

Who are we?

We are a body of Christian believers seeking a renewal of orthodox belief and practice in the tradition of the ancient church. We organized an Anglican mission in July-August of 2003 with help and direction from Reverends Charles Nalls and Sam Edwards.

✠ What is an “Anglican”?

An Anglican is a reformed Catholic Christian – one who holds to the evangelical faith and catholic order of the Church as received through the Church of England, without unbiblical additions or omissions.

✠ Are we Evangelicals?

Yes, in the full and literal sense of that word: We proclaim the whole Gospel (including the parts that make us uncomfortable) as the good news of God’s grace for all people who need his mercy made available through Jesus Christ – that is, all of us.

✠ Are we Catholics, too?

Yes, in the full and literal sense of that word: We stand for the whole faith, which is for all people in all times and places and cultures.

✠ Are we Episcopalians?

No, but we are episcopalians: That is, we are under the care of a bishop, but we are not to be confused with The Episcopal Church, which is a different denomination.

Who was Saint Athanasius?

Athanasius was the Bishop of Alexandria, Theologian, Doctor of the Church, Defender of the Faith. He is considered the greatest champion of the Incarnation of the Word the Church has ever produced. Born c. 297, he had become Archdeacon of Alexandria by the age of 22, and later Archbishop.

“If ... it is by the sign of the cross and by faith in Christ that death is trampled underfoot, it is clear that it is Christ Himself and none other Who is the Arch-victor over death and has robbed it of its power. Death used to be strong and terrible, but now, since the sojourn of the Savior and the death and resurrection of His body, it is despised; and obviously it is by the very Christ Who mounted on the cross that it has been destroyed and vanquished finally.”

~St. Athanasius

various emperors. (Hence the expression "Athanasius contra mundum," or "Athanasius against the world.") *“If the world goes against the truth, then Athanasius goes against the world.”* – St. Athanasius

In the years following 362, Athanasius was closely connected to the establishment of the 27 Books of the New Testament as well. The full list of books of the New Testament can be found in the 39th Festal Letter of Athanasius read before the people of Alexandria at Easter. After the list he declares, *“These are the wells of salvation, so that he who thirsts may be satisfied with the sayings in these. Let no one add to these. Let nothing be taken away.”*

Athanasius accompanied his bishop Alexander to the Council of Nicea, and became recognized as a chief spokesman for the view that the Son was fully God, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father. In 328, Alexander died, and Athanasius succeeded him as Bishop of Alexandria.

He defended the full deity of Christ against emperors, magistrates, bishops, and theologians. For this, he was regarded as a troublemaker by Constantine and his successors, and was banished from Alexandria a total of five times by

What is a mission?

A mission is an extension of an established church reaching out to people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ to establish a new parish community. We began as a mission in 2003, bought property, and as 40 million other Americans, met in a house. Currently, we worship in a chapel with plans to build a larger sanctuary.

What is a parish?

A parish is a self-supporting congregation within a diocese under the pastoral care of a priest. It is governed by a vestry elected by the members.

What is a diocese?

A diocese is a regional group of local churches under the pastoral care of a bishop, governed by a synod made up of the bishop, clergy and lay representatives elected from the congregations.

What is a province?

A province is a group of dioceses, under the leadership of an archbishop. It is governed by a synod made up of the archbishop, bishops, and clergy and lay representatives chosen by the dioceses.

What do we believe-

✠ ... about God?

We believe that God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – whom made everything, and to whom it all belongs, calls everyone everywhere to share fully in his life as forgiven, redeemed, restored, and sanctified people. We believe that he has made this possible by becoming man in Jesus Christ, who is the only way of entry into that life and that Jesus gives his Holy Spirit to those who believe in him and are baptized so that, sharing His life, they may become holy as He is holy.

✠ ... about the Bible?

We believe that the Bible is the written Word of God. It contains all things necessary to salvation, the standard against which all teaching is measured. The Bible is consistent within

itself and must be so interpreted. It testifies to the role and identity of Jesus Christ in both Testaments.

✠ ... about the Church?

We believe that the Church is the steward of the Bible, not its master. It is the mystical body of Christ and the family of God, in which the Word is rightly preached and the Sacraments are rightly administered. It is both a school for saints and a hospital for sinners.

✠ ... about the Sacraments?

We believe that God has chosen to act through things we can see, feel, taste, touch, and smell to transform our lives. We believe that if we are faithful and penitent, he surely and certainly acts through them to cleanse, heal, and feed us spiritually. Of course, God doesn’t need the Sacraments, but we do. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper are the principal, though not the only, Sacraments

✠ ... about marriage?

We believe that by God’s express design marriage is to be a lifelong sacramental union of one man and one woman for the single three-fold purpose of (a) mutual fellowship, (b) the procreation and nurture of children (if God wills it), and (c) the safeguarding and benefit of society. We believe that both married and single persons are called to chastity, which means exclusive sexual fidelity to one’s spouse if they are married and exclusive sexual fidelity to God (abstinence) if they are single.

✠ ... about abortion?

We believe that human life, from the moment of conception until natural death, is a gift of God and can justly be taken only by God or by those agencies and in those circumstances that are agreeable to his Word. We therefore encourage and expect all our members to use all lawful means at their disposal, including their ballot, to promote a culture of life.

How do we worship?

✠ About kneeling?

Because God gave us bodies, as well as souls, and said it was very good. We use our bodies to worship Him because doing so gives an outward form to our inward reverence. And it works the other way, too: Our outward posture helps to form our inward attitude.

Our public worship is a dramatic presentation. We see the congregation not as an audience, but as a part of the cast, and the Prayer Book liturgy as the script. The play has some “stage directions” that are easy for anyone to learn. If we are physically able, we stand for praise and to show respect, we sit for instruction, and we kneel for prayer – and when in doubt, we do as everyone else does.

✠ About that old Prayer Book?

Because it still works. The classic Anglican common prayer tradition (of which the 1928 version of The Book of Common Prayer is the latest American example) is unparalleled in its combination of sound Biblical teaching, intimate address to God, and profound reverence.

✠ Why so many services?

Saint Paul tells Christians to “Pray without ceasing” (1Thess. 5:17), and the Church from the beginning has taken that seriously. The Christian pattern of prayer is three-fold: Sunday Eucharist, Daily Office, and private devotion. This accounts for the fact that we celebrate the Holy Communion on Sundays and other major holy days and read the daily offices of Morning and Evening Prayer every day.

✠✠ Who may receive Holy Communion?

The discipline of our church requires that in order to receive this sacrament, you (1) must have been baptized with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of

the Holy Ghost, (2) must have been confirmed by a bishop in the succession of the apostles, or be prepared to be confirmed, and (3) must repent of your sins, be in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, in keeping with God’s design set forth in his commandments.

When a person receives Holy Communion, he is making a public statement that all of the above conditions are present. In other words, when you kneel before God’s Altar, you are confessing before God and His Church that you are in agreement with God’s way of looking at things, which is why the Church exists to teach. In order to be able to do that honestly, you have to know what it is that the Church teaches.

What are the expectations?

- ✠ We expect every member to attend worship on every Sunday and major Holy Days and, if admitted to Communion, to receive it at least three times a year, and at all times after due preparation.
- ✠ We expect every member to seek to grow spiritually through daily prayer, study of God’s Word in Holy Scripture, and service to others as to the Lord.
- ✠ We expect every member to keep the days of fasting and abstinence prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer in ways suited to their state in life.
- ✠ We expect every member, whether married or not, to keep God’s law of chastity.
- ✠ We expect every member to contribute to the support of the work of God in this parish, in token that all we have is given to us by God in trust. The minimum Biblical standard is the tithe (10%).

What is our role in the community?

- ✠ While individual members of the congregation engage in a wide variety of service in their communities, our parish especially supports in-home ministry, including visiting the sick and infirm by bringing Holy Communion, facilitating home based prayer services, etc. We have assisted people during storms by providing generators and other services. We have offered a ‘car’ ministry to soldiers. We sponsor students in overseas Christian missions. We engage the public to evangelize and sponsor speaking engagements.
- ✠ Through the participation of our clergy, we worked through the National Guard to establish a relationship, with the Chaplain’s Office, as a ‘Partner in Care’ to offer our support for our deserving military men and women
- ✠ As a new parish, we are growing in our ability to embrace outreach opportunities as they present themselves. We encourage our members to seek ways to serve the community. We hope you will join us in developing our Outreach Program.

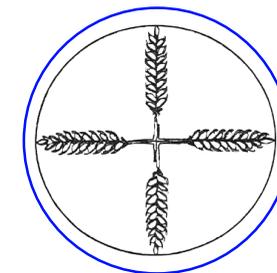
What is required for membership?

- ✠ If you are already baptized with water in the Name of the Holy Trinity and confirmed by a Bishop of this Church or a Bishop recognized by this Church, you may ask to be enrolled as a member of the Parish.
- ✠ If you have not been baptized or confirmed, speak to our priest about arranging a course of instruction in basic Christian doctrine and practice. When the priest determines that you are ready, you will be presented for baptism (if needed) and confirmation and enrolled as a member of the Church.

Welcome to

St. Athanasius

Traditional
Anglican Church



COME JOIN US
AS WE BUILD A NEW WORK
ON THE
SURE AND STRONG FOUNDATION
OF
JESUS CHRIST.

Sunday Schedule:

10:00 A.M. – Holy Communion,

11:00 A.M. Fellowship

Father Thierry Hakpon, Priest

Visit our website at:

www.GlenAllensAnglicans.com

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