

# SaintsAlive!

A news bulletin of events, people and the community served by  
All Saints Parish, Brookline, Massachusetts

**Volume 18, Number 1**

**Fall 2013**

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### **The Mission of All Saints Parish**

is to be a Community — *searching* to know and accept God's purpose for us, *uplifted* by worship together, *sustained* by a sense of Christ being in our midst, and *inspired* by the Holy Spirit to become more than we are, here and in the world.

### **Statement of Policy**

The policy of All Saints Parish is to welcome all people who seek the love of God, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnic background, socioeconomic status, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or age. We welcome all people on the basis of our Baptismal Covenant in which we promise to "seek and serve Christ in all persons" and "respect the dignity of every human being."

## A Word from Your Wardens

As we look towards September this year, we find ourselves and the parish in a very different place than we were this time a year ago. In August 2012, David Killian and his family were packing up their final boxes to move out of the Rectory and the Life Together program from the Diocese was readying to move into the building for 10 months with eight young adult interns from around the country. Their impending arrival felt like a radically different use of the building next door and none of us knew what to expect. This uncertainty mirrored a larger uncertainty about the parish in general: after more than 20 years with David as our rector, how would All Saints feel once the new program year started?

On all levels, the past year has reflected more continuity than not, though plainly there have been changes and differences. Regarding the Life Together Fellows next door, we saw less of them at our services than many of us had hoped. As we came to learn, several were interning in church settings and therefore worked on Sunday mornings. And some of them were not Episcopalians. But some did come to Saturday and Sunday services on occasion. And all of them were grateful when they learned that our parish was praying for them on their spiritual journeys. While the occupancy of the Rectory was different than it had been, still it was good to know that our building was functioning as a needed home for this small community.

Our parish life too has held to an even keel. Sarah has been a steady presence and her approach to worship and liturgy has been largely consistent with what our parish has been used to (and no wonder! she would say, as she trained with David years ago). Our excellent program staff, Don Teeters, Becky Taylor and Emily Howe, have not missed a beat and our strong lay leadership has kept our parish moving forward on many fronts with educational programs, stewardship, and mission and outreach activities.

Yet, at the same time, as a community we have been reaching below the surface of much about our parish that we've taken for granted or not considered in the past. Through the formal discernment process that took place within the parish last fall, we uncovered a wide consensus for the view that we are a parish that cherishes the strong traditions embodied in our form of worship but is also flexible,

(cont.)

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[www.allsaintsbrookline.org](http://www.allsaintsbrookline.org)

**Ministers**

The Entire Congregation

**Clergy**

The Rev. Sarah A. Conner, Interim Priest,  
[sconner77@comcast.net](mailto:sconner77@comcast.net)  
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Robert Young  
Term ends 2015: Charles Evett, Cornell Gray,  
Henry Kettell  
Term ends 2016: Lisa Feltner, Margaret  
Hogan, Mary Urban Keary

welcoming of diversity, and open to seekers. The Rector Search Committee has carried this image forward into the search they are undertaking so thoughtfully on our behalf. And the Rectory Renovation Committee (as well as the Rectory Study Committee last year) has expanded our understanding of the impressive resource next to our church and given us much to consider as we weigh the best way to steward this important asset for the church going forward.

All of this activity has happened through the engagement of many in the parish who said yes when asked to serve on a committee or come to a meeting or offer advice. Though much is changed at All Saints — and more changes and challenges lie ahead of us — much abides. And what we find abides most strongly is the spirit of support and community and the conviction that God is with our parish as we travel through this between times journey together. For that we are deeply grateful! We look forward with optimism to the upcoming year.

Roberta Schnoor  
Senior Warden

Susan Wheeler  
Junior Warden

## Adult Education

### Questions of Faith: 3 Tuesdays in October

Have you ever doubted that God answers prayer? Do you sometimes wonder what the point is of going to church? Do you hesitate when saying the Creed because you're not sure you believe every line? If you've ever pondered the meaning of prayer or church or belief, bring your questions and reflections to a short series this fall on Questions of Faith. Join our interim priest, Sarah Conner, for conversation in the Guild Room from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the following Tuesdays. Light refreshments will be served.

October 1 – Prayer  
October 8 – Church  
October 15 – Creed

### Resource Day on September 28

This year, the Congregational Resource Day sponsored by our diocese will focus on "Equipping one another to be peacemakers." Come to **Roxbury Community College on Saturday, September 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** to learn how to make a difference in reducing violence and helping the victims of violence in our communities – the program will offer skills, encouragement, and resolve in facing this difficult issue. Keynote speaker will be the Rev. Kathleen Adams-Shepherd, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Newtown, CT. For more information and to register, go to [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org) and click on the Events button in the upper right corner.

## Update from the Rector Search Committee

The Rector Search Committee spent a fruitful summer visiting prospective rector candidates in their home parishes. It was wonderful to worship in new communities, to experience the differences as well as the things that unite us. In each church we felt the beauty and power of the Episcopal liturgy. We heard the day's Gospel reading and knew you were hearing it, too.

Our goal was to observe each candidate celebrate and preach. Three to five committee members went on each visit. We interviewed parish leaders and clergy in each congregation to understand their views of the candidates' strengths, opportunities for development, and capacity for spiritual leadership. Finally, we spent several hours with each candidate over lunch or dinner. Though we asked many questions, and candidates scarcely had time to eat, these conversations were clearly a time of rich mutual discernment.

We were inspired and moved by the dedication of the priests we met. The work of a priest is a sacred trust. The candidates we met and those who serve us now live into this every day. This trust was most clearly expressed by the parishioners we interviewed, in their openhearted relationships with the candidates. Parishioners cherished these clergy, will miss them terribly should they move on, yet offered full support for the candidates' next steps.

From a field of forty-one applicants, we made nine parish visits. We are inviting four finalist candidates to visit All Saints this fall, to further envision ministry in our community. We are blessed with four gifted clergy in this next step. A priest we visited said, "All Saints is a place of heart, faithfulness, and creativity." We pray that God leads us to a rector who will nourish these qualities.

Elinor Horner, Laura Vennard  
Co-Chairs, Rector Search Committee

## Adult Education

### **"Embracing the Prophets" Begins September 25**

We all hear a reading from the prophets every week during the season after Pentecost this year. Now seize an opportunity to look at these extraordinary figures more closely. **Embracing the Prophets**, a DVD series with Walter Brueggemann, "arguably America's leading Old Testament scholar and theologian, takes us on a wild ride through the poetic prophecy of the Hebrew Scripture, identifying cultural contexts, putting a framework to Israel's history, and, most significantly—and at times challengingly!—drawing connections between Israel's sociological, economic and spiritual status and that of America today."

The series of 15-minute videos by Brueggemann will be shown at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings from September 25-October 30. Each video will be followed by discussion, facilitated by the Adult Education Committee. The program will last about an hour and will include dessert and coffee.

### ***Traces of the Trade* Shown on November 8**

We may think of slavery as the responsibility of the South, but New England had a significant role to play as well. Mark your calendars for Friday, November 8, when the powerful film **Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North** will be shown and discussed.

In this extraordinary documentary, originally made for PBS, filmmaker Katrina Browne discovers that her New England ancestors were the largest slave-trading family in US history. She and nine cousins retrace the Triangle Trade, visiting the DeWolf hometown of Bristol, Rhode Island, slave forts on the coast of Ghana, and the ruins of a family plantation in Cuba. Back home, the family confronts the thorny topic of what to do now, gaining new perspectives on the divide that still exists between black and white in our society.

The discussion will be led by a representative from the Tracing Center on Histories and Legacies of Slavery, founded by the DeWolf family and located in Watertown, MA.

# Report from the Rectory Renovation Committee

The 1913 Rectory represents a significant asset of All Saints Parish. It is a beautiful, charming, sturdy and intriguing structure from the turn of the last century. Our mission has been to investigate and initiate plans for responsible use and efficient mechanical systems, and to create a more sustainable structure, both financially and environmentally. Our committee of five has been meeting at least monthly since early 2013. Here are our preliminary answers to some of the questions that the Vestry and the parish have been asking:

## **Why does the Rectory need renovating?**

The hundred-year facelift: Built 100 years ago in 1913 (about fifteen years after the church edifice was built) it has not had significant capital improvements in recent memory. Its systems are virtually all at the end of their useful lives. The 1913 design accommodated life in a different era – servants' quarters, a basement kitchen, a dumbwaiter to take food to the dining area on the first floor, fireplaces throughout, no parking (who needed that in the era of trolleys and trains to Boston?). It has been at least 40 years since the servants' quarters have been occupied as living quarters, except on a very short-term basis.

**Is this an historic building?** The Rectory is located in the national Beacon Street Historic District, but this does not affect what can be done to the building unless federal monies are involved. There is also a state historic preservation restriction on the church building itself, but not on the Rectory.

**What is the assessed value of the Rectory?** \$2 million

**What is the lot size?** Per the town plan, 7,000 s.f.

**What is the interior space?** The Rectory has at least 5,600 square feet of living space.

## **What revisions are currently under consideration?**

Rector's residence, revising the kitchen location to allow for Beacon St. entry to other units; 3 bedrooms, 2 studies: 2,800 s.f.

3d floor, 2 br. unit: 1419 s.f. ;

2d floor efficiency unit: 545 s.f.;

Garden level unit, 1 br. -- 817 s.f.

No major exterior renovations are planned.

## **What is the expected cost?**

Without new units, essential capital improvements recommended would cost ~ \$350,000.

With total of 4 units including rector residence, cost is approximately \$1,000,000.

## **Why are new units under consideration?**

Historically, there has been considerable unused space in the building and additional units present an opportunity to improve the structure for the next hundred years as well as the financial position of the parish. Additionally, we will accomplish environmental stewardship, provide a healthier and safer living environment, and significantly reduce energy costs. Whatever we do will be a legacy for All Saints Parish.

(cont.)

### **What preparations have been made?**

- A Vestry-appointed study group created a “Use and Rehabilitation Analysis and Capital Needs Assessment” in 2011-2012, interviewing the Rector and his wife, members of St. Paul’s, Brookline (which performed a renovation and conversion of space to rental), and Town officials, documenting existing conditions and projecting the potential effects of rehabilitation.
- The RRC began meeting in late 2012 and has held 13 meetings.
- The RRC has consulted Dan Barton of Mangel Associates, Architect; Bill Jackson, Project Manager; Town officials; Diocesan officials; a Brookline-based attorney with considerable pertinent experience; and parishioners with financial expertise.
- We have received an engineering assessment, an environmental assessment and construction cost rough estimates.
- Architect’s plans are a **working concept**, yet to be approved by the Vestry or the Town.
- An engineering firm is creating a plot plan for submission with plans to the Town.

**What about Brookline zoning?** Local zoning allows for multiple dwellings, but changing the use from single (our current status) to multiple units requires more parking than the lot either has or can provide (zero). Recent trends are away from parking as a mandatory consideration where there is a market for those committed to public and bicycle and Zip-Car transportation, though town by-laws do not reflect this trend.

**What do the neighbors think of additional units?** Nearest neighbors are supportive, and we will solicit support and comments from others.

**What is the role of the Parish in this process?** The RRC led Rectory tours on three Sundays this summer, with about 50 visitors taking the tours. An informational meeting was attended by 18 parishioners. We have recorded the comments and concerns, all of which will be factored into any recommendations to the Vestry, which in turn will make the decisions on what will be done, how it is financed, and how the end result is managed.

**How will the work be funded?** The Vestry is working on the planning for financing.

### **What is the schedule?**

- Will work be done in time for the new rector to live there initially? Highly unlikely. Substitute housing will be an expense that is factored into the financing analysis.
- When will work begin? The legal process may take as much as six months. In the interim, the Life Together fellows will resume occupancy for the second half of 2013.
- How long will the work take? A very rough estimate is six months after final approval of the project.

Please contact any of us with your thoughts and concerns.

Bradley A. MacDonald, Chair  
Cornell Gray  
Kari Hannibal  
Dorothea Hass  
Charles Rigg



Pictured: Living Room on the 3d floor of the Rectory.

## Parish News and Announcements

### News from Honduras

In early August, All Saints Parish sent a team of 7 teens and 4 adults to the *Escuela Agricola Hogar de Amor y Esperanza* in Talanga, Honduras. This is the third group of missionaries from our parish to travel to the farm school, located 50 kilometers northeast of the capital city of Tegucigalpa, and operated by El Hogar Projects. The team lived and worked for a week alongside the 50 teenaged boys and adult staff at the farm. They painted the teachers' office, helped build a wall in one of the dormitories, and helped fill in a septic pond. More importantly, however, they formed wonderful friendships with the residents of the farm school and with one another.

Members of the team worship at four different churches – All Saints; St. Stephen's Church in Boston; St. Ignatius Roman Catholic Church in Newton; and St. Andrew's, Wellesley. An important aspect of their time together was prayer and Bible study each day, morning and evening.

Through the Mission & Outreach Committee, All Saints Parish has made a strong commitment to the ministry of El Hogar Projects, helping to fund this trip. Besides the farm school, El Hogar also operates three other schools in Honduras: *El Hogar de Amor y Esperanza* in Tegucigalpa, where 125 elementary-aged children live; the *Instituto Técnico Santa Maria* in the Ameriteca Valley, where 50 teenaged boys are learning to be welders, carpenters, and electricians; and the *Casa de Niñas de Amor y Esperanza*, the school for teenaged girls in Santa Lucia. In total, nearly 250

hopelessly poor young people are in the care of El Hogar, and will graduate with a high school education, ready to be contributing members of the emerging middle class in Honduras. To learn more about the work of El Hogar, visit [www.elhogar.org](http://www.elhogar.org), or come to a luncheon on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, that the team will be hosting. They are eager to tell us all about the trip!



The team gathers on the steps of the girls' school in Santa Lucia.  
Front row: Becky Taylor, Denise Chew, Sarah Sturman, & Steve Taylor  
Second row: Anna Rodriguez  
Third row: Casey Pollard, Mike McLoughlin, Bryce Christian, & Erin Crudder  
Top row: Priscilla Alcantara & Mary McLoughlin

### Mary Ricker in Concert

All Saints' soprano Mary Ricker will present a song recital on Saturday, September 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor). She will be singing works by Ravel, Barber, Poulenc, and Messiaen, as well as selections from Joseph Canteloube's lovely *Songs of the Auvergne* in the original Occitan dialect of that region of southern France.

Mary, a long-time member of the choir, holds music degrees from Boston University and has performed in chamber music programs in Boston and in Pittsburgh. Recently, Mary was a soloist in the summer chamber music program at Wellesley College. In addition to being an active singer, Mary is an oncology nurse working with physicians to develop new drug treatments for patients with cancer. Scott Nicholas, who has performed widely in the United States and abroad, will accompany Mary.

A free-will offering will support the children's and youth programs of All Saints Parish.

# From the Director of Children's, Youth & Family Ministries

## Annual Parish Picnic is Sunday, September 8

The parish picnic is a great way to reconnect with old friends at All Saints and meet new members of the congregation! Plan to bring something to share – drinks, a side dish, or dessert – when you come to church on September 8. The church will provide the hot dogs. The picnic takes place after worship, rain or shine – in the church yard if it's sunny, in the dining room if Mother Nature doesn't cooperate.

## Blessing of Backpacks is Sunday, September 8

On Sunday, September 8 we will mark the beginning of the new academic year with a special ritual: the blessing of backpacks during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Children and young people of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks to church that morning. This simple blessing is a way for kids to remember that they are held in the loving hand of God throughout the week, in all that they do.

## Acolyte Training is Sunday, September 22

Any young person in the parish who is in Grade 4 or older is eligible to serve as an acolyte on Sunday mornings. Acolytes play important roles in our weekly worship, leading the choir and altar party into the worship space, and attending the altar. With enough people serving in this ministry, the commitment is once each month. A training session for all new acolytes is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 22, immediately following the completion of worship. This session also serves as a refresher course for all current acolytes. Please speak with Becky Taylor if you have questions: 617-738-1810.

## Church School Classes Start on Sunday, September 15

9:30 a.m.	Schola rehearsal in Music Room
10:15 a.m.	Youth Chapel in Dining Room (Grades 2-12)
	Cherub Choir in Music Room (PreK- Grade 1)
10:35 a.m.	Classes for all grades (PreK to Grade 12)

Registration materials will be mailed to households immediately after Labor Day. Our Church School and Youth Programs are ministries of the parish. There is no fee to enroll your children in these classes, but it is helpful to fill out a registration form so we can have accurate, up-to-date information. Thank you!

## What's In Store This Fall

- **Cherubs** (PreK-Grade 1): We have added a second Godly Play classroom in the basement so that younger children (ages 3 & 4) and older ones (ages 5 & 6) will be in separate rooms. This will give children more space in which to move around and give them greater access to the learning materials. During the fall they will be invited into stories from the Hebrew Scriptures.
- **Elementary** (Grades 2-5): This multi-age group will meet in the Undercroft. They begin the fall with a unit about saints and then will delve into the stories of three Old Testament judges, Deborah, Gideon, and Samson.

- **Middle School** (Grades 6-8) & **High School** (Grades 9-12): We've got a brand new classroom in the Undercroft for our younger teens, and a new room location next to Becky's office for our older teens. Both groups will be using *Teen Text*, a lectionary-based resource that promotes discussion, critical thinking, and creative listening in dialogue with scripture. Friday evening youth group meetings with young people from the other two Brookline congregations are also scheduled:

- **Our Time** (Grades 6-8): 9/20, 10/18, 11/15
- **BETA** (Grades 9-12): 9/27, 10/25, 11/22

## Fall 2013 Sunday Morning Church School Schedule

Classes on Sept 15, 22 & 29; Oct 6 & 27; Nov 10, 17 & 24  
No classes on:

October 13 (Columbus Day weekend)  
October 20 (Children's Sabbath Sunday: All ages in church)  
November 3 (All Saints Sunday)

## Honduran Mission Trip Report: Sunday, September 29, 11:45 a.m.

Members of the team who traveled this summer to El Hogar's Agricultural School & Farm in Talanga, Honduras, will host a luncheon so that they can tell the parish about their experience. The group included 5 members from All Saints: Denise Chew, Mary & Mike McLoughlin, Sarah Sturman, and Becky Taylor. Please plan to attend and enjoy a Honduran meal prepared by the team.

## Children's Sabbath is Sunday, October 20

For many years, All Saints Parish has joined with congregations of all faiths across the nation for the national observance of Children's Sabbath sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund in Washington, DC. This celebration aims to unite congregations in a shared concern for children and a common commitment to improving their lives and working for justice on their behalf. We are canceling all Church School classes on October 20 so that all our children and young people can participate in the entire worship service that morning. Becky Taylor, Director of Children's, Youth & Family Ministries, will be preaching.

## Blessing of Animals is Sunday, October 6

The church celebrates the life and Christian witness of St. Francis of Assisi each year on October 4. Francis found God in everyone and everything around him. He called the creatures of the earth his brothers and sisters, and stories abound about his gentle relationship with animals. Please bring your pet to church on October 6 so that we can honor this special saint and offer special prayers for our non-human companions. Make sure your pet is on a leash or safely confined in a cage!

## Schola Rehearsals Begin on Friday, September 13 at 4:00 p.m.

# SaintsAlive!

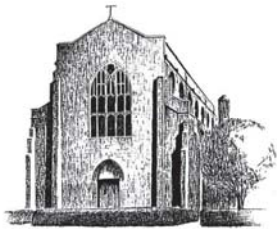
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## ***Fall 2013 Saints Alive !***

Visit us on the web at  
[www.allsaintsbrookline.org](http://www.allsaintsbrookline.org).

Articles for the Winter 2013 issue  
should be sent by October 25 to  
[office@allsaintsbrookline.org](mailto:office@allsaintsbrookline.org)

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

*Saturday*

5:00 p.m. Celtic Holy Eucharist

*Sunday*

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, with  
Prayers for Healing  
(Child care during the  
10:30 a.m. Service)

## **Save These Dates**

**Sunday, September 8**

Welcome Back Sunday  
10:30 a.m. — Holy Eucharist with Choir  
12:00 p.m. — Parish Picnic & Church  
School Registration

**Friday, September 13**

First Schola Rehearsal, 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday, September 15**

Church School & Youth Program Begin

**Wednesday, September 25**

Series on the Prophets Begins, 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 1**

Questions of Faith Begins, 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, October 27**

Gift Sunday — Bring Your Pledge Card  
to Church!

**Sunday, November 3**

All Saints Day Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.