

November 2019



Celebrating and Sharing God's Love

The Almanac



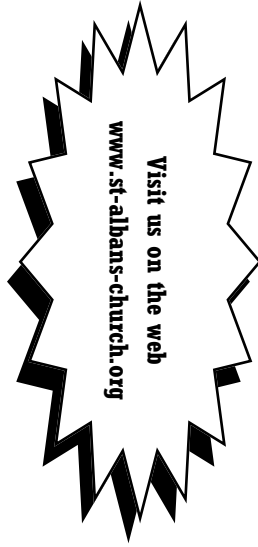
490 Farragut Circle

El Cajon, CA 92020

Phone: 619-444-8212

St. ALBAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Email: generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info



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From the Rector's Pen - Being Thankful at Thanksgiving and Remembering my Friend, Mitties DeChamplain

My professor for Homiletics at General Theological Seminary, NYC. Professor and Priest, **Mitties DeChamplain PHD**, passed away two years ago. I learned some valuable insights that have played a major role in the way I preach.

Mitties taught me to create my own style of preaching that fits with who I am, and not try to be or sound like someone else.

Mitties insisted that when we prepare for a homily to spend time alone with the passage, before consulting other commentators and sources.

Mitties encouraged us to be discerning, to understand who we are talking to, and make our message specifically for those people.

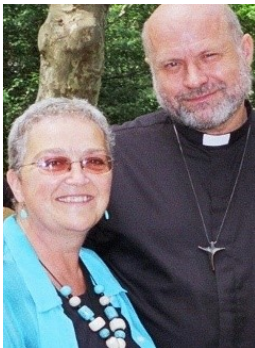
Those three concepts have played a major role in the way I approach preaching.

These are simple coaching truths, but I have incorporated them into my preaching for the last 12 years. I wrestle, meditate, and focus on what the pericope means to the church, and more specifically what the passage is saying to me, and how is it applicable to the congregation that will be listening? My question is this: How do I discern the needs of the parish family that I am talking to, and what will be the takeaway truth that people can apply to their lives?

When I was the Program Manager for Ecclesia Ministries of New York, my responsibilities included maintaining a ROTA for celebrants and preachers, for two park churches, Madison Square Park, in the Flatiron District of Manhattan and Marcus Garvey Park in East Harlem. We had ordained clergy assigned for each Sunday, and occasionally they would bring a Seminarian Intern to preach. It was usually awful to watch, I knew we were in trouble when they brought out pages of notes and began to read. Even the better sermons were written for a housed church congregation before they became a weapon of tediousness and hardship to those in the park that had to listen.

I always spend time trying to discern the needs of the congregation and how my sermon will hopefully make an impact to their lives. What is the takeaway, and what is the singular point that can be applied to life issues? When I use the same gospel passage in our bilingual English/Arabic Mass, the sermon is tweaked to meet the needs of the mostly Chaldean audience. It's not the same sermon that was preached two days ago to St. Alban's, even though I am using the same pericope. The same is true of the Welcome Church in the park, same scripture, same truth, but a different crowd and the need for a custom-fit application.

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St Alban's Leadership

Staff

Father Dave Madsen ~ Rector
619-444-8212, padredavid1@gmail.com
Office hours: T-F, 9am-1pm, afternoons by appt. only
Reverend Phil Loveless ~ Deacon
619-602-7952, ploveless@edsd.org
Denise Cote~ Assistant to Rector/Office Manager; **619-444-8212**, dcote@stalbanschurch.info
Office hours: T-F, 9am-1pm
Naomi Madsen ~ Music Director
Caroline Mahon-Hurd~ Sunday School Director
Joanne Bishop—Teen Youth Ministry
Brad Cook ~ Communication Director
Victoria Mayor ~ Social Media Director
Penny Park~ Prayer Chain Leader
Judy Brown—Treasurer
Betty Johnsen—Altar Guild; Food Pantry

Wardens & Vestry

Sharon Hathaway ~ Sr. Warden
Mike Park ~ Jr. Warden
Victoria Mayor ~ Secretary / Vestry
Brad Cook—Vestry
Carly Montagne ~ Vestry Member
Jane Schinske ~ Vestry Member
David Ellis ~ Vestry Member
Hsa Blu Moo ~ Vestry Member
Nawal Yousif ~ Vestry Member
Judy Brown— Vestry Member
Betty Johnsen—Vestry Member

Worship & Learn With Us:
Sunday 9:30 am
Worship Service
with Holy Eucharist & Sunday School

Tuesday Bilingual Mass with Eucharist is at 8:45 am on
1st & 3rd Tuesdays, all are welcome!



The Episcopal Church joins ecumenical partners in addressing human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories

At their fall meeting in Montgomery, Ala. the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church adopted and implemented a human rights investment screen to respond to a 2018 General Convention resolution, which directs The Episcopal Church to “join with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America’s action, CA 16.06.31, “Justice for the Holy Land Through Responsible Investment.”” The screen draws from the actions of General Convention and Executive Council over the past seventy years and directs the Church not to invest in companies that support or benefit from human rights violations. Establishing a human rights investment screen adds to the list of screens the Episcopal Church uses for other issues such as tobacco, fossil fuels and certain military contractors.

At the recommendation of Council's Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility, three companies were identified for removal from the Church's investment portfolio and placement on its No Buy List: Caterpillar, Motorola Solutions and the Israel Discount Bank. Further, Council asks CCSR “to pursue continued engagement with Facebook, Booking.com, and TripAdvisor, urging them to address human rights violations through complicity in the occupation of the OPT, and seeking to assure that the companies take all necessary steps to end their complicity in the occupation.”

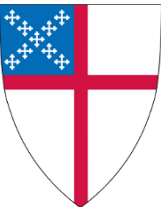
"This is a stewardship issue," said the Rev. Canon C.K. Robertson, canon to the presiding bishop for ministry beyond The Episcopal Church. "The Church does not want to make profits from companies that contribute to the suffering of others." The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Presbyterian Church, the United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ have all previously taken similar actions.

The decision to address human rights violations in the 52-year-old occupation of the Gaza Strip and West Bank (including East Jerusalem) is an important step in addressing longstanding human rights violations. “The Church does not support the global boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign, but we do take seriously the rights of human beings to live free of human rights violations. We have engaged companies about the occupation since we first filed a shareholder resolution with Motorola in 1994," said Bishop Doug Fisher, chair of the committee on corporate social responsibility.

Several Jewish organizations distinguish economic campaigns against companies involved in the occupation from the BDS campaign which targets Israel itself, including J Street and Americans for Peace Now (APN). J Street notes on its website “We do not oppose boycott, divestment, or sanctions initiatives that explicitly support a two-state solution, recognize Israel’s right to exist, and focus only on occupied territory beyond the Green Line.” APN calls for “recognizing the legitimacy and potential value of activism and boycotts that squarely target settlements and the occupation.”

The Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, President of the House of Deputies, said, “"I appreciate the hard work done for so many decades by so many to promote the Church's commitment to justice for all the peoples of the Holy Land."

In calling for the screen at the 2018 General Convention, the Church also called for safeguarding the rights of Palestinian children in detention, pursuing justice in Gaza, reaffirmed Jerusalem as the shared capital of Israel and a future Palestinian State, called for renewed aid to Palestinian refugees and renewed negotiations for a just peace.



FROM THE TREASURER'S VAULT

Treasurer's Report - September 30, 2019



GENERAL FUND

- Checking Balance as of August 31, 2019: \$2,860.23

- TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSES:

Offerings: \$ 5,715.10
Other Income: \$14,513.88,
TOTAL Income: \$20,228.98

TOTAL Expenses \$20,010.11

- Checking Balance as of September 30, 2019: \$2,812.10

- Average attendance for 5 Sundays in September = 61

September Weekly Offering

- September 1, 2019
 - Attendance: 60
 - Pledge: \$1,288.00
 - Plate: \$ 181.00
- September 8, 2019
 - Attendance: 69
 - Pledge: \$1,880.00
 - Plate: \$ 91.00
- September 15, 2019
 - Attendance: 63
 - Pledge: \$760.00
 - Plate: \$160.00
- September 22, 2019
 - Attendance: 58
 - Pledge: \$600.00
 - Plate: \$122.00
- September 29, 2019
 - Attendance: 55
 - Pledge: \$425.00
 - Plate: \$208.10

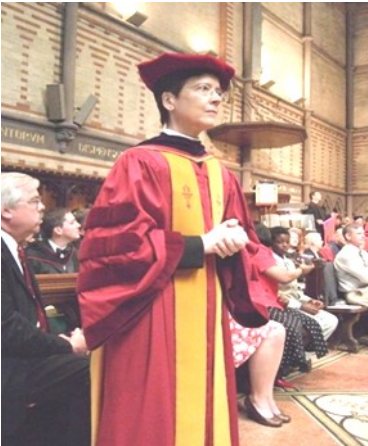
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When you read this article, we will be in the last month of Common Time, and looking forward to Thanksgiving, and the new year of the church beginning with the first week of Advent beginning Sunday, December 1.

I do wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving and Advent Season!

Father Dave+

Mitties DeChamplain PHD



November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>All Saints Day</i>	2 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends—Clocks Back Tonight</i>
3 Worship 9:30 All Souls / All Saints <i>Welcome Church 3pm Wells Park</i>	4	5 MASS 8:45am Followed by Food Pantry Ministry 10am	6 Troop 308 6:30pm–8pm	7	8	9
10 Worship 9:30 <i>Vestry mtg after service</i>	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i>	12	13 Troop 308 6:30pm–8pm	14	15	16
17 Worship 9:30	18	19 MASS 8:45am Followed by Food Pantry Ministry 10am	20 Troop 308 6:30pm–8pm	21	22 <i>C.S. Lewis</i>	23
24 Worship 9:30 Christ The King	25	26	27 <i>Thanksgiving Eve Service; 6:15pm</i>	28 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	29 <i>Office Closed</i>	30

Youth Group Crafts Pictures ~ continued





St. Alban's Teen Youth Group News

Our Teen Youth Group met on October 4 and our theme was "What is your Dream?" We broke the group up into pairs and had a "mystery box" challenge. Each team received a brown paper bag with mystery ingredients. They had 20 minutes to take those ingredients and make a themed edible work of art. They used graham crackers, marshmallows, candy corn, pretzel sticks, skittles and icing. The outcome was amazing! We had a bon fire, a winter scene, a church complete with stain glass windows and a factory mishap! We talked about our dreams for the future and our dreams for the future of our church. We were reminded that we will always be at home at St. Alban's no matter where life takes us.

Next meeting will be Friday, November 1 at 6:15pm. Our theme will be "Balance".

Joanne Bishop



Round Up Time... Deacon's Random Thoughts



If you are regular reader of the roundup you know that each month this year I have featured a lesser-known saint. I have done this as an incentive to read in the book "Holy Women, Holy Men and also as an incentive to follow the Church Calendar.

So this month I would like to list the November special days.

All Saints Day	Elizabeth, Princess of Hungary, 1231
Commemoration of All Faithful Departed (All Souls 'Day)	Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397
William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1944	Charles Simeon, Priest, 1836
Willibrord Archbishop of Utrecht, Missionary to Frisia, 739	Clement, Bishop of Rome, c 100
Consecration of Samuel Seabury, First American Bishop, 1784	Saint Andrew the Apostle
Margaret, Queen of Scotland, 1093	Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680
Clive Staples Lewis, Apologis and Spiritual Writer, 1963	Edmund, King of East Anglia, 870
James Otis Sargent Huntington, Priest and Monk, 1935	
Kamehameha and Emma, King and Queen of Hawaii, 1864,1865	

Out of this list I have chosen James Otis Sargent Huntington.

James Otis Sargent Huntington was born in Boston in 1854. After graduation from Harvard, he studied theology at St. Andrew's Divinity School in Syracuse, New York, and was ordained deacon and priest by his father, the first Bishop of Central New York. In 1880 and 1881 he ministered in a working-class congregation at Calvary Mission, Syracuse. While attending a retreat at St. Clément's Church, Philadelphia, Huntington received a call to the religious life. He considered joining the Society of St. John the Evangelist, which had by that time established a province in the United States, but he resolved to found an indigenous American Community.

Huntington and two other priest began their common life at Holy Cross Mission on New York's Lower East Side, ministering with the Sister of St. John Baptist among poor immigrants. The taxing daily regimen of Eucharist, prayer, and long hours of pastoral work soon forced one priest to leave for reason of health. The other dropped out for lack of a vocation. Huntington went on alone; and on November 25, 1884, his life vow was received by Bishop Potter of New York. As Huntington continued his work among the immigrants, with emphasis on helping young people, he became increasingly committed to the social witness of the Church. His early involvements in the single-tax movement and the labor union movement were instrumental in the eventual commitment of the Episcopal Church to social ministries.

The Order attracted vocations, and as it grew in the ensuing years the community moved, first to Maryland, and in 1902, to West Park, New York, where it established the monastery, which is its motherhouse. Huntington served as Superior on several occasions, continuing his energetic round of preaching, teaching and spiritual counsel until his death on June 28, 1935

Deacon Phil



Sunday School News

By Caroline Mahon-Hurd



Check out these upcoming Sunday School Events:

November 24- The children will make a family Advent Wreath.

December 1-First Sunday of Advent, the children will receive Advent calendars and devotionals.

December 8- Christmas Pageant practice following the Sunday service.

December 22-Christmas Pageant performance during the Sunday service.



More Sunday School Pictures!

