

THE CHRONICLE

Grace and Saint Peter's Church
Baltimore's Traditional Anglo-Catholic Parish

November 2008

From the Rector

Dear friends in Christ,

November heralds the end of the Church Year by speaking to us of the last things, that is, death, judgment, heaven and hell. The readings urge us to be prepared for the second coming of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The Bishop of Durham, The Rt. Rev'd N.T. Wright, in his book, describes the last things as "Surprised by Hope". That is the title of his book and it reminds that we are all called by Christ into the Resurrection, the hope of God's call to us in His Resurrection.

All Saints' Day (November 1st) and All Souls' Day (transferred to November 3rd) set the tone for the entire month. We think about those who have gone before us. We pray for our loved ones on All Souls', and we thank God for those who have been the "chosen vessels of thy grace and the lights of the world in their several generations". We hope that they will remember us in their prayers. You will notice that there are several Requiems during the month. Mass will be at 12:00 Noon on All Saints' Day. On All Souls' Day, which is transferred to Monday, November 3rd, Requiem Masses will be celebrated at 11:30, 12:00, and 12:30 (Low) and 6:00 PM (High). The Solemnity of All Saints will be on Sunday the 2nd. The usual Masses will be celebrated but with a Procession at 10:00 AM.

Remembrance Sunday (November 9th) falls two days before Armistice Day this year. We remember those who have died in the service of their Country. There will be a Solemn Requiem at the High Mass that Day.

Preparation for the kingdom of God should include reception of the sacraments and due consideration to both our mortal remains and a sense of good stewardship of our resources. This is a reminder to please send in your pledge card. If you do not have one or have not filled out one you should receive one shortly.

Due consideration of our mortal remains means making plans. A will and proper funeral directions are important. I am enclosing Father Garfield's excellent guide to making funeral arrangements. Each person should have directions on file with the parish office.

The parish maintains a memorial fund. If you would like to make a gift in memory of a relative or friend who has died, an acknowledgment will be sent to the family of the person memorialized. If you would like the person remembered at the Eucharist, Mass

cards are available which may be sent to the family of the person for whom the Mass is offered.

The Solemnity of Christ the King falls on Sunday the 23rd of November. It is a reminder that as the Ascension completes Easter, so the celebration of our Lord's Kingship invites us to reaffirm Him as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Thanksgiving Day is on the 27th. There will be a High Mass the previous evening at 6:00 PM. Please use the month of November to bring in canned goods for the Franciscan Center. You may place them on the Epistle side front pew. The school and the church both contribute to this effort.

Advent Sunday is on the 30th of November. The old Church year ends and the new begins in November this year. Please begin to make your Christmas memorials for music and flowers for the celebration of the Nativity.

I hope that November will be a time for reflection on our life as Christians. Remember that we are called into the Christian family by our baptism. The baptismal life must be lived out with joy and affection for one another, knowing that we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses which no man can number. The Saints, in their joy, watch over each of us to strengthen us by their prayers to do the Lord's work in this place.

I remain faithfully your priest,

Frederick S. Thomas

November Music

2 November – Sunday Within the Octave of All Saints

Mass in the Phrygian Mode - *Wood*
And I Saw Another Angel - *Stanford*
Holy Is The True Light - *Harris*

3 November – All Souls Day

6:00 pm – *Requiem High Mass and Absolution of the Dead*
Requiem - *McCready*

9 November – Remembrance Sunday

Requiem - *McCready*

16 November – Pentecost XXVII

Missa in honorem Sancti Josephi - *Peeters*
Haste Thee, O God - *Batten*
Never Weatherbeaten Sail – *Campion*

23 November – Christ the King

Communion Service in B Minor - *Noble*
Thou, O God, Art Praised In Sion - *Boyle*
Sweet Jesu, King of Bliss – *Witherup*

26 November – Eve of Thanksgiving Day

6:00 pm – *High Mass*
Communion Service in B Minor - *Noble*
Jubilate - *HRH Prince Albert*
The Eyes Of All Wait Upon Thee – *Harris*

30 November – Advent I

Missa Brevis No. 6 in F Minor (after J. S. Bach) - *Willan*
O Thou The Central Orb - *Wood*
Adam Lay Ybounden - *Ord*

The Holy Souls

By the Rev'd Franklin Joiner

God's gift of eternal life to us His children begins here and now. He bestows it upon us first in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. You and I are now in the way of eternal life. We are in the process of being saved, and that which God has begun in us, He will perform until the day of Jesus Christ. The saints in glory and the holy souls in their place of purgation are still partaking of the same life; we are one with them and they are one with us, all of us together, living brothers and sisters in the household of the Church.

We ask the prayers of the saints in glory quite as naturally as we ask the prayers of our friends here on earth; and we pray for the faithful departed with the same assurance that God's blessing can and will reach them as when we say our prayers for our relatives and friends who are still living with us here in the Church Militant. Until we realize fully the fact that our life in God begins here and now, and continues through the Church Expectant into the Church Triumphant, we do not have a right understanding of the Catholic Faith and the Communion of Saints in which we express our belief every time we recite the Creeds.

The Catholic Church comprises the saints in glory and the holy souls as well as ourselves, and that which God has begun in us at the Font of Baptism, He is continuing through His further gifts of grace and sacrament in the Church Militant. But that work is not finished when we come to die. There is no miracle in death, there is no spiritual metamorphosis in the act of dying, that suddenly completes God's work of redemption in us. He continued to perform it until the day of Jesus Christ, until we come to stand in the very Presence of the Beatific Vision, and even then our heavenly service with the saints and angels is performed in the grace and the strength that God continues to give.

We see the saints in glory as an evidence of God's triumphant power and grace. Their salvation is complete. It is their great joy and privilege now to give and to share. There is nothing more we can do for them. But there is much they can do for us. But with the holy souls, with whom we are particularly concerned in this tract, it is very different. It has not been revealed what they may be able to do for us who are still in the Church on earth, but it has been revealed what we can do for them. There are very few references in the Bible to the state and condition of the faithful departed. What we know and believe has been revealed to the great Masters and Teachers of the Faith by the illumination of the Holy Ghost, who, our Blessed Lord has assured us, will lead and guide His Church into all truth. We believe that the holy souls are conscious of their continued membership in the

Church Catholic, and of their ultimate triumph with the saints about the throne of God. So we know that purgatory cannot be a place of sorrow and gloom and defeat. It is a place of further growth and development in the life of the spirit, where the progress of growth has been predetermined by the voluntary effort that each soul has made in the Church on earth. What pain and sorrow and suffering the holy souls know and feel is due largely to the realization of their willful failures here below. There is little they can do for themselves now; they must wait for the working of God's grace, to receive their completion until the day of Jesus Christ.

But it is revealed that we can do a great deal for the holy souls. They are helped on their heaven-ward way by our prayers and especially by the offering of the Holy Sacrifice, which every time it is pleaded at the altar confers infinite merit upon both the living and the departed. It is both a duty and a privilege to remember the holy dead. And by so doing we shall not only be helping them, but we shall be laying up merit for ourselves against that day when we shall be where they are now.

Father Joiner was Rector of Saint Clement's Church, Philadelphia, from 1920-1965.

November Mass Intentions

November is the Month of the Holy Souls

1 ALL SAINTS	For the gift of Faith
2 SUNDAY IN THE OCTAVE OF ALL SAINTS	Our Parish Family
3 ALL SOULS (transferred)	The Faithful Departed
4 St Charles Borromeo, BC (Octave)	Sanctity of life
5 Of the Octave	Personal holiness
6 Of the Octave	Our call to faithfulness
7 St Willibrord, BC (Octave)	The Church in Europe
8 Octave Day of All Saints	All Saints Sisters of the Poor
9 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	The War Dead
10 Requiem	Our departed benefactors
11 St Martin, BC	The coming season of Advent
12 Requiem	Departed friends & Family
13 Requiem	Departed Priests of this parish
14 Requiem	The Guild of All Souls
15 St Albert the Great, BCD	Learning
16 PENTECOST XXVII	Our Parish Family
17 St Hugh, BC	Religious communities
18 St Hilda, V	Holy Living
19 St Elizabeth of Hungary, QW	The Church in Hungary
20 St Edmund, KM	The Church of England
21 PRESENTATION BVM	Greater Marian Devotion
22 St Cecilia, VM	Church music
23 CHRIST THE KING	Our Parish Family
24 St John of the Cross, CD	John, our Bishop
25 St Catherine of Alexandria, VM	Eugene, our Bishop
26 THANKSGIVING EVE	Thankfulness in our lives
27 THANKSGIVING DAY	Thankfulness for God's Love
28 St Catherine Labouré	Communities of Nuns
29 Vigil of St Andrew	Pope Benedict
30 ADVENT I	Our Parish Family

Daily Mass Schedule

Sunday - 7:45 a.m. Matins & Low Mass 10:00 a.m. High Mass 5:00 p.m. Evensong

Monday - 6:00 p.m. Low Mass

Tuesday - 12:00 Noon Low Mass and Holy Unction

Wednesday - 6:00 p.m. Low Mass

Thursday - 6:00 p.m. Low Mass

Friday – 8:45 a.m. Sung Mass 6:00 p.m. Low Mass

Saturday - 12:00 Noon Low Mass

Grace and Saint Peter's Church

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