



## St. Matthew's Cathedral eNews

Christ + Compassion + Community

*From the Dean*

### An Apocryphal Story—And True

*"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." John 20:21*

**There is an apocryphal story** about Jesus' return to heaven that is probably not literally true, but it is true in the deeper sense of reality.

As Jesus was returning to heaven after 40 days after the resurrection he encountered an angel who asked him, "Where have you been?"

"I've been on earth conducting my ministry," Jesus responded.

"For how long?"

"Three years," Jesus answered.

"How did it go?"

"They crucified me."

"But you must have had a wide influence."

"I had twelve main followers, and one of them hanged himself."

"Well then, what will become of your work?"

"I left it in the hands of my friends."

"Those twelve, er, eleven? Peter, the all talk, braggadocio one? Simon the political activist? Meek John? And what if they fail? What is your backup plan?"

Jesus answered, "There is no backup plan."

You and I are Jesus' primary and only plan to show the world what the Kingdom of God is like.