



Healing Thoughts

The Glennon House

December 23, 2008

Volume 12, Number 4

This Week

- **Glennon House Closed Wednesday, Dec. 24th, Thursday, Dec. 25th, & Friday, Dec. 26th.**
- **Noon Hour of Prayer Tues. 12:00 – 1:00 pm**
- **Prayer Laboratory w/Fr. Al Durrance Tues. 4:00 – 5:00 pm.**
- **Tues. Healing Service 6:00 pm in the Glennon House**
- **Prayer Ministry Mon-Tues 9:00 – 5:00**

Upcoming Events

- **Prayer Laboratory w/Fr. Al Durrance Tues. Dec. 30th 4:00 – 5:00 pm.**
- **Healing Service in the Glennon House Tues. Dec. 30th 6:00 pm**
- **Glennon House closing at 1:00 pm on Wed., Dec. 31st Last opportunity to bring your donations to the Healing Ministry for the 2008 year**
- **Glennon House Closed Thurs., Jan 1st and Fri., Jan. 2nd**

The Healing Ministry at All Saints Church

The Glennon House, 377 E. Fairbanks Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789 ■ 407-647-8925

Email: healingministry@allsaintswp.com Website: www.glennonhouse.org

Prayer Laboratory - Tues., Dec. 23rd from 4-5 pm In the Glennon House with Fr. Al Durrance

The Healing Ministry invites you to participate in a prayer laboratory with Fr. Al Durrance. Please join us on Tues., December 23rd from 4 – 5 pm in the Glennon House.

This prayer laboratory is a place where we might gather to test our theories and abilities concerning prayer. It should be seen more as "trying out" various forms of prayer rather than learning how someone else does them.

There are some prerequisites to all prayer. We must decide whether we are trying to discern and walk in God's will or trying to get God to do our will. Jesus taught us to pray, "Thy will be done..." (Excerpt from Prayer Laboratory by Fr. Al Durrance)

Healing Service in the Glennon House

Tuesday, December 23rd and 30th @ 6:00 pm

The weekly Healing Service will not be in the Church this week. Instead the Healing Ministry invites you to an evening of community and individual prayer in the intimate setting of the Glennon House. Please join us on December 23rd at 6:00 pm for a time of praise, worship, and prayer.

If you've never visited us at the Glennon House then this is the perfect opportunity for you to come see the building that the Healing Ministry calls home. The Glennon House is on the All Saints Church campus and is just a short distance from the All Saints' Sanctuary. There will be maps at all the doors of the Church over the next couple of weeks.

Healing Thoughts - Christmas – Fr. Al Durrance

How Do We Do Christmas?

One election year, I found that I was face to face with Christmas preparation, and I had almost missed Advent, which marks the beginning of the Christmas Season. I began to wonder about how I may celebrate Christmas that focuses on the holiday and not on the chaos with which many surround themselves with. This begs the question:

How does my buying gifts for the people who are going to buy me gifts express the Spirit of the One who has come into the world? How can the parties that fill up the time on my calendar express the Spirit of the Christ Mass?

How can the exhaustion that mark those who agonize over what to buy each person on their list express the Spirit of Christmas? Does buying gifts for others fulfill the true meaning of Christmas?

Or it is God "buying" for us what we cannot find for ourselves at any price in any store, and by doing so, we are given the perfect example of how we might participate in the season of Christmas.

If we can see that God has paid for a present that is given to the entire world, and one that we cannot afford, nor reciprocate by cash or credit. We are still able to reciprocate. He has given us the Life of His Son, that we might give Him our lives in return. There is an obvious inequity in the exchange.

Healing Ministry Links

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[Fr. Al Durrance](#)

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GIFTS TO: THE HEALING MINISTRY at ALL SAINTS CHURCH, Winter Park

Funding of The Healing Ministry at All Saints Church, Winter Park, is independent from the parish budget of All Saints Church. The Healing Ministry relies primarily upon contributions made at the Tuesday evening Healing Services and by donations made during visits to *The Glennon House*. The operating costs of *The Glennon House*, its staff, prayer ministry, healing missions and some specially acquired guest teachers, are derived from those generous donations and contributions.

He has given me more than I could ever afford, and I have given Him what He wanted when I made room for Jesus to be incarnate within my flesh. That must be the way He intends for me to celebrate Christmas in my own life.

In the Asking, the Answer Becomes Clear.

I was feeling frustrated and I finally found the time to be still and ask God, "Lord, what is the proper way to celebrate Christmas? How can I escape the chaos in December and please you in what I seek to do?"

The answer came quite clearly to my mind: "You are to go to the altar and receive the gift I have given you for Christmas. When I first gave the gift 2000 years ago, I wrapped Him in the flesh of His mother, Mary, so that He might be born human. When He was born, she wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and gave him to the shepherds and to the Magi, and all those present who would receive Him.

When He grew up and began to teach humans about the Kingdom, He made it clear that He was the King. He was not a King in the traditional sense of the word, which confused Herod. He was the King in the Kingdom that was prepared before the foundation of the world.

God fulfilled the need for opening the way for humans to enter the Kingdom. It necessitated a New Creation in which the Sin and evil of the world was left behind in the Old Creation. We need a place where there is no Sin, and no need for a Law to be imposed. It is to be written on the inward parts of those who choose to accept the Gift that God has given to all of us.

It also necessitated a Cross. God chose the fullness of time, and the best of the ways in which He could accomplish His will to Create all things New in Him. Christ is God's love wrapped in human vesture. Christ is God's presence in the midst of His people. He who knows Him knows God. Christ is a visible image of the King. This gift, wrapped in human form, was essential for those who would come after His Ascension. There is no way into the New Creation except through death and resurrection. Old things are to pass away, the New is beginning, and will be eternal. The Gift God gives us is still wrapped in a number of wrappers that He continue to use.

When Christ was preparing to leave the disciples, He made provision for them to know Him and to know His presence in the world. The kingdom is at hand, and the Bread of the Kingdom had been prepared by His hands. The Bread of Heaven was given as he gave His flesh for the sins of the world.

One way we may receive God's gift is wrapped in the flesh of Bread and Wine as Christ comes to give His life to you as He promised He would. He said to his disciples, "This is My Body. This is My Blood. This is the way I come to you to give you my life. Come bring Me your life, that I might live in you, and you might live in me. This is the Marriage Feast of the Lamb, that you might become bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh."

"Come and let me wrap Myself in your flesh. Come and give me access to your life that I might make you mine. Come and let me make you the wrapping of the gift of My Life that I choose to give to the world. I have been received many times, and I have always made Myself known through the one who gives me his heart in which to dwell."

We are to celebrate Christmas by becoming the presence of His love in human vesture. We are to live out the Life of His Father's love that others might see and seek His Kingdom and His righteousness. With this, the answer becomes clear...

How Do We Celebrate?

We may begin with the reading of the Gospel stories. There we find Him waiting for us, incarnate in the words of men. We look through the words as we seek the Living Word, as He said, "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness to me; yet you refuse to come to me that I might give you life" (*John 5:39*).

We then seek the Bread of Life at the altar where we gather to meet Him incarnate in the Bread and Wine as He comes wrapped as a gift to give us His Life. We come that we might dwell in Him and that He might dwell in us. We come that we might become the new wrapping in which the Son of God will present Himself to those who do not yet know Him.

We become His presence in the world for which He died. We become the Body in which He dwells to make Himself known in the community that He raises up among those who are willing to lay down their own lives and take up the New Life that He gives us.

We share His presence with all who are coming to seek and find the New Life in the New Creation, and we find that He is here. The King is not a tyrant after all. He is a gentle and loving Lord who does not compel us to come into the kingdom. He invites us into the Kingdom and enables us to enter and reign with Him in a Kingdom which is at hand now. That is the way we are to celebrate Christmas, by giving Him room within and sharing Him with the world for which He died.

May you have blessed Christmas - The Healing Ministry

The Healing Ministry is an ecumenical expression of the healing gifts of Jesus Christ and welcomes the involvement of believers of every Christian denomination.

THE PRAYER REQUESTS YOU GIVE TO US:

Prayer requests are placed in a special basket at *The Glennon House* for one month. These requests are prayed for, individually, each day by prayer volunteers. Every week at the Tuesday evening healing service, those hospitalized or in "imminent need" are prayed for by the clergy and all other names, currently in the Prayer Basket, are prayed for aloud by the congregation. We use only the first names of those we are praying for, in order to respect their privacy. To have a need placed in the basket, call (407) 647-8925 or drop by.

Prayer Ministers:

Fr. Al Durrance, Pastor Steve Horrell, Dcn. Carolyn Petersen, Dcn. Liz Tucker, Dr. Barbara Keene, Don Jaeger, Doris Matthews, Dick Mead, Lisa Murrach, Kirsten Aufhammer, and

YouthCare Ministry

Many parents who attend the Healing Ministry have requested youth care for their older children during the Tuesday Night Service. Well, ask and you shall receive! We heard your requests and we now offer a Youth Healing Ministry opportunity for children ages 6-15 years old in the Thomas Center. (We still have child care for children 5 and under in Rm. 103.) Charles and Lisa Clayton lead this group that offers: lessons on healing, crafts, prayer time for self and others, study time, and free pizza dinner. So bring your children for a fun filled evening, while you attend the Healing Service. [Click here](#) for contact information. **Resumes Tue. Jan. 6th 2009.** [Back to top](#)

Grief Ministry

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned: the flames will not set you ablaze.....Isaiah 43:2 (NIV)

Come to Me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.....Matthew 12:28-30 (NLT)

I find these words of the prophet Isaiah very comforting; yet, when I was in the middle of a life storm they sometimes fell on deaf ears. Sometimes when we are in the middle of coping with a painful loss, we can bounce between knowing the grace of God, wondering where He is, or even wondering if He is real at all. Yet in spite of the pain, confusion, and doubt, we can do more than just survive. With the help, guidance, wisdom, and love of the Lord Jesus we can journey through the valley of the shadow of grief and become new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17). Beloved I pray that God will renew you and give you rest. I know that He can do much more than help you survive your loss; He can teach you to live a new life complete with joy and contentment. Love,

Lisa Murrach

Lisa is available for individual grief ministry prayer appointments on Mondays from 12:30 – 2:30 pm. Please call the Glennon House 407-647-8925 for more information and to set up an appointment. [Back to top](#)

Caregiver's Workshop

Join us on the second Thursday of the month from 11:30 – 1:00 pm for the Caregiver's Workshop. The Healing Ministry's mission is to aid and empower all people to receive 'healing' and 'wholeness' from Jesus. This includes those who minister as well as those who receive care. This month, the caregiver group will continue to focus on those who provide care. Caregivers are prayed for as they choose to "pick up their mat" (like the man at the pool called Bethesda) stepping toward healing for themselves and their needs through discussion and prayer time. These workshops are to encourage, comfort and reenergize caregivers. Dr. Barbara Keene and Don & Sarah Jaeger will be the leaders for this workshop. [Click here](#) for more details.

Extended Prayer Appointments

For those who desire an extended time of individual prayer with a Prayer Minister, please call The Glennon House at (407) 647-8925. Appointments with Prayer Ministers provide ample time for you to sift your heart and communicate your need for prayer. **The Glennon House has specially trained prayer ministers** who are willing to arrange their schedules to accommodate your needs. Simply call us and we will find a prayer minister who will minister to your specific needs either in **The Glennon House** or by telephone. [Back to top](#)

others.