

Saints Alive! ✠ *February–March 2008*

All Saints Episcopal Parish, San Leandro, California, 510-569-7020



Rector's Letter

Congratulations All!

This last Sunday, more than 80 of us gathered for the 2007 Annual Meeting. We elected five new members of the vestry, celebrated our ministries among each other and into the community, and launched our 2008 Building Fund Drive (\$300,000 for deferred maintenance and mission-oriented upgrades) with a resolution passed by acclamation. Thanks and congratulations to all who worked so hard to make it such a success.

I hope that each of you will take a moment to recognize how difficult it is for parishes to do what we're trying to do — and how truly stalwart All Saints is. When you've been focused on survival — a situation shared by many Episcopal parishes — it's easy to lose sight of a purpose big enough to inspire hope and excitement.

I'm proud to say that we're successfully reclaiming that sense of purpose, and it shows. We are learning, and accepting joyfully, that the tasks in front of us actually are simple: meet real human needs, carry the Good News of God in Jesus Christ to our neighbors, and hold injustice up to the Gospel light. Our core purpose, the reason we exist, is simple, too: make disciples who make disciples. We're figuring out what that means, authentically, to Episcopalians in this place.

On the last Sunday of the Epiphany (February 3), we hear this from the Second Letter of Peter:

You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place,
until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

This is a marvelous teaching. It tells us that things take time. It tells us that life can sometimes be dark and frightening. It says that while we wait for things to happen, our job is to stay attentive — to stay focused on the life, person and work of Jesus as his story unfolds in us and in the world. That sustains us as a new day dawns.

A new dawn is breaking here. We have raised close to \$125,000 in cash and pledges — more than enough to begin addressing our deferred maintenance and mission upgrades. New people are being drawn to us. We are feeling a joy in becoming ever more focused on service to the world. We are moving forward.

Fr. Rob Droste
robdroste@sbcglobal.net

Hello, Hollywood, Hello!

36th Annual Crab Feed

Help Wanted—Teen Servers

Right on the heels of Burns Night is All Saints' annual Crab Feed, serving all-you-can-eat fresh cracked crab (or chicken), appetizers, salad, pasta, and dessert!

If you would like to lend a hand before or during the Crab Feed, or if you know of a teen group that might be interested in serving, please call Robin Niderost (537-0931) ASAP. You're welcome at the **planning meetings** at All Saints on February 7 and 14, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Crab Feed: Saturday, February 23, 2008

5:00 No-host bar

6:00 Dinner starts

Where: All Saints

Tickets: Adults, \$35; youth 8–12, \$12; children under 8, no charge.

Available after both Sunday services or by phone call to Robin

Contact: Church Office: 510.569.7020

Social Ministries

► January 2008 Social Ministry Report

To see the January 2008 Social Ministry Report, go to <http://www.saintsalive.net>, click on Social Ministry, and scroll down.

► Save the Date: April 9 Emergency Preparedness Workshop

Wednesday, April 9, 7:00–8:00 p.m., All Saints parish hall

Co-hosted by All Saints Parish and Broadmoor Neighborhood Association

Presented by the Alameda County Fire Department

► Upcoming Events

Sat Feb 2	Soup Stop	11 to 1	All Saints parish hall
Sun Feb 3	April Showers	11 to 2	Boys and Girls Club
Sun Feb 10	Social Ministries Team meeting	After 10:00 service	All Saints parish hall
Sun Feb 17	Bag lunch preparation for April Showers	After 8:00 service	All Saints kitchen
	Mailing prep for Building Futures with Women and Children (BFWC)	After 10:00 service	All Saints parish hall
	April Showers	11 to 2	Boys and Girls Club
Sun Feb 24	Cooking for BFWC: team training	After 10:00 service	All Saints kitchen

Tom Breckenridge, Social Ministries Team Leader

Contact Church Office: 510.569.7020

A Charitable Gift Can Benefit You and Your Family

As you all know, the 2008 Building Fund Drive is in full swing. Many people have asked about various giving alternatives, including remembering All Saints in their wills, creating a trust, and making income-producing charitable gifts.

On Saturday, March 15, Tom Breckenridge and Maxine Sitts will host the Rev. Richard Schaper, Planned Giving Officer for the Diocese of California, at their home.

Fr. Schaper will make a presentation on the options available, review the tax and other benefits of these kinds of gifts, and answer questions. Refreshments will be provided.

When: Saturday, March 15, 10 a.m. to noon

Where: Please contact Church Office for address. – 510-569-7020

Eileen Coggin Memorial

The memorial service for Eileen Coggin, Dana Coggin's mother, will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday March 1, at First Congregational Church in Berkeley.

Saints Alive! is published monthly via email by All Saints Episcopal Church, 911 Dowling Boulevard, San Leandro, California 94577.

*Submit news items for the April 2008 issue to marypat56@comcast.net or mail to Mary Nelson care of the church; deadline is **March 27**.*

For changes to the parish database (names, phone numbers, addresses, or e-mail addresses), please e-mail John Trubina at jtrubina@comcast.net or leave a message for him at the church. To get information on All Saints' people and programs, please stop by the church or visit us on the Internet at <http://www.saintsalive.net>.