



# For All the Saints

---

*February 2013*

*Dear Friends,*

On the Sunday of Annual Meeting, the lesson assigned from First Corinthians talked about how one body has many parts to it that are different from one another but all equally important. The body would be very lopsided if it had all of one thing and nothing of another. In a parish, that translates into the message that there is a place for everyone and everyone has a role to play. The contribution of each and every member is important. When we share our gifts and talents, the proverbial whole becomes greater than the sum of the parts. 2012 was a good year because parishioners did share and work together, giving generously of their time, talent and treasure.

In my sermon for Annual Meeting, I covered some highlights of the past year including one of our best worship services – which several others also mentioned in their reports. It was November 4, All Saints' Sunday. Hurricane Sandy had recently roared through and the power had been out for nearly a week. We worshipped in Lea Hall by the sunlight coming through the windows. The All Saints' Choir had rehearsed Saturday at noon, and as always, they sounded wonderful, with Andrew Kilkenny on the parish hall piano. And for the "First Sunday" program, the children memorably acted out the Gospel story of "The Raising of Lazarus." It was an uplifting, spirit-filled service, followed by a lovely brunch.

This is something to remember when we discuss the book we are reading for Lent, *People of the Way: Renewing Our Episcopal Identity*. (This is the book recommended by the Diocese.) It is about the challenge of being a faithful Christian community in a world that is vastly different from what it used to be, and a culture turned upside down. The author reminds us that the church has always been and will remain about community, and that means people, not a particular setting. We saw that on All Saints' Sunday, so we understand and we celebrate our community.

After a very good 2012, we begin moving through 2013 Onward All Saints'!

Jane+

## – *All Saints' News* –

---

### **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER, FEB. 12**

Enjoy our traditional Pancake Supper on the eve of Lent. This is supposed to be the meal that uses up the rich foods that might not be served during the penitential season about to begin when such things are often “given up.” So come and share pancakes and sausage with butter, syrup and applesauce – with coffee, tea and soft drinks.

**The cost is \$5 for an adult and \$2 for a child age 10 or under, with a \$15 maximum for a family. You can come any time between 6:30 and 8:00 pm. Please call the church to reserve a place or sign up in Lea Hall. To help in the kitchen, speak to Kevin Walsh.**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

The penitential season of Lent has forty day, not counting Sundays. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter Sunday. (Holy Week is part of Lent.) This is the season to prepare spiritually for Easter in order to more fully embrace the gift of grace which God gives through Jesus' resurrection. The point of making a sacrifice for Lent by giving up something one enjoys or taking on a useful activity is to make the season more meaningful by having it feel different. Church looks different – purple hangings, greens on the altar, no “alleluias” sung or said.

**Begin Lent by worshipping with us on Ash Wednesday. We have two services, 9:00 am and 8:00 pm, with ashes imposed at both. The All Saints' Choir will sing at the evening service.**

### **RESTAURANT ADVENTURE, FEBRUARY 24**

This may not sound very penitential, but Sundays are exempt from the 40-day count of Lent! In any case, we will have one of these popular gatherings to enjoy each other's company along with good food at **Rolf's in Warren**, a restaurant featuring German food and with many other offerings. The reservation is for 6:00 pm (the restaurant closes at 8:00 pm, so they encourage promptness.) Please sign up to come. Rolf's is recommended by Carol and Scott Rahner.

## **SAVE THESE DATES**

**Palm Sunday – March 24**

**Easter Sunday – March 31**

# LENT 2013

## **“TRUST IN GOD IN FEARFUL TIMES” AN EVENING WITH BARBARA CRAFTON Tuesday, March 12**

We welcome back The Rev. Barbara Crafton, popular author and speaker who last spoke here during Lent 2003, when her topic was forgiveness. On March 12, she will reflect on faith in the aftermath of such horrific events as the shootings in Newtown, Connecticut. This is how she describes her upcoming program with us.

“We tell our children that we will protect them. We tell ourselves that too – but we watch the news and know that there are things in this world from which we cannot protect ourselves or anybody else. How does a reasonable adult deal with the Biblical assurance that we can trust God? It is no simple matter. Let’s spend an evening together considering this, and let’s emerge with hope.”

The evening will begin with a Pot-Luck Supper at 6:30 pm (organized by Shirley Hamlette and our Hospitality Committee), and Barbara Crafton will speak at about 7:45 pm. Childcare will be provided in the Nursery. Please sign up to come. If you can bring food, indicate what you will bring. If you have children for the childcare room, please indicate that as well.

## **SOUP & STUDY**

Join us to read and discuss, *People of the Way: Renewing Episcopal Identity*, by The Rev. Dwight Zscheile. Our Diocese is encouraging all parishes to read this book for its excellent picture of past, present and potential future of the Episcopal Church. What does it mean to be faithful Christians in a brand new world – a culture that is unlike the past?

**We will meet in the Guild Room on three Wednesday evenings: February 27, March 6 and March 20 – at 7:00 pm.** There will be hot soup and lively discussion. (We did this last year with a book by Bishop Tutu and had a great time.) Please sign up in Lea Hall so we know how many copies of the book to order.

## **HELP FILL EASTER BASKETS**

Help the Sunday School fill Easter baskets for less fortunate area children. Please bring in school supplies, toiletries, small toys – and yes, some candy. We have 20 baskets to fill. If you would like more information, please ask **Bob Okell**.

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

### **First Sunday in February will be the second Sunday!**

Because the Boy Scouts will be busy in the kitchen making pancakes for the Parish Pancake Breakfast on Feb. 3, **Glen and Kelly Robertson are planning the annual Pretzel-Baking for Lent on Feb. 10. There will be classes for all young people on February 3.**

**And thanks to all who brought toy animals for Epiphany. It was a great Sunday!**

### **COOKY-BAKING, FRIDAY FEBRUARY 8**

Just in time for Valentine's Day, young people will be turning out tasty treats in the church kitchen to sell on Sunday (Feb. 10). Plenty of head chefs will be there to supervise. This more or less annual activity has always been great fun. It starts at 7 pm.

### **MOVIE NIGHT, FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22**

The movie is "**Madagascar 3**, and there will be **pizza** along with other goodies. **It all starts at 6:30 pm.** The charge – to cover the cost of food – is \$5 per child and \$8 per adult. Please sign up in Lea Hall. And for more information, speak with **Jovi Williams**.

### **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

It's going along quite well – Sundays with **Jennifer Dawson and Glen Robertson**; first Saturdays with the Rector. The Class will **meet with the Rector at 10 am on Saturday, February 5.** Then on **Saturday, February 23, the Class will go to Grace's Kitchen** at Grace Church in Plainfield to help staff the Soup Kitchen (10 am – 1 pm). This will be instead of a Saturday meeting in March.

### **FILLING EASTER BASKETS**

**Bob Okell** will invite the Sunday School to fill baskets with candy, school supplies, toiletries and other small items. As has been done in previous years, these baskets will be sent to area children whose Easter morning would otherwise not include such treats.

### **YOUTH CHOIR**

Don't forget! Youth Choir rehearses on Sundays after the 10 o'clock Service, and it's time to start preparing for Easter. **Join Andrew Kilkenny in the Choir Room** – newcomers welcome.

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

***-- Parishioner Profile --***

---

# A DUSTY DANCE: TREKKING THE ANNAPURNA HIMAL

*By Tom Loop*

The room was no more than a small rectangular box, twelve feet wide and twenty-five feet long, made of stone walls, with a smoke-stained ceiling where the pipe of the wood stove failed to seal properly. Six rows of benches split by a narrow aisle (past the wood stove) sloped gently to the projector facing the indeterminate viewing wall. We took our seats in the dark, twelve of us, on the coarse wooden benches, warmed by yak pelts as cushion. Someone brought us tea and baggies of popcorn, for our evening showing of “Seven Years in Tibet,” a fitting movie for the rugged surroundings we had arrived in the day before.

We were in Manang, a small town – hamlet, really – in the Himalayas of Nepal, five days into our trek around the mighty Annapurna mountain range or *himal*, on our way up to the Thorung La, the “biggest pass in the world,” located at 17,700 feet. Our trek had started off quite low, in the foothills near a raging Marsyandi River coursing and plunging through the land. Carrying light packs, our group of twelve trekkers plus five porters and four guides walked along the trail, alternating between single-person footpaths and single-vehicle dusty roads. The gorge carved by the ancient river was verdant, with dark green rice fields and lush trees – a welcome respite from the smog and cacophony of Kathmandu, our starting point.

Manang was our resting spot. We would spend two days there, acclimating to its altitude of 3700 meters – about 11,500 feet. Almost everyone had been sick, or was sick by now, with various ailments: stomach virus, head cold, headaches from the altitude. Most of us took the half-day hike of the mountain bordering one side of the town, to see the resident monks at the Thaken Gompa, to pay tribute and obtain a Buddhist’s aged blessing.

The monastery was dug in on the side of the cliff, and the wizened monk in blood-red robes looked surprisingly fit, especially given the difficult stairs and low overhangs he had to negotiate in his bunker dwelling. Aptly dubbed the “100 rupee llama,” the blessing was duly conferred on the penitent, replete with a ceremonial tap on the head with the holy book, and a braided necklace placed around the neck, after the forfeiture of a 100 rupee note! But how could one resist?! “I am 96 years old,” he said in accented English, plus some other things in Tibetan I couldn’t understand. Smiles all around and our gripes seemed to ease already.

Later that day, we attended a health seminar on the perils of AMS -- Acute Mountain Sickness -- at the local clinic, given by a young English doctor. He gave it daily, as his clinic was the only one this side of the pass in the whole region. We grabbed plastic chairs at the appointed hour and listened raptly amongst the overflow audience. The talk proved prescient, as we would learn later on our trip over the pass. We got our oxygen uptake sampled, bought more Diamox tablets to combat the effects of the altitude, and generally felt uplifted by our new-found knowledge.

Our stay in Manang was a needed restorative. My yak steak with garlic and ginger sauce that night was a bit toothsome, but satisfying nonetheless; with the Hindu restrictions on beef throughout the country, one soon tired of chicken. Others went with the tried and true Dal Bhat, a rice dish with curried vegetables and lentil soup: a staple eaten with the fingers by the natives

who mash everything together. Ah, and the chilis! Makes my eyes water with pain just to recall the smell. I couldn't summon the courage to try more than a few diced pieces of green chili mixed in my rice dishes, much less the shriveled but oh so potent red ones.

I'd have to characterize Nepal as rustic in the countryside. In fact, just about everywhere outside of the tourist section of Kathmandu is rustic. I was away during Superstorm Sandy's effects in New Jersey, but I believe they were amazingly akin to what conditions are in Nepal, at least with respect to the availability of electricity and fuel, and perhaps cooking conditions. And though it was warm during the day – the sun rapidly warmed the thin air – it was also quite cold at night, dropping below freezing every night in the higher altitudes. Our accommodations, the famed “teahouses,” were not much more than thin-paneled rooms on a hill. There was no heat, no insulation, and the barest of bunks to lay our sleeping bags upon. But the views are fabulous! White mountaintops jutting into the azure sky; the river coursing from a far away crevice in the folded landscape; deeply tanned herders with their yak and goat herds foraging in the sparse, dusty sscape, and of course, the Buddhist and Hindu temple buildings studding the rocky promontories everywhere you looked, their red, green, blue, yellow and white prayer flags always flapping in the never-ceasing winds.

And that movie? We thrilled to Brad Pitt befriending the Dalai Llama, overcoming the cultural differences as West met East, before the Chinese Communists barricaded the border and exiled the revered leader. Culture, scenery, timeless setting, and a movie star, all for \$3 on the way out the door. Truly an experience.

*By Tom Loop*

## **BOY SCOUT SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 3**

This is our annual salute to the Scouts that are part of this parish. Boy Scout Troop 104 was founded by All Saints' over 50 years ago, and we remain the sponsoring organization. We also sponsor Cub Scout Pack 4. Both organizations have seen a big resurgence in recent years, and both have many members and lots of activities.

At the 10 o'clock Service on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Scoutmaster Bill Sherman will preach, with Scouts participating in other ways (including our own **Colin and Bob Okell**). A Pancake Breakfast follows for the whole congregation, thanks to the generosity of the troop members and parents. Scouts and parents from Troop 104 help out during the year, especially on outdoor clean-up days. We are always grateful for their assistance.

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

---

**All Saints' was represented at President Obama's Inaugural** on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Our two parishioners who go to school in Washington, D.C. were both there. Somewhere in the vast crowd in front of the Capitol were **Sharon Burk**, a sophomore at American University, and **Thurston Hamlette**, in his third year at Howard University Law School who reported being "40 feet from Beyonce."

## **ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 27**

We began with a lunch of bagels and cream cheese – with assorted sweets – followed by the meeting for just over an hour. Reports were given, with committee and guild chairs adding details to their written reports and taking questions. The final 2012 Budget was presented by Treasurer **Sally Robinson** and approved. She also presented the 2013 Budget, explaining how Finance Committee and Vestry made the calculations and that Budget too was approved. **John Brewer**, Finance Committee Chair, reported on the Endowment Fund in the absence of **Tom Loop** who administers the Fund. All budgetary news (including Stewardship) was good.

Tribute was paid to outgoing Senior Warden **Don Kern**, who has served six years and therefore must step down. **Mary O'Connor and Scott Smith**, having served six years on Vestry, also stepped down. **Richard Johnson** was elected as Junior Warden and will serve with **Jenine Williams** who now becomes Senior Warden. Elected to the Vestry Class of 2016 were **Todd Bouverot** (2<sup>nd</sup> term) and first-termers **Chris Harris, Michelle Smith-Crona and Kevin Walsh**.

**\*\*\*LAYREADERS WORKSHOP JAN. 29 -- 7:30 PM\*\*\***

## **EPISCOPAL BASICS – CONFIRMATION CLASS FOR ADULTS**

If you are not officially an Episcopalian, this is your chance. Classes will meet monthly, starting **Sunday, Feb. 10 at 11:30 am** when we'll explore, "What it Means to Be a Christian; What it Means to Be an Episcopalian." For more information, speak to the rector.

### **FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

Feb. 3 Boy Scout Sunday  
Feb. 8 Cooky Bake  
Feb. 12 Shrove Tuesday  
Feb. 13 Ash Wednesday  
Feb. 20 Vestry  
Feb. 22 Movie Night  
Feb. 24 Restaurant Adventure  
Feb. 27 Lenten Soup & Study

### **Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Lamp**

We invite you to keep fresh Flowers (greens in Lent) on the altar with a memorial or thanksgiving. The cost is **\$40.00**. Keep the

**Sanctuary Lamp** burning for a week, as a meaningful way 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/greens or lamp. Sign up in the narthex, or call the office.

**Available Dates**

**Altar Flowers:**

Feb. 3, 10

**Altar Greens:**

Feb. 24

**Sanctuary Lamp:**

Feb. 10

**Missionary Outreach**

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

**Feb.** – Health & Beauty Supplies (shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes & paste, floss, mouthwash, Q-tips, cotton balls)

**March** – Flashlights & batteries

**April** – Baby/toddler items (disposable diapers, ointments, powder, wipes, thermometers, shampoo, nail clippers)

**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.**

---

The Rev. Jane Rockman, *Rector*

Andrew Kilkenny, Organist and Choirmaster

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:** [allsaints-spnj@verizon.net](mailto:allsaints-spnj@verizon.net) ♦

[facebook.com/allsaintsspnj](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsspnj)

---

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