



Parish Notes

All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, Santa Barbara

January 2013

An irregularly produced newsletter from your All Saints Vestry

All Saints Leadership Team 2013-14

The Rev. Honeychurch announced at the most recent meeting of the Vestry that he has asked current Junior Warden Chip Nichols to serve as the 2013-14 Senior Warden, subject to his reelection to the Vestry. He will replace outgoing Vestry member Sheri Benninghoven. In addition to the new Vestry class just nominated (see the article below right), Nichols will be joined by the following parishioners as the coming year's parish leadership:

Vestry: Suzi Ballard, Sharon Bifano, Bitsy Bacon, Marni McGee, Ladeen Miller, Fred Allen, Kent Damon, Janet Eaton, Nathan Sigler

Treasurer: Fred Allen

Clerk: Marni McGee

Outreach Chair: Susan Evans

Investment Chair: Tom Mack

Budget and Finance Chair: George Ittner

Buildings and Grounds: Nathan Sigler

Parish School Board President: Jim Haslem

Heritage Society: David and Jane Buchanan

Head Usher: Syd Walker

Altar Guild: Daphne Von Essen

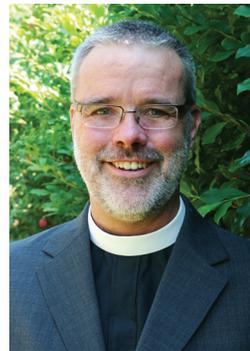


Great Attendance, Energy: All Saints Celebrates Season of Advent

By The Rev. Dr. Robert Honeychurch

Difficult as it is for me (and perhaps you) to believe, it has been almost three months since I began my tenure as the Interim Rector here at All Saints-by-the-Sea. How the time does seem to slip by! Thank you for affording me this opportunity to walk alongside you for this time. Many present, former, and new leaders have stepped to the fore. A few have stepped to the side. And all of us – individually and together – have stepped ever more fully into the future which God has in store for us.

This Advent Season, which saw more than 800 attend services on Christmas Eve, was an especially joy-filled and hopeful season for us at All Saints, as we saw so many people stepping forward to offer their gifts. New (and old) faces are showing up at church every Sunday. Our developing relationship with Holy Trinity Church in Ocean City, New Jersey is a source of great inspiration for us all. We are positioned on a strong – although lean – financial base for 2013. Your Vestry is putting the necessary pieces into place to move us full-steam ahead into a search process. There is much to look forward to – and to be thankful for – as we move into this new year. There is much to be done, and by God's grace we will accomplish all that God has in store for us.



The Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, Feb. 24 following the 10 a.m. service.

Nominations for Vestry, Other Posts Set

The Nominating Committee has completed its work and announced its slate of parishioner candidates to serve on the Vestry, as Diocesan Convention delegates and on next year's Nominating Committee. Elections will take place on Feb. 24 at the Annual Meeting. Check out a brief biography of each of the Vestry candidates on page 3!

For Vestry, the Committee nominated five parishioners to three-year terms: Steb Chandor, Susan Evans, Sally Green, Chip Nichols and Alex Smith. Three

of these individuals – Steb, Sally and Chip – have just completed one term and agreed to serve a second term. Providing continuity among the leadership of the parish during a period of discernment and search for a Rector was recommended by our Diocesan search consultant, the Rev. Joanna Satorius, and the Nominating Committee took this suggestion into account when making its nominations. The Committee also nominated Sally Messerlian to serve the two years remaining on the term of retiring Vestry member Joe Jannotta.

All Saints' Outreach Supports Hurricane-Ravaged Parish



Below is the initial and heartfelt response from Father David Laquintano from Holy Trinity on behalf of his parish following receipt of the cards and notes from All Saints parishioners, along with a check from Outreach in the amount of \$10,000. These funds were approved shortly after Hurricane Sandy hit the east coast and before we knew exactly how they might be used. Thanks to the Rev. Michelle Woodhouse's digging on our behalf, Holy Trinity was identified as a church and a parish in need.

Michelle, Syd Walker and Susan Evans met on behalf of the Outreach Committee just before Christmas to develop further plans for how All Saints could be in relationship with the parish and developed the idea of a matching grant program. The initial amount donated by the parish over the past few weeks has totaled nearly \$8,000 and the project continues. Outreach will

match these funds raised and we are hopeful that a few of our parishioners will trek back to NJ in the next several weeks to personally deliver the funds. Let Susan or Syd know of any questions or if you'd like to be involved at outreach@asbts.org!

Rector Discernment Next Steps

Keep an eye on the Sunday service newsletter *Read All About It* to stay informed about the search efforts for our new Rector. The Vestry has developed a two-committee process: the Profile Committee and the Discernment (search) Committee. If you would like more information about the status of the search efforts, please see Father Bob or either the Senior or Junior Warden.



Message from Fr. David Laquintano

O my,

Vestry member Aimee had no idea what to expect when she was told a box was being delivered.

She could hardly tell me all that was in the packet. They have just recently moved back into their house. I asked her to talk to our congregation on Sunday.

In her talk to the congregation she said what a wonderful and humbling experience it was to receive. And what a connecting experience it was. Aimee has a handle on the needs of the congregation and the community.

She and her daughters made a large display in the hall of all the cards that were received. I will send you a picture of it.

There are several responses in the works, but I wanted to let you know of the heartfelt and heart-warmed experience of the congregation.

Our deep and profound thanks to the congregation.

*David Laquintano
Rector, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church,
Ocean City, New Jersey*



Church Rectory Rented

With Interim Rector Fr. Bob renting a studio home in the San Roque neighborhood as his family remains in Altadena, the Vestry authorized a lease agreement with a local couple who are remodeling their condo and in need of housing for the bulk of 2013. This revenue will help offset church operating costs. It is expected that the Rectory would continue to be rented until a permanent Rector is chosen and the Rector's housing needs are determined.

Pledge campaign status

As of January 3, pledges for 2013 had been received from 228 parish households for a total of \$761,549, compared to 227 households that pledged for 2012 for a total of \$785,000. Happily, the 2013 total included 35 households that pledged for the first time, totaling \$68,295, and 60 households that increased their pledging by a total of \$44,076, an average of 20%. However, 34 households that pledged for 2012 have not yet committed for 2013, representing a total of \$65,488. Your Vestry will be reaching out to these parishioners to discuss the importance of their commitments to All Saints.

Financial Audit Result: All Clean

Auditor Tony Vallejo recently gave a report to the Vestry on the results of his 2011 financial audit of the church books. Mr. Vallejo noted that the attitude of the management during the audit was exceptionally open and helpful. He gave All Saints an "unqualified" audit opinion and a "clean" management letter and called to the attention of the Vestry a few particulars, including the capitalization of the roof repairs and noted the creation of a temporary restricted funds category for funds that were donated as restricted gifts but not spent within a particular year. The biggest financial variances year over year were due to major buildings repairs and investment values changing with the markets. Regarding the management letter, Mr. Vallejo explained that Treasurer Fred Allen had requested an early and diligent review as part of our Rector search. Fred noted that the church has invested in a new safe for short term cash protection and will heed the recommendation to conduct an inventory of fixed assets.

Vestry Candidates

▶ **Susan Evans** was born in Santa Maria, California. In 1975 she moved to Santa Barbara with her son Christopher. Susan joined All Saints six years ago, immediately drawn to the many Outreach opportunities. She served on the Outreach Committee for the past three years and helped lead the Parish Focus Project which assisted Peoples' Self-Help Housing. She was hands on with their summer program, field trips, garden work and swimming lessons. She has helped collect shoes for the homeless and is a regular supporter of the Christmas Giving Tree. Susan recently participated with the Cleveland School garden project and is looking forward to helping at Holy Trinity Church in New Jersey. She is a regular Eventide attendee. In her spare time she swims, rides her bicycle and researches her family history.



◀ **Sally Green** was born in California, raised in Los Angeles, and attended St. Alban's Church from the time she was 3 years old until she moved to Carpinteria in 1993. She attended UCLA, and began teaching for LAUSD in 1967. Sally received a Masters in Administration from CSUN in 1993 and began working in Carpinteria in 2000. She retired as Principal at Canalino School and is very active in many area community organizations. She has served on the Vestry for the past three years.

▶ **Steb Chandor** was born in Boston and spent most of his first 25 years on the east Coast. He went to college at Princeton followed by medical school at Cornell University. Steb and Mary Carolyn White met in 1958 in New York City and were married at Christ Church in Short Hills, NJ. He started a career in academic medicine, serving on the faculty of Cornell University, USC, SUNY at Stonybrook on Long Island, Marshall University in West Virginia, and returned to USC in 1991, as Director of Laboratories at the University Hospital. Steb and his family have long been involved with Episcopal churches, coming to All Saints because of a long friendship with Dave and Dana Kent. He has served on the Vestry for the past three years and as an usher for two years, and served on the Golf Committee for the last three years.



◀ **Sally Messerlian** was born in England, lived in Switzerland as a small child and moved to the United States at age 13 years. She attended high school in Southern California, and went to Brown University in Rhode Island for a year, where she also became a US citizen. She then returned to California to attend nursing school at LA County/USC Medical Center. After graduation as a Registered Nurse almost 40 years ago, Sally earned a BS in Nursing from Cal State Los Angeles. Sally met her wonderful husband, George, while he was finishing his residency in Internal Medicine. They married in 1976 and moved to Santa Barbara, where they raised their 3 children. Sally has worked at Cottage hospital for 35 years, the last 30 in Out Patient Surgery. Sally started attending All Saints as soon as she moved to Santa Barbara. Their children all attended Sunday School at All Saints, many times with Sally as their Sunday School teacher. Sally has filled many positions, including Acolyte Coordinator, on Vestry, as a Lay Reader, and as a Lay Eucharistic Minister. Sally has served on the Health Ministries Council, the Outreach Committee, and with her husband, George, has helped organize the annual All Saints Community Outreach Golf Tournament. Sally enjoys cooking, reading, and gardening, as well as spending time with her extended family.

▶ **Chip Nichols** and his wife Brenda have been All Saints members since they moved to Montecito part time in 2005. Chip earned a B.A. in English literature from Yale College and an LL.B. from Columbia Law School, both cum laude, and served three years as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. He joined the beauty products company Revlon in 1978 where he spent 23 years, including 10 as General Counsel. He retired as Executive Vice President—Chief Administrative Officer in 2001. Chip's hobbies are tennis, sailing, golf and watercolor painting. He has served on the Vestry for the past three years and as Junior Warden for the past two.



◀ **Alexandra Smith** was born in Fairfield, Connecticut and raised a Rite One Episcopalian at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. She moved to California in 2003 to attend the University of San Diego where she received a B.A. in English and a certificate in non-profit leadership from USD. She moved to Santa Barbara in 2008. Alex's church resume includes 9 years as an acolyte, 7 years of youth group participation, occasional stints as a LEM or reader, and a year spent as All Saints' Youth Director. She currently serves on the Program Group on Youth Leadership at the Diocese of Los Angeles and sings in the All Saints choir. When she's not at church, Alex is food-focused and building a business as a health & wellness coach.



Carlos Ruano Update

Sadly, Carlos, our Sexton, is still being held by authorities as his defense counsel prepares for various hearings. Parishioners have donated funds to help pay for his defense counsel and also to fund his personal needs while in jail. The Vestry has considered his

continued employment at each of their recent meetings; Carlos remains on paid leave on a month-to-month basis until his status can be determined. If you would like more information about how to assist Carlos, please see Deacon Ann or Chip Nichols.

Sheri Benninghoven,
Senior Warden

Chip Nichols,
Junior Warden

Fred Allen, Treasurer

Marni McGee, Clerk

Nathan Sigler, Co-Clerk

Bitsy Bacon

Suzi Ballard

Sharon Bifano

Kent Damon

Janet Eaton

Steb Chandor

Sally Green

Joe Jannotta

Ladeen Miller

J.B. Rodgers

**The Rev. Dr. Bob
Honeychurch**

Vestry Adopts 2013 Budget

The Vestry is scheduled to adopt the 2013 Budget at its January meeting. The Budget and Finance Committee, chaired by George Ittner, has worked over the past few months analyzing pledge and income trends and monitoring expenses. The Budget subcommittee, consisting of Director of Administration Robbie Boyd, David Hart, Tom Mack, and George, did the heavy lifting, putting pen to spreadsheet.

Expenses in the adopted budget exceed income by approximately \$100,000. This is less than the amount adopted in the 2012 budget but more than the parish leadership feels is prudent. Addressing the amount of this imbalance will be a main priority of the incoming leadership team. Money to cover the difference between income and expenses comes from the church endowment and various designated and undesignated funds.

Here are a few highlights of the adopted budget:

- Total income is budgeted to total \$1.3 million, an increase of 4.5%, though the inclusion of rental income from the Rectory accounts for the bulk

of the improvement. It is hoped that pledges still to be received will allow us to close the gap between income and expenses.

- Expenses are expected to be \$1.4 million, with around 50% going for clergy and lay staff compensation and benefits and with 20% covering repair and maintenance of our significant campus. The remaining expenses are for ministries, most significantly music, outreach, and our annual contribution to the Diocese of Los Angeles.
- The budget includes the following full time positions: Interim Rector, Director of Administration, Director of Music Ministries, Sexton and Assistant Sexton; and the following part-time positions: Associate Music Director, Accompanist/Organist, Special Events Coordinator and Bookkeeper. In addition, the following part-time positions are funded beginning in April: half-time Interim Associate Rector, half-time Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministries, and stipendiary support for college ministries and the newcomer ministry.