

## Anna's Ministry

### I. Who is Anna

Luke 2:36 And there was a prophetess, **Anna** the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was **advanced in years**, having lived with a husband seven years after her marriage, 37 and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. And she never left the temple, **serving night and day** with **fastings** and **prayers**. 38 And at that very moment she came up and began **giving thanks to God**, and continued **to speak of Him** to **all those** who were **looking for the redemption of Jerusalem** (i.e. God's people).

- Anna is a widow (as such, her daily responsibilities are less than a wife with a house full of young children)
- She serves God's house by seeking God night and day with prayers and fasting
- She proclaims God's salvation, thereby encouraging the saints.

### II. What is Anna's Ministry

Anna's ministry is a ministry of prayer and encouragement. It is reserved for men and women in our congregation who are physically less active and thus are more restricted in what they can do.

Anna's Ministry serves an extremely important need in the church and one that has a very ancient history. Since biblical times the Church has asked those believers who are mature in their faith and who do not have as many pressing duties to devote themselves in a special way to praying for the church. In fact, the idea of communities of prayer that later became monasteries probably grew out of this custom.

### III. What does Anna's Ministry Involve?

To be a part of All Saints' Anna's Ministry requires you to:

1. Read your Bible daily, allowing Scripture to fill and direct your prayers.
2. Pray for the ministry of the parish (focusing on Evangelism and spiritual growth)
3. Pray for your Bishop, Priest and others who minister
4. Pray for each person on the prayer list.
5. Be an encouragement to those in the congregation, especially those on the prayer list or those who are burdened with concerns