



## *The Rectors Ramble*

The wondrous season of Lent is upon us!

It is a solemn time. A time to journey with Jesus through temptation. It is a time to contemplate His Passion and the extraordinary love that God has for us that Jesus should have been willing to endure such suffering for us. Traditionally Christians have entered into the Lenten season with great fervor and devotion. It is a time of fasting and denial that we might share, in some small way, Christ's sufferings. It is a time to remember our mortality and our utter dependence upon God for this life and the life to come.

This Lent I am motivated to make funeral arrangements. My funeral arrangements. Now, before you begin to think your priest has flipped her lid and is embracing some dark and macabre spirituality, consider for a moment the Lenten invitation to remember one's mortality. How do we do that? How do we "contemplate our mortality" or in the words of the the Holy Rule of St. Benedict "keep death ever before you" ? It seems to me that one way is to spend time thinking about the end of our lives. To ask ourselves: In the end what will have been the whole story of my life? I want to think about my last words... what will they be? If I could plan them out and choose them, what would I want them to be? I've always thought my funeral will be my last sermon. What will be the message? What hymns will be sung? What scriptures read? Do the people I love know my last wishes? Perhaps the Lenten season is an appropriate time to write that stuff down and share it with family members. What an absolute gift it was that Jean Durant had shared with her family and with me her last wishes! When the time came to celebrate all that her life had been it was such a pleasure to enter into that time knowing about the things that were most important to her. She had the courage to face her death and share herself with those she loved.

We avoid thinking about death because it makes us sad or it makes us scared. It used to make me queasy and sick to my stomach. But as my faith has grown it is no longer as a fearful thing to me as it a call to deeper faith and trust in Christ. The idea in Lent isn't to dwell on death and the pain and loss that it brings to our lives and the lives of those we love as much as it is to remember the great hope we have in Jesus Christ. Third verse of one of my favorite hymns goes like this:

*"In our end, is our beginning; in our time infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing; in our life eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last a victory,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see."*

In the funeral liturgy we say *"You are dust and to dust you shall return. Yet even at the grave we make our song Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"* Even as we contemplate the truth of our mortality and purposefully al-

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

*(Continued from page 1)*

low ourselves to imagine the end of our lives, Christ is there with the promise of everlasting life. This is the great mystery of the Christian faith. When we raise the festal shout of Easter: Alleluia! Christ is Risen! We can truly respond with all our hearts what we know to be true: The Lord has Risen indeed! Alleluia! May our Lord grant you a fruitful and powerful Lenten season. May you be filled with a greater awareness of God's love for you and may faith rise up within you.

See you Sunday! Rev. Patti+

## **Upcoming Calendar Events...**

1st	Ash Wednesday Services <b>Noon &amp; 7:00pm</b>
3rd-4th	Diocesan Convocation Converted Life III: Growing Together
3rd	Stations of the Cross, <b>6:30pm</b>
9th	Vestry, <b>7:00pm</b>
17th	Ultreya, <b>7:30pm</b>
18th	Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner
25th	Vestry Retreat

## **PLANNING FOR GROWTH**

Our parish Planning For Growth group met once each in January and February, as we look at ways to grow as a family in Christ. Currently we're discussing the theme of "commitment to new family members", and looking at ideas to welcome and support new members of the parish. The next meeting is Thursday, March 23 at 7pm. Join us as we reflect on the future of All Saints'.

## **THE STEWARDSHIP CORNER**

*(because stewardship is more than once a year)*

**L**ast Vestry it was decided to place a change jar in the entry way of the church (the narthex). If you have a little jingle in your pocket when you pass through the doors, think of putting it in the jar. Half the money raised from the change jar will go to the church, half will go to outreach. Any way you look at it, it is mission giving!!

## **Lay Eucharistic Minister Schedule**

	<b><u>8am</u></b>	<b><u>9:30</u></b>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Carolyn Adamson	Dick Tingblad
12 <sup>th</sup>	Don McRorie	Chad Wohlers
19 <sup>th</sup>	Carolyn Adamson	Pat Eunice
26 <sup>th</sup>	Carolyn Adamson	Bull Wallace-Gross



**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



**THE ALPHA CORNER...**

*Just Who is the Holy Spirit?* Jesus promised the Spirit would come. The Spirit is the way God has provided for us to be near Him. Every personal encounter we have with God comes through the presence of the Spirit. By sending the Spirit Jesus presence can be everywhere.

Our Winter Holy Spirit Retreat will be Friday evening and Saturday morning, **March 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>**, at All Saints'. The Alpha program from St. John's, Holbrook will be joining us in this activity. This is a great time of fellowship and learning about the Spirit. If you attended Alpha and missed the retreat, this may be the time for you. See Jack Foster for details (508-378-4818).

**Officers of the Church**

Co-Rectors: Revs. Doug & Patti Hale

Wardens:  
Chad Wohlers, Dave Frazier

Treasurer: Carolyn Adamson

Asst. Treasurer: Ernest Morgan

Clerk: Richard Tingblad

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

**Your Vestry:**

Dorrie Bazan (Greene)  
Cheryl Belcher  
Marsha Corliss-Beaulieu  
Jack Foster  
Maureen Mahoney  
Ted Putur  
Louise Quilty  
Louise Tingblad  
Dotty Wilhelm

**Sexton**

Dot Peterson

**Church Office Hours**

(781)-447-6106

*unless preempted by another obligation:*

Tues & Fri. 9am-12noon

Weds. 9am-10:30am

**Senior Youthgroup Leaders**

Dave and Sue Frazier

**Junior Youthgroup Leaders**

Maureen Mahoney  
Chip and Jolene Durant



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

### **Spiritual Gifts Class Opportunity**

*Have you ever wondered what God most intends for you to contribute to the life of Christ's Church?*

*Have you ever felt that the way you serve in the church just doesn't seem to fit who you are?*

*Have you heard other Christians talk about spiritual gifts and wished you knew what they were talking about?*

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions then have we got a class for you!

During the Season of Lent, an adult bible Study class on Spiritual Gifts will be held on Wednesday evenings to address such questions. The classes will be held at **7:00 to 8:30 pm from March 8<sup>th</sup> through April 12<sup>th</sup>**. This class will be taught by Rev. Doug.

The Bible Study will look at the nature and purpose of spiritual gifts within the context of the life of the Church. Insights on the various gifts will be gleaned from a variety of scripture passages.

All participants will receive a questionnaire as a tool for identifying their own particular spiritual gifts. They will be invited to share their own experiences of how they have seen these gifts at work in their own lives. There will also be discussion about how they have seen these gifts at work through other people.

The goal is to help every one better understand how they and other people can most effectively serve within the mission of the church, while affirming and supporting who they are.

Come on Wednesday evening, starting **March 8<sup>th</sup>** and see what it is all about. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to talk with Doug. *Keep your eyes open for an opportunity to sign-up.*

### **Prayer Line**

Kathye Foster maintains a very strong prayer line ministry via E-mail and snail-mail for All Saints' Parish. If anyone wishes to add a name or concern to the prayer list, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Kathye **(508) 378-4818**, or through E-Mail at [fosterJK@juno.com](mailto:fosterJK@juno.com). Take advantage of this powerful Ministry!



## ***Fish Net...Dave Frazier***

*[editor's note: I was recently on a renewal weekend at the Marist House as part of a team, which in itself was a blessing from God. As part of a preparatory meeting leading up to the weekend, team members gave a small meditation. I thought I'd share with you guys what I wrote...]*

Meditation 1-31-06

Dave Frazier

There are those times in my life when I have a wavering of faith. It's not that I start to question God's purposes for me, it's that I wonder if He really is listening or watching over me. During those times I tend to try putting out the fire first, thanking God after the so-called crisis is over.

When I step back and actually think about all of the things I've learned from the examples and thoughts of other Christian friends, and when I'm actually listening to God, I realize that His intention is that I first rely on Him to power me through the fire. But I tend to react in a human way. I find myself wondering why God is throwing all of this my way, wondering what the lesson is in all of this. There are many places in the Bible that speaks of our need to trust in the Lord despite our circumstances.

**Proverbs 3:25-26(KJV): ["Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh.]**

**26 For the LORD shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken."**

Despite that I know I'm supposed to take it all to God first, at times I still tend to try and deal with it myself. God always seems to empower me with the gifts I need to deal with the situation, even if I'm not talking with Him about it first. Lately though, I'm starting to realize that the circumstances of my journey are teaching me a new way of approaching those troublesome situations. I've seen in the past that God is always there for me, and that His help is always leading me through the difficulty. I'm starting to talk to God even as I consider how to approach the situation before me. I'm starting to feel a stronger confidence that I can deal with it, because I'm putting it to God before I dive in. This has been a hard transition for me, because I have always considered myself the guy someone can rely on to fix the problem. I've always fixed the problem my entire life. The difference I'm noticing lately is that I'm still fixing the problem, it's just that the frustration level of doing so is lessening. I think that it's because by putting the problem before God first, and seeing my confidence strengthen in Him, I am freeing myself to listen for God and properly use the gifts He gives me to deal with it.

**Proverbs 2:6:**

**<sup>6</sup> For the LORD gives wisdom,  
and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.**

God knows how to use the gifts He gives me much better than I ever could, so it only makes sense to listen

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## Spring Clean-Up Day

Every year, All Saints' conducts a "Spring Clean-Up" Day. This year's is scheduled for **April 8<sup>th</sup>**. We'll start at **9am** and go until whenever.

I would like to concentrate on those areas of the church and hall that tend to be ignored because they may be 'out of the way'. Along with the normal window washing and yard raking, I would love to attack some other areas, such as the washing of the heater pipes alongside the pews, or perhaps inspecting and repairing the bookracks on the back of the pews.

There are many, many tasks that really need attention, and many hands make the job lighter. I would love to see new faces drop in and lend a hand, even if for just one hour. If you make it a priority, it is easy to allocate one hour to sprucing up the church!

As the day approaches, I'll have a sign-up sheet available in the hall at coffee hour. This will allow you to choose where you'd like to help. Talk to me for any more info you need, and I hope to see a big clean-up crew.

God asks for our "time, talent, and treasure". Give an hour or more to help make God's house shine.

## *Junior Warden Quick Notes...*

The monthly update...

- Within the next week or so, I will install a new hanging entry light fixture on the front porch to the hall (which I've already bought). The old and beat up tin hat fixture will be permanently retired. If the style I chose is agreeable to the majority, I will install three wall-mounted, matching fixtures, one above the office door adjacent the driveway, and two at the church entryway, one on each side of the doors.
- I will be installing a solar-powered, motion-activated light just under the roof eave (on the side of the church just above the office door) aiming toward the front porch. I will have it aimed so as to pick up motion on the driveway and light up the front porch. If it works out ok, I'll be installing similar fixtures in various locations around the church property.
- On **Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**, **starting about 9am**, if the weather cooperates I'll be finishing the Memorial Garden by installing a border of matching bricks along its edge, as well as a Memorial Plaque on the bench. I welcome anyone who would like to help in this ministry to our church family. See me for info.

As always, if anyone has any comments, ideas, or concerns, feel free to talk with me.



### March

- 2 Jeff Nawrocki, Zachary Brown
- 3 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, Pat Delaney
- 23 Robert Bezio
- 24 Tim Norment
- 25 Richard Tingblad
- 26 Al Dunn
- 30 Tom Rudolph, Heather Dunn
- 31 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
- 30 Ross Manison
- 31 Carol Casieri

## Birthdays!

### *Fish Net...Dave Frazier [continued]*

*(Continued from page 5)*

for His instruction on how to do so. It gives a certain peace to me knowing that He will be helping me through the problems.

**Proverbs 3:13-18(KJV): "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding."**

#### **"Cleansing Rain" 5-10-2005 Dave Frazier**

Cleansing rain wash down upon me,  
As tho' tears from heaven falling.  
Soak me to my very heart,  
It's God from heaven calling.

Cleansing rain wash down upon me,  
As I lift my hands to You.  
Hold this broken heart,  
And call down to wash me anew.

Cleansing rain wash down upon me,  
Warming—set my heart aglow.  
Comfort for my troubled soul,  
My faith in You does make it so...

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

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