



THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

FEBRUARY 2011

Highlights of Saint Luke's Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, January 23, 2011

The Holy Eucharist was celebrated at 10:30am, at which time the polls were declared open. In lieu of a sermon, the Rector presented his Annual Report to the Parish. Rather than reviewing the actions accomplished in the preceding year by our ministry and planning committees, all of which would be covered later in the parish hall, Father Tom looked to the future, addressing our entrance into Saint Luke's three-year parish plan with three keywords: Faith, Discernment and Centennial. A précis of that address follows.

Faith: Our generous giving, faithful service and bold proclamation are responses we can make in our daily living because the presence of Christ in this community, this Body of Christ – Saint Luke's Church – gives us support and direction. This faith community, wonderful and caring, quite human with our shortcomings and failings but redeemed and rejuvenated by the forgiving love of Christ, welcomes and supports all who come seeking God. Growing in spirituality will be key, the spirituality of giving.

Discernment: From time to time, as in this time and this place, the church is called to discern how best to express the faith. Over the next three years, Saint Luke's Church needs to "wonder as we wander," in a prayer that is voiced not only to God but in communication with each other. To that end, later this winter Father Tom will visit all parishioners and engage in conversation about the future of Saint Luke's. In the fall of 2011, we will begin a parish self-assessment that will assist us in discerning, or listening for, God's call as we envision future mission priorities and consider the ongoing ministry of Saint Luke's priest and people.

Centennial: As you know, plans are underway for a fantastic year-long (October 2012 through October 2013) celebration of Saint Luke's first one hundred years. We look back in thanks in order to look forward with rededicated spirits. As we continue to prepare for that festival year, let us always have in mind and heart the need to consider ways to make Saint Luke's Centennial a year of invitation and

welcome into our faith and our mission. What are we going to undertake as stewards of the Gospel so this parish can best minister in Saint Luke's second century?

During the 10:30 service, Jonathan Wallin, having completed his term as Church Warden, was presented by Father Tom with a combination Bible-Prayer Book, a gift from the Vestry, in loving recognition of his many years of devoted and devout service as Vestry member, Church Treasurer, Eucharistic Minister, and two consecutive terms as Warden.

Following the service, the congregation followed the crucifer to the parish hall where the business meeting took place. Outgoing Vestry members Sandra Baker, Dennis Khare, Joseph Occhiuto and Allan Smith, and Warden Jonathan Wallin were thanked for their service. The Nominating Committee, composed of Ann Espenschied, Joe Occhiuto and Anne Harte Su, then presented the following candidates for one Warden and five vestry positions for 2011: Church Warden-Velma Adams: Vestry members (three-year term)-Jackie Dinas, Christopher Dippel, Joanna Guinther, Jeanine McPartlin: Vestry member (one year of Velma's unexpired term)-Ed Geist. All were duly elected.

Parishioner Allan Smith was awarded custody of the Saint Luke's Shield for the current year in grateful recognition of his tireless work as Vestry member, parish archivist, and for his ongoing duties as chair of Saint Luke's Centennial Committee.

[The entire Annual Report can be found on Saint Luke's web site.]

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The Celebration of a Marriage

On Saturday, January 22, Michelle Gaidos and Michael Rockwitz were united in holy matrimony. We wish them a blessed life together, and in the words of the Book of Common Prayer, we pray "that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy."

***Outreach Update: Training Session for
Saint Andrew's Volunteers
Saturday, February 5***

Saint Andrew's Center in Astoria, Queens houses up to 16 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTG) teens and was the recipient of Saint Luke's 2010 Outreach Grant. Parishioners continue to volunteer at the shelter, providing meals one Saturday a month. Those who wish to serve dinner at Saint Andrew's must receive training in order to help them understand what the young people need – and do *not* need – from volunteers who drop into their lives. To date, six parishioners have completed the training. The next session is **Saturday, February 5 at 11:00am in the parish hall**. All are most warmly invited to attend.

Three tiers of volunteering are available to parishioners: Hands-on trained volunteers to cook/deliver/serve/be present on a monthly rotating basis with the young people at Saint Andrew's; volunteers who cook meals in their homes, likewise on a rotating basis; and folks willing to contribute funding for grocery shopping.

-- Outreach Committee

Child Care Project Nears Completion

After a year and a half of negotiations, inspections, permits and approvals, "Angels in the Gardens," as the Child Care Center will be called, is scheduled to open in September of this year and will be in session five days a week for a maximum of 29 children aged two to five years. The school, one of several in the Our Little Angels Corporation operated by Nancy Acardi, will be under the direct supervision of Nancy's daughter Annie, who has a degree in Early Childhood Education Management. All the teachers are certified in Early Childhood Education and will follow an age-appropriate curriculum that prepares children for kindergarten.

Within the next two weeks in anticipation of a final inspection on February 17 by the City, furniture and equipment for the school will be moved into the lower parish hall and set up as though the "Angels" were already in residence, after which it will be stored until actually in use. Open House sessions are currently scheduled for one day in June and one in August, dates as yet to be determined. If you or someone you know is interested in enrolling your children, please call Annie Acardi (646-745-0012) or Nancy Acardi (516-578-2144) for further information.

-- Velma Adams

***New Vestry Members and
Warden to be Inducted***

On Sunday, February 20 at both the 8:30 and 10:30 services, the Church Warden and members of Saint Luke's Vestry who were elected at the Annual Meeting will be officially inducted. Please keep them in your prayers as they assume the responsibilities and blessings of Vestry membership.

Well Wishes

We wish Robin Resin well in her new home in Florida and the Tyrell family, Steven, Tanya, Harrison, Reagan and Grant the best in their relocation to Boston!

**SAINT LUKE'S ANNUAL
ADULT EDUCATION DAY**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

9:30AM – 4:00PM

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**Wonder, Love and Praise:
The Liturgy of the Church**

A Quiet Day of Retreat for
Parishioners and Friends

Presentations, Reflection Time, Prayer

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9:30am – Light breakfast

10:00 – Morning Prayer

10:20 – First Presentation

12:00 noon – Midday Prayer

12:15 – Lunch

1:00pm – Presentations and reflection
time continue with guided comments
and questions

3:30pm – Evening Prayer

Presenters: Father Tom Reese and Joseph J.
Occhiuto

Prayer Leader: Deacon Paul Lai

A \$10.00 fee covers breakfast and lunch. **Please register by Sunday, February 20** using the posted signup sheets, or contact the church office by phone at 718-268-6021 or e-mail stlukesoffice@verizon.net.

February Birthdays

3 Charlotte Dippel
6 Amit Daniel
7 Shay Baxter
9 Lauren Foisy
9 Carol Khare
22 Stephen Banci

**Saint Luke's Episcopal Church
85 Greenway South
Forest Hills, NY**

***ORGAN / VOCAL RECITAL
and
CHORAL EVENSONG***

Sunday, March 6, 2011 at 4:00pm

*Organ Works by Calvin Hampton, Franz Liszt, Sulo
Salonen and Louis Vierne*

*Ave Maria (Jakob Arcadelt),
Ave Maria (Guiseppe Verdi),
Agnus Dei (George Bizet)
Mim Paquin, Soprano*

SAINT LUKE'S CHOIR
WILLIAM J. STOKES, ORGANIST AND CHOIR DIRECTOR

Herbert Sumsion, *Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G*
H. Balfour-Gardiner, Evening Hymn

Preces and Responses by William Smith
Todd Wachsmann, Cantor



THE REVEREND THOMAS F. REESE, RECTOR

RECEPTION IN THE PARISH HALL FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

ALL ARE WELCOME

For further information, call 718-268-6021 or visit www.stlukesforesthills.org

Saint Luke's Church Vestry

Rector: The Reverend Thomas F. Reese

Wardens: Anne Harte Su, Jonathan Wallin

Vestry: Velma Adams, Sandra Baker, Gary Carldon,
Louise Foisy, Barbara Gratz, Dennis Khare, Joseph
Occhiuto, Brian Percival, John Ryding, Allan Smith
Jane Thornton, Karen Van Westering

Treasurer: Jean Tessier

Clerk: Jeanine McPartlin

Parish Staff

The Very Reverend William Doubleday,
Priest Associate

The Reverend Paul Lai, Deacon
William J Stokes, Interim Organist
and Choir Director

Lisa Duca, Parish Administrator

Martha Garcia, Sexton

Office Phone: 718-268-6021

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Father Reese phone: 917-714-5647

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