



# For All the Saints

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*December 2013*

*Dear Friends,*

When some of the young people in our Sunday School made a giant card to congratulate our new bishop, they invited him to visit. They were stunned and excited when they heard he accepted the invitation. Now we are preparing to welcome Bishop Chip and his wife, Susan, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

The service in which he was ordained and consecrated as bishop was just about a month ago at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton. It was beautiful, filled with the kinds of traditions that are sometimes dismissed as unnecessary these days because the church is being told to shed anything that might make it seem unreachable or pretentious. The advice is valid, up to a point. But tradition and ceremony are important – which we may not realize, until we have the chance to spend several hours happily soaking up both. Like music, ceremony reaches us at a deep level.

Yes, the church should be open and inviting, and we know that we are called to take our faith outside the building – which is why our Mission Statement was inspired by Matthew 28:19. That is where Jesus says, “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” There should be virtually no boundaries to this community. In addition, language should be up-to-date, and technology cutting-edge. However, far from contradicting these goals, ceremony and tradition can inspire us to be faithful to our call as Christians. They remind us what we are about, and they feed the soul.

Bishops are part of our tradition. Every class we offer about the church begins with an explanation that “Episcopal” means bishop (or at least, refers to bishops), so when the founders of this church got together after the American Revolution to decide how the former Anglican Church in the colonies should proceed, their choice of a name sealed the deal. They named it the Episcopal Church, so there would be bishops!

We pray every week for Chip our Bishop, and as he begins his ministry here, we pray that he will have a long episcopate, characterized by happiness, fulfillment, and the peace of Christ.

Jane+

– *All Saints' News* –

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**2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GALA HOLIDAY DINNER, DECEMBER 14**

Gather with parishioners and friends for good food, fellowship and holiday cheer.

Saturday, December 14

Wine & hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 pm

Dinner & Music, 7:30-9:30 pm

Catered by Tarantella's Ristorante in Clark

There will be a Silent Auction

\$35 per person

(Semi-formal attire is suggested)

Please RSVP by December 5<sup>th</sup>

(Tickets must be purchased in advance)

===There will be a special young person's party ===

**FIRST THURSDAY DISCUSSION:  
WHAT DOES THE GOSPEL SAY TO YOU?**

This monthly program meets on the first Thursday of the month from 7:00 – 8:00 pm in the Guild Room. **For December, that means Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>.**

The discussion will focus on the Gospel for the following Sunday which is December 8, The Second Sunday of Advent. The Gospel assigned is Matthew 3:1-12. The other readings are Isaiah 11:1-10 and Romans 15:4-13. Come and share your ideas – then come to church Sunday, hear more about those readings, and see how your thoughts compare.

## **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP**

### **The Four Sundays of Advent: December 1, 8, 15, 22**

Each week, an additional candle on the Advent Wreath will be lit.

### **Christmas Eve – Tuesday, December 24**

**5 pm Family Service** (Lessons & Carols with a mini-Pageant; The All Saints' Youth Choir; Carols for choir & congregation; Holy Eucharist)

**10 pm Festival Service** (Music from the All Saints' Choir; Sermon by the Rector; Candlelight "Silent Night;" Holy Eucharist)

### **Christmas Day – Wednesday, December 25**

**10 am Christmas Eucharist**

### **The Sunday after Christmas Day – December 29**

**8 & 10 am Holy Eucharist (regular schedule)**

### **The Second Sunday of Christmas – January 5, 2014**

**8 & 10 am Holy Eucharist (regular schedule)**

Triskelion Presents

## **To All A Goodnight III**

I really do love an old-fashioned Christmas –

*the* kind of Christmas I remember having and not having,

*the* kind of Christmas our children long for and remember no matter how old they are,

*the* Christmas you see in your mind's eye.

As this year marks our third edition of "To All A Goodnight,"  
it's going to be something quite different and special.

Tommy Lepano, our music director, has put together a band of performers to present a program of ancient Christmas music from the British Isles. Along with this will be a performance of Dylan Thomas' beloved, "A Child's Christmas in Wales."

Please come and celebrate with us, enjoy a bowl of wassail, song, and story!

December 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm in Lea Hall

Admission: \$15 adults; \$5 seniors and children age 15 and under

## ***--YOUTH NEWS--***

**Sunday School Classes** continue weekly in December, except for December 29, Christmas Vacation. **Directors Kelly & Glen Robertson** urge all students to attend.

**The Youth Choir** is working with **MaryRose Clark** getting ready for Christmas. As always, the Choir will lead the 5 pm Family Service. To help MaryRose plan this service, please let her know if you are going to be able to sing that night.

The Youth Choir is also working on something to sing for **Bishop Chip's** visit on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **Lessons & Carols and Mini-Pageant on Christmas Eve at 5 pm**

**Liz Trimpin** needs to know who would like to read a lesson or take part in the Mini-Pageant.

### **First Sunday Program, December 1st – A Jesse Tree**

The young people will work with **Liz Trimpin** to begin creating a Jesse Tree whose symbols show the meaning of Christmas and visually mark how the holiday is getting closer. They will be in Lea Hall for the program.

**The Christmas Cards** that were made during November's First Sunday Program, offering special wishes to service men and women, have been taken off the bulletin board and given to Jenny Smith who will take them to the Lyons VA Hospital

**The Congratulatory Card for the Bishop** reached him last week, and he truly enjoyed it, so much so, that he has accepted the children's invitation to visit. Thanks to the artists: **Alexa Chuy, Alex Crona, Gabriella Crona, Natalie Green, Giselle Herb, and Jovi Williams**. They will be the Oblation Bearers when the Bishop comes.

**Bishop Chip has invited all the children to bring Christmas stockings on December 8, and he will bless them in honor of St. Nicholas Day.** (Santa Claus has taken over from St. Nicholas, a Bishop in the Church in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, who was known for his generosity which included taking care of people in need and bringing gifts to children.)

**The Bishop will offer a Prayer of Dedication for our newly renovated Sunday School,** which is much closer now to completion. It is being named for **Charlotte Baker**, whose generous bequest has enabled the work to be done. She directed the Sunday School quite a long time ago for a good many years, and was passionate about children's Christian education.

## *-- Parishioner Profile --*

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### **Great Neck**

*By Don Kern*

Toward the end of summer before entering junior high school, which was seventh grade in Scranton, my classmates would gather after a game of stickball and chat about what excitement the new school year would bring. At the top of our list were athletics. Our junior high and high school, which shared a common site, developed killer sports teams, and the athletic facilities were fantastic. Our grade school, on the other hand, had a playground of dark gray, skin-ripping concrete on which bases for playing softball were painted black, making them essentially invisible. Wins often went to the teams best able to locate the bases. A hulking sixth grader from a rival school once hit the ball so far, he had time to circle the bases twice before finding all three in that magical field of deception. Then he was tagged out for forgetting to touch home plate. Did that ever cause a storm!

Entering junior high that year truly was an adventure. One of the first things I learned was that the quiet girl with braces, who lived down the street and whose existence I seldom bothered to acknowledge, had transformed overnight into a pre-teen beauty and one of the newly popular girls in our class. Now it was she who had no time to talk to me. Not intentionally, she was too nice for that. She was simply busy learning to cope with popularity.

It took most of the school year for me to find an opportunity to ask if I could carry her books home. That same day, my parents made an announcement: “We’re moving.” “What?” “To Great Neck, Long Island.” “An Island?”

And a month later, move we did. I was heartbroken having to leave all my friends, especially that new one whose books I’d just started to carry. Great Neck and Scranton were different worlds. In place of our Scranton house designed like a double-decker railroad apartment with almost no front yard, we now lived in a white colonial with a sloping lawn, a large Magnolia tree, and several Oaks. That part was good. In place of a swarm of Scranton street friends, though, there was nobody my age in sight. That part was bad and got worse as the summer wore on. In short, 1930 North Main Street, Scranton, the heart of Pennsylvania’s coal country, resembled in no way 3 Magnolia Drive, Great Neck, Long Island, New York.

Summers back then seemed long, but this one proved eternal. I’d open our front door expecting to see boys to materialize within the immaculate lawns and narrow, winding streets of our neat-as-a-pin neighborhood, but no one ever did. It was as if humans couldn’t live in this part of the world, because it was too clean. They didn’t even burn coal in their stoves or even for heating, if you can imagine. Too messy, I guess. Anyway, I’d walk among those shade-filled, quiet-as-a-mouse drives (they weren’t called streets) discovering nobody close in age. Sometime later,

when Scranton friends visited, the first thing they asked was: “Where is everybody?” I didn’t know.

We had a wooded area across the street from our house, where, out of desperation, I’d invent solitary games to play. Mostly war games, because World War 2 was in full swing. One thing I learned: silence in the woods can become a comfortable companion, if you have no alternative.

One afternoon toward the end of summer I was dragging myself homeward, having demolished Hitler’s army for the hundredth time, when I saw walking on the opposite side of the street a boy about my age. We stopped and gawked, as if each had spotted a mirage.

“Whaddaya say,” which was how we said “Hi” in my part of Scranton. His name was Jerry. He said that he’d just returned from summer camp, where a lot of his friends had been, and was joining some of them in a pickup baseball game in an empty field a few blocks away.

“Want to play?” he asked. “We need a catcher. Nobody likes to catch, ‘cause our pitcher’s kind of wild.” I didn’t like the position either. We got pretty wild in Scranton too, though our pitches were more the beanball variety. Nevertheless, I jumped at the chance. “You got a catcher’s mitt, you got a catcher,” I said, and off we went.

That night in bed I smiled inwardly, despite a lump over my right eye (wild pitch). I had finally found a new home. One more thing: that girl down the street in Scranton? A first crush you never forget. But, boy, her books were heavy. It’s no wonder she became a librarian.

*By Don Kern*

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

You are invited to offer memorials and thanksgivings through the Christmas plants and flowers that will soon make the church so lovely. Flower envelopes are available here, in the narthex, or you may send in names – printed clearly, please, so they can be reprinted in the Christmas bulletin. Your monetary donation will help defray the cost of the holiday flowers, etc. Please turn in memorials and thanksgivings by Wednesday, December 18.

## **OUTREACH REPORT**

Thanks to your generosity, All Saints’ is sending \$600 to Episcopal Relief and Development for Philippine relief. We collected \$300 for Church World Service through the CROP Walk, and parishioners filled 22 Christmas Shoeboxes to send to Samaritan’s Purse.

Grace’s Kitchen (our day) is Thursday, December 26 – a good time for vacationing school kids to help out. It’s from 10 am to 1 pm or so. Speak to **Charlie Beakes** for information.



## **FAITH STUDY, SUNDAY MORNINGS**

A lively and growing group of parishioners has been gathering in the Guild Room from 8:45-9:30 am. The current topic of discussion is a book called, *What Paul Meant*, by Garry Wills, a prolific writer, some of whose books have been studied in the past. This current book is thought-provoking and provocative, resulting in some fascinating discussions. Faith Study meets every Sunday but the first one of the month – so November 10, give it a try.

***--The All Saints' Family --***

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Congratulations to **Thurston Hamlette**. Having graduated from Howard University Law School last spring, he passed the Bar in New York and New Jersey and has joined the New York City law firm of Cravath, Swain and Moore.

We have a new address for **Sally Robinson**. Sadly (for us) Sally and Tom have moved to Waretown (exit 69 on the Parkway). Her address: 48 Avalon Way, Waretown, NJ 08758.

**Tom Loop** ran the Philadelphia Marathon in early November, finishing in 3 hours, 42 minutes!

As part of the New Jersey State Chorus, **Jon Dawson** has sung recently at the Princeton University Chapel, Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, and NJPac.

**Deborah Albert**, who graduated last spring from C. W. Post College (Long Island University) with a degree in Early Childhood Education, is joining the staff of a pre-school in Manhattan on 83<sup>rd</sup> Street and York Avenue.

On All Saints' Sunday, two baptisms were celebrated at the 10 o'clock Service. **Chase William** is the son of **Akleema and Ted Abrams**, and brother of **Alexander**. **Hylie Alice** is the daughter of **Diane and Fabian Fletcher**, sister of **Gillian Jawahir**, and granddaughter of **Yvonne Forteau**. Congratulations to all.

## VESTRY NOMINATIONS

Nominations are open for persons to be elected to the Vestry (Class of 2017) at Annual Meeting on January 26. Our Vestry has two Wardens and twelve regular Vestry Members, plus the Rector. Vestry Members are in three classes of four each, and they serve three-year terms.

According to parish by-laws, a Vestry Member must be "a parishioner in good standing," which means: at least 18 years old, a regular worshipper in this parish (and present more often than not), a pledging member currently and for at least the past six months; familiar with the Episcopal Church and how it functions; someone who cares for this parish and its people.

Vestry Members are expected to attend the monthly meetings and take a leadership role in parish programs and activities. Members work together in a collegial atmosphere, which means joining in discussions, listening to one another, respecting the views and opinions of others, and supporting the ministry of this parish. Nomination forms are available from the Rector, and must be returned by December 22.

## **Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Lamp**

We invite you to keep fresh Flowers on the altar with a memorial or thanksgiving. The cost is **\$40.00**. Keep the **Sanctuary Lamp** burning for a week to remember loved ones or offer thanksgiving. The lamp is **\$10.00**. **Make checks payable to the Altar Guild** and put in the **memo** line that the check is for flowers or the lamp. Sign up in the narthex, or call the office.

### **Available Dates**

**Altar Flowers:** December 22

**Sanctuary Lamp:** December 15

**Start signing up for 2014!**

## Missionary Outreach

The second Sunday of each month is Sharing Sunday when we ask for donations to help local families through Heart for Humanity.

**December** – Stocking Stuffers

**January** – Non-perishable snacks: juice boxes, raisins, granola or other bars, crackers, etc.

**February** – Health & Beauty supplies (deodorant, shampoo, soap toothpaste & brushes, floss, cotton balls, mouthwash, etc.)

**Please keep our Food Basket filled every Sunday with non-perishable items. This is also a way to help local families through Heart for Humanity.**

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The Rev. Jane Rockman, *Rector*  
MaryRose Clark, *Organist and Choir Director*

The Rev. John R. Neilson, *Rector Emeritus*  
Irene Carlucci, *Secretary*  
Wesley Jenkins, *Sexton*

### Wardens

Jenine Williams      Richard Johnson

### Vestry

Charlie Beakes	Todd Bouverot	Lauren DiSarno	Chris Harris
Clark Landale	Patricia Ludewig	Glen Robertson	Michelle Smith-Crona
Sally Robinson	Liz Trimpin	Kevin Walsh	Susan Winkler

**Phone:** 908-322-8047 ♦ **Fax:** 908-322-8006

**e-mail:** church@allsaints-spnj.org ♦

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All Saints' Episcopal Church, 559 Park Ave, Scotch Plains, NJ, 07076 ♦ [www.allsaints-spnj.org](http://www.allsaints-spnj.org)