

The All Souls Message

All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church ■ Volume 107, Issue 6 ■ December 2007/January 2008

From the Rector

Advent, Christmas, and Things that Endure

I was a conservative as a child, as many children are. I didn't want things to change. Especially around the holidays, I resisted change in any way. For it to feel like Christmas I wanted the same decorations, the same events celebrated, the same rituals, and the same foods. If my mother forgot to make a certain food, the season just wasn't the same. If we didn't get to see particular holiday classics on television, then the season didn't seem to start off quite right. As I grew older, I simply replaced childhood rituals with others. It felt like Christmas if I was able to hear the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols from Kings College on the radio. It felt like Christmas if gifts included something from the Heifer Project. It felt like Christmas if

I still resist change, but I try, especially at this time of year, to find God in the changes. I try to notice how God might be changing me and inviting me to grow and learn and live more deeply.

This season at All Souls brings several important changes for our common life. Though the parish's formal transition time may have ended with the calling of a new rector, our transition as a community continues. After eight years as parish administrator at All Souls, Barry Huber is retiring on December 31, 2007. Barry has

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put into place countless systems and processes that have helped All Souls to grow and flourish. He has reminded, coaxed, cajoled and cornered us into doing the things we have said we would do, as well as doing some things that simply needed to be done. He has helped organize us and he has always held this parish, and himself, to a very high standard. Barry helped organize a parish administrators' support group in the diocese and continues to be called upon for advice, counsel, and insight.

As a very new rector in this place, I cannot begin to say how valuable Barry has been. He often intuitively asks my question before I even ask it and he can almost always put his finger on the obscure report or bulletin or file for which I'm searching. I will miss him very much. We will celebrate Barry's ministry among us at a special reception following Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 16, 2007. That will be our formal "thank you," but I encourage you to add your personal thanksgiving to Barry in the days ahead.

While I would prefer that nothing change, I am looking for God through these changes as well as the other changes of the season. I pray that God will continue to bless Barry and Butch in their life together and that God will also bless our parish as we discern how best to organize ourselves for the future.

The Angel Gabriel told Mary that she mustn't be afraid. In Advent and Christmas the church reminds us of how darkness is overcome by light, fear overcome by faith, and sadness overcome by joy. May this season be filled with the best memories of Christmas past and may we be filled with joy for the new year.

A blessed Advent, a Merry Christmas, and a very happy New Year to you all.

John Beddingfield ■

Some months after I joined All Souls Parish, I tired of receiving its many gifts without giving anything but money in return. I handed the then-rector a brief summary of my career and asked him if anything in it suggested a role for me within the parish. He saw a match between my career in journalism—reporter, writer, editor, publisher—and *The Message*. I was pleased with the assignment.

So, I believe, was Barry. He had not been parish administrator for long, and I had not realized that he was putting the publication out virtually alone. With all the other demands on him—parish business in those days had not yet succumbed to Barry's drive for well-oiled systems for getting things done, so that nearly every facet of our administrative life required a huge output of effort—*The Message* was a straw that this particular camel of God did not need on his back.

I assumed that I would be responsible not only for planning and editing the publication but for its design, makeup, and production as well. Being less than computer-savvy, I was challenged by the production side (for which I had always in the past hired talent). I need not have worried, for when I told Barry I would be willing to assume full responsibility for the whole process, he demurred in the way that only Barry can demur. Flatly. Referring to his own pre-retirement career in graphic design, he said, "I am a designer. I will continue with the design."

“He became
my biggest fan
and I his.”

So we began. Knowing us, two men with emphatic beliefs about the importance of good communications to the life of a parish we both love, you would have expected continual conflict. You would have been only half right. We clashed on a number of basics as a writer/editor/word man will clash with a designer/picture man. But we did not always clash about everything, and as we learned each other's reasons and motives and tastes we came to truly appreciate the other as part of a publication that was increasingly interesting and useful in both content and appearance. He became my biggest fan and I his. And *The Message* continued to improve.

Not everything smoothed out forever. I recall that Barry had taken what I considered a particularly unenlightened position on some point of "style" (the collective name for a publication's rules of usage, punctuation, capitalization) and had had the temerity to challenge me on it more than once. I was, I thought, extremely patient with him, a designer. When he demanded more reasons for my eminently correct view, I finally replied, "Because that's the way it is!" Barry (being Barry) was not content to let it drop, and it was about this time, I think, that I coined a soubriquet that I used only when I was reaching my limit and only behind his back: "Our Beloved Parish Administrator."

The trouble was that others in the parish staff found their own reasons, from time to time, to apply my formulation, openly, and without clenched jaw, and I began to regret ever having been so petty as to have applied it to a man of whom I am genuinely fond.

Then came John David's resignation and that difficult two years that has ended so happily. Barry was a rock. This crisis. That crisis. Barry always responded to them in the way he believed would best serve the parish and its people. He helped here. He propped up there. He counseled. He encouraged. For some of this time he was engaged in a confrontation with cancer, and he still worked his tail off. I was not surprised when I heard that Barry had postponed his retirement until the new rector and the vestry could arrange for his successor.

There was nothing to be surprised about. "Our Beloved Parish Administrator" had become what he always was: Our beloved parish administrator.

Fred Jordan ■

This is the time of year when we turn our attention to gift giving. Many of us make lists of people we would *like* to remember (and some of us make lists of people we feel we *have* to remember) in some way. After the holidays are over, we return to our “normal” lives until the next year, when we begin new lists. My friends, this has little to do with generosity. Those of you with young children—or have ever been around young children—know that generosity is not necessarily something that we are born with. Babies learning to speak begin with “Mama and Dada,” progress to “Bye-bye,” go on to “No” and end up with an emphatic “MINE.” Sharing is a difficult concept for children and for many grown-ups. We all have to learn to share, to become generous with our gifts.

So what does it mean to “cultivate generosity”? To cultivate something means to labor over it—to foster a practice. Generosity is an act or instance of magnanimity or munificence; that is, giving in abundance often. Some think of generosity in terms of money or extravagant gifts. True generosity means something very different. I believe that true generosity is found in the “laboring,” in the cultivation of the practice.

If you are very wealthy, then giving great sums of money away isn’t necessarily generous—good certainly, but not always generous. The same can be said of gift-giving. If you have “many” then giving away a “few” is good, but not generous. The test is in

“*When we become generous people our spirits soar.*”

giving away what you really like and want to keep for yourself or in giving away what there already appears to be too little of to share.

St. Francis advises us “to give and not to count the cost.” But what does that mean to us in today’s world? Cultivating generosity means learning to live in such a way that generosity becomes our natural behavior; it is a life-altering practice, a major attitude adjustment, a complete spiritual overhaul. Becoming generous in all things means not always having to be “first in line”; it means not being in such a hurry that our actions inconvenience others; it means that our agenda isn’t more important than someone else’s; it means listening instead of talking; it means helping others when it is completely inconvenient to our schedules; it means stepping back so others can go ahead. Generosity helps to conquer anger, injustice, rudeness, and mean-spiritedness; it means not always having to be right. True generosity makes us slow down and contemplate what is really going on, taking time to cultivate and bloom in our spirits. It is a learned behavior that we have to think about and labor over until it becomes natural to us. So in this time of gift-giving, I believe

one of the best gifts is the gift of generosity. That is a gift that costs (in terms of money) nothing, but is very costly in terms of our time. It takes time to cultivate this behavior and then it takes even more time to disburse it. But when we become generous people, our spirits soar. We are released from the bondage of pettiness and smallness of spirit, and we become new people. We are able to enjoy and benefit from all of our relationships (with God, our spouse or partner, and our neighbor).

Generosity doesn’t have the last word or talk back. Generosity doesn’t advertise what is intended or accomplished—it simply acts. Generosity is a spiritual discipline. When we share all of our gifts, we somehow acquire more gifts to share. It is one of those great mysteries of “giving” and “receiving” that we have explored before. During this time of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, I wish for you what I wish for myself—that the Holy Spirit will come and infuse our souls with such clear knowledge of God’s love for us, that we will become truly generous people who willingly share our gifts so that others may also know that love. A blessed Christmas to each of you.

Nancye Suggs ■

We are virtually at the end of our stewardship campaign for 2008. I'd like to thank all those who have pledged. For those of you who have not, it is not too late, and your pledge is very much needed. I'd like you to consider some of the expenses we have at All Souls and why your giving is so important.

One of the Sundays in early November, I spelled out for the congregation the amount of money it takes to maintain a unique, beautiful church like All Souls. Consider, if you will, some of our budget expenses for the year:

\$13,000	Church electricity
\$22,000	Church gas
\$16,000	Insurance on church buildings
\$15,000	Heating and ventilating system repairs
\$4,500	Trash removal
\$9,000	Plumbing and electrical repairs
\$4,000	Replace church light bulbs ("cherry picker" is needed)
\$2500	Janitorial supplies

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*If you haven't pledged,
it is not too late.*
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By no means is this list exhaustive, but it shows how much it costs just to keep our doors open and our church clean and in good repair. Before we are finished paying bills, we will have paid close to \$100,000 in a typical year just to maintain our buildings alone.

And there are other very expensive items on our budget. The list above does not even address budget items such as salaries for our employees, music, and office expenses. This is why we ask for everyone's help.

When I look at these sums of money, I feel very inadequate, given what I can afford to pay. And yet, I know that if everyone gave, we would be equal to what we pay to maintain our church, and to do more than that.

If you have already pledged, we thank you. If you have not, please reconsider.

Ray Myrtle ■

An Update
The Search for a Music Director and Organist

In late October we posted a position announcement for a Music Director and Organist in publications of the American Guild of Organists and the Association of Anglican Musicians. In addition, we have benefited from friends of All Souls who have helped to spread the word. Our search committee is made up of the rector and two members of the vestry: Dale Lewis, and Norman Whitmire. We are also blessed by the participation of Bill Culverhouse, who is a member of All Souls and director of the Schola Cantorum at the

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, and Ronald Stolk, who is a member of All Souls and director of music at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church. Ronald is also the current dean of the District of Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and an organist liaison for the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Several other area musicians have assisted us with advice and recommendations. Please pray for our search committee and for our candidates.

John Beddingfield ■

A Gathering of the Wise and Mature
December Seniors' Lunch Bunch

As a special treat for our seniors, there will be a lunch in December, and it will be sponsored by Nancye Suggs. Please mark your calendar for Wednesday, December 12, after the Noon Mass. Also please call the parish office at 202/232-4244 no later than Monday, December 10, to let us know if you will be attending. ■



Handmaiden or Mother of God:
The Place of the Virgin Mary in the Anglican Tradition
A SPECIAL ADVENT SERIES ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
December 5, 12 & 19
7-8:30 p.m.

"Born of the Virgin Mary," is a phrase said by Protestants almost every Sunday. Yet, aside from the annual Christmas pageant or the occasional musical setting of *Magnificat*, what exactly is the place of Mary in Protestant theology and spirituality? For three Wednesday evenings in Advent, Father Beddingfield will help us explore attitudes toward the Virgin Mary arising from scripture, tradition, creeds, popular devotion, and theological reflection. We will look at the development of this thought through the history of the church and

"What exactly is the place of Mary in Protestant theology and spirituality?"

in contemporary ecumenical conversations. After paying particular attention to the thought of Luther, Calvin, and some more recent Protestant scholars, we will discuss the place of the Virgin Mary in contemporary Roman Catholic theology and in contemporary ecumenical conversations.

We will begin with a potluck supper, followed by the presentation.

John Beddingfield ■

"All Souls has had a special relationship with St. Mary's Court."

In September the Endowment Fund Board received a grant request from St. Mary's Court for their dinner program for residents, which was in need of further funding. All Souls has had a special relationship with St. Mary's Court since the facility was built and for some members of our parish it is their home.

The Endowment Fund Board approved a grant of \$5,000 to St. Mary's Court and the Vestry approved the grant at the October meeting. The Board and Vestry were very pleased to be able to meet this request.

Pat Dresser,
Endowment Fund Board Chair ■

Application forms for grants for 2008 will be available in the parish office in January and are due February 8th.



Your prayers and presence are asked for the
CELEBRATION OF A NEW MINISTRY AT ALL SOULS MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH
on Saturday, January 12, 2008, at ten o'clock in the morning

THE RIGHT REVEREND JOHN BRYSON CHANE, BISHOP OF WASHINGTON,
will institute and induct
THE REVEREND JOHN FLOYD BEDDINGFIELD
AS THE SEVENTH RECTOR OF ALL SOULS PARISH.

A reception follows in the Undercroft

Notes from the Vestry Meetings

September Meeting

- The first meeting with Fr. John Beddingfield; he described his plan to meet with ministry teams, committees, and individuals
- Treasurer Larry Sturgeon explained the new format he will use for treasurer’s reports
- The vestry endorsed an agreement with the interim organist/choir-master

October Meeting

- Fr. Beddingfield discussed his activities and plans
- A new company was selected for management of the All Souls website
- The vestry approved the establishment of handicapped parking spaces.

Nancye Suggs

What’s Worth a Thousand Words?

Pictures, of course! Over the past year Todd VanCantfort has been sharing his talent for capturing us at our best. He has posted those moments on his web site for other members to enjoy and cherish.

Go to www.lunarimage.com and click on the “Online Proofs” tab to see over 300 special All Souls moments. Enter your email address and you can scroll through wonderful memories of Easter egg hunts, outreach activities, and All Souls ministries in action.

If there is a special picture you like, you can purchase it on the website. All proceeds over the cost of production will go to All Souls. Options include various sizes as well as a very special price on greeting cards.

Todd has also agreed to provide an electronic copy of your favorites free of charge. Simply let him know which image(s) you like, and he will email a web ready copy for your use. You can ask for your free copy by clicking on the “contact us” link at www.lunarimage.com and requesting the specific picture by the identification number below the image.

Todd Van Cantfort

Koinonia

Koinonia (koy-nohn-ee’-ah) is the Greek word for fellowship and at All Souls, Koinonia invites young adults to gather for discussion, social events, and other opportunities to get to know other people while deepening faith in God.

Every Friday night All Souls offers Low Mass at 7 p.m. The Mass is normally celebrated by the rector using Rite I of the Book of Common Prayer. After Mass, Koinonia often adjourns to a neighborhood restaurant. For more information, sign up to be a part of the Yahoo Group at groups.yahoo.com/group/allsouls_2030 or send an email to Norman Whitmire, normmd2@comcast.net.

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The Message is published every two months except for a June/July/August issue and a single issue in September.

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*An opportunity for fellowship
throughout the year.*
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The end of a foyer dinner year is approaching, and an exciting new one is about to begin. Early in 2008 you will have the opportunity to sign up for a foyer dinner group. This is an opportunity for fellowship throughout the year. Participants get acquainted with about 10 persons associated with All Souls at potluck dinners in each other's homes (or in another location, like the undercroft, if your home is too small).

The group's captain(s) usually hosts the first dinner and then helps the hosts and hostesses of future dinners with the organization of future group dinners (i.e., who is attending and what they are bringing to the dinner). The captain's interest, encouragement, and involvement are essential to the success of the dinners throughout the calendar year. Butch Bradburn and Kathleen Scholl are always available to help and advise the captains with their foyer dinner groups. Please be sure to note on the signup form if you would like to be a dinner captain.

We understand that a few of the groups had at least seven dinners this year. Congratulations and a big thank you to this year's captains: Charles Graham and Ray Myrtle, Dale Lewis, Charles Boone and Carolyn Farmer, Joe Priester, Donald Albert and Jimmy Roberts, Derek Drummie and Rory Morrison-Smith, John Hall and Bill Sanders, Diana Kunkel and Trish Cleary, Tom Mabon and Philip Leonard, Bill Miller, and Kathleen Scholl.

Butch Bradburn & Kathleen Scholl ■

A Sonnet for Epiphany

Simeon

Luke 2:25–40

With faltering steps he slowly found his way
To the temple he had served for many a year,
Allayed forever now his mortal fear
For Israel's fate: he gloried in that day
As the Holy Spirit summoned him to pray
His thanks to God that Heaven had drawn near,
The Lord's Anointed, destined to appear
To liberate a mankind gone astray.

So may we hearken to his temple prayer
To celebrate a Savior come to earth,
The glory of all nations. Let each one bear
To Christ the Lord, in honor of his birth
The gift of self to serve 'til our release,
Then grant, O Lord that we depart in peace.

—*Jim Child*



Starting in mid-November, we began selling pecan halves and chocolate-covered pecans (turtles) for your holiday gifts and eating enjoyment. We also have Colonial Candles of Cape Cod, and recycled Christmas items donated by members of the parish. The selling takes place during the breakfast between the early and second Masses and during coffee hour following the second Mass and will continue until December 16 or until supplies are exhausted. Proceeds of the bazaar go to the Outreach Committee.

We are accepting your donations (ornaments, wrapping paper, cards, and any other Christmas items you think we can sell). Please place them on the landing to the right of the stage in the undercroft. Label them for the Holiday Bazaar. We stop accepting items on December 16.

We need volunteers to help us set up, sell, and put away. Please call me at (703) 525-0262 or leave a message with Barry Huber at the church office (202) 232-4244 if you can help.

*Butch Bradburn,
Holiday Bazaar chair* ■

*A Time of Fun and Fellowship
Annual Sunday School
Christmas Party
Saturday, December 15, 2007,
5-8 p.m.*

Please join us for the annual Christmas Potluck. It's a fun way to celebrate the season. St. Nicholas will be stopping by to read the "Night before Christmas." The children will stuff goodie bags for the residents of Saint Mary's Court, and we will all share a wonderful meal. All are welcome to attend.

RSVP to Marcia Anderson at marcia51@rcn.com. Please indicate what you will bring ie: appetizer, main dish or dessert.

Marcia Anderson ■

**Benefit for St. John's Children's
Hospital in Jerusalem**

The Sunday School Christmas party also continues another annual event at All Souls, support for St. John's Children's Hospital in Jerusalem.

Please bring a new, small stuffed animal or art supplies (paper, crayons, colored pencils) for children confined to their beds. When the children leave the hospital, these gifts will go with them. Since these children come from very poor families, the presents mean a great deal to them and their families. Donations will be collected through January 1, 2008. Thank you for your caring support.

Pat Dresser ■



It's time once again for the All Souls Giving Tree. The poor and homeless children in our area face great needs. Please help by taking an ornament from our Giving Tree (it went up November 18), buying the present the child requested (or one like it), and returning the wrapped present to the church by Sunday, December 9. This year we again have many children who are counting on us to make their Christmas special. The children come from the DC area. Most are participants in Community of Hope programs. If you have any questions about participating, please call Valerie Levanos or Tom Esch at 240/683-0561 or vlevanos@hotmail.com. Thanks for your help with this important project.

Valerie Levanos ■

Advent & Christmas at All Souls



*S*unday, December 2—Advent I

8:30 a.m., Low Mass • 11 a.m., High Mass
• Giving Tree & Holiday Bazaar continue •

*S*unday, December 9—Advent II

8:30 a.m., Low Mass • 11 a.m., High Mass
• Giving Tree gifts due; Holiday Bazaar continue •

*S*aturday, December 15

5–8 p.m., All Souls Christmas Party
• Visitation by St. Nicholas •

*S*unday, December 16—Advent III—Rose Sunday

8:30 a.m., Low Mass
11 a.m. Mass with Advent Lessons & Carols
• Giving Tree gifts due & final day for the Holiday Bazaar •

*S*unday, December 23—Advent IV

8:30 a.m., Low Mass • 11 a.m., High Mass

*M*onday, December 24—Christmas Eve

4 p.m., Children's Mass and Blessing of the Crèche
Music at 10:30 p.m. • Midnight Mass begins at 11 p.m.



*T*uesday—Christmas Day, December 25

One service at 10 a.m., Low Mass

*W*ednesday, December 26—St. Stephen's Day

Noon, Low Mass

*T*hursday, December 27—Saint John's Day

7:15 a.m. Matins, 7:30 a.m. Low Mass

*F*riday, December 28—The Holy Innocents

7 p.m., Low Mass

*S*unday, December 30—The First Sunday after Christmas Day

8:30 a.m., Low Mass
11 a.m., Mass with Christmas Lessons & Carols

While I grew up more or less as an Episcopalian, my first steady churchgoing did not occur until I attended a Catholic high school, where a weekly service was mandatory for all. It wasn't until I sat through a couple hundred services with music provided by a guitar-playing nun that I began to appreciate the music in the Episcopal services. In a church full of students I don't recall anyone ever singing with the nuns during the service, even though most of us knew the words to "Kum-Bah-Ya" and "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," which were apparently the only songs the nuns could play. I wasn't even clear on whether we were supposed to sing.

Occasionally I find myself in a Catholic church for a service, and I'm still not clear on this. Even with a choir and an organist, I usually don't see anyone but me picking up a hymnal, and the pronounced silence from the parishioners sitting nearby embarrasses me into singing at not much above a whisper.

When I went away to college, I joined a small Episcopal church where a large proportion of churchgoers were from the college's music department, and the singing from the choir and the congregation was incredible. While I'm not a very good singer, I felt comfortable singing in a loud voice with everyone else, and it made me grow to love the music of the Episcopal service.

“ Singing is one thing we can all do together. ”

People at All Souls generally sing along, but there's an inherent bashfulness about it. At times people seem afraid of mistakes and sing in a voice that can barely be heard by others. When it's an unfamiliar hymn it's not unusual for to see people closing their hymnal early to get ready for the next part of the service. Every time I see this it saddens me a bit.

A church may be primarily a place to worship God, but it's also a place of community, where people share experiences and help each other out. Back in the 50's the church created this community through shared activities, such as potlucks, socials, and volunteer projects. Today, such activities are fewer and most families are hard-pressed to make such big time commitments. Singing is one thing we can all do together. When I visit my brother in Boston I always stop by a large Episcopal Church near his apartment; but far from being intimidated, I feel very much at home in this church because no matter where I sit I hear hundreds of people singing together. Even when I go to a Sunday night service with few people in attendance, those around me sing loud and clear, and I feel a part of something.

The rituals and events in any church represent a double-edged sword for a congregation: Because of our common knowledge of what they symbolize they tend to draw us together, but at the same time people who don't know what to do or don't quite understand what our rituals represent can feel left out of our worshipping. People who are new to a church might not know when to cross themselves or why people bow their head when the crucifer passes them in the aisle, but they can join in with everyone else in the singing of hymns.

My little sister used to visit one of our favorite teachers at the nuns' retirement home. Sister Gerard suffered from Alzheimer's and would show little interest or comprehension when my sister reported on the events of our family or community. But in her last visit, shortly before Sister Gerard's death, my little sister mentioned that I had joined the church choir. Sister Gerard's eyes lit up, she smiled, and said "When you sing, it's like you're praying twice!" Amen.

Ike Brannon ■

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ranging from
how fear may hinder us
from hearing our call
to steps to take to enable our call.
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As we enter into the winter months, the Christian Formation Ministry Team is pleased to announce Adult Forum topics for December and January. We will be finishing up a great series about the early church facilitated by Union Theological seminary graduate and former senior warden, Joe Howell. Our own Norman Whitmire will finish up December's offerings with a festive look at the history of our most famous carols.

As we start the New Year, we will have a short potpourri of offerings before beginning the Winter/Spring series "Exploring Our Call." On January 27th, Fr. John will lead a discussion on "What Is Call?" Throughout the rest of the church year, we will discuss topics ranging from how fear may hinder us from hearing our call to steps to enable our call. During Eastertide, we will have a series of special speakers from around the Diocese who will come in to share with us their various ministries and how those ministries may be a call for us individually and as a parish. Stay tuned to future issues of *The Message* for more details.

Shawn Strout ■

2007

December 2

"The Early Church: Enter the Gospels" with Joe Howell

As the Church faced greater and greater persecution and felt that the "last days" were upon them, the task of preserving the faith became important. How was the faith to be preserved? In this discussion, we will talk about the many different gospels that were written and how those that have entered our canon were selected. We will also discuss the important differences in theology between the canonical Gospels.

December 9

"The Early Church: The Road to Nicea" with Joe Howell

Many think that the road from Christ to the institutionalization of the Church at the Council of Nicea was straight and smooth. Come learn about the many bumps along the way. We will discuss how the concepts of orthodoxy were developed, the various heresies at this time and the role of the great councils of the Church.

December 16

"The Stories of the Carols" with Norman Whitmire

Have you ever wondered about the stories behind the writing of some of our most famous Christmas carols? Join us for a discussion about the history behind some of our Christmas classics. Be careful, though, spontaneous caroling just might erupt.

December 23: Christmas Holiday

December 30: New Year's Holiday

2008

January 6

"Our Melting World" with Seelye Martin

Seelye Martin is a professor of oceanography at the University of Washington in Seattle. He has come to Washington, DC to work at NASA headquarters for two years as Cryosphere Program Manager. Seelye will lead a discussion on the melting of the giant ice sheets in Greenland and resulting sea level rise. As stewards of God's creation, we are entrusted with a sacred responsibility to care for the earth.

January 13

Topic TBD with Darla Brown

January 20

"East Meets West" with Shawn Strout

With an increase of multiculturalism in the United States, communities of faith that were once distant now find themselves right next door. As one of the oldest religions in the world, Buddhism provides millions of people with a rich religious heritage. Learn more about this ancient faith tradition and what we as Christians can learn from it.

Then we begin our series on "Exploring Our Call"

January 27

"What Is Call?"

with Fr. John Beddingfield

Within the Church, there is much talk about hearing God's call. What does this mean? Is God's call exclusively reserved for those contemplating Holy Orders? Or is God calling each of us to a life of faith and ministry? How can we all live out our call from God as ministers of the Church? Come join Fr. John for a discussion about hearing and responding to God's call in our lives, as we begin our new series on "Exploring Our Call."

December

- 1 Stan Kelly
Annabelle Regensburger
- 2 Gary O'Neill
- 5 Wayland Jenkins
- 7 Derek Drummie
Ray Myrtle
- 8 Jane Cazimero
- 9 Arthur Warren
- 15 Lori Commins
- 20 Alix Woodall
- 24 Mimi Clark
Cesar Perez
- 25 George Barnum
- 26 Charles Clark
Leonora Neville
- 28 Barry Huber
Diana Kunkel
Janet Jones

January

- 1 Betty Bird
Jean Chemnick
David Fernandez-Barrial
Marcos Moncada
Kym Rogers
Bill Welker
- 2 Daniel Miller
- 3 Jim Lewis
Joan Shapiro
- 7 Ruby Griffith
David Morse
- 8 Irene Butcher
Gabriel Haines
- 11 Anna Menard Clark
- 12 Ellie Martin
- 13 Dan Davis
- 14 Nathan Tsoi
- 20 Tud Steene
- 24 Ed Perlman

Honoring the Great Sacrament of

Baptism If your name is missing from this list and you would like to receive a baptism anniversary card from the church, or if there is a mistake, please call the parish office at 202/232-4244, and ask for Robin Jones.

Baptisms

None

Burials

None

Marriages

September 29, 2007

Robert William Osborne &
Louise Cochran Schalk

October 7, 2007

Tyler C. Jones &
Erica M. Kelly

Transfers In

November 8, 2007

Frederick Eugene Taylor
from Saint Thomas Church,
Washington, DC

Transfers Out

October 5, 2007

Michael McGough
to Grace Episcopal,
Alexandria, VA

November 11, 2007

Thomas G. Harris
to Trinity Episcopal,
Martinsburg, WV

November 13, 2007

Elizabeth Kay George Witter
to Saint Timothy,
Herdon, VA

The All Souls Message

*Copy deadline for articles
for the February/March 2008
issue of The Message
is December 27, 2007*

Please have your articles in George Barnum's hands by that date. Electronic submission preferred at message.allsoulsdc@gmail.com. Please also send a copy to allsouls1@aol.com. Call George with story ideas, questions, and comments at (W) 202/512-1801, extension 32067, or (H) 202/986-2998.

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and organist*

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Nancye Suggs, *senior warden*
Norman Whitmire, Jr.

The mission of All Souls Church is to be a Christ-centered sanctuary where a diverse community worships and serves. We live this mission through faithful celebration of the Eucharist, Christian education, and loving nurture of both members and neighbors.

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The All Souls Message

December 2007/January 2008

All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church
2300 Cathedral Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008-1505



*May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.*

*The staff of All Souls Parish wish you
the very best of all God's blessings in this season and for the new year.*