



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

## **Priestly Perusings,**

Dear Parish Family,

We are fast approaching the season of Lent. “Lent” is an old Anglo-Saxon word which means “spring,” a season for which we long in this snow-filled winter! The word itself comes from a word which meant the “lengthening” of the days. As the days grow longer, our hearts are cheered (and our snow is melted) by longer hours of sunshine. The season of Lent annually brings to us a variety of liturgical changes to underscore the more somber character of this season of fast before the great feast of Easter. You will notice some of these changes on the very first Sunday in Lent, March 13. Others will not be evident until later in the Great Season of Forty Days. All are traditions that have been incorporated over hundreds of years of the Church’s heritage. They help us to move deeper into our spiritual lives by offering us tools for worship that touch on all of our senses. Some people “give up” something for Lent; others take on something new in the way of alms-giving, community service, worship, or study of scripture or other holy reading. I will be glad to help you with suggestions, if you need them. Regardless of your current practice, I hope you will make it a priority for you and your family to attend church *every* Sunday during Lent. “I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word.” (BCP, p. 263)

### **LENT AT ALL SAINTS’**

The season of Lent begins with the observance of **ASH WEDNESDAY, March 9** and ends officially on Passion/Palm Sunday, with the beginning of Holy Week. **The Holy Eucharist, with Imposition of Ashes, will be offered on Ash Wednesday at 10:30 AM (recited) and at 7 PM (with choir).** Lent is traditionally a season when converts to the faith were prepared for Baptism, as well as a season of penitence and intentional study of the faith. It is an especially appropriate time, for those who feel the need, to make a sacramental confession to a priest and receive absolution; Mother Davidson is available by appointment for that rite. There are a number of liturgical changes for Lent – here are some to look for:

- the seasonal color changes to purple, which is the color both of penitence and royalty (of Jesus)
- no flowers adorn the altar
- the lectionary suspends the readings from the Gospel of Matthew and immerses us in the more mystical Gospel of John
- during Lent, we will use Rite I, which has a more penitential character than Rite II

- the “A word” (alleluia) is put away for the season (see below)
- on the first Sunday in Lent - and only on Lent I – we will begin with the recitation of The Great Litany, written by Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury under the infamous King Henry VIII, and architect of the first (1549) Book of Common Prayer. This beautiful and moving litany, which pre-dates the first Prayer Book by five years, is a prayer offered in exorcism of all the imaginable evils in our lives. In its breadth, it incorporates (and replaces) both the Prayers of the People and the General Confession on this day only (Remember that **Daylight Saving Time begins that day** – set your clocks ahead one hour when going to bed the night before!)
- on the following Sundays in Lent, we will begin with the Penitential Order
- the Gloria in Excelsis is replaced in Lent by the more simple Kyrie eleison (“Lord, have mercy...”) or the Trisagion (“Holy God, holy and mighty...”)

All of this is intended to heighten our awareness of the season of Lent, in which we are “put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution put forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith.” (BCP, p. 265)

Faithfully,  
Susan+

### **“BURIAL” OF THE ALLELUIAS**

This year, we are reviving at All Saints’ the ancient Christian custom of “burying,” or putting away the word “alleluia” at the end of the liturgy on the Last Sunday of Epiphany (March 6 this year). The Women’s Group and the Church School will help us all visually and ritually put out of our minds for the season of Lent the use of that joyful shout of praise, so that, when it is “resurrected” at Easter it is fresh and full of excitement. Be sure to be in church on March 6 to participate!

### **SHROVE TUESDAY HASH AND PANCAKE SUPPER**

Be sure to mark your calendar for Tuesday, March 8, 5 -7 PM for the annual Shrove Tuesday Hash and Pancake Supper at the church. A cost of \$5.00 per person helps defray expenses. Those who need financial help to cover the cost may contact Mother Davidson.

### **LENTEN WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST AND HEALING SERVICE**

The Holy Eucharist with the rite of Laying-on of hands and Anointing for Healing will be offered at 6 PM on Wednesdays in Lent, **beginning on Wednesday, March 16.**

### **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MARCH 13**

Remember to set your clocks ONE HOUR AHEAD when you go to bed on Saturday, March 12!

**The sympathy of the parish** is extended to Lee Giblin and her family on the recent death of her aunt, parishioner

**Harriet Beauchemin**

*May her soul, and the souls of all the departed, rest in peace.*

**Emergencies**

In the event of a pastoral emergency (such as a death in the family or a trip to the hospital), or a personal or family crisis, please do not hesitate to call your priest, no matter the day or hour. **Susan's home phone is 860-201-4283 and cell phone is 860-806-4284.**

You may also call the **parish office (203-879-2800)** and leave a message.

You may also e-mail me at [motherdavidson@gmail.com](mailto:motherdavidson@gmail.com) or at the church:

[allsaintswolcott@att.net](mailto:allsaintswolcott@att.net). I generally read e-mail late morning and late evening. – SLD+

**Office Hours**

Mother Davidson is usually in the office on Wednesdays, beginning at Noon, and on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 10 AM – 4 PM, unless out on a pastoral call or at a Diocesan clergy meeting. Please feel free to call or stop by – you would be most welcome!

**Pledges for the Year 2011**

Thank you to all those who have already returned their pledges of time, talent and treasure to support the ministry of Christ at All Saints' in the year 2011. If you have not yet had an opportunity to do so, will you please consider joining us in providing resources to help further that ministry in the coming months? It is never too late to make a pledge!! Please see Kathy Newvine for a packet of materials or pick one up in the tract rack near the entrance to the church or Andrews Hall. Pledges may be adjusted (either down or up!) at any time, by contacting Mother Davidson or Treasurer Red Smith.

**Our New Website**

We are grateful for the ministries of webmasters Michael De Negris, Lorraine DiMauro and Stacey Pratt, who have offered to maintain our website for us and keep it up-to-date. Our site may currently be accessed at <http://allsaintswolcott.ctdiocese.org>. It is linked to the website of the Diocese of Connecticut, through which you may find many other links to items of interest on a diocesan, national and international scale. Remember that ours is still a work in progress, and new items will be added regularly!

**Pastoral Visits**

Expect a call from your Priest! It is my hope, over the next several months, to have an opportunity to visit personally with all members of the congregation; no agenda - just so we can become better acquainted and I can hear your hopes and dreams for this wonderful place. So don't be surprised if I call to set up an appointment for a relaxed visit with you at your home, your place of work (if that's possible), or over a cup of tea at the parish office, if that's better for you. SLD+

### **Bible Studies**

**The Wednesday evening Bible study group** is engaged in a year-long overview of the Bible, using a curriculum titled "Discovering the Bible." This method is produced by the *Kerygma* program (Kerygma is a Greek word which means "the message"), and is a basic way of looking at themes which occur throughout the Bible, encompassing the Old Testament, New Testament, and the Apocrypha.

An additional opportunity for a **Lenten daytime, short-term Bible study** of the Sunday lectionary readings from the Gospel of John will take place at **1 PM on Wednesdays in Lent, beginning on March 16th**. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

### **Are you sure you're really a member of All Saints'?**

Often, persons think that regular attendance at a church is sufficient to make them members. Not so in the Episcopal Church, which tracks her members very carefully, recalling Jesus' prayer to his Father "that not one of them be lost." In order to be officially a member of All Saints', all that is required is that you register the date and place of your Baptism with us; that information will be entered into the Parish Register. You may also ask for your Letter of Transfer to be sent from another Episcopal church, or become an Episcopalian through Confirmation (for those coming to the church from a Protestant tradition) or by being Received into the Episcopal Church (for those coming from the Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox traditions). If you or yours is interested in becoming a member of All Saints', please speak to Mother Davidson.

### **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING CONFIRMED OR RECEIVED?**

**Inquirers' Class** for those who are preparing for Confirmation or Reception in the Episcopal Church (as well as for those who are just interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church) will take place at a time mutually convenient for those for whom this training is required. Those who have indicated an interest in Confirmation or Reception will shortly receive a letter with options for day and time, as well as regional times and places for that important event. Stay tuned for more information!

### **Pot Luck Lunch**

After the service on March 20 there will be a 'Good-bye to Winter' Pot luck lunch. All are asked to bring a non-winter dish (no soups, casseroles etc). A sign up sheet will be posted on Sunday March 6.

Also at this pot-luck Kara from St. Michael's Church will be bringing her clothing items, to sell. This includes t-shirts with Braille writings/sayings, shirts with the Episcopal emblem (and we can have All Saints Wolcott put on them), and shirts/hats that can be made with a cancer ribbon (the thread to make them has been blessed) and a loved one's name . Nancy will be bringing a folder/brochure with examples of the items to church this Sunday.

On Sunday March 6 be ready to hide an "Alleluia" in the church!

### All Saints Church School Report

Lock-In Retreat Great success!

On February 4, 2011, All Saints Church School held a Lock-In for the Middle school youth. The purpose of the Lock-In was to begin a journey, the journey of Confirmation. The retreaters began their evening with energy abound in washing the walls of Andrews' Hall. At 7:30 p.m. Mother-Davidson called joining us in prayer and reflection for our evening.

Many parents stayed and guided our young people with the washing of the walls. The youth participants were Regan Richard, Peter Borzellino, Ryan Sanderson, Tommy Dobensky and Joshua Mazur. Adult participants including those who stayed overnight, Joann Dobensky, Judy Richard, Phil Mazur, Jay Dobensky, Dave and Deb Borzellino, and Donna Lydem.

Thanks to Dave and Jay for the survey of the retreat. The survey conveyed 3.5 as an average for most of the activities with a 4 for washing the walls, walk around the church and breakfast. The youth asked when will there be another retreat. - Donna