

The Herald

December 4, 2011

Second Sunday of Advent

From the Rector: Of Being on the Way

Over the holidays K and I saw the new movie *The Way*. It is based on a novel written by a former college classmate of mine. The protagonist is an ophthalmologist living the hard-earned "good life" whose adult son decides, against his father's judgment, to drop out of so-called life for a few months and walk the Camino de Santiago, the Way of St. James, a five hundred mile pilgrimage from France through the Pyrenees, through the Spanish Basque country and ending at Santiago de Compostelo in the northwest of Spain. The cathedral there, as over a thousand years of tradition has it, contains the relics of St. James, the apostle of Jesus. Next to journeys to Rome it is the most travelled pilgrimage in Europe. In the movie the son is killed in a weather-related freak accident in the mountains and his father travels to France to collect his remains. The father then decides to bear his son's ashes on the Camino de Santiago. He calls home, cancels two months of appointments and sets out alone on the Way. It is a beautiful film (and runs tonight and tomorrow at the Crescent Theater)

The doctor is a solitary man, hardened by the brute force of life, as sadly happens to many of us. His quest is to scatter his son's ashes along the five hundred mile camino... a solitary man on a solitary and solemn journey. But soon upon his departure he encounters other pilgrims along the way...pilgrims from all over the world bearing their own stories, their own burdens...Soon, because they just happen to be at the same point along the road, an unlikely fellowship forms between the doctor, a Canadian woman, a Dutchman and an Irish writer... At first the doctor merely tolerates their company, but as the miles wear on, the stories of each become known to each other, and the walls between the doctor and his companions wear down, and the fellowship becomes one of love and trust, and the doctor in the end rediscovers his humanity.

The lead character, the doctor, is played by Martin Sheen (and directed by his son Emilio Estevez) and he said in a recent interview about the film that it is chiefly concerned with the integrity with which we bear our burdens, our baggage, our wounds, the weight life puts upon us, especially as we grow older...but that to do so one is able to discover, or rediscover new life and purpose in decidedly unexpected ways...and finally he says that one can only do this in community...there is no way to walk life's journey alone, he said...Preach on brother, I thought.

What is it about the journey? Clearly throughout literary history in every culture I know of, the journey amid vibrant fellowship is an archetype...In scripture, all the narratives take place amid a journey...the road to Emmaus...the escape of the people Israel from Egypt and the sojourn in the desert, crossing the Jordan, the Jabbok, the Galilean lake...In the literature of our own tradition: The Canterbury Tales, Don Quixote, Moby Dick, The Grapes of Wrath, McCarthy's *The Road*, on and on... the best told tales happen on the journey.

Why so? Certainly the journey is a metaphor for life, but there is more. Perhaps because there is increased danger on a journey, we are more aware of our vulnerability. Our adrenaline, our imaginations quicken, our senses heightened out of necessity on the road... I know that in our family travels our most ardent conversations and memories occurred there. We are required to be more open to each other...maybe some ancient memory of our tribal roots wherein the survival depends on each other in the solidarity of fellowship. And, we are never the same after a journey. T.S. Eliot in *Four Quartets* says, "Fare forward travelers; you are not the same people who left the station," so the journey is also about transformation and renewal, something for which our souls ache. The doctor in the film finds himself not through a herculean effort of his own, but he finds himself, his human citizenship, his transformation in the stranger-become-friend, in the vulnerabilities of strangers become friends...Perhaps we might be so lucky as to encounter our true selves, our human citizenship along this journey we call life...don't fear the journey as dangerous as it may seem...don't fear the stranger...because there among the stories of other lives lived, we will surely find our own, a glowing epic tale, and we will know it is one worth telling.

On the Calendar:
Wednesday, November 30
9:15am L'Arche (Chapel)
12N Holy Eucharist (chapel)
4pm St Michael & St Cecelia
choir's joint rehearsal
6pm Rector's Forum
7pm Adult Choir rehearsal

Thursday, December 1
12N Al-Anon
7pm AA

Sunday, December 4
8am Holy Eucharist
9am Breakfast
9:20am Sunday School
10:30am Lessons & Carols
Reception following

Tuesday, December 6
11:30am All Sts serves @ 15 Place
3:30pm St Michael choir rehearsal

Wednesday, December 7
8am Race Relations Committee
9:15am L'Arche (Chapel)
12N Holy Eucharist (chapel)
4pm St Cecelia choir rehearsal
7pm Adult choir rehearsal

Thursday, December 8
12N Al-Anon
7pm AA

Saturday, December 10
10:30am PFLAG
1-3pm L'Arche in Stirling Hall

Sunday, December 11
8am Holy Eucharist
9am Breakfast
9:20am Xmas Pageant practice
10:30am Holy Eucharist
Reception following

Tuesday, December 13
12N Golden Circle
3:30pm St Michael choir rehearsal
5pm Murray House Board mtg

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

This Sunday, December 4, the Adult Choir, St. Cecelia Choir, and St. Michael and All Angels Choir of All Saints' Church will present a Festival of Lessons & Carols at the 10:30 service. A reception will follow the service in the Walter K. Smith Room. The 8:00 am service of Holy Eucharist will be held as usual.

Music for the service includes carols by Peter Warlock, Malcolm Archer, George Guest, Richard Shephard, John Stainer, and Alan Spedding, as well as familiar congregational hymns. Everyone is invited!

Last call for pledge cards! If you have not yet turned in your 2012 pledge call, please do so as soon as possible. A Vestry member will be calling you soon to remind you. A reliable budget cannot be made without you!

Habitat for Humanity of Southwest Alabama will be hosting their "Reindeers and Rooftops" Benefit and Silent Auction Fundraiser at the New Habitat ReStore (the old *Rooms To Go* building), 3712 Airport Blvd, on Thursday, December 15, 2011 from 6 until 9! Come and preview the new store, enjoy scrumptious food, sip on a specialty cocktail or just enjoy complimentary beer and wine! All proceeds will go directly to the final funding of a Habitat house that was started this fall. For tickets please contact Laura Williams at 251-406-0596 or williams203@comcast.net.

Thanks to all who have taken ornaments from the South Alabama CARES Christmas Tree. Please remember to take the gifts to the South Alabama CARES office at 2054 Dauphin Street by December 8.

Brochures are here for the annual Women's Weekend 2012, sponsored by the Addictions Recovery Ministry of the Diocese of Louisiana, January 6-8, at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center in Robert, LA.

The Addictions Recovery Ministry (ARM) of the Episcopal Church helps recovering Christians find a home within the Church. ARM seeks to provide education, guidance, and support for families struggling with, or wishing to learn more about addiction.

Look for the brochures on the Parish Hall bulletin board.



The Episcopal Church welcomes you

The Rector's Forum meets again this Wednesday, Nov 30. Potluck dinner begins at 6, followed by conversation from 6:30-7:30. Everyone is welcome!

Christmas Pageant

We are very excited this year to have our children present the Christmas Pageant during the early service on Christmas Eve, which will begin at 5pm. There will be 2 practices, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18, during the Sunday School hour. All participants need to be present for the rehearsals. There will be no Saturday morning practice. For questions, email Renea Greene at renea_greene@bellsouth.net.



Christmas Wish List: 15 Place is putting together gift bags for its guests for Christmas and would appreciate any help we can give them. Items needed for the bags are:



For everyone:

Hygiene items
Soap, Shampoo
Lotion, Sunscreen
Insect repellent towels
Combs
White socks
Knit caps, Gloves, Scarves
Blankets
Snack foods (like cheese crackers, fruit rollups)
Big pullovers
Fast food gift cards
Phone cards, Bus passes

For women:

Sanitary supplies
Sports bras and underwear, mostly L and XL

For men:

Underwear

If you can help supply any of these items, please call Valerie Mitchell at 533-6000 or e-mail her at valerie.mitchell@saadhealthcare.com. Your gift will make a difference for those in need in our community.

It's time for Christmas Greenery and Flowers! If you would like to help offset the cost of these beautiful decorations for the church, please use this form to make memorials or thanksgivings for loved ones, and turn it and your donation (suggested: \$50) in to the church office. The deadline is Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 4pm.

Please PRINT the name(s) as you would like them to appear. Check M(emorial) or T(hanksgiving)

M T

M T

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M T

Looking Ahead

December

- 4 - 2nd Sunday of Advent: Holy Eucharist, 8am; Lessons & Carols, 10:30am
- 6 - All Saints serves at 15 Place, 11:30am
- 10 - PFLAG, 10:30am
- 11 - 3rd Sunday of Advent: 8am and 10:30am Holy Eucharist; Xmas Pageant practice, 9:20am
- 13 - Golden Circle, 12N
- 15 - Food Share prep, 9am
- 16 - Food Share packing, 5:30pm
- 17 - Food Share distribution, 8am
- 18 - 4th Sunday of Advent: 8am and 10:30am Holy Eucharist; Xmas Pageant practice, 9:20am
- 19 - Vestry meeting, 6pm
- 21 - St Michael and St Cecelia choirs rehearse, 4pm; Hanging of the green & Chili Supper, 5:30pm
- 23 - Office closed
- 24 - Christmas Eve: Holy Eucharist and Xmas Pageant at 5pm; Choral Prelude & Holy Eucharist at 10:30pm
- 25 - Christmas Day: Holy Eucharist, 10am (no breakfast, no Sunday School, no reception); *IHN Week begins*
- 26 - Office closed
- 27&28 - no choir rehearsals
- 30 - Office closed

January

- 1 - Feast of the Holy Name: 10am Holy Eucharist; (no breakfast, no Sunday School, no reception)
- 2 - Office closed



Sunday, December 4, 2011

Second Sunday of Advent

The Lessons

[Isaiah 40:1-11](#)

[2 Peter 3:8-15a](#)

[Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13](#)

[Mark 1:1-8](#)

The Collect of the Day

Wild God of the wastes, whose gospel begins with a cry and a summons: take us to a pathless place where we can start again to taste creation's gifts anew and await the Spirit's touch; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. Amen.

Those Who Serve

8:00am Holy Eucharist

Lector: Serena Willcox

Intercessor: Jeff Clearman

Chalice: Mark Taylor

Ushers: Fred & Barbara South

Greeter: Renee Dillard

10:30am A Service of Lessons and Carols

Lectors: James Hamilton, Beth Hardaway, Hays Thompson,
Marlena Kelley, Jim Ayres

Acolytes: Darrel Williams, Louie Wood, Emily Kelley, Kim Gray

Ushers: Michael Morrison, Chris Conte, Thomas Locke

Music for Sunday

Voluntary Johann Sebastian Bach *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*, BWV 645

Processional Hymn 61 *Wachet auf*

Peter Warlock *Adam Lay Ybounden*

Hymn 66 *Stuttgart*

Malcolm Archer *People, Look East!*

Hymn 76 *Winchester New*

George Guest *Zion At Thy Shining Gates*

Hymn 67 *Psalm 42*

Richard Shephard *Never Weather-Beaten Sail*

Hymn 59 *Merton*

John Stainer *How Beautiful Upon the Mountains*

Hymn 72 *Richmond*

Alan Spedding *Nova, Nova*

Hymn 264 *Song 24*

Hymn 57 *Helmsley*

Processional Andrew Carter *Toccata on 'Veni Emmanuel'*

Please keep in your prayers

✚ For healing:

Geoff Peach

Frances Reed

Joy Russ

Jami Salac

Jerry Kozart

Taylor Merry

Scott Podstata

Abraham Kuol

Terry Godwin

Ethan Fisher

Kathy Davis

Harriet Schofield

Logan Barnhart

Becky Boulter

Katie Hammond

Roy Muth

Jim Gray

Jane Arnau

Joanne & Dan Young

Taylor Parton

Jessica Montalvo-Lopez

Butch Boyington

Gregg Pounds

Evina Valera

Ed Givhan

Iris Prosch

Jerry

Martha Mason

Richard Melton

Martha Murdock

LaNiece Bland

Lamar Elledge

Sharon Cleverdon

Mike Downing

Patsy Childress

Anna Marie Brown

Laura

✚ For those who serve in the

armed forces:

Spencer Abbot

Matt Abbot

Wes Parks

Jonathan Carter

Scott Tanos

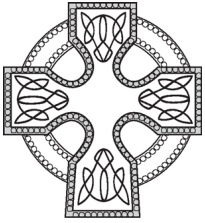
Kyle Metcalf

DeMario Snead

Randy Johnson

Robert Carter

Matt Robertson



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
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All Saints Church Staff

Jeff Clearman, Principal Parish Musician
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Mary Holbrook, Financial Administrator
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Parish Administrator
office@allsaintsmobile.org
Irene Raymond, Parish Sexton
Gretchen Thiel and Christa Harkins, Nursery Workers
Liz & Scott Kirby, Directors of Youth Ministries

All Saints 2011 Vestry

Henry Callaway
Valerie Case
Harold Dodge
Marion Elledge
Rob Gray
Renea Greene
Woody Hannum
Amy Hunter
Clark Kelly, Treasurer
Pete Mackey
Susan Meztista
Michael Morrison, Junior Warden
Diana Nichols, Clerk
Jean Tucker, Senior Warden
Darrel Williams

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): Liz & Scott Kirby
Finance Committee: Clark Kelly, treasurer
Flower Guild: Katharine Flowers
Food Share: Mark Taylor, Burl Ratcliffe
Golden Circle: Laura Rutherford, Wylly Stirling
Hospitality & Events: Jean Tucker
IHN/Family Promise: Henry Brewster
Lay Eucharistic Visitors: Bill Evatt
Lectors, Intercessors & Chalice Ministers: The Rev. Mary Robert
Long-Range Planning: Curt Doyle
Nursery: Elizabeth Doyle, Amy Hunter, Jim Ayres
Parish Development: Clark Kelly
Property: Michael Morrison
Refugees: Martha Harris
Ushers: Harold Dodge, Louie Wood
Stewardship: Woody Hannum, All Saints Vestry
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)