



For All the Saints

September 2012

Dear Friends,

On the four Sundays in August, the readings were from the Gospel according to John, and in all of them, we heard Jesus describe himself as the bread of life which came down from heaven to give life to the world. We also heard him command us to eat his flesh and drink his blood – the bread and wine of Holy Communion/Holy Eucharist.

We celebrate the Eucharist several times each week, and Communion is often part of weddings and funerals – all in order to strengthen and solidify that indelible connection with God in Christ. Holy Baptism makes us Christian, and the Holy Eucharist renews the baptismal promise that Jesus is with us now in this life, and we will be with him for eternity. We come to the Lord's Table to share the bread and wine, not because we see it is an obligation that must be completed, but in order to receive that continuous infusion of God's grace. The *Prayer Book* identifies Holy Eucharist as "the principal act of worship on the Lord's Day."

The Catechism in our *Prayer Book* outlines the benefits that come to us at the Lord's Table. From the Eucharist come "forgiveness of our sins, the strengthening of our union with Christ and one another, and the foretaste of the heavenly banquet which is our nourishment in eternal life." Holy Eucharist is not a "thing" to be done. Ideally, it instills in us a particular way of being, of looking at the world, of shaping our lives.

Given Jesus' command to us and the benefits we receive from the Sacrament, Holy Eucharist is a beneficial habit to develop. It may seem that bad habits become part of us much more readily than good ones, but that is not really true. So as another new season begins, make church your Sunday morning habit. Take your place at the Lord's Table.

I hope it has been a wonderful, restful, enjoyable summer. It has been a good summer in the parish. The calendar was certainly much less filled than usual, but there were still important meetings taking place and exciting plans being made, so All Saints' is ready for fall. Now, the All Saints' community needs *you*.

Jane+

— *All Saints' News* —

MUSIC NOTES FROM ANDREW KILKENNY

Our Musical season here at All Saints' is beginning September 9th. This year, we are presenting an all-new concert series that will include Evensongs, Organ Recitals, and Special Concerts. For more information, we have Brochures in the Narthex, or speak to me directly. Our first Choir rehearsal for the All Saints' Choir was August 30th, to launch the weekly schedule of rehearsals Thursdays 8 pm. The First Rehearsal for the Youth Choir is Sunday October 7th, and I hope to get our Youth involved in our first Evensong! I'm excited for you to hear some new music, as well as welcome some new members to both choirs. All who are interested in joining any part of our growing music program are welcome. Please contact me, or speak with me directly! There is a place for everyone (*I do have a Schedule & Repertoire list available.*)

SEASONS OF OUTREACH

School Supplies -- Heart for Humanity (Trish Nering) has a special list of items that would be most helpful to young people heading back to school: Pens, Filler Paper, Black "marble" Notebooks, Non-Spiral Binders. Backpacks are always welcome, but are more expensive. Please bring donations to the church by September 16, so they can be picked up and distributed.

Grace's Kitchen – The number of volunteers helping with our parish's monthly participation at Grace's Kitchen (the soup kitchen at Grace Church in Plainfield where we serve the last Thursday of the month) has grown. We thank all who helped in July: **Charlie Beakes, Grace Butler, Debbie Clavin, Janet Gardner, Dorothy Jenkins, Wesley Jenkins, Don Kern, Sally Robinson (and her mother, Mrs. Griffith), Gloria Stankus, and John Tucker.** To learn about helping in the future, speak to Charlie Beakes.

Nets for Life – The parish's fundraising efforts will begin at the end of the month. Episcopal Relief and Development and the Diocese of New Jersey are part of a church-wide effort to raise funds that will supply mosquito-netting in parts of sub-Saharan Africa where a child dies from malaria every minute. Mosquitoes carry this disease which can be prevented by proper protection. Strong, insecticide-treated nets cost \$12 apiece, and one can save three lives from suffering and death.

We will hear more on Sunday, October 7th from Lisa Tucker, who spent part of a summer several years ago volunteering as a teacher in Ghana, one of the countries most severely stricken by malaria. She will teach our young people during Sunday School time, and everyone else during Coffee Hour. We hope the Youth Group will have a Bake Sale. There will be collection envelopes, hope boxes, Rita Mosquito buttons (she's a villain). Meanwhile, when you read the last paragraph of Robert Leeper's article, think how you can help.

THE REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE RESUMES

The last summer Sunday – one Service at 9 am -- is September 2nd, Labor Day weekend.

The 10 o'clock Service resumes September 9th.

The 8 o'clock Service resumes September 16th.

The first Sunday with services at both 8 & 10 am will be September 16.

WELCOME BACK BRUNCH, SEPTEMBER 30

It's annual and it's fun! This is the time to see old friends again and welcome new ones. We gather in Lea Hall after the 10 o'clock Service to enjoy good food and fellowship. **Mark Douches** has suggested bringing along a photo or two from your summer activities, whether you did long-distance travel, or you enjoyed a summer closer to home. In any case, come to the Brunch. Please sign up, and if you can bring a food item, indicate what you will bring.

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

That is our address for another way to make contact with the parish and get information on events and programs. Many thanks to **Claudine Doyle** who has been working on our Facebook page and is now magically transforming the parish website. With **Rich Johnson, Communications Chair**, they are our creative team for social networking.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A LAY READER?

The term is now "Worship Leader," and it covers lay reading and serving as a Lay Eucharistic Minister (administering Communion, usually chalice). We have a wonderful roster of servers, with room for more. **There will be classes taught by John Burk and the Rector, on three Tuesday evenings in October**, followed by a workshop for all Lay Readers on the last Tuesday. If you would like to serve in this very rewarding ministry, please speak to John or the Rector.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY RESUMES OCTOBER 7TH

This fall, we will be studying the book of Genesis – not hard to find in the Bible. Come to the Guild Room for some thoughtful discussion, 9 – 9:40 am, and bring your Bible.

***PLEASE SIGN UP TO DO COFFEE HOUR THIS FALL
PICK A SUNDAY – OR TWO!***

--YOUTH NEWS--

Register for Sunday School, September 9 & 16 during Coffee Hour

Classes begin September 23rd at 9:55 am

Welcome our dedicated Teachers!

Kelly and Glen Robertson, co-Directors
Carol Albert, Grace Butler – Pre-K & Kindergarten
Lauren DiSarno, Carol Rahner, Beth Wojcio – 1st & 2nd grades
Kelly Robertson – 3rd & 4th grades
Joy Ogunyemi – 5th & 6th grades
Samantha Loop – Nursery Monitor

The Sunday School curriculum – new this year – is called **Spark**, for grades 1-6. The weekly lessons follow our Lectionary – the same readings we use in church. There is a “Take Home Letter” each week with topics and questions to review as a family.

Confirmation Class will be taught by **Jennifer Dawson, Glen Robertson and the Rector**. An introductory meeting is planned for September 23rd during Coffee Hour when scheduling and program will be discussed. There will be several classes each month during Sunday School time, and a Saturday morning class with the Rector. The book to be used is, **My Faith, My Life: A Teen’s Guide to the Episcopal Church**, by Jenifer Gamber. Confirmation Class welcomes young people from 7th grade through high school.

Sunday School on the First Sunday of every month will present a variety of programs during the year, each one reflecting in some way the Gospel assigned for that day.

October 7, the Gospel theme is, “Let the children come to me,” and our Sunday School Program is, “Nets for Life” – learning about efforts to combat malaria, which affects thousands of children in Africa every day, especially in Ghana. Our students will make “Rita Mosquito” badges and posters, and learn how to help keep children safe.

Lisa Tucker, who spent a summer teaching in Ghana several years ago, will lead this class.

The Youth Choir will start rehearsals October 7, at 11:20 (following the 10 o’clock Service). **Andrew Kilkenny** looks forward to welcoming more kids into the Choir. He will have a rehearsal schedule to distribute at the first meeting.

A Sunday School Greeter will be on hand downstairs each week by 9:50 am, to welcome students for classes.

-- *Parishioner Profile* --

FROM FANWOOD TO KARACHI

By Robert Leeper

When getting off the plane in Karachi, Pakistan, the way people drive is your first clue that you have left any familiar place behind. Compared with the madhouse of clearly ignored red lights, rickshaws, mopeds, and donkey carts, the Lincoln Tunnel is a Sunday afternoon drive into the country. Despite the armed guards and cement bunker-like structures on many street corners, the rules of the road (which apparently *do* exist) are minor concerns if considered at all.

I went to Pakistan as a member of a Rotary National Immunization Days (NID) team with eight other people. Five of us, including my father Dwight Leeper, were from Scotch Plains/Fanwood and Westfield, and four were from Quebec, Canada. We left on the 12th of July, not quite sure what we were getting into, and came back with changed perspectives on Pakistan, the world, and our ability to contribute to it.

Polio is no longer given a second thought in the United States, and has been eradicated in all but three countries in the world: Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. Despite the best efforts of Rotary and other world organizations like UNICEF and the Red Cross, misinformation and a host of other issues in Pakistan keep polio lingering on. With 198 cases in 2011, and 29 new ones thus far in 2012, it is a real problem.

The local Karachi Rotarians that our crew stayed with kept us constantly busy. After our enormous breakfasts, our daily activities included a steady rotation of different Rotary Club meetings, visits to their various project sites, and visits to the poorer areas of Karachi to administer the polio vaccine to children which was given in the form of two drops from a bottle into the child's mouth.

Our hosts were excited to show us all the progress they were making and the work they were doing. It was impressive. From orphanages and schools to Jaipur Limbs, a Rotary-funded company that creates prosthetic limbs for those who need them -- free of charge -- the Rotary Clubs of Karachi had a plethora of projects that they worked on.

The main reason for our visit was the NID, a worldwide initiative of the UN's World Health Organization and Rotary to stem the spread of polio. It was a truly eye-opening experience. We traveled through several different "slums," although I hesitate to call them that for reasons I will address later. As we traveled around, we greeted local people, took pictures with children, answered questions about the part the United States and Rotary play in polio prevention and eradication, and went door to door to give the life-saving drops. We did our small part to act as ambassadors of the care program itself, and also of the thoughts and sympathy the rest of the world has for Pakistan.

Now why do I hesitate to refer to some sections of Karachi as slums? Slums conjure up the idea of a dead economy. But the economies in these areas were not dead at all. They were veritable hives of activity, with people selling or buying every conceivable type of product from iced drinks to camels. There is little money, but lots of livings to be made.

Pakistan is a country full of problems, but also a country with inhabitants who work every day to find solutions. The range of problems they suffer from includes health issues, caused in part by extremely unsanitary living conditions and overpopulation making it a breeding ground for disease. (19 million people live in Karachi alone, more than twice as many as live in New York City.) Add to that, political issues with the Taliban and tribal territories in the north, corruption, and a government just on the border of barely working. But along with the problems, there are groups inside and outside Pakistan working every day to improve the lives of the people.

Just to throw a moral lesson into this piece, if so much support can be given and progress made in the fight against polio in Pakistan, we can all do *something*. The world is full of problems that need solving. It is not up to any one group or organization to give all the help, nor is it only one group that needs help. From Fanwood, New Jersey to Karachi, Pakistan and beyond, there are issues that need to be addressed. Rotary's work in the fight against polio is a breathtaking example of how the world can come together in support of a cause, and we should all strive to seek out like-minded do-gooders, and then do good.

By Robert Leeper

Calendar Highlights

Sept. 9 10 o'clock Service resumes
Sept. 9 Sunday School Registration
Sept. 16 8 o'clock Service resumes
Sept. 16 Sunday School Registration
Sept. 19 Vestry
Sept. 22 Claire Bischoff Okell, Memorial
Sept. 23 Sunday School begins
Sept. 30 Welcome Back Brunch

A WORD ABOUT SCARECROWS

We have 15 or so, big and small, all made except for clothing. The plan is to clothe them and sell them on pleasant Sunday afternoons in early October. If you have pants, front-button shirts, hats or scarves we could use them, but we especially need plastic bags for stuffing. The rest of the plan is for the Youth Group to enjoy their own Welcome-Back Brunch on Sept. 30, eating, talking, and dressing scarecrows!

--The All Saints' Family --

Claire Bischoff Okell passed away on August 23rd after a long illness that she fought valiantly. With husband **Bob**, and son **Colin**, Claire was an active and creative leader in the parish, who established programs and events that have become traditions. Her Funeral was at Grace Episcopal Church, Old Saybrook, Connecticut on August 28th, and burial followed. **A Memorial Service for Claire will be here at All Saints' on Saturday, September 22nd at 2 pm.**

Glen Robertson has joined the faculty of New Providence High School. He is an accredited Special Education teacher and will teach Special Ed math and history.

Jon and Dan Dawson performed in the Stephen Sondheim musical, "Into the Woods," on the Scotch Plains Village Green, over three weekends in July, sponsored by the School District and YMCA. **Jon** played the lead role of the Baker, and won the Star of Excellence Award for ability, hard work and commitment.

Matthew and Eva McNally welcomed a daughter, **Aria Jane**, on March 5. She is the granddaughter of **Janet and Mac McNally**, and niece of **Ian**. Congratulations to all!

Congratulations to **Emily DiSarno**, who made the Travel Soccer Team for the Westfield School. She will wear the uniform of #11.

Congratulations **Victor Johnson** whose baseball team, the Red Sox, beat the Yankees for the Fanwood Youth Organization championship.

Esther Ogunyemi is starting her second year in medical school. She attends the University of Medicine and Dentistry (UMDNJ) in Piscataway.

Cathy Harris was elected Secretary of the Scotch Plains-Fanwood Rotary, where she has been active for several years. The formal induction ceremony was in June.

Dwight Leeper has begun his one-year term as Rotary District 7510 Governor, an elective office which connects clubs throughout the area to one another, and to resources from Rotary International. His recent trip to Pakistan, written up by **Robert Leeper**, was a Rotary activity.

In the Summer issue of "Vision," published by the Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey, there is a lovely tribute to **Kristi Burk** titled, "A Wife and Mother Gives the Greatest Christmas Gift of All." After her passing on Christmas of 2010, and knowing that she had signed up to be an organ donor, **John** donated Kristi's corneas, which "helped give somebody a second chance for sight." (The entire article is on the bulletin board in Lea Hall.)

Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Lamp

We invite you to keep fresh Flowers on the altar with a memorial or thanksgiving. The cost is **\$40.00**. You can 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 or lamp. Sign up for specific dates in the narthex, or call the office.

Available Dates

Altar Flowers:
Sept. 30

Sanctuary Lamp:
Sept. 16, 23, 30

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.

Sept.-- Baby/Toddler items (disposable diapers, ointments, powder, wipes, shampoo, thermometers, nail clippers)

Oct. -- Laundry supplies (small boxes of detergent, bleach, stain remover)

Nov. -- Health & Beauty supplies (soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothbrushes & paste, floss, mouthwash, Q-Tips, cotton balls)

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

Don Kern Jenine Williams

Vestry

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|----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Charlie Beakes | Todd Bouverot | Lauren DiSarno | Rich Johnson |
| Clark Landale | Patricia Ludewig | Mary O'Connor | Glen Robertson |
| Scott Smith | Sally Robinson | Liz Trimpin | Susan Winkler |

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