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BENEDICTINE EXPERIENCES

April 30-May 5, 2006

Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, NC "Stability and Sabbath: Sane Living in an Unstable World" Leaders: Br. Bede Thomas Mudge, OHC, The Rev. Suzanne Guthrie, The Rev. O.C. Edwards, director, Mr. Beverly Ward, music director

June 21-25, 2006

Catholic Conference Center, Dallas, Texas

Leaders: The Very Rev. Robert Hale, OSB, Cam, Bishop Nicholas Samra, George Trauth, Lynn Witherspoon, directors

July 7-20, 2006

Pilgrimage in Italy - Bose to Rome

(Assisi, Subiaco and Monte Cassino)

Leader: Dr. Esther de Waal

July 9-16, 2006

Bishop's Ranch, Healdsburg, CA

Leaders: Sr. Donald Corcoran, OSB, Cam, The Very Rev. Robert Hale, OSB, Cam, Dr. Roderick Dugliss, director, John Renke, music director

September 19-24, 2006

Episcopal House of Prayer, Collegeville, Minnesota

"A Benedictine Experience for those who have some familiarity with the Rule"

Leaders: The Rev. Ward Bauman, Members of monastic communities at St. John's Abbey and the Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Joseph

September 27-October 1, 2006

Byzantine Benedictine Experience , Dallas, Texas

(Eastern-rite Catholic Church)

Leaders: Sr. Donald Corcoran, OSB, Cam, Bishop Nicholas Samra, George Trauth, Lynn Witherspoon

October 19-22, 2006

Wisdom House, Litchfield, Connecticut

Leaders: Sr. Donald Corcoran, OSB, Cam, The Rev. Barbara Henry, liturgist, Dr. Susanne Wilcox, director

November 16-19, 2006

Cathedral College, Washington National Cathedral

Leaders: Sr. Donald Corcoran, OSB, Cam, The Rev. Ward Bauman, The Rev. Barbara Henry, liturgist, Milo G. Coerper, director

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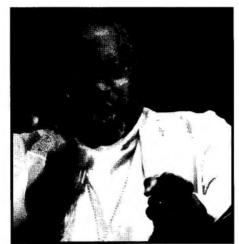
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me 232 Number 10

The objective of The Living Church magazine is to build up the body of Christ, by describing how God is moving in his Church; by reporting news of the Church in an unbiased manner; and by presenting diverse points of view.

THIS WEEK



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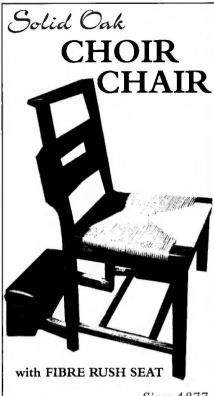
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Among Wild Beasts

". . . he was with the wild beasts. . ." (Mark 1:13)

First Sunday in Lent, March 5, 2006

BCP: Gen. 9:8-17, Psalm 25 or 25:3-9, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-13 **RCL:** Gen. 9:8-17, Psalm 25:1-9, 1 Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:9-15

We are all familiar with the testing of Jesus in the desert in Matthew (Matthew 4:1-11) and Luke (Luke 4:1-13) with its three classic temptations to which Jesus does not succumb. Here in Mark's version we have a bare bones account with little detail other than that he was in the wilderness for 40 days, was tempted by Satan, was with wild animals, and angels waited on him (Mark 1:13). Mark's whole account is compacted into two verses.

Who is this Satan? He makes his grand entrance onto the stage of scripture in the book of Job (Job 1 and 2) where he is the accuser, the adversary, the one who stands against Job. He symbolizes the powers that stand against the kingdom of God, the very powers that are made subject to Jesus (1 Peter 3:22). The domination system of our world is encapsulated in Satan. The more we move into the kingdom of God, the more we see that these powers have been made subject

to Christ. That's the test for us.

Four times we hear in the Noah story that God's covenant is not only with us but with every living creature. In the wilderness, Jesus models this harmony with the living creatures. The covenant with Noah bespeaks the harmony in nature, as does Jesus' presence with the wild beasts. There is no indication that the wild beasts that are with Jesus are a danger to him. The implication is that he is at home with them — perhaps it was from the beasts that Jesus learned to be wild, not to be domesticated. Jesus and the wild beasts are honoring covenant of companionship proclaimed to Noah. We are all in the same boat.

We enter this Lent with a warning and a promise. The warning is that life finds us at times tested in the wilderness. The promise is that we are with wild beasts and are waited on by angels.

Look It Up

Read *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C. S. Lewis, or go to the movie, and pay particular attention to Aslan.

Think About It

We often try to domesticate Jesus, to bend him to our cultural and political agendas. In doing so, we try to make him the propaganda agent for the powers of domination. But these powers are subject to Jesus. He is not their agent. Are we?

Next Sunday

Second Sunday in Lent, March 12, 2006

BCP: Gen. 22:1-14, Psalm 16 or 16:5-11, Rom. 8:31-39, Mark 8:31-38 **RCL:** Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:22-30, Rom. 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38

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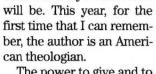
Giving and Forgiving in a Culture

Stripped of Grace

EFORCHARGE

By **Miroslav Volf**. With a foreword by the Most Rev. **Rowan Williams**. Zondervan. Pp. 247. \$12.99. ISBN 0-310-26574-6.

Each year I am eager to see what the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book



The power to give and to forgive lie at the heart of the nature of God, and of what it means to live the faithful life. On the surface they seem to be straightfor-

ward subjects. And yet it does not take long to realize that to speak of a giving and forgiving God, and the consequent expectation that we who confess our faith in such a God ought to be giving and forgiving ourselves, raises many problems and questions that must be faced. Only with honesty can we hope to live such a faith and with such an expectation of ourselves and each other.

Volf, who is well-known for his exploration of reconciliation, examines these issues with his customary wealth of illustration and imagination. Can we be giving and forgiving? We can, and indeed we must. Volf's important book helps us along the way. As always, this Archbishop's Lent Book is excellent both for individual Lenten reading as well as for study groups.

(The Very Rev.) Peter Eaton Denver, Colo.

Anybody See My Shoes?

Poetic Reflections from a Chaplain

By Dorothy Shelly. Xlibris. Pp 95. \$16.99, paper. ISBN 1-4134-9382-3.

This book gets its title from a scene described in "Benediction." As Ms. Sheely is about to pronounce the benediction at the conclusion of Morning Prayer, a resident shouts, "Anybody see my shoes?" The chaplain recalls Moses' encounter with God's presence at the Burning Bush and realizes the benedic-

(Continued on next page)

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(Continued from previous page)

tion has been given ... by another.

This book teems with the message that we receive more than we give. In "Joy in the Presence of Angels," a Bible study of the parable of the lost coin, the question is asked, "What do you most fear losing?" "My mind," answers a 90year-old amputee.

The book ends with a personal prose reflection, "Resurrected Silent Stirrings." On alternate Wednesday mornings Ms. Shelly convenes a poetry reading group. Lucy, a 90-something resident, says, "This poetry group brings back many of the lessons I taught my pupils many years ago in that one-room schoolhouse just down the road."

A lay parish visitor recently said to

me that the function of pastoral care is to help the people visited remember remember their connection with the parish, with the altar, with their friends, and with their own lives — past, present and future. That works for the visitor as well. The author reminds us to remove our shoes when we enter sacred spaces. and to realize that we may never find them again.

> (The Rev.) Charles V. Day Mt. Pocono, Pa.



Finding the Divine in the Everyday By Molly Wolf. Jossey-Bass. Pp. 211, \$16.95, paper. ISBN 0-7879-6580-4.

White China is Molly Wolf's personal shorthand for God-talk. In short essays, she unpacks the presence of God in our daily lives in everyday concepts terms. She struggles with tough issues such as "where is the biblical God who always answers prayer, who



punishes the wicked and comforts the afflicted and rewards the good?"

She does not believe for a moment that God wills suffering. Her response is that this is a world still subject to the three great necessary wild cards of biology, physics, and human free will. She sees God working through all this when we break through our constraints of fear, prejudice or the need to control. She tells us how God's grace is so deeply unjust that sinners never get what they deserve. Thank God.

At the same time God does not put a particularly high value on comfort. Everything that is spiritually right is messy, and virtually everything that is extremely neat and orderly probably hasn't been kicked hard enough yet to show how messy it really is. God can look terribly two-faced at times. But this isn't God's problem; it's our perception, which is clouded by our own confusion to keep love for ourselves. I highly recommend these well written essays about life and God in easily understood, everyday language.

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



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Reading the Offices

A USER'S GUIDE TO MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER. By Christopher L. Webber. Morehouse. Pp. 96. \$9.95. ISBN 0-8192-2197-X.

Veteran participants and those who are interested in learning how to read the Daily Offices will find this little book valuable. The offices (both Rites I and II) are presented in their entirety, and the author provides commentary and historical information on facing pages. A helpful glossary is

LET US BLESS THE LORD, YEAR TWO: Meditations on the Daily Office. By Barbara Cawthorne Crafton. Morehouse. Pp. 208. \$18.95. ISBN 0-8192-1983-5.

included.

The third of four volumes of meditations on the Daily Offices, this one covers Advent through Holy Week, Year Two. Having used an earlier volume during Advent and Christmas last year, I was glad to

see the release of this one. The meditations are wonderful, like this excerpt from Dec. 26: "Right after the Feast of the Baby, while we're still wearing our soft smiles: the first martyr."

PRAISES, PRAYERS AND CURSES: Conversations with the Psalms. By Richard H. Schmidt. Forward Movement. Pp. 311. \$15.95. ISBN 0-88028-264-9.

The editor of Forward Movement presents meditations on the psalms from a personal perspective. He reveals much about himself and shares the joys and struggles of his spiritual life in this journey through the Psalter.

Those who read the Daily Offices or who have tried to meditate on the psalms are likely to find themselves agreeing with the author as he



reflects on what the psalmist is saying. Each of the psalms is explored, including those omitted from the prayer book lectionary.

These brief meditations (250-300 words) examine a particular verse or a few lines of a psalm rather than exploring one in its entirety. For

example, in Psalm 61, Schmidt studies the first verse, *Hear my cry O God*, and listen to my prayer. "This short verse could stand as a summary of more than a third of the biblical psalms," he writes.

One of the pleasing aspects of this book is its variety. In some instances the author recalls incidents from the past when he was a rector. Sometimes he converses with God. In other chapters he tries to understand the psalmist. All in all, it's good stuff — a book worth picking up again and again.

David Kalvelage

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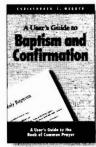
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Christopher L. Webber

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and godparents. Includes envelope.

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SHORT & SHARP

Prayer and Reflection

By Travis Du Priest

STORIES OF PRAYER/PRAYER AS STORY. By Patrick Hannon. ACTA. Pp. 128. \$15.95. ISBN 0-87946-295-7.

Weaving childhood memories, personal vignettes and stories into the world of prayer, Patrick Hannon leads us into a deeper appreciation of silence and of our authentic selves gathered for the Holy Eucharist.

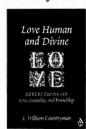
THE GIFT OF PRAYER: Embracing the Sacred in the Everyday. By Margaret Silf. BlueBridge. Pp. 133. \$14, paper. ISBN 0-97424-057-5.

The author lives in England and writes poetic-prose meditations on the interweaving of prayer and everyday events: little things like opening the curtains can lead to a focused meditation on light, or the countries and peoples of the East.

LOVE HUMAN AND DIVINE: Reflections on Love, Sexuality, and Friendship. By L. William Countryman. Morehouse. Pp. 79. \$9.95, paper. ISBN 0-8192-2170-8.

Well-known Episcopal priest, writer, and teacher William Countryman

explores in this small book Eros and the community of faith: "Eros is important to Christians because it touches on the love that is at the very heart of our faith ... and God."



MORNINGS WITH HENRI J.M. NOUWEN: Readings and Reflections. Compiled by Evelyn Bence. Servant. Pp. 136. \$10.99 paper. ISBN 0-86716-674-6.

Here are 112 excerpts for spiritual reading from the enormous scope of Henri Nouwen's writings: the paradox of prayer, the secret of waiting, loneliness, compassion.

SEVEN SPIRITUAL GIFTS OF WAITING. By Holly W. Whitcomb. Augsburg. Pp.127. \$11.99, paper. ISBN 0-8066-5128-8.

One of Nouwen's reflections was on waiting; here is an entire book on the spirituality of waiting which offers such gifts as patience, gratitude, humility and trust in God. An especially good portion is on gratitude and the blessings of small things.



Sidewalks and streets around the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas in Philadelphia were mostly clear of snow by Feb. 14, two days after a massive blizzard dumped more than a foot of snow across a wide swath of the Northeast. The church was forced to cancel all services Feb. 12.

Record Snow Disrupts Church in Northeast

After mild temperatures and below average snowfall through January, winter roared into the northeast with a vengeance. A blizzard that began early in the morning on Feb. 11 and continued all the next day left at least a foot of snow across a region that extended about 100 miles inland from the Atlantic Ocean and from Boston to Washington, D.C., forcing cancellation of numerous church services and drastically scaled back special celebrations at others.

The area around the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas in Philadelphia received more than 12 inches of snow, forcing the cancellation of all Sunday services. St. Thomas was founded by the Rev. Absalom Jones in 1792, and the parish had to cancel the speaker and other special events it had planned to commemorate the Lesser Feast named in honor of the first African-American to be ordained an Episcopal priest. The celebration was

rescheduled for Feb. 19.

Washington National Cathedral held services on Feb. 12 despite five inches of snow, but also rescheduled its Absalom Jones Day celebration for Feb. 19.

In addition to observances in honor of Absalom Jones, some 35 Episcopal churches across the country were planning to participate in Evolution Sunday, an ecumenical event. At press time it was uncertain how many of those services were cancelled or postponed.

Parts of New York City received more than 26 inches of snow, the largest amount ever recorded there during a 24-hour period. There was perfect attendance among the choir and liturgical team at Trinity Church, New York City, but only a "hearty remnant" in the pews, according to information on the parish website. A larger number participated from home, watching a broadcast of the service via video streaming over the internet.

Florida Diocese, Parish Reach Facility Accord

The Diocese of Florida and the leadership of Grace Church, Orange Park, have reached a tentative agreement over the use of the parish facilities, following a majority vote by the congregation to withdraw from the Episcopal Church. The agreement permits the congregation to worship at its present facilities through Easter, according to the Rev. Canon Kurt Dunkle.

In a letter to his congregation last month, the rector of Grace Church, the Rev. Sam Pascoe, wrote that vacating the property would prevent unseemly litigation "with which the diocese has repeatedly threatened us," and avoids the specter of a poor witness within the community. The agreement also allows the congregation of 1,500 to "make effective plans" for its future. The clergy have already transferred to the Anglican Province of Rwanda.

Portions of 10 congregations in the Diocese of Florida have quit the Episcopal Church since 2004, citing the actions of the 74th General Convention and subsequent decisions by the Rt. Rev. John Howard. In addition to Grace Church, clergy, lay leaders and communicants from St. Michael's, Gainesville; St. James', MacClenny; and St. Bartholomew's, High Springs, have withdrawn from the diocese; as have St. Luke's and St. John's in Tallahassee; and All Souls', Calvary, Nativity, and Redeemer in Jacksonville.

Sale of Property

Negotiations over the sale of All Souls' at fair market value to the congregation are also underway, according to Canon Dunkle, who said seven of the ten congregations have either already turned over keys to their properties or will soon.

An additional four congregations announced they were planning on withdrawing from the diocese if the

(Continued on next page)

Florida Parish

(Continued from previous page)

Episcopal Church "does not reverse course at its General Convention next June," according to a Jan. 17 press release. Fr. Pascoe estimated "as many as 25 or so churches could come out" after the conclusion of 75th General Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

Canon Dunkle said Bishop Howard was being "very prayerful" over the divisions within the diocese, and is "trying to find the best way the body of Christ in the Diocese of Florida is to be served."

Departing congregations repeatedly claimed near unanimity of opinion in opposition to the Episcopal Church, but in most instances that has not turned out to be the case, according to Canon Dunkle. He cited one instance in which it appears that 65 percent of the congregation's membership has stayed.

On Jan. 11, Bishop Howard inhibited seven of the dissenting clergy for "abandonment of Communion of this Church." The seven rejected Bishop Howard's inhibition, saying that they would continue to minister to their congregations under the oversight of the primates of Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and the Southern Cone.

BRIEFLY...

The Bishop of New Hampshire has voluntarily admitted himself into a 28day program at an alcohol treatment center. "I will be dealing with the disease of alcoholism, which for years I have thought of as a failure of will or discipline on my part, rather than a disease over which my particular body simply has no control, except to stop drinking altogether," wrote the Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson in a Feb. 13 letter. In a separate letter released the same day, Randolph K. Dales, president of the standing committee, expressed support for Bishop Robinson and his "courageous" example.



The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Bishop of North Carolina, opened Trinity Institute's 36th national conference with a stirring call to reconciliation as the mission of the Church. The Jan. 30-Feb. 1. drew about 350 people to Trinity Church, New York City. Others tuned in remotely.

Trinity Institute Focuses on Reconciliation

The difference between civilization and mutually assured destruction is reconciliation, according to the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Bishop of North Carolina, who preached at the start of Trinity Institute's 36th national conference. The Parish of Trinity Church, Wall Street, hosted the Jan. 30-Feb. 1

Bishop Curry said the secret to surviving is to recognize that each person can choose how to respond to the events that affect them. "The choice is ours," he said, "chaos or community ... This mission of reconciliation is for the very life of the world."

The decision to base this year's conference on the theme of reconciliation was "not a reaction to the sexuality issues in the Church," according to Donna Presnell, assistant manager for promotion and public relations at Trinity, but "about reconciliation wherever it is needed." The location of Trinity, Wall Street, which is within a few blocks of Ground Zero for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, is a constant reminder of what happens when hatred is the motivating force behind human behavior. That traumatic event provided at least as much inspiration for this year's conference theme as debate over sexuality, she said.

The conference drew about 350

people to Trinity. Interested persons also were able to participate remotely via closed-circuit television at 14 locations around the country and also via video streaming on the internet.

In addition to Bishop Curry, keynote speakers and preachers included the Rev. James Alison, a Roman Catholic theologian, priest and author; Sister Helen Prejean, CSJ, a Roman Catholic nun whose work with prisoners on death row was the focus of an Academy Award-nominated film; Gwendolyn Zoharah Simmons, an active member of the Bawa Muhaiyadeen Fellowship and Mosque and an assistant professor of religion in the Women Studies Department of the University of Florida; and Miroslav Volf, director of Yale Center for Faith and Culture and Henry B. Wright Professor of Theology at Yale Divinity School.

The addresses and panel discussions were interwoven with theological reflection in small groups. The group process was designed in partnership with the widely used Education for Ministry program of the School of Theology at the University of the South.

Episcopal News Service contributed to this report.

Chicago Receives Lilly Grant to Mentor Clergy

The Diocese of Chicago will be the recipient of a \$900,000 grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., to fund the second phase of a new program for mentoring clergy. Three years after granting \$1.6 million to launch the "Making Excellent Disciples" (MED) program, the board of directors of Indianapolis-based Lilly Endowment approved the additional funds that will enable the program to continue through June 2009, two years beyond the original completion of the project.

The second phase of MED places mentored curates in "mustard seed" congregations where they will serve for a minimum of three years. A mustard seed congregation is defined as having fewer than 150 members and having supportive lay leadership, financial viability, a clearly defined community vision, a potential for growth, and a desire to embrace change and accept diocesan direction on clergy assignments.

Requirements for Participation

Congregations participating as mustard seed congregations must agree to use the church development process designed by Kennon Callahan and outlined in his Twelve Keys to an Effective Church; attend a commissioning liturgy at the end of the curate's mentoring congregation; maintain a partnership with the mentoring congregation; implement a diocesandirected stewardship program; and participate in the full life of the diocese, including complying with diocesan policies on parochial reports, supporting the diocesan program at the common mission share level and attending diocesan training events. The diocese provides a one-time \$10,000 program fund for new ministry and waiver of fees for certain training events.

Canon Hayashi said the best proof of the program's impact is in the work of the curates in both their mentoring congregations and new ministries.



More than a Century

Epsie Wilson, at a celebration of her 108th birthday, with the Rev. B. Kris Kramer, rector of Grace Church, Radford, Va., where she has been a member her entire life. She says she has hosted in her home every bishop in the 87-year-old Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, was the first female vestry member of Grace Church, and has served every one of the seven rectors of her parish.

Grace Church photo

Hawaii Authorizes First DEPO Arrangement

The Diocese of Hawaii has created its first arrangement for delegated episcopal pastoral oversight (DEPO), permitting a Honolulu parish to invite the Bishop of South Carolina, the Rt. Rev. Edward L. Salmon, to offer pastoral episcopal care.

On Jan. 1, Calvary Church in Kaneohe asked the Rt. Rev. Richard Chang, Bishop of Hawaii for DEPO, as outlined by the House of Bishops' "Caring for all the Churches" agreement of March 23, 2004.

Bishop Chang responded by offering the parish the names of four bishops who would be acceptable to him. A member of the Anglican Communion Network, Calvary selected Bishop Salmon from Bishop Chang's list. The exact nature of his responsibilities toward Calvary Church has not yet been finalized, Bishop Salmon toldl The Living Church. Consistent with the terms of DEPO, Bishop Chang will maintain episcopal jurisdiction over the parish, and Calvary will remain part of the Diocese of Hawaii, according to Calvary's rector, the Rev. Joseph Carr.

Fr. Carr and Calvary senior warden Warren Na'ai praised Bishop Chang as "gracious" and "tolerant", telling the *Honolulu Advertiser*, "Our goal all along is to remain in communion with other churches" in the diocese. "We haven't said 'Fine, we're taking our toys and leaving,' because our bishop has been so gracious."

Virginia Seminary Gives Awards to Two Preachers

Virginia Theological Seminary recently announced two recipients for the 2006 John Hines Preaching Award. The two are: the Ven. Patricia R. Davis, archdeacon for the Diocese of Southern Virginia, and the Rev. William Blake Rider, canon residentiary at Christ Church Cathedral, Houston.

Established in 1998, the award, "where prophetic voice is central within the sermon," is named in honor of for-

mer Presiding Bishop John Hines, a 1933 graduate of the seminary. Preaching on the 35th chapter of Isaiah and the 11th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, Archdeacon Davis focused on the theme of searching for God. Fr. Rider based his sermon on the story of the Canaanite woman found in the Gospel of Matthew, clarifying who is entitled to mercy.

Both sermons can be viewed at www.vts.edu/news/awards.

Bomb Damages Baghdad Church

The threat of violence toward Christians in Iraq and the Middle East remains high as six churches in Iraq were attacked by Islamist militants Jan. 29, allegedly in retaliation over the publication of cartoons in a Danish newspaper that were said to have defamed Islam.

One car bomb exploded outside St. George's Church in Baghdad, damaging the country's only Anglican church. Speaking from Kansas while on a lecture tour of the United States, the vicar of St. George's, the Rev. Canon Andrew White, told THE LIVING CHURCH that no one was killed at the parish.

The churches in Baghdad and Kirkuk were struck as their congregations gathered for worship. More than a dozen Iraqi Christians were injured in the simultaneous explosions that also damaged Roman Catholic, Syrian Orthodox and Assyrian churches in the capital. Patriarch Delly of the Chaldean Church escaped one of the attacks by a matter of minutes after security checks delayed his arrival at St. Mary Roman Catholic Church.

Aid to the Church in Need, a Roman Catholic charity, reported "fundamentalist Muslim clerics called for the attacks after a series of cartoons in a Danish newspaper denigrated the Prophet Mohammed."

Muslim anger with the Danish government for refusing to censure the newspaper have led to boycotts and violent protests in Muslim states and Europe.

The Baghdad bombing underscores the precarious existence Iraqi Christians must endure. The Rt. Rev. Mark S. Sisk, Bishop of New York, told diocesan convention that Iraq's proposed constitution "hammered out between warring Islamic factions, makes little reference to the rights" of the nation's Christian minority.

Challenges to Communion Examined

The Church is uniquely qualified to provide hope and healing worldwide, but must overcome its own obstacles. cultural commentator Os Guinness said to some 250 attendees at the inaugural "Mere Anglicanism" conference, Jan. 19-21 at the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul, Charleston, S.C.

Dr. Guinness, an author, lecturer and apologist, addressed the considerable challenges faced by the Church in a world increasingly marked by free markets, free elections, and free consumer choices. Instant communication and information availability, massive engines of wealth creation, and unprecedented mobility are producing worldwide freedom, health improvements and higher standards of living. At the same time, these phenomena are causing dissolution of old certainties, great losses of basic trust, and an emerging blight of sex slavery, particularly in areas of Asia.

Given its advantages as a global religion with an unparalleled record of charity, the Anglican Church stands poised to minister to the world in a uniquely powerful way, yet has significant challenges to overcome, not least that of re-evangelizing Western Europe and North America.

The Rev. Stephen Noll, an Episcopal priest canonically resident in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, spoke more specifically on the circumstances of the worldwide Anglican Communion, suggesting a blueprint for the new covenant proposed in the Windsor Report.

Dr. Guinness' and Fr. Noll's addresses were later discussed by panels of academicians, clergy, and lay persons.

"Theological Think-tank"

"Mere Anglicanism" is the brainchild of the Rt. Rev. C. FitzSimons Allison, retired Bishop of South Carolina and a former professor at Sewanee and Virginia Theological Seminary, who is seeking to gather what he calls a "theological think-tank" that will



Chris Humphrey photo

Dr. Guinness addresses challenges to the Church: new freedoms, greater uncertainty.

provide resources that will create disciples and train and educate lay and clergy leaders. These resources will include conferences and publications. Members of the group's steering committee include the Very Rev. William McKeachie, dean of the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul; Sarah Hey, president of Sanctuary in the Diocese of Upper South Carolina; and the Rev. R. William Dickson, rector of St. Andrew's, Fort Worth, Texas.

"Our concern in Mere Anglicanism is the unity of the Church which must be grounded in the Christian faith, now widely denied within and without the churches," Bishop Allison said. "We hope to recover, guard, and proclaim the great treasure of the Christian faith as it has been received by the Anglican Church."

Find more news, including updates of stories on these pages: www.livingchurch.org

AROUND THE DIOCESES

Gulf Coast Transformation

The Diocese of Mississippi voted overwhelmingly during its annual council to affirm its historic connections to both the worldwide Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church. The council, which met Feb. 3-5 at a hotel convention center in Southhaven, also learned details of a "multi-phase, national fundraising plan," to be launched in partnership with the Diocese of Louisiana.

In his address to convention, the Rt. Rev. Duncan M. Gray, III, said the fundraising campaign "is being directed and managed by the [Episcopal] Church Foundation and is fully supported by our Presiding Bishop and the entire program, mission and stewardship resources of our national church office." The campaign is expected to launch in mid-March. Bishop Gray said, and the proceeds would be used to "restore and transform" the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church in parts of the Gulf Coast affected by Hurricane Katrina last August.

Following the address, delegates from the diocese's 84 congregations turned to two resolutions addressing the developing split between Anglicans in various portions of the world over theological and jurisdictional issues. The first resolution commended the Windsor Report, which Bishop Gray called "a roadmap by which we can maintain our communion as a worldwide body of faithful Christians." The resolution acknowledges the time required to fully implement the Windsor Report's recommendations and that key components of that work will "personal include conversations. prayer, and Bible study, especially with those with whom we differ." The resolution concluded with an affirmation of Bishop Gray's leadership throughout the conflict.

The second resolution, adopted later the same day, expressed to the Archbishop of Canterbury the council's "strong protest" of bishops from other areas of the Anglican Communion taking action "at odds with the recommen-



Lauren Auttonberry/The Mississippi Episcopalian photo

The Rev. Chuck Culpepper, vicar of St. Alexis' Church, Jackson, addresses the Feb. 3-5 annual council in the Diocese of Mississippi. Delegates to the annual council admitted St. Alexis' as a mission congregation of the diocese, the first new congregation to be admitted since 1967.

dations of the Windsor Report." Those actions included unauthorized visits by two African bishops to the Diocese of Mississippi. Both resolutions were adopted by wide margins.

Bishop Gray reassured council the diocese will not be "sidetracked from its important work of mission by topics that may evoke strong emotions and conflict but are not at the heart of what we are called by God to engage."

Committed to Mission

The annual convention of the Diocese of Tennessee approved rules of order for the special convention later this month to elect a bishop coadjutor and amended its canons to permit individual congregations to decide whether or not to contribute to the program budget of the General Convention. Convention met Jan. 27-28 at St. Paul's Church in Murfreesboro.

The Rt. Rev. Bertram Herlong commended the diocese for being one of only two nationally to increase the number of members during each of the past three years. This was the last annual convention at which Bishop Herlong will preside. On March 18, these same delegates will meet in special convention at Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville, to elect the 11th Bishop of Tennessee. During more than 12 years as diocesan, Bishop Herlong oversaw the creation of seven new congregations with an eighth scheduled to be planted later this year. To date all seven continue to flourish.

Out of "deep concern" for the future of those new church plants, Bishop Herlong announced that a group of diocesan leaders had created Volunteers for Mission, Inc., a separately incorporated fund of some \$500,000 designed to provide supplemental financial support to the fledgling congregations. Bishop Herlong explained that the new fund would enable the new bishop the freedom to focus on other areas of ministry without jeopardizing the survival of the new congregations.

During the business portion of the meeting, delegates voted to permit each congregation to deduct that portion of its share of the annual budget of the diocese designated for the program budget of General Convention. Congregations can send that amount directly to the Episcopal Church Center or to other local, national or international ministries designated by the congregation's vestry or mission council. The convention adopted a \$1.4 million budget.

In other action, the convention reaffirmed its previous acceptance of and submission to the Windsor Report. A study guide to the document was prepared by the Rev. Leigh Spruill and the Rev. Timothy Jones, St. George's, Nashville, and commended to the congregations and clergy of the diocese. The Episcopal Church document, "To Set Our Hope on Christ," a response to the Windsor Report's request that the Episcopal Church provide a rationale for certain decisions of the 74th General Convention, was commended for study as well.



Teaching Stewardship Children

By Terry Parsons

Will our children be stewards? The quick answer to this question is an increasingly shaky "maybe," quickly qualified by "but it depends on us.

The "us" refers to parents, relatives, friends and anyone with a love for children, whether that love is theoretical or involves children with whom you have a relationship. It also refers to the Church.

The Stewardship Office of the Episcopal Church is asking this question about children and stewardship because childhood has changed in ways that call for new responses from the Church. For example, consider these facts:

- Young people under age 20 spend five times more (in inflation adjusted dollars) than their parents did at the same age.
- Young people, newborns through age 22, represent a \$1 trillion market to sellers in the United States, through their own direct spending and influence over family purchases.
- Consumer product companies spend over \$230 billion annually (\$2,190 per household) on marketing, much of it directed at children and teens.
- In a 2002 survey, high school seniors answered correctly only 50 percent of questions on income, money management, saving, investing, spending and credit. In other words, they failed a financial literacy test.
- 53 percent of children have their own television in their room. More than 25 percent of two-through four-year-old children have their own television.

Children represent a profitable market and the marketplace is working hard to get their attention. Not only are advertisers directing more dollars toward the youth market, they are looking for ways to get their messages directly to children, bypassing parental screens. In addition to using broadcast and print advertising and product placements, they are cultivating opinion leaders, called "connectors," among teens by using special offers and encouragements to promote their products.

Advertisers know lessons learned early last longer, which is why auto manufacturers advertise during children's programs and some use popular cartoon characters to sell their vehicles. Marketers are even finding access to children in schools. Some 7.7 million students in approximately 11,500 middle schools and high schools across the country watch Channel One daily. The program includes ten minutes of news and two minutes of advertising.

Of the "kid finance" resources available, it is hard to find even one that mentions giving and sharing. Almost without exception, these books tout saving as the first principle of fiscal wisdom, followed by some hazy thoughts on spending wisely. The Dec. 12 issue of *U.S. News and World Report*, in an article about "Teaching Your Kids about Money," offered good advice on saving, but nothing on sharing. The "best advice" currently available to children and their families about wise money management is this: Keep it all for yourself.

It is time for all of us, especially the Church, to pay better attention to the formation going on in our culture. In July 2005 the Stewardship Office of the Episcopal Church presented an event focusing on children and stewardship. The question that guided the event was, "With our children receiving 3,000 messages a day urging them to spend, where is the voice in the village inviting them to share?"

The interesting thing is that the rest of the "village" seems to expect, and want, the Church to take up this task. In his book *How Not to Be Your Child's ATM*, author Nathan Dungan laments that "religious organizations have abdicated their role in helping young people shape their financial values." The authors of the Alban Institute's book *Growing Up Generous* wrote, "After contacting more than 100 Christian churches nationwide, we found no church that was assertively or innovatively encouraging youth to give financially."

If the Church is to be that voice in the village, we can begin simply.

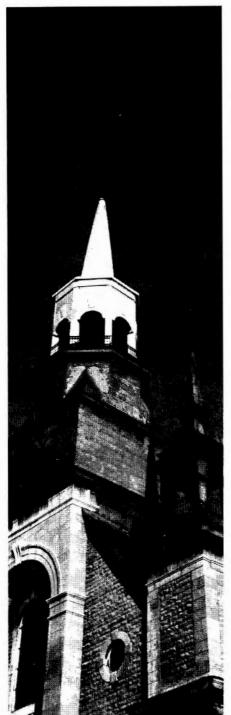
- Make sure children have an opportunity to participate in the regular offerings of the congregation.
- Give everyone offering envelopes and invite everyone, regardless of age, to make a financial commitment to God's work through their congregation.
- Nathan Dungan's book makes an excellent group study resource. But instead of making it the focus of a Sunday morning adult forum, consider meeting to discuss it on a weekday evening or on a Saturday so your members can invite their friends.
- Resolve to assist adults in acquiring mastery over their own finances. The reason children are not learning this is that their parents didn't learn it either.
- · Encourage families to make sharing a family affair, with goals for family giving.
- Make use of the Episcopal Church's online resources at episcopalchurch.com/stewardship.
- Work ecumenically. Raise the issue of children and stewardship in ministerial associations and other forums to develop community discussion and responses to the commercial culture.
- Most of all, pray. Get to know what the gospels have to say about the role
 of money in our lives as members of the body of Christ.

Will our children be stewards? The answer can be, "Yes!"

Terry Parsons is the stewardship officer for the Episcopal Church.

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By Glenn N. Holliman

In considering how to communicate with a congregation so that a parish can pursue a successful fundraising campaign, a number of basic requirements emerge. The first step is determining what God is calling your church to accomplish at this time in your history. What ministries need to be enhanced or initiated, and what impact might they have on your congregation, its programs and property?

Usually this "visioning" process starts with informal discussions among church leaders that are brought to the attention of the vestry. At that point, most churches appoint a committee to explore the emerging needs. This exploratory committee does an initial investigation of the opportunities or challenges and reports back to the vestry. If an issue related to property needs to be addressed, the vestry may authorize subcommittees and some early funding to employ a construction engineer to survey existing property or an architect to advise on possible new construction.

That's when the vestry should inform the entire congregation about the exploratory process. The congregation must walk this visioning walk with the vestry and committee. Capital campaigns fail if they are forced from above without the opportunity for input from members of the congregation, so unless the vestry intends to give all the money themselves, the members of the parish must be allowed, and encouraged, to join in the visioning.

Since the early 1970s, the number of not-for-profit organizations in the United States has increased from approximately 300,000 to more than 1.5 million. Unlike their parents, church members in the pews today have many options as to where to invest their philanthropic resources. The parish cannot ignore this reality. Parish leaders must present to the congregation an urgent and compelling need.

With this in mind, a communications chairperson should be appointed to

begin telling the story to the congregation. You may not have a Moses to lead your visioning committee, but it is important to both inform and involve the congregation in the planning. Hearts truly need to be stirred.

Parish leaders must present to the congregation an urgent and compelling need.

After several months of committee and subcommittee work, and listening to opinion leaders and others in the congregation, the vestry may receive a tentative plan that could lead to a capital campaign, for maintenance, reconfiguration of space, or an addition to facilities.

After the vestry has accepted a tentative plan, parish leaders should go to the congregation again. Hold a congregation review with the engineer or architect

present. Generally it is important to have a series of meetings, often in people's homes, to inform and involve others. The communications plan should be aggressive. Many churches will invest in preparing literature at this point to illustrate the vision. The parish website, email, poster displays, direct mail, the parish newsletter, the weekly bulletin and the spoken word all should be used to convey the vision and to encourage a critique of it. The feedback received should be used to improve the plans.

Involve the persons who would use the enhanced or additional space as you do your planning. Believe it or not, one church I worked with failed to include the kitchen crew in planning the new parish hall and kitchen. Another built Christian education space without involving the Sunday school teachers or youth director. Don't make these mistakes.

Invite hard and difficult questions, and don't be defensive about criticism. It is so much better to consider issues in this phase than to be surprised in the giving phase.

With these pieces in place, the next step is to conduct a feasibility study. This is a formal survey, usually conducted by an outside consultant, to discover if the congregation is aware of the plans, supportive of the vision, willing to work and pray for the effort, willing to give to the campaign, and has the ability to reach the proposed financial goal. The entire congregation should be invited to participate in the feasibility study either by personal interviews or mail.

If the results of this study are positive enough to move forward, the giving phase can be launched. When the congregation has been invited to participate throughout the process, this phase is much easier to accomplish. The heavy work of communication has already been undertaken, so there should be no surprises. Most members of the parish will have already decided if and how much they intend to give, and about 80 percent of those who will give to the campaign are just waiting to be asked.

With this approach, what used to be a tense and anxious time can now be a time of parish thanksgiving and celebration. Those who are going to pledge to your campaign have been

informed and involved from the beginning. They have ownership of the vision, and with ownership comes generous giving.

Glenn N. Holliman is vice president for giving services of the Episcopal Church Foundation.

Stewardship Resources for Congregations

The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS), an association of church leaders who "understand, practice, and proclaim God's call to generosity," has developed a set of print resources for use by congregations to encourage prayerful giving.

Designed to fit in a church tract rack or in a standard letter-size envelope, the 12- to 16-page booklets can be utilized as a centerpiece for teaching stewardship during parishes' annual pledge drives and throughout the year.

The organization's website says the themes addressed in the booklets can be used in training and formation for vestries, stewardship committees and other leadership groups; in small or large group study; in adult church school classes or forums: and on retreats.

Titles offered in the series include:

- · Spirituality and Money: Seven Questions that Saved My Spiritual Journey
 - From Scarcity to Abundance
 - Barnabas: A Model for Holistic Stewardship
- Stewardship: The Challenge of the Prodigal Son

Discounts are available for bulk orders. For complete pricing details and to order, call the Episcopal Network for Stewardship at 1-800-699-2669.

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Celebration of Abundance

A 132-page book chronicling 10 years in the life of a pension fund may well strike you as a miracle cure for insomnia. But for the many Episcopal clergy, retirees, and their families whose financial security and well-being are dependent upon the Church Pension Fund (CPF), the fund's remarkable success is cause

for celebration. The new book by Alan Blanchard, who served as Church Pension Group president from 1991 through 2004, tells the inside story behind the celebration.

Mr. Blanchard oversaw a 10year process in which the fund enjoyed unprecedented growth. and in Clergy Wellness and the Stewardship of Abundance, he recounts that process, its results, and its implications for the future of the Church. The story begins in 1994, when CPF trustees had the opportunity to explore uses for assets beyond those required to meet obligations. They undertook a decade-long consultation with people throughout the Church about the needs and desires of plan members and beneficiaries. That dialogue led to many new benefits, and enhancements to existing benefits.

Hailing the work of CPF's team of staff, advisors, and trustees, Mr. Blanchard recounts that the fund's diversified portfolio enjoyed growth throughout the 1980s and '90s, and fund assets exceeded pension commitments to the point that CPF could enlarge and improve the plan on a previously impossible scale. Then came 2000, a year that Blanchard calls "off the charts."

As the fund's assets grew, CPF sought to systematically learn more about what its members and beneficiaries sought. As a result, Mr. Blanchard said, "CPF found proactive ways to listen to its clients, hear their concerns and determine how to act on those concerns."

Based on those conversations, the fund sought to offer increased flexibility in response to changing clergy demographics, including the 30-year early retirement option, new spousal pension options, and easing of restrictions on work-after-retirement rules. Another primary concern addressed was to offer improved pensions to retirees struggling

to make ends meet because of low pensions - "leveling the playing field for those in greatest need."

The heart of the story is how CPF went about achieving these objectives, outlining a discernment process that Blanchard feels

> offers principles and processes that can benefit other church research and decision-making teams. Key to its success was an approach that emphasizes collaboration and creativity that gave committees a sense of common cause, not competitiveness. The process also placed a high priority on getting deep involvement from those who are affected, and keeping decisionmakers in the loop.

The book's largest section details the wide range of 20 ben-

efit enhancements that were introduced during the decade, representing a commitment of more than \$1.2 billion. This is followed by a look to the future. CPF is studying the changing Church and the changing face of the priesthood, and shares some of its findings here.

This attractively designed book offers enough charts and tables to satisfy the number-crunchers. But all are carefully and clearly explained, so there is plenty of helpful information here for even the casual reader.

According to Mr. Blanchard, CPF undertook this book to increase awareness among people directly affected by the fund, as well as to offer its perspectives on "what's next" to stimulate consideration and discussion in the larger Church community. Toward that end. the book has already been sent to a portion of the members of the clergy pension plan; all other members will receive a flyer inviting them to request a complimentary copy. You may also request a free copy by calling 1-866-369-2343.

Mr. Blanchard is to be commended for making this important information accessible and highly readable. A copy of Clergy Wellness and the Stewardship of Abundance should be in the home of every active and retired clergyperson.

Michael O'Loughlin is director of associated publications.

Did You Know...

The National Coalition for **Burned Churches, based** in Charleston, S.C., documented more than 1,700 arsons, attempted arsons, bombings and suspicious church fires across the U.S. from 1990 to 2000.

Quote of the Week

Alpha course founder the Rev. Nicky Gumbel in the Diocese of Oxford Reporter: "If I could find a better way I'd drop Alpha tomorrow. I'm not interested in Alpha: I'm interested in people coming to know Christ."

Recognizing Generosity

We are pleased to recognize the Living Church Associates by name in this special Charitable Giving Issue. These Associates are persons who contributed at least \$100 to the annual campaign of the Living Church Fund during 2005.

The Living Church Fund was initiated when it became clear that income from advertising and subscriptions was not able to keep pace with the steadily increasing costs of printing, paper, and postage. Donations to the fund supplement our general working budget, and the enthusiastic response from donors is most gratifying.

It is particularly encouraging to note that last year's campaign was the most successful we have conducted in recent years. Subscribers and friends of THE LIVING CHURCH contributed more than \$189,000 to this fund, enabling us to surpass our annual goal. The number of donors increased, and the number of persons remembering loved ones with memorial gifts and honoraria doubled compared with 2004.

In challenging economic times, it has been the Living Church Associates who have ensured that this magazine could continue to provide its uniquely comprehensive and objective weekly reporting. More recently, the Associates, and all who contribute to this fund, have enabled us to make significant improvements to the magazine. Their generosity has allowed us to significantly expand our coverage of news of the Church and the worldwide Communion, offer in-depth treatment of topics of reader interest, and provide additional resources to our readers online.

These enhancements are crucial because the interest in accurate, objective and timely Church information has never been greater. With General Convention now just months away, and the next Lambeth Conference already on the horizon, the demands — and expenses — of this undertaking will continue to rise. We hope we can count on your financial support this year to help us meet these challenges. A donation form is included in this issue for your convenience.

We offer our prayers of gratitude to all those who have given so generously to the Living Church Fund. We also hope that many more persons will be moved to join the Associates by participating in the 2006 campaign. Whether you have helped to sustain this publication in the past or are considering making a gift for the first time this year, please know that all gifts, of every amount, are taxdeductible and most gratefully appreciated.

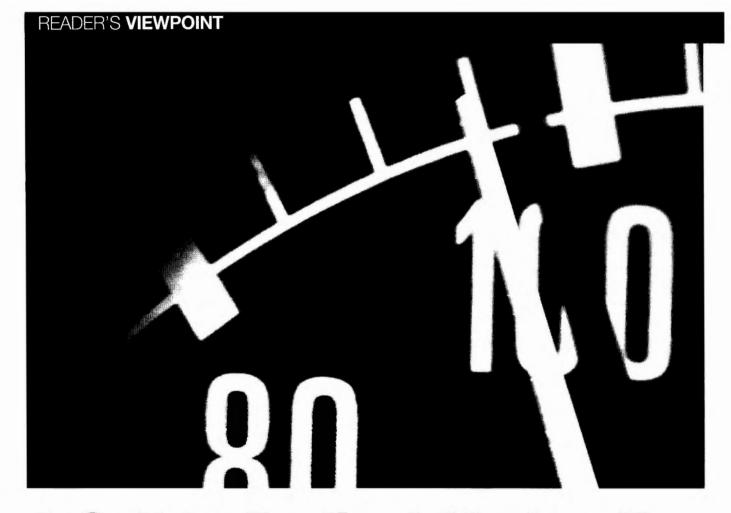
Strengthen Vocations

For more than 1,500 years, the Western Church has set aside special days at the beginning of each season to offer thanks for God's gifts and to call to mind the need to enjoy those gifts in moderation and to share them with those in need. The Latin designation for these days — the quatuor tempora, "four times" became garbled over the centuries into what we now call Ember Days.

Ember weeks traditionally were marked with prayer and fasting on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, and by the end of the fifth century, ordinations to the priesthood and the diaconate were permitted on the Saturdays of Ember week. In our own day, these days have evolved into times when postulants and candidates for ordination communicate with their bishop to outline their spiritual development and academic progress.

This week, let us pray that all Christians will earnestly strive to live out their vocations, and, in a special way, pray for all those who are pursuing ordination. May they be guided by the Holy Spirit and strengthened each day in their commitment to share the good news of Jesus Christ, to his honor and glory.

It is particularly encouraging to note that last year's campaign was the most successful we have conducted in recent years.



A Call to Radical Moderation

By John H. Taylor

"Moderation in all things - including moderation."

This aphorism has both Episcopal and political bona fides by virtue of being attributed to at least two distinguished Americans with backgrounds in the church and politics.

Its first reputed author was legendary inventor and philanthropist Arnold O. Beckman, who died in 2003 at the age of 104. Dr. Beckman's connection to our church is perhaps tenuous. He was more scientifically than religiously minded. But since his late wife, Mabel, was Episcopalian, Dr. Beckman used to worship at All Saints' Church in Pasadena, Calif., before their family moved to Orange County in the 1950s. As a businessman and a citizen-politician, Dr. Beckman was famous for his even temperament and insistence on common sense and sound ethics as cornerstones for success in business and life. Each day of his life, Dr. Beckman preached the gospel by the way he treated others.

Sometimes credited with composing the slogan independently is Ray Price. the head of President Nixon's White House speechwriting office. Like the 37th president, Mr. Price is an exemplar of moderate, pragmatic Republicanism, which at present is not the fashionable kind of Republicanism.

Last April I was among 750 at the Nixon Library who heard a speech by former Senator Robert Dole, President Nixon's eulogist and friend and the GOP's candidate for president in 1996. Sen. Dole said that he wished his former colleagues in Washington would rediscover the virtues of compromise for the sake of the common good. Asked about illegal immigration during the Q&A session, for instance, he declined to give the overheated, red-meat answer that California audiences often like to hear. "I hope that wasn't too evasive," he said, "although it was supposed to be." As the black SUV he was riding in pulled away from the curb in front of the library, his last words to us as he waved goodbye were "We need more moderates!"

In Washington — by all means. In the Church — without question. In both we are angrily, sometimes pridefully divided, between red and blue states in politics and the theologies of "The Passion of the Christ" and The Da Vinci Code in the church. Some fear the current furor will cause more painful divisions in the Episcopal Church than those over the prayer book and ordination of women a generation ago. If it does, is it because the issues are more divisive, or because we are more susceptible to division? Are we becoming more willing to go to war over our differences, no matter what the cost to our nation, communities, congregations, and even families?

No matter what we think about events in the church, it's hard to avoid the impression that in every corner of society there are more lines in the

sand being drawn, more gauntlets being hurled down, more deal-breakers being identified. Some might say this is an inevitable consequence of living in a complex, free society that is wrangling with difficult issues. After all, the expression goes, "Moderation in all things - including moderation." It suggests that we should accommodate ourselves to one another for the sake of community except when there is some overriding reason to stand on principle or ideology — an inescapable injustice, perhaps, or an unacceptable compromise of some founding, determinative truth.

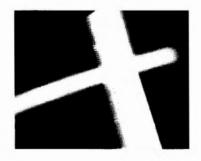
But what if we really are becoming angrier, less flexible, more isolated from one another, less willing to set aside our prerogatives and passions for the sake of the common good? During Lent and Holy Week last year, as I experienced the same disturbances of life that we all have, the same anxieties, the same slings and arrows we all must absorb, I felt myself wondering whether our suffering Church is being called to a posture of radical moderation as an example to our nation and the world. If the body of Christ learns to manage its differences in charity, love, and indivisibility, what a potent salve it might be for the scarred body politic.

Of course, we can never forget that there are people who suffer in the Church and in our national community. We cannot forget that the work of Christ in God's realm remains unfinished, just as the work of creating an ideal community remains unfinished (and probably always will) for those who serve in government. And yet as our Church and nation become increasingly polarized - and as the masses in the theological and political center wonder who speaks for them perhaps moderation is becoming the new radicalism. Perhaps these days it is truly prophetic to say that we shall keep our community whole no matter what. In other words, Moderation in all things. Period!

For the April 15 issue of *The National Catholic Reporter*, veteran Vatican watcher John L. Allen, Jr., contributed a moving assessment of the legacy of John Paul II which suggested

that the appeal of a generous temperament can help a leader keep a diverse community together, even if he is, as in the late pope's case, an icon of orthodoxy. "John Paul was a selfless figure in a me-first world." Allen wrote. "This is the key that unlocks why John Paul drew enormous crowds, even where his specific political or doctrinal stands may be unpopular ... Deeper than politics, either secular or ecclesiastical, lies the realm of personal integrity - goodness and holiness, the qualities we prize most in colleagues, family and friends. A person may be liberal or conservative, avant-garde or traditional, but let him or her be decent and most of the time that's enough." May we all learn from his example.

The Rev. John H. Taylor is vicar of St. John Chrysostom Church and School in Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif.



Moderation

in

all

things,

including

moderation.

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



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Significant Leadership

I am very disappointed in your assessment of the candidates for Presiding Bishop, particularly Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori [TLC, Feb. 19]. I can only conclude that you have failed to do your "homework."

Having worked closely with Bishop Jefferts Schori for the past several years, I read your concerns and could only wonder if we were thinking about the same person. At St. Jude's Ranch for Children, where I was CEO and president, Bishop Katharine offered pastoral care and support to Chapel of the Holy Family, which included two Anglo-Catholic, theologically conservative congregations (one was Spanish-speaking) and was, even by those who opposed the ordination of women, respected and appreciated. Her willingness to reach out in love and to put the welfare and spiritual needs of the children we cared for and the people who worshiped with us ahead of her own "position and politics" was nothing less than a tremendous blessing in our ministry.

As a woman who had achieved a significant role of leadership, she served as an inspiration and encouragement to the young women residing with us as they sought to increase their own confidence and self-esteem and to rebuild their lives. Far from being a "nominee much the same," I think she would bring a much needed and healthy breath of fresh air to our Church.

(The Rev.) Steven W. Mues St. Stephen's Church Wichita, Kan.

I know nothing about any of the four nominees for Presiding Bishop. From what you have published, the only one that appeals to me is Bishop Gulick of Kentucky because of his experience in ecumenical and interreligious relations, having co-chaired the Anglican Roman Catholic Dialogue for about nine years as well as having served as one of the Episcopal Church's representatives on the Consultation of Church Union. This experience should have widened his view of the whole Church - something which is so needed today not only for the Anglican Communion's interrelationships, but also ecumenical relationships with other Christian Churches and inter-faith relationships with rapidly growing Islam, for example.

> (The Rev.) George H. Brant Bordentown, N.J.

Diocesan Abundance

The article that appeared in the Jan. 29 issue did not accurately report what I said to the delegates to convention in the Diocese of Western Massa-

chusetts on Oct. 28, 2005. I wish to set the record straight.

What I said is "we cannot cry poor" in this diocese because the total of parish endowments and invested funds amount to \$38 million, and the total of diocesan endowments and invested funds amount to \$26 million. A diocese with total endowments and invested funds of \$64 million *should* never cry poor.

Bruce A. Rockwell, treasurer Diocese of Western Massachusetts Springfield, Mass.

"Crude" Theology

Although I appreciate the concerns the Rev. Canon M. Fred Himmerich expressed in his guest column [TLC, Feb. 5] regarding "crude theology," it is simplistic to attempt to discern C.S. Lewis's theology of the atonement from one book (*Mere Christianity*), while ignoring the entire corpus of his works. As a master of medieval literature, Greek and Roman classics, the patristics, and of course scripture and the Book of Common Prayer, Lewis's theological understanding was both

complex and comprehensive.

In his fictional works, Lewis incorporated seemingly contradictory pictures of the atonement, including both the substitutionary atonement and the deception of the devil. He did not ignore the deification of humanity, but understood this as part of the ongoing process of sanctification.

Lewis's difficulty in explaining the atonement was not theological or intellectual. Lewis sometimes found it difficult to put into theological formulae what he experienced in his own life. As he struggled to express his understanding of the Christian faith within his children's books, his images were by necessity simple and even crude. However, he hoped that the simplicity and beauty of these images might sneak "past watchful dragons" within the minds of adults, leaving a seed which might one day open the heart to the gospel.

If some Narnia readers' understanding of the atonement is "crude," I do not think Lewis himself would object. As Christians, we may need to be more compassionate toward those whose understanding of the great mysteries is less sophisticated or "theologically correct" than our own.

(The Rev.) Judy Spruhan Rosebud Episcopal Mission Rosebud, S.D.

The Rev. Canon M. Fred Himmerich certainly does not speak for the majority of Christian theologians through the centuries when, in his guest column, he indicates that a theory of sacrificial atonement is contrary to history and the creeds. Indeed the Nicene Creed states "For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate."

Further, it is certainly not the thought of Irenaeus, Athanasius and Augustine that the merits of Christ's incarnation, death, resurrection, and ascension are applicable to all humanity. Far from it. That is the thought of another theologian, Origen, who was, incidentally, condemned by the Fifth Ecumenical Council in 545 for his

(Continued on next page)



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(Continued from previous page)

teaching of universal salvation.

It is the teaching of the scriptures that it is the sacrament of baptism that unites a person to the death and resurrection of Christ (Rom. 6:3-5). Canon Himmerich is quite mistaken

when he suggests that death itself unites us to these events, and is just as mistaken when he calls Athanasius, Augustine, and Irenaeus to his defense.

> (The Rev.) Lee M. Nelson St. Laurence Church Grapevine, Texas

Christianity Defined

In "The Essentials of Being a Christian" [TLC, Feb. 5], the Rev. Jaime Flowers presents a definition of Christianity based on doctrinal belief, church participation, and surrender to Jesus Christ. In contrast, here's the first paragraph of Pope Benedict XVI's recent Encyclical Letter, "On Christian Love":

"God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him" (I John 3:16). These words from the First Letter of John express with remarkable clarity the heart of the Christian faith: the Christian image of God and the resulting image of mankind and its destiny. In the same verse, St. John also offers a kind of summary of the Christian life: "We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us."

Though in general I'm not looking for a pope to define my religious life, I'll go with Benedict on this one. A Christian is one whose faith rests in the abiding love of God as the living truth. Since this truth is available outside Christianity, I'll add that Christians come to know and believe in God's love through the witness of holy scripture, and through Jesus Christ's living presence in ourselves and in every other human being we encounter.

Margaret D. McGee Port Townsend, Wash.

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Problem or Strength?

Your complimentary article on the ministry of small churches [TLC, Jan. 29] was marred by your list of "problems" which perpetuated an unfortunate stereotype.

The budget of almost every church is too small (see the annual steward-ship letter). Every church always has enough volunteers to do whatever a congregation is really committed to doing. And I would suggest that the inability "to afford full-time clergy" is actually a strength.

(The Rev.) Nathaniel W. Pierce Trappe, Md.

PEOPLE & PLACES

Appointments

The Rev. Melissa Hartley is assistant at St. Peter's, 70 Maple Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960-5221.

Maggie Hasslacher is communications officer for the Diocese of Albany and Christ the King Spiritual Life Center; 68 S Swan St., Albany, NY 12210.

The Rev. Clark Hubbard is rector of St. Elizabeth's, 16491 Rte. 144, Richmond Hill, GA 31324

The Rev. Jocelyn Irving is rector of Atonement, 5073 E Capitol St., Washington, DC

The Rev. Teresa Leifur is director of pastoral care at West Florida Hospital, 8383 N Davies Hwy., Pensacola, FL 32514.

The Rev. Thomas McAlpine is rector of St. James', 434 N 8th St., Manitowoc, WI 54220.

The Rev. Brent Melton is assistant at St. John's, PO Box 722, Fayetteville, NC 28302.

The Rev. William B. Miller is rector of St. Michael & All Angels', PO Box 572, Lihue, HI 96766.

The Rev. Canon Ashley Null is canon theologian for the Diocese of Western Kansas, PO Box 2507, Salina, KS 67402-2507.

The Rev. Canon Ingram Parmley is canon of small churches for the Diocese of Western North Carolina, 900B Centre Park Dr., Asheville, NC 28805.

The Rev. Canon J. Philip Purser is rector of St. Francis', PO Box 265, Chapin, SC 29036.

Resignations

The Rev. Patrick Dominguez, as assistant at St. Stephen's, Sewickley, PA.

Retirements

The Rev. Stephen Bergmann, as interim rector of St. Matthew's, Jamestown, RI.

The Rev. Joe Cooper, as rector of Servant, Wilmington, NC.

The Rev. Rusty Goldsmith, as vice rector of St. Martin's, Houston, TX.

The Rev. Walter J. "Wally" Griesmeyer, as rector of Good Shepherd, Momence, IL.

Deaths

The Rev. Nigel Lyon Andrews, 84, who served parishes in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, died Jan. 19 in Jamestown, NY, after being in failing health for several months.

Fr. Andrews was born in Syracuse, NY. He graduated from Yale University and went on to serve in the Army Air Transport Command

Next week...

'An Empty Space'

during World War II. Following the war he studied law at Syracuse University, and practiced law for several years. In 1953 he left the law practice to study at Berkeley Divinity School. He was ordained deacon and priest in 1955, then served as rector of St. Ann's Church, Old Lyme, CT, until 1962. Fr. Andrews was rector of Trinity, Concord, MA, 1962-79, and rector of St. Peter's by-the-Sea, Narragansett, RI, from 1979 until 1987 when he retired. He was a member of diocesan council in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, and a longtime member and former superior of the Brotherhood of the Way of the Cross. Surviving are his wife, Constance; three sons, Richard, of Chapel Hill, NC, Paul, of Sausalito, CA, and John, of Jamestown; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and a brother, William, of Syracuse.

The Rev. Arthur Leonard Norval Mussenden, 71, priest of the Diocese of Long Island, died Jan. 19 at Grace Homes for the Elderly in Queens, NY.

Fr. Mussenden, of Jamaica, NY, was ordained in 1979 in the Diocese of New York. He is survived by his wife, Bianca; a son, Paul; three daughters, Maureen, Angela Bookman, and Yvonne Yanes; and two grandchildren.



FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME RECTOR

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Mr. Hiram Patrenos P.O. Box 446 Livingston, AL 35470 patrenoj@bellsouth.net

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For more information about St. James', contact: www.rlosch.com.

CLASSIFIEDS

ANNOUNCEMENT

CLERGY SPOUSE NEWSLETTER: For more information contact: communityofspice@yahoo.com.

BOOKS

ANGLICAN THEOLOGICAL BOOKS — scholarly, out-of-print - bought and sold. Request catalog. The Anglican Bibliopole, 858 Church St., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-8615. (518) 587-7470. AnglicanBk@aol.com.

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COMPUTER SOFTWARE

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FACULTY POSITIONS

FACULTY APPOINTMENT IN NEW TESTAMENT: Nashotah House Theological Seminary is seeking a faculty member in the field of New Testament to begin August 1, 2006. Applicants should be members of the Episcopal Church or another church of the Anglican Communion, who hold a doctorate (Ph.D. or Th.D.) in the field. The position includes teaching the required courses in New Testament Survey and Greek (two semesters each) as well as elective courses. The person appointed, whether ordained or lay, will be expected to participate regularly in the seminary's daily worship in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. Rank and compensation are negotiable. For further details contact: The Very Rev. Robert S. Munday, Ph.D., Dean/President, Nashotah House, 2777 Mission Road, Nashotah, WI 53058. The deadline for applications is April 15, 2006.

POSITIONS OFFERED

WANTED: FULL-TIME MUSIC MINISTER with experience in both traditional and contemporary Christian music leadership and performance. We are seeking that unique person who embraces the beauty and possibilities of both traditional and contemporary Christian music to minister to our congregation. We are a middle of the road Episcopal parish with two Rite II services every Sunday: one with traditional hymnody accompanied by the organ and the other with a contemporary band (keyboard, bass, guitar, drums, and several singers) playing contemporary Christian music. We seek to establish a choir (or enlarge the band) at the contemporary service, and to further develop our music program at the traditional service. Please send a resume with references to the rector, The Rev. Douglas Travis at dtravis@trinitywoodlands.org Phone: (281)367-8113. Website: http://www.trinitywoodlands.org/

FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE PRIEST AND CONTEM-PORARY MUSIC MINISTER: Trinity Episcopal Church. The Woodlands, Texas. We are looking for a seasoned priest who is also experienced in performing contemporary Christian music and in forming and leading a contemporary band/choir. Among our goals are incorporating as many talented laypeople as possible (especially youth) in positions of worship leadership while retaining a traditional sense of reverence in a Rite II service. In addition to providing leadership as a music minister we would expect this priest to assume many of the responsibilities of an associate - pastoral care, teaching, some preaching and some administrative responsibilities. Please send a resume with references to the rector, The Rev. Douglas Travis at dtravis@trinitywoodlands.org Phone: (281) 367-8113. Website: http://www.trinitywoodlands.org/

CLASSIFIEDS

MUSIC POSITIONS

PART-TIME ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR: St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Daytona Beach, Florida, is seeking a part-time Organist/Choir Director. Experience with traditional Episcopal/Anglican liturgies is desired. Moeller 2-manual pipe organ. Salary is negotiable/ commensurate with experience. Send letter of interest and resume to Music Search Committee, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 216 Orange Ave., Daytona Beach, FL, 32114. Phone: (386)255-3669 E-mail: staff@stmarysDB.org.

POSITIONS OFFERED

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. James' Episcopal Church, Clovis, New Mexico, is a beautiful, orthodox parish designed in the traditional mission style of the southwest and located in a theologically conservative diocese on the high plains of eastern New Mexico. We are seeking a full-time rector who will have a visible presence in the life of our church and who will bring energy and enthusiasm into the parish, and strengthen parish unity through effective preaching and pastoral care.

We would like to attract young families as well as increase participation in stewardship and other parish activities. Early retired applicants will be considered. For additional details and a profile please contact: The Search Committee, St. James' Episcopal Church, 1117 North Main St., Clovis, NM 88101. E-mail resume to: st.james@plateautel.net. Deadline for resumes is May 1, 2006.

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR: Christ Episcopal Church in New Bern. NC seeks an executive administrator with corporate, non-profit, or church experience to manage the administrative functions of the office of the rector. Responsibilities will include database and personnel record management, executive and program scheduling, facilitating communication with staff and congregational leadership, and other administrative support to the rector. High proficiency in computer skills, communication skills, and multi-tasking skills are required. Salary range begins at \$32,500 and is commensurate with experience and educational background. Christ Church is an EOE that follows all standards of The Episcopal Church. Please fax resume to (252) 514-4013, attention EAR Search. E-mail: christchurch4u@earthlink.net.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. James Episcopal Church, St. James, New York. Pastoral-sized, historic parish, on the North Shore of Long Island, 50 miles from New York City, seeks a full-time rector who will enable us to move toward collaborative clergy/lay ministry, parish growth, a deeper spiritual life, and stronger Christian Education and youth programs. As a congregation, we desire to be transformed by grace into faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, to participate in the work of the Holy Spirit, and to worship within the traditions of the Anglican Communion. Local area offers numerous educational opportunities for all ages and access to many recreational and cultural activities. For more information, please contact: Search Committee, St. James Episcopal Church, 490 N. Country NY 11780. St. James, kisides@gmail.com.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: Small rural parish, located in the scenic Western Catskills. Anglo-Catholic tradition. Magnificent church, rectory and parish hall designed by Ralph Adams Cram, consecrated in 1925. Rectory has four bedrooms and five working fireplaces. Located 1/2 hours driving time from Albany airport, Kingston, and Binghamton. Excellent public school and several colleges in the area. For information contact P.L. Molar, P.O. Box 1056, Margaretville, NY 12455. E-mail: plm@catskill.net.

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Liturgical Arts & Music Issue April 23, 2006 Closing Deadline: March 24 Artwork Due: March 28

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POSITIONS OFFERED

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. Paul's Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, a pastoral-sized mission congregation, is looking for a full-time priest while making the transition to parish status. We have two services on Sunday mornings (Rite II) at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. with a community breakfast between the services; weekly Bible study; and a Wednesday evening Healing Service. Our mission, St. Mary's in Morganza, conducts a Saturday Eucharist at 4:00 p.m. Located on False River, in beautiful Pointe Coupee Parish, we are 30 miles northwest of Baton Rouge. We seek an energetic minister with a passion for preaching, teaching, and pastoral care. The congregation is well-educated, intellectually curious, warm, and eager to grow. With new, young families in the area, we seek to pursue new opportunities for mission both locally and beyond. To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to: Search Committee, St. Paul's Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 386, New Roads, LA 70760. E-mail to: Tanya Lawton at tanya@stpaulsholytrinity.org. Our website address is www.stpaulsholytrinitychurch.org.

FULL-TIME PRIEST ASSISTANT: Church of Our Saviour, Rock Hill, SC, is looking for a full-time priest assistant. Duties will be split between youth ministry and general pastoral and liturgical support. Rock Hill is a medium-sized city, 25 miles south of Charlotte, NC, in the Diocese of Upper South Carolina. If interested send resume to: 144 Caldwell Street, Rock Hill, SC 29730 or E-mail: hr@oursaviourrockhill.org.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Casper, Wyoming. Allow us to introduce ourselves. We have a rich tradition of active lay involvement, with a great outreach program. We are interested in faith formation for all ages, so that we can continue to grow spiritually and reach out to others. We pray for guidance of the Holy Spirit in our search process and trust that God is preparing our new priest. Send a current CDO Personal Profile, resume and letter of interest to The Rev. Canon Gus W. Salbador, Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming, 104 S. 4th St. Laramie, WY 82070. E-mail: gus@wydiocese.org.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. James Church, Taos. New Mexico. Growing program church in Sangre de Cristo mountains seeks rector to provide leadership in a culturally diverse community with members from a wide variety of political, geographic, cultural, and economic backgrounds. \$2M expansion of church facilities currently underway, supported by pledges to cover construction expenses. Parish priorities are growth and inclusion. Strong lay involvement and leadership, Taos is a worldclass vacation and ski area with a rich amalgam of cultures, extraordinary natural beauty, and a rich history of art and artists. Send resume to: Search Committee, St. James Church, 5794 NDCBU, Taos, NM 87571. E-mail: wes@taosnet.com. Web: www.stjamestaos.org.

OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: The Solomon Episcopal Conference Center ("SECC"), Robert, La., is currently seeking an executive director. This position is responsible for general management of the retreat center including marketing, food services, lodging and maintenance. Reporting to the bishop, this person will operate the conference center consistent with the policies and procedures set forth by the Board. Additionally this person must be comfortable in an Episcopal environment, flexible and organized. This person must have demonstrated skills sets in marketing and management as well as have a solid understanding of financial and accounting principles. Salary is consistent with industry standards. On-site private housing and transportation will be provided. Application cutoff is February 28. To apply, please forward an electronic cover letter and resume to Paul Gariepy, Chairman Search Committee, E-mail: ptgcpa@aol.com; Phone: (985) 892-8659; Fax: (240) 526-4860. Website: www.solepisc.org.SECC.

POSITIONS OFFERED

FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF CHAPLAINS: The Episcopal City Mission is a unique ministry in the U.S. Episcopal Church serving youth in detention. ECM seeks an Episcopal priest or deacon to succeed a retiring Executive Director/Director of Chaplains. The position requires someone able to maintain and expand an aggressive fundraising program, which has a growing ecumenical base as well as substantial diocesan support. There is a staff of five (budget of \$225,000) serving metropolitan youth in detention centers in the St. Louis, MO area. Applicants should send a resume and CDO profile to: Search Committee, Episcopal City Mission, 1210 Locust St., St. Louis, MO 63103. E-mail: steve_barney@ssmhc.com.

TRAVEL / PILGRIMAGES

GOLF ENTHUSIASTS! ATTENDING THE MASTERS? Accommodations during the Masters Golf Tournament, April 2-9, 2006, Spiritual Golf Package. Bishop Gravatt Center, Aiken, SC. Two Adults \$90-105 per night, includes country breakfast, ONLY 35 minutes to Augusta, call (803) 648-1817 Mon - Fri. for reservations and additional information.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY KEY

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; 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; Sta, Stations; V, Vespers; v, vicar; YPF, Young People's Fellowship. A/C, airconditioned; H/A, handicapped accessible.

AVERY, CA

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E-mail: stmartins123@aol.com

The Rev. Dr. William F. Dopp, r; the Rev. Fred Scharf, assoc.; the Rev. Elaine Cole, d Sun 8 (trad) 10:30 (family); Fri 11 (healing)

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Ferdinand D. Saunders, asst.
Sun Mass 7:30 (said), 9 & 11 (sung), 2 (Spanish Mass); Sat
Mass (Contemporary) 5:30; Mon - Sat Mass 10 daily, Wed
Mass 7:30, Thurs Mass 5:30; Daily MP 8:30, (except Sun), Daily EP 5:15

STUART, FL

ST. MARY'S 623 E. Ocean Blvd. (772) 287-3244 The Rev. Thomas T. Pittenger, r; the Rev. David Francoeur, assoc r; the Rev. Holly Ostlund, asst r; the Rev. Jonathan Coffey, the Rev. Canon Richard Hardman, the Rev. Peggy Sheldon, assisting; Allen Rosenberg, organist

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

MACON, GA

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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 Sun Eu 9 & 10:45. Wkdy Eu Tues 7, Wed 7, Fri 10:30. Sacrament of Reconciliation 1st Sat 4-4:30 & by appt, A/C

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Sun 8 H Eu (Rite I), 9 H Eu (Rite II), 10 Christian Form, 11 Choral Eu (Rite II), 1 Santa Eucaristiá; Mon 5:15 H Eu w/ Healing; Martes (Tues) 5:15 Santa Eucaristiá con Curacion; Wed 12:05 H Eu; Thur 5:15 Choral Evensong; Fri 7 H Eu, 12:05 Organ Recital

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225 Sassafras St., 08332 Sun H Eu 10, Tues 7:30 Prayer Group, Wed HS Eu 7:30

NEWARK, NJ

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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 & Thur Choral Evensong); Sat H Eu 12:10

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www.allsoulscathedral.org Sun H Eu 8, 9, 11:15. Wed noon, 5:45; Tues EP 5:30

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

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HOUSTUN, IA CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION (713) 781-1300 Westheimer at Beltway 8 HOUSTON, TX

Website: www.ascensionchurch.org

The Rev. Dr. Walter L. Ellis, r Sun H Eu 8, 9:30 & 11; Tues EP 6; Wed HS 5:30; Classes Sun 9:30 & 11; Breakfast every Sun

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CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL (715) 835-3734 510 S. Farwell St.

The Very Rev. Bruce N. Gardner, interim dean Sat Vigil Eu (Chapel) 6; Sun Eu 8 (Rite I) & 10 (Rite II Cho); Daily MP 8 (exc Sun); EP 5; Wed Eu 12:15; others as posted

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