

The All Souls Message

All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church ■ Volume 105, Issue 6 ■ December 2006/January 2007

Three Questions for Advent

What is the true meaning of Christmas?

For me, it is this: that at a certain moment in time, in the city of Bethlehem, a child was born unto the world and in our lives, our Lord and Savior. God gave us the gift of his Son so that love would be reborn into our hearts, and our hearts would have hope, and our eyes would see the glory of God.

The true meaning of Christmas is that today and every day we shall know the truth; that by his humble birth he enters our humble lives, accepting us as we are, however meek and lowly, and giving us an eternal place by his manger.

The true meaning of Christmas is that as we take our places beside the shepherds and kings and angels and ordinary folk, we shall see in the distance a cross and an empty tomb, reminding us that no matter how far into the depths of despair and sin we wander, there will always be a Savior to wrap us in the swaddling clothes of his love and lead us back to God.

The true meaning of Christmas. That in return for God's gift of love, we can give to God and to others the gift of ourselves, and bring the good news of hope to all people. That unto us a Savior is born who will bring light out of darkness, healing out of pain, and life out of death. A Savior who is Christ our Lord.

Mother Joan Beilstein †

Are you ready for Christmas?

How many times will we all be asked this question in the next few weeks! And we will hear the question as meaning, "Have you bought all your presents, have you sent all your cards, are you prepared for Christmas dinner?" But what might happen if we were to hear the question another way: "Are you ready for the Incarnation, for the birth of Christ? Are you ready to let Christ be born in you, are you ready to be the bearer of Christ?"

We know how to prepare for the holiday which takes place on December 25, and all of these preparations are a cherished part of the season, but how do we prepare for the coming of the Lord, for the reconciliation of the Divine and the human in some profoundly mysterious way? The great fourteenth century mystic Meister Eckhart put it this way:

"What good is it to me if Mary gave birth to the child of God fourteen hundred years ago and I do not give birth to the child of God in my time and in my culture? We are all meant to be mothers of God. For God is always needing to be born."

Let us never forget that the great season of Advent-Christmas-Epiphany is much more than presents and parties and food and fellowship, as wonderful as these may be. Let us repent (turn our hearts around), and become true God-bearers in the world. May all our busy-ness during this season, and indeed all our lives, be a sign of the One whose birth we celebrate.

Mother Barbara Henry †

What is this world coming to?

This rhetorical question is often posed by those who see troubles and woes around them and wonder if there is any hope for our world. But even beyond the troubles of our society, the question echoes. John Polkinghorne, an Anglican priest who is also a respected physicist, notes that there is a certain ultimate futility to the universe. It will come to an end, the planets will stop spinning, the stars will stop shining. While this future may be billions of years away, when scientists are asked, "What is this world coming to?" they answer, "It is coming to nothing." We can, however, consider this question from another perspective. In Advent we prepare for a twofold coming: on one hand for our observance of the feast of the Incarnation, Christ's first coming in the lowly stable at Bethlehem; on the other hand, we are preparing for Christ's second coming, which is God's answer to the question, "What is the world coming to?" The world is heading toward its fulfillment through God in Christ. (See I Corinthians 15:12-34). Even if humankind is spiraling into chaos, even if the universe is heading toward some final conflagration, we are a people of hope who look to the promise of God that this world has order and meaning in Christ. In Advent we look to Christ to return (Lo, he comes with clouds descending) and inscribe God's love and justice throughout all the worlds, and in our hearts.

Father Ethan Cole †

In This Issue is on page 5.

Let's talk about saying goodbye

*In so many ways,
life's journey is about
saying goodbye.
As we pursue our
education, no matter
what the grade,
we are always saying
goodbye to classmates
and influential teachers.
As we age,
we are always saying
goodbye to certain
eras of our lives:
childhood, youth, our
20s and 30s, middle age.
Also as we age we are
always saying goodbye
to loved ones who die —
our grandparents,
parents, mentors, and
many others who leave
this world before we do.*

*“
You have given me
so many wonderful
gifts that I cannot
begin to name
or number them all
”*

Our church lives, like other arenas, are not immune to having to say goodbye: to clergy who are always coming and going; to beloved matriarchs and patriarchs who pass away; to friends who change churches or move out of the area. No matter what the circumstance, saying goodbye can be difficult. There is joy, there is sorrow, there are memories, there are good times to celebrate, and there are disappointments which surround any relationship, no matter how long its duration. It is important to be able to name and acknowledge these in both ceremonial and social gatherings.

I share these thoughts with you because the time has come for us to say goodbye as Interim Rector and parish. As many of you know now via the letter you received in November, my last Sunday with you at All Souls will be January 28, 2007.

As a priest, I am acutely aware that endings with a congregation are just as important as beginnings. Good closure is important for all! It takes time, intentionality, and openness to communicate feelings. If you have some thoughts to share with me about my time with you as your In-

terim in our final weeks together, please don't hesitate to share them with me in some fashion. I am going to be doing the same in several ways.

In closing, let me say that as we draw near the end of our journey my heart is both full of joy for you as you prepare to greet your new Rector, and full of thanksgiving for the time I have spent with you. You have enriched my vocational life and given me so many wonderful gifts that I cannot begin to name or number them all.

*With the deepest love and gratitude,
Mother Joan †* ■



On January 28, 2007, Mother Joan will be officiating and preaching at both the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services and then at a special evening service at 5 p.m., a Celtic Eucharist. At these services, we will be engaging in a special leave-taking rite as she relinquishes her pastoral duties and we extend to one another mutual blessings for our futures. Following the Celtic Eucharist, she will be hosting a beverage and cheese gathering for the parish so we can have some social time together. Please RSVP to her, if you plan to attend the gathering, at either revjeb@comcast.net or 202/232-4244.

Handi-Capable!

Much important work has been continuing in the past months to realize the dream of making All Souls Church truly accessible to all. An architect and an engineer, both with much experience in church accessibility projects, have reviewed and updated our earliest plans, which contained design flaws that prevented their implementation at an earlier date. We are now ready to begin work in earnest on this important project for handicapped accessibility

The vestry has accepted a three-phase implementation plan. First, we will reconstruct the walkways at the entrances to our church that face Cathedral Avenue. It is symbolic, but also most practical, that we should make access to our worship space our first priority. Second, All Souls must commit itself to the construction of an elevator. This is a far less expensive project than previously thought, although we will still need to raise funds if we wish it to become a reality. The projected cost will be approximately \$200,000, plus whatever funds we will need to increase the amount of electricity available in the church to operate an elevator. Third, we will have to modernize our bathrooms to bring them up to ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) codes.

Phase I: We Are Capable!

By the time you are reading this article, much work will be in progress already on Phase I, although you may not be aware of it. We have engaged an engineering firm that is preparing a topographic survey, along with soil erosion and sediment control plans, all of which are necessary first steps in the development of a design. We will combine this project with the installation of a new retaining wall at the bottom of the steep bank that faces the Cathedral Avenue entrance. The



“
*Accessibility
is everybody's
business.*
”

old one was constructed of wood, and is rotting away. The two projects will come from separate budgets, but each will be less costly if carried out simultaneously.

All of this work must be approved by the Area Neighborhood Commission, D.C. Historic Preservation, and the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. Then we are ready to go. If we have a warm winter, we could see this project in completion stages by sometime in January. If the winter is cold with a number of hard freezes, then a later completion date may be necessary. The current climactic pattern in our area has resulted in very mild winters of late. In addition, some masonry contractors work even in the coldest weather using black plastic sheeting to cover their work as it is in process.

At the same time, drawings are being prepared to show how our building would be altered for the addition of an elevator. I'd hoped these would be ready sooner, but despite what we hear about the slowdown in housing starts, the construction industry still booms on its commercial side. Small projects such as ours tend to be disdained as they do not generate much income for a contractor. They will work with us, but the big and lucrative projects come first in the order of their priorities.

Completing This Project: We Must Prove That We Are Capable!

I know that many All Souls parishioners look upon our Accessibility Project with a jaundiced eye as it seems to have taken so much time to get it off the ground. It is now absolutely on the move and within months, we will begin to see the fruits of these efforts. Finances will continue to be an issue. Therefore, your contributions will be most welcome and will enable us to move even faster. We have already had one very generous donor just in the past few months. Your checks to All Souls Episcopal Church, designated "Handicapped Accessibility," will be most welcome.

This project is not just about senior citizens or people with lasting disabilities. Any of us, or our children, could break a leg, be temporarily disabled by surgery, or have an accident, and need a church building that is accessible and welcoming to us, even if our need is only temporary. Therefore, knowing that accessibility is everybody's business, please give from your heart, believing that the creation of an accessible building is, perhaps, our most pressing responsibility, if we are truly to live and fulfill the Christianity to which we claim to be committed. We should not be in the business of turning people away from our doors. Knowing, as I have in the past, the warm generosity of All Souls people, I look forward to your support.

Ray Myrtle ■

At this time of year, I pause to consider the things in my life for which I am grateful. During the year, I helped my father celebrate his retirement after 57 years of service to the nation; spent three weeks in Hawaii (my first visit); made my first career change in ten years, joining a specialty consultancy; and remembered the thirteen years of unbounded love lavished on my partner Mark and me by our recently deceased dog, Chestnut. Additionally, I am very thankful for the health of the parish I am honored to lead as senior warden. By God's grace and the dedication and hard work of a huge number of people, we have had a remarkable year.

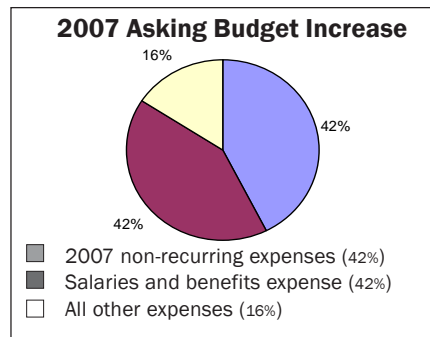
Here are just a few of the activities we have added to our church life through Mother Joan's leadership and the contributions of vestry, staff, and volunteers:

- Children's Chapel to develop in our young people an understanding of liturgy and prayer
- Lenten study series with Eucharist each evening during Holy Week
- Monthly luncheon and program for seniors
- Koinonia, a young adults group offering social and educational opportunities

Our foyer dinner groups and the Episcopal Men's Fellowship remain core elements of our community.

Perhaps the most visible—and certainly the most animated—addition to the parish is our interim assistant rector, Father Ethan. Because of your generous financial giving, the vestry was able to call a part-time assistant to help with all aspects of our life together from pastoral care, to Christian formation, to leading worship services.

We have a lot to be thankful for.



And a lot more to look forward to. The rector search committee has just published the All Souls Parish Profile (visit <http://www.allsoulsdc.org/transition/currentactivities.html> to view the document) and will begin receiving applications in the very near future. That means that in just a few months, the vestry should be in a position to call the next rector to join this vibrant, growing congregation. We will also undertake long-planned building accessibility projects and some unanticipated-but-urgent capital maintenance.

In October, the vestry approved the 2007 asking budget of \$738,338. This amount is about 26% higher than the 2006 budget. While that is a substantial increase from one year to the next, the asking budget includes several non-recurring expenses: the rector search expenses are budgeted at \$24,500 for search-related travel costs and a moving expense allowance for the new rector; replacement of the retaining wall between the front door and the tower door is budgeted at \$30,000; and a complete redesign of our website to improve its communication and marketing effectiveness is budgeted at \$7,960. The salaries and benefits category increased to include the assistant rector position and anticipated benefits for the new rector and his or her family. Utilities costs are expected to be higher in 2007 than in 2006. The accompanying chart (at the top of this column) depicts the \$146,553 asking budget increase over

2006. You may view a copy of the full asking budget in the parish office.

If the number of pledges remains constant from 2006 to 2007 at 191, then the average pledge amount will need to increase from \$2,510 per year to \$3,423 per year, or an additional \$17.57 per week. I am hopeful that we can encourage another 59 parishioners to make a pledge in 2007. If we receive 250 pledges, the average pledge becomes \$2,615 per year, or just \$2.03 per week more than in 2006.

Some might look at these numbers and wonder if we have a chance of achieving them. Well, I think we can, easily. Among the things we learned this year through the parish profile survey is that 32% of the 226 respondents have annual household income greater than \$150,000 and that another 27% have annual household income between \$50,000 and \$100,000. We have 344 active baptized members and Sunday attendance averages 242. With strong numbers like these, I earnestly believe that we can fund our normal operating budget and meet the extraordinary expenses we will incur next year.

If you share my hope for our future, the future of our beloved parish, I urge you to pray about your current financial support and increase it. If you are currently making plate offerings (cash) rather than committing yourself to our future through a pledge, I would ask you to reconsider. All Souls occupies a place of prominence in our hearts and in the city and diocese of Washington. You can help ensure its continued financial stability as we seek to live out our mission.

David Michael Hollis ■

At its September meeting, the vestry:

- Appointed or reappointed Tony Domenico, Pat Dresser, Tom Mabon, and Arlin Winefordner to the buildings and grounds committee
- Approved the parish financial audit report
- Authorized the junior warden to engage an architect's firm to develop plans for and oversee our accessibility projects

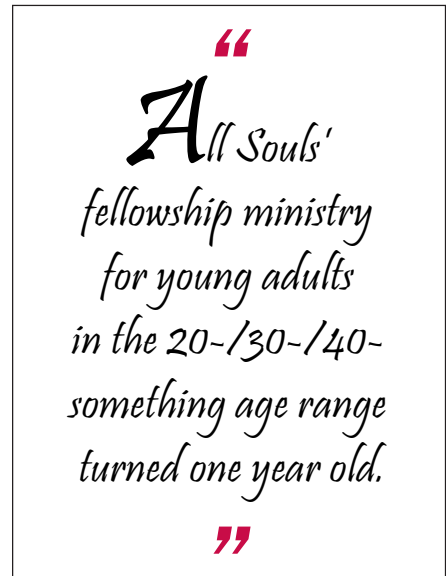
At the October meeting, the vestry:

- Accepted the 2007 asking budget recommended by the finance committee
- Approved the parish profile prepared and presented by the rector search committee
- Approved a \$2,000 endowment grant for Funding Future Leaders: A National Endowment for Episcopal Seminarians

David Michael Hollis ■

Koinonia, All Souls' fellowship ministry for young adults in the 20-/30-/40-something age range turned one year old this past fall. It kicked off its second year at the end of August with a parish luau that was well-attended. (Although there was no actual head count, there were around 100 people in attendance!) It was a great time complete with limbo contests, a Hawaiian outfit contest, games for children, a pineapple dessert contest, and (of course) a roast pig. It was a wonderful time of fun and fellowship.

As Koinonia enters its second year, there are some interesting things planned for the year. Beginning November 3, Koinonia will sponsor an additional mass to be added to our schedule of weekly services. The Mass on Fridays series will include historic liturgies (e.g., 1549, 1552 Book of Common Prayer) as well as liturgies from other members of the Anglican Communion. Father Ethan Cole has offered to be the celebrant at most of the masses. Following the mass, members of the group may participate in a discussion, Bible study, or go for an informal happy hour at a local venue. On the first Friday of the month members will head down to St. Thomas Church in Dupont Circle for "Sacred Grounds" — the monthly fellowship event hosted by the young adults of St. Thomas'.



In Advent, parishioner Philip Leonard will lead another excellent presentation on "Reading the Christmas Story in Art" at the National Gallery on Sunday December 10 at 1:30 p.m.

Koinonia is a ministry intended to promote fellowship and uplift the spiritual needs of persons in the 20-, 30-, and 40-year age range. All are welcome. Members of Koinonia serve as leaders in many important ministries here at All Souls', including acolytes, choir, vestry, ministry group leaders, and adult education. Our new assistant interim rector, Fr. Cole, is a welcomed addition to the membership.

Norman Whitmire ■

In this issue

From the Clergy: Three Questions for Advent	1	All Souls is on Tape	7	Next Issue Copy Deadline	12
From the Interim Rector: "Saying Goodbye"	2	Advent & Christmas Calendar	8	Koinonia Presents "Mass at 7 p.m."	13
From the Junior Warden: Report for Autumn	3	Bishop Chane to Visit All Souls	9	Masthead	13
From the Sr. Warden: Thanksgiving & Anticipation	4	Advent Series on the Catechism	9	Staff Christmas Card to the Parish	back cover
Notes from the Vestry: September & October	5	Teacher/Parent Epiphany Party	9		
Koinonia: Fellowship for Young Adults	5	Marriage & Commitment Ceremonies	9		
New Foyer Dinner Groups	6	Poetry Corner: Angels—Mary Hitchcock	9		
Advent Sonnet—Jim Child	6	Tutu Institute Advent Quiet Day	10		
Parish Christmas Party	7	Adult Forum Schedule, 2006-2007	11		
Holiday Bazaar	7	Baptism Dates	12		
The Giving Tree	7	The Parish Register	12		

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

The end of a foyer dinner year is approaching; fortunately, a new one is about to begin. Early in 2007 you will have the opportunity to sign up for a foyer dinner group. This is a unique opportunity to have fellowship throughout the year. Participants get acquainted with about 10 persons associated with All Souls by experiencing potluck dinners in each other's homes (or in another location, like the undercroft, if your home is too small).

Please be sure to note on the signup form if you would like to be a dinner captain. 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 continuation of the group dinners throughout the calendar year. Butch Bradburn and Kathleen Scholl are always available to help and advise the captains with their foyer dinner groups.

Congratulations to this year's captains. We understand that a few of the groups had at least seven dinners this year. A big thank you goes to Bill Sanders and John Hall, Chris Locklear and Donald Harrell, Cesar Perez and Fred Hadeed, Tony and Martha Domenico, Ronald and Ruth Anna Stolk, Charles Graham and Ray Myrtle, Dale Lewis, Ed McAllister and Paul Meyer, Art Warren and Jim Pridgen, Butch Bradburn and Barry Huber, and Kathleen Scholl. ■



We've marked the end of ordinary days
 Passing so softly we could barely feel
 The darkening of fall, nor hear the wheel
 Of time roll in our year. His coming plays
 Havoc with our all-too-settled ways:
 The windows of our calendars reveal
 Realities indifference would conceal,
 To offer us the gift of prayer and praise.

Awakened to that miracle of grace
 We pray to the Holy Spirit to empower
 Our minds to hold the season's sacred space,
 Our hearts to quicken to the glorious hour
 When time stands still in wonder at His birth
 And Heaven revivifies our tired earth.

—Jim Child

*A Time of Fun and Fellowship
Parish Christmas Party
Saturday, December 16, 2006,
5-8 p.m.*

Please join us on Saturday, December 16, 2006 for the annual Christmas Party Potluck. It's a fun way to celebrate the season with your All Souls family.

Schedule

5 p.m.—The children will put together Christmas goodie bags for the residents of Saint Mary's Court and the Northwest Health Care Center while the adults enjoy appetizers and drinks in the undercroft.

6 p.m.—Dinner is served!

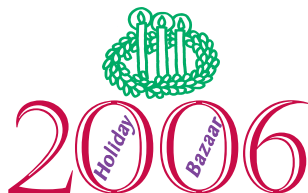
St. Nicholas will be making his annual appearance and reading The Night Before Christmas for the children.

Please contact Ric Haines by Wednesday, December 13 with your plans for attending and whether you'll be bringing an appetizer, a main course, a dessert, or drinks. We want to make sure that we have enough of everything! Ric can be reached at 202-966-0787 or erichaines@starpower.net.

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

The party also marks the beginning of another annual event at All Souls, supporting 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 the January 1, 2007. Thank you for your caring support. ■



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 17 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 17.

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* ■



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 19), buying the present the child requested (or one like it), and returning the wrapped present to the church by Sunday, December 10. 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 Sue Murrin at 202/966-3669. Thanks for your help with this important project.

Sue Murrin ■

From the Music Program
All Souls Is on Tape

If you particularly enjoyed a homily or a performance by the choir and want to hear it again or if you were unable to attend Mass and want, nevertheless, to participate in our corporate worship, or you want to do something nice for a parishioner who is unable to attend: you can get a copy of the entire 11 a.m. Mass—homily, music, and liturgy—on tape. A charge of \$1 is made to cover the cost of the cassette tape. Make your request to Sam Baker, director of music. ■

Advent & Christmas at All Souls



Sunday, December 3—Advent I

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

- *Giving Tree & Holiday Bazaar continue* •

Saturday, December 9

9 a.m.–1 p.m., Advent Quiet Day

- *Sponsored by the Tutu Institute for Prayer & Pilgrimage* •

Sunday, December 10—Advent II

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

- *Giving Tree & Holiday Bazaar continue* •

Saturday, December 16

5–8 p.m., All Souls Christmas Party

- *Visitation by St. Nicholas* •

Sunday, December 17—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* •

Sunday, December 24—Advent IV

One service at 10 a.m., High Mass

Sunday, December 24—Christmas Eve

4 p.m., Children's Mass and Blessing of the Creché

Music at 10:30 p.m. • Midnight Mass begins at 11 p.m.



Monday—Christmas Day, December 25

One service at 10 a.m., High Mass with music

Sunday, December 31—The Most Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ

8:30 a.m., Low Mass

11 a.m., Mass with Christmas Lessons & Carols

Champagne Toast to the New Year follows 11 a.m. Mass

Bishop's Visitation

Bishop Chane to Visit All Souls for Annual Visitation

The Rt. Rev. John Bryson Chane, Bishop of Washington, will be preacher and celebrant at the 11 a.m. service at All Souls on Epiphany Sunday, January 7, 2007. This is Bishop Chane's annual visitation to the parish and he is looking forward to greeting as many of us as he can. Since this Sunday is one of four during the church year that is especially appropriate for baptism, please contact Mother Joan as soon as possible if you are interested in being baptized or having a child baptized on this day. In addition, it our hope to host a special reception following the 11 a.m. service, and we are looking for volunteers who will coordinate the reception. Please contact Mother Joan at 202-232-4244 or revjeb@comcast.net. ■

Credo: I Believe

An Advent Series on the Catechism of the Episcopal Church

Want to learn more about what the Episcopal Church believes? Come and participate in a series for inquiring minds, led by Mother Joan, Father Ethan, and our seminarian D. The series is an opportunity to learn about the Episcopal Church for those who may want to be baptized by Bishop Chane when he visits All Souls on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 7, 2007. It is also a wonderful opportunity for those who want to learn more about our Catechism or have a refresher course. The series will be held on Wednesdays during Advent, December 6, December 13, and December 20, from 6:30-8:15 p.m. and will begin with a potluck supper, followed by presentation, and close with Compline. We will explore the ancient history of the Catechism, the Ten Commandments, the creeds, sin and redemption, the church, baptism, Holy Eucharist, and the Christian hope. All are welcome. If you have any questions about the series, please do not hesitate to call either Mother Joan or Father Ethan at 202-232-4244 or email them at revjeb@comcast.net or ethan.j.cole@earthlink.net. ■

Sunday School

A Special Invitation to Sunday School Teachers, Parents, and Children

You are invited to a special Teacher/Parent Epiphany Party on Saturday, January 6, 2007, the Feast of the Epiphany, from 4–6 p.m.. This gathering is a time for teachers, parents, and parish clergy to get to know each other better and share information about the Sunday School program and desired future educational offerings for our children/youth. Food and beverages will be provided. There will also be childcare for the little ones so no need to get a babysitter. RSVP to Marcia Anderson at 202-332-4513 by Wednesday, January 10, 2006. ■

From the Interim Ractor

Thinking About Getting Married or Having a Commitment Ceremony?

If so, please contact Mother Joan at 202-232-4244 or email her at revjeb@comcast.net. She will send you a brochure which outlines the policies and procedures for having your special occasion at All Souls Church. ■

Poetry Corner

Angels



Angels aren't always from Heaven;
Angels don't always have wings.
They may perform small acts of kindness
Rather than do impossible things.

An angel may be someone who
When you're tired, may give you a ride,
Or when you have problems or sorrow,
An angel may come to your side.

An angel may be just a stranger,
Or kinfolk, or neighbor, or friend.
An angel may be anybody
Whom God may have chosen to send.

So though some people may not believe me,
And others may think that I'm odd,
I'll always believe there are angels
As long as I know there's a God.

—Mary Hitchcock

My Soul Proclaims the Greatness of the Lord

AN ADVENT QUIET DAY

Lead by The Reverend Mpho Tutu

Saturday, December 9, 2006

10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Lunch Included—\$25.00

at

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

Please make checks payable to:

The Tutu Institute for Prayer and Pilgrimage
118 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Deadline: Friday, December 1, 2006

For more information please contact us at info@tutuinstitute.org or 703-677-5642

It is the ambitious mission of the Adult Forum this year to capture the joy and strength that comes with faith. We must keep in mind that we are beloved children of God. Scripture should sustain as well as challenge us. The discipline of prayer can lend stability. The church must be a spiritual home, replete with all the blessings and drama of family. "Back to Basics" also rings true in our search process. Under the encouraging leadership of Mother Joan, we have begun to earnestly look at the Adult Education ministry and to determine our strengths and weaknesses. We have many very learned people in our parish who have been willing to share their expertise or even acquire it for the sake of educating others; in the future, however, we hope from time to time to bring in sages from around the community to share their wisdom with us. The customary lecture format lends itself to the dissemination of much information in a relatively short amount of time; this year there will be several all discussion-based forums that will promote community building. Traditionally the rector has not been involved in the planning and execution of the forum program other than in an advisory role; we hope to be actively guided by the new leadership while retaining strong parishioner participation. We hope to maintain a balance of topics, build attendance, inspire saints, and institute a Bible study that is distinct from the Forum hour.

Please peruse the schedule that accompanies this article and consider leading a session. If you have questions or comments, do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Olson or Barry Huber.

With an open mind,
 Elizabeth Olson
 beatrix01@gmail.com ■

Schedule as of 11/20/06

- 2006**
- Nov. 26 Michael Malone
 "Handling Sin"
Leader: Al Muller
 - Dec. 3 Flannery O'Connor
 "Revelation"
Leader: Darla Brown
 - Dec. 10 Pat Hamp Virgin Time
 (Chapter 6)
Leader: Alison Prevost
 - Dec. 17 Faith of the Founding
 Fathers
Leader: Marko Zlatich
 - Dec. 24 *No Forum*
 - Dec. 31 *No Forum*

- 2007**
- Jan. 7 Bishop's Forum
Leader: Bishop John Chane
 - Jan. 14 The Church and Social Justice: Race
Leader: Mother Joan
 - Jan. 21 The Church and Social Justice: Gender
Leader: Mother Joan
 - Jan. 28 The Church and Social Justice: Human Sexuality
Leader: Mother Joan
 - Feb. 4 Approaches to Prayer, Part I
Leader: Jack Pannell
 - Feb. 11 Approaches to Prayer, Part II
Leader: Jack Pannell
 - Feb. 18 The Psalms: Christian Prayers in a Jewish Context
Leader: Joan Shapiro
 - Feb. 25 Anglican Social Action
Leader: John Orens

- 2007**
- Mar. 4 Who was Judas?
Leader: Joe Howell
 - Mar. 11 Perpetua and Companions, Martyrs at Carthage
Leader: _____
 - Mar. 18 Ministration to the Sick (BCP)
Leader: Jerry Fath
 - Mar. 25 Ministration at the Time of Death (BCP)
Leader: Dan Davis
 - Apr. 1 Living with Chronic Illness
Leader: Trish Cleary
 - Apr. 8 *No Forum*
 - Apr. 15 The State of the Communion
Leader: John Michael Sophos
 - Apr. 22 How We Worship: Incense
Leader: Shawn Strout
 - Apr. 29 How We Worship: The Hymnal
Leader: Norman Whitmire
 - May 6 Hildegard of Bingen
Leader: Deidre Hill
 - May 13 Topic to be announced
 - May 20 Ecumenism and the Episcopal Church
Leader: _____

December 2006

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

January 2007

- 1 Betty Bird
David Fernandez-Barrial
Kym Rogers
Donna Turner
Bill Welker
- 2 Ebun Chase
Daniel Miller
- 3 Jim Lewis
Joan Shapiro
- 7 Ruby Griffith
- 8 Irene Butcher
Gabriel Haines
Anni Wilder
- 9 Stephen Linehan-Reckford
John Linehan-Reckford
- 11 Anna Clark
- 12 Ellie Martin
- 13 Dan Davis
- 14 Nathan Tsoi
- 20 Tud Steene
- 21 Nancy Charlton
- 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 Mickey Norris.

Baptisms

None

Burials

None

Marriages

October 8, 2006

Mehul Kumar K. Patel &
Marlene Irene Hodges

October 21, 2002

Jeffrey Hardin Lewis &
Alyson Michelle Haywood

Transfers In

October 18, 2006

Elizabeth L. McKee,
from *The Church of St. James the
Less, Scarsdale, NY*

Transfers Out

October 18, 2006

William B. Glew, Jr.
to *Church of the Ascension and
St. Agnes, Washington, DC*

The All Souls Message

Copy deadline for articles
for the February/March 2006 issue of The Message
is December 27, 2006

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. ■

**KOINONIA IS PLEASED TO OFFER
MASS ON FRIDAYS AT 7 P.M.**

FR. ETHAN J. COLE, CELEBRANT

<i>Date</i>	<i>Liturgy</i>	<i>Activity</i>
2006		
December 1	1552 Prayer Book	Sacred Grounds Group, at St. Thomas' Church
December 8	1979 BCP Evening Service & Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Bible Study: Genesis 1-11
December 15	1979 BCP Evening Service & Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Bible Study: Genesis 1-11
December 22	1979 BCP Evening Service & Holy Eucharist, Rite II	Bible Study: Genesis 1-11
December 29	1549 Prayer Book	Discussion: T. S. Eliot's <i>Murder in the Cathedral</i>
2007		
January 5,	Anglican Church in Canada Contemporary High Mass,	Sacred Grounds Group, hosted at All Souls
January 12	South African Prayer Book	Bible Study: 1 Timothy
January 19	South African Prayer Book	Bible Study: 2 Timothy
January 26	South African Prayer Book	Bible Study: Titus
February 2	Candlemas Liturgy	Sacred Grounds Group, at St. Thomas' Church

The All Souls Message

All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church
2300 Cathedral Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008-1505
Voice: 202/232-4244
FAX: 202/232-8593
e-Mail: allsouls1@aol.com
Website: <http://www.allsoulsdc.org>

The Message Staff

Editor: George Barnum
Editorial review: Mother Beilstein
Heidi Fritschel, David M. Hollis
Sydney Ponturo
Graphic Designer: Barry Huber

All Souls Church Staff

The Rev. Mother Joan E. Beilstein,
interim rector
The Rev. Father Ethan J. Cole,
interim assistant rector
The Rev. Mother Barbara D. Henry,
assisting priest
Dewayne "D" Messenger, *seminarian*
Samuel Baker, *director of music and organist*
Harriet Curry, *assistant treasurer*
Patricia Dresser, *Endowment Fund Board chair*
Barry Huber, *parish administrator*
Ric Haines, *director of Sunday school*
Mickey Norris, *membership secretary*
Oscar Prado, *sexton*
Moises Flores, *assistant sexton*
Carlos Guerra, *sexton emeritus*

The Vestry

Darla Brown
Tony Domenico
David Michael Hollis, *senior warden*
Joe Howell
Josie Martin
Susan Morrison
Ray Myrtle, *junior warden*
Alison Prevost
Heidi Rasciner, *registrar*
Stephen Rhody
Gene Sexton
Nancye Suggs, *treasurer*
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. ■

The All Souls Message

December 2006/January 2007

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

L^OVING FATHER, HELP US REMEMBER THE BIRTH OF JESUS,
THAT WE MAY SHARE IN THE SONG OF THE ANGELS,
THE GLADNESS OF THE SHEPHERDS,
AND THE WISDOM OF THE WISE MEN.

MAY THE CHRISTMAS MORNING MAKE US HAPPY
TO BE YOUR CHILDREN,
AND THE CHRISTMAS EVENING BRING US TO OUR BEDS
WITH GRATEFUL THOUGHTS, FORGIVING AND FORGIVEN,
FOR JESUS' SAKE. AMEN.

—*Robert Louis Stevenson*

*The staff of All Souls Parish wish you
a patient Advent, a blessed Christmas,
and a New Year full of promise.*