

The Herald

October 7, 2012

19th Sunday after Pentecost

From the Rector: [Judith Smits Rest in Peace](#)

This tribute is several months overdue. Judith Smits died in July. She lived the vast majority of her life as a nun in the order of St. Agnes. She began her ministry as a teacher, but found her true vocation as a champion of the cause of social justice. Her ministry took her all over the United States, but she lived the last twenty years in Mobile. She ran Catholic Social Services for ten years, got grant money for it, founded a pharmacy there, and challenged her clients, most of whom were homeless, to take charge of their lives. She had the official name of the organization changed from Catholic Charities to Catholic Social Services because as she put it, “we are not about charity....we are about empowerment.” Each time a death sentence was carried out in Alabama, Judith was always camped out in front of the cathedral praying for the end of the death penalty, and for the soul of the one to be executed. Before she got sick she ran The Quest for Social Justice and founded the “Bridges” program there to address the racial divide in Mobile and in the state. The last time I saw her she was attending a rally protesting the recently passed immigration bill. She carried with her an oxygen tank to help her cope with her worsening case of pulmonary fibrosis. I told her how sorry I was that she was sick, to which she replied in her matter of fact Midwestern accent, “Well I’ve had a good life....I just hope I’ve made some sort of difference.”

Over my years here in Mobile, whenever I have attended any sort of meeting that dealt with justice issues or issues of well-being for our least, she was always there. A voice in my head would tell me if Judith Smits were here, then I must be in the right place. Her faith was a “doing faith;” she walked the talk; her words were prophetic and inspiring; she lived close to her creative soul. I was told by a close friend of hers that she had received a full seminary education, earning a doctorate in theology, anticipating the day when the Roman Church would begin ordaining women. That was during the pontificate of John 23rd when such a hope was not all that far fetched. The last two popes slammed the door on such a possibility, and Judith never realized her dream of becoming a priest.

But priest she was indeed, bearing the sacraments of sacrifice, compassion and mercy to the world around her, changing it for the better. I wonder what she would have to say to Pope Benedict about his ongoing effort to crack down on the nuns who are outspoken on matters of social justice these days. I wouldn’t want to take her on. For me she is a model for the faithful, intrepid in her vocation, no matter the mundane byways her ministry led her. She carried herself with understated joy, but with a brimful passion. Her obituary said that she died peacefully....I trust that is so, for she as much as anyone I know or have known is worthy of the peaceful rest a life of sacrifice brings. Still I can’t imagine her resting for long. Perhaps there is vocation in the next life, and if there is, she would surely be about it, still creating, engendering the community into which God calls us. Fare forward, dear Judith...may you live on in perpetual light, and may your work here in earth make all the difference.

On the Calendar:

Wednesday, October 3
8am Race Relations committee
9:15am L’Arche (Chapel)
12N Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
12N Debtors Anonymous (DA)
4pm St Cecilia choir rehearsal
7pm Adult choir rehearsal

Thursday, October 4
12N Al-Anon
7pm AA

Saturday, October 6
10:30a Acolyte training

Sunday, October 7
8am Holy Eucharist
9am Breakfast
9:20am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Eucharist
Reception following
4pm Blessing of the Animals

Tuesday, October 9
12N Golden Circle
5p Murray House Board

Wednesday, October 10
9:15am L’Arche (Chapel)
12N Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
12N Debtors Anonymous (DA)
4pm St Cecilia choir rehearsal
7pm Adult choir rehearsal

Thursday, October 11
12N Al-Anon
7pm AA

Saturday, October 13
10:30a PFLAG
10:30a Usher training
11a Lector & Intercessor training
11:30a Chalice bearer training

Sunday, October 14
8am Holy Eucharist
9am Breakfast
9:20am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Eucharist
Reception following

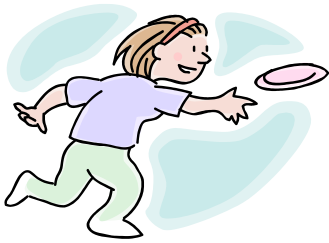
Sunday, October 28
Birthday Celebration!!!

The Rector's Forum returns on Tuesday, October 2. Bring a dish to share for the potluck supper beginning at 6pm. Conversation about topics on which the group decides follows the meal. The Forum takes place in the Saad Room and meets every other Tuesday.

The Blessing of the Animals will be held this Sunday afternoon, October 7, at 4:00pm in the courtyard. All pets: cats, dogs, birds, fish, frogs, reptiles — all the creatures of God are welcome, but please make sure they are on leash or otherwise contained.



Attention, EYC! Since the Ultimate Frisb-EYC event got washed out, it has been rescheduled for this Sunday, Oct 7. Meet at 5pm at the church to walk over to Crawford Park. Have dinner together back at the church and be finished by 7.



ALL Acolytes old and new are invited and expected to come to a brief training session this Saturday morning, Oct 6 at 10:30am. We will go over the essentials and make special note of things that have changed since last year. Parents, please make every effort to bring your children to this meeting. If you are unable to come, please let Mary Robert know: 438-2492 or asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org.



ALL ushers, lectors, intercessors and chalice bearers, OLD and NEW are invited and expected to come to a brief training session next Saturday morning, Oct 13. Usher training begins at 10:30; lectors and intercessors begin at 11:00 and chalice bearers begin at 11:30. We will go over the essentials and make special note of things that have changed since last year. Contact lists for the participants will be available as well. If you are unable to come, please let Mary Robert know: 438-2492 or asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org.

Our prayers are offered for Nancy Lancaster at the death of her brother, Jim McConnaughey, and for Louie Wood at the death of his stepfather, Dan Young. *May light perpetual shine on them.*

The Diocesan Parish Nurses Networking Group want to get the word out about an important Public Forum on Suicide. Co-sponsored by the Out of The Darkness Walk and St. Paul's, Daphne, this ½ day workshop will be held on Saturday, October 20th from 8:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church Life Center in Daphne, Alabama. The topic is *The Impact of Suicide on the Community*. Other topics will include:

- *A Message of Hope*
- *Bearing One Another's Burdens*
- *Response to Suicide by Medical Professionals*
- *Is Teen Suicide Different?*
- *A Mother's Words*
- *Grief After Suicide*

The presentations are geared for teens and adults. Nursing and Social Worker CEU's will be provided. There is no charge to attend. If you have any questions, contact St. Pauls, Daphne at 251-626-2421.

Blood Drive on Sunday, Oct. 28

A blood drive will be held at All Saints on Sunday, October 28, from 8:30am to 1:30pm in Stirling Hall. Donors must be at least 17 years old (16 year-olds may donate with written parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and not have donated blood within the last 56 days. There is no upper age limit to donate blood. You must bring an official form of I.D. that includes proof of age, your signature and/or your photo.



Beds will be set up in Stirling Hall with privacy screens separating the donation and breakfast areas. Please eat something before donating. The usual cookies and drinks will be available after you donate, as well as breakfast at 9am or the Birthday Celebration after 10:30 church.

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers is a community blood supplier for local hospitals in Florida, Georgia and Alabama. LifeSouth is committed to meeting the blood supply needs in each of the communities they serve by providing the highest quality blood components and services. The blood donated here will stay in this community.

There are no substitutes for blood. Volunteering to give blood is giving the gift of life to patients who need transfusions. Please consider becoming a part of the community's blood supply by donating blood at the end of the month.

If you would like to sign up ahead of time, please contact Mary Robert.

Getting back on the path to decency

By Tom Ehrich

[Religion News Service] Nothing will get better in our troubled and divided nation until we take to heart three lessons about what it means to be a decent person.

First, give back to God.

In researching trends in giving, I was shocked to discover that more than 50 percent of those who attend Episcopal congregations give nothing at all — not a dime — to their churches. Giving has plummeted 50 percent over the past 20 years, even as personal income has soared 900 percent.

Across mainline Protestant traditions, giving has sagged to 2 percent of household income — one-fifth of the biblical tithe. Even conservative traditions that teach the tithe give at only the 3 percent level, and Roman Catholics give 1.5 percent of income.

As wealth has soared, especially for the few, gratitude has been replaced by arrogance. We earned it, say the lucky, and we deserve to keep it. Trouble is, that wealth would vanish were it not for bailouts, government protections, tax breaks, and a complex infrastructure of education, technology, transportation and laws that they feel entitled to exploit but not obligated to support.

It's time we learned that what we have come from God. The fortunate have a fundamental obligation to give back to God. As long as we cling to wealth as if Mammon were God, we will remain shallow and self-serving — and thus self-defeating.

Second, help the unfortunate.

The myth of rugged individualism is nonsense. Any society worth perpetuating learns charity, not hoarding. It is our God-given nature to help the child in danger, the elderly person who falls, the victim of assault. The spectacle of a rich politician telling his rich friends that the unfortunate are lazy moochers violates every teaching of faith and history. It is an assault on humanity itself.

A decent society's moral foundation rests on sharing, not on building bigger barns. This is what Christianity

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teaches-what Jesus called caring for the “least of these.” It is what Judaism teaches-giving from the harvest to benefit widows and orphans. If I understand correctly, caring for the weak is a core teaching of Islam.

It couldn't be more basic. Haves must care for have-nots. The fortunate must care for the unfortunate. The healthy care for the sick, the strong care for the weak. This isn't some radical concept designed to separate rugged individualists from their hard-earned wealth. It is a basic tenet of civilization.

Third, tell the truth.

No matter how fashionable and politically expedient it may be, dishonesty undermines society. We cannot possibly enact and enforce enough laws to protect people from cheats, thieves, liars and predators.

For society to endure, citizens must embrace a basic level of honesty. Otherwise, children cannot play safely outside their doors, neighbors cannot borrow tools, shoppers cannot trust products, patients cannot trust physicians and pharmaceuticals, contracts mean nothing, promises mean nothing, marital vows mean nothing, friendships mean nothing.

Big lies lead to demagoguery and oppression. Medium-sized lies lead to shattered trust and confidence. Small lies eviscerate families. When politicians lie with reckless abandon, when business leaders treat dishonesty as slick strategy, they guarantee not only their own downfall but the collapse of the society that they claim to lead.

As a lawyer named Joseph Welch told a demagogue named Joe McCarthy at a low point in American history, if we have no “decency,” all we have left is “cruelty” and “recklessness.”

Tom Ehrich is a writer, church consultant and Episcopal priest based in New York. He is the author of “Just Wondering, Jesus” and founder of the Church Wellness Project. His website is www.morningwalkmedia.com. Follow Tom on Twitter @tomehrich.

[Statements and opinions expressed in the articles and communications herein, are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of Episcopal News Service or the Episcopal Church.]

Speaking of giving back... A letter has been sent to everyone on The Herald email list, and is included on the next page for the benefit of those who get their Herald on paper, or for those who didn't receive it in their email. Please read this letter carefully.

Dear All Saints community,

As I hope everyone noticed in the Herald a few weeks ago, I had indicated in an article that we had fallen behind on our pledge income for the year. This is not terribly unusual at All Saints during the summer months; fortunately the clergy and staff had worked hard and been able to keep the expenses down so that we did not get too far behind.

However, I have just been informed that our pledge income for the month of September was the lowest of any month this year. We have several major financial obligations (such as the church insurance and clergy/staff medical insurance quarterly payments) that are due **this week** and we lack the funds to meet these obligations. Paychecks are due next week.

Quarterly pledge statements are to be sent out this week. Please review your statement and try to catch up and, if possible, pay ahead some.

If you do not receive a statement soon or if you have any questions, please contact Mary Holbrook at the church office (438-2492) or at mary@allsaintsmobile.org

Let's ensure the health of our parish and its mission by fulfilling our pledges!!

Thanks,

Curt Doyle
Treasurer

Bayou Bash News

The Auction Committee would like every household to contribute something to the auction. You can ask for donations from businesses you support. You can consider donating your time or talent for the auction... an item or a service such as baby sitting, cake baking, a dinner or a weekend get away at a condo, etc. Please be sure you are donating something you yourself would be willing to buy, not just a typical garage sale item. Call on businesses for donations and be sure to tell them all proceeds go to outreach in our community, not to the church itself. You can pick up auction forms from the office or call Katharine Flowers at 644-9887. Leave one copy of the form with the donor and return the other, along with the item, to the church office and the auction committee will take care of the rest. Please have all items in by **Friday, November 2**.

Here are the names and contact information for the chairs of the Bayou Bash committees. If you want to help, please call or email the appropriate person. Please don't forget to help the Auction Committee as well. (See above)

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--|----------|
| Tickets: | Pete Mackey | psmackey@bcmlawyers.com | 433-6094 |
| Food: | Burl Ratcliffe | mobileburl@yahoo.com | 404-1115 |
| Beverages: | Bruce Barrett | troglydyte42@gmail.com | 751-9469 |
| Decorations: | Ricky Bradford | rbradford66@gmail.com | 423-1959 |
| Set-up/takedown: | Renea Greene | renea_greene@bellsouth.net | 433-1042 |
| Greeters: | Martha Durant | martha.who@hotmail.com | 471-1341 |
| Auction: | Katharine Flowers | jflowersjr@bellsouth.net | 664-9887 |
| Audio/Visual | Doug Greene | renea_greene@bellsouth.net | 433-1042 |
| Promotional: | Diana Nichols | diana@redsquareagency.com | 471-9773 |

ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
PRESENTS THE 8TH ANNUAL

Bayou Bash

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012 | 6:00-10:00 PM

Food, Music and Fun
Silent and Live Auctions
Entertainment by **Bust**

TICKETS: \$30

For more information,
call 438-2492

All proceeds to directly benefit: IHN Family Promise, All Saints Refugee Families Fund,
McKemie Place, 15 Place, L'Arche, Alabama Arise, South Alabama Cares and Education for Ordained Ministry

Sunday, October 7, 2012
19th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 22, Year B

The Lessons

[Genesis 2:18-24](#) [Psalm 8](#) [Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12](#) [Mark 10:2-16](#)

The Collect of the Day

God of the living law, whose will is to protect the weak and educate our desires: may we learn from you not to dominate or put aside, but to give each other dignity and find in you our unity; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one household. Amen.

Those Who Serve

Altar Guild: Jeff Clearman, Martha Harris, Julie Praytor, Ellen Wingard, Rosemary Williams

Bread bakers: Nancy Lancaster, Bruce Rockstad

Flower Guild: Beth Hardaway, Betty Bentley

Breakfast: Katharine Flowers, Kim Gray, Renea Greene, Clayton Ryan

Reception: Beth Hardaway, Kim Gray

8:00am

Lector: Joe Basenberg
Intercessors: Serena Willcox
Chalice: Mark Taylor
Ushers: Will English, Bill Case
Greeter: Renee Dillard

10:30am

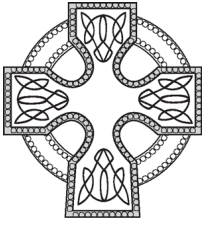
Lectors: Jim Ayres, Martha Durant
Intercessor: Rob Gray
Chalices: Thomas Locke, Ruth LaMonte
Acolytes: Ben Foster, Liam Gray, Danny Moreau
Ushers: Doug Greene, Douglas Greene, Curt Doyle

Music for Sunday

Voluntary Max Reger *Jesus, meine Zuversicht*
Processional Hymn 449 *Deo Gracias*
Joseph Corfe *Psalm 8*
Sequence Hymn 483 *St. Magnus*
Asperges Hymn 296 *Engelberg*
Offertory Anthem Herbert Howells *My Eyes for Beauty Pine*
Presentation Hymn 450 *Coronation*
William Mathias S-128 *Sanctus*
William Mathias S-165 *Agnus Dei*
Communion Hymn 698 *Flentge*
Motet John Rutter *Thy Perfect Love*
Post Communion Hymn 397 *Nun danket alle Gott*
Processional Bob Chilcott *Sun Dance*

Please keep in your prayers:

- ✚ For healing for: Angelo Harris, Ayen Guet, Warren Butler, Melanie Wright, Jack Ratcliffe, Scott Clark, Mary Stewart Stephens, Steven Bodiford, Donna Baines, Arthur Johnson, Ernestine Rogers, Jim Hamilton, Walter Sims, Patricia Fry, Alan Grubbs, Mitch Price, Austin Brown, Vic Underwood, Jason Cummins, Jim Wilson, Barbara Deming, the Hale twins, John Stephens, David Barrineau, Johnny Madden, Brian Hammond, Heather and family, Martha Collier, JoAnn Pappas, Martha Rose Hester, Dunn Chandler, Geoff Peach, Scott Podstata, Abraham Kuol, Roy Muth, Jim Gray, Jane Arnau, Jessica Montalvo-Lopez, Gregg Pounds, Evina Valera, Ed Givhan, LaNiece Bland, Sharon Cleverdon, Mike Downing, Patsy Childress, Anna Marie Brown, Laura
- ✚ For those who serve in the armed forces, especially: Spencer Abbot, Matt Abbot, Jonathan Carter, DeMario Snead, Randy Johnson, Jordan Caturia
- ✚ For those who have died, especially Jim McConnaughey and Dan Young



All Saints Church

151 SOUTH ANN STREET
MOBILE, AL 36604

www.allsaintsmobile.org

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: 479.7398

All Saints Church Staff

Jeff Clearman, Principal Parish Musician
jeff@allsaintsmobile.org
Mary Holbrook, Financial Administrator
mary@allsaintsmobile.org
Office Volunteer
office@allsaintsmobile.org
Irene Raymond, Parish Sexton
Gretchen Thiel and Aguol Kuot, Nursery Workers
Breck Pappas, Director of Youth Ministries

All Saints 2012 Vestry

Joe Basenberg
Ricky Bradford, Jr Warden
Henry Callaway, Sr Warden
Valerie Case
Harold Dodge
Elizabeth Doyle
Rob Gray
James Hamilton
Woody Hannum
Amy Hunter
Emily Kelley
Don Mosley
Diana Nichols, Clerk
Jean Tucker
Darrel Williams

Curt Doyle, Treasurer

All Saints Committee Chairs

Acolytes: The Rev. Mary Robert
Addiction & Recovery: Becky Wilson
Adult Christian Education: The Rev. Jim Flowers
Altar Guild: Betty Bentley, Melanie Petithory
Choirs: Jeff Clearman
Communications: The Rev. Mary Robert
Community Ministries: Matt McDonald
Constitution & By Laws: Pete Mackey
Episcopal Youth (EYC): Breck Pappas
Finance Committee: Curt Doyle
Flower Guild: Katharine Flowers
Food Share: Mark Taylor, Burl Ratchliffe
Golden Circle: Laura Rutherford, Wylly Stirling
Hospitality & Events: Jean Tucker
IHN/Family Promise: Henry Brewster
Lay Eucharistic Visitors: Bill Evatt
Lectors, Intercissors & Chalice Ministers: The Rev. Mary Robert
Long-Range Planning: Curt Doyle
Nursery: Elizabeth Doyle, Amy Hunter, Jim Ayres
Parish Development: Clark Kelly
Property: Ricky Bradford
Refugees: Martha Harris
Ushers: Harold Dodge, Louie Wood
Stewardship: Woody Hannum, All Saints Vestry
Wedding Guild: Betty Bentley
Youth Christian Education: The Rev. Mary Robert

All Saints Episcopal Church

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

Service Schedule

| | |
|------------|--|
| Sundays | 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Breakfast 9:20 am Christian Education Classes (during school year) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist |
| Wednesdays | 12 Noon Holy Eucharist (Chapel) |