

THE SCEPTRE

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CHURCH OF THE ADVENT OF CHRIST THE KING

NOVEMBER 2012

An inclusive parish of The Episcopal Church in the Anglo-Catholic tradition

FROM THE RECTOR

During the past several months I have been more and more given to thinking about just what it is we think we are doing when we pray. It is a given that we ask people of faith, especially clergy, to pray for us and for our loved ones, most particularly when faced with a crisis or a health issue.



Studies have been done to see if people prayed for improve, and one of the most remarkable findings is that those who do not know they are being prayed for show more improvement than either those not prayed for or those who know that prayers are said for them. I'm not sure what I make of this but I do know that the exercise of prayer, how we do it, has always been something that fascinated me.

Prayer has been described as the simple act of placing our consciousness in the presence of God. That statement makes a great deal of sense and gives us a clue as to why intercessory prayer is so much a part of praying. When we are consciously present to the Divine, we bring with us all of our most intimate cares and concerns, not so much seeking a solution to them but rather because, as with our dearest friends, we want to share them. How we make ourselves conscious of the presence of God is largely a matter of technique. The basis of this is our daily practice of participation in the Prayer of the Church, through its liturgy. Attendance at Mass and reading, either publicly or privately, the Daily Office, those selections of Psalms, Scripture Readings and prayers prescribed by the Church, are the foundations for a life of prayer.

These, however, are just the foundation of what is an internal and affective movement of our own hearts.

Meditation, *lectio divina*, the rosary, and many other devotional exercises are all techniques that build on the foundation of corporate prayer and help us quiet the mind and body so that we can be conscious of the divine. In the late Anthony Bloom's book "Living Prayer", there is the example of the Russian woman who when asked how she prayed pointed to an Icon and said, "I sit and look at him and he looks at me."

The technique of prayer that we use is not important; that we pray is. To place ourselves consciously and daily in the presence of God to to bring into that presence our deepest desires, needs, and concerns is the heart of all prayer.

Father Paul



CONTENTS

From the Rector	1
Schola Adventus concert - Gallery	2
Music News	3
Around the Diocese	4
Around the Diocese	5
Liturgical Schedule & Anniversaries	6
Advertisements	7

SCHOLA ADVENTUS *Gala Concert October 21, 2012*



Photos:
Marshal Cousins



Third Sunday Series

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18 2012, 4 PM



solstice
A FEMALE VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Since 1996, nationally-ranked female vocal ensemble **Solstice** has enthralled audiences with their technically precise and passionate treatments of music for women's voices. Solstice includes members **Emily Bender, Becca Burrington, Lark Coryell, Krista Enos, Mari Marjamaa, Kim Warsaw, and Sara Webb-Schmitz**. From medieval troubadour songs to contemporary pop, Solstice shares the music they love from around the world and through the ages. Among other awards, Solstice received a **Contemporary A Cappella Recording Award** for Best Folk/World Song nomination for their 2000 recording of *Blood and Gold*. They have released four CD recordings.

Solstice will be performing a concert featuring their eclectic mix of classical, pop and world music. They will perform music by Debussy, Bartok and Kodaly, along with pieces by Kate Bush and Cassandra Wilson. You will hear folk music from Finland, Switzerland and Bulgaria. The concert will also include a couple of pieces from their soon-to-be-released holiday album, **Winter Solstice**.



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261 Fell St., San Francisco 94102
between Gough and Franklin

Civic Center BART, Van Ness MUNI
easy street parking

*Admission by donation
Reception following*

Fauré Requiem

with **SCHOLA ADVENTUS**

**ALL SOULS DAY
REQUIEM HIGH MASS**

Friday November 2, 2012

6:30 PM



Oasis California Deacon

Bishop Marc Andrus has assigned the Rev. Diana Wheeler to serve as the Oasis California Deacon.

Please join Oasis California for the institution of the Rev. Diana Wheeler here at **Church of the Advent** during a service of **Evensong, Sunday, November 4, 4 p.m.** The Rev. Tommy Dillon will preach.

The celebration continues in Marlena's at 6 p.m. with a fundraiser for the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence General Fund.

Oasis California serves as a center of spirituality for LGBT people and their allies in the San Francisco Bay Area. Oasis offers the latest news on their Facebook page; a list of LGBT welcoming congregations; Sacred Cocktails most Mondays at the Castro's Twin Peaks Tavern; and Open Cathedral in the Castro.



Around the Diocese

October 19 and 20, 2012
Grace Cathedral

163rd
Diocesan
Convention



The Convention of the Diocese of California met, at Grace Cathedral over Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20, 2012 for both the formal business of the Diocese and to promote the collegial and collaborative work of the church in the Bay Area. We began by sharing a meal on the Plaza at Grace, moving later into the Cathedral for a spirit-filled celebration of the Mass ably pre-

sided over by our Bishop, Marc Andrus. The next day our formal business was punctuated by more informal discussions around our shared ministry of bringing the Good News to an indifferent society. Saturday was also Bishop Marc's birthday, and was suitably marked by a resolution and a singing of "Happy Birthday."

There were three other resolutions passed, all of which impact each congregation in that they call for us to take some specific action. The first, "Poverty as an Agenda Issue" mandates that the Agenda of every Church Business meeting include, "How will what we are doing here affect or involve people living in poverty?" The second requires each congregation to mark Martin Luther King Day in the civil calendar as a day of service in the community. The third encourages us to support State Proposition 34, which will have the effect of abolishing the death penalty. All these were effectively debated and passed by voice vote. In addition, a budget of just over \$4 million was passed, funding the ministries of the Diocese for the calendar year 2013. All this, together with elections to various Diocesan Offices was accomplished with grace and in a spirit of prayerful waiting on God.

Father Paul

Fire at Good Shepherd, Berkeley

A fire on Saturday night, October 20 destroyed the interior of Good Shepherd, Berkeley's 144-year-old building, but the bell tower remains. The fire started in the sacristy, but the cause has yet to be determined. No one was injured.

Bishop Marc Andrus and his wife Sheila, along with other diocesan senior staff, joined them the day after the fire during their first worship service in the parish hall.

Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, prepared a basket of vestments, Eucharistic vessels, bread, wine, and bulletins with the Eucharistic rite for the congregation to use in transition. In the midst of the troubles God was praised. The Rev. Este Cantor, vicar, said on the parish website that the usual ministries of the church will continue.

Built in 1878 based on Victorian Gothic architecture, the church, which has board-and-batten siding and pointed arch stained glass, is on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated a local landmark by the city of Berkeley.

According to the city of Berkeley's landmark plaque at the church, Good Shepherd is "the oldest church in the East Bay still in continuous use by its founding congregation."



The church's 75-foot bell tower, with a 1,000-pound bell, is its most prominent feature.

with information from Pacific Church News and Bay City News, Inc.



Photo: DioBytes

Glaser Commings Wedding Saturday Nov. 3
10:00 am

HIGH MASS / SUNG MASS
SUNDAYS 11:00 AM

All Saints Day, Thursday November 1
High Mass 6:30 PM

Celebrant: Paul Burrows
Preacher: Paul Burrows

All Souls Day, Friday November 2
Requiem High Mass 6:30 PM

Celebrant: Rod Thompson
Preacher: Tommy Dillon

Sunday after All Souls Day, November 4

Celebrant: Paul Burrows
Preacher: Rod Thompson

24th Sunday after Pentecost, November 11

Celebrant Rod Thompson
Preacher: Paul Burrows

25th Sunday after Pentecost, November 18

Celebrant : Paul Burrows
Preacher: Rod Thompson

Feast of Christ the King, November 25

High Mass and Te Deum

Celebrant: Paul Burrows
Preacher: Jude Hill

Holy Hour - 5 PM Saturday Nov. 10, 17, 24

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Nov...Mary Hudak + (reception)
- 1 Nov...Norman Leaf & William David (holy union)
- 1 Nov...Sally McCloghrie (birthday)
- 2 Nov...Patrick Russell (baptism)
- 4 Nov...Loren LeJeune (confirmation)
- 5 Nov...Paul Ford (birthday)
- 5 Nov...Jack Jensen (confirmation)
- 5 Nov...Bob Kramish (confirmation)
- 5 Nov...Reese Probst (baptism)
- 6 Nov... Cheryl Parker (confirmation)
- 7 Nov...Alex Martin (birthday)
- 9 Nov...Norman McKnight (baptism)
- 9 Nov...Linda Mc Nerney (birthday)
- 9 Nov...John Pitoniak (confirmation & reception)
- 10 Nov...Megan Anderson (baptism)
- 10 Nov...Paul Burrows + (baptism)
- 10 Nov...Heidi Edson (reception)
- 10 Nov...Michael Stroup (confirmation)
- 11 Nov...Erik Thrasher (birthday)
- 12 Nov...Eric Clark (confirmation)
- 12 Nov...Jennifer Usher (birthday)
- 17 Nov...Anna McHargue (confirmation)
- 18 Nov...Jon Kouba (birthday)
- 19 Nov...Don Fisher + (confirmation)
- 23 Nov...Cort Cortez (reception)
- 23 Nov...Cate Gregory (reception)
- 23 Nov...Reese Probst (confirmation)
- 24 Nov...Robert Ayala (birthday)
- 26 Nov...Don Fisher + (priesthood)
- 27 Nov...Mark Hartman (birthday)
- 28 Nov...Paul Ford (baptism)
- 28 Nov...Leah Hall (confirmation)
- 28 Nov...Bob Kossler + (reception)
- 28 Nov...Lee Ryan & Nancy Aalberg (marriage)
- 29 Nov...Martha Smith (birthday)
- 30 Nov...Lër Nelson (birthday)

WEEKDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS Monday 10:00am, Tuesday 6:30pm, Wednesday 7:30 am, Thursday 6:30pm (except feast days), Friday 10:00am (except feast days), and Saturday (and Federal holidays) 9:00am. There will be no low mass Saturday November 3 due to the Glaser wedding. Thanksgiving Day Thursday Nov. 22: Low Mass with Hymns, 10:00 am.
EVENING PRAYER Monday 6:00 PM, Friday 6:00 PM (excluding Federal holidays)
Evensong, Sunday November 4, 4 PM (installation of Oasis Deacon)

Library Memorial – Ewing Cobb

Ewing Cobb was a longtime member of Church of the Advent. He was married to his wife Margaret here in 1950, and his funeral was held here in 2009. A sizable percentage of the books in the Pittman Library originated with him.

Therefore it is fitting to consider a memorial donation in honor of Ewing Cobb for the refurbishment of our library, and specifically for the purchase of two custom-size bookcases which are needed to complete the shelving of the books.

Once the shelves are in place, an appropriate plaque in memory of Ewing Cobb will be placed in the library.

Donations in any amount will be gratefully accepted. You can donate using the PayPal link on the church website, via check in the alms basin (specify "library memorial" in the memo line), or speak to any member of the vestry.

Father Geoffrey Glaser and Jeff Commings

are getting married
at Church of the Advent
on 3 November 2012.

They would like to extend an invitation
to all members of Advent to attend
and help celebrate this joyful occasion.

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AND NOW FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE ABIDE, THESE
 THREE; AND THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.
 I CORINTHIANS 13:13