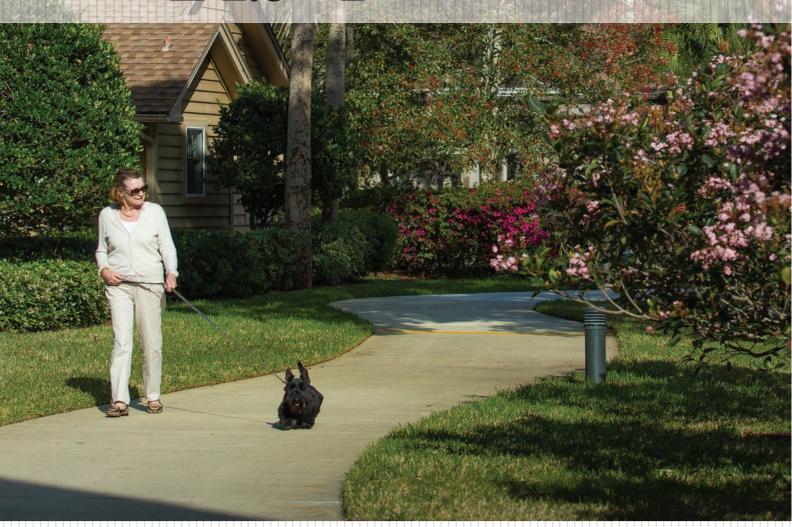


Lessons from Four New Congregations

Proverbs 24:3-4



By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.



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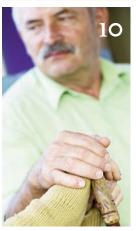




ON THE COVER

"There is not one right way to begin a new congregation but there are key ingredients to make one thrive" (see "Lessons from Four New Congregations," p. 14).

St. Philip's Church, Frisco, Texas, completed in 2006. In the foreground is St. Philip's High Cross, commissioned in 2011 and created by sculptor Eliseo Garcia. Photo courtesy of St. Philip's Church







LIVING CHURCH

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We are grateful to St. David's Church, Wayne, Pennsylvania [p. 41], Church of the Transfiguration, Vail, Colorado [p. 43], and the dioceses of Olympia and West Texas [p. 44], whose generous support helped make this issue possible.

The Living Church is published by the Living Church Foundation. Our historic mission in the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion is to seek and serve the Catholic and evangelical faith of the one Church, to the end of visible Christian unity throughout the world.

Holy Meals at Penn Form Community

Preparing for Eucharist on campus at the University of Pennsylvania does not always mean settling into pews. Depending on the time of day, it might mean chopping vegetables for dinner.

Since February, Episcopalians at St. Mary's at Penn have practiced "dinner church," in which participants enact the liturgy during an evening meal. They've seen how the model has brought young adult newcomers to church in New York City. Now they are the latest of several Episcopal parishes to try it out.

"This is specifically aimed at college students and young adults," said the Rev. Mariclair Partee Carlsen, rector of St. Mary's at Penn and Episcopal chaplain at Penn. "Some of these kids are from halfway across the world. They don't get to go home very often, and this can be a very lonely place. So this, I hope, is a place where community and family can develop."

The idea behind dinner church is to worship as the early Christians likely did: around a table with food, prayers, reading of holy texts, and sharing in the Sacrament.

In the 21st century, organizers believe the format might make worship more personal and inviting for people who might never attend a formal worship service. That's proven true at St. Lydia's Lutheran Church, a five-year-old Brooklyn dinner church that has become an inspiration and prototype for others, including St. Mary's at Penn.

"There's very little about the worship service that's prescriptive in terms of what you need to believe," said St. Lydia's cofounder Emily Scott, "so having a meal as the basis of the liturgical practice seemed like a really wonderful starting place."

At St. Mary's at Penn, diners arrive at the parish hall at 5:30 p.m. on a



Dinner church at St. Lydia's has become a prototype for others. Photo courtesy of St. Lydia's Dinner Church

Sunday and cook dinner to be ready around 6. Some have already attended an 11 a.m. service at St. Mary's, but others regard dinner church as their commitment for the week.

The liturgy begins with singing, candle-lighting, and a Rite II consecration of bread. Conversation flows freely as dinner is served and lasts about 25 minutes. Then Scripture is read, followed by an informal homily by Carlsen and an opportunity for diners to respond. This is when people bond, not only around a shared faith, but also the common experience of feeling closeted as believers on campus, Carlsen said.

"It's not easy being a student, especially these days, and to be a Christian," Carlsen said. "So we talk about that. And we talk about the struggles of that."

After the dialogue, diners clear the table and then reconvene for a prayerful litany and blessing of the Eucharistic cup. It's a format Carlsen adapted from her visit to St. Lydia's on a summer night last year, as part of a group of clergy.

While some have tried to replicate

St. Lydia's formula, dinner church has not always had staying power outside New York. St. Michael & All Angels Church in Portland and St. Paul's Church in Delray Beach, Florida, started dinner church services within the past year but have since discontinued them amid poor response.

St. Lydia's, where Scott says most congregants are highly educated people in their 20s and 30s, has thrived. The congregation recently started a second service on Monday nights and signed a five-year lease on a 1,000-square-foot location. Other ministries, including a Bible study, a theology book group, and a community garden, have grown from the dinner worship.

St. Lydia's meets some particular needs of New Yorkers, Scott said. Since apartments in the city are small, the experience of cooking and eating with friends is rare — and relished when it happens.

"Most of our congregants are single and live far away from their families," Scott said, and for them dinner church "is a way of being nourished in a group."

G. Jeffrey MacDonald

Dean Hall: Disturb the Peace

Episcopalians are obliged to violate earthly laws in order to advance the higher law established by God, the dean of Washington National Cathedral said on February 24. During a panel on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail," the Very Rev. Gary R. Hall cited the actions of Episcopalians in the 1960s to desegregate the racially divided church.

Hall said every faith community has to decide whether it is prepared to engage in "disturbing the peace." Otherwise, he asked, "Are we protectors of the status quo?"

"The church sometimes has to break the law," he said, "in the service of a higher law."

King's letter, written in April 1963, defended the strategy of nonviolent resistance to racism and argued that citizens have a responsibility to break unjust laws. Historians count it among the most significant documents of the civil rights era.

Hall, dean of Washington National Cathedral since October 2012, said that King has inspired him throughout his life. He said he came to the church through the civil rights movement, and that King's example had informed his decision to open the cathedral to same-sex marriage, which he announced earlier this year. "He's always had a big influence on me," Hall said.

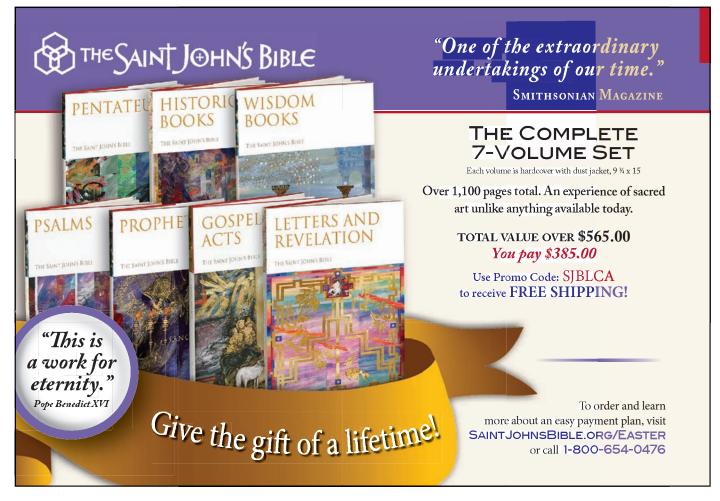
Other panelists — part of the Aspen Institute's "Around Town Series" — were longtime civil rights activist Julian Bond; Stephen L. Carter, professor of law at Yale University; and

Natasha Trethewey, U.S. Poet Laureate.

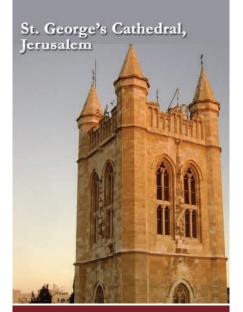
King delivered a sermon at the cathedral on March 31, 1968, and was assassinated four days later in Memphis. Walter Isaacson, president and CEO of the Aspen Institute, moderated the discussion.

Bond, who cofounded the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and served as chairman of the NAACP from 1998 to 2010, said that King's letter was important to the civil rights movement — and to the broader American population — because King insisted on the need to act urgently in resisting racial injustice. King wrote at a time, he said, when many religious leaders, while supporting the fight against racial in-

(Continued on next page)







Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nazareth, Galilee, the River Jordan, and more



Global South Primates Want a New Meeting

Members of the Global South Primates Steering Committee have requested a new meeting of Anglican primates in 2015.

"We request and will support the Archbishop of Canterbury to call for a Primates Meeting in 2015 in order to address the increasingly deteriorating situation facing the Anglican Communion," said a statement from seven primates, which they issued meeting in Egypt in mid-February. "It is important that the agenda of this Primates Meeting be discussed and agreed upon by the Primates beforehand in order to ensure an effective meeting."

The archbishops added that they have established a council "to provide pastoral and primatial oversight to dissenting individuals, parishes, and dioceses in order to keep them within the Communion."

The Most Rev. Nkechi Nwosu, representing the Church of Nigeria, did not join the statement.

Peter Carrell, writing at *Anglican Down Under*, found the promised oversight council especially significant.

"Geography has allowed us to develop notions of Anglican diversity," Carrell wrote. "What happens when the theological diversity is stretched so far that it breaks? Do we expel the minority group and depose them from being Anglican? Does the minority leave the Anglican fold because we have had enough? Or do we re-organise ourselves as Anglicans within the one Communion according to theology and not to geography?"

The full statement is available at living church.org.

Dean Hall: Disturb the Peace

(Continued from previous page)

justice, were calling on civil rights leaders like King to moderate their demands for rapid change or risk greater societal discord.

"They didn't understand that time is not what we need," Bond said. "We need action."

Carter said that much of the power of the letter derives from the fact that it was written in jail. "That's a crucial aspect of it [because] we saw a man willing to suffer for his beliefs." Others, he said, such as Edward Snowden "are not willing to go that far." He also said that the letter speaks to the fact that beneath the American system of "injustice" that he was fighting, "there is also a country that basically loves justice. That's what [King appealed] to by going to jail."

According to Carter, King's letter

is the only great document in American history — alongside the Gettysburg Address, Lincoln's Second Inaugural, and Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms Speech" — not written by someone in a position of authority.

King wrote in response to an open letter to him in the *Birmingham News* on April 12, 1963, signed by eight religious leaders in Alabama, including the Rt. Rev. Charles C.J. Carpenter, Bishop of Alabama. It called on King to stop leading mass street demonstrations in Birmingham, saying that they were "unwise and untimely" and were not contributing to the resolution of "our local problems." The leaders added that they understood the "natural impatience" of those who feel that their hopes were "slow" in being realized.

Gary G. Yerkey

Brackets of the Saints

It's that time of year again: break out those brackets, pick your favorites, and get ready to compete for serious bragging rights. College basketball? No, a tournament in which stakes are not as temporal as those of the NCAA, but instead reach all the way to heaven: Lent Madness.

For the fifth consecutive year, fans of saints are lining up to make sure March excitement is not confined to athletics. They pick winners among 32 holy heroes and heroines, who battle it out for the coveted Golden Halo in an online tournament billed as "so fun you won't know it's edifying."

While hoop fans revel, "Why should we as Christians be sitting around giving up chocolate and eating twigs all day?" said the Rev. Tim Schenck, creator of Lent Madness. By day, he's rector of Church of St. John the Evangelist in Hingham, Massachusetts. By night, he's a self-described "huge sports fan" who loves saints even more.

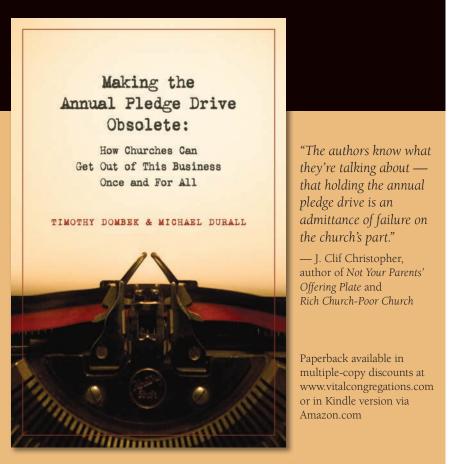
"This is trying to reimagine Lent," Schenck said. "It's all not all doom and gloom, breast-beating and hair shirt-wearing. What could be more joyful than a season specifically set aside to grow our faith and draw closer to Jesus?"

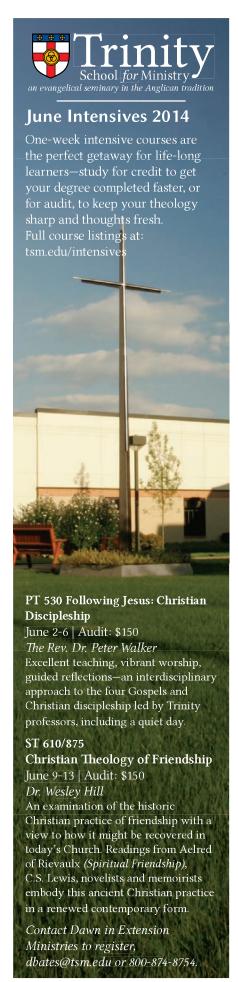
That spirit comes through every weekday during Lent, Schenck said, as two saints square off at lentmadness.org. After downloading free brackets, visitors vote for favorites once a day and share their reasons in congenial comment sections. Each day, one saint is eliminated and another advances, first to the Saintly Sixteen and later to the Elate Eight.

Only one will take home the Golden Halo. Last year, Cinderella saint Frances Perkins, who served as Labor Secretary in the Franklin Delano Roosevelt administration, took the Halo in a huge upset over Luke the Evangelist.

After humble beginnings on Schenck's Clergy Family Confiden-









Brackets of the Saints

(Continued from previous page)

tial weblog, the tourney has grown into a full-blown ministry. Forward Movement, publisher of *Forward Day by Day*, spends a few thousand dollars to underwrite graphic design, web hosting, and merchandise.

"The magic of Lent Madness is that people start it thinking it's a ridiculous take on Lent, voting for saints," said the Rev. Scott Gunn, executive director of Forward Movement. "What quickly happens is that participants begin to learn more about the saints. And, of course, the study of saints' lives invites us to let Christ's light burn brightly in our own lives."

This year's event brings a few Anglican favorites into the fray, including Phillips Brooks, who served as Bishop of Massachusetts in the 1890s. He'll duke it out with Simeon the Stylite, whose formidable endurance kept him atop a pole near Aleppo, Syria, for no less than 37 years in the 5th century.

Other much-anticipated matchups include the two great Catherines: Catherine of Alexandria versus Catherine of Siena. Sibling rivalry will have its moment, too, as brothers Charles and John Wesley see whose pious fire burns brighter on game day.

For fans, taking part daily

Saintly

For fans, taking part daily can be a lighthearted Lenten discipline, Schenck said. The practice of boning up on saints' lives leaves participants with a deeper appreciation for saints as real people, not merely statues or figures frozen in stained glass.

"Ultimately this is about faith formation," Schenck said. "What we hope Lent Madness does is elevate these saints and make them real in a fresh way."

The wider society is taking notice. Lent Madness has drawn coverage in publications ranging from *USA To*day and *The Washington Post* to *Sports Illustrated*.

"I love the fact that it gets a very wide number of people talking about the church for something other than scandal or decline," Schenck said. Lent Madness "is something that's able to get God into the broader conversation of society."

G. Jeffrey MacDonald

Bethlehem Elects Bishop Rowe

An electing convention of the Diocese of Bethlehem has elected the Bishop of Northwestern Pennsylvania to a three-year term as its provisional bishop. The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe will divide his time between the two dioceses. He has been bishop of the northwestern diocese since 2007.

"I hope you will find yourself welcome to a table large enough to hear

your voice," Bishop Rowe said to the convention. "Collaboration requires relationships of substance, and I want to spend time getting to know you, hear your stories, and learn to care about those ministries for which you have great passion and excitement."

Bethlehem's seventh bishop, the Rt. Rev. Paul V. Marshall, retired at the end of 2013 after a terminal sabbatical.

Mississippi Nominates Five

The Diocese of Mississippi has announced a slate of five nominees in electing its 10th bishop:

- The Very Rev. Michael J. Battle, vicar, St. Titus Church, Durham, North Carolina
- The Rev. Marian Dulaney Fortner, rector, Trinity Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
- The Rev. R. Stan Runnels, rector, St. Paul's Church and Day School, Kansas City
- The Very Rev. Brian R. Seage, rector, St. Columb's Church, Ridgeland, Mississippi
- The Rev. Ruth Woodliff-Stanley, rector, St. Thomas Church, Denver

The election is set for May 3 at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Jackson.

The Rt. Rev. Duncan Gray, ninth bishop of Mississippi, will retire and pass the crozier to his successor at the 188th council of the diocese, Feb. 6-8, 2015, in Jackson.

Massachusetts Slate Grows

The Diocese of Massachusetts has approved two nominees by petition in the search for its 16th bishop.

The two additional nominees, who bring the slate to seven people, are:

- The Rev. Timothy E. Crellin, vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Boston
 - \bullet The Rev. Canon Margaret Ewing

Lloyd, canon to the ordinary

The diocese's 15th bishop, the Rt. Rev. M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE, intends to resign his office when his successor is consecrated.

The election is scheduled for April 5 at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston.

Maryland Adds One

A fourth woman has joined the slate of nominees for bishop suffragan in the Diocese of Maryland. The nominee by petition is the Rev. Martha N. Macgill, rector of Memorial Church in Bolton Hill, Baltimore.

The election is scheduled during the diocese's convention, which meets May 2-3 at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City.

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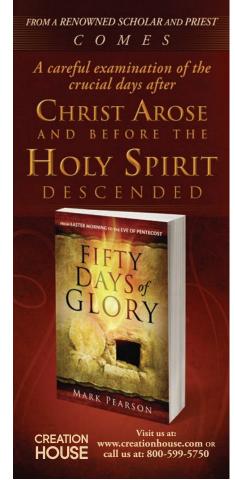


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Caring for Caregivers

By Retta Blaney

In a storefront office, steps from Harlem's legendary Apollo Theater in one direction and the Clinton Foundation in the other, the Rev. Gregory Johnson chats with Joel Rogers, who holds his year-old niece, Malia, while Malia's mom seeks advice in an inner room. With

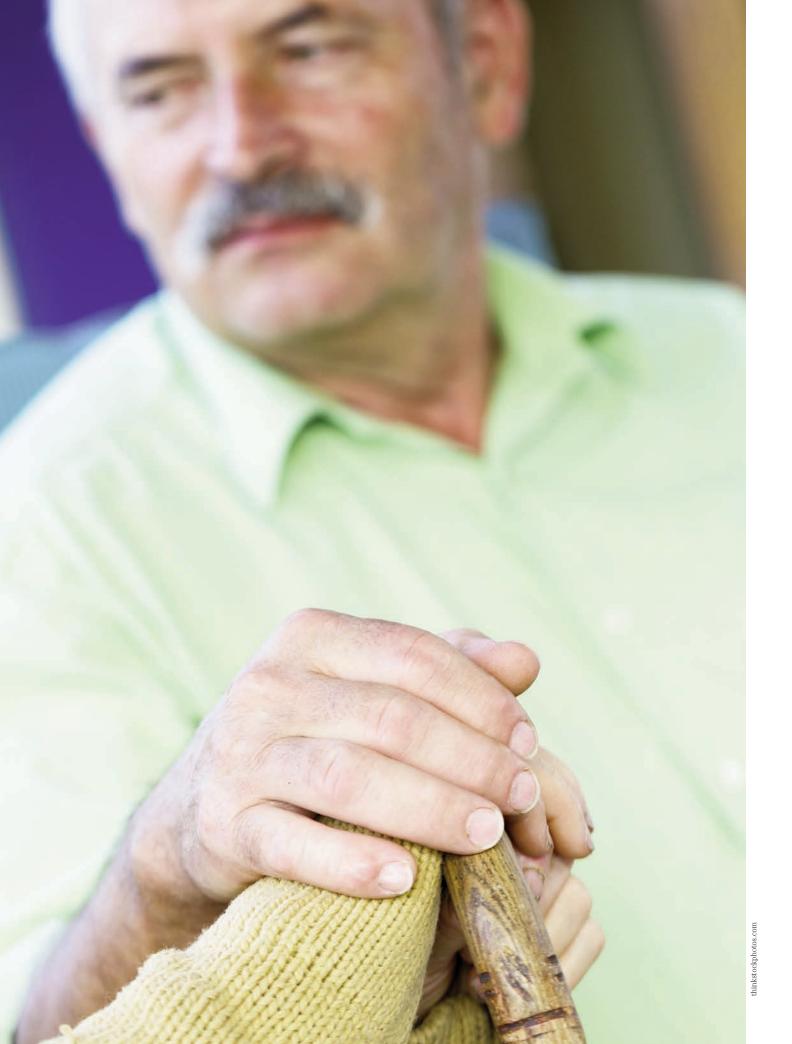


life buzzing along outside on 125th Street, the community's busiest commercial thoroughfare, Johnson is ministry in motion inside. Few people know Johnson is a minister.

Johnson's "congregation" is one of the largest in the city, or anywhere else for that matter. Nationwide they number 65.7 million. Years ago they had no name, though they toiled long and hard.

But for the last 13 years Johnson has made it his mission to shine a light on their identity. They are family caregivers, and Johnson wants employers, corporations, and most of all the caregivers themselves to recognize that identity and claim it. As he says repeatedly, they are "the backbone of the health care industry," and it is his calling to see that their physical, spiritual, and emotional needs are met.

(Continued on page 12)





Share the Care: How to Organize a Group for Someone Who Is Seriously Ill is one of many resources available to help caregivers. © Sheila Warnock and Cappy Capossela, Simon & Schuster

(Continued from page 10)

"It's been a circuitous road directed by God," said Johnson, 67, sitting behind his iPad in his tiny office in this neighborhood care facility, one of three established by EmblemHealth in multiple New York City neighborhoods. Johnson serves as the creator/director of the company's Care for the Family Caregiver Initiative.

It was an unlikely road for this son **L**of Racine, Wisconsin, who grew up Lutheran and moved to New York to study at Union Theological Seminary's School of Sacred Music and the Juilliard School. He knew nothing about the health-care industry, much less a major health and wellness corporation like New Yorkbased EmblemHealth. But when a friend who was an executive of the company suggested that Johnson help it establish an outreach to family caregivers, regardless of their insurance coverage, he saw an unexpected pastoral opportunity.

"Talk about the gospel in action," he said. "It's a huge investment and I am so grateful."

With three supporting staff members, Johnson leads workshops and lectures throughout the city, the region, and the world. With his team he has compiled information booklets and an 80-minute DVD all free regardless of coverage (goo.gl/xxlOke). EmblemHealth's initiative has many auxiliary partners, including the Episcopal Diocese of New York.

"Most people don't know all the wonderful things that are available," Johnson says.

But if he has a chance, he will tell them. His staff, Johnson says with a smile, believes he would show up at a garage-door opening if he could talk about family caregiving. The joke may not be far from the truth. Last year Johnson and his team put together 745 events, serving 213,000 people at civic presentations, health fairs, and in faith communities.

"I would have never defined ministry in this way, yet it's the core of it: serving others."

After beginning his day at 7 a.m. at EmblemHealth's headquarters in the financial district, Johnson heads out for meetings, presentations, community gatherings, seminars, city, state, and national committee meetings, the United Nations, the International Federation on Aging, and many other adjunct partners where he brings the voice of the family care-



Johnson

"The caregiver is often the silent patient."

—The Rev. Gregory Johnson

giver. Johnson does many one-onone counseling sessions for employees, members, partner associates, and anyone else with family caregiving issues.

In all of his work he draws upon his Christian faith. He was received into the Episcopal Church in the mid-1980s and is a member of the Church of the Ascension in Greenwich Village, where he supports the music program. He also is a substitute organist at St. Clement's Church in the theatre district. Although he was ordained as an interfaith minister, he identifies as an Anglican, saying it was the prayer book that helped him care for his son who died of cancer in 2005, and for his partner of 41 years who died of cancer in 2011. Johnson also belongs to Marble Collegiate Church and leads its pre-service Sunday Prayer Circle. Johnson and the Rev. Marion A. Gambardella have published Peace, Be Still: Prayers and Affirmations: Inspiration for Family Caregivers. Thirty sections, each a page and a half, include a prayer, affirmations, and a Scripture reading, covering such topics as faith, gratitude, anger, acceptance, healing, and renewal. Only a few mention family caregivers specifically, so the book may

help anyone going through a trying time.

Recognizing the needs of family caregivers is more important than ever, Johnson says, because people are living longer. The traditional concept of a family caregiver — a grown child in charge of an elderly parent — is still relevant, except that now the caregiver might be retired as well, caring for a parent who is 90 or older. And the concept may include caring for a spouse, for veterans, and many other configurations, as medicine has increased life spans.

Family caregivers represent donated services valued at more than \$450 billion, Johnson says. They also can represent a loss of between \$17 to \$34 billion to corporations, as caregiving duties conflict with work, which is why Johnson says it makes sense for a company like Em-

blemHealth to invest in potential solutions, resources, and tools.

"The caregiver is often the silent patient," Johnson says. "I didn't know a thing about insurance. My background was in theology and theatre, but I was given a blank sheet of paper and told to bring awareness to their needs. It has blessed me. I find great ideas in listening to others. It's the great gift of sharing our weaknesses. It gives me more appreciation of the doctrine of the communion of saints."

He makes sure caregivers look after their own needs, and assures them that "it is not something you are going through, but something you are growing through." That's what he discovered during his periods as a family caregiver. "I kept finding God in the journey," he says.

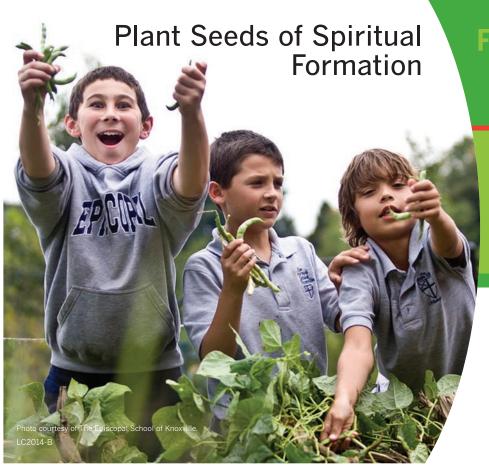
Johnson's next big effort is "Name

It: Know Its Many Faces," a free daylong seminar on family caregiving at the New York Academy of Medicine on April 30, sponsored by EmblemHealth and the New York City Partnership for Family Caregiving Corp. Topics will include legal and financial issues as well as self-care. Details and registration are available at corporatecaregivers.com.

While the seminar will consider contemporary challenges, Johnson likes to remember examples from Scripture to motivate him. He mentions Jesus' final words as he was dying, when he looked to John and told him to behold Mary as his mother.

"That's caregiving from the cross," Johnson says. "Can I do less?"

Retta Blaney is the author of Working on the Inside: The Spiritual Life Through the Eyes of Actors.



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Cross on the property of St. Paul's, Prosper

Lessons from Four New Congregations

By Clay Lein

It's not often that you find four new Episcopal congregations planted less than five miles apart. Yet here in north Texas, the Diocese of Dallas has begun four new churches in 11 years:

- In 2002 the diocese planted St. Philip's in Frisco. It has grown to 700 in attendance at weekend services and is building a 21,000-square-foot addition.
- In 2005 the diocese planted St. Andrew's in McKinney, which has

grown to 300 average Sunday attendance and opened its first building in 2012.

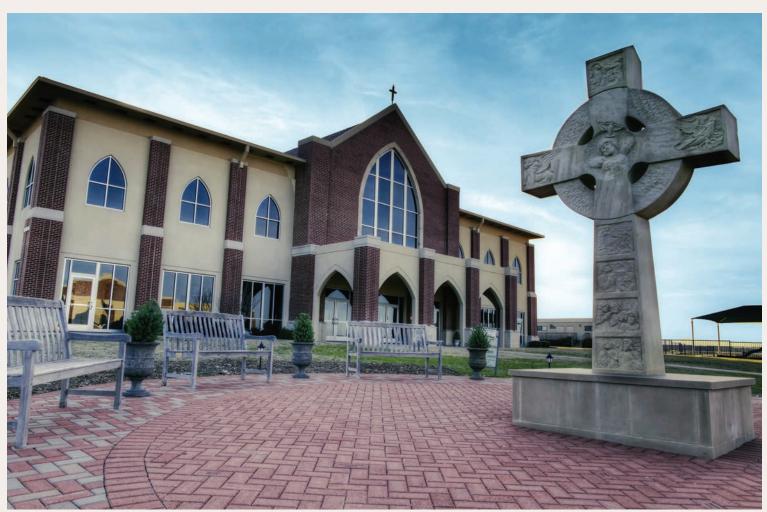
- In 2008 the diocese planted St. Paul's in Prosper. This mission meets in a school cafeteria, draws an average Sunday attendance of 150 and will launch its first building campaign this spring.
- In 2011 the diocese planted Church of The Savior (COTS) in Allen, which has an average Sunday attendance of 52.

Each congregation represents a different stage in the church life

cycle, from newly formed to firmly established, from meeting in a cafeteria to settling into a first building. Each congregation has its own identity and uses different language, but all share five key contributors to success.

Diocesan Support

The first key to the success of these churches has been the full support of the Diocese of Dallas. In 2001 the diocese finished a strategic planning process and began to plant my mission, St. Philip's. It made an initial



St. Philip's, Frisco

investment of almost \$1 million to buy land in Frisco. I asked Bishop James Stanton what the diocese was going to do for their next one and his reply sobered me: "We don't have a plan for the next one. We're spending all that we've got on St. Philip's." Clearly the diocese was all in. That commitment continued as God provided funds for three more church starts.

Support strengthened when the Rev. Canon Victoria R.T. Heard joined the diocese as a canon missioner for church planting. She has worked tirelessly to find church planters and keep the call to new works always before the diocese.

External Focus

A second shared characteristic is that each congregation has set its sights outward. The mission is to serve others. Reaching the community is the primary factor in decisions. That shows up in how these congregations define their mission, allocate their budget, and structure their staff. It even shows up in how they describe their attendance. "Our ASA is 1 percent of the population of our mission field," said the Rev. Michael Gilton of St. Paul's. Comments like that reveal an intentionality to know the mission field and to see at least one criterion of success as reaching the people around us.

Much of this mindset was formed in the early days of each plant. Meeting in a school cafeteria or a YMCA expands the vision of church and opens new possibilities for expressing ancient traditions. For example, without a building COTS was freed to see the church as the whole community. In 2012 COTS held its first Ash Wednesday service in a pub. The service was featured on the local NBC affiliate. "Jesus went out to where people lived and ate and worked and played," said the Rev. Joel Allen Prather. "Coming to a pub is just us following his example."

Life Transformation

A third shared value is a commitment to life transformation. This is much more than hospitality or welcome. It's about empowering people to see changes in their daily lives. Call it discipleship or catechism or adult education, but at its core the emphasis is on seeing the lives of children, youth, and adults changed by Jesus.

All four churches challenge people to engage the Scriptures and then call everyone to live more like Jesus. This happens in preaching grounded in the Bible and connected to daily life. It happens in marriage classes, parenting seminars, Financial Peace University courses, and many other teaching venues. It is the focus of all children's programming and youth ministries.

Most important is the discipleship that occurs in small groups. Each congregation encourages members

(Continued on next page)

Lessons from Four New Congregations





Church of the Savior, Allen

St. Andrew's, McKinney

(Continued from previous page)

to participate in ways that increase faith. COTS has five small groups meeting in multiple neighborhoods with over 65 percent of the congregation participating. St. Philip's has more than 35 small groups, most using studies connected to the Sunday sermons. St. Paul's offers similar groups but adds a more intimate element by connecting people with Life Transformation Groups of two or three. St. Andrew's hosts multiple groups for all ages in its new space during the week. All of it is designed to bolster faith and change lives.

Active Compassion

All four congregations are committed to helping people serve their community in tangible ways.

At St. Paul's 82 percent of current adult members are active in ministry. "We believe disciples are made in action," Fr. Gilton said. And it's not just inspiring church members to serve at the church. St. Andrew's began a ministry that helped other community organizations to serve. It works with Head Start, the local school district, and the County Committee on Aging to care for those in need. Even a small mission like COTS has raised more than \$21,000 to serve others.

At the heart is a passion to serve all the people God has put into a congregation's mission field. Our parish isn't just the four walls of our building or the boundaries of our property. Our parish is the whole of our community. God invites us to serve all people.

Active compassion not only serves the community but expands the church. The people of a new church serving in the community without an agenda offers the best public relations any church will ever enjoy.

Innovative Strategies

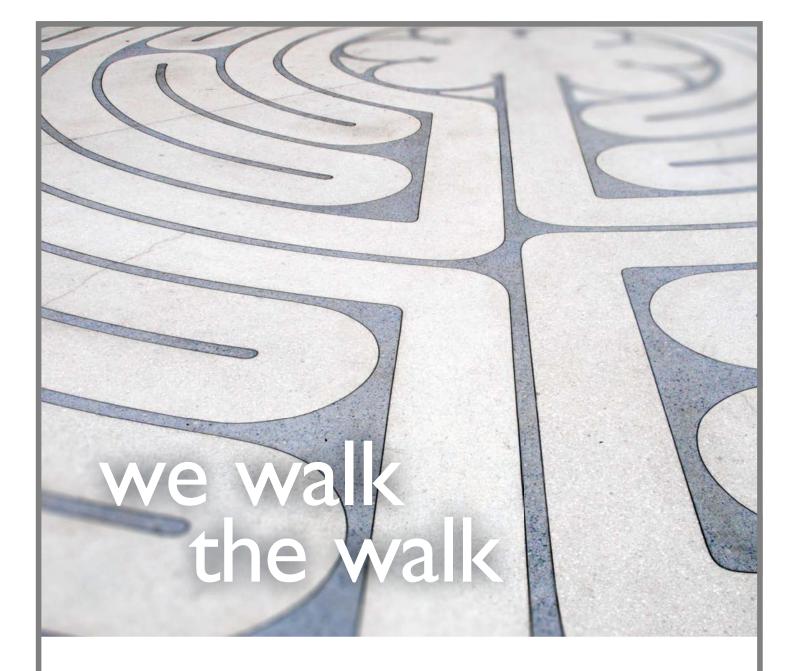
All these churches do the things that other churches do. They are grounded in the Gospel. They worship, teach the Scriptures, serve their communities, care for their members, and build buildings. Yet all four are constantly rethinking how they do those things in order to be more effective in reaching people. There are few sacred cows and all share an openness to doing things in new ways.

Sometimes that happens in how clergy spend their time. Fr. Gilton has served as a crossing guard for a neighborhood school and chaplain for the local police department. Each role helped the people of Prosper see St. Paul's as their church. At other times it is seen in new ministries begun. St. Andrews built community awareness by founding a "Believe" 10K run to benefit local schools. It has since grown to more than 1,000 runners.

Innovation can also occur on a macro scale. When St. Philip's completed its first buildings it launched a preschool with a three-day program that served fewer than 50 kids. Today the five-day preschool has grown to over 200 students. Only 20 percent of the parents and students are officially church members but all are considered part of the St. Philip's family. St. Paul's has taken that one step further by building a school to serve the children of the community and then to provide a multipurpose space that can be used for the church's Sunday worship.

God has done an amazing work in these four new churches. There is not one right way to begin a new congregation but there are key ingredients to make one thrive. There is not a best style of worship, or a right location, or a particular church planter. But these essential principles can help new congregations be successful. This list of principles is by no means complete, but it is a beginning. New works begun in every diocese around the country in the years ahead will reveal even more lessons for growing God's Church in our modern context. And these churches will change the world.

The Rev. Clay Lein is rector of St. Philip's Church, Frisco, Texas.



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rtists are odd. They look at the same world that we do, but they see it at a different slant, and pick up things we don't. I recently had breakfast with an alumnus of Wycliffe, a friend of mine, who told me about two Christian artists he was encouraging. At a nearby college they were commissioned to produce paintings for the walls of the religious studies department. The first was given the assignment of a picture of the Incarnation, the birth among us of the God-man Jesus Christ.

Now the painter, it turns out, has a fascination with pavement and puddles. He walks around looking down. No one notices this stuff. He draws and paints them, including how they reflect the sky. They are simple things, easily overlooked. They are dirty, and trodden underfoot. The painting is called "The Great Mystery." The baby Jesus lies on the hard and cracked ground. He is swaddled tight with a cord. He is confined. His tiny head is turned to look at two puddles, one on each side of him. In one a donkey has come to drink, in a second a lamb. In the puddles around him you can see a touch of the sky. Jesus is down at our level, bound like us, approachable like us. But we also are in God's image, reflecting the heavens.

A second work was a sculpture called "Crucifixion." The artist found the trash bin where the contents of the school's vacuum cleaners were thrown out. It was full of dirt and dust, which is itself made up of flecks of skin and hair. Out of this detritus the artist formed the body of Jesus on the cross. The message is this: he took on our dirt, which means our sin. He was the Son, but consented to take on our very body. This Jesus shared the lowly body of the actual people at that college. And where is the divinity in it? That God in his purity and power would say yes to it. I was moved by both, but I was also impressed with this: one saw the birth of Jesus in a puddle, the other the saving death in a vacuum trash bag.



FROM THE PULPIT



(Continued previous page)

This in fact has everything to do with the message we read in the fourth chapter of the Epistle to the Ephesians. We are all part of one body, who is Jesus Christ. We actually share one another's chains. which means our suffering, our powerlessness, our fear, the condition of being sinners, and we share the same hope. And all of this is possible because there is one Lord Jesus Christ. Paul goes on to tell us what he has done. He has gone on high, which means to the very place of God, what Jesus in the Gospel of John calls the bosom of the father.

But Paul goes on to tell us that going up, for God, is the same thing as going down. His power and glory are in his lowering himself to share our lives as they really are. He has even gone down into hell, says this reading and the creed as well. This means he has shared your guilt and shame and separation and death, all without sinning, without losing his oneness with the Father. For us going up and down are opposites. But things are different for God. In fact, when the Son goes up, he brings with him all that he went through, all that humans suffer in this broken world. He carries all that up with him. The great hymn "At the Name of Jesus" says that he "bore it up triumphant, with its human light, through all ranks of creatures to the central height, to the father's breast,"

and what was borne up was our brokenness, us.

Going down is going up for God, and both together describe perfectly what it is to be our priest. For that is what we as humans want: a mediator, a priest, someone to guarantee us access to God. What we ourselves cannot provide, Jesus Christ has. He is, says Hebrews, the one and only, the sufficient priest for us all. And he has done so in a more mysterious and marvelous way. He has come down to our level, the level of the pavement and the puddles. He has taken on our dirt and our flesh, our status as bodies fit to be thrown away, and he has offered all that to his Father. He has raised all that. which means us, up.

Now the important thing as we read Ephesians 4 is that he has done all that. He comes first in the reading. And then Paul goes on to talk about how the news of this priest, and the present reality of this being lifted up, can come to human beings. It is through the Church. It is accomplished, says Paul, not in one way: someone must preach, someone teach, someone guide, another lead. All of it is to move the body toward maturity, toward life with God's purpose for us in mind, turning steadily toward him and away from the mind of the world.

Priests are odd. They are meant to look at the same world as everyone else, but from a particular slant, so as to pick up things others might otherwise forget. To be sure, every single person in this room is called by God to be a witness for Jesus Christ. Priests are supposed to do so for the community as a whole. Priests are called to see God's hand, his call, his gift, his warning, in the lives of the people he has given us to care for. The artists of whom I spoke saw things that seem ordinary. But they could see more there. They saw the work of the God who

crouched down to where we live in Jesus Christ, and lifted who we are up to heaven in his resurrection. It is part of priests' job to see ordinary and extraordinary things in these, the people God has put into their care, and to tell them so. In this, priesthood is a kind of artistry.

There is a tradition in the spirituality of Anglicanism of what one contemporary author has called "Easter in ordinary." In the same vein, the Anglican poet George Herbert speaks in this way of committing the most ordinary acts to God:

All may of thee partake; nothing can be so mean, which with this tincture, "for thy sake," will not grow bright and clean.

As a priest, the things you are looking at are not odd, nor in reality is seeing things in the light of what is most real, most true. But to the world, to the way the world teaches us to see things, it seems odd. The things that shine with the light of the Holy Spirit, someone facing death with courage, someone raised up from addiction, someone challenging a wrong in a costly way, these seem like little things. The outsider looks at the Church in its flaws and humanity and sees things as lowly as pavement, as passing as waste. But it is not to be so with you. To accomplish this, you, like those artists, have to keep your eyes on things most do not look much at: prayer, the Scripture, the inner significance of ordinary things, the spiritual weight of suffering.

Now the trick of all this is that you do not do this from some height. God is on a height, but you his servant are not. You are down here with us, at the pavement, made up of earthly remains. You are as unlikely for this calling as we your charges are. I do not mean you are not intelligent, earnest, able; you actually are. But when it comes to

witnessing to the forgiveness of sins and life out of death, we are unlikely indeed. There is no being up to the job. The unlikely source Woody Allen reminds us that 80 percent of life is showing up. The artist does not create beauty but witnesses to it. Likewise, for you, grace.

Something similar can be said of the parish. There is a spirituality of the parish, which must be of special concern to the priest. The parish too is a case of "Easter in ordinary." The world thinks spirituality is all long silences and distant thoughts. And in this vein parishes are unlikely sources — in fact they may seem distractions from spirituality. But in fact it is finding the signs of the Spirit in the cracks and puddles on the pavement. I read some-

time ago of ecologically minded Christians who called for the discovery of a new kind of Christian life more attuned to place, to face to face relations, to a more livable scale.

What they are trying to rediscover is the parish, even as parishes struggle to survive. Real spirituality takes place through, not around, the demands of concrete physical life, amidst conflicts in families and people, amidst hard histories, in the collection of individuals, seemingly thrown together, whom God calls in that place. Lord, what would you have this body do? Where, surprisingly, is the indelible image of you visible here? Remind me that here are grace and gifts sufficient. Show me here your eucharistic body, ordinary, broken, offered, in your hands a channel for your Spirit.

Because, finally, parishes are meant to be odd, at least to the world's mind. Together they are meant to look at the same things everyone else looks at, but from a different slant. They are to look at them slantwise, from grace, forgiveness, resurrection. And when they do so, they realize they are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. God's own people. As God in his providential wisdom places you among us, a people, for this purpose, it does not seem to us odd at all, but good and right.

The Rev. George Sumner is principal and Helliwell Professor of World Mission at Wycliffe College, University of Toronto.













Discipleship and Celebration



TWENTY MINUTES WITH SCOTT GUNN

"Congregations are strong when they are filled with disciples rather than habitual Christians."

-The Rev. Scott Gunn

By Richard J. Mammana, Jr.

The Rev. Scott Gunn is an Episcopal priest and technophile who serves as executive director of Forward Movement in Cincinnati, Ohio. A native of Iowa, he studied at Luther College, Yale University, and Brown University. He has worked as a parish priest, as an IT director, and as a technology consultant to a variety of for-profit and nonprofit organizations.

Most Episcopalians have probably seen Forward Day by Day, but they may know less about Forward Movement.

Forward Movement was begun in the 1930s at a time when the Episcopal Church was struggling numerically, financially, and in terms of its mission. Unsure what to do, the General Convention chartered the Forward Movement Commission to figure something out. The brilliant insight that emerged from this group is that the Episcopal Church will be strong when its congregations are strong. Congregations are

strong when they are filled with disciples rather than habitual Christians. So Forward Movement has existed for almost 80 years to encourage discipleship, especially through daily habits of prayer and study.

What current Forward Movement projects excite you?

This time of year, I'm always excited about Lent Madness (lentmadness.org), which is a fairly silly way to encourage people to learn more about the lives of saints and to embrace some kind of Lenten discipline, even if it involves laughing. It's part of our effort to find new ways to draw people into a deeper relationship with Jesus, realizing that traditional methods don't work for everyone.

We also have a bunch of other projects that are connected to discipleship. RenewalWorks (renewalworks.org) is a way for congregations to benchmark their spiritual vitality — strengths and challenges — and have leaders go through a series of workshops to deepen the spiritual life. Sadly, attention to spiritual vitality is often neglected as congregations focus on institutional survival. We want to change the conversation.

I have heard from lots of families that they want to talk about faith at home, but they're not sure where to begin. *Daily Devo* is an email that comes every morning with simple meditations based on the daily lectionary. Every day has a meditation, an action to take, a video, and a prayer. Individuals or congregations can sign up, and we've heard a very good response. Many people are longing for spiritual growth, and I hope this can be a way to give people a daily opportunity to grow.

What's your sense of the future of print media in our common life — not just in the Episcopal Church, but in the wider Anglican Communion and in Christianity? Will there always be room for books?

(Continued on next page)

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TWENTY MINUTES WITH SCOTT GUNN

(Continued from previous page)

Is technology really a net gain for the current life and future of Christian thought?

I think there will always be books, just as there will always be written manuscripts and oral tradition. New technology might get the spotlight, but the older ways of communicating never completely fade away. Last year I showed up for one parish's 6:15 a.m. Thursday Bible study. That day every person there was a man, studying Scripture before commuting to work. The rector asked everyone to pull out his copy of Forward Day by Day. Almost every man pulled a copy out of his jacket pocket or briefcase. They all read it on the train every morning. It doesn't require batteries, and it's portable. As a bonus, you can give your copy away if someone's interested. We're certainly doing things beyond

print, but it won't go away immediately.

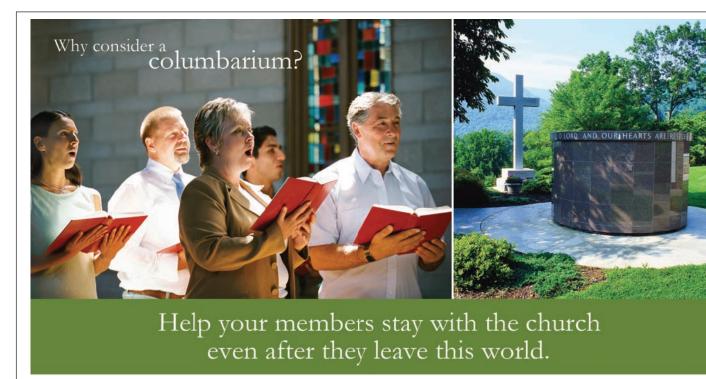
From my perspective, technology — even social media, easy to malign — has been good. We are able to connect in ways we couldn't until now. My Facebook friend who serves a church in Baghdad helps me understand the plight of Christians there every day. I can pray for him and his church. When I was a rector, social media helped me connect with the lives of parishioners in extraordinary ways. Through Facebook, I could learn about a family member's death, a high school student's exam, a new home, or a lost job. There are plenty of dangers and cautions, to be sure, but I'm grateful for the gift of technology. I think the church's resistance to new technologies is at least partly due to our participation in a culture of fear. Ironic, isn't it, since Jesus kept telling his followers, "Be not afraid"?

What discourages you most about the common life of Anglicans today?

Too often we set the bar too low. We water down the demands of the faith, hoping it will be more attractive to seekers, but forgetting that it is precisely the invita-



tion to take up our cross and follow Jesus that compels disciples. We give up too easily on challenging relationships, whether in our personal lives or in the Anglican Communion, because we forget that we have the Advocate to help us reconcile. We settle for mediocre liturgy, preaching, and



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teaching, because we begin to substitute the perceived friendliness of community for the transforming presence of God among us. We think that our task is to renew the Church, when our call is to renew the world. Of course, I think the Church does need renewal, but that is the means and not the end.

What gives you the most hope about the common life of Anglicans today? Anglican Christianity is perfectly positioned for the hungers of this generation. If we can embrace who we are rather than trying to pretend we are "relevant," whatever that means — we will be able to offer the Good News to countless people. My sense is that many of those outside our churches are looking for three things: transcendent encounter with God, relationship with a community of faith, and intellectually engaging teaching and preaching. These things are all in our Anglican DNA, without even trying very hard. Our ancient and reformed liturgy is spot on for many folks.

Your Lent Madness initiative has energized a large group of mediaengaged persons, and offered many of us an opportunity to learn about the saints and the liturgical year along the way. What other things do you have on the drawing board?

I would be remiss if I didn't mention 50 Days of Fabulous (50days.org), a way to remember that the Great Fifty Days of Easter invite us to celebrate for a very long time. It's a website with daily meditations and conversation. Pretty simple, but my sense is that most of us don't really live it up as much as we might for the duration of the Easter season. We've kicked around some other ideas, and we're always glad to hear others. In the same vein of lighthearted approaches to liturgical seasons, we've also begun publishing Jay Sidebotham's wonderful Lent and Advent calendar posters. We're talking about other seasons there too, perhaps Easter or Christmas.

St. Thomas' Church, Whitemarsh Presents:



Stanley Hauerwas - Guest Preacher - Sunday Forum Leader April 6 Professor of Ethics at Duke Divinity School - Preaching at 8:00 and 9:30am - Sunday Forum at 10:45 a.m. in MacColl Auditorium. Ethics in the Gospel of Matthew: The most Jewish of the gospels, portraying Jesus as a second Moses and dividing the gospel into five parts like the Torah. America's most famous ethicist engages us. Co-Sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania.



Eric Metaxas - A Book Discussion - Tuesday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. in MacColl Auditorium. Author of the New York Times #1 Bestseller *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy.*

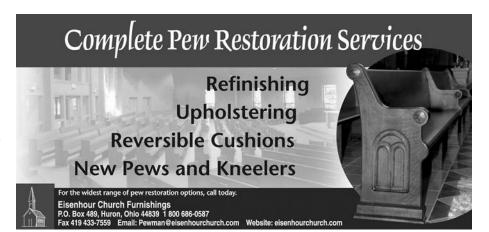
"[Told] with passion and theological sophistication."

- The Wall Street Journal

All are welcome and both events are free to the public. Bethlehem Pike and Camp Hill Road, Ft. Washington, PA



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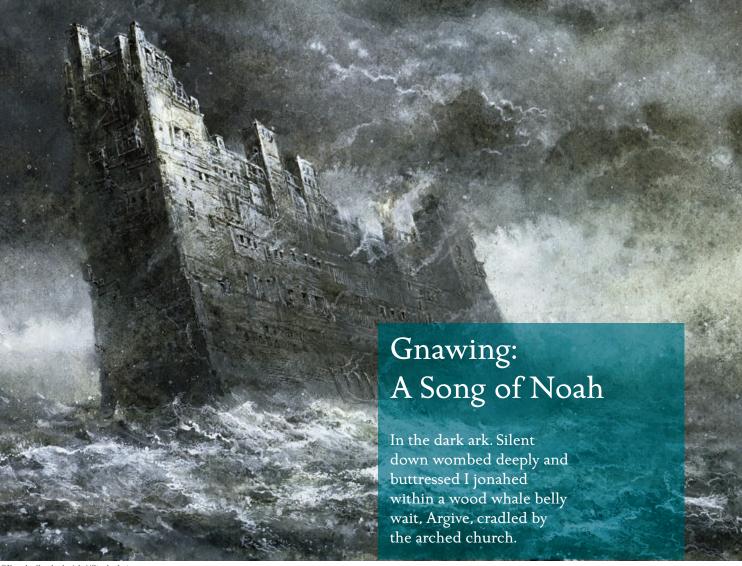
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A darkness beholden. Indeed a terrible darkness to contemplate. Taken within to fast, and without: the florid gray rain. Her persistence made me wonder if the forty days had passed again;

why she inquired at the windows. This mysterious ingestion to stir hunger of another kind since I, prodigal prophet, go on skirting Nineveh.

And if the Deluge comes not yet
Lord lead me up
to Ararat.

Michael Cover

Reduce and Reuse: Lenten Devotionals

By Giuseppe Gagliano

ent is a season of lack and restraint, except for its abundance of devotional books. The number of selections can be confusing and they are of unequal quality. Many manuals are time-specific and discarded after use; others are trite attempts to fill 40 days of spiritual reflection. After scouring through a pile of devotionals, I reduced the selection to several that are not only scripturally focused but also reusable from year to year.

In Good Lord, Deliver Us, Episcopal priests Leonard W. and Lindsay H. Freeman focus on Thomas Cranmer's articulation of the Great Litany. Each day in Lent begins with one of the litany's 32 petitions, followed by a very quick reflection. The reflection for the fifth week of Lent uses portions of collects for the Easter Vigil. These brief musings take on a variety of topics, including Anglican history, personal stories, biblical themes, and popular culture. This devotional is as brief as its ecumenical scope, and is particularly relevant to Episcopalians.

Wondrous Encounters: Scripture for Lent by Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest and popular author, serves as a very accessible devotional manual. These reflections for each day of the season are based directly on scriptural passages, usually taken from both the gospels and the Old Testament. Rohr wrote this book during a silent hermitage in Arizona, and he emphasizes the experiential aspect of his writings. Rohr provides a "starter prayer" at the end of each reflection, which is meant to provoke the heart of the reader to personal prayer. While Rohr's theological ruminations occasionally fall victim to psychologizing, this series of devotions is accessible to a wide readership.

In his Lent for Everyone series the prolific bishop N.T. Wright notes each full Scripture reading and offers a focused portion of the daily text in his own words. A short imaginative exercise or a brief prayer follows each devotion. The author's reflections range from personal stories of his work as a bishop to the art of placing oneself into the text. It is refreshing to be carried through Lent in such a humble, imaginative way by a respected biblical scholar.

Good Lord, Deliver Us

A Lenten Journey

By **Leonard W. Freeman** and **Lindsay H. Freeman**.
Forward Movement. Pp. 80. \$4

Wondrous Encounters

Scripture for Lent By **Richard Rohr**, OFM.

St. Anthony Messenger. Pp. 143. \$8.99

Lent for Everyone

By **N.T. Wright.** Westminster John Knox Press.

Matthew, Year A Pp. 174. \$15

> Mark, Year B Pp. 208. \$15

Luke, Year C Pp. 144. \$15

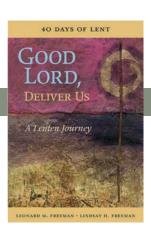
A Joyful Heart Meditations for Lent

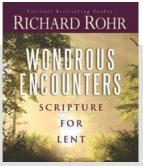
By Martin Thornton. Wipf and Stock. Pp. 86. \$12

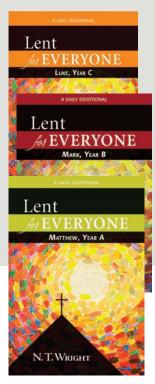
A Joyful Heart by Martin Thornton, the late chancellor of Truro Cathedral, presents not a typical series of daily devotions following a lectionary cycle but 12 chapters of about five to eight pages in length that deal with various theological subjects from an Anglican perspective. Thornton's final book can be digested at the reader's chosen page.

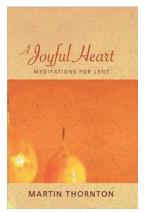
With a penchant for English wit, the author takes a humorous approach to theology, intentionally following in the footsteps of G.K. Chesterton and C.S. Lewis. The readings are more in-depth than most devotionals and would be fruitful for group discussions during Lent.

The Rev. Giuseppe Gagliano serves as a priest at St. Paul's, Sydenham, in the Diocese of Ontario.









Countering the Mall

Review by Mark F.M. Clavier

ecades of evangelism have come and gone in the Church without much to show for them. Most Churches have probably reached the end of their decade with *fewer* members than at the start—a gloomy prospect for those who embraced the drive with zeal and high hopes. At times, one wonders who is evangelizing whom.

It seems that no matter what the Church tries to do, nothing manages even to slow the rate of membership decline, never mind reverse it. People, especially the young, have left in droves as they have found a degree of fulfilment in entertainment, sports, shopping, or a quiet morning at the local coffee shop. Meanwhile, those who devote their Sunday mornings — not to mention their lives — to the local church are increasingly seen as eccentric by the ever-expanding population of the unchurched. Why on earth add church to an already overcrowded and busy life?

According to James K.A. Smith's Imagining the *Kingdom*, none of this should be surprising because the Church is failing to educate people's imagination. Drawing on the work of Maurice Merleau-Ponty and Pierre Bourdieu, Smith argues that the precognitive experience and perception of our world is "inscribed" into our bodies and minds through our habits, practices, and daily routines. Through these practices, we come to perceive the world in a particular way before we even begin to hold convictions or develop theories. This precognitive knowledge accounts for 95 percent of our total knowledge, and it therefore profoundly shapes our conscious beliefs and choices; precognitive perception in fact disposes us powerfully to act in particular ways and believe in particular things. For example, someone growing up in Boston is probably going to be disposed to embrace a different set of convictions than someone growing up in rural Tennessee. Our belonging disposes us towards certain ways of being and believing.

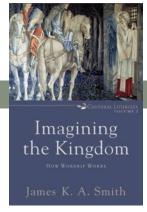
Smith is a Reformed philosophy professor at Calvin College who did some of his training in Roman Catholic institutions, and he is classically oriented. First, in agreement with Augustine, he sees education and formation as being primarily about orienting our loves towards certain ends rather than simply about

communicating knowledge. He argues, therefore, that we need to think about how practices and habits can so shape imagination as to orient our love towards God. Second, he believes that the orientation of love through social practices is fundamentally a question of liturgy. For Smith, liturgies are essentially patterns of meaning-bearing practices, routines and habits that produce and sustain social imaginary.

So, for example, the Book of Common Prayer conveys participants through the act of worship and roots us in the biblical narrative as expressed in the Anglican tradition. As we repeat these liturgical acts regularly, the knowledge of worship is inscribed in our bodies (through the habit of attending church, sitting, kneeling, standing, signing ourselves) as the story of our faith sets deeply into our minds. But, Smith argues, our participation in "secular liturgies" also shapes our social imagination in ways we perceive only dimly. Unlike Christian liturgies, however, "secular liturgies" orient our loves away from God. Smith sets his gaze particularly on that secular liturgy we call consumerism, especially the essentially religious nature of such activities as shopping at a mall.

Smith offers an important contribution to the fruitful conversation about how to free the Church from an unhealthy Cartesian framework that invariably turns faith into a private, inward conviction divorced from an outward society and essential practices. Therefore, anyone concerned about those segments of the Church that seek to separate the *content* of the faith from the *form* of expressing that faith (e.g., those initiatives that conceive of the Kingdom of God as an abstract product that can be repackaged to appeal to niche markets) will find his argument invaluable.

More important, *Imagining the Kingdom* reminds us that evangelism and Christian formation need to engage more than just ideas if they are to achieve anything lasting and meaningful. The mission of the Church is much more about connecting with and shaping the imagination, touching people at the gut level, than it is about rational arguments, experience, or convincing people of propositional truths. According to Smith, this is because our beliefs and choices are really badges that identify us as belonging within



Imagining the Kingdom How Worship Works

By James K.A. Smith. Baker Academic. Pp. 224. \$22.99

certain communities of practices and narratives than the result of rational deliberation. When we engage only with people's beliefs it's not unlike focusing on the pollution in a lake without ever addressing the toxic river that feeds it.

If Smith is right, then the habits we encourage through the practice of our ministry, especially our acts of worship, will have more lasting effect than the beliefs we attempt to convey through our words. Evangelism must involve more than the 5 percent of people's knowledge and perception while leaving untouched the way they perceive their world and the communities to which they belong. This is more than a matter of worldviews - and Smith is critical of those who over-emphasize the clash of worldviews — because it seeks to take seriously the daily experience of belonging in the world out of which worldviews emerge. As such, Smith's approach is deeply incarnational, taking seriously that we are intelligent bodies rather than detached minds.

Imagining the Kingdom builds on the groundwork of Desiring the *Kingdom* to develop some wonderful insights that have enriched my own thinking tremendously. I eagerly await the third volume in James K.A. Smith's Cultural Liturgies series. His is an important voice to heed as churches strive to discern their role and mission within our consumer world.

The Rev. Mark F.M. Clavier is the author of Rescuing the Church from Consumerism (SPCK, 2013).



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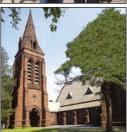
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Good Priest = Growing Congregation?

Review by Jason Ingalls

n New Year's Eve, an article on *The Telegraph*'s website quoted the Archbishop of Canterbury: "The reality is that where you have a good vicar, you will find growing churches" (rdd.me/jmuxmsas). This correlative sound bite raises some issues. Does good priest = growing congregation? Does shrinking congregation = bad priest? What do we mean by a "good vicar" anyway?

Each in their own way, three recent books from the U.K.'s SCM Press try to answer this question. Each has its faults. Tim Ling and Lesley Bentley's *Developing Faithful Ministers*, as any edited collection, has some chapters that add only words to the length of the book. Judith Thompson and Ross Thompson's *Mindful Ministry* brims with unnecessary and distracting references to Buddhist practices of mindfulness, a shame given the deep pastoral wisdom found in its pages. David Dadswell's *Consultancy Skills for Ministry* might only

help priests who are thinking of hiring a church consultant, or archdeacons or bishops who see their role as mainly consultative.

But given those caveats, these three books allow us to explore from a different angle what it means to be a good vicar in the 21st century. In *Developing Faithful Ministers*, the authors seem to argue that a good priest needs to be proficient in a set of skills.

Mindful Ministry takes a different approach, aiming mainly for the rector or vicar. Thompson and Thompson argue that "lay people and those ordained interilluminate and awaken the sparkle of Christ's *charismata* in one another" (p. viii). A good priest is a mindful one.

Consultancy Skills for Ministry addresses that burgeoning field of people who come alongside full-time ministers and enable change in their ministries. Dadswell emphasizes the concept of "clarity" throughout the book. A good priest is clear about change.

Taken together, it is not a bad picture of what a "good

vicar" might look like. I would love to see more priests who were proficient, mindful, and clear. I would expect those attributes in an accountant or a police officer. You might even call these attributes "professional." But what would we mean if we called priests *professionals*? Dadswell lays out a borrowed definition: "meticulous adherence to undeviating courtesy, honesty, and responsibility in one's dealings with customers and associates, plus a level of excellence that goes over and above the commercial considerations and legal requirements" (p. 207). Thoughtful professionalism stands as a guard against doing harm, something that more priests would do well to emulate.

Talking about the priest as a professional has its own issues. Thompson and Thompson write: "The work of healing in our society is undertaken by a varied host of professionals ... who can leave the minister feeling like a professional without a well-defined profession: a 'priest of the gaps' holding the remnants left behind by the professionalization of the main

(Continued on page 32)



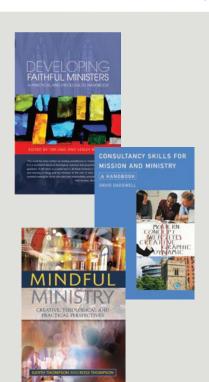
By David Dadswell. SCM Press. Pp. 224. \$32

Mindful Ministry

Creative, Theological and Practical Perspectives
By Ross Thompson and Judith
Thompson. Pp. 224. SCM Press. \$32

Developing Faithful Ministers

A Theological and Practical Handbook By **Tim Ling** and **Lesley Bentley**. SCM Press. Pp. 224. \$40



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BOOKS

(Continued from page 30)

pathways of care" (p. 56). Such priests will experience the ministerial profession as a "very inadequate and unprofessional one alongside well-trained others" (p. 56). Taking the label of "professional" might be damaging to priests and the type of vocation that we embrace.

In one of the essays in *Developing* Faithful Ministers, Paul Bayes suggests that "professionalism" might be damaging to the community as well. Bayes argues that one role of a priest is to encourage a community of friends (pp. 15-16). While Bayes admits that professionalism constrains otherwise unchecked priests, he warns that "the ministry of professionals is a stranger to friendship" (p. 23).

In the same book, editor Tim Ling picks up the thread in the final chapter and tries to put the idea of the "professional" into its etymological context: "[Our language finds roots] in the tenth century in the context of monasticism: the professional is someone who makes a public profession and enters a disciplined community" (p. 181). And surely this definition of professional is the one we need if we are to use the word at all. The priest as professional is not an individual with a specific set of skills. The priest is a member of an avowed community, an order, and it is the community that gives shape to a priest's profession.

How might we respond to the guestion implicit in Archbishop Welby's dictum that where you have a good vicar you will find growing churches? What makes a good priest? We might say that a priest may be much more, but a priest cannot be less than, a proficient, mindful, and clear-headed member of an order, an artisan and steward of the sacred mysteries. If we take this as a definition of a good priest, then the archbishop may well be right.

The Rev. Jason Ingalls, a priest of the Diocese of Tennessee, serves in development at Ridley Hall, Cambridge.

Ascetical Theology for Daily Living

Review by Calvin Lane

r. John-Julian stands before a class of senior seminarians at Nashotah House imploring them (if not chiding them) to come and see the life of Julian House Monastery in Waukesha, Wisconsin. He says to these students who will have the pastoral care of souls in only a few months that they need to see this place and learn about its life because they may very well have someone with a contemplative vocation in their parish. How will you, he asks, guide such a person?

That kind of voice — urging to prepare, to guide, and to counsel everyday people into a life of devotion and prayer — is at the heart of this classic work, St. Francis de Sales's *Introduction to the Devout Life*, an indispensible text for anyone who wants a practical, realistic engagement with a life of holiness, a life marked by regular prayer, alertness to the presence of the Holy Spirit, and progress in the full stature of Christ. The bishop of Geneva (a missionary assignment

The Complete Introduction to the Devout Life

By **St. Francis de Sales**. Edited and translated by **Fr. John-Julian, OJN.** Paraclete Press.

Pp. 390. \$26.99



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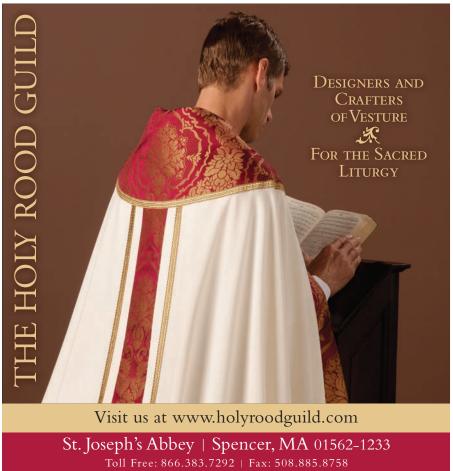
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BOOKS

(Continued from previous page)

given to Francis in 1602 when Geneva was surely in its post-Reformation Protestant heyday) specifies in the preface that this book is different from all the ascetical manuals that came before it.

Indeed de Sales was quite aware that he was doing a new thing: the whole tradition had focused on those who had withdrawn from the business of the world; this book, he explains, "is to instruct those who live in towns, on farms, or at court, and whose situation necessitates that they live an ordinary life in external matters" (p. 3). The *Introduction*, then, is ascetical theology for the rest of us, those of us who hunger and ache for a disciplined life with God but who have children to raise, deadlines to meet, checkbooks to balance, and toilets to unstop. Like the interrupting bells of the Angelus that remind us of God's interruption of the world in the Incarnation, de Sales does not try to remove us from the world, but rather would have us burn ever more brightly within it through the devout

This translation and commentary ioins Fr. John-Julian's other works in the Paraclete Giants series — his "complete" *Imitation of Christ* by Thomas à Kempis and Julian of Norwich — and like the other two is a pleasing and carefully crafted rendering of not only a historically important ascetical masterpiece but a text useful for Christians today. The goal of this work — in the 17th century and today — is true holiness of life, an aim difficult to achieve because there are many impostors, as Francis explains, and because it simply takes time: grace must bear fruit in charity, and charity must be fanned into the flame of sanctity.

But this can be done even in the most quotidian circumstance, something which de Sales wanted his own spiritual clients to know and which John-Julian clearly hopes to share today. The book began merely as a col-

lection of advice for a noble woman, Louise de Charmoisy, but after it fell into the hands of her Jesuit spiritual director, Francis was prevailed upon to publish it.

It first appeared in 1609 and was revised three more times, the final edition appearing in 1619. Francis (1567-1622) endeavored through the whole of his ministry, as a missionary in the northern Protestant region of the Duchy of Savoy and in his unusual role as displaced bishop of Geneva, to strengthen devotion, to encourage everyday women and men in their prayer life, and to make accessible to them the best of Christian asceticism. He even defined devotion, as John-Julian explains, not as the multiplication of rote prayers but as a simple, true, serious, and abiding love of God.

It should come as no surprise that the traditional Dionysian ways of Purgation, Illumination, and Unification stand behind the five parts of the *Introduction*. In the verso page commentary John-Julian walks the reader through Francis's discussion of how one disconnects from the proclivities of sin, instruction on how to raise the soul closer to God in prayer and sacrament, the development of the virtues, how to avoid temptation, and finally how to form resolutions to remain in the devout life.

As in the other "complete" works, Fr. John-Julian gives the reader a grand running commentary, a clear introduction attending to the historical, literary, and theological contexts, and a delightful appendix filled with short anecdotes of notable figures who benefited from the *Introduction*, including Wesley, Law, Newman, and the last two popes. This edition will prove very useful — the intention of de Sales and his modern translator, John-Julian — in the mission field today.

The Rev. Calvin Lane is affiliate professor at Nashotah House and priest-incharge of St. Mary's Church, Franklin, Louisiana.



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Dig Deeper with Muslims

This is the second book by the Littlemore Group, which Sarah Coakley describes in the foreword as "a number of Anglican clerics who have devoted themselves simultaneously to scholarship and to the demands of ordinary parish life" (p. vii). The first was the thoughtful reflection on the priesthood, Praying for England.

This is an important and imaginative book. Although its context is that of the Church of England, anyone interested or involved in relations between Anglicanism and Islam, especially at the parish level, will benefit immensely from the reflections here.

Crucial to any relationship with Islam is the understanding that Islam and Muslims are as diverse as Christians. As Ian Wallis says, "Muslims are no more homogeneous than Christians." There can be no progress without an acknowledgment of this complexity, and the Church can make a real difference by not slipping into the easy generalizations of contemporary political discourse. The Church can also practice what Frances Ward, now dean of St. Edmundsbury, calls public friendship, rather than engage simply in private relationships. Christians have the ability to model what we hope the broader community will come to embody.

There is no papering over of real difference and difficulty. In a fascinating conversation, one priest remarks that both "the Christian and the Muslim faiths make universal claims, and this has been made explicit" in the interfaith project in which he is involved.

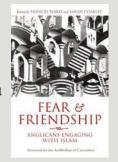
In Britain, as Philip Lewis observes, "different cities have quite distinct profiles" when it comes to their Muslim populations, and it would not surprise me if that were also the case in North America. Here too Christians can bring a sensitivity to our public understanding of the nuances of Islamic faith, practice, and culture.

This book is evidence of interfaith

Fear and Friendship

Anglicans Engaging with Islam Edited by Frances Ward and Sarah Coakley. Continuum.

Pp. xiv + 154. \$22.95



engagement at its best. It is full of fresh insight and a willingness to risk new ventures, while being firmly grounded in classical Christian theology and self-understanding. Interfaith engagement is challenging but crucial work. The paradigms of relationships between the great religious traditions on which we have relied till now are bankrupt. If we know one thing, we know of the persistence of religion, and the forging of a new paradigm between us is vital for the future of the human family.

This book takes some bold steps in the right direction.

> The Very Rev. Peter Eaton Denver

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Fiat

aving learned the Hail Mary I was prepared for the Angelus when it came along at my first Anglo-Catholic parish, and the rosary popped up with some frequency thereafter in ecumenical and Roman Catholic circles. It took a few years till the Hail Mary became a regular prayer in the car, perfect for repeating over and over, and later I built in the rosary proper as a feature of any driving day, preferably near the beginning.

The road rosary took hold thanks to missionary friends in Mexico, who would pray it on the way to far-flung ranchos for impromptu services of an evening, built around testimony to the transforming power of the gospel, songs set to guitar, and interces-

sory prayer with the laying on of hands. I hope not to forget watching the sun set over the Mexican desert from a van packed with fired-up undergraduates from south Louisiana plus our missionary hosts, praying the rosary as an earnest of the evangelization to come. In an hour's time these impressive young people — mostly charismatic Roman Catholics, whom I had seen poring over the Scriptures in their spare time, when they weren't prostrate before the blessed sacrament and a giant crucifix — would be sharing their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ with the rural poor who might not see a priest for a year, though they would see many persuasive Jehovah's Witnesses.

(Continued on next page)

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As a missionary myself several years later, serving in South Africa, I recall embarking on a daytrip with a bishop friend who suggested that we start our journey with the rosary. "Whenever I drive around my diocese," he told me, "I always pray the rosary with whomever is with me in the car. I don't ask for permission, but simply invite them to join in," he laughed. And we both were pleased to find that our temporary home, the College of the Transfiguration, still rang the Angelus bell twice daily, at noon and at 6 p.m., an apparent remnant of Anglo-Catholic origins. I didn't notice an observable piety around the practice, but since my class started at noon, I told my students we would begin by reciting the Angelus, which we did.

At The Living Church, our offices sit alongside Milwaukee's Cathedral Church of All Saints where the Angelus is rung twice each day. And because I live across the street, there is no escaping the bells. At work and at home, I stop what I am doing, stand, and pray for the grace to be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

hat might this mean? The unmistakable subject, and principal actor, of the Angelus — and of the Rosary — is the Word of God himself. All is ordered to his arrival and its consequences, and Mary's Fiat subsists in surrender. Be it unto me according to thy Word, she says, as prologue to the third versicle: And the Word was made flesh: And dwelt among us. As we repeat these words, taking them to heart, we follow in the footsteps of Mary and Jesus, even to his cross and passion on the way to glorious resurrection.

It's Ash Wednesday and I'm just back from a long road trip that took me on LIVING CHURCH business to Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama, South Carolina, and Washington, D.C. I can't list all of the faithful folks whom I met and with whom I engaged in ministry, fed by worship and mutual encouragement. (If you're on Facebook, you can see a few of the photos I snapped along the way; visit is.gd/FacebookCSW.) I am truly thankful to the saints who provided extraordinary hospitality. The trip included an organizing meeting of the Cranmer Forum, being a collocation of younger leaders: stay tuned (cranmerinstitute.org); the conclusion of the current round of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Consultation in the U.S.

(ARC-USA): watch for an agreed statement on "Ecclesiology and Moral Discernment" this spring; and first visits to several parishes — All Souls, Oklahoma City; Trinity Cathedral, Columbia; and All Saints, Chevy Chase.

I did a lot of praying on the road, right the way along. I followed the Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious mysteries, and I held the special intentions of folks I had just been with and for whom I had promised to pray. When I remembered I prayed the Angelus at noon and 6.

As we travel, and as we arrive again at home, our missionary vocation remains the same. We are pilgrims on a journey. We are called out of ourselves and sent to follow the incarnated and crucified One, to share the good news of his gospel with the nations. Our job is to say *yes*, not knowing where we are being led. *Fiat*: Let it be done; so be it; amen.

Christopher Wells



LETTERS

Remember the Presentation

The review of Stephen Dykes Bower [TLC, Feb. 9] introduced me to an architect whose work I have admired without knowing anything of the person. The cover article on Old St. Paul's caught me up on a church where I had occasionally worshiped while living in Baltimore more than 50 years ago. And the article on gaming gave me background on the issue in a neighboring diocese where I have many friends.

But I was disappointed on turning to Sunday's Readings to find reflections for Feb. 2 that were replaced throughout the Church (unless there are parishes that actually depend on this column when preparing their services) by the readings for the Presentation.

> The Rev. Wm. D. Loring Danbury, Connecticut

Fire Women's Backstory

I was pleased to see Grace Sears's review of Five Women [TLC, March 9], which I "midwifed." I discovered it at the Community of Grandchamp convent in Switzerland, recruited Dennis Wienk to translate it, and (after 20 years of not finding a publisher) suggested Wipf and Stock.

I also tracked down the author, who was very glad to give permission. It is her first book to appear in English. Dennis went on to translate her book on three Hebrew prophetesses, which Wipf and Stock has issued as Three Women of Hope, and he is now working on her book on Esther.

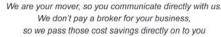
Five Women caught my eye because it included Hagar, and the author has consulted Islamic sources as well as Jewish. Leah is also often overlooked, but she gave Jacob more sons than Rachel and is the ancestor of Jesus.

> The Rev. Lawrence Crumb Eugene, Oregon

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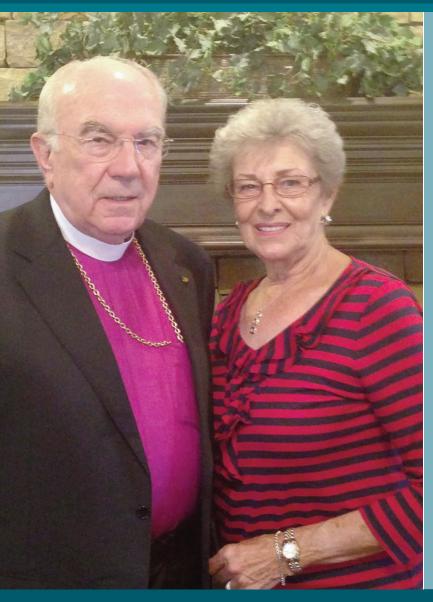
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Susan, my constant companion in ministry, and I were introduced to THE LIVING CHURCH through my confirmation classes back in the mid-'60s. The magazine exposed us to the wider Anglican Communion and helped us understand that we were becoming part of something much larger than our home parish. Since then, THE LIVING CHURCH has traveled with us through my journey from businessman to deacon, priest, and bishop. Our increased involvement in the larger Church and our regular support of the magazine ultimately brought an invitation to serve on the board of the Living Church Foundation, and it has been my joy to continue in this role.

The magazine nurtures all of us with rich articles that convey sound theological teaching, and presents balanced coverage of critical issues. The stewardship of our time and finances is grounded in our love for our Lord's Church. We believe THE LIVING CHURCH contributes directly to the well-being of the Church and her people. It is a cause worthy of support through the giving of our time, talent, and treasure.

—The Rt. Rev. D. Bruce MacPherson, president of the board of The Living Church Foundation

The Living Church



PEOPLE & PLACES

Deaths

The Rt. Rev. **Maurice M. "Ben" Benitez**, sixth Bishop of Texas, died February 27 in Austin. He was 86.



Benitez

Born in Washington, D.C., he was a graduate of West Point and a jet-fighter pilot who served with the 527th Fighter-Bomber Squadron in Germany during the Cold War. After his service in the U.S. Air Force he studied at the University of the South's

School of Theology.

He was ordained priest in 1958, and served at two parishes in Florida and at St. John's Cathedral in Jacksonville and at Grace Church in Ocala.

His years at Grace were marked by tensions of the civil rights movement. Bishop Benitez received threats and hate messages as he stood against segregation, integrating his parish school before the public school system did the same. When the public schools' teachers later went on strike, he was asked by both sides to act as mediator.

He was elected bishop in 1980 and served in that office until 1995. Bishop Benitez was a friend of the popular renewal movement in the Church and early in his episcopacy, he conducted a Venture in Mission campaign to support domestic and world mission.

Bishop Benitez also brought a focus on the changing demographics in Texas. While he coped with challenges brought by the recession in the late 1980s, the collapse of the oil business and the resulting banking crisis, he laid the foundations for Spanish-speaking ministry in the Diocese, opening the first Hispanic missions, recruiting Spanish-speaking clergy and appointing the first Hispanic missioner for the Province. He responded to the increasing Hispanic populations' needs by establishing El Buen Samaritano, a diocesan social service agency in Austin.

The bishop's wife of 63 years, Joanne, preceded him in death. He is survived by daughters Jennifer Benitez Shand, Leslie Anne Benitez, and Deborah Benitez Smith, and six grandsons.

The Rev. **Chester E. Falby**, a priest for 62 years, died January 12. He was 87

Born in Clinton, Massachusetts, he was a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and General Theological Semi-(Continued on page 44)

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SUNDAY'S READINGS | 3 Lent, March 23

Ex. 17:1-7 • Ps. 95 • Rom. 5:1-11 • John 4:5-42

Water

The Venite closes with this warn-I ing: "Harden not your heart, as your forebears did in the wilderness, at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me. They put me to the test, though they had seen my works. Forty years long I detested that generation and said, 'This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways.' So I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter into my rest" (Ps. 95:8-11). Numbers 20:2-13 tells a similar story, although adding the detail about Moses striking the rock twice, interpreted by some as Moses' celebrated fault for which he was forbidden entrance into the Promised Land.

A "people with a wayward heart" and "doubting Moses" may obscure a simpler reading that invites a strong parallel to the gospel. "The people thirsted for water," we are told. "Why," they ask Moses, "did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" Thirst is a desperate need, a condition a human being cannot long endure. God does not scold the people, but rather provides for their need. "I will be standing in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink" (Ex. 17:6). Water gushing from the rock is an answer to the question *Is the Lord* among us or not?

Drinking the water of God, indeed, bathing in it, "we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand" (Rom. 5:1-2). Jesus is himself the Living Water, cleansing us without and reviving us within. In one of the truly great ecumenical texts of the New Testament, Jesus says to the Samaritan woman, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water" (John 4:10).

In our need, we may ask, "Where do you get that living water?" Jesus speaks to us just as he spoke to the woman: "Those who drink of the water that I will give them will never thirst. The water that I give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life" (John 4:14-15). The cool cup of Christ is a miraculous satisfaction.

And yet the cup is always given. In a sense, desire and satisfaction have met and kissed each other. Jesus is the water we receive and always the water we want. Ultimately, this is about love. "If you thirst, drink from the font of life. If you hunger, eat the bread of life. Blessed are those who hunger for this bread and thirst for this font. Always eating and drinking, they still desire to eat and drink. A most beautiful thing! Always Christ is consumed and sipped, always hungered for and thirsted for, always tasted and always desired, which is why the prophet says: 'Taste and see how sweet and pleasant the Lord is" (Ex instructionibus sancti Columbani abbatis, n. 13; my translation).

Scanning a series of maps for a planned hiking trip, I look carefully; I remove my glasses for close inspection; I search for water. And I recall from other hikes the visceral cry of the body for water and the absolute joy of drinking it.

Jesus, come to me first as summer fire, burn me and dry me until I know my naked need.

Look It Up

Read Rom. 5:1. Jesus gives access to this grace..

Think About It

Weak, dead in our sins, hungry and dried out: "God proves his love toward us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us."

SUNDAY'S READINGS | 4 Lent, March 30

1 Sam. 16:1-13 • Ps. 23 • Eph. 5:8-14 • John 9:1-41

Light

nod is light and in him there is Jno darkness at all" (1 John 1:5). "Everything exposed by the light becomes visible" (Eph. 5:13). Simply, God sees the truth. "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see" (1 Sam. 16:7). Thus, in the selection of leaders, providence proffers many surprises. "Now [David] was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one'. ... [A]nd the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward" (1 Sam. 16:12-13). The seeing light of God sunders every surface.

God sees and exposes the unfruitful works of darkness. It is shameful to mention what is done in secret. and fearful to consider the gaze of God, "unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid" (BCP, p. 323). This would be absolute misery for a weak and frail and sinful human being if not for the deeper truth that the God who sees is the one "whose property is always to have mercy" (BCP, p. 337). True, Jesus "came into the world for judgment" (John 9:39). He is looking and he knows. And yet his seeing, his judgment, his piercing gaze, is all love and mercy and life-giving joy.

"The light shines in the darkness" (John 1:5). It shines upon those who know only that "darkness is upon the face of the deep" (Gen. 1:2). This brilliant light touches the blind. Why am I blind? Why do I suffer? Why has this happened to me? What have I done? What did my parents do? Jesus gives very few answers. He does say something quite odd, however: "We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day." "We," he says. He is no doubt speaking to the disciples, but he has thrown his voice to me, his blind and embittered son. Why am I blind? Why do I suffer? Why am I alone? "We must work," he says to me.

"I am the light of the world," he says, and, to add sign to word, he imitates the moment of creation, making mud to form a new human being. After I wear muddy salve for just moments, and then wash it away, light appears. I see. Of course people wonder and talk, and I confess, "I am the man." They push me and I explain, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." What do I think? "I think he is a prophet." Ridiculed for being well, having violated some rule about permanent defect, I say in a joyous frustration, "One thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see" (John 9:1-41).

Not good enough. Excuse the sermon, and I promise it will be brief. "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to a sinner, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing" (John 9:30-33).

He came again to me and asked, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" I could see, but I didn't understand. I asked, "Who is he, sir?" He said, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." I said, "Lord, I believe."

Look It Up

Read Gen. 1. See the darkness first.

Think About It

"Let your light shine" is a jussive subjunctive, a command.



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and Washington Territories in 1853. Admitted by General Convention in 1910, the Diocese of Olympia has more than 31,000 Episcopalians in 106 faith communities. The geographic area stretches south from Canada to Oregon and west from the foothills of the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.

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The annual theme for the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas is "Rekindle the Gift of God that is within You," from Second Timothy. Introduced at the 110th annual diocesan council in February, the theme



for this year will be grounded in Bible studies and small group gatherings within each congregation, during

our Sharing Faith Dinners on May 15, and in each of our three camping programs this summer.

During this season of Lent, the Diocese of West Texas has initiated a diocesanwide Adult Christian Formation study entitled "Following Jesus: Initiation to Discipleship." This eight-week online study includes Scripture references, reflections, and audio interviews with diocesan family members on aspects of discipleship. We encourage you to read along and be rekindled at followingjesus-dwtx.org.



PEOPLE & PLACES

(Continued from page 41)

nary. He served as an Aviation Cadet in the Naval V-5 program in 1945-46.

He was ordained deacon in 1951 and priest in 1952. He served parishes in Oregon, Washington, New Jersey, and New York and was an archdeacon in the Diocese of Newark in 1959-62. He was on a clergy presenting team for Marriage Encounter and was a chaplain of the Order of St. Luke.

The Reverend Chester E. Falby is survived by his wife of 61 years, Deanne; a brother, Clifford Falby, of Wakefield, RI; sons John Falby of San Diego, Matt Falby of Salem, OR, Mark Falby of Aurora, OR, and Paul Falby of Portland; a daughter, Casey Titchenal; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The Rev. William Cone Harris, a veteran of World War II, died January 21, a few months before his 90th birthday.

Born in St. Petersburg, FL, he was a graduate of Stetson University and Virginia Theological Seminary. Fr. Harris practiced law in Florida before his seminary studies. He was ordained deacon in 1965 and priest in 1966. He served parishes in Florida, Georgia, and Virginia. After retiring he moved to Lexington, VA.

Fr. Harris is survived by a daughter, Priscilla Wood; sons Peter, Paul, and Patrick Harris; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

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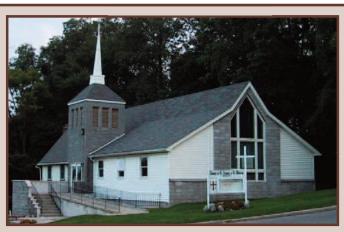
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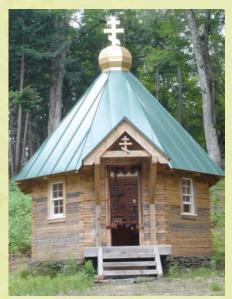
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FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 17: 1a, 4-11, 19-23 | 32-49

FIRST READING: I Samuel 17/[1a, 4-11, 19-23] 32-49

[NOW THE PHILISTINES gathered their armies for battle, and there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champon named Golath of Gath, whose height was see cubits and a span. He had a belient of bronze ten his bead, and he was armed with a cost of mult, the weight of the cost was five thousand shelded for bronze. He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. The shard for his spear was like a server's beam, and his spear's head neighted six hundred shelds of iron; and his sheld-bearer went before him. He stood and shouted to the ranks of brazel. Why have you come out to draw up for battle Am I not at Philistine, and are you not servants of Sauff Chooce a man for younelves, and let him come down tom. If he is able to fight with me add hill no, then we will be your servants but if a prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us. And apply to the properties of the Philistine, they were dismoyed and greatly afraids. Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, and went a spess had commanded him. He was considered the properties of the Philistine, heavy to be battle line, shouting the war cry, Israel and the Philistine drew up for battle, amy against at my. David left the though with keep the provisions, and went a spess had commanded him. I may also the seal of the provision, the Philistine of cases of the provision, and went a spess had commanded him. David said to Saul. Ten on one heart fall because of him your front his youth? But David said to Saul. Ten on one heart fall because of him your

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