



THE MAGDALENE

St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church

Rev. Fr. Neil Edlin, Rector

From the Desk of Fr. Neil...

Walk by the Spirit

Our Bible study a few weeks ago lead us directly into the 7th chapter of Romans. Someone commented that night that Romans 7 ranks as one of the top two most difficult passages in all of Scripture. We managed to struggle through its difficult concepts and terms, arriving on the other side, knowing that we had definitely not exhausted its meaning and implications. This can happen when we study Scripture. I believe that because Scripture is God's Word it cannot be completely and exhaustively understood by the human mind. We can discern enough to know its meaning, but the full scope of what God's Word teaches will never be fully understood. Not that we will necessarily find new meaning, but we will continually discover its fuller meaning. In this specific chapter, Paul, the author of the Letter to the Romans, tells us that as Christians, we are released from the Law. This type of discussion immediately makes the Christian ask, "If I'm released from the Law by having faith in Christ, then does that mean I can live however I want?" This is a rational question. This is one of the questions we wrestled with. Paul uses the word 'law' in a number of different ways in his writings. It can mean the Old Testament. It can mean the first 5 books of the Bible. It can mean the 10 Commandments. It can mean a summary of God's demand for perfect obedience. And there are other meanings as well. We cannot answer this question completely here, but I believe that one



thing that came out of the discussion that we can expand on here is how we *are* to walk before the Lord. We cannot be justified before God by commandment keeping because we are unable to keep it perfectly as required by God. Jesus Christ did this and He did it for us. The way into a right relationship with God is by faith in Christ and the work that He has done on our behalf.

So the question now is, "How then shall we live?" Answer: We live now to SERVE God and neighbor. The transitional verse here comes from Romans 7:6. "But we are now released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we SERVE not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit." Did you see the emphasized word 'SERVE'? We are called to serve God, but how? By a new life of the Spirit. So, how do we walk in the Spirit to serve God and neighbor?

Paul tells us in Galatians 5, "For freedom, Christ has set us free; stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery....you are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness." Paul goes on to tell us, 5 different times, to: walk by the Spirit, be led by the Spirit, have the fruit of the Spirit, live by the Spirit and again, walk by the Spirit. This seems to be the key to knowing how we are to live now for God.

Paul asks earlier in chapter 3, "Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith?" The answer to the rhetorical question is, "We received the

Spirit by faith.” So, when we put our trust in Christ, the Holy Spirit flows into us and works in us. Paul even lists for us the fruits of the Spirit in the 5th chapter. They are: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against, these, says Paul, there is no law.

Let’s look at an example of how this works. Let’s pick one of the fruits, such as *patience*. If we are walking in the Spirit, or living by the Spirit, then patience will be a virtue we are exercising. But suppose difficulties come upon us. Maybe we are late to a meeting. Maybe the traffic on the freeway is heavy. Maybe our flight is delayed. Or more seriously, maybe we have a loved one in the hospital, or we have been hospitalized. To be walking in the Spirit means we seek to remain patient in these circumstances. Maybe anger begins to rise up within us over our suffering. We are at that point to remember that all things are being worked by God for our good. If we remind ourselves of God’s omnipotence....His all powerful nature...His sovereignty over every single event in our lives, and His love for us, then we can more easily remember to be patient at that moment. And the same goes for all of the nine fruits of the Spirit Paul lists.

We rest in God by faith. We know that God understands our weaknesses and that He will send His Spirit to us when we ask. We trust in God to give us grace so that we may bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. We should want to do these things. We should want to walk in the Spirit and bear the fruits of the Spirit...love, patience, kindness, etc. For in doing so we draw nearer to God.

Think today about what virtues the Holy Spirit is working in you. Think about what virtues you may lack strength in, and ask God to send His Spirit to provide

opportunities to grow in those virtues. The Christian life is to be one of growth and spiritual maturity, not idleness. The only way you will make progress in this life, is to ask God for His grace, that you may be pleasing in His sight. When you fail, remember that Christ lived obediently for you perfectly, and then go back to serving God and your neighbor.

THANKS FOR GIVING ME THIS DAY

**I may never see tomorrow;
There's no written guarantee,
And things that happened yesterday
belong to history.**

**I cannot predict the future,
I cannot change the past,
I have just the present moment,
I must treat it as my last.**

**I must use this moment wisely for it soon
will pass away,
and be lost to me forever as part of
yesterday.**

**I must exercise compassion,
Help the fallen to their feet,
Be a friend unto the friendless,
Make an empty life complete.**

**The unkind things I do today may never
be undone,
And friendships that I fail to win may
nevermore be won.**

**I may not have another chance on bended
knee to pray,
And thank God with humble heart for
giving me this day.**

www.father'shands.com

PARISH NEWS

THANKSGIVING / ADVENT OUTREACH

St. Martha's Guild is coordinating our Thanksgiving / Advent Outreach program this year. They have again chosen a foreign ACC Mission outreach to Feed the Poor.

There is a great need in our Anglican Parishes in Pakistan. Your donations will purchase food, or purchase goats or chickens which will supply milk and eggs to our needy brethren.

Beginning on **November 3rd** until

December 22nd, you will be asked to take a tag off the Giving Tree in the narthex and place your donation inside the large fishbowl.

Cash (remember to put your name on the tag) or checks are accepted. (Please make checks out to St. Mary Magdalene.)

All of the donations will be put together, designated for food or animals and sent to the Anglican Catholic Church for distribution to the church in Pakistan.

Please be generous. Our little church can make a BIG difference in the lives of others.



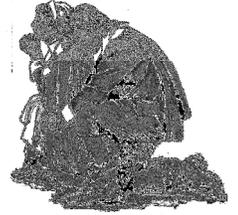
WEDNESDAY MASS & HEALING SERVICE

Father Neil celebrates a Mass and Healing Service each week on Wednesday morning at 9:00am. This is a wonderful way to add a mid-week Mass to your schedule. The Healing Service takes place at the end of the Mass, with those wanting to participate approaching the altar rail for the Anointing of the Sick.

 *Anointing of the Sick* 

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

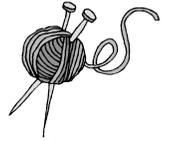
Join us on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28th at 9:00am as we gather together to ask the Lord's blessing.



Our beautiful service of Holy Communion is a wonderful way to begin your day of thanks. See you there!

CRAFTY KNITTERS & CROCHETERS

Our Crafty Knitters group has expanded to include crocheting, and any other sewing project you might want to share. Gather your knitting needles, crochet hooks and join us for an afternoon of great fun and lots of chatter. This is a great group to join if you want to learn how to knit/crochet.



Mark your calendar and attend our next gathering on **Sunday, November 17th** following the 10:00am Mass and each 3rd Sunday after that. Bring a sack lunch and join us as we learn to knit and crochet.

If you have any questions, please give Robin Morsk a call.

CONFIRMATION

On Sunday, October 27th, The Most Reverend Mark Haverland laid his hands upon Roland O'Donoghue and Thomas Tallon administering the Sacrament of Confirmation.



During the service, Betty Grant, Russ and Kelly Smith, Hilary and Kelly McMahon, and Lou and Karen Carlson were received into the Anglican Catholic Church.

Congratulations to all.

THANKSGIVING OUTREACH

Another way to give during the Thanksgiving season is to consider donating to Father's Outreach Discretionary Fund.

As winter approaches, there is much need in our local community. During this time of year, the church is asked more often for help with food and shelter by those less fortunate than we are. This Outreach Discretionary Fund allows Father to give help when he sees a need.

Donations may be placed in the alms basins during Mass, and should be designated "Outreach Discretionary Fund". Remember to put your name on any cash so the treasurer can record your donation.



Thank you in advance for helping others in our community during the upcoming winter months.

ST. MARTHA'S GUILD GIFT EXCHANGE



All the women of the parish are invited to our annual Christmas Gift exchange on **Wednesday evening, December 4th** at 7:00pm.

Watch the Sunday bulletins for the location of this fun-filled evening. Details about the gift exchange can be obtained from a St. Martha's Guild member. Please give Sharon a call to let her know if you will be able to attend.

MEN'S OUTING

Men, watch the narthex for information about a men's night out on Wednesday, December 4th, while the women are attending the St. Martha's Guild Gift Exchange.

ALTAR GUILD

Ladies of St. Mary Magdalene,

After many years of faithful service, one of our Altar Guild members is retiring at the end of the year. Therefore, I am looking for a volunteer (or more) to join the Guild. Experience is helpful, but not necessary and you will be trained.

Serving on the Altar Guild is a rewarding and spiritual way for women to serve our church. Some of the duties include taking care of the linens used in Mass, changing candles, polishing the brass, taking care of the Mary Chapel and getting the flowers each week.



When there are four (or more) of us, it only requires once a month duty. We usually come in to prepare for Sunday Mass on Friday or Saturday and then clean up after Mass & set up for the Wednesday Mass.

If you are interested in learning more or volunteering, please contact Marceil Burgess at (951) 427-5290 or cell phone: (562) 841-6017.

Many Thanks,
Marceil Burgess

BIBLE STUDY

Our Wednesday evening Bible Study is looking at the Book of Romans.



The Bible Study meets in the Parish Hall on Wednesdays from 6:30pm – 8:00pm.

(The Bible Study will not be held on vestry meeting night – November 13th.)

EVERY MEMBER CANVAS

Each year you are asked to prayerfully consider your financial giving to your church. All of us have been called to “work, pray and give for the spread of God’s kingdom.” Now is your chance to help!

In The Spirit Of Giving...

Your financial pledge helps the vestry plan for the next year – not only for telephone and utility expenses, but also for outreach projects and fellowship activities. (Treasurer’s Note – names are kept confidential and not revealed to the vestry.)

Shortly, you will be receiving a letter and pledge card in the mail. Please, fill out the card, and place it in the alms basin during Mass. The Bible asks us to tithe (10% of our income.) While not everyone is able to do this, we are all able to give something.

Please be generous. Help your church to continue to grow and prosper!



BIRDS-ON-A-WIRE LUNCH GROUP



If you are interested in a time of fellowship and lively conversation, bring a sack lunch and join us in the Parish Hall the **first Sunday of the**

month after the 10:00am mass. There is no schedule of planned topics to be discussed, nor is there a book to be studied, just plenty of spirited discussions and lots of fellowship. For more information, please see Father Neil.

Our next gatherings will be on **Sunday, November 3rd**

VESTRY MEETING

Vestry meetings are open to the congregation and are usually held at 7:15pm the second Wednesday night of the month.

**Next Vestry Meeting
Wednesday, November 13th**



SUPPER CLUB

You're Invited Each month, a parishioner is invited to plan a “night out on the town” for their fellow churchgoers. This is a great way to get to know your church family in a casual atmosphere.

The Supper Club host or hostess plans an excursion to a restaurant or an evening in their own home. You then set out a sign-up sheet in the narthex and make reservations if needed. Remember to bring your wallet because the evenings are “Dutch Treat.”

Barbara Taylor is the coordinator of our Supper Club. If you have any questions or want help in planning an outing, please give her a call.

On Tuesday, November 12th at 7:00pm, we will be meeting at the Tartan Room at 2652 N Tustin St. in Orange. Their menu features beef, pork, chicken, sea food and pasta – something for everyone.

Thank you to Richard Hickey for the evening of bowling in October. And thank you, for doing such a GREAT job with getting the word out about the change in location.

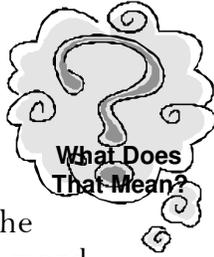
Come and bring your friends and family and enjoy a night out on the town!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ Veterans Day ★

November 11th

EVANGELISM

The last thing Jesus Christ commanded His disciples to do was to go and teach all nations (Matthew 28:19) and to go into all the world and preach the Gospel (Mark 16:15) and to be witnesses to His message "unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). This, in a word, is evangelism -- the carrying of the Good Tidings of Christ to others.



A fervent and irresistible desire to follow this command marked the Christians of the early Church, whether they were Apostles, presbyters, deacons or humble laity. They carried the message; they preached the Good News everywhere and in the face of all obstacles and persecutions. The result was the spread and triumph of Christianity in the ancient Roman world, and even beyond.

As centuries passed, the fire of this zeal to evangelize, to tell others of the message of Christian salvation, slowly died down, although no age has been without dedicated evangelists. In the Church of England, religious zeal and the impulse to spread the Gospel slowly diminished in the seventeenth century and by the early part of the eighteenth century the Church of England was simply no longer an effective spiritual force. It was no better in the American colonies. The will to respond to Christ's mandate was almost extinct. Until 1729 —

John and Charles Wesley and a group of Oxford students felt the need for a deeper and more active spiritual life. Out of the devotional life they fashioned for themselves arose the revitalizing force of the Evangelical Movement. The Wesleys were Anglicans, but due in part to the slowness of Anglicanism to respond to this new

life-giving force, many of their followers in the years to come established the Methodist Church. Nevertheless, in time, the Evangelical Movement also took hold in the Anglican Church, both in England and in the United States. The Gospel took on new life, zealous preaching revived, and missionary work spread over the world.

The term "Evangelical" has often come to have confusing and complex meanings in terms of faith and party churchmanship. There is no room to go into all these nuances here. It is sufficient simply to recall that *basically an evangelical churchman is one possessed of an inner compulsion and desire to tell others the Good News which Christ brought to the earth.* In the eighteenth century, this compulsion was strongest in "Low Church" Anglicans. In the nineteenth century, it infected "High Church" Anglicans.

Evangelism and the evangelical spirit are not confined to any group or party in Anglicanism. They are an infection which has touched Anglicans of all stripes.

Today, however, a new lassitude with regard to evangelism threatens the energy and effectiveness of Anglicanism, certainly including those new parts known as "Continuing Anglicanism" in the United States. *When there is a boring in of secular humanism, or when there is an unhealthy preoccupation with orthodoxy, "purity" of belief, and rigidity of form, the will, desire and enthusiasm for evangelism wither. And so do the Church and the Christian religion.*

A keen observer and devoted priest in the Continuing Anglican movement diagnoses the situation this way:

"I believe that Anglicanism... in all its parts is suffering from a very serious disease that has afflicted us for so long that we have

learned to live with it without feeling sick. I believe that, as Anglicans, we are more concerned about the Church than about God as such. We habitually, substitute ecclesiology for theology; we preach and teach...to a world that knows nothing about such things... but which does hunger for the Bread of Life and thirst for the Living God."

Too many Anglicans today think they are evangelizing when they bring someone to Church. But true evangelism is bringing someone to Christ (the Church will follow). Anglicanism at its finest has never forgotten the command: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations." If Anglicans, and other Christians, really believe and are faithful, they will obey that command, gladly and ardently.



COMMUNITY GROUPS

The following community groups meet regularly at St. Mary Magdalene.

Al-Anon

Friends and Families of Problem Drinkers
Monday evenings at 7:30pm
Saturday evenings at 7:00pm

CHADD

Children and Adults with Attention
Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
Third Monday evening at 7:30pm

Orange County Fictionaires

Critique Group for Professional Writers
1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Orange Fiction Writers

Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm



FOURTH SUNDAY BRUNCH

Every Fourth Sunday, our church family has brunch together at 11:45am. This is a great way to get to know other church members. Everyone always has a wonderful time visiting with each other and of course partaking of the delicious food!



Watch the Sunday bulletins for information about upcoming brunches. If you have any questions about our brunches or suggestions for future outings, please give Elizabeth Sneddon a call.



ST. MARTHA'S WOMEN'S GUILD

St. Martha's Women's Guild meets on the 2nd Sunday of the month after the 10:00am Mass. All women of the parish are members and are encouraged to attend.



If you want to get involved in the church or just know how church activities operate, come join us.

**Next Guild Meeting
November 10th**

ALL MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Join the men of St. Mary Magdalene Parish in the narthex. Each 2nd Sunday is a **business meeting**. The 3rd Sunday is a **Book Discussion**. Both Sundays begin at 11:30am. Currently, we are reading R.C. Sproul's book "The Holiness of God."



DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- Mass & Healing Service –
 9:00am Wednesdays
 Bible Study – Wednesdays 6:30pm
 2 – NEW2YOU / Holiday Boutique
 3 – Birds on a Wire Lunch Group
Outreach Giving Tree begins
 10 – St. Martha’s Guild/Men’s Group
 12 – Supper Club 7:00
 13 – Vestry Meeting – 7:15
 17 – Crafty Knitters / Men’s Group
 24 – Fourth Sunday Brunch



Happy Thanksgiving

28 – Thanksgiving Day Mass 9:00am

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- Mass & Healing Service –
 9:00am Wednesdays
 Bible Study – Wednesdays 6:30pm
 1 – Birds on a Wire Lunch Group
 4 – Women’s Gift Exchange
 4 = Men’s Outing
 8 – St. Martha’s Guild/Men’s Group
 11 – Vestry Meeting 7:15pm
 15 – Crafty Knitters / Men’s Group

Coming in January
Annual Meeting -
 date to be announced

COFFEE HOUR TREATS

- Nov 3 – Le Van
 10 – Mauzey
 17 – McMahon
 24 – Menees
 Dec 1 – Mercado
 8 – Guild
 15 – Morsk
 22 –
 29 – Gates



Please plan on setting out treats at 8:30am and cleaning up after the 11:15 social time. Be sure to switch with someone else if you are unable to take your Sunday. **Don’t forget you’re in charge of cleanup as well as treats!**

ALTAR FLOWERS / SANCTUARY LIGHT

Altar Flowers Sanctuary Light

- | | | | |
|-----|----|-------|-----------|
| Nov | 3 | Gates | |
| | 10 | Bell | Gates |
| | 17 | | |
| | 24 | Bell | Tucker, P |

If you are interested in “giving” one of these for a future Sunday, please sign up in the Flower and Candle binder in the narthex of the church.



Our suggested donation is \$30 for flowers & \$12 for the light, but feel free to give what you are able. Mark flowers / candles on your check and place it in the offering basket during Mass.

Visitors are
always welcome.
Join us!

