



The Rectors Ramble

It's hard to imagine that we are already thinking about the season of Lent. It seems that we just took down the Christmas decorations! But *Ash Wednesday is February 9th* this year. Yes, that's a tad bit early. Some years it just turns out that way as Easter is determined by the Lunar calendar. (Easter is the 1st Sunday, after the 1st full moon, after the vernal equinox.)

So what will you be giving up for Lent?

It's our job as priests to encourage, by word and example, the spiritual disciplines of the Church. Choosing to sacrifice during the Lenten season **OR** choosing to take on a discipline have long been ways to wake ourselves up and allow ourselves to be drawn more deeply into Christ's Passion. What follows are some ideas to consider. Be creative. Listen to the movement of the Spirit. Remember that any spiritual discipline such as these are only a means to an end, which is a deeper discipleship and worship of Jesus Christ. They are NOT religious requirements to earn God's favor. Lenten disciplines should be seen as a freely chosen offering to God for no other reason but to open ourselves to hearing from God in a new way.

Things to Give Up:

A Traditional Lenten offering is giving up foods like: Meat, Sugar, Coffee, Soda... Anything that is a luxury to your diet. Money spent on those things can be saved and given to those who are hungry.

A more contemporary offering might be giving up time spent on electronic things like: TV, video games, or the Internet. Figure out how much time you spend on one of these activities each day and give that time to prayer (or if you're the hands-on type, volunteer at a local charity).

Spend one day each week in complete silence. No radio, no TV, no talking...just the silence of your own soul. If you live with other human-type people tell them of your discipline and ask that they respect your day of silence **OR** better yet, if it's possible, make one day of silence a household effort. Go from sundown to sundown. Break the day of silence with a nice, but simple meal together. See what happens to your soul!

(Continued on page 2)



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

(Continued from page 1)

Things to Take On:

Memorizing One Scripture verse per week. Here are some suggestions:

I Corinthians 1:27, 2 Corinthians 4:16, Romans 8:1, Philippians 3:12, Hebrews 4:12, Revelation 21:3-4.

Study one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) throughout the whole 6 weeks.

Take a prayerful walk each day around your neighborhood and pray for your neighbors.

Pray the "Stations of the Cross" everyday throughout Lent. (If you are interested in this let us know as we have copies of it to give out)

If you want to share a discipline, find a prayer partner and pray the "Great Litany" everyday. You can find it in the Book of Common Prayer on page 148. Pick up a copy of "The Call of the Cross" which is a daily Lenten devotional guide that will be available for your Lenten discipline. (Look for them in the back of the church)

We would also like to remind everyone that the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is always available. This is a moving and powerful way to prepare for Easter and we invite everyone in the parish to consider making a formal confession as an intentional prayer of preparation for Easter.

Whatever way you choose to observe a Holy Lent, we will be praying that God will move mightily among us, reaching down and forgiving and healing wounds. We will be praying that as we contemplate the work of the Cross each of us will be drawn into a deeper love and discipleship in Jesus' name.

See you Sunday! Doug+ and Patti+

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.*

MEN'S SUPER BOWL PARTY

It is time for the annual Men's Super Bowl Party. It will be held on **Sunday February 6th**. This is a great time for food, fellowship and playing board games (especially cribbage!). Youth have been known to bring video game players and plug into church TVs. Oh, we watch the Super Bowl as well. The starting time for this event varies depending upon personal interest. Diehard cribbage players and other gamers have been known to show up by 2:30. Most people show up by 4:30 with the game beginning around 6:00. Bring yourself, friends, some food to share (we tend to eat very well), a game to play and a lawn chair for watching the game. Let's party!!!

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Lent begins a bit early this year. We begin this season, of reflecting upon how we follow Jesus, with the **Ash Wednesday** service of confession and recognition of our own mortality. We are all invited to receive ashes upon our foreheads as a mark of the lifelessness that would be ours without the life of God invigorating us. Come to this service on **February 9th at 7:00 p.m.**

"HANDEL'S MESSIAH" BIBLE STUDY

This class begins for the season of Lent following the **Ash Wednesday Service on February 9th**. The gathering time will be approximately 7:45 p.m. in either the Senior High Classroom downstairs or in the Parish Hall.

VESTRY MEETING

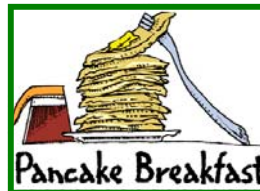
The first meeting of the new Vestry will be **Thursday February 10th at 7:00 p.m.** It will meet in the Senior High Room. As always, Vestry meetings are open to everyone in the congregation.

SKI WEEKEND AT GUNSTOCK

Marianne Nelson has organized a ski weekend at Gunstock Mountain in New Hampshire. On the weekend of **February 25th & 26th**, fun times are to be had on the slopes of Gunstock. Skiing, Boarding, or for the less adventurous, Tubing, will be available. You can always hang by the roaring fireplace at night and shop the days away, if you're not a slope person. This is a fun weekend in the snow. Talk to Marianne Nelson, or Doug or Patti Hale for more info. Don't wait 'till the last minute! Get your info early...

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!



Pancake Breakfast

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!

February:

- 1 Warren Phillips
- 3 Kyle Armstrong, Liz Putur
- 5 Nancy Bunar
- 6 Sean Powers
- 8 Danielle Johnson
- 10 Cheryl Belcher
- 14 Jonathan Tillson
- 16 Audrieana Casieri
- 19 Marsha Corliss-Beauleau
- 20 Ellen Stillman, Jeff Phillips
- 21 Joseph Livrago Jr, Jullian Boyd
- 23 Keith Fuller
- 24 Mark Livrago
- 25 Norma Gardner
- 26 Michael Eunice
- 27 Erin Dyson
- 28 Sarge Johnson

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 Marge Groves

Whitman pastor heads to India to rebuild churches

ENTERPRISE 1/6/05

■ The son of Dharma Dande says his father expects to stay in his native country at least a year.

By Elaine Allegrini
ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

WHITMAN — Dharma Dande left his son's Warren Avenue home this week for his native India, where he will spend a year helping rebuild churches in the coastal area ravaged by the deadly tsunamis.

Dande, 68, pastor of the Indian Christian Fellowship of New England in Newton, also has five congregations in India, some that were affected by the earthquake-tsunamis, his son Solomon Dande said Wednesday.

"He is going there to take inventory of what was lost, what was saved," the younger Dande said.

He does not expect to speak to his father until Saturday or Sunday or see him for a year or more.

Dharma Dande is from the remote coastal

area of Machilipatnam, which was affected by the killer waves that left more than 140,000 dead and many more homeless, according to his son.

He said the area was not as severely hit by the tsunami as some others in south Asia, but his father is concerned about his congregations there.

"If a church was in fact washed away, he is going to rebuild it," Solomon Dande said. "Even if it's not his church, it could be somebody else's church that got washed away. He will help them."

Although the Dandes have not been involved in any fund-raising for tsunami relief efforts, Solomon Dande said All Saints Episcopal Church in Whitman, which his father attends, donated \$1,500 to help the people in India.

"They've been very wonderful in helping him out," Dande said. "Whatever money we give him, he takes 100 percent to India."

Dande said his father was in the United States on a green card and traveled back and forth to India through the years. But, Dande said, his father suffered a stroke and he want-

ed him to stay in Whitman, close to medical facilities in the Boston area.

However, the death and devastation caused by the tsunami lured his father back to his native India, although Dharma Dande's mobility is restricted, according to his son.

"He will be there until 2006," Dande said.

It took the family 10 days to connect with Dharma Dande's brother and two sisters in India. They are all safe.

Dande said his mother, who remained in India, lives in an area away from that affected by the tsunami.

"We are very blessed," said Solomon Dande, who has been in the United States for 14 years and settled in Whitman because it is close to the Immanuel Baptist Church in Brockton, where his family worships, and the New England Baptist Academy in Bridgewater, where his children attend school.

Elaine Allegrini can be reached at allegrini@enterpriseus.com.



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 Spreads on the South Shore



As the alpha program expands on the South Shore, churches are joining together for a "South Coast" Holy Spirit Retreat. The next joint retreat will be held on **February 25-27** at the Craigville Conference Center on Cape Cod. If you attended Alpha and missed the local retreat, or would like an extended overnight experience, this retreat is a great opportunity for fellowship with Christians from other parishes. The time together is always a powerful experience of prayer, song, teaching, healing and worship. The retreat starts on *Friday evening Feb. 25* and runs through lunch on *Sunday Feb. 27*. The cost is \$149 per person, including two nights lodging and five meals. Partial scholarships are available.

Our next local Alpha course at All Saints' begins on *April 3* with a Celebration Dinner. Please pray about the possibility of attending Alpha yourself or bringing a friend. For more information on the Retreat or Alpha Course contact Jack Foster at 508-378-4818 or jfoster103@juno.com.

Officers of the Church

Co-Rectors: Revs. Doug & Patti Hale

Wardens: Chad Wohlers, Ed Welch

Treasurer: Helen Brown

Asst. Treasurer: Ernest Morgan

Clerk: Richard Tingblad

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

Your Vestry:

Ellin Duffy
Norma Gardner
Jack Foster
Dave Frazier
Maureen Mahoney
John Morgan
Karen Phillips
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



The Fish Net

“I Didn’t Know Spongebob Was Gay”

By Dave Frazier

I was browsing CNN.com a couple of days ago, “window-shopping” the headlines, not really absorbing any news content. I saw one headline that said (I’m paraphrasing) “Christian Conservative Group Finds Spongebob Squarepants to Contain Overtones of Homosexuality.” At the first, I cracked up at the sheer lunacy of the headline itself. A gay yellow sponge that lives in a pineapple under the ocean? After the guffaws subsided, I was want to know just how this group surmised this bit of information. I’ve seen Spongebob’s cartoons, and all that ever came to my mind was that he was a somewhat annoyingly squeaky-voiced sponge that lived in a pineapple under the ocean. He has all kinds of ocean dwelling friends, such as a starfish (I think Patrick’s a starfish!), a crab for a boss, and a female squirrel in an ocean suit, enabling her to stay underwater all of the time. I consider myself to be a somewhat stable and clear-headed individual, and all that’s ever really occurred to me was that the creators of this show had a nice warped sense of humor.

Never saw him make a move on Patrick, his best buddy. However, I never saw him make a move on his sweet girl-squirrel friend, so that must mean he’s gay, right? (Wait a minute! Aren’t real ocean sponges *asexual*, or is that an anenome?!?)

Never once did I think ol’ Spongebob was gay, I always thought of him as kind of a bumbling goof. He was always getting himself into all kinds of jams. Once, he got himself into trouble mouthing off to a Greek-like God that he could cook more Crabbie-Patties. Of course, the Greek-like God, using his powers, cooked about a trillion Crabbie-Patties to Spongebob’s one. But the Greek-like God conceded the contest, because his Patties tasted like crab-dung, while Spongebob’s “one” was delectably delicious.

Oh, hold the fort, folks...a Greek-like *God*? That means this cartoon must be sacrilegious! Such heathen animators idolizing such false gods!

Or maybe he was just a very powerful genie-guy. Or maybe he was just Uncle Sid in a costume. I don’t know...who cares?!? *It’s a cartoon, folks.*

The more I thought about it, the more concern I had for the type of thought process employed to look into a cartoon and turn innuendo into a *media-driven* opinion. Any somewhat educated individual can, as a matter of semantics, make anything appear to mean anything. If I’m a slick enough word-jockey, I can turn a poor kid’s cancerous plight into a money-making scam to feed my deep pockets. And you know what? I’d end up rich and out of jail. I can turn on our President and make him appear to be a befuddled old coot, on the brink of engaging in WWII. This stuff is happening all of the time. And here’s the scary part. It’s being absorbed by our kids...our very impressionable kids. These types of opinions are dangerous when presented with such conviction because they have a way of imbedding themselves into the very fibers of a kid’s moral character, with negative consequences, despite a parent’s best intentions.

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The Fish Net...continued

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I really think it becomes a matter of perspective. I can look for the innuendo in everything around me, from what entertains me, to my workplace, to the social aspect of my life, and I can impose an opinion upon others in such a way so as to provoke a response from them. I can take things for what they seem to be on the surface. And I can go upon my merry way. I can fabricate all sorts of wild opinions from my overly fertile imagination about Spongebob being gay and how it's warping the very fabric of our children's upbringing. Or I can watch a Spongebob cartoon, crack up at the inanity of his antics, and then shut it off. I can laugh at a Three Stooges gag, with Moe beating the snot out of Curly, without going out into the world and trying to poke the eyes out of the first person that crosses me. You ever watch "Tom and Jerry" as a kid? Did you ever once grab a frying pan and smack someone with it, because it was funny when Tom the cat did it to Jerry the mouse? As a kid I grew up on these cartoons, and never once did I whack the heck out of someone. But if my parents, as well as the rest of the world, were always trying to convince me that those cartoons were like real life...who knows how an impressionable young mind would react?

It really is a matter of how we present things to our kids, how we help them to develop their perspectives in life. We can follow the narrow-mindedness of the aforementioned Christian Conservative group, or we can raise our children to look at the surfaces of things for what they are, and to accept them as they are, without trying to find ways to hurt. We can teach our kids to use their imaginations to improve the reality of our world, not to seek a nick in someone's demeanor, so as to knock them down. We can impress a loving and caring attitude upon their hearts, so that their actions are generally driven by love and caring.

Didn't God give us imaginations with which to dream, to create, to be bold, to entertain each other, to improve upon our weaknesses? Why must we as a society persist in seeking out new ways to degrade our imaginations, and to impress such degradation upon our kids? A cartoon is a cartoon, boys and girls, not a textbook for living...

Is Cursillo (Kur-see-oh) for Me?

By Marsha Corliss

Can Christianity penetrate the many areas of secular life in today's world? Can it live there? Can it grow there? Can it transform the world in a way that is more fruitful than in the past and in keeping with the times?

Those in the Cursillo program believe it can. Cursillo proposes no new type of spirituality, but simply presents another method through which one's spirituality may be developed, lived and shared in any other area to God in an ongoing manner. What makes Cursillo special is that you experience it in a concentrated pe-

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Youthquake 2005!

Ten of the Senior Youthgroup, along with 4 adult driver / helpers, made the long trip to Ridgecrest, just east of Asheville, North Carolina to attend Youthquake 2005. On Friday at the wee hour of 1am (!) we piled into a couple of SUV's, all nice and cozy and started pounding the miles away. A scant 17~18 hours later, we were rocking out to the Youthquake house bound, prepping up for a weekend of rocking, hanging out, and worshipping God.



We encountered monsoon-like rains all through New York and into Pennsylvania, but as we cleared that and on into the West Virginia area, the weather was much better, and we were able to enjoy the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley and the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The return trip proved to be quite intense, and upon arriving into Pennsylvania, we encountered a bank of snow that stretched into the North. With a crew of tired drivers, a command decision was made to seek an inn for the night and strike out early that next morning. We were able to secure a home for the night, relatively on-the-cheap, and after some pizza from a local shop (a Greek pizza place—one of the cooks was being all suave with Sue...I think he was trying to pick her up...he had a shot; I was too tired to fight!) we all got a decent night of sleep.



The conference was a good time in general. There was a new house band that did a very good job. They even covered some of the more popular hits in between the praise music. They did an excellent cover of *Switchfoot's* "Meant to Live." The group seemed to enjoy the tunes.

There were a couple of speakers on Saturday that had some good things to say. On Sunday, after a nice Eucharist, we cleaned our rooms, packed up, and hit the road.

I am very proud of this group of teens. They made the trip so special to me. They were playful and goofy and funny. They hung out together. They respected each other's wishes. They behaved in the most positive manner. They were attentive and respected the speakers and the Eucharist Service. This is a group of teens that really represented All Saints' Parish in the best way. They did not abuse the freedom they were given. It's so refreshing to know that it is possible for teens to be great people. These guys are great people! I love every one of these guys, and I had a lot of fun hanging out and worshipping God with them. **Be proud of this Youthgroup!**



Thanks to Sue Frazier, Pat Eunice, and Colleen Manison for helping out with the driving. TTFN!



Senior Youthgroup, continued...

“So What?”

[A blurb from the Diocese...ed.]

Happy New Year, youth workers!!! I hope that the closing out of the Christmas season is treating all of you beautifully as you gear up for another semester of Sunday School classes, lockins, bake sales, college applications and everything else we do with our students!

As some of you may know, we have a righteous retreat planned for the first weekend of February. All youth in grades 9 through 12 are invited to a weekend called "So What?" at the Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center. We're all really excited about this one. Our guest speaker will be James Thiele who captivated the youth at our Sr. High retreat last year (that's right captivated-have you ever seen Episcopal youth fervently requesting recordings of someone's 30-35 minute sermons? Neither had I). He'll be helping us understand the relevance of faith in our everyday lives as we explore the "so what's" about trust, love, healing and hope.

There are gonna be some other cool guests to be unveiled later. So if you'd like a stellar retreat for your high schoolers that YOU DON'T HAVE TO PLAN (!!!!), come on up. February 4-6 at Barbara C. Harris. We've put an application on this very website in the "files" section http://groups.yahoo.com/group/diomass_youthworkers/files so you can easily download, print, make copies and plaster the cars in your church parking lot with them. We'll see ya there. Be marvelous!

DioMass Youth Ministry

(Continued from page 7)

riod of time (instead of hearing bits and pieces spread over a lifetime) and you actually live it instead of just hearing about it in an abstract and theoretical way. A Cursillista (one who has attended a Cursillo weekend) is usually enthusiastic about the weekend where one is totally loved and cared for through Christ's love.

Part of the purpose of the weekend is to help us recognize Christ's actions in our lives and in the lives of others. It is an instrument for renewal in the church. Its aim is to concentrate on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. The Cursillo gives those who attend a better understanding of basic Christian truths and the desire to do what pleases God. It also provides a way to continue the Christian growth that is fostered during the three days.

Every Christian is at different stages in their Christian walk which makes it hard to explain what you will receive from living your Cursillo. It comes down to being about you and Jesus. It seems for some strange to say, but you receive just what God has planned for you to receive. It can be a life changing experience and is for many. As D.L. Moody said, "The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives." Cursillo takes a lot of prayer and sacrifice but I believe it is well worth the opportunity to get to know and love Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as He loves us.

If you are interested in possibly attending a Cursillo, please talk to Doug and Patti Hale.
Love, peace, joy,
Marsha Corliss

B **Basic**
I **Instructions**
B **Before**
L **Leaving**
E **Earth**

All Saints' Parish
45 Park Avenue
Whitman, MA. 02382

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