

Church of the Holy Cross + Episcopal +

Newsletter

November 2009

November Marked by Music And Giving Many Thanks

Remembering & Honoring Our Saints

We will be remembering those who have died from our flock on All Saints Day, Sunday November 1.

Please list the names of those you wish read as part of the service on the lists on the obationers' table.

We also will be displaying photos and memorabilia of those who have gone before us at the Ofrende behind the altar, so please consider bringing images of your loved ones to Church Sunday.

Make Music for All the Earth

The saying goes: "Ye who sings, Prays Twice!" That is the sentiment for November at Holy Cross. We sing the praises of God in voice and with new instruments.

Mark November 22 on your calendar. It will be a special day for Holy Cross. We will celebrate the Feast of St. Cecelia by dedicating a new musical instrument – an Allen Electronic Church Console Organ. Additionally, we will be formally receiving the set of White Chapel Handbells on permanent loan from First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe, and commissioning our choir and our minister of music.

Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7 p.m.

We will celebrate Thanksgiving on its Eve – Wednesday at 7 p.m. with choir and hymns and Eucharist. Please join us to give God thanks for all we've been given and gather as our church family.

Organ for Sale to Benefit Music Fund

The Wurlitzer Electronic Organ is being sold to raise money for the music program. If you are interested, please talk with Father Raymond or Judy Tucker.

Music Notes *by Judy Tucker*

Children's Choir At 9:00 (before Sunday School) Children's Choir will begin rehearsals for Thanksgiving and Christmas music. All children in the 1st through 6th grades are encouraged to come and sing. They will sing on Nov. 22 and Dec. 20 at the 10:00 services, and on Christmas Eve at the 6:00 Children's Christmas Pageant.

All children in the church can take part in the pageant even if they don't want to sing. Let Jennifer Noyer or Judy know if they would like to be a part of this.

There will also be an opportunity for children and teens to perform individual Christmas music as a prelude to the pageant on Christmas Eve. Plan ahead and let Judy know by December 1 if they have a piece to play or sing.

Handbell Choir We will organize and begin practicing with the new set of English Handbells at 11:30 on Nov. 8th. We have lots of new easy music that we can use for the Christmas Services. Everyone who wants to commit to ringing bells through Christmas is welcome. The ability to read music is helpful but not essential. Ray Tucker has polished all the bells, Carol Thompson has acquired foam and table covers, and we are ready to go. Come and join us.

New Organ An Allen electronic church organ will be arriving this month. Father Raymond has negotiated the purchase of the organ previously used by First Presbyterian Church in Santa Fe, which was used for their services while the C.B. Fisk organ was constructed. Father Raymond and his wife Linda are donating the organ to Holy Cross. An organ recital is planned for November 22, which is St. Cecelia's Feast Day. The choir will be commissioned, the organ dedicated and the handbells received. Watch for more information.

Praise Band Our praise band will begin playing regularly for the 10:00 service every second Sunday, so you will hear them on November 8th too. Contact Marlin Curry at 286-8981 if you would like to participate.

Adult Choir The adult choir will begin to rehearse Advent music on November 15th. If you would like to sing with the choir just for the Christmas Season, this would be the time to come. Hope to see many you there.

This is an exciting time for the music ministry in our church. We have lots of talented people and wonderful new ways of expressing the joy of this season. Come join us.

If you have questions please call Judy at 286-4471.

Holy Cross Well Represented At 57th Diocesan Convocation

The Holy Cross delegation consisting of Fr. Raney, Jane Vickers, Lynn Bender, Vic Rizzo and Ray Tucker participated in the Diocesan Convocation October 15 – 17 in El Paso.

Thursday's afternoon sessions were introduction of procedures, the agenda, nominations, and the first ballot for election to offices. The treasurer gave a report and presented the 2010 budget. We heard an address from our assisting bishop The Rt. Rev. William Frey before we split out for workshops. The business day ended with the celebration of the Convocation Eucharist. Thursday evening Dotty Bender and Linda Rizzo joined us to go out for dinner.

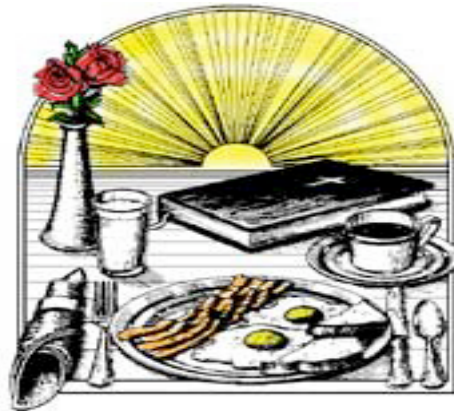
Friday and Saturday began with Morning Prayer and interactive Bible study. The groups (assigned to mix us up) were given a reading and questions to guide the discussion. Business conducted was more voting for offices not decided on the first and second ballots and for constitution and canon changes. After Noonday Prayers, lunch was buffet style in a tent. Friday afternoon was committee reports from Bishop's Search, Transition, New Life Healing and Reconciliation and Camp Stoney and Diocesan Youth Program, followed by another workshop. Friday evening was the dinner dance at the hotel with a western theme, music provided by Syd Masters Band who is from Edgewood (By the way, the delegation invited Syd to worship with us).

Saturday morning was another workshop, finishing up voting on canonical changes and acceptance of the 2010 budget. One of the changes was the name. The gathering of the Diocese for its annual meeting will be called Diocesan Convention. Other canonical changes involved licensing of clergy.

What is not expressed in the preceding list of activities is the privilege I feel to participate in the governing of our Diocese or the opportunity to be in the company of so many people who are committed to serve our Lord and the people of our Diocese.

Jane Vickers

P.S. Jane was elected to serve on the Diocesan Council. We are blessed to have her to serve as our Senior Warden and to speak for Holy Cross at the Diocesan Council. The council is the administrative body for the Diocese during the year and acts in place of Convention on various matters, including budget.



Men's Prayer Breakfast - First Saturday

Men Will Breakfast on God's Word

The Holy Cross Men's monthly "Prayer Breakfast" will be changing this year to a Breakfast and Bible study. The change is designed to; hopefully, bring more meaning to our monthly fellowship and to bring more of our church men into that fellowship.

Beginning on Saturday November 7th at 8:30 AM, we will meet for breakfast cooked by Ray Tucker with some Church business discussed over the meal, and then retire to the Library for Bible study. The Bible study will last as long as we want it to.

Nominees Sought for Vestry & Delegates

In January Holy Cross will be electing four persons to serve on the Vestry. Holy Cross also will elect two delegates and two alternates to represent the church at the Electing Convention next year.

The Election of the Ninth Bishop of the Rio Grande will be on April 24, 2010 at St. John's Cathedral. If you are interested in serving the Parish with the gifts of administration or as a delegate, please talk with a member of the Vestry or Father Raymond.

Thoughts for Contemplation

Some of the hermits used to say, 'Whatever you hate for yourself, do not do it to someone else. If you hate being spoken evil of, do not speak evil of another. If you hate being slandered, do not slander another. If you hate him who tries to make you despised, or wrongs you, or takes away what is yours, or anything like that, do not do such things to others. To keep this is enough for salvation.'

From The Desert Fathers, trans. Benedicta Ward, p. 6

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