



DECEMBER 6, 2009

THE NEWSLETTER OF ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

VOLUME XVII NUMBER 45

### **Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols!**

Sunday, Dec. 6, at 5 p.m. in the Church. In the warm ambiance of the candlelit church, Coventry Choir offers motets, carols and canticles of intense, mystical beauty. A meditation by the Rector focuses on the meaning of the coming of the Christ in a contemporary context. The choir will perform music of Palestrina, Ferko, Willan, Willaert, Busto, and Schütz directed by James Walker. Child care provided.

### **Please Help Defray Postage Costs!**

Offering envelopes for 2009 pledges will be available on the lawn on Dec. 6, 13 and 20. Every set that is picked up saves All Saints more than \$2 in mailing costs. Please be sure to stop by the Stewardship table on the lawn and collect your envelopes. Thank you!

### **The Welcome Table**

The Welcome Table sits right outside the north door. It is to this table that all newcomers are invited. There they receive a red bag and words of welcome, the answers to questions, and a chance to learn something of the many ways to become involved at All Saints. We have a wonderful staff of volunteers who work at the table one service, once a month. We need a few more, especially before the 9:00 a.m. service. If you have a ready smile, and wish to be part of the "first face" of All Saints, let us know! Contact Susan Johnson at [sljohnson@mac.com](mailto:sljohnson@mac.com) or 626.799.4246.

## **Compassion-Coats: Preparing the Way of Christmas**

FROM LORI KIZZIA, DIRECTOR OF PEACE & JUSTICE

**A**dvent is a season of reflection and renewal, in preparation for the coming of Christmas and celebration of the birth of Jesus. And, it is the season when good people everywhere are overwhelmed with "asks" for donations and gifts to support those in need and those who serve them. Wanting to do good works through responding to the needs of others, while facing the limitations of personal financial responsibilities, is a challenge most of us struggle with, especially during this season. There is a societal belief, based on religious tradition, that people will do good works in an effort to redeem themselves or feel connected to a greater good during this time of year. This idea can be traced, in part, to facets of Christian practice which flow from the Christmas story. It is a truth which requires no apology, and when understood, is a powerful aspect of our faith in action.

Each year in the second and third weeks of Advent, we re-encounter stories of John the Baptist in the appointed Gospel readings. John appears, sometimes a wild figure, eating locusts and wild honey, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah, as a messenger preparing his followers for the coming of the Messiah. He offers forgiveness of sins through redemption and the ritual cleansing of baptism. Redemption from sin is an essential part of the preparation for Christ's coming. It is through the removal of sin, that we are made open and ready to receive the grace of God's presence in the world and in our lives. After the news of John's powerful ritual of forgiveness spreads through the region, many arrive seeking baptism as a magical cure all for their sins. John admonishes those who

are looking for an easy pass to redemption, by directing them to bear the fruit of good works that are worthy of redemption. He responds to their question of what good works might be with clear instructions: if you have two coats, give one to someone who has none, and the same with food. Acts of goodness are required for forgiveness, not the act of baptism alone. These instructions from John the Baptist resonate very deeply in the contemplation of Advent giving. How much to give and to whom becomes clearer.

Now, one more "ask" from the heart of our Christmas tradition, one that will make room in your life for the gifts of grace which are moving toward you this season.

On any given night in Los Angeles County, there are 30 to 40,000 people without permanent homes. Many are in emergency shelters, many are literally on the streets. Some are ill, some are children, some are veterans, all are members of the human family. We are collecting new and gently used coats to give to those who are homeless and without a good coat. Please buy a new coat, or bring one -- almost new -- from your closet to Church on Sunday, Dec. 13th, or Sunday, Dec. 20th. Or, bring them to the Church office Monday through Friday, Dec. 14th-18th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. We will deliver them to men, women and children who are homeless in Pasadena, San Gabriel Valley, East LA, Downtown, wherever they are needed.

You can rest assured that your gift of a coat will be received as a gift of compassion, and you will open a space in your heart for unimaginable Christmas grace.

# Sunday

DECEMBER 6, 2009

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## ADULTS AT 10:15

### RECTOR'S FORUM

#### A Bomb in Every Issue: How the Short, Unruly Life of Ramparts Magazine Changed America

with Robert Scheer and Peter Richardson

This Sunday we revisit the life and times of Ramparts Magazine (1962-75), the San Francisco muckraker famous for its blockbuster stories, visual flair, and turbulent history. Its many high-profile contributors included Seymour Hersh, Cesar Chavez, Susan Sontag, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Brit Hume. In addition to earning a Polk Award for excellence in magazine journalism, Ramparts staff writers went on to found Mother Jones, Rolling Stone, and Tikkun, and influenced a generation of reporters and editors that is still apparent today. Robert Scheer, frequent Forum speaker and friend of All Saints, was Ramparts' editor-in-chief and later became a national correspondent and columnist for the Los Angeles Times. He currently edits *Truthdig.com*, teaches at USC, and appears weekly on KCRW's "Left, Right, and Center." Peter Richardson is the author of the new and critically acclaimed book, *A Bomb in Every Issue: How the Short, Unruly Life of Ramparts Magazine Changed America*. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Forum

### Holiday Food Ministry

Every Monday throughout the year, between 60 and 95 homeless and low-income men and women come to All Saints seeking food, clothing, toiletries and social service referrals. Diane Williams and her volunteer aides distribute approximately 350 food bags monthly and the numbers are rising. Parishioners' generous donations of canned and fresh food items help fill these bags. With your help, special Christmas bags will be given out on Monday, Dec. 21. Items needed are standard size cans of Vienna sausages, fruit, tuna, chicken noodle soup and juice boxes/packets, small jars of peanut butter and instant coffee, candy, cookies, fresh fruit and nuts, T-shirts (extra large & double extra large), white athletic socks, razors, hand lotion and toothpaste and toothbrushes. In addition, children's small unwrapped toys, games and art supplies are greatly appreciated for those patrons having children and grandchildren. You may deposit food and gift items in the basket on the lawn (next to the cookie table) each Sunday, or bring them to the front desk in the All Saints office building by Thursday, Dec. 17. Volunteers are invited to pack the food and gift bags on Friday, Dec. 18, from 10 a.m. to noon in the seminar room. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Diane Williams at 626.583.2714 or [dldwil@earthlink.net](mailto:dldwil@earthlink.net).

## FOR CHILDREN

### Preschool (ages 2-4), SCOTT HALL

9:00 Infant and Child Care with Bible Stories  
10:30 Rooms 2 and 3: *Advent 1 & 2*

### Grade School (K-5), LEARNING CENTER

9:00 Children's Chapel: Children go to church with their parents, leave after the Gospel, and return before the offering.  
10:15 Grades K-5: *Godly Play -- Advent 1 & 2*  
11:15 Children's Chapel: Children go to church with their parents, leave after the Gospel, and return before the offering.

### FOR YOUTH, JR. HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL

10:15-11:00 JR. HIGH & SR. HIGH SCHOOL  
*Buy a Llama For Your Mamma!*

### JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH ROOMS

*The Next "Second Saturday" Celebration is Saturday, December 12, 5 p.m.*

**EUCHARIST AT 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 A.M. AND 1 P.M.**

The Rev. Dr. George F. Regas will preach on *A Festival of Forgiveness on the Way to Christmas* at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. The Rev. Sharalyn Hamilton will preach at 7:30 a.m.

The Rev. Abel Lopez will preach at the 1 p.m. Spanish-English service.

**At 9 and 11:15, Canterbury Choir** offers *E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come* by Paul Manz and *Dominus illuminatio mea* by Robert Revicki with soloists Elizabeth Tatum, Ruth Ballenger and Mark Waters.

**At 9:00 a.m. Trouvères** offer *Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates* by William Mathias.

### SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURES

Baruch 5:1-9  
Canticle 4 or 16  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6

## Saving Christmas from the Shopocalypse

Attention holiday shoppers! Conscientious Projector invites you to join Reverend Billy and the Church of Stop Shopping Gospel Choir on a barnstorming bus tour of the U.S.A. to free humankind from consumerism and break the bonds of eternal debt. *What Would Jesus Buy?* -- an outrageous but serious-minded docu-comedy about the commercialization of Christmas -- will be shown on Thursday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m. at The Armory Center for the Arts.

Producer Morgan Spurlock (*Super-size Me*) teams with performance artist/activist Bill Talen (Reverend Billy) and director Rob VanAlkemade to chronicle the satirical protest troupe's cross-country mission to raise awareness of the impact of over-consumption on our lives, our world and our experience of gift-giving at what is supposed to be a most sacred time of the year. Bill McKibben, Rev. Jim Wallis and many others serve as a Greek chorus as Reverend Billy takes us through a journey of revival-style meetings, guerrilla theater retail store interventions, corporate exorcisms and the most spontaneous Main Street Parade Dis-

neyland has ever seen. Changeluia!

Our original Conscientious Projector host, Light Bringer Project founder and Doo Dah Parade impresario Tom Coston, will lead a community discussion. Thanks to Robert Greenwald's Brave New Theaters program for their support of this event. The Armory is located at 145 N. Raymond in Old Pasadena. Admission is free. For more information, contact Marty Coleman at 626.792.4941 or visit [www.wujbmovie.com](http://www.wujbmovie.com).

## Angel Tree 2009

Imagine a Christmas Gift for Every Child! Please make the Angel Tree Part of your Christmas Tradition. Visit the tree in Regas House to pick up your tag today! The Angel Tree only accepts children submitted through Los Angeles DCFS. Thanks!

## Prison Ministry Gifts

We are in the final countdown for our Prison Gift Ministry and are still short in toothbrushes, combs, tea and coffee singles. Bring any donations to the reception desk at the church. Thanks! For more information call Gloria Killian at 626.710.7543, or Connie Smith at 626.799.4702 or [scinchin2@charter.net](mailto:scinchin2@charter.net).

## Alternative Christmas Market, December 6!

Christmas is coming, and coming fast. And on top of all the stuff you have to do you need to go shopping! Ah yes, Christmas shopping. What to do—especially in times like these, when money is tight? All Saints has the perfect remedy for you, where you can get all your shopping done in ONE day! Here's how it works:

Come to the All Saints Alternative Christmas Market on Sunday, December 6th, in Sweetland Hall and the Guild Room right here at church, so you won't even have to worry about parking. Smiling volunteers will answer any questions you might have. Quality vendors will be selling items in Sweetland Hall, and anything you spend with these vendors goes to help their organization. It's all good.

And there is something special that each of these vendors offers: you can donate money for certain non-material things offered by each organization. These offerings are shown in the Alternative Christmas Market catalog which is online at the All Saints website. You can donate money to help women who have nowhere to go get shelter and a hot meal, or get their laundry done. Or you can help kids visit their parents who are in jail. Or, you can get a herd of goats (or maybe just one) for a village in Africa. The value of giving your hard-earned money to someone who has less than you is sure to make you see the true meaning of Christmas: bringing joy to those who have so little. But that's not all.

Once you've paid, you can go to the "card table," to obtain cards to give to people to let them know you've made a donation in their name. See? Even the Christmas cards are covered. What could be simpler?

There will be 23 vendors this year. Please come and show your support for those who need it. See our interactive catalogue online at [www.allsaints-pas.org](http://www.allsaints-pas.org).

## Women's Community Annual Christmas Not-A-Party

Tis the season for the Women's Community Annual Not-A-Party, a time to enjoy ourselves, make new friends, refresh our spirits before the busy holiday season, and help our sisters in need! Here is how it works:

All women are invited to convene at Catherine Babcock's beautiful home (2258 Midlothian Dr, Altadena, CA 91001) on Wednesday, December 9 from 7 – 9 p.m. with a bottle of wine or a plate of Hors d'oeuvres to share, plus a check for \$15 made out to All Saints Church. We use the money to benefit a charity for women. If life is such that you can't bring anything, that's okay! Please come anyway.

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience because attendance will be limited, no later than December 5. RSVP to Gerry Puhara at [gdpuhara@earthlink.net](mailto:gdpuhara@earthlink.net) or call her at 818.790.7564 with your name, phone number, and number of guests. You can also stop by the Women's Community table on the lawn to sign up.

## Interfaith Study Group

All are warmly invited to join the Interfaith Study Group for our December 13 potluck and discussion at the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center. We'll meet from 5 – 7 p.m. and will all tell stories from our varied but intertwined faith traditions.

The temple is located at 1434 North Altadena Drive, Pasadena (between Washington Blvd. and New York Drive). Feel free to carpool with us, if you'd like. We'll leave from the All Saints north parking lot at 4:30 p.m.

Our potluck is vegetarian. Please bring a dish and a story to share with the group.

For more information about the Interfaith Study Group, please contact Amanda McCormick at [amccormick@allsaints-pas.org](mailto:amccormick@allsaints-pas.org) or 626.583.2765.

## The Bishop Suffragan Discernment Process Journeying in Faith

When the two bishops Suffragan of Los Angeles announced their retirements last year, it never occurred to me that I would be one of the six finalists for their positions. It never occurred to me because I never aspired to become a bishop. As a person who has always been an Episcopalian, who grew up seeing only men at the altar, who couldn't serve as an acolyte because I was female, becoming a bishop was never a vision.

So, why am I in this process? Many of you know my story of how I believe God strongly and wonderfully called me to ordained ministry following the death of my husband. Many of you may also know that I came "kicking and screaming" to the process. I'm grateful that God is compassionate and patient. I'm grateful that God gently waits for us to live into God's desire for us. I'm grateful that God quietly puts people into my life to reveal God's dream for me.

Several of my colleagues in the diocese asked if they could place my name into the Suffragan Bishop selection process. My response was always a gracious "No" and a smile. However, as a result of a series of circumstances that happened at Spring Clergy

Conference in May, I said, "Yes." One of the realizations for me was that God was in this process as I make this journey in faith. The other realization, following a conversation with our rector, Ed Bacon, was that I had the love, support and affirmation of the All Saints community.

It has been interesting to listen to many of you share your ambivalence about the selection process. I have deeply experienced your concerns as well as your love and prayers. Your concerns, love and prayers have moved me to understand the importance of continuing to be God's presence, as I share our common passion for the gospel of Jesus to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. They have also moved me to know that as a Bishop Suffragan, we must all be committed to following Jesus as we serve as leaders in a Church to which we bring the rich heritage of being a pastoral presence and prophetic voice.

Please know that I, too, have mixed feelings. However, I would not be a finalist, if I didn't believe God was calling me to this next level of ministry. There is also comfort in knowing there is no loss. It's a "win/win" because if I am elected as Bishop Suffragan, I will remain a member of this community that I love. This will be my parish home. If I'm not elected, I will continue to serve you and bring as many of you into ministry as possible. The bottom line is that whatever happens, I choose to live fully into my call to ordained ministry.

This election represents an amazingly exciting time for our diocese, which is blessed with so many wonderful gifts, some of which are our diversity, our clergy and our history of being a prophetic voice. I am moved to know that we have also been blessed with six great candidates from which to choose our next bishops to serve All Saints and this diocese. We must trust God with what comes next. So, I ask all of you to join me in praying for God's will for our community, Diocese and our Church.

~Zelda Kennedy



Zelda Kennedy

# shorts

## North Lot is Reserved for People with Mobility Difficulties

Did you know that on Sunday mornings the North Church lot is reserved only for people with mobility difficulties? This includes Seniors; people with permanent disabilities; people with temporary disabilities due to medical treatment side effects, surgery, injury, illness, holders of DMV parking placards; and women in late-term pregnancy. When an able-bodied person takes a parking space needed by a person with a mobility difficulty, it can mean that the less mobile person might not be able to go to church that day. Walking more than a block can result in getting to Church exhausted or in pain. In order for our members who

have mobility challenges to participate fully in our church's rich offerings, parking needs to be close by. So, whenever possible, please use our other parking facilities: the Kaiser parking lot to the north or the Plaza Fuentes underground parking to the south. Thank you.

## The Women's Room Christmas Dinner

We're looking for women who are available on Thursday, December 17 from 1 - 3 p.m. to plan and prepare a festive Christmas meal for clients of The Women's Room in Pasadena. The Women's Room is a drop-in shelter for homeless women or women at risk of being homeless. We have been asked

to prepare a Christmas Party for the ladies at The Women's Room, which will be funded by the donations from the "Lunch of Compassion" that was held in October at All Saints. We need volunteers who will take charge, plan the menu, pick up the food and serve the meal. Please call Marylouise Lau at 626.278.4487 or [molau@charter.net](mailto:molau@charter.net) if you are interested in organizing this event, or working as part of the team.

Altar flowers are a beautiful way to remember a loved one, celebrate a special event, or to give thanks for someone who has touched your life. To donate flowers for the altars, please call 626.796.1172

# prayers


FOR THE PARISH COMMUNITY

## Remember those for whom prayers have been requested:

Theresa Anema & Family; Kim Bickel; Clark & Brett Boettcher; Shirley Botelho; Robert & Albert Buchanan; the Calabrese Family; Jimmy Crosby; Christopher Harvey; Michael Huey; Ann Kaiser-Boettcher; Judy King; Lloyd Lafler; Kathy Nagel; Mary Petrone; Taleen Petrossians; Silvestra Ramirez; Meghann & Ben Saulus; Vincent & Dorothy Sanner; Gloria Smith; Guillermo Suarez; Joel Ward; Peter Wiersma; Benjamin Winkler; Brandon Woerth; Joan and family' Kyle

**In Thanksgiving for:** the wedding of Arturo Avina & Ricardo Moreno

**For those who have died:** Bruce Mason

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## For Use Sunday, 12/6/09

