



## ***The Rector's Corner . . . .***

Dear Friends,

Following a period of discernment regarding our relocation to a place closer to our grandchildren, Thomas and Nora—and their mom and dad, I have decided to retire from full-time, parish ministry. As most of you know, Bea and I relocated here from the Diocese of San Diego after prayerful consideration of a desire for a higher level of involvement with our grandson's life. Well, since moving here, Nora came along; and, the tug to be even closer to them began to take effect. My last day of work at All Saints was Thursday, April 30. (I will be taking the month of May as earned vacation time.)

Bea and I are grateful for your expressions of generosity and thoughtfulness in your presenting us with the Rector's Purse and the Book of Memories. While our physical paths will not be crossing again (due to the rules regarding 'former rectors' ), we will keep you in our prayers for a blessed future.

As I write this letter, I realize that it is my final personal column for the monthly newsletter; and, saying 'Good-bye' isn't always easy, especially done in the midst of a pandemic when we have not been able to gather physically for worship or fellowship for weeks. So...perhaps, St. Paul says it best:

*"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

*For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.*

*Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.*

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*Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans, Chapter 12)*

**GOD BLESS EACH OF YOU IN YOUR JOURNEY!**

*Blessings,*

*Robert*

## **Birthday Wishes . . . .**

May 3—Anita Domino  
Gail Houston

May 4—Bea Nagy

May 6—Len Ludovico

May 10—Chris Niebling

May 13—Stephanie Flynn  
Diane Lippert

May 14—Jeanne Guempel  
Janice Kiefer  
Betty Yersin

May 15—Kathy Royal

May 16—Sophia Mastroserio

May 18—Jennifer Zanna-Kolakowski

May 19—Patty Thropp

May 22—Maureen Brune

May 23—Nancy Erickson  
Robert Kurtzke

Christina Sanes

May 24—Heath McLendon

May 27—Lynne Adkins

May 29—Donna Knapp

May 31—Jeniene Stango



## **Anniversary Blessings . . . .**

May 7—Wendy & David Johnson

May 13—Joyce Cornelius & Ted Griffin

May 15—Meg & Steve Beresik

Alysia & Rick Litton

Susan & Bill Rogers

Joan & Peter Wright

May 19—Linda & Matt Conklin

May 21—Megan & Jim Newbold

May 25—Betty & Ken Yersin

May 30—Judy & Heath McLendon

May 31—Harriet & Jack Snyder



## ***Words from the Sr. Warden . . . .***

In my March newsletter remarks I ended by saying that “Joe and I will be providing regular updates during the announcement portion of our Sunday services.” Who knew our services would be online?

In these circumstances our parish newsletter and weekly emails become very important.

As I noted in an earlier email, we were all saddened by the lack of audio for Robert’s last service with us here at All Saints and the remarks from Robert and Bea at the end of the service. We are working to improve our online services and assuring that we have audio going forward.

And we will continue to have online services! For as long as our church building is closed there will be Sunday services. Four of our five May Sundays, The Rev. Kathleen Bishop will be our guest preacher. For one Sunday in May and from the first Sunday in June and into September, The Rev. Mary Frances Schjonberg will be our guest preacher. Both Kathleen and Mary Frances know us well and we are so grateful that they can be with us as we begin our period of transition.

The transition has begun. I have spoken with The Rev. Dr. Brian Jemmott, Canon to the Ordinary and Transitions Officer, on early mechanics. As many of you know, the Bishop and the Transitions Officer will meet with the Wardens and Vestry to review the transition process with us. Given the ongoing pandemic mandated shutdown, that meeting may very well be undertaken using the Zoom teleconference platform. Rev. Jemmott and I have discussed that possibility.

In my March newsletter remarks I also said, “We are in the process of engaging an experienced transition consultant to work with us as we undertake the process that will ultimately lead us to the call of our new priest. “ At our April Vestry meeting, the Wardens and Vestry authorized the engagement of The Rev. Joanne Izzo as our transition consultant. Joanne has conducted two retreats with the Vestry, one last November and one in February. She also co-hosted our Lenten program with Robert. She has earned the confidence of the Vestry and has broad and deep experience in all aspects of transition, including inter alia, profile development, interview techniques, congregational involvement, and relations with the diocese. Finalization of Joanne’s engagement is subject to approval by the Bishop. The Bishop and Rev. Jemmott have been kept in the loop and we expect to receive that approval shortly.

Robert and I have been talking regularly to assure a smooth retirement. We are working on the orderly handover of the Rector’s Discretionary Fund, putting in place resources for pastoral counseling, turnover of the Rectory and the assorted administrative items that need to be addressed with a Rector’s retirement.

Let me close this month by observing that in these last weeks there has been an outpouring of well wishes for Robert and Bea by members of our Faith Community. I am very grateful for the several years that I have had to work with Robert. Our discussions on the subject of faith and spirituality were a great benefit to me. I wish Robert and Bea a long and happy retirement and hope that they, like all of us who are grandparents , will soon have the opportunity to once again hug their grandchildren!

Gerald Harvey