



# The Orb

Weekly Announcements of

## Church of the Advent of Christ the King

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

261 Fell Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

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8 October 2017

### THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 22)

**Welcome to all our visitors & newcomers.**

Please sign our guest book and join us after Mass for refreshments in Lathrop Hall and Hardcastle Garden. If you are new, please make yourself known to the clergy and the greeters.

### Ordo ~

#### Sunday, 8 October

Low Mass, 8:30am (Episcopal Sanctuary) & 9am  
Confessions, 10:30am (Fr Alexander Martin)  
High Mass, 11am

#### Monday, 9 October

Robert Grosseteste, *Bishop of Lincoln*, +1253  
Evening Prayer, 6pm & Low Mass, 6:30pm

#### Tuesday, 10 October

Weekday after Pentecost  
Evening Prayer, 6pm & Low Mass, 6:30pm

#### Wednesday, 11 October

Philip, *Deacon & Evangelist*  
Low Mass, 8:00am & 6:30 pm  
Evening Prayer, 6pm

#### Thursday, 12 October

Weekday after Pentecost  
Evening Prayer, 6pm & Low Mass 6:30pm

#### Friday, 13 October

*Abstinence observed*  
Edward the Confessor, *King of England*, +1066  
Evening Prayer, 6pm & Low Mass, 6:30pm

#### Saturday, 14 October

Samuel Isaac Joseph Schereschewsky, *Bishop of Shanghai*, +1906  
Latin Chant Mass, 5pm

### *Evil Means Nothing* ~ Father Paul Allick

In the early morning hours of the Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels we awoke to yet another mass murder in our nation. This time it was in Las Vegas at a country music festival. This time the most people ever were wounded and killed. This time there was no apparent ideological, religious, sexual phobia, or racial motive behind the slaughter. The murderer's family and acquaintances could come up with absolutely no reason for him to build his own personal arsenal and murder strangers. He was a wealthy man with no political or religious convictions.

We seek meaning in these events but there is no meaning. That is the very essence of evil. It is nothing. It is void of any sense of humanity. There is no love. There is no logic. There is nothing.

The Catechism gives us the definition of heaven and hell, "By heaven we mean eternal life in our enjoyment of God; by hell, we mean eternal death in our rejection of God." (Book of Common Prayer, p.862)

It turns out, then, that hell is nothingness. It is absence. There is no presence. When mass murders give reasons for their evil acts, such as religion or politics, it is really just a cover. They and we are trying to assign meaning, presence, to something that is void of reason.

Where we find meaning is in the way we respond. That is where we find presence. We see first responders and ordinary people taking charge to save and to heal others. We find meaning in the resilience of humanity. We find meaning in the underlying love and courage deep within the overwhelming majority of our fellow human beings.

Just like the latest mass murderer, each of us gets to choose heaven or hell right now. We can share now in the presence of God. We can choose life over death, reconciliation over retribution, and harmony over discord. Or we can choose nothingness in our rejection of God, of each other and of our own humanity.

Let us each endeavor to practice peace in our own lives as tiny acts of healing the world in God's name. Let us pray God to send his guardian angels to inundate Las Vegas with hope and health.

**Third Sunday Series.** This month's Third Sunday Series offering is actually not a concert. We've called it "Music from Our Anglo-Catholic Heritage," and indeed it is. In lieu of a concert, however, we will have **Solemn Evensong & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament** ~ the first time in many years that we have scheduled such a liturgy at Advent. It's on Sunday, October 15 at 4pm and will be followed by English Tea in Lathrop Hall and the Hardcastle Garden. *Schola Adventus*, directed by Dr Paul Ellison will sing music by English twentieth-century composer Herbert Howells in the month that marks the 125th anniversary of his birth. Professor George Emblom (from CDSP) will play the organ. Do please join us and let your friends know. There's also an article about it in this month's issue of *The Sceptre* and a forthcoming notice in *Diobytes* for this week.

**Alert! San Francisco Half Marathon Sunday, October 15.** Start & finish at Civil Center; road closures around Civic Center from 7pm Friday to 11pm Sunday. Hayes, Divisadero & Fell streets will be closed Sunday morning from 6:45-7:45 (approximately). Please plan accordingly.

**Benedictine Spirituality for Everyday Living**, an Adult Education Class, will be offered at Church of the Advent **Tuesday evenings now through October 17, from 7:15-8:30pm.** A light supper will be shared. Please join us for our final two sessions as Fr Allick helps us discover how to apply Benedictine disciplines and principles in our day-to-day interactions with each other and the world.

*Note: If you think we don't have your anniversary information (birth, baptism, marriage, confirmation, reception or ordination), or if corrections need to be made, please send all information to [news@advent-sf.org](mailto:news@advent-sf.org) or provide written information to one of the clergy. Thank you.*

**Please submit news items to [news@advent-sf.org](mailto:news@advent-sf.org) by noon on Wednesday for inclusion in the following Sunday's edition of *The Orb*. With thanks!**

**All Saintstide 2017.** Donations are sought to cover the cost of **Schola Adventus** singing for High Mass on the Feast of All Saints (November 1) and for our annual High Mass of Requiem on All Souls' Day (November 2). Both Masses are at 6:30 p.m. All gifts may be designated "in thanksgiving" or "in memory" of a loved one. \$400.00 is needed for the music at each mass, making a total needed of \$800. Donations in any amount are most welcome, and will be acknowledged in the bulletin. If able to help, please see Paul Ellison or contact him at [music@advent-sf.org](mailto:music@advent-sf.org).

You may think you are too old for dressing up and "trick or treating," but you are never too old or too young to celebrate All Hallows' Eve at the First Evensong of All Saints, Tuesday, October 31 at 6pm. Do come, invite friends, and stay for the mass following when angels, archangels, and a host of blessed spirits will encompass us, and then take home a small treat to make the evening sweet. ~ John Klopacz.

**This Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

**Sunday Confessions:** October 15, 10:30am:  
Fr Paul Allick

**Stewardship Meditation for this week:** "There are three kinds of conversion. First is a conversion of the head. Second is conversion of the heart. Third is conversion of the wallet." ~ Martin Luther.

Mindful of the importance of Deacons and their work, let us prayerfully remember Philip:

"Holy God, no one is excluded from your love, and your truth transforms the minds of all who seek you: As your servant Philip was led to embrace the fullness of your salvation and to bring the stranger to Baptism, so give us all the grace to be heralds of the Gospel, proclaiming your love in Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen."

~*Holy Women, Holy Men*, page 635