

The Herald

February 14, 2010

Last Sunday after Epiphany

From the Rector

Of All Dem Saints

I admit it. I love football. For those of you who don't, please indulge me. I love the beauty of a tight spiraling pass, the majesty of a fifty yard punt, the sudden burst up the middle by the tailback, the dazzling speed, the aerial catch, the linebacker's instinct, the struggle of converging wills, the electricity arcing in the crisp air of a dappled autumn afternoon. Once I was watching a game at home, and my team missed a crucial field goal...instinctively I grabbed an African violet sitting peacefully in its pot on the coffee table... grabbed it by its leaves and jerked upwards. Apparently underesti-

mating my own strength...the soil from the roots splattered upwards into the ceiling fan....you can imagine the rest...K was not amused. "Why would a grown man with reasonable intelligence care so much about a game?" she asked sternly. In hindsight I think that's a good question.

Plato writes in *The Republic* about not just the pleasure of games, but of their necessity. For him they represent artfully, and incarnationally the human struggle, the human aspiration towards perfection, balance, and the beautiful...games involving the human body require discipline and courage, persistence and resilience...and then the joy that comes with victory...joy the state to which all humans aspire....the joy of the beautiful he calls it...and then the second chances following defeat. Games for Plato were the central metaphor, the outward and visible sign, for the life of the Polis...the gymnasium a central edifice thereof. If games were unimportant in our own day, why then would we be so caught up in their liturgical presence in our culture? Just ask a citizen of New Orleans if something as mundane as one game matters... We've heard New Orleaneans speak in the media over the past few days...We hear them say that the Super Bowl victory is the symbol of the new life taking root in post Katrina New Orleans...that it is a palpable symbol of new hope...that there is such a thing as happiness after all....the word for happiness for the Greeks is far richer than ours....eudaimoneo...which means exulting in the special favor of the divine....perhaps that's why an all night prayer vigil was held at the St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans the day before the game. (And I thought only Alabama and Auburn fans prayed for victory.)

My seminary classmates discovered all too soon my love for football. I would decry often in the dining hall the lack of Alabama football coverage in *The Austin American*

Statesman...They tolerated my zeal, but gently dissuaded me from using football metaphors in sermons. But I can't help it... the Saints' win in Super Bowl forty four is indeed a metaphor worth paying attention to. Over the game's preceding weeks the players all spoke of the game being about more than themselves, that it was about the city's resurgence...indeed about the resurgence of the hurricane plagued Gulf Coast...and they meant what they said....They believed what they said...this patchwork of a team a metaphor for the resiliency of a patchwork community that has had to rely on their own collective genius to move ahead...for some to quite literally survive....through courage and discipline and persistencethe game...a metaphor for life indeed...a metaphor for true community in which the whole is greater than the sum of its parts....a metaphor for sacrifice that transforms...I think the venerable Plato would agree... but the people of New Orleans know...God bless dem Saints every one.

On the Calendar:

Tuesday, February 9
3:30pm Training Choir

Wednesday, February 10 12N NOHoly Eucharist today 4pm Girls' Choir rehearsal 4pm Deadline for deposit for EYC Mission Trip 7:30pm Parish Choir rehearsal

Thursday, February 11 12N Al-Anon (Smith Rm) 5:30pm AA (Smith Rm)

Saturday, February 13 9am Recovery 2day (Saad Rm) 10:30am PFLAG (Smith Rm)

Sunday, February 14 8am Holy Eucharist 9am Breakfast 9:25am Christian Education 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Reception following

Tuesday, February 16 Office Closed: Mardi Gras Day 3:30pm *NO* Training Choir

Wednesday, February 17 Ash Wednesday

12N Eucharist, Imposition of Ashes, Church 4pm NO Girls' Choir 6pm Eucharist, Imposition of Ashes, Church 7:30pm Parish Choir rehearsal **The 2010 EYC Mission Trip** to New Orleans is July 18-25. Anyone 14 years or older is eligible to go; a \$50 deposit to reserve your place. The deadline for turning in the deposit has been extended to March 1. If you have not received a form in the mail, please call Karen McDonald at 433-1240 or Chris Conte at 604-2073.

A Flower Guild Luncheon will be held on Saturday, Feb 27 at 11:00am at the home of Katharine and Jim Flowers, 922 Conti Street. If you are interested in joining the guild, give Katharine a call at 644-9887.

Garage Sale Fundraiser

The Girls' Choir is organizing a garage sale to raise money for their trip to Florence, Italy this summer. In Florence they will sing at the Episcopal Church of St. James, where the Rev. Mark Dunnam is the rector. The garage sale will be held March 13 in Stirling Hall, and they would love to have your donations! Almost any item is acceptable, but please, do not bring any clothing other than children's clothes! Donations may be stored in the youth office beginning immediately. More details will be posted, including the time of the event, as we get closer to March. Remember: one person's trash is another's treasure!

From the Mobile County Department of Human Resources:

Open Your Heart, Open Your Home

Did you know there are 513,000 American children in foster care? Nearly 7,000 of these children are in Alabama's foster care system; and approximately 605 foster children right here in Mobile County. These children and youth need stable, loving care until they can either safely reunite with their families or establish other lifelong relationships with a nurturing adult (through adoption, for instance).

No matter how much time you have to give, you have the power to do something positive that will change the life of a young person in foster care. Perhaps you can open your heart and open your home to a child in need. For more information, please visit www.dhr.alabama.gov. You can also call 1-866-4AL-KIDS; or Mobile County Department of Human Resources at 450-9172 or 450-9171.



Next Tuesday is Mardi Gras

The office will be closed and there will be no Training Choir rehearsal that afternoon. The Girls' Choir will not have rehearsal on Ash Wednesday afternoon.

Ash Wednesday services of Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes will be held in the church at 12 noon and at 6pm.

Our prayers and sympathy go to Richard Coarsey and Danny Moreau on the death of Richard's father, Nathan Coarsey. Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him.

Prayers of thanksgiving are offered for the safe return of Christopher Hume from Afghanistan. Welcome home, Chris!

Three Cups of Tea is our Lenten study book this year. The first shipment of 25 books has sold out and we are ordering 10 more. Copies are \$10 each. If you would like to reserve one, please call the church office to let us know (438-2492).

The title comes from a mountain village chief in Pakistan who said, "Here (in Pakistan and Afghanistan), we drink three cups of tea to do business: the first you are a stranger, the second you become a friend, and the third, you join our family, and for our family we are prepared to do anything—even die." This is a fascinating story around which lots of discussion should be generated. Please join us!

Speaking of a Lenten Program

We need some information from you! If we were to offer the following services for the Wednesdays in Lent, would you use them?

- nursery (infants through 4yrs)
- a table set aside for doing homework
- * movie time for those not doing homework

If you plan to come and would use any of these for your child(ren), please call or email Mary Robert: asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org or 438-2492. If we do not hear anything, the services will not be available.

Lenten Program begins February 24

"Wednesdays in Lent"

February 24, March 3, March 10, March 17 and March 24 —
 begin at 6:00pm with Evensong in the *chapel* followed by supper and book discussion in Stirling Hall
 from 6:30-7:30pm



Study Book: *Three Cups of Tea:*One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time
by Greg Mortenson

More books have been ordered; copies are \$10 each To reserve one, please call or email the office as soon as possible (438-2492 or asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org)

[There is also a young reader's edition of the book, intended for readers 8 years and up, available on line or at local bookstores]



The All Saints Acoustic Concert Series presents



Saturday, March 13, 7:30pm

Claire Lynch's sweetly pure voice has always been in high demand. Dolly Parton, Linda Ronstadt, Ralph Stanley and Emmylou Harris (among others) have called on her to sing on their records, while Lynch's original songs have been covered by A-list folks in the acoustic world. But it's Claire Lynch leading her own band that garners the most accolades – including 2 Grammy nominations, countless specialized awards and other nominations – along with reverent standing ovations for her shows at prestigious music festivals and theaters.

Tickets are \$15. Call the church office (438-2492) or Mark Williams (251-379-2223) to reserve a ticket. Proceeds go to All Saints' community ministries. You won't want to miss it!



Bp Katharine visits Bishop of Haiti

[Episcopal News Service] By Mary Frances Schjonberg, February 08, 2010 Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori paid a poignant visit to Port-au-Prince Feb. 8 to survey with Episcopal Diocese of Haiti Bishop Jean Zaché Duracin the devastation wrought by the Jan. 12 magnitude 7.0 earthquake.

After climbing over the ruins of the diocese's Cathédrale Sainte Trinité (Holy Trinity Cathedral), the presiding bishop turned to Duracin and said "You should skip Lent

this year; you have already had your Good Friday." "Yes, we can all sing Alleluias together," Duracin replied, according to the Rev. Lauren Stanley, who accompanied Jefferts Schori on her five-hour visit. Pointing to some of the cathedral's 13 bells that were visible among the ruins and that appeared to be salvageable, Jefferts Schori said "they will ring again" and that the cathedral "will rise again," according to Stanley.

While at the cathedral, Jefferts Schori and Duracin said prayers at what the Haitian bishop is calling the diocese's "open-air cathedral," which consists of some plastic sheeting stretched over a frame of two-by-fours that shelters some pews rescued from the cathedral ruins. The two bishops each prayed aloud with those who happened to be at the site. Some of the older women members of the cathedral were combing the ruins for pieces of the building's world-famous murals depicting biblical stories in Haitian motifs. The gathered congregation also sang "How Great Thou Art" in French, Stanley said.

During the visit, Stanley said, Duracin asked her to "tell the world that physically the church is broken, but the church is still there in faith. Our faith is still strong." She said the bishop asked for the support of Episcopalians everywhere to help Haitians rebuild the structures of the church because that work "will have a positive impact on our faith. It will bring us courage, confidence and a good future."

"We are approaching Lent," Stanley quoted Duracin as saying. "I ask people to be with us in the desert so that on Easter, all of us in Haiti and all the Episcopal Church may sing together in joy: 'Alleluia, Alleluia, the Lord is risen indeed.'"

The presiding bishop assured Duracin that the entire Episcopal Church stood with his diocese in prayer and support, and would continue to do so. Stanley is one of four Episcopal Church missionaries assigned to Haiti and the only one who was not in-country at the time of the Jan. 12

quake. Duracin has asked Stanley to help the diocese coordinate offers of relief and recovery made by others in the Episcopal Church, and to tell the diocese's story.

Stanley, who spoke with ENS by phone from Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, after the visit, said that Duracin wanted the presiding bishop to see the extent of the devastation the diocese suffered. While the full extent of damage

is still being assessed, it is clear that most of the diocese's churches and schools were destroyed or heavily damaged. The convent of the Sisters of St. Margaret, adjacent to the cathedral, was also destroyed.

The lost schools include the Holy

Trinity complex of primary, music and trade schools next to the demolished diocesan cathedral, the university and the seminary. A portion of the St. Vincent School for Handicapped Children, also in the Haitian capital, collapsed. Students and possibly staff were killed at some of the schools. Stanley said that Duracin, Jefferts Schori and she visited the Holy Trinity school complex, the Episcopal University and the survivors' camp on a rocky field at College Ste. Pierre, a diocesan school destroyed by the quake. (The diocese, known locally as L'Eglise Episcopale d'Haiti, is caring for about 25,000 Haitians in roughly 20 makeshift camps around the country. Since the quake, many people have left the capital for the countryside.)

The Rev. Kesner Ajax, head of the diocese's Bishop Tharp Institute of Business and Technology (BTI) in Les Cayes, drove the three around the city. Everywhere they where they saw evidence of destruction and death, Stanley said. The Holy Trinity music school once housed the country's only concert hall, but now "you can see where it came smashing straight down and there are still bodies of our students in there as well," Stanley said. Duracin told them that "this is why we cannot just use a bulldozer" to clear the wreckage.

There is a common grave just outside of the

Episcopal University and Stanley said they stopped to pray at that grave. One of the lower level classrooms that was destroyed usually had more than 100 students in it, she said, but only nine bodies have been found. People are going through the rubble by hand searching for the dead.

On the street outside the university, there is an outdoor holding cell for prisoners, Stanley said. At the diocesan trade school, only the façade is still standing, Stanley said. "There nothing left except bodies," she said. "We could actually see one body at the ruins."

Stanley said: "It was heart-wrenching to see the city that I love -- to see the things that this church has done for so many years that makes me so proud to be an Episcopalian in Haiti -- totally gone," Stanley said. "It is beyond heart-breaking. I don't have adequate words to describe the devastation."

Jefferts Schori and Stanley brought with them a number of gifts and supplies for Duracin and the diocese, including six episcopal clergy shirts for the bishop that were a gift from the Church Pension Group, three liturgical stoles and 3,000 communion wafers from the presiding bishop, and pants and socks for Duracin and a bottle of Taylor tawny port communion wine from Stanley. She also gave the bishop an alb and cincture.

"In our culture it is very important that the leader look like a leader," Stanley said. "In the church in Haiti, it's very important that the bishop look like the bishop because when he is properly dressed and properly vested then we know that he can take care of us and we know that we have not been forgotten." Duracin told Stanley that the bread and wine will be used Feb. 12 during the Episcopal Church's part of the nationwide prayer services planned to mark the one month anniversary of the earthquake.

Stanley also brought with her a nearly 150-year-old brass cross that had once been part of a processional cross used by missionaries. While looking through the rubble at College Ste. Pierre, Stanley said, the presiding bishop found a staff that might have been a short processional cross or a verger's wand and which the three discovered fit the cross perfectly.

Feb 21 is ERD Sunday General Convention has designated the first Sunday in Lent every year as Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) Sunday. To donate to Episcopal Relief & Development, go to https://www.erd.org/donate-select.php; or call the agency at 1-800-334-7626, ext. 5129; or mail a gift to Episcopal Relief & Development, P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058. Forms will also be at the back of the church by which you can donate to the work of ERD in Haiti. Please write "Haiti fund" in the memo line of all checks.

A Litany for Haiti

God of infinite mercy, who calls forth order out of chaos, peace out of turmoil, calm out of fear, we come before you aching and tender, crying out for Haiti and her people, saying, We lift our prayers to you, O God: You are the hope of all Creation.

We pray for Haiti, land of mountains and sea, where the very earth has shifted. May her tremors cease. May her tumult end. We pray for her people, shattered yet courageous, frightened yet bold, destitute and longing for relief. May their voice be heard. May their need be met. We lift our prayers to you, O God.

You are the hope of all Creation.

We pray for the injured, broken and lost: thirsting for clean water, hungry for food, stripped of shelter, desperate for medical care; they look to the world for hope. May their dry mouths find drink, their empty bellies find food, their families find cover, and their bodies find health. We lift our prayers to you, O God. You are the hope of all Creation.

We pray for rescuers, those who do the work of recovery, laboring in the midst of agony; for healers, doctors, nurses, and all who tend those wounded in body, mind, or spirit. May their hands be steady. may their resolve be sure. May their work be filled with grace. We lift our prayers to you, O God. You are the hope of all Creation.

We pray for the dying and those who have died, whose frail bodies now line the city streets. May mercy be abundant. May death have dignity. May they never be forgotten. We lift our prayers to you, O God.

You are the hope of all Creation.

We pray for the global community, grieving and responding in love. May our action be swift. May our purpose be certain. May our devotion endure. We lift our prayers to you, O God.

You are the hope of all Creation.

We pray for the days to come, the future, and the promise of what lies ahead. May new roads be paved; new industry be born; new fortunes rise; and new friendships sustained. We lift our prayers to you, O God.

EYC PAGE

"I ain't gonna wear the clothes that you like, I'm fine and dandy with the me inside. One look in the mirror and I'm tickled pink, I don't give a hoot about what you think." ---Weezer

"Who dat?" ---Some random Cajun

I love Facebook. I check it multiple times a day and I love that it has allowed me to reconnect with many people from high school that I had lost touch with over the years. This past week I received an e-mail through Facebook from one such friend who was a year behind me in high school. She, I and a third were traveling from Monroeville to Mobile for a science fair (NERDS!!!) and, since I was driving, I controlled the music. At some point in the trip I popped in a new album that I had just purchased, which happened to be "The Blue Album" by Weezer (the quote above is actually from "The Red Album"). Apparently, listening to this record on the way to Mobile was a seminal moment in her life; something in the lyrics touched her and changed her entire outlook. I've always thought it was a good album, one that perfectly described growing up as a bit of a geek in the 90's, but I never thought it would change someone's life.

All that to say this: You never know what or how you might affect the people around you. What might seem a simple act to you may have a profound affect on those around you.

FEBRUARY 14th JOE CAIN DAY

EYC is going to the parades after Church.

We will have lunch after Church as well as games and then walk down to the Joe Cain Parade.

Bring friends as the parade is going to be lots of fun.

FEBRUARY 21st

We've spent the last several weeks at others' houses; it's time to return to the church for fun and games SENIOR AND JUNIOR EYC MEET AT 5:30 till 7:00 for supper and fun.

EYCMISSION TRIP

Anyone 14 and over is eligible to go on the EYC Mission Trip to New Orleans, which will take place from July 18th to July 25th. We need to know by February 10th who is going and have to have a \$50 deposit to reserve a spot.

CHRIS CONTE CONTACT INFO: (251)604–2073 e-mail: ctc@helmsinglaw.com EMILY CONTE CONTACT INFO: (251)455–1056 e-mail: emilyconte@hotmail.com

Sunday Lectionary: Last Sunday after Epiphany

Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-43a

Lay Ministers for Sunday

Altar Guild: Betty Bentley, Diana Nichols, Lavada Raouf, Paula

Reeves, Clayton Ryan

Flower Guild: Ricky Bradford, Kathy McKenzie

Breakfast: Katharine Flowers, Kim Gray, Renea Greene

Reception: Frances Rouse, Kathy McKenzie

8:00

Lector: Larry Hallett

Intercessor:

Chalice bearer: Serena Willcox

Ushers: Woody Hannum, Renee Dillard

Greeter: Renee Dillard

10:30

Lectors: 1) James Hamilton 2) Cart Blackwell

Intercessor: Diana Nichols

Chalice bearers: Louie Wood, Beth Hardaway

Acolytes: Avery Kelly, Brewer Ayres, Liam Ayres, Rebecca Brewster Ushers: Don Mosley, Curt Doyle, Henry Callaway, Cart Blackwell

Music for Sunday, Feb. 14

Voluntary Healey Willan Prelude on 'Carlisle'

Processional Hymn 135 Salzburg

William Mathias S-278 Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Thomas Attwood Psalm 99 Sequence Hymn 133 Elmhurst

Offertory Anthem Herbert Howells My Eyes for Beauty Pine

Presentation Hymn 129 Mowsley

William Mathias S-128 Sanctus and Benedictus qui venit

William Mathias S-165 Agnus Dei

Communion Hymn 314 Adoro devote

Motet plainsong Alleluia, Song of Gladness

Post Communion Hymn 137 Wareham

Processional Percy Whitlock Hymn-Prelude on 'St. Denio'

Lenten Meditations from ERD Would you like to receive daily Lenten Meditations in your email? As you begin your spiritual journey this season, Episcopal Relief & Development asks that you remember Christ's compassion for the suffering, and to pray for those in need around the world. Your prayers and partnership are crucial in their mission to heal a hurting world. All you have to do is go to http://visitor.constantcontact.com/manage/optin/ea?v=001f-KEXzn5tO3rDXWGxacNKg%3D%3D and enter your email address. If you're already on their mailing list, you don't have to do anything.

Please keep in your prayers:

Mae McKenzie Celeste Taylor Cintra Pemberton Gale Lambright

Nancy Lancaster

Clara Leder Lamar

Jean Keyes

Mike McDonald

Erin Dawkins

Shirley Roberds

Larry Hall Judy McKee

Dick Baade

Diane Petersen

Muriel Cherney

Tim Holston

the White family

Bill & Lida Bowman

Linda Irbv David Reeves

Laura

Serving in the military:

Spencer Abbot Matt Abbot Sean Paul Naylor Joseph Willcox Steven DeWeese

William Wesley Pollard Daniel Robert

The policy of this church is to keep people on the prayer list for one month. After a month, they will be removed. If you want someone to be on the list longer, please call the office; the request will be updated and s/he will be kept on for another month.

Pantry Items

Many thanks to those who have donated to restock the Refugee Pantry. Here are some of the items we still need:

Sponges

Dish soap Laundry soap

Toilet paper

Please bring them to the church office or put them in the basket in the Ann Street narthex. Thanks!





Return Service Requested

Clergy

The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan II, Bishop Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast The Rev. James B. Flowers, Jr., Rector rector@allsaintsmobile.org Office: 438-2492 Home: 436-8932 The Rev. Mary C. Robert, Assistant Rector asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org Office: 438-2492 Home: 479-5084

All Saints Church Staff

Jeff Clearman, Principal Parish Musician
jeff@allsaintsmobile.org
Mary Holbrook, Financial Administrator
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Parish Administrator
office@allsaintsmobile.org
Irene Raymond, Parish Sexton
Lila Higdon, Jennifer Brownlee, Elizabeth Dunnam, Nursery Workers

All Saints 2010 Vestry

Jim Ayres
Chris Conte
Harold Dodge
Rob Gray
Renea Greene
Charlotte Hall
Martha Harris
Clark Kelly, Treasurer
Pete Mackey, Senior Warden
Matt McDonald
Susan Meztista
Michael Morrison, Junior Warden
Diana Nichols, Clerk
Jean Tucker
Darrel Williams

All Saints Committee Chairs

Acolytes: The Rev. Mary Robert Addiction & Recovery: Becky Wilson Adult Christian Education: The Rev. Jim Flowers Altar Guild: Melanie Petithory Choirs: Jeff Clearman Communications: The Rev. Mary Robert Community Ministries: Matt McDonald Constitution & By Laws: Pete Mackey Episcopal Youth (EYC): Chris & Emily Conte Finance Committee: Clark Kelly, treasurer Flower Guild: Katharine Flowers Food Share: Susan Meztista, Mark Taylor, Burl Ratcliffe Golden Circle: Laura Rutherford, Wylly Stirling Hospitality & Events: TBA IHN/Family Promise: Henry Brewster Lectors & Chalice Ministers: The Rev. Mary C. Robert Long-Range Planning: Curt Doyle Nursery: Elizabeth Doyle, Amy Hunter, Jim Ayres Parish Development: Clark Kelly Property: Curt Doyle Refugees: Martha Harris Ushers: Bill Evatt, Louie Wood Stewardship: Joe Basenberg, All Saints Vestry Youth Christian Education: Renea Greene

All Saints Episcopal Church

151 South Ann Street, Mobile, AL 36604 www.allsaintsmobile.org

Service Schedule

Sundays 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:00 am Breakfast

9:20 a.m. Christian Education Classes (during school year)

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays 12 Noon Holy Eucharist (Chapel)