



# THE APOSTLE

SEPTEMBER  
2011



## FROM THE RECTOR

I lived in Florida, and so have experienced hurricanes. And I lived on the West Coast and have been through a few earthquakes. I thought that by moving to Philadelphia I would never have to face those two things again!

Even though I was obviously wrong about that there is still plenty of room for thankfulness and even joy. I am thankful that the damage done by Irene was no worse. Yes, falling trees did do some damage to the roof of the church on the back side of the building, but we have insurance for that. Some of you have told me about flooded basements, and I know too well what a terrible mess that can leave. One of my neighbors had a big section of a tree fall on his car. But the constant refrain that I hear coming from all of us is, "It could have been worse."

In fact, this is where the room for joy is found – neighbors start talking to each other! Pam, Nathan, and I walked around the neighborhood Sunday afternoon, and all along the way we stopped and talked to people who were also out and about, sharing news of what we had seen, expressing concern, offering support, and above all, giving thanks – "It could have been worse."

Yes, it could have been much worse; and for many it was. Our hearts and prayers go out to those who suffered

catastrophic loss, including loss of life. I am waiting, in particular, to hear any news from the Diocese of Vermont; and when I do hear from them, or from Episcopal Relief and Development, I'll be sure to let you know.

Earthquakes and hurricanes happen, and when they do we are confronted with the most difficult lesson of all, and one that humanity in general seems never to have learned; namely, it isn't always about us. The earth is a living planet, the forces of creation still operate, and they do so with no concern for our needs and plans. Because they cause so much destruction, it is easy for us to see behind them some malevolent will, or perhaps the punishing hand of God. But that is mistaken because it isn't about us. It is about the processes that make and keep the earth a place where life can flourish – *all* life, not just human life.

It's hard to accept sometimes; but if things like earthquakes and hurricanes didn't happen, it just may be that life as we know it wouldn't be possible. So all we can do is give thanks because it could have been worse; and we can rally to the support and relief of those for whom it was the worst, that they, too, may give thanks that at least they did not have to face disaster alone.

By the way, I was also caught up in the middle of the eruption of the Mt. St. Helens volcano in 1980. There's not one of those around here, is there?



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### Sunday Worship Schedule

**Holy Eucharist**  
8:30 a.m. - no music  
10:00 a.m. - with music

**Sunday School**  
and  
**Choir Practice**  
Resume on Sunday,  
September 11th

# Parish News

From the Diocese of Pennsylvania:

“The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 have had a profound effect on us as both as a nation and as individuals, especially for those whose loved ones died in the attacks, or who were involved in recovery efforts. As we approach the 10th anniversary of the attacks, we have an opportunity to remember those who died, to seek healing for those still affected, and to work for reconciliation and peace, between people, nations, and religious traditions.”

Our service on September 11th will include Prayers of the People which have been provided by The Liturgical Commission of the Diocese of Pennsylvania as a way to observe the 10th anniversary of 9/11.



## SEPTEMBER 11 *Remembrance*



### WELCOME CHURCH...

takes place on the last Sunday every month at 3PM in Sister Cities Plaza, an open area park between Logan Circle and the Roman Catholic Cathedral.

If you would like to journey down together, we meet at CHA at 2:00 p.m.  
Please join us!

### CHA'S PIZZA CHURCH

takes place on the **second Sunday** each month at **5:00 p.m.**

**Join us!**



### Genuardi's Club Card

Make sure you are signed up for a Genuardi's Club Card. Every time you use the card, Genuardi's will give Holy Apostles 1%. You must first register with Genuardi's at their service desk or at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). And, you must re-register with them every fall.

### Super Fresh Gift Certificates

Super Fresh will give Holy Apostles 5% of each gift certificate sold. Please see J. T. Wertz to purchase gift certificates in \$50 or \$100 denominations. There are three families who currently participate on a regular basis netting CHA approx. \$1,000 per year. If we had greater participation, think of the possibilities!

**Publishing Deadline:** Articles for the parish newsletter are **due on the third Friday of each month** (unless otherwise noted) in order to allow enough time to compile, print, and collate. Please provide any items you would like published to the office by that day. Every effort will be made to include all appropriate articles, however, editing may be necessary due to space restrictions. Thank you.

# Parish News

## SUNDAY SCHOOL WELCOME LETTER

Dear Holy Apostles Parents,

The hurricane is behind us and the start of school is upon us! And with that comes the beginning of Sunday School as well! The first day will be **Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** and we have a special activity planned to kick off the new year so be sure to mark your calendars!

Some highlights for what we plan this year:

- **Community Service Projects** to raise money for Jorge, the child we sponsor in Guatemala
- **Advent Wreath Family Event** – Sun. Nov. 20, 2011
- **Student-led Services** during Sunday worship – Sun. Oct. 30 and Sun. April 29
- **Absalom Jones Program, Feb. 13, 2012** – presentation by the students

Once again, we are grateful to be returning a veteran group of teachers: Suzanne Wherry, Beth Johnson, Lauren Stevenson-Yacina and Suzanne Lees in the Preschool-2<sup>nd</sup> grade group; Peter Patton & Anne Castimore, Beth Gallis, Joe Zorc and Laura Sibson to the 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Intermediate group.



We are very pleased that Carol Block will continue to care for children under three years old in the Nursery School. Starting at the age of 3 children will transition into the Sunday School program. Carol will have assistance from our high school students on most Sundays.

The Sunday School program welcomes any and all input so please share your ideas! If you are interested in helping with the Christmas Pageant this year please contact us. We look forward to the start of an exciting 2011-2012 Sunday School year!

Sincerely,

Beth Johnson  
[emj@comcast.net](mailto:emj@comcast.net)

Laura Sibson  
[lsibson@comcast.net](mailto:lsibson@comcast.net)

# Community News

*Remembrance*

*Compassion*

*Hope*

*Healing*

*Reconciliation*



St. Luke United Methodist Church  
568 Montgomery Avenue  
(at Pennswood Road)  
Bryn Mawr, PA

## **A Community Comes Together**

**A Multi-faith Commemoration of September 11th**

3:30-4:00 p.m. Personal Prayer and meditation

4:00-4:30 p.m. Music and silent reflection

4:30-5:00 p.m. Multi-faith service

[www.cha-pa.org](http://www.cha-pa.org)



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