

FROM THE RECTOR...

*PALM SUNDAY...IN ADVENT?*



It's not Palm Sunday yet...why do we read the Gospel about Jesus' donkey ride into Jerusalem on the First Sunday in Advent? Why aren't we getting ready for Christmas? After all, didn't Christmas decorations go up in the stores weeks ago?

A curious feature of the Gospel appointed for Palm Sunday in the *Book of Common Prayer* is it doesn't talk about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem at all...the Gospel reading is the Passion According to Matthew. Many liturgical practices we now take for granted disappeared during the Reformation. This has to do with the Reformers' general dislike of processions and blessing of objects (the palms).

The Blessing of Palms and the accompanying Procession around the church were restored to their proper place within Anglicanism after the Oxford Movement commenced in 1833. These along with the centrality of the Eucharist are integral parts of the Palm Sunday experience at Saint Joseph Parish and in most parishes within Catholic Christendom.

So, if it's not Palm Sunday, why read the Gospel about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Advent Sunday? It should be read not in its historical chronological context but symbolically. It is consistent with the Advent theme of "Last things First"... "Death, Judgment, Heaven, Hell."

The word *advent* comes from the Latin *adventus* and means *coming*. Advent is about preparing for Jesus' First Coming on Christmas Day...and for his Second Coming at the end of time.

Jesus comes to us first as a fragile baby in the manger. He is our King and Savior. His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday...fulfills the prophecy from Malachi, "...I will send my messenger to prepare the way for me. Then the Lord you are looking for will suddenly come to his Temple."

Let's get our hearts, minds and wills stirred up and ready for the First Coming of Jesus on Christmas Day...and anticipate with hope and joy his Second Coming. He leads us out of darkness and death into light and life.

Father Craig Looney +



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
8 DECEMBER 2019  
4:00 PM LESSONS & CAROLS

ANGELA KRAFT-CROSS, GUEST ORGANIST  
MASTERWORKS CHORALE CHORISTERS  
DIRECTED BY ROBIN HANSEN

RECEPTION FOLLOWING IN PARISH HALL



CHRISTMAS EVE  
24 DECEMBER 2019  
6:00 PM LOW MASS & SERMON

CHRISTMAS DAY  
25 DECEMBER 2019  
9:00 AM LOW MASS WITH HYMNS & SERMON

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS  
29 DECEMBER 2019  
9:00 AM – LOW MASS & SERMON  
FOLLOWED BY COFFEE HOUR

THE EPIPHANY  
5 JANUARY 2020  
9:00 AM – LOW MASS & SERMON  
FOLLOWED BY POT LUCK BRUNCH

IN MEMORIAM...



Herbert Alton Schick  
10 July 1933 – 16 October 2019

A Requiem Mass for Herbert Alton Schick...affectionately known by all as "Al"...was held at Saint Joseph Parish on Saturday 9 November. Al was a founding member of Saint Joseph Parish. He served on the Vestry in various capacities including Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and frequently and most recently as Treasurer...retiring at the Annual Parish Corporation Meeting last January.

Over 300 parishioners, family members and friends attended the Mass. 60 members of Masterworks Chorale under the direction of Dr. Bryan Baker sang the Fauré Requiem. Soloist for the Pie Jesu was Ms. Robin Hansen. Guest organist was Dr. Angela Kraft-Cross, a long-time friend of the parish and of the Schick Family.

Al served on active duty in the United States Navy from 1953 until shortly before the birth of his first son, at which time he chose reserve duty to spend more time with his family. He took over his father's metal forge business, Schick Products, which became Schick Partners, an industrial park, after manufacturing moved abroad. In 1989, Al joined Masterworks Chorale. He sang all over the world including Carnegie Hall. He was for many years our Cantor.

Al's background in manufacturing and engineering was instrumental in determining the feasibility of moving our historic 1870 Carpenter Gothic church building from its original location at Mission San Jose in Fremont to its current location in San Mateo. While the building may be Al's most visible legacy...he left a far greater legacy...the love for God, his parish, his family and friends that emanated from the heart.

Al is survived by his wife of almost 61 years Carol, three children, Gary, David, and Susanna, David Schick's wife Andrea Schick, and their children Stephen, Claire, and Nicholas. Al is also survived by his sister's children Dianne Ingle Farley, Marten, and Xtian Ingle. Al's sister Barbara and her husband John Ingle are deceased. Committal took place on Tuesday, 12 November, at Saint John's Cemetery in San Mateo.

IN MEMORIAM...



Leslie Muller Cahoon  
18 February 1949 – 10 November 2019

Leslie Muller Cahoon, formerly of Gettysburg PA, died in her sleep Sunday morning 10 November, after a years-long battle with Alzheimer's.

She was a beloved professor of Classics at Gettysburg College for nearly 25 years. She was passionate about her work and encouraged her students to embrace the Classics.

She was predeceased by her husband, the Most Reverend John Thayer Cahoon, Jr., founding Rector of Saint Joseph Parish, San Mateo CA, and later Rector of Saint Andrew and Saint Margaret of Scotland Parish, Alexandria VA. He was Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Anglican Catholic Church at the time of his death.

Leslie is survived by her brother Gereg Muller, her two daughters Anne Cahoon of Oakland CA and Margaret Linkous of Detroit MI, and their spouses and children.

The Burial Office and Committal took place on Saturday 16 November at Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland CA. A Memorial Mass for Leslie will be held at Saint Joseph Parish in San Mateo CA at later date.

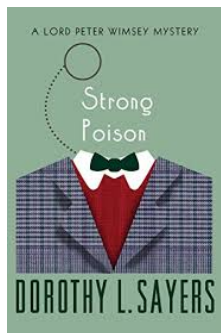


*In Paradisum*

*Into the Paradise of God may the Angels lead them; and at thy coming may the Martyrs receive them, and take them into the holy City Jerusalem. May all the Choirs of Angels welcome them; and may they with Lazarus once poor find eternal rest.*

## ADVENT BOOK REVIEW BY REBEKAH SHAPIRO...

As a litigator, I know that a trial is the end of an investigation that has been interspersed with negotiations. My last trial started more than 7 years after the dispute began. Yet *Strong Poison* by Dorothy L. Sayers begins with a trial - a trial for murder. It is thus a fitting story to consider during Advent. Advent is the first season of the Church year, but it is when we consider the four last things: death, judgment, heaven and hell. As a murder mystery surrounding a trial, *Strong Poison* is all about death and judgment.



In *Strong Poison*, we return to our friend Lord Peter Wimsey, an eccentric and wealthy amateur detective. We also meet another of Sayers' famous detective characters: Harriet Vane, an eccentric and impecunious professional writer. She is the one on trial for murder - on trial for her life.

California jurors typically get paid \$15 per day for jury service and receive meals during deliberations. This is bountiful compared to jurors in England until relatively recently. Far from having their food paid for by the taxpayers or litigants, jurors in England used to be sequestered during deliberations without access to food. In *Strong Poison*, the imposed fast is no problem for one of the jurors. She is a religious, church-going gentlewoman (and a friend of Lord Peter).

*Strong Poison* by Dorothy L. Sayers is available in print and electronic formats from the San Mateo County Libraries. Remember that residents of several cities over the age of 60 do not pay library fines. In addition, through December, library fines in almost all San Mateo County Libraries will be waived for patrons who bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to Second Harvest Food Bank. *Strong Poison* is also available from bookstores.

## Vestry Meeting

The December Vestry meeting originally scheduled for Sunday 8 December has been rescheduled to Sunday 1 December at 10:15 AM in the Library, to avoid a conflict with Lessons and Carols. Regular sessions of the Vestry are open to all interested parishioners.

## DID YOU KNOW...?

The concept for the Advent Wreath originated among German Lutherans in the 16th Century. In its original form the wreath held four white candles representing the Sundays in Advent and six red candles between each white candle representing the weekdays in each week. It wasn't until the 19<sup>th</sup> Century the Advent Wreath took the form we know today.



Within Anglican Catholic and other Catholic churches the wreaths are usually made from evergreens and hold three violet candles and one rose or pink candle corresponding to the liturgical vestments worn by the Celebrant. A larger white Christ Candle is often seen in the center of the wreath. The Advent Wreath at Saint Joseph is unusual in that it is made of dried leaves and pinecones. It was a gift from Mary Wheeler, one of the founding members of our parish.

## 2020 ORDO KALENDARS...



2020 Ordo Kalendars conforming to the *Book of Common Prayer (1928)* and *Anglican and American Missals* will be available following the 9:00 AM Parish Mass on the Third Sunday in Advent (15 December). The Ordo Kalendar includes useful information about the Seasons of the Church Year, the Liturgical colors used throughout the Church Year and A Table for Finding Easter Day through the Year 2050. There is no charge for the Ordo Kalendar.

## EVERY-MEMBER CANVASS...



Every-Member Canvass letters will be mailed out during the week of 15 December. Please give prayerful thought and consideration when making your 2020 Pledge. If you have never made a pledge to the Parish...this is your opportunity to make a "New Year" resolution consistent with the Advent theme of starting over. Saint Joseph Parish depends on the generosity of its parishioners to meet its financial obligations. Please return your signed and dated pledge card to the Parish Office by Sunday 12 January 2020.

## HIBERNAL EMBER DAYS...



The Hiberna or Winter Ember Days occur on the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday after 13 December. The *Ember Days* are known in Latin as **quatuor anni tempora** (the "four seasons of the year"). They are four separate sets of three days each occurring roughly at the four seasons.

A *Table of Fasts* on Page li in the *Book of Common Prayer* designates Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as Days of Fasting. Fasting and abstinence should be understood as a spiritual discipline and approached with joy. The Ember Days are also days of fasting and abstinence occurring roughly at the four seasons during which we pray for increased vocations to the ordained ministry.

In the West...Saint Lucy's Day is celebrated on 13 December. Lucy, or Lucia, was a 4<sup>th</sup> Century Christian Martyr who died during the Diocletianic Persecution. Her feast once coincided with the Winter Solstice...the shortest day of the year. It is celebrated as a festival of return of light...especially in Scandinavian countries with their long dark winters. *Lucia*...is the feminine form of *Lux*...Latin for *light*.

Saint Lucy's Day always occurs in Advent...during which time we talk about Christ as the Light of the World. In the Advent Collect (Book of Common Prayer, Page 90), we ask God to fill us with his grace so we may "...cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light."

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS...



Contributions toward the purchase of Christmas flowers to decorate the High Altar and Church must be received in the Parish Office by Sunday 16 December. Christmas Flower envelopes are available...please indicate your intention on the envelope (in memory of...in thanksgiving for...etc.).

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Corporation Meeting (APCM) will be held on Sunday 26 January 2020 immediately following the 9:00 AM Parish Mass. Members of the Parish who are current on their 2019 Pledge and have made a Pledge for 2020 are entitled to vote at the meeting.

During the meeting we will review and approve Minutes of the 2019 APCM, hear reports from the Rector, Senior and Junior Wardens and Treasurer. We will review and approve a Budget for 2020...and elect new Vestry members.

A short Vestry Meeting will follow during which the Rector will appoint a Senior Warden and the Vestry will elect officers. Coffee and fellowship time will follow the meeting. Discussion Group will not meet.

## EPIPHANY POTLUCK LUNCHEON...



The Epiphany, or the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, is traditionally observed on 6 January. It is the "Twelfth Day of Christmas" of the popular 18<sup>th</sup> Century carol...although there is no evidence the "gifts" mentioned in the carol have any specific religious meanings.

In the Eastern churches the Epiphany is often called the Theophany and the focus is on the Baptism of Our Lord. Within Western Christianity, the focus is on the Magi...Wise Men from the East...who come to worship Jesus and bring gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. There will be more about the Epiphany Season in the January issue of *The Parish Times*.

This year we will celebrate the Epiphany on Sunday 5 January at the 9:00 AM Parish Mass. A potluck luncheon will immediately follow the Mass. Please sign up to bring a dish for 12 people and invite a friend or two.

## CALL PRIMROSE...



Thanks to all who contributed to this year's Thanksgiving Fill-a-Box/Feed-a-Family program. We delivered 18 boxes to CALL.

During December we are collecting items from CALL's "Most Needed List". Please bring any of the following items to church on Sunday and we will deliver them to CALL:

**CANNED/DRY GOODS...**Macaroni and Cheese, Pasta, Canned Vegetables, Hearty Soups/Stews (low-sodium varieties), Chili with or without Meat, Canned Fruit.

**TOILETRIES...**Tooth Brushes, Tooth Paste, Shampoo, Conditioner, Diapers (Sizes 5 & 6), Pull-ups.

CALL Primrose is our primary parochial outreach. Our monthly non-perishable food contributions help CALL provide for the needs of individuals and families.

The number of people who are struggling to put food on the table in the Bay Area...especially during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons...increases every year.

Sharing our many blessings is a fundamental tenant of our Christian faith. We gladly take on the task of helping others.

*To whom much is given...much will be required.  
(Saint Luke 12.48)*

## SCHEDULE

**SUNDAYS – 9:00 AM PARISH MASS & SERMON  
COFFEE HOUR & DISCUSSION GROUP**

**WEEKDAYS/HOLY DAYS AS ANNOUNCED**

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE BY APPOINTMENT**

**THE REVEREND FATHER CRAIG LOONEY, RECTOR**



*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.*



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