



**All Saints' Episcopal Church**  
**282 Bound Line Road P.O. Box 6015**  
**Wolcott, Connecticut 06716**  
*Church Office Telephone: 203-879-2800*

Dear Parish Family –

As I write this, we are approaching the Feast of Pentecost, that awesome day on which Scripture tells us the Holy Spirit of God descended upon the heads of Jesus' apostles, transforming them from a tiny group of 11 confused, grieving and frightened men into a powerful force which "turned the known world upside-down" and established what would soon become the Christian Church. The message of the Gospel of Salvation in Jesus Christ which they carried to people all over the known world – from the Near East to Europe – spread like wildfire. Many died a martyr's death to make sure the message of God's love – the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and everlasting life - continued to be proclaimed. While that message continues today, and continues to draw thousands to Christ in developing nations, the lure of Christianity seems to gleam a bit less brightly in established, more complacent countries like our own. Yet there are still many, many people in civilized nations who need to hear that the Good News that the God whom we worship is a God of love, not wrath, and that the promise of redemption and life beyond the grave is for them, as well. By our Baptism, we have been commissioned by Christ to extend that message wherever we are, and wherever we go. Those promises we make at Baptism – to attend church faithfully and participate in the worshiping community; to persevere in resisting evil; to seek and serve Christ in all persons; to strive for justice and peace and to respect the dignity of every human being, are the ways in which, by the grace of God, we proclaim that message by word and example. Let this mind be in all of us this summer, whether we travel on vacation or remain at home near our families and friends. The Holy Spirit offers us opportunities every day to witness to the love of God in our lives by extending mercy and forgiveness, hospitality, compassion and generosity – at home, at work, at school and even on vacation! Let us be open to opportunities, to the guiding of the Spirit, and be strengthened in our mission by the knowledge that the Spirit is in us as much as it ever was in Jesus or in his earliest apostles, since we are the risen and living Body of Christ in the world today. Thanks be to God!

Faithfully,  
*Susan+*

**Sabbath Time – Summertime is often a time for vacations, but whether you travel far or remain in your own back yard this summer, be sure to schedule some quiet time daily for prayer and reflection. As a people, we are all so busy! Let us try to remember to set aside some time each week (better yet, each day) to converse with the Lord, and not only to speak *to* God, but to listen for the Lord's response! Perhaps consider going on retreat to one of the many retreat houses here in the Northeast. Please let me know if you need suggestions. –SLD+**

**Susan will be away on vacation** June 15 – 22 and again in mid-August. The Rev. Ellen Tillotson, President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of CT and the former rector of Trinity Church, Torrington, will supply on June 19, and the Rev. Barry Miller will supply on August 14. Information on contacts for pastoral emergencies will be available on the office message machine: 203-879-2800.

**The Church School year concludes** on the Feast of Pentecost, June 12 with a picnic following the Eucharist.

### **Summer daytime study opportunities:**

**For adults and teens** - a brief study on "The Gospel and Harry Potter," mid-July (in conjunction with the release of "H.P. and the Deathly Hallows, Part II"), at the group's convenience. Sign up on the church bulletin board.

**For adults** – "The Bible and Anne Rice": a Bible study based on the novel *Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt*; the novelist so famous for "The Vampire Chronicles" has also begun a series based on the life of Jesus of Nazareth; this is Volume I. Those who are interested should read the very engaging book (it's a quick read), which we will discuss in relation to its foundations in Scripture and extra-biblical writings. Late July or early August, at the group's convenience. Sign up on the church bulletin board.

**12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT** - Our annual tournament was held on June 4, 2011 at Hawk's Landing Country Club in Southington. 36 golfers and several dinner guests enjoyed a beautiful day of sunshine, friendship and golf. The tournament was followed by a dinner and raffle at the club. We also collected a considerable amount of non-perishable food items that were donated to the Waterbury Food Bank. This year's tournament was very successful. We raised over \$2,500 to fund our outreach program which again this year is to provide services and product to elementary school children in the Town of Wolcott. These services hope to foster the children's educational and social development by providing financial aid for field trips, supplemental lunch programs, clothing, and much more. The Committee wishes to thank all those individuals and businesses that gave financial donations and those that provided us with many gifts for our raffle.

#### **The Committee**

Peter Marcisz Red Smith Maurice St. Pierre Dave Borzellino Henry Curtiss

**Fall Tag Sale** – The annual tag sale will be held on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. As you do any cleaning, please save your items for the tag sale. No electronics or clothing.

Marilyn Altmeyer Scholarship Fund – the recipient is Christopher Stapleton

Church School - The theme this year was "What's your favorite bible story?" The Church School acquired new teachers once every 6 weeks, telling stories from the bible which enhanced teachers and students with the sharing of the story. New characters and stories are wanted for next fall.

The Church School bottle drive has in the last 5 years faithfully contributed its bottles to the redemption center for where 1¢ was used for students in alternative educational setting and workforce development.