believe, **remarkable**, in today's uncertain economic environment. **Thank You, one and all!**

Patsy Durham

African Team Ministries Liaison

Around the Parish



ALL SAINTS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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www.allsaintscorpuschristi.org

Service Schedule

Sunday: 7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Sunday: 8:45 a.m. LifeStreams, Rite III
Sunday: 9:45 a.m. Spiritual Formation Classes
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Nursery/Child Care available for Sunday services
Tuesday: 11:30 a.m. Midday Eucharist
Thursday: 11:30 a.m. Midday Eucharist w/optional Anointing
Thursday: 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Labyrinth Walk & Icon Sit
Visit our website: www.allsaintscorpuschristi.org

LECTIONARY SCHEDULE

1/10 Epiphany I: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
1/17 Epiphany II: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11
1/24 Epiphany III: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21
1/31 Epiphany IV: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30
2/7 Epiphany V: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

BCP 528 *O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

January CALENDAR

January 4 No Midday Eucharist; Christ Centered Prayer; EfM
January 5 No Midday Eucharist; Wisdom Class resumes; EfM; Food Pantry
January 6 Epiphany; LifeStreams Music practice; Youth Formation; Choir Rehearsal
January 7 No Midday Eucharist; Labyrinth Walk
January 10 Epiphany Sunday: Diocesan Council Delegate election; Baptism
January 11 Christ Centered Prayer; EfM
January 12 Wisdom Class; Midday Eucharist; EfM
January 13 LifeStreams Music Practice; Youth Formation; Choir Rehearsal
January 14 Midday Eucharist; Christ Centered Prayer; Labyrinth Walk
January 15 Vestry/Leadership two-day retreat, Mustang Island
January 18 Office closed, Martin Luther King Day; EfM
January 19 Wisdom Class; Midday Eucharist; EfM; Food Pantry
January 20 Clergy Retreat, Mustang Island; LifeStreams Music practice; Youth Formation; Choir Rehearsal
January 21 Clergy Retreat, Mustang Island; No Midday Eucharist; Christ Centered Prayer; Labyrinth Walk
January 22 Supper with Sandy
January 23 Parish Life Commission Luncheon
January 25 Midday Eucharist; Christ Centered Prayer; EfM; Precouncil meeting, St Mark's
January 26 Wisdom Class; Midday Eucharist; EfM
January 27 LifeStreams Music practice; Youth Formation; Choir Rehearsal
January 28 Midday Eucharist; Christ Centered Prayer; Labyrinth Walk
January 29 CNC Youth Retreat
January 31 Annual Parish Meeting, Silent Auction