

FROM THE RECTOR...

*ALL IS SAFELY GATHERED IN...!*



Our modern Thanksgiving holiday in the United States can be traced to a not-well-documented 1621 celebration at Plymouth in present-day Massachusetts.

Pilgrims and Puritans arriving New England in the 1620s and 1630s brought with them the tradition of days of fasting and thanksgiving for God's many blessings...thanksgiving for safe passage was especially appropriate considering the hazards of crossing the Atlantic Ocean in the small ships of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

While there were numerous local harvest festivals in New England, the regular observance of Thanksgiving as an annual event did not occur prior to the 1660s.

On 26 November 1789, President George Washington proclaimed the first nationwide Thanksgiving Day in America "as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favours of Almighty God."

President Washington may have been thinking about what Saint James wrote, "Every good gift and every perfect present comes from heaven; it comes down from God, the Creator of heavenly lights, who does not change or cause darkness by turning." (St. James 1.17 GNB)

God gives us good gifts and perfect presents. He does not know how to give us bad gifts and imperfect presents...it is not in his nature to do so. He does not change his mind about how much he loves us and wants what is best for us.

Thanksgiving Day is the perfect Segway from the late Trinity Season into the Advent Season...when we get ready for the greatest gift and most perfect present...Jesus' first coming on Christmas Day...and we anticipate his Second Coming at the end of time.

Giving thanks to God for his many blessings is a discipline we should practice throughout the year and especially on Thanksgiving Day...reminding ourselves he is the source of everything we have...and looking forward to the day Jesus will return...when all is safely gathered in...forever!

Father Craig Looney +



The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, commonly called All Souls' Day, is observed on 2 November. Prayers for the dead, is a documented practice in Judaism and Christianity. It has been the universal practice in Western Catholic Christianity to incorporate prayers for the dead during the Mass since the 11<sup>th</sup> Century.

All Souls' Day and prayers for the dead were suppressed during the English Reformation. Renewed teaching and understanding of the Fellowship of All Saints living and dead...the Communion of Saints...has seen a restoration of All Souls' Day to its rightful place within Anglican Liturgy.

In the Prayer for the Church said at every Mass we pray for the Faithful Departed, asking God to keep them under his watchful care and to give us grace to follow their good examples and hope for the day we will be reunited with them in heaven (*Book of Common Prayer, Pages 74-75*).

A Requiem Mass will be said at 6:00 PM on Thursday 2 November, during which the names of the Faithful Departed will be read aloud. Please write the names of your family and friends you wish remembered on the sheet provided.

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord. And let light perpetual shine upon them.*



Thursday 23 November is Thanksgiving Day. There will be a Sung Mass celebrated at 10:00 AM. While we give thanks to Almighty God for his many blessings...we should not forget to do our part to help those less fortunate. Please bring a canned or boxed non-perishable food item to Mass on Thanksgiving Day to be blessed and distributed to CALL Primrose.

## FILL-A-BOX/FEED-A-FAMILY...

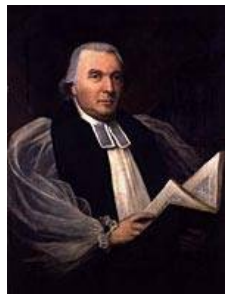


Saint Joseph Parish will be participating in CALL Primrose's 2017 Thanksgiving Fill-a-Box/Feed-a-Family Program. CALL will provide the Packing List. They ask we not add anything to the items on the list...the goal is to make certain each family receives the same items. The Parish will provide banker's

boxes and we are asked to use them...they can be easily stacked and transported. Please return your filled box(es) to the church not later than Sunday 12 November. **Important: Please sign up on the sheet provided if you wish to participate in this program.**

## BESTOWAL OF THE AMERICAN EPISCOPATE (1784)...

Bishop Samuel Seabury is a figure we often talk about in sermons and Discussion Groups on the Sunday closest to Independence Day. His contribution to the American Church...in particular to the historic Liturgy as we celebrate it today at Saint Joseph Parish...cannot be overstated. The Bestowal of the American Episcopate recognizes his life and work and is observed on 14 November.

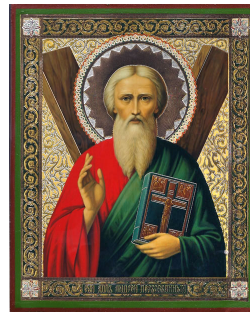


During the American Revolution, Seabury was a loyalist. After the United States gained Independence, he pledged his support to the new government. Seabury believed for Anglicanism in the United States to remain viable and to prosper...it needed its own bishops. In Colonial times...men wishing to be ordained deacon or priest had to travel to England for this purpose.

On 25 March 1783 ten Anglican clergy met at Glebe House in Woodbury, Connecticut, and elected Samuel Seabury bishop. He sailed to London on 7 June 1783, but could not be consecrated in England because he would have had to swear the Oath of Loyalty to the Crown. Scottish non-juror (non-swearing) bishops...so named because they refused to swear allegiance to the Hanoverian kings since the time of William and Mary (1688)...agreed to consecrate Seabury...provided he study and work for the adoption of the Scottish rite for Holy Communion for the American Church. On 14 November 1784 he was consecrated bishop in Aberdeen, Scotland.

He was successful in getting the Prayer of Consecration from the Scottish Liturgy...including the Oblation and the *Epeklesis* (Invocation) of the Holy Spirit...incorporated into the Communion Liturgy in the first American *Book of Common Prayer* (1789). We thank God for the life and work of the Most Reverend Samuel Seabury, the first American Anglican bishop.

## SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE...



Saint Andrew the Apostle was Saint Peter's brother and within Eastern Orthodoxy is referred to as the "First-Called" based on John's account of the calling of the disciples. Saint Andrew's feast day is 30 November and is almost always overshadowed by Advent and Christmas.

In the Gospel of John, Andrew and an unnamed disciple are identified as followers of John the Baptist, whose testimony leads them to follow Jesus. Andrew is the first to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. His brother Peter and James and his brother John were the "Inner Circle" and enjoyed a special friendship with Jesus. Andrew tells Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fish (*John 6.8*). He was also present at the Last Supper.

According to tradition, Andrew founded the See of Byzantium (Constantinople, later Istanbul). Orthodox Christians consider the Patriarch of Constantinople his Apostolic Successor. Also according to tradition, Andrew was martyred by crucifixion at Patras, Achaia, on an "X" shaped cross or "saltire"...now commonly called a "Saint Andrew's Cross". The Saltire is the national flag of Scotland.



## A PRAYER FOR PARISH GROWTH

*O GOD, WHO KNOWEST THE NEED OF ALL THY CREATURES, AND DOST BESTOW THE FAVOUR OF THY GRACE ALIKE UPON THE HUMBLE AND THE GREAT; BE WITH US IN ALL OUR ENDEAVORS DEVOTED TO THY SERVICE, AND GRANT US, WE BESEECH THEE, SUCH INCREASE OF NUMBERS AND OF MEANS AS WILL SECURE THIS HOUSE OF PRAYER TO THE WORSHIP AND GLORY OF THY SON, OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST, WHO LIVETH AND REIGNETH WITH THEE AND THE HOLY GHOST, ONE GOD, WORLD WITHOUT END.*

AMEN.

## THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT...

The title for the last Sunday in the Trinity Season is taken from the *Sarum Missal* (11<sup>th</sup> Century), from which the seminal *Book of Common Prayer* of 1549 was derived. The propers for the day are distinctly linked to the Advent Season.



Jeremiah's vision about the restoration of Israel and bringing together those who are scattered...and Jesus' instructions in the Gospel to gather what remains of the food..."that nothing be lost"...focus our attention on he who is THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS...whose restorative mission brought us back into a right and proper relationship with God.

This Sunday is popularly called "Stir up Sunday" from the opening words to the Collect..."Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the will of thy faithful people". "Stir up" (in Latin, *excita*) has a double reference...both to God's power and to man's will...Father Massey Shepherd notes in the *Oxford American Prayer Book Commentary*..."the fruit of divine work and the fruit of our good works are not exactly the same thing, though there is an intimate connection between them."

The Sunday Next Before Advent...a title for this day now used only by orthodox Anglicans...is the Church's New Year's Eve. We ask God to...**stir up...animate...wake up...our wills...that our good works may be productive and ultimately glorify him. We want our wills to conform to his.**

Secular New Year's Eve celebrations often include making resolutions for the coming year...promising to be a better person...being good to others...hoping for a brighter future...helping those in need...wishing for peace in the world. The challenge when we make those New Year's Eve resolutions...is in keeping them.

If the Sunday Next Before Advent is our New Year's Eve...there must be a New Year's Day...and there is...Advent Sunday! It's the time to start the Church Year all over again...perhaps with some appropriate resolutions of the spiritual kind...and they aren't necessarily distinct from the secular kind. After all...aren't trying to be better persons...being good to others...helping those in need...and wishing for peace in the world...essential elements of our Christian faith...and the application of the Great Commandment...love God and love others in the same way we want to be loved.

There will be more discussion about Advent Sunday and the Season of Advent in the December issue of the *Parish Times*. Until then...time to get "stirred up."



SPEAKING OF "STIRRING THINGS UP"...

Parishioners attending church on the Sunday Next Before Advent were reminded...when they heard the opening words of the Collect..."Stir up"...it was time to mix and steam the Christmas pudding. Christmas pudding as an essential British tradition can be traced to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Traditionally, families would gather in the kitchen of their homes to mix and steam the Christmas pudding. Most recipes required the pudding to be cooked well in advance of Christmas and then reheated.

Parents would pass down their recipes and teach children how to mix the pudding...mixing was a strenuous effort...everyone in the family got involved in mixing the pudding. Sometimes, silver coins were added to the mix.

Today, most families buy ready-made pudding mixes at the grocery store.



### SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS – 9:00 AM SUNG MASS & SERMON  
COFFEE HOUR & DISCUSSION GROUP

WEEKDAYS AS ANNOUNCED

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE BY APPOINTMENT

THE REVEREND FATHER CRAIG LOONEY, RECTOR

*THE CONTINUATION OF ANGLICANISM* We affirm that the Church of our fathers, sustained by the most Holy Trinity, lives yet...are determined to continue in the Catholic Faith, Apostolic Order, Orthodox Worship and Evangelical Witness of the traditional Anglican Church.



[www.saintjosephparish.net](http://www.saintjosephparish.net)  
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