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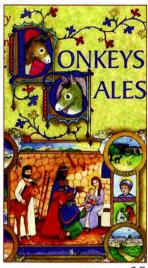
MANUSCRIPTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS: The LIVING CHURCH cannot assume responsibility for the return of photos or manuscripts.
THE LIVING CHURCH IS published every week, dated Sunday, by the Living Church Foundation, Inc., at 816 E. Juneau Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202.
Periodicals postage paid at Milwaukee, WI, and at additional mailing offices.

THE LIVING CHURCH magazine is published by the Living Church Foundation, Inc. The historic mission of the Living Church Foundation is to promote and support Catholic Anglicanism within the Episcopal Church.

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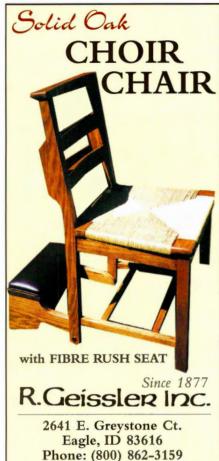
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Sketch of daughter by Paul Cesar Helleu (1859-1927)



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Investing in the Kingdom

'Well done, good and trustworthy slave'

(Matt. 25:21)

The 27th Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 28A), Nov. 16, 2008

BCP: Zeph. 1:7,12-18; Psalm 90 or 90:1-8,12; 1 Thess. 5:1-10; Matt. 25:14-15.19-29

RCL: Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123; or Zeph. 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12: 1 Thess. 5:1-11: Matt. 25:14-30

It was more than a century ago that German sociologist of religion Max Weber related "evangelical" protestant theology to the spirit of unbridled capitalism in the western world. And that relationship continues to hold on even today. A wildly popular money-management talk show host regularly touts the practice of free-market capitalism as a specifically "Christian" endeavor.

The Lord, by this view, not only wants believers to have life in abundance, but wealth in abundance, too. It's easy to find confirmation of this in a cursory reading of today's gospel. A master entrusts wealth to three of his servants. Two of them quickly double their bankrolls, earning the enthusiastic accolade, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things."

But the third takes no risks and makes no profit. "You wicked and lazy slave!" replies the master. "[Y]ou ought to have invested my money ..., and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest." "For to all those who have," says Jesus, "more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken awav."

The problem, of course, is that unfettered greed simply isn't the will of God for his people. That's true because what we grab for ourselves invariably comes to us at the expense of somebody else. Witness, for instance, this country's near financial meltdown. Leveraging other people's money beyond all reason, investment bankers lent massive sums to folks with no means of paying it back. The result has been losses and pain for nearly everyone except the "middle men," and there's nothing at all Christian in that.

We need to be clear that the assets in Jesus story belong to God and not to the servants. As such, it just might be that their value is quite different from that of money. It's likely, in fact, that they're things of value in fulfilling the divine purpose of building the kingdom. Things like mercy and compassion and love. When these things are invested by God's people, they always grow beyond measure, and the kingdom draws near.

Unbridled greed isn't the Lord's will for believers. Unfettered zeal for the kingdom, however, clearly is.

Look It Up

How do the economics of the Christian community in Acts 2:42-47 relate to this Sunday's gospel?

Think About It

In what ways does the Church today invest in the spread of the kingdom? In what ways does it hinder that spread?

Next Sunday

The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King (Proper 29A), Nov. 23, 2008

BCP: Ezek. 34:11-17; Psalm 95:1-7; 1 Cor. 15:20-28; Matt. 25:31-46

RCL: Ezek. 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100 or Psalm 95:1-7a; Eph. 1:15-23; Matt. 25:31-46

Episcopal and other publishers have released plenty of books for gift givers in 2008. Here we've broken them down by categories.



DAILY READINGS FOR ADVENT: Hearing God through the Noise. By Albert Kennington. Forward Movement. Pp. 48. \$3. ISBN 978-0-88028-319-9.



The recently retired rector of Trinity Church, Mobile, Ala., offers meditations for each day of Advent through Christmas Day. The meditation for Tuesday in the Third Week of Advent is worth the modest price of this booklet.

THE 12 WAYS OF CHRISTMAS. By David Jeremiah. Thomas Nelson, Pp. 128, \$14.99. ISBN 978-1-40-418727-6.



A pastor and Christian broadcaster examines a dozen themes - such as wonder, tradition and charity - that make the Christmas season meaningful, and suggests

ways that these aspects of the "true meaning of Christmas" can be lived out through the rest of the year.



A FAMILY ADVENT: Keeping the Savior in the Season. Thomas Nelson Gift Books. Pp. 96. \$14.99. ISBN 978-1-40-418676-7.

A collection of devotional prayers, history,

Bible trivia, and crafts designed to keep family members of all ages engaged throughout the season of anticipation. Particularly helpful for those who wish to introduce faith rituals as a new part of their family's seasonal preparations



A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS: Sentiments and Sounds of a Bygone Era. Thomas Nelson Gift Books. Pp. 64 + CD. \$14.99. ISBN 978-1-40-410507-2.

An unabashedly nos-

talgic coffee table book of Christmas Victoriana, with postcards, Christmas cards, poems and prose. The CD includes recordings of familiar Christmas songs by mandolinist Butch Baladassari.

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS WITH RICHARD ROHR: Daily Reflections for

Advent, By Richard Rohr, St. Anthony Messenger Press. Pp. 80. \$1.95. ISBN 978-0-86716-883-9.

Based on Franciscan priest Richard Rohr's lecture on CD, this book-

let offers reflections and thought ques-

(Continued on next page)

Holiday Gifts for Your Parish and You

Darkness

MUSIC AND MEDIT

Deanna Light Paul Tate



Light in the Darkness Music and Meditation Deanna Light and Paul Tate

These spoken and musical reflections are filled with the promise

of Advent and the joy of Christmas. Each spoken reflection is scripture-based and ideal for private prayer and for faithsharing in groups. They are intertwined with musical reflections that guide us from anticipation to the celebration of Christ's birth.

008422 CD with mini-journal\$14.95

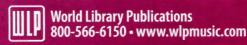


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003424 Ringing True: **Prayers for Handbell** Ringers by Linda Stahelin

017350 Gathered to Serve: Prayers for Parish Leaders by Jerry Galipeau

017187 Guided by Grace: **Prayers for Worship Committees** by Michael **Prendergast**

Single copies \$6.00 each 5 or more copies \$5.00 each

(Continued from previous page)

tions based on the daily Scripture readings. He steers clear of sentimentality and instead focuses on the chal-

> lenges posed by "the Cosmic Christ."



Maria Press. Pp. 96. \$2.25. ISBN 978-1-5947-

A companion volume to the Jesuits' devotional website, this book includes readings, thought questions and "prayer-starters," conveniently packaged for reading on the go.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS ACCORDING TO THE GOSPELS. By Joseph F. Kelly. Liturgical Press.

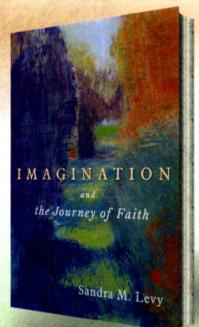


Pp. 120. \$14.95. ISBN 978-0-8146-2948-2.

A professor of religious studies examines ways in which each of the infancy narratives is

distinct, with the goal of inviting readers to meet the "savior, arrived to fulfill God's plan on earth for all people."

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Sandra M. Levy

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- Catherine M. Wallace

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WELL SEASONED LIVING - WIN-TER: A Guided Journal for Increasing Your Enjoyment of Everyday Life. By Vicki Kessler and MaraBeth Soneson. ACTA Publications. Pp. 112. \$19.95. ISBN 978-0-8794-6358-8.



This journal, part of a seasonal series, encourages twice-weekly entries of guided spiritual reflection. Poetry, prose, activities and original photography are designed to inspire readers to begin their own contemplative writing.

GRACE'S WINDOW: Entering the Seasons of Prayer. By Suzanne Guthrie. Foreword by Mary C. Earle. Morehouse. Pp. 168. \$18. ISBN 978-0-8192-2325-8.



First published in 1986, this volume consists of 40 meditations that run through the liturgical year. Suzanne Guthrie is a priest and spiritual director who writes with a maturity in these highly personal stories of finding

A GRACIOUS RAIN: A Devotional Commentary on the Prayers of the Church Year. By Richard H. Schmidt. Morehouse. Pp. 208. \$16. ISBN 978-0-

God in ordinary elements.

8192-2326-5. Personal, prayerful insights on

the collects of the church year from Forward Movement's executive director. A reminder that, as Fr. Schmidt notes, "it is how Anglicans pray, rather than what they believe, that...affords Anglicanism its distinctive character."

SEVEN SACRED PAUSES: Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day. By Macrina Wiederkehr. Sorin Books. Pp. 224. \$8.95. ISBN 978-1-933495-10-1.

A Roman Catholic nun draws on her



40 years experience in monastic life and as a retreat leader to focus on the practice of praying the Divine Office. Incorporates scripture, classic and contem-

porary meditations, and suggested spiritual exercises to help readers "reverence each hour" throughout the day.

> THE ONE YEAR LIFEVERSE DEVO-TIONAL. By Jay K. Payleitner. Tyndale House. Pp. 384. \$14.99. ISBN 978-1-4143-1262-0.

Writers and pastors, teachers and entertainers, athletes and theologians share how a scripture pas-

sage helped define their spiritual journey. A daily reminder that we are part of a larger faith community that can support and inspire us.



WORDS FOR SILENCE: A Year of Contemplative Meditations. By Gregory Fruehwirth, O.J.N. Paraclete Press. Pp. 208. \$21.95. ISBN 978-1-55725-601-0.

Based on talks presented by the Guardian of the Order of

Julian of Norwich, a poet and retreat leader, these meditations are organized by liturgical season. Helpful suggestions for staying focused on God throughout the year.



DAILY PRAYER AND PURPOSE: Calendar 2009. Forward Movement. Pp. 144. \$15.

This is not an ordinary calendar. It's spiral bound, with tabs for each month, and includes a

prayer for each day from a variety of sources. An address book section, a two-page weekly layout, and a prayer list section are also included. This would be handy to keep at a desk.

Spiritual Guidance

AN AFFAIR OF THE HEART: A Biblical and Franciscan Journey. By Patricia Jordan, F.S.M. Morehouse. Pp. 176, \$20. ISBN 978-0-85244-690-4.

Using biblical and Western literary understandings of the heart as a point (Continued on next page)

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For God So Loved ...

By Kay Strong

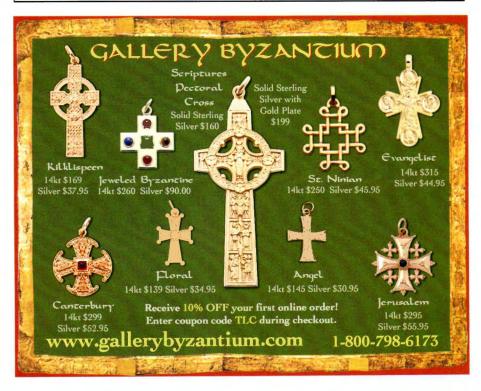
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SHORT & SHARP

(Continued from previous page)
of departure, an English nun
explores how St. Francis'
spiritual journey can be
applied to the needs and



understandings of our own time.

LET NOTHING DISTURB YOU: A Journey to

the Center of the Soul with Teresa of Avila. Edited by John Kirvan. Ave Maria Press. Pp. 120. \$9.95. ISBN 1-59471-152-6.

Newly revised as part of the "30 Days with a Great Spiritual Teacher" TIRISA 11 AVIA

series, this volume includes a month of morning and evening reflections based on the writings of the first female Doctor of the Church.

TOGETHER AND APART: A Memoir of the Religious Life. By Ellen Stephen, O.S.H. Morehouse. Pp. 176. \$18. ISBN 978-0-8192-2315-9.

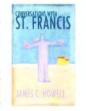
Having experienced more than 40 years of monastic life, few people



are better equipped than Sister Ellen Stephen to share an insider's perspective on the choice to live in communities, the vows that are made, "what nuns do all day" and why.

CONVERSATIONS WITH ST. FRANCIS. By James C. Howell. Abingdon. Pp. 107. \$13. ISBN 978-0-6876-5049-1.

A professor of preaching at Duke Divinity School considers the "entirely



doable but ridiculously impossible" life of St. Francis, posing spiritual questions that any of us might want to ask and "listening for the questions he asks of us in response."

WELCOME TO THE WISDOM OF THE WORLD. By Joan Chittister. Eerdmans. Pp. 186. \$20. ISBN 978-0-8028-2894-1.

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ook
the

The premise of this book is fascinating. Each of the 25 chapters is titled with a

probing question, e.g. "Where is God?"
Benedictine nun Joan Chittister
attempts to answer these questions by
using stories from not only Christianity, but other religious traditions.
Readers may not be satisfied by the
"answers."

Medieval Images of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux

By **James France**. Cistercian Publications. Pp. xxxi + 435, illus., col. plates, CD-ROM. \$49.95. ISBN 978-0-87907-310-7.



Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153), remembered on August 20 in both Roman Catholic and Anglican calendars, was known as the Mellifluent Doctor for his eloquence in preaching. He preached the Second Cru-

sade with such eloquence that Louis VII took up the cross, even though he could not understand the saint's Latin. Widely regarded as a saint in his own lifetime, he was canonized in 1174 by Pope Alexander III.

This book is not a biography, although a brief outline of Bernard's life appears in the introduction. For a more complete treatment, one needs to consult earlier works, such as Jean

Leclerg's St. Bernard and the Cistercian Spirit (1976, from the French of 1966) or Brian McGuire's The Difficult Saint (1991). It is, rather, a discussion of the author's remarkably exhaustive listing of 964 images from the 12th century to ca. 1530. Most of these are in illuminated manuscripts, while others are in woodcuts, seals, altarpieces, and stained glass. Some are reproduced in the book, but all are on the accompanying CD-ROM with full catalog description. (There is also a digital index which makes it possible to locate specific images mentioned in the text.)

Since none of the artists knew what Bernard looked like, they had to rely on symbols of status (the monk's habit, the abbot's crozier, the saint's halo) or allusions to the life and legends of the saint. Although the St. Bernard dog was named for a different saint, smaller dogs figure in some images based on the legend that Bernard's mother, while pregnant, had a vision of a dog, signifying that she would give birth to one who "would be a guardian of God's household and bark on its behalf at the great enemies of the faith' and that he would become a great preacher." Major categories of images are Mary offering Bernard milk from her breast (an acceptable symbol at a time of universal breast-feeding, and not unique to Bernard); Bernard receiving a vision of Mary while writing; Christ leaning from the cross to embrace Bernard; and Bernard with the devil on a chain.

The author, a former businessman turned Cistercian scholar, writes in great detail, but in a manner accessible to the general reader. This book will be of interest to many people on many levels, just as its subject has been venerated by many people for many different attributes.

(The Rev.) Lawrence N. Crumb Eugene, Ore.

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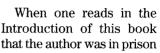
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BOOKS

Praying With Icons

By Jim Forest. Orbis. Pp. 218. \$22. ISBN 978-1-57075-758-7.





in Wisconsin for burning draft records at the time of the Vietnam War, one is naturally curious enough to read further. Continuing proved a wise choice.

Jim Forest, a convert to the Russian Orthodox Church, would not seem a likely candidate to write a book about icons. He writes of his early doubt about the value of icons, but over time he began to understand. Mr. Forest impresses upon readers that icons are more than mere pieces of art. He presents a valuable Short History of Icons. then offers Qualities of the Icon, which I found to be the most valuable part of the book. For example, "An icon is an instrument for the transmission of Christian faith," and "The icon is not intended to force an emotional response."

The book's chapter, "Learning to Pray," is helpful, and is followed by "Praying in Body and Soul," a valuable section for one learning to pray with icons. Most of the book treats the subjects of icons from our Lord and the Theotokos to great feasts, to lesserknown saints such as Maria of Paris and Gerasimos, desert father.

In addition to icons, one can learn much about the Orthodox Church from this book. Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Compline, and prayers of intercession are included, and there are many color illustrations of icons. This is a book to be read carefully, for there is much to absorb.

David Kalvelage

Acedia and me

\$10

A Marriage, Monks, and a Writer's Life By Kathleen Norris. Riverhead Books. Pp. 336. \$25.95. ISBN 9781594489969.

best-selling contemplative author of The Cloister Walk, Dakota, and Amazing Grace has written a detailed meditative memoir about a disease we can all "catch." Acedia is as prevalent as the common cold and is classified under many names: the spiritual overtones of depression, spiritual dryness, despair, "lacking the capacity to experience the sweetness of life, experiencing life as 'less than zero,' believing that grace is no longer possible, the soul turned into a Dead Sea."

Instead of writing a prescription to cure the malady, Norris tells stories of writers and artists like herself as well as the spiritual and religious faithful over many centuries who have struggled through recurrent bouts of acedia. Many of her stories and discussions come from the desert fathers and mothers, who like Norris escaped from urban life only to find acedia ever present as the "noonday demon."

Norris writes in particular about acedia during her own husband's illness and death. She tells stories about unsuccessful treatments, "spiritual morphines," such as withdrawal from life and its antithesis, addictive busyness, as well as other tempting addictive "cures" through the use of alcohol and drugs. Norris also describes acedia at work when we prefer "buying things

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to witnessing the beauty of nature, reading catalogues instead of books, and lingering in a museum store instead of touring the museum itself."

Norris' own healing from acedia, "restoration to wholeness," comes through such steps as naming the illness, asking for help, persisting, remembering past times of peace, and developing spiritual practices such as prayer, *lectio divina*, and holy reading. Indeed, Norris' typewriter is her altar, and *Acedia and me* should be holy reading for our society.

(The Rev.) Joanna Seibert Little Rock, Ark.

The Praying Church

By **Donald M. Hultstrand**. Anglican Fellowship of Prayer. Pp. 122. \$14.95. ISBN 978-0-615-20304-1.

The retired Bishop of Springfield writes that whenever there has been renewal and reform in the church, it has come by the outpouring of prayer. Now in its third printing, *The Praying*

Church reminds us that prayer is that which we hold most in common. It is prayer that enables our spiritual growth and sustains us in the midst of disquietude.

The initial chapters offer a topography of prayer — the body of Christ coming together to pray or worship as the "gathered church"; persons coming together in a small group to pray as the "apostolic group"; and persons of the body of Christ dispersing into the world as the "scattered church."

Bishop Hultstrand addresses the need to succeed in prayer, the primary guideline being "to build one's prayer life upon the solid assurance that prayer is ordained by God himself." A second guideline is that one must pray, and the third is that prayer means self-offering.

The author shares numerous personal experiences and reflects on his personal prayer life.

(The Rev.) Paula Claire Hall, OSB Ruston, La.



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Quincy Bishop Retires

The Rt. Rev. Keith L. Ackerman, Bishop of Quincy since 1994, informed the diocesan standing committee on Oct. 29 of his intention to retire effective Nov. 1. The decision was reached after much thought and prayer, as well as consultation with his physicians, family and friends, according to a release from the diocese.

"While Bishop Ackerman is retiring from his administrative duties as executive officer of the diocese, he will make himself available, under arrangement with the standing committee, to perform Episcopal acts and provide spiritual counsel to members of the diocese," the release noted.

Virginia Suffragan Assists Pittsburgh Reorganizers

The Rt. Rev. David C. Jones, Bishop Suffragan of Virginia, is serving as a "consulting bishop" for the Diocese of Pittsburgh as it reorganizes following the vote by the majority of convention deputies to leave The Episcopal Church.

In a similar development, the Rt. Rev. Sam B. Hulsey, Bishop of Northwest Texas from 1980 to 1997, confirmed that he has participated in preliminary discussions about serving as the provisional bishop of Fort Worth in the event that the majority of delegates to the annual convention on Nov. 15 votes to leave The Episcopal Church. No formal offer to serve in that capacity had been made yet, he said.

Drawing on his work with congregations in the Diocese of Virginia that sought to reorganize after the majority voted to leave The Episcopal Church, Bishop Jones will provide the standing committee in Pittsburgh with advice on administration, clergy deployment, and pastoral support for congregations. He will continue to serve as Bishop Suffragan of Virginia.

The standing committee will remain the ecclesiastical authority in Pittsburgh and a provisional bishop is likely to be called within a few months after a special convention Dec. 13.

Steve Waring



VTS photo

A procession for a recent service on the campus of Virginia Theological Seminary. The seminary was honored Oct. 6 for "outstanding achievement in making the City of Alexandria, Virginia, more beautiful." The city's Beautification Award is presented annually.

Dialogue Sought with Common Cause Partnership

Executive Council has called for a reconciliation-oriented conversation with members of Common Cause Partnership, according to the two top officials of The Episcopal Church. They spoke Oct. 23 during a conference call at the conclusion of the council's four-day meeting in Helena, Mont.

The council approved a resolution from its Committee for National Concerns, said Bonnie Anderson, president of the House of Deputies. Mrs. Anderson said the resolution is based on council's belief that talk of irreconcilable differences is a contradiction of the Christian gospel.

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop, said she was expressing nothing new when she told council members that she would "strongly discourage" General Convention from voting on a final form of the proposed Anglican Covenant in July 2009, if the final draft is released in May 2009 [TLC, Nov. 9]. She said she has made the same remark for several weeks in various locations, and that she has not encountered any resistance to her plans.

Mrs. Anderson said she agrees with the Presiding Bishop that the time between May and July would not be adequate for Episcopalians to prepare adequately for voting on the covenant.

Under the constitution and canons of The Episcopal Church the Presiding Bishop and the president of the House of Deputies can exert significant influence to delay or expedite legislation, but neither possesses veto power. Resolutions may be submitted to General Convention by among others individual deputies and bishops, diocesan leadership, as well as committees, commissions, agencies and organizations affiliated with the church. All legislation submitted to General Convention is assigned to a committee and vetted before being sent to Dispatch of Business, the committee responsible for setting the daily convention agenda.

Among other resolutions approved during the Executive Council meeting was one offering support to Episcopalians in the reorganizing dioceses of San Joaquin and Pittsburgh. Mrs. Anderson said she was impressed by how much progress Episcopalians have made in the Diocese of San Joaquin.

Douglas LeBlanc

Long-time TLC Board Member Honored

Augusta Roddis, a member of the Board of Directors of the Living Church Foundation for 30 years, was named board member emeritus when the board met in Milwaukee last month.

Miss Roddis, of Marshfield, Wis., joined the board in 1978, having been a member of the foundation for several years prior to her election to the board. She served as vice president of the board for a time, and was instrumental in the introduction of health insurance benefits for the TLC staff. She is a member of St. Alban's Church, Marshfield.

The board also re-elected its current slate of officers, including the Rev. Thomas A. Fraser, rector of St. Paul's Church, Riverside, Ill., as president.

Following the board meeting, the Living Church Foundation held its annual meeting at the TLC office and elected two members. Jordan Hylden, a student at Duke Divinity School from the Diocese of North Dakota, and the Rev. Canon Michael Perko, canon to the ecclesiastical authority in the Diocese of the Rio Grande, were elected.

Foundation members heard a presentation by the Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller, Bishop of Milwaukee, on the Lambeth Conference and the recent House of Bishops' meeting. They also participated in a Requiem Eucharist at All Saints' Cathedral. During that service, the names of those persons for whom memorial gifts have been made to the Living Church Fund during the past year were read during the Prayers of the People.

BRIEFLY...

The value of The Episcopal Church's **endowment funds** has decreased by 30 percent this year, Treasurer Kurt Barnes told Executive Council Oct. 22. Every 5 percent decline in the value of the endowments equals \$87,000 less revenue for the budget, he said.

Clarification: The sale of property in the Diocese of Michigan which for many years served as Camp Gordonwood was not finalized as reported [TLC, Oct. 19]. The diocesan council approved terms of a sale to the Brandon School District, but the district later withdrew the offer.

AROUND THE **DIOCESES**



John Bethell/Diocese of Upper South Carolina photo

Russell Ramirez (left), Alex Manley, David Dodgen and Keli Price, members of the brass ensemble of St. John's Church, Columbia, S.C., at the Eucharist during convention in Upper South Carolina.

Planning for Transition

The annual convention in the Diocese of **Upper South Carolina** had as its focus "four goals for a seamless transition" in leadership — health, mission, formation, and outreach. These were prepared by the Rt. Rev. Dorsey F. Henderson, Jr., in anticipation of his mandatory retirement in January 2011. Convention met Oct. 17-18 in Columbia.

In his address, Bishop Henderson borrowed from Ezekiel the metaphor of bones coming to life when he reminded delegates that "we have identified and committed ourselves to three areas of ministry which clearly constitute the sinews and flesh and skin of our mission." These included congregational development, supported by the diocesan Healthy Church Initiative launched in mid-2006; Christian formation; and mission outreach.

Three resolutions were adopted, one calling for the formal establishment of a diocesan committee on Christian stewardship, another commending the "Bread & Water Capital Campaign" to sustain and enhance diocesan ministries in Haiti's Central Plateau, and a third designating the

first Sunday in Lent as "Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday." The single canonical change reflected the new status of the Bishop Gravatt Camp and Conference Center as an "institution of the diocese."

In announcing the creation of the Bishop's Legacy Fund, the Rev. Fletcher Montgomery, president of the diocesan executive council, called upon members of the diocese to honor Bishop Henderson for his ministry by helping to build an endowment that would continue the work of the Healthy Church Initiative, nurturing and supporting congregational development in the diocese for years to come.

The second day of convention was dedicated to leadership training. Among other business, convention approved a 2009 budget of \$3 million.

Peggy Van Antwerp Hill

Revitalize and Sustain

Clergy and lay delegates to convention in the Diocese of **Michigan** accepted a budget of slightly less than \$3 million for 2009. In order to balance that budget, convention approved withdrawing as much as \$600,000 in

(Continued on next page)



Herb Gunn/The Record photo

Tim Wittlinger (left), secretary, and Bishop Wendell Gibbs preside at Michigan's convention.

Michigan

(Continued from previous page)

principal from the Extended Ministries Fund (EMF), a 20-year-old reservoir of gifts and bequests that had heretofore not been available for direct support of the budget. Convention met Oct. 24-25 in Dearborn.

Convention also accepted a floor resolution proposed by the Very Rev. Scott Hunter, dean of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit, to hold a special convention before May 31 so that the 2009 income and spending can be evaluated and a "sustainable budget" for the remainder of 2009 and beyond can be created.

In a separate action, after considerable debate and several attempts to offer a substitute plan, convention accepted a proposal approved by the diocesan council to launch the first phase of a comprehensive revitalization plan. Phase one is projected to cost up to \$325,000 — funds that will also be drawn from the EMF corpus. At the end of 2007, the corpus of the EMF stood at approximately \$9 million. The revitalization plan was approved by a vote of 157-137.

A resolution encouraging General Convention to approve development of public liturgies for the blessing of same-sex unions passed, as did an amended resolution calling on the convention to clarify its canons to make clear that The Episcopal Church's canons on ordination shall apply equally to all regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

Convention accepted the call of the Rt. Rev. Wendell Gibbs, Bishop of Michigan, to end the 25-year relationship with two dioceses in Nigeria in order to explore a new companion relationship with another Anglican community.

"Times have changed," Bishop Gibbs said in his convention address about the now-dormant relationships with the Nigeria dioceses of Ilesa and Ekiti. "It is time to seek an opportunity where we can nurture a new relationship and enter it with our hearts and minds wide open in addition to our pocketbooks."

Herb Gunn

Governance Changes

Following a previously adopted blueprint to revise the governance of the diocese, the convention of the Diocese of **California** approved the first reading of a number of constitutional and canonical amendments. Convention met Oct. 17-18 at Grace Cathedral, San Francisco.

In May, a special convention voted to create an executive council with authority to manage the affairs of the diocese when convention was not in session [TLC, June 1]. Among changes approved were ones clarifying which members of convention are entitled to vote and defining which organizations may represent themselves as agencies of the diocese. None of the constitutional or canonical changes will become effective until approved a second time by convention next year.

Three of the six resolutions approved specified that they be forwarded to General Convention. They request additional support for clergy of ethnic congregations in the name of clergy wellness; encourage support and action on environmental stewardship in government policies; and encourage support for scientific integrity in environmental policy. Bonnie Anderson, president of the House of Deputies, was among the honored guests.

Convention also approved a \$4.2 million budget, which represents an increase of \$17,854 over last year. The Very Rev. Alan Jones, dean of Grace Cathedral, who will retire in January, was honored with a video tribute and courtesy resolution.

Equal, but Pay Optional

Delegates to the convention in the Diocese of **West Virginia** approved a resolution declaring that all priests are equal, whether they are seminary educated or locally trained. But delegates removed language which would have given locally-trained clergy the option of receiving a salary. Convention met Oct. 24-26 in Morgantown.

The resolution on equality of priests, one of 10 considered, was submitted to convention last year but was referred to a task force.

Convention unanimously approved a resolution expressing support for veterans, active duty personnel and their families. Also approved overwhelmingly was a resolution calling on the Rt. Rev. W. Michie Klusmeyer, Bishop of West Virginia, to urge the state legislature to add crimes based

(Continued on page 28)

Gifts with Anglican Spirit

Looking for a special Christmas gift that reflects your faith with flair? A wide range of products are available now at online stores for holiday delivery.

cathedralenterprises.co.uk

For those who wear their Episcopal Church affiliation on their sleeve (or more accurately around their neck), **Church Ties** of Campobello, S.C. (www.churchties.com) offers the Episcopal shield and Chi Rho, among other designs. Custom ties are also available.

When the workday is done, why not get casual by slipping into a pair of Episcopal shield-emblazoned flip-flops? They're just one of the selections to be found at the **Episcopal Media Marketplace** (www.episcopalonline.org).

If your tastes tend toward the medieval, the **Canterbury Cathedral Shop** includes a wide selection of clothing, ornaments and other cathedral-inspired gifts in its online store (www.cathedral-enterprises.co.uk). The cathedral conveniently includes pricing in dollars for American shoppers. And if your Christmas Eve day is not complete without listening to the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from **King's College**, **Cambridge**, the college now offers recordings, books and other gifts at its online Christmas shop (www.kingsmembers.org/store).

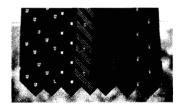
For those who love the distinctive sound of carillon bells, *The Bells of Christmas* CD includes 31 Christmas hymns and popular songs played by carillonneur Matthew Kauffman on a **Verdin Company** digital carillon (www.verdin.com). The company's online store also offers a cast bronze garden bell, with mounting bracket — sure to entrance the creatures roaming among your garden rows.

Calendars are popular holiday gifts and music fans will want to note a 2009 calendar print that features the pipe organ at England's **Chester Cathedral**, its façade famously topped by trumpeting angels. And yes, the image is also available as a computer mousepad. Visit www.cafepress.com and type "Chester Cathedral" in the search box.

Feel even better about that first cup of coffee each morning by choosing Bishop's Blend, the fair-trade, organic coffees marketed by **Episcopal Relief and Development**. Proceeds support ERD's emergency assistance and more. Visit www.puravidacoffeeshop.com/bishops-blend.html to order.

For words that inspire and delight, calligrapher **Michael Noyes** offers art plaques, cards and a variety of other hand-crafted gifts that share inspiring scripture passages (www.michaelnoyes.com). He also crafts custom creations for unique and memorable gifts for anniversaries, weddings and other occasions.

If you're still stumped and are looking for something offbeat and extraordinary, **Monastery Greetings** (www.monasterygreetings.com) is an online mega-mall for gifts baked, brewed, crafted and created in monasteries, convents and abbeys across America. You'll find fruitcakes and candles galore, or course, but Trappist-brewed beer is one stocking-stuffer that will be talked about for generations.



www.churchties.com



episcopalonline.org



cafepress.com "Chester Cathedral"



michaelnoyes.com



monastery greetings.com



kingsmembers.org/store

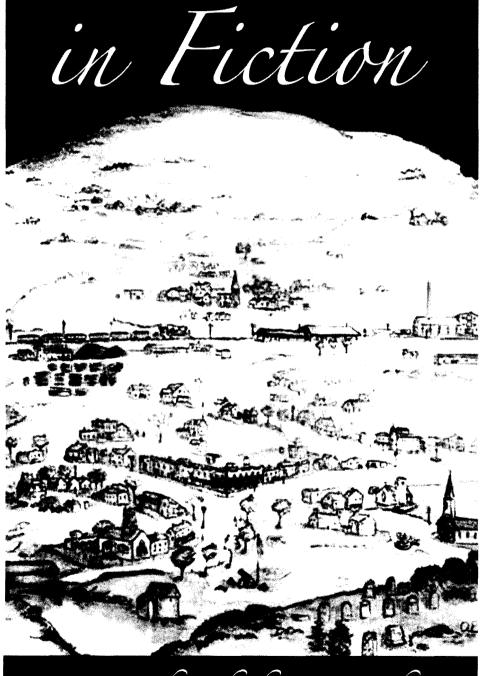


verdin.com



puravidacoffeeshop.com/ bishops-blend.html

TRUTH



Writers through the centuries have entertained while helping us find God.

By Boyd Wright

St. Bernard of Clairvaux helped found dozens of strict Cistercian abbeys and proved a hard taskmaster. It is told that as he watched his pious scribes toiling in the scriptorium, composing and copying, he would roar at them: "Every word that you write is a blow that smites the devil!"

In the millennium since, writers have kept trying to inform our beliefs and improve our morals. But today we don't pay them much heed. More and more, most of us most of the time read for fun, for escapism, for just a good read.

So let's not fight it. Yet maybe, if we pay enough attention, the fiction we read can smite a few devils, too.

Looking back at a lifetime of enjoying fiction, I find that stories that have given me pleasure have often done something else. Passages have jumped from the page to spark my mind and even deepen my faith. Maybe you can remember some, too.

One of the most famous is the tale within a tale in Fyodor Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*. Here Christ appears on earth amidst the Spanish Inquisition and is harangued at length by the Grand Inquisitor. We witness Jesus' inexhaustible patience and love when, as he leaves, he kisses the tyrannical Inquisitor on the lips.

Or take Dostoevsky's compatriot, Leo Tolstoy. You can read *Anna Karenina* for its movingly tragic tale of love and bondage, but you can also treasure the novel for its subplot, where the young landowner Levin conducts a fascinating philosophical struggle to believe in God.

Closer to home, we can look at "the"

great American novel. Mark Twain was no believer, but he lets *Huckleberry Finn* teach morality from a darker time in our nation's past. Floating down the Mississippi on his raft, Huck agonizes with his conscience: If he helps the slave Jim run away, he will be sinning against the owner. But he wants desperately to save his friend. "All right, then," he decides, "I'll go to hell."

In Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*, the hero robs a bishop who has befriended him. The saintly bishop returns good for evil and starts Jean Valjean on a new life of honesty and sacrifice.

The Scarlet Letter is the big "A" that Hester Prynne must wear after being caught in adultery. But Nathaniel Hawthorne refines the degrees of sin. Pastor Dimmesdale, Hester's lover, hides his guilt and lives a life of horror. Hester lives for others and finds peace.

Getting marooned on a desert island doesn't sound like much to thank God for, but Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* keeps doing just that. He salvages "three good Bibles" from his wrecked ship, reads them three times a day, and sets regular time for prayer. Lonely? God, he says, brings him greater happiness than human companionship.

No novelist ever invented a richer gallery of characters than Charles Dickens, and many of them display a sharp ethical edge. For example, the sadly funny Mrs. Jellyby in *Bleak House* teaches a hard lesson for many Christians. She gets so entangled in charities for far-away lands that she neglects her own children.

Brian Moore, in his futuristic novel *Catholics*, portrays a devout abbot of an Irish monastery who anguishes over changes demanded by his order. He becomes so troubled that he finds he can no longer pray. We get a poignant insight into one man's conflict with authority and effort to do God's will.

In Wilbur Daniel Steele's short story, "The Man Who Saw Through Heaven," a fundamentalist missionary becomes entranced by science and loses his faith. We watch him as he journeys through the wilds of Africa and step by step comes to believe again.

Reconciliation is also a theme in Evelyn Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited*. Beautiful, aristocratic Julia leads a selfish, willful life. At last, haunted by mem-













Mark Twain was no believer, but he lets *Huckleberry Finn* teach morality from a darker time in our nation's past.

ories of her strict Roman Catholic childhood, she tells her lover she can no longer live with him in sin. "I've always been bad," she says. "But the worse I am, the more I need God."

Graham Greene's *The End of the Affair* provides an ironic twist. A wife, cheating on her husband, makes a pact with God. Let her lover recover from a bomb blast in World War II London, and she will stop sinning and give him up. He survives and she wants so much to renege on her vow that she tries to lose her faith, even getting an atheist to coach her.

Louis Auchincloss, better known for portraying Wall Street types, ventures into theology in his historical novel, *The Winthrop Covenant*. His character, the husband of the famous Puritan renegade Anne Hutchinson, wonders how truly good people can be happy in heaven when they know others are suffering in hell.

Thornton Wilder not only teaches us the lesson of enjoying life now while we can in his deceptively simple play, *Our Town*, he delves into the nature of God in his novel, *The Eighth Day*. He lets Maria Icaza, an elderly peasant in the Andes, develop her own personal theodicy. God permits evil, she believes, because he wants every human "to know the highest happiness and the deepest misery." He wants us "to know all that being alive can bring."

That problem of why an all-good and all-powerful God allows evil is explored more deeply in Somerset Maugham's *The Razor's Edge*. The hero seeks the solution within a Benedictine monastery, then travels to India to study Hinduism. He doesn't get an answer, but he finds contentment, and Maugham makes the search worthwhile.

Umberto Eco, in *The Name of the Rose*, his mystery novel set in a medieval monastery, enlivens the plot with a scriptural aside: Did Jesus ever laugh? The monks come up with intriguing ideas.

Other mystery writers have managed to combine crime with faith. G. K. Chesterton lets his priest-sleuth, Father Brown, deliver mini-homilies as he solves his cases. Dorothy Sayers, who wrote widely on religion, works it deftly into her detective fiction when Lord Peter Wimsey and others muse on the causes and effects of sin.

In children's literature, Kenneth Grahame in *The Wind in the Willows* has the Mole and the Rat row their boat up the river. Because they are on an errand of mercy, they are rewarded with heavenly music, then they come into the "Presence." The author captures the awe: "'Afraid?' murmured the Rat, his eyes shining with unutterable love. 'Afraid! Of *Him*? O, never, never! And yet—and yet—O, Mole, I am afraid!"

In Margery Williams' *The Velveteen Rabbit*, the toys in the nursery learn they can become "real" when a child not only likes to play with them but loves them for themselves. Eventually, the toy rabbit, through his love for his boy and the boy's love for him, does become "real." Could there be a better allegory for our love for God and God's love for us?

These are all just snippets of belief, gems of faith dropped along the way by some of our better-known writers. The authors' messages lie buried within their main motive, the telling of a story. Keep reading good fiction and you're bound to find more.

Boyd Wright is a retired newspaper editor who lives in Mendham, N.J.



Jift Books for Children

Whether they are just starting to sit still for story time or already are enjoying chapter books, children of all ages can enjoy books as Christmas gifts. Following are a selection of books that are sure to be favorites this season.

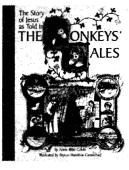


THE GIFT OF THE CHRISTMAS **COOKIE: Sharing the True Meaning** of Jesus' Birth. By Dandi Daley Mackall, illustrated by Deborah Chabrian. ZonderKidz. Pp. \$16.99. ISBN 978-0310713289

Baking Christmas cookies is a tradition in many households and in this book, Jack learns that the special Christ-

mas cookies his mother is baking this year are not for him, but for needy people at their church. As she bakes, Jack's mother describes the legend of the Christmas cookie and Jack learns the important lesson of giving from the

heart, just as Jesus' birth was a gift that changed lives forever.



THE STORY OF JESUS AS TOLD IN THE DONKEYS' TALES. By Adele Bibb Colvin. by illustrated Peyton Hamilton Carmichael. Pelican Publishing. Pp. 32. \$15.95. ISBN 978-1589806276.

The biblical narrative, from the Nativity through Palm Sunday, told imaginatively from the perspective of the donkeys that carried Mary

and Jesus. The author, a member of St. Luke's Church, Birmingham, Ala., employs her skills as both songwriter and lyricist in teaching the gospel. Verse is included in several places, and the book concludes with a hymn.

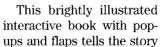


THE BEGINNER'S BIBLE: The Very First Christmas. ZonderKidz. Pp. 32. \$1.99. ISBN 978-0310718260

The Very First Christmas introduces children to one of the most important stories of all time - the birth of Jesus. The colorful artwork

and simple text take young children through the story of the birth of the Savior so that they understand why we celebrate this special day.

ON THAT CHRISTMAS NIGHT. By Tim Dowley. Candle Books. Pp. 12. \$17.99. ISBN 978-0825473760.





of Christmas in memorable ways. The illustrations help children understand the angel's visit to Mary, Joseph's dream, their journey to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus in a manger. Children will enjoy seeing the events of the Christmas story brought to life in memorable images.

JOTHAM'S JOURNEY: A Storybook for Advent. By Arnold Ytreeide. Kregel Publications. Pp. 168. \$10.99. ISBN 978-0825441745.

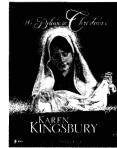
Ten-year-old Jotham makes an exciting Advent journey to search for his family. He faces many dangers and difficulties,



but his special relationship with Jesus inspires the journey. A great book with a special ending that can be read each night during the Advent season.

WE BELIEVE IN CHRISTMAS. By Karen Kingsbury, illustrated by Daniel J. Brown. ZonderKidz. Pp. 40. \$16.99. ISBN 978-0310712121.

A beautifully illustrated reminder that Christmas is all around us - in our holiday preparations, carols, cries of "Happy Holidays,"



the shining of bright stars and happy faces of

traveling guests and relatives. Helps children remember that the Christmas season is more than gifts, but a time of remembrance and gratitude.



TELL ME ABOUT HEAVEN. By Randy Alcorn, illustrated by Ron DiCianni. Crossway Books. Pp. 64. \$19.99. ISBN 978-1581348538.

A story for more advanced readers about helping children deal with the loss of a loved one. Explores the creation story, the coming of a new heaven and

new earth, and other theological issues that readers young and old strive to understand. Illustrations help to depict the topics that are explained in age-appropriate terms.



HUNTER BROWN AND THE SECRET OF THE SHADOW. By Christopher Miller and Allan Miller. Warner Press. Pp. 366. \$13.99. ISBN 978-1593173289.

For kids who love mysteries or the Harry Potter series, this first book in the CodeBearers series takes Hunter Brown on a "journey beyond" into the hidden world of the soul and self-dis-

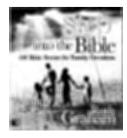
covery. The fast-paced tale, supernatural characters and suspenseful plot will keep kids reading as they learn to look within to discover their need for a Savior.



A VERY MARLEY CHRISTMAS. By John Grogan, illustrated by Richard Cowdrey. Harper-Collins. Pp. 40. \$16.99. ISBN 978-0061372926.

Christmas just wouldn't be the same without dogs that steal cookies and chew on Christmas lights. For all children who love pets and the chaos they can create during the exciting holiday

season, this story will make them laugh at the antics of Marley, the puppy who wants to share in the joy. Children will discover whether Marley's good intentions will ruin the holidays or make everything a little brighter.

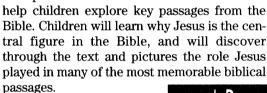


STEP INTO THE BIBLE: 100 Bible Stories for Family Devotions. By Ruth Graham. Zondervan. Pp. 219. \$14.99. ISBN 978-0310714101.

This family devotional, written by Ruth Graham, the daughter of Billy Graham, retells 100 important Bible stories and helps parents and children discover or rediscover fresh lessons of faith. Each devotion is designed to take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Includes helpful tools to enrich the devotion, such as open-ended questions, vivid photographs and suggested memory verses.

THE JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE: Every Story Whispers His Name. By Sally Lloyd-Jones, illustrated by Jago. ZonderKidz. Pp. 352. \$16.99. ISBN 978-0310708254.

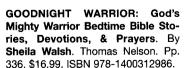
Sometimes pictures can be the most moving ways to illustrate profound moments, and *The Jesus Storybook Bible* uses powerful illustrations to



SWEET DREAMS PRINCESS: God's Little Princess Bedtime Bible Stories, Devotions, & Prayers. By Sheila Walsh. Thomas Nelson. Pp. 336. \$16.99. ISBN 978-1400312979.

Inspirational devotions designed to help little girls learn about God's love and

his promises to them. Each of the 84 devotions, adapted from the International Children's Bible, is colorfully illustrated and closes with a special prayer, promise or praise to help the child develop her own relationship with God. Companion volume to...



Written especially for boys, this volume also contains 84 stories and devotions designed to help boys in their faith. Each devotion is written to

help boys draw closer to their families, God's promises and their growing faith.

Heather Newton Baton Rouge, La.



esus 🧐

Storybook



The DOWN-AND-DIRTY Gospel

Did You Know...

A recent survey by the Diocese of Massachusetts found that nearly three-quarters of its congregations are violating the canons of The **Episcopal Church by** encouraging unbaptized worshipers to receive communion.

Quote of the Week The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus, Bishop of California, in the San Francisco Chronicle on the California Supreme Court decision to legalize same-sex marriage: "Culture is going to manifest Christ in a way that summons the church to new realities."

Many of us are all familiar with the art form of the music video — a series of film clips dashing from one brief scene to another. every scene somehow connected to the song. Music videos can assault the senses. They can be confusing and hard to put together in our minds. But this relatively recent art form possesses a certain effectiveness. Music videos grab our attention and somehow get their point across, even if they leave us in the end wondering what we have just seen and heard.

Mark gives us a gospel that is in ways like a

music video. I would call it "Jesus in action," a series of scenes in which Jesus acts to heal, teach, call to repentance, and cast out demons. The scenes are not smoothly connected. "Immediately" is the most common word in the gospel, and one thing happens after the next without the kind of mediation we would normally expect. But in a way, some roughness or even violence makes sense in this account of the gospel, for in Jesus, God is breaking into our world.

Verse 1 is "The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." Gospel means good news,

a written account of the gospel, and an event that changes history. Jesus Christ is an "event," something that happened to the world, after which the world has never been the same.

The author is unknown. It could be the person mentioned in Acts 12:12, or the boy who left his shirt in the hands of the guards at Gethsemane (Mark 14:51-52) and fled in fear.

It could have been written during Nero's persecution of Christians in Rome, when Nero was blaming Christians for the fire which he was rumored to have started himself. Its hurried style could come from the author's sense that he had to get everything down in writing quickly before Nero's henchmen discovered him and turned him into a human torch.

What he wrote is not a biography. The Serendipity Bible calls it a character sketch. I call it a music video in prose, brief clips stuck together in a way that seems random, but which actually expresses a theme common to the whole purpose of Jesus. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" (1:15). See who Jesus is and what he is doing; or see what he is doing and recognize him for who he is. Then do something about it - turn your whole life around and believe

> that he has altered the course ofhistory. Believe that he is the Son of God, and let him give your life a new direction and purpose.

> This gospel is about showing us Jesus and inviting us to change, from the beginning to the end. We have seen him before. Are we finished changing? Or can we look again at who he is? Can we see Jesus renewed even now?

> again from a fresh perspective through the writing of Mark, and be Because of Mark's artless art, because of his rough, down-and-

dirty style, because of the bare, unadorned Christ we see in these pages, Mark's gospel has the power to move us over and over again.

Advent will soon be upon us. During this season, the Sunday lectionary begins anew with readings from the Gospel of Mark. My parish wanted to study Mark during our weekly Wednesday night Bible study. May we all find ourselves suddenly confronted by this strange and loving man whose power and authority cannot be contained by the universe, and whose reign extends beyond eternity.

Our guest columnist is the Rev. Joseph Davis, rector of the Church of the Resurrection, Franklin, Tenn.



Portrait of Christ's Head, Rembrandt 1650

The Gospel of Mark has the power to move us again as it presents an an unadorned Christ.

Little Time for Stalling

The possibility of The Episcopal Church giving quick approval to a proposed Anglican Covenant seems unlikely following an announcement by the Presiding Bishop. When she addressed the Executive Council last month in Helena, Mont., the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori said that if a proposed covenant is released in May, she would "strongly discourage" efforts to bring that request to the 76th General Convention when it meets in Anaheim. Calif., in July.

The idea of a covenant that could bind member churches of the Anglican Communion more closely came from the Windsor Report, which was published in 2004 in response to the consecration of a non-celibate homosexual person as Bishop Coadjutor of New Hampshire in 2003. A group of Anglican primates proposed a covenant in 2005. A first draft was released in 2007 and earlier this year another group revised that effort in what came to be known as the St. Andrew's Draft. It is that statement that is currently being studied by the provinces of the Anglican Communion. The provinces have until the end of March to respond to that draft.

The Covenant Design Group, scheduled to meet in April, may produce another revision of a proposed covenant, although it is unlikely to be drastically different from the St. Andrew's Draft. Then it will be sent to the Anglican Consultative Council in time for its meeting in May. That body is expected to review the most current proposal at that time.

Bishop Jefferts Schori claims there is not enough time before General Convention to review a proposed covenant, and for the church to make an official response. That thought needs to be challenged. With some advance preparation, it would seem to us that a group could review a draft of the covenant and could make a recommendation to the convention. After all, the St. Andrew's Draft has been in circulation for many months, and it is scheduled to be addressed by the Executive Council when it meets in January. Unless its possible successor is radically different, the St. Andrew's document should be at the least helpful background material. General Convention has been able to handle important decisions quickly on previous occasions. The consent for the New Hampshire consecration to take place is but one example.

The Presiding Bishop's decision would seem to be a stall tactic. It is likely that any document that could bring discipline upon any member church of the Anglican Communion would not be acceptable to the current leadership of The Episcopal Church. If the 76th General Convention does not address a proposed Anglican Covenant, it would mean that the matter could not be dealt with until 2012, when the convention meets again. By then the Anglican Communion is likely to be irrevocably changed, perhaps even shattered in a way which would make putting the pieces back together nearly impossible.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has said he believes an Anglican Covenant is the only the way the Communion can address its current turmoil. The Episcopal Church should take the archbishop's recommendation seriously and address the proposed covenant without delay.

Help for Gift Givers

Generally speaking, the clergy of The Episcopal Church and other leaders have done an effective job in not rushing the Christmas season. Advent is observed appropriately in most of our churches and cathedrals, and for the most part Christmas music, pageants and decorations are delayed until the Christmas season.

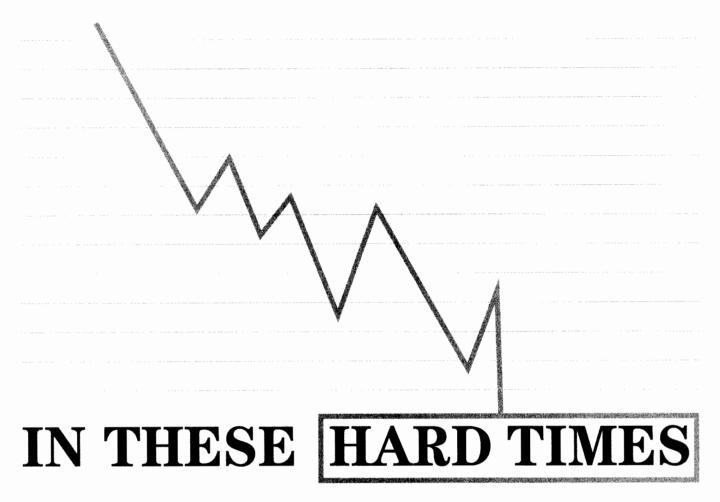
With this in mind, we present this Christmas Gift and Book Issue. While we are not advocating a premature observance of the Christmas season, we do believe it is not too early to be thinking about finding books and other gifts for loved ones. Now is a suitable time to select gifts for family, friends, and relatives, if for no other reason than to avoid the bedlam of last-minute shopping.

This issue is intended to provide helpful suggestions for gifts. Appropriate advertising along with articles about books for children and Christmas gift-giving may be found in this special issue. We hope readers find plenty of gift possibilities and that they understand that we're not trying to rush the season.

It is not too early
to be thinking
about finding books
and other gifts
for loved ones.



READER'S VIEWPOINT



By Tony Noble

t has been said that when America sneezes, the rest of the world catches a cold. That's certainly been true in recent weeks. As the U.S. economy continues to get worse, the rest of the world has followed suit, from Britain to Russia.

It's a sobering reality when the economy of Iceland makes the front page of our newspapers! Or when one realizes that thanks to the government bail-out of AIG, American taxpayers now underwrite Manchester United Football Club for \$100 million.

A question unasked perhaps has been: Where is God in all this? We haven't heard any reference to him. We have heard about greed, and the Bible has a lot to say about that. All of us are feeling a bit helpless, if not a little afraid — another biblical theme. We mere mortals can only hope things will correct themselves soon, as they did in 1987 and 1931.

The dollar going up in recent days is not much consolation for families facing foreclosure on their homes, or those depending on pensions and retirement funds, including those of us not yet retired. It's all a bit fearful and a mess.

On a recent Sunday, the lectionary provided some help, or at least food for thought. In Isaiah, we can find a description of Wall Street: "Thou hast made the city a heap — the fortified city a ruin." (25:2)

Of course, Isaiah was not talking about Wall Street. He was talking about the defeat of Israel's enemies and the people's return to the law and the covenant. His message is one of hope: "Thou hast been a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a shelter from the storm" (25:4).

Faith in God will not pay our mortgages, but such faith can get us through the hard times. When things are taken away from us and all seems lost, the only one left to look to is God himself. Yet, it is so hard for us to hand it all over to God. We think we can solve it ourselves. We think it is capably in our hands. Recent events show how wrong that sentiment can be.

Isaiah continues his message of hope by portraying heaven as a banquet — a feast where death is swallowed up forever. And it finishes with a great flourish. If we wait on God, he will surely come, and we will rejoice in his salvation.

On the same Sunday we heard that reading from Isaiah, Matthew's gospel also provided a commentary on recent events. At the end of the king's wedding feast, there is the bizarre story of the man invited to the wedding, but thrown out because he was not wearing the right clothes. He was thrown into the other darkness, "where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth" (22:13) — an image of hell.

This seems terribly unfair. Like all the other guests, this man was called into the wedding feast from the streets. He's hardly going to be wearing a dinner suit! As with other parables, we cannot take this too literally, but must look at the inner meaning. The man's problem was not about what he was wearing, but that he was not prepared. He came straight into the wedding without thinking or preparing. And surely the lesson of recent weeks is that America was not prepared.

Jesus tells us to be prepared. It's a lesson we all need to learn — and not just about the economy. How many times during a day do we have decisions to make and we don't consult God? Instead, we make decisions and do things without reference to God, who loves us and knows our needs. We think we are in control, or at least we want to be.

Of course, we can't just suddenly start handing things over to God in desperation. It has to be a growing process. For Christians, it starts with our spiritual lives and our daily prayers. That is where we start handing things over to God. Not just asking God what we want, but asking him to guide us, and to make us better Christians.

One of the reasons why the Eucharist is such a wonderful experience and a spiritual inspiration is because we move from our own concerns:

- Through our own prayer requests
- Through reflection and confession
- Through listening and reflecting on God's word
- Through Holy Communion

We move to a sense of the mystery of God and how great and wonderful he is, and how infinitely dependent we should be on him. In tough times, God will be with us, and we will be able to say with Isaiah, "This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (25:9).

The Rev. Tony Noble is the rector of All Saints' Church, San Diego, Calif.

The Reader's Viewpoint article does not necessarily represent the editorial opinion of THE LIVING CHURCH or its board of directors.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Celebrity Mentality

I would take issue with the tenor of Doran Stambaugh's article on the "Challenge of Celebrity to the Beauty of Holiness" [TLC, Oct. 26].

In my present congregation, as in past ones I have served as rector, I have been blessed with proficient organists and well-trained choirs that helped lead Sunday worship. I also play guitar and have, on occasion, led worship in the church and at other parish gatherings when an organist was not present or available. People love the sound of the (12-string) guitar and the diversity it brings to our music program, while die-hard traditionalists are threatened by it, sensing that the trends in music are changing, especially among the young.

In my opinion, playing a guitar is not inherently a "celebrity or performance" experience. It is just as



easy for a great choir to be afflicted with the "stardom and celebrity mentality" as a praise band with guitars. Most rectors know that self-centered attitudes can appear, unexpectedly, in the most dedicated worship leaders, regardless of what instrument they play or what part they sing. We would do well to remember that whenever music directs us to the musician or vocalists themselves, rather than to God, it is performance rather than worship. That can occur just as easily with a soloist with classical training as with a guitar player leading a contemporary praise song. What counts is the attitude of the musician or vocalist. What is in their heart will determine who is being worshiped.

> (The Rev.) James P. Jones St. Matthew's Church Miami, Fla.

'One-Sided' Coverage

I am disappointed in the one-sided nature of TLC's coverage of events in Pittsburgh. The news update on the website [TLC, Nov. 9] about Pittsburgh "reorganizing" clearly did not consult anyone from the true continuing diocese in Pittsburgh — i.e., the one that never left TEC. If you had, you would know that the one remaining standing committee member sent registered letters and an e-mail to each of the other standing committee members asking them to confirm whether or not they still were acting as members of TEC. That was the basis for deciding who was no longer acting as a valid member of the diocesan standing committee.

On the other hand, the seven "realigners" removed the Rev. Jim Simons without giving him any opportunity to respond. TLC's use of "continuing" and "reorganizing" dioceses reverses the actual constitutional standing of the dioceses. Under law and parliamentary procedure the general church has the final say on constitutional and canonical interpretation, not the individual dioceses. That interpretation is that a diocese cannot leave the church. Individuals are free to do so. In the future, I would suggest TLC contact both entities in Pittsburgh before writing an article.

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh in The Episcopal Church made public its contact information and the name of its press officer immediately after convention. Other news services have been able to reach them. In fact, since October 12, all you had to do was click on the link for the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh on the web pages of The Episcopal Church.

> Joan R. Gundersen Pittsburgh, Pa.

Blessings and Baseball

Like Fr. Greanias [TLC, Oct. 26], I am honored to be asked to bless anyone and anything, unless that person or object is patently evil. Blessing is, indeed, a priestly vocation and privilege. Throughout the history of the church, its priests have been asked to bless anything from animals (now the custom around St. Francis' Day), beginnings of new businesses, sailing fleets, mine openings, houses, trips, jewelry, prayer books, Bibles, marriages and partnerships, and most anything else that represents value to the persons requesting such a blessing. Ours is an incarnational faith. Nothing is outside of God's view.

I believe [Chicago Cubs manager] Lou Piniella to be wrong when he proclaims that "God doesn't care about a baseball game." God cares about everything.

> (The Rev.) Steve Norcross Ascension Parish Portland, Ore.

and her mother were confirmed in the Episcopal Church by Bishop Phillips Brooks." Douglas M. Strong's 1997 work, They Walked in the Spirit: Personal Faith and Social Action, makes a similar claim about Scudder: "At the age of fourteen, she was confirmed as an Episcopalian by the famed Boston rector, Phillips Brooks (1835-93)."

Vida Scudder turned 14 in 1875. She

could not have been confirmed then by Phillips Brooks because he did not become a bishop until 1891. This "famed Boston rector" may have presented Vida Scudder for confirmation when she was a teenager, but at that time could not have not have been the bishop who confirmed her.

> (The Rev.) Charles Hoffacker Washington, D.C.



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Conciliar Confusion

The Rev. Robert Hall uses a very confused logic to argue in his letter on behalf of The Episcopal Church by referring to conciliar authority [TLC, Oct. 26]. Indeed, it was our Anglican conciliar authorities that told TEC in 2003 not to act in ways that violated the norms of the Communion. How Fr. Hall can argue for conciliar decisionmaking and ignore the entire Anglican Communion as represented by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the primates, the Anglican Consultative Council and the Lambeth Conference is astounding. He might rethink who is confused about conciliar authority.

(The Rev.) M. Anthony Seel, Jr. Vestal, N.Y.

Oops...

Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2006 includes a biographical sketch of Vida Dutton Scudder, whose feast on October 10 was approved for trial use by the 2006 General Convention. The sketch states that "In the 1870s, Vida

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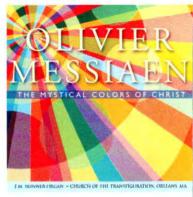
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aen's work requires. They are masterfully performed, and brilliantly voiced.

Colin Andrews opens with a piece by Lionel Rogg — "Homage to Messiaen"

— that sets the tone well for the pieces that follow. Special mention needs to be given to the liner notes with The Mustical Colors of Christ — this booklet is a devotional package in itself, and is beautifully prepared. Any collector of organ works would do well to have both of these recordings as part of his or her collection.

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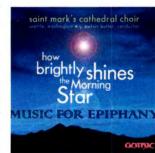
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reminds us that Epiphanytide is no ordinary time. Its recent recording is a smart collection of choral, hymn, and organ music appropriate for Jan. 6 and the days that follow. This is music, one might say, fit for a king or three. Mendelssohn's "Behold a Star" from "Jacob Rising" is well paired with the standard hymns such as "We Three Kings," though in this case with a particularly alluring and exotic introduction. St. Mark's Cathedral Choir delivers an honest and accessible per-

formance. Few churches are blessed

to have a nearly 50-voice, nonprofessional choir. Choirmaster J. Melvin Butler and his crew allows all the rest of us to hear what the possibilities are.



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Seasonal Favorites

Martingale Music has released new offerings for Christmas, each produced by Eric Wyse, music director at St. Bartholomew's Church, Nashville, Tenn. They deliver the familiar, but with fresh turns and consistent high quality.

Two are collections in the series "The Sounds of Christmas." Christmas Harp (\$6.95) features 20 carols performed by harpist Heidi O'Gara jellison. For Christmas Symphony (\$6.98), Mr. Wyse traveled to Prague to record the City of Prague Philharmonic Orchestra in the performance of 11 well-known pieces.



Prague orchestra accompanies vocalist Mary Donnelly Haskell, who sings a selection of familiar holiday songs, a blend of the sacred and the secular.

A fourth work, *Christmas Reflections* (\$19.98), has 50 carols played by Mr. Wyse on piano. The three-disc set is mostly solo piano, but other instruments (cello, accordian, vocals, penny whistle) enhance these arrangements, which are excellent for quieting the heart and mind. Martingale Music is distributed by Koch Distribution.

Orleans, Mass., enhance the rich text of 20 psalms, including Psalms 96, 100

and 150. Especially helpful is the accompanying booklet that explains Anglican psalmody and includes brief meditations that place each psalm in historical context. An accurate, balanced, pleasing musical aid to meditation on God's love and faithfulness to all generations.



ORGAN MEDITATIONS FROM ST. PETER'S BY THE SEA. George Bayley, organist. Deerwood Music (19610 Buck Run, Georgetown, DE 19947). \$15, plus \$2 shipping. www.deerwoodmusic.com

This appropriately titled project is indeed meditative, as it endeavors to showcase the softer sounds of the three-manual, 32-note pedal board, 70-stop instrument in St. Peter's Church, Lewes, Del. The instrument, under the

capable hands of George Bayley, is resonant and lyric in each piece. The

selections on the project are chosen from some of the most beloved organ repertoire, from Mendelssohn, Handel, and Widor to Elgar and Bach.

Of special note is the performance of "Nimrod" from Elgar's "Enigma" Variations — Bayley's performance

of this marvelous piece is wide ranging in its dynamic range and well within the limitations of the instrument. This would be a great project for study and reflection, especially for an organist who might have limited experience with voicings and settings, as they are particularly well done here.

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West Virginia

(Continued from page 14)

on sexual orientation to the state's definition of a "hate crime."

Convention approved the creation of a task force to study and make recommendations on resolutions calling for the establishment of a companion relationship, and another to study establishing a diocesan-wide "dialogue and listening process to bring gay, lesbian and heterosexual people fully into the Church's conversation about human sexuality."

In his address to convention, Bishop Klusmeyer gave a positive endorsement of the recent Lambeth Conference. He also denied rumors that the Peterkin Camp and Conference Center in Romney would be put on the market for sale.

"I do believe, however, that doing business at Peterkin has to be different," he said. "The new board has met a couple of times this past year, and is still in the process of being built."

About focusing on the future, Bishop Klusmeyer said, "I recently read that Wayne Gretzky, of hockey fame, said that his success was because he skated to where the puck was going, rather than to where the puck had been; a nice image and a nice vision for where we must be also."

Among other business, convention approved a \$1.8 million 2009 budget, virtually unchanged from 2008.

Dialogue and Democracy

Participants at the annual convention of the 14-county Diocese of **Bethlehem**, Oct. 10-11, worshiped together at Christ Church, Reading, and approved two resolutions for consideration by General Convention.

Delegates unanimously adopted a 2009 Mission and Ministry Budget of

\$1.7 million, about \$50,000 more than the 2008 budget. Convention also unanimously approved a resolution commending to General Convention a full communion agreement with the Moravian Church titled *Finding our Delight in the Lord*. Bethlehem is the cradle of the Moravian Church in America, and members of the Diocese of Bethlehem have been involved in the Moravian-Episcopal dialogue since its inception in 1999.

Delegates overwhelmingly adopted a resolution urging General Convention "to proceed with the task of developing rites for use in blessing same-gender couples."

In his address to convention, the Rt. Rev. Paul Marshall, Bishop of Bethlehem, urged his listeners to vote in what he described as a historic election for the United States.

Referring to "a level of misery around us that most of us understandably would prefer not to see, and are

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—Janette Fishell, Distinguished Professor of Music, East Carolina University Director of Music/Principal Organist, St. Paul's Church, Greenville, N.C.

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certainly not shown," Bishop Marshall invited "those of you who think that I am over-dramatizing the situation to volunteer some time at a social service agency run by one of our parishes, or to visit the schools in downtown Reading where attendance drops in winters because it isn't the turn of some children in the family to wear the one coat their mother can afford.

"You may be worried about your investments today. I certainly am concerned about mine," Bishop Marshall said. "There are much larger questions, however, about our social order and our grandchildren's future, and they are first-order questions that must be addressed. We must elect leadership we believe able to understand the options and look at the long term."

(The Rev. Canon) Bill Lewellis

Regret and Hope

Delegates to the convocation in the Diocese of the **Rio Grande** were briefed on the search for a new bishop by the Rev. Canon Colin Kelly, president of the standing committee. Canon Kelly also announced "with a profound sense of sadness" that the vestry of St. Francison-the-Hill, El Paso, Texas, had voted to leave The Episcopal Church three days earlier. The convocation met Oct. 24-25 in Albuquerque, N.M.

The decision followed several meetings between the the congregation. Fr. Kelly and the Rt. Rev. William Frey, assisting bishop of the Rio Grande. At those meetings, Bishop Frey and Canon Kelly made it clear to the congregation that, if they made the decision to leave The Episcopal Church, they could not take their property with them. That counsel follows a decision by the standing committee and deans of the diocese that, after the departure of St. Clement's Church, El Paso, in 2007, other departing congregations would not be able to work out an agreement permitting them to remain in their church building.

Canon Kelly noted that St. Francis' Church has filed a suit for declaratory judgment with the District Court in El Paso County, Texas. He said it was particularly disappointing that the



Terri Othling photo

The Rev. Leander Harding, assistant professor of pastoral theology at Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pa., oversees the Trinity exhibit booth at the annual convocation of the Diocese of the Rio Grande, which met in Albuquerque, N.M., Oct. 24-25.

departure from the fellowship of the diocese came at a time full of anticipation and hope for the future. Canon Kelly said that with the assistance of a "New Life Process" team, the diocese has entered into a time of listening and reflection, with the prayerful hope that this process will lead to healing and reconciliation.

The election of a bishop is scheduled for January 2010. The search team is collecting data from members of the diocese in order to complete the profile, which should be available in early 2009. The team is also gathering information from the "New Life Process" retreats for the profile.

The second day of the convocation began with Morning Prayer and Bible Study followed by an hour of "New Life Process" small group discussions, with presentations from each group.

A balanced 2009 budget of slightly less than \$1.4 million was approved, an increase of \$40,300 over the previous year. The treasurer noted that the fair share contribution from congregations continued at the same 13 percent rate approved in 2006; however, contributions decreased by an amount of \$135,151 from the previous year, primarily due to the departure of St. Clement's Church. In the absence of a full-time diocesan bishop in 2008, expenditures also declined, offsetting the congregational defections.

Terri Othlina





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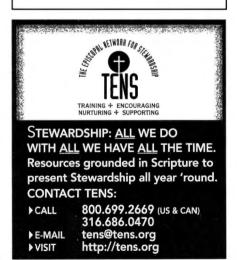
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PEOPLE & PLACES

Appointments

The Rev. **Stephanie Allan** is assistant at Good Shepherd, PO Box 7791, Rocky Mount, NC 27804.

The Rev. **Kermit Bailey** is deacon at Ascension, 183 Fork-Bixby Rd., Advance, NC 27006.

The Rev. **Milton Black** is rector of Good Shepherd, 700 S Upper Broadway, Corpus Christi, TX 78401.

The Rev. **Nigel Jay Bousfeld** is rector of St. Mark's, 415 S Main St., Waupaca, WI 54981.

The Rev. **Van Foreman** is rector of Resurrection, 113 Brown Ave., Rainbow City, AL 35906-3122.

The Rev. **Chris Girata** is associate at St. Luke's, 3736 Montrose Rd., Birmingham, AL 35213.

Harmony Johnson is director of promotion for Kanuga Conferences, PO Box 250, Hendersonville, NC 28793.

The Rev. **Tim Murphy** is rector of St. Mary's, 801 The Trace W, Jasper, AL 35504-7454.

The Rev. Canon **Jesus Reyes** is canon to the ordinary for congregational growth and development in the Diocese of El Camino Real, Box 1903, Monterey, CA 93942.

The Rev. **Doug Schwert** is vicar of Trinity, P.O. Box 346, Port Aransas, TX 78373.

Ordinations

Priests

Quincy — Andrew Ainley, James Clement, Tobias Karlowicz, Josh Miller, Townsend Waddill.

Fort Worth — Jonathan Duncan, Chad Nusbaum.

Deacons

Quincy — Matthew Frick, Thomas Stone.

Wyoming — Carol E. Peterson, St. Mark's, 1908 Central Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001.

Resignations

Frank C. Ballard, Jr., as director of promotion at Kanuga Conferences, Hendersonville, NC.

Retirements

The Rev. **David Angelica**, as rector of Holy Spirit, Orleans, MA.

The Rev. **T.J. Bland**, as a deacon in the Diocese of North Carolina.

The Rev. Al Leveridge, as vicar of Trinity, Port Aransas, TX.

Depositions

North Carolina — M. Filmore Strunk, as a priest.

Deaths

Janet Ask, who was in the first group of female deputies to be seated at General Convention, died Oct. 9 in Hastings, MN. She was 91.

Mrs. Ask was a member of St. James'

Church, Sault Ste. Marie, MI, and a deputy of the Diocese of Northern Michigan when she was seated at the General Convention in Houston in 1970. She continued as a deputy until 1978. She was also a member of the national Executive Council, 1985-87. She was the representative for the United Thank Offering from northern Michigan, and was a former chair for UTO in Province 5. After the death of her husband, Henry, she moved to Hastings and continued to be active in church life. She is survived by a brother and a stepdaughter.

The Rev. **H. Alix Evans**, 49, rector of St. Mary's Church (Mariposa), Los Angeles, died Oct. 12. She had been under treatment for cancer.

Born in Charleston, WV, she was a graduate of the University of Virginia, Vanderbilt University, and Vanderbilt's Divinity School. Following a career as an attorney, she was ordained deacon in 1998 and priest in 1999 in the Diocese of Los Angeles. Ms. Evans served her entire ordained ministry at St. Mary's, as an assistant from 1998 to 2001, and as priestin-charge, then rector, from 2002. She was a member of the diocesan council. Surviving are her father, James; her sister, Anne; and a stepsister, Kimberly Dieckhoner.

Br. **William Gatewood Sibley**, O.H.C., 74, died Oct. 14 at Kingston Hospital, Kingston, NY.

A native of Newport News, VA, he was a graduate of the university of the South. He entered the Order of the Holy Cross in 1967, and served in a variety of ministries at houses of the order in West Park, NY; Nassau, Bahamas; Santa Barbara and Berkeley, CA, and Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He was superior of the order from 1990 until 1999. Br. William was an advocate for peace and for acial, economic and social justice, and was active in recovery ministries. He is survived by his sister, Mary Manning, of Brevard, NC, and several nieces and nephews.

Irion Worsham, honorary canon of the Diocese of Dallas and a deputy to several General Conventions, died Oct. 14 at his home in Dallas. He was 95.

He was born in Dallas and was a graduate of the University of Texas and Harvard Law School. He was a founding member of Trinity Church, Dallas, and in recent years he was a communicant of Incarnation, Dallas. Mr. Worsham was instrumental in formulating the legislation at General Convention that led to the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. He was chancellor of the Diocese of Dallas under three bishops, and was a member of the trustees of the Episcopal Foundation of Dallas.

Next week...
Anglican DNA

Church Directory



FORT MYERS BEACH, FL

ST. RAPHAEL'S 5601 Williams Drive (239) 463-6057 s Drive (239) 463-6057 info@saint-raphaels.org www.saint-raphaels.org The Rev. Alice Marcrum,

Sun H Eu 9; Tues Taize 7; Thurs Rosary 4 (Chapel)

STUART, FL

623 E. Ocean Blvd. ST. MARY'S (772) 287-3244

Website: www.stmarys-stuart.org

The Rev. Thomas T. Pittenger, r; the Rev. David Francoeur, assoc r; the Rev. Jonathan Coffey, the Rev. Stephen Fregeau, the Rev. Canon Richard Hardman, the Rev. Peggy Sheldon, assisting; Dr. Allen Rosenberg, organist & choir dir

Sun Eu 7:30, 9, 9 (contemporary), 11, 5. Tues H Eu 12:10; Thurs H Eu 10, Sat 5

MACON, GA

CHRIST CHUŔCH (1 min off I-75) (478) 745-0427 582 Walnut St. www.christchurchmacon.com "The first church of Macon; established 1825"

The Rev. Robert Gibson, asst; the Rev. Dr. Tim Klopfenstein, asst; the Rev. David Probst, assoc; the Rev. Kathy

Sun H Eu 8, Children's Eu 9, Sun School 10, Choral Eu 11;

Wed. HS/LOH 12:05

HONOLULU, HI

THE PARISH OF ST. CLEMENT (808) 955-7745 www.stclem.org stclem001@hawaii.rr.com

The Rev. Liz Zivanov, r Sun H Eu 7:30 & 10:15

ST. MARK'S (808) 732-2333 539 Kapahulu Ave. (#13 Bus end of line from Waikiki) Sun Masses 7, 9 (Sung); MWF 8 (5th Sun 8 only)

CHICAGO, IL

ASCENSION 1133 N. LaSalle Blvd. at Elm www.ascensionchicago.org (312) 664-1271 Sisters of St. Anne (312) 642-3638

The Rev. Gary P. Fertig, r; the Rev. Kurt Olson Sun Masses 8 (Low), 9 (Sung) 11 (Sol & Ser), MP 7:30, E&B 4 (1S, Oct-May) Daily: MP 6:40 (ex Sun) Masses 7, 6:20 (Wed), 10 (Sat); EP M-S 6, Sun 4; C Sat 5:30-6, Sun 10:30-10:50 Rosary 9:30 Sat

RIVERSIDE, IL

(CHICAGO WEST SUBURBAN) ST. PAUL'S PARISH 60 Akenside Rd. www.stpaulsparish.org (708) 447-1604

The Rev. Thomas A. Fraser, r; the Rev. Richard R. Daly, SSC, parochial vicar; the Rev. Canon Albert W. Y. Mensah, asst. Sat Vigil Mass 5, Sun Masses 8:30 (Solemn) & 10 (Sung) Wkdy Eu Tues 7, Wed 7, Fri 10:30. Sacrament of Reconciliation 1st Sat 4-4:30 & by appt., Rosary (4th Tues) 8:45, A/C

NEW ORLEANS, LA

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

2919 St. Charles Ave. On the street car line at the corner of 6th St.

Website: www.cccnola.org

The Very Rev. David duPlantier, dean Sun Mass 7:30 (1928), 10 (Choral H Eu), 6 (Rite II). Daily Mass: M-F 12:15. Sat 9:30

BOSTON, MA THE CHURCH OF THE ADVENT (617) 523-2377 30 Brimmer Street E-mail: office@theadvent.org

The Rev. Allan B. Warren III, r; the Rev. Patrick T. Grav. assoc; the Rev. Daphne B. Noyes, d; Sharon Knox-Hutchinson, Pastoral Assistant for Families

Sun MP 7:30, Ch S, 10:15; Masses 8, 9, 11:15 (Sol High); Mon-Fri, MP 9; Mass 12:15 (except Wed); EP 5:30; Wed, Mass 6: Sat, MP 8:30, Mass 9, C 9:30

NEWARK, NJ

GRACE CHURCH 950 Broad St., at Federal Sq. Website: www.gracechurchinnewark.org

The Rev. J. Carr Holland III, r Sun Masses 8 & 10 (Sung); Mon-Fri 12:10

PASSAIC, NJ

ST. JOHN'S Lafayette and Passaic Avenues Website: www.stjohnschurchpassaicnj.org (973) 779-0966
The Rev. William C. Thiele, p-i-c frthiele@gmail.com Sun Low Mass 8, Sung Mass 10:30, HD anno.

NEW YORK, NY PARISH OF TRINITY CHURCH

The Rev. Canon James H. Cooper, D. Min., r The Rev. Canon Anne Mallonee, v (212) 602-0800

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Broadway at Fulton The Rev. Canon James H. Cooper, D. Min., Sun H Eu 8, 10. Mon-Sat Prayer Service 12:30 Open Sun 7-4; Mon-Sat 10-6

ST. THOMAS

5th Ave & 53rd St. (212) 757-7013 www.saintthomaschurch.org The Rev. Andrew C. Mead, r. John Scott, organist and dir. of music; the Rev. Charles F. Wallace, headmaster; the Rev. Robert H. Stafford, the Rev. Victor Lee Austin, the Rev. Jonathan M. Erdman, the Rev. John Andrew, asst. Sun H Eu 8 (Said), 9 (Sung), 11 (Choral), Ev 4 (Choral); M-F MP & H Eu 8 & 12:10, EP & Eu 5:30 (Tues, Wed & Thurs Choral Evensong); Sat H Eu 12:10

SELINSGROVE, PA

129 N. Market (570) 374-8289

The Rev. Robert Pursel, Th. D., r Sun Mass 10 (Rite I); Wed Mass & Healing 1; Weekdays as announced (Rite II); Sacrament of Penance by appt.

WELLSBORO, PA

ST. PAUL'S

(570) 724-4771

(952) 920-9122

Website: www.stpaulswellsboro.org The Rev. Gregory P. Hinton, r Sat Eu 7, Sun Eu 8, 10; Wed H Eu 12

CHARLESTON, SC

CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

218 Ashlev Ave. (843) 722-2024

Website: www.holycom.org

The Rev. Dow Sanderson, r; the Rev. Dan Clarke, c; the Rev. Patrick Allen, assoc

Sun Mass 8 (Low) 10:30 (Solemn High)

MILWAUKEE, WI

ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL

(414) 271-7719 818 E. Juneau Ave. www.ascathedral.org

The Very Rev. Warren H. Raasch, dean

Sun Masses 8, 10 (Sung). Daily Mass, MP & EP as posted

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MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL, MN

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN

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(504) 895-6602

Light face type denotes AM, bold face PM; add, address; anno, announced; A-C, Ante-Communion; appt., appointment; B, Benediction; C, Confessions; Cho, Choral; Ch S, Church School; CP, Contemplative/Centering Prayer; c, curate; d, deacon, d.r.e., director of religious education; EP, Evening Prayer; Eu, Eucharist; Ev, Evensong; ex, except; 1S, 1st Sunday; hol, holiday; HC, Holy Communion; HD, Holy Days; HS, Healing Service; HU, Holy Unction; Instr. Instructions; Int, Intercessions; LOH, Laying On of Hands; Lit, Litany; Mat, Matins; MP, Morning Prayer; P, Penance; r, rector; r-em, rector emeritus; Ser, Sermon; Sol, Solemn; SD, Spiritual Direction; Sta, Stations; V, Vespers; v, vicar; YA, Young Adult; YPF, Young People's Fellowship. A/C, air-conditioned; H/A, handicapped accessible.

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