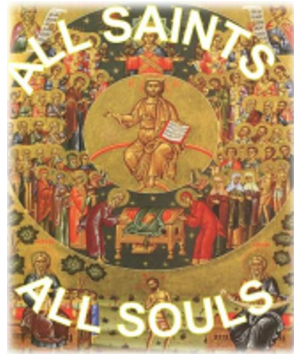# The Parish Times
All Saints Day Edition

TURN BACK O'CLOCK – Sunday - 2 November …

Though it might sound like a catchy opening line for a

hymn…it's a Sunday *call to action* …Daylight Savings Time 2014 ends…take an extra hour of sleep to get ready for **All Saints Sunday Mass**…9:00 AM will just feel like 10:00…! More about **All Saints** further in this

issue… right now make a note….**All Souls Day Mass**…is Monday, 3 November at 6 PM. If not already done, add those you would like especially remembered to the list during Sunday Coffee Hour, send an email or call the Parish Office. The entire list will be read as an Intention at the 6PM Requiem Mass.

Restoration continues…elevator service news…

With profound parochial thanks to Al Schick, a long awaited Building Permit has been received from the City of San Mateo to make the modifications required to restore elevator service. We anticipate commencement of work mid November. The obvious question is, of course, how long will it take…? That answer is yet to be determined. We shall certainly issue progress reports as soon as we know more. Yes, long awaited new red carpet will appear on the stairs once construction work is completed…!

New Banner series…

The first of a new series of banners appeared just before Saint Francis Day…

installed next will be for Advent Sunday Lesson & Carols…increasingly we are identifiable as who we are and what we represent…nothing changed on the inside…we remain from our founding…*THE CONTINUATION OF ANGLICANISM We affirm that the Church of our fathers, sustained by the most Holy Trinity, lives yet…are determined to continue in the Catholic Faith, Apostolic Order, Orthodox Worship and Evangelical Witness of the traditional Anglican Church.*

Reaching outward…

Parish Participation in CALL's **FILL A BOX / FEED A FAMILY** program is outstanding! Through the generosity of so many in our community, we are helping provide special meal supplies for over 500 families during Thanksgiving

Books for Children to the Phillipines… initiated by Family

Harris, this is one of the cartons of books donated by people of Saint Joseph Parish now making their way to the Phillipines. This program is ongoing and we ask that you continue to bring used book in good condition to the parish for future shipments.

Book Review… *The Cost of Discipleship* – Father Looney

What does it really mean to be a Christian in today's

world? Dietrich Bonhoeffer asks us this question in his famous book based on the Sermon on the Mount. Bonhoeffer's vocal opposition to Nazism cost him pulpit, freedom and life. He was hanged just before Germany surrendered in 1945.

Pastor Bonhoeffer answers this question by making a sharp distinction between "cheap grace" and "costly grace". "Cheap grace", he writes, "is the grace we bestow on ourselves…grace without discipleship…Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again, the gift which must be asked for…It is costly because it costs life, and it is grace because it gives only true life."

When Jesus invites us to follow him we turn our lives over to him…the "cost" to us for following Jesus is our lives. The cost for his refusal to stand by and give lip service to God while others suffered was indeed great.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote with simple clarity and conviction. He encourages us not to fear or run away from the cost of being a Disciple of Jesus.

Father Craig Looney

Rector's Thought and Review

Picking up as I concluded last month's column… One came from medieval Italy, one from early 20th century Alaska via England and Texas…yes I am talking about saints – saints then and saints now…known and unknown…finding examples of sainthood everywhere and in the most unexpected ways brings us to focus on one of the of 'Big Days' of the Church Year…OUR DAY…**All Saints Day**…WE CAN BE ONE TOO ! The 'official' day being Saturday November 1, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday, November 2. All Saints Day must be a new beginning. We must renew and compellingly focus on that which we, TOO are called to be…! If, in fact, we decline, it is an indication we are seriously overdue for a talk with the person we see in the mirror… consider this…

*It was truly amazing … I looked out and there were people everywhere for as far as I could see …and beyond… they came from all nations, they spoke languages of all the world…many were related but many were from different tribes…or clans…or groups…or however you might describe them…it was mesmerizing…*this paraphrase from the Lesson for the Epistle on All Saints Day comes from the Revelation of Saint John…

So…how serious are we about the fulfillment of our baptism…?

Is our baptism taken seriously or simply as the fulfillment of a "social nicety" or part of a sacrament certificate collection…?...does it sustain a way of life which is taken seriously in all places at all times and without reservation…?...have we committed ourselves to see that which we have received, we share with others…do we care for and about others without considering inconvenience or consequence…or expectation of a reward…?

Roman Catholic Archbishop Charles Chaput made this substantive point in a lecture last week…

Christianity is worthless as a leaven in society unless people actually believe in Jesus Christ, follow the Gospel, love the Church and act like real disciples with passion and purpose. If they don't, then religion is just another form of self-medicating. And that essentially sums up the way too many people in my generation have lived out their baptism.

The archbishop noted *There are no unhappy saints…*and reminded, Pope Francis says that "a Christian without joy is not a Christian."

Profound things for us to consider in this month of All Saints and All Souls…

- Father John Altberg