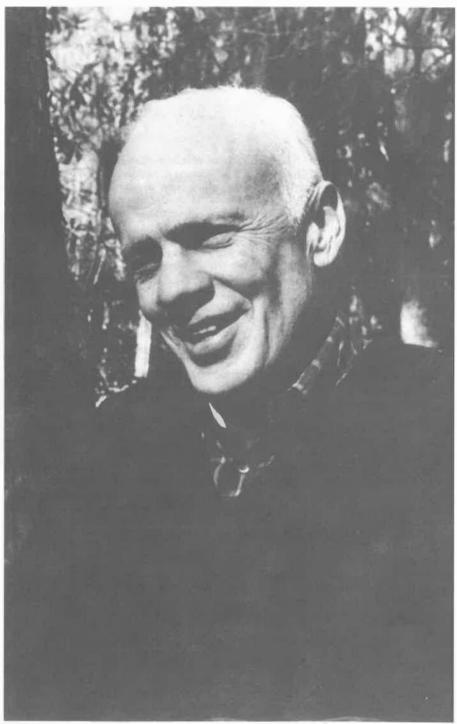
THE LIVING CHURCH

Fall Book Number

Walker Percy

page 12

Thomas Mertonpage 13



Walker Percy: his family's religious tradition includes the Episcopal Church.



Parable at Bhopal

By LARKETTE LEIN

e regularity with which toxic hemicals make the headlines is rously lulling — until a disastrous int like the one last December at al, India, shocks us. We in the d States had been wading carefully gh the swamp of Superfund cleanhinking we were safe, only to be ed off our feet by tidal wave headof 2,000 dead and 10,000 injured.

n heartsick for the unsuspecting, icated, unemployed masses who wilt their homes right up to the of the pesticide factory there, hopr a chance at a job. What ghastly that many believed the factory medicines! The accidental venting of the ingredients resulted not in igs but in more than 2,000 painful S.

ile this space usually focuses on eauty of the created world around d finds a parable in nature's theoltoday it takes its lesson from the avorable side of our life in that creworld.

e the people of Bhopal, we blissbuild our technology-dependent right up to the factory walls. We ur faith in a god which we believe be not only benign, but ultimately g: scientific progress. We commit, ect, technological idolatry. But the fices which that worship demands, hopal illustrates, can be unconable.

my would argue that the manu-

guest columnist this week is ette Lein, a Christian environmenand writer who lives in Irvine, Cahis is the first of two articles on the onment. facture of chemicals is good business, and necessary. Methyl isocyanate, the gas which was accidentally vented in Bhopal, is used, for example, to make a number of commonly and widely used pesticides.

Many of the backyard gardeners who find deep satisfaction and peace in working the soil also at times find themselves waging at least limited chemical warfare against pests. Others are strictly, (self-) righteously organic. It is mostly a matter of personal conviction. But note how religious terminology sneaks into even the innocent vegetable patch.

Most commercial agricultural operations, however, seem beyond the point of being guided by convictions; they are hooked on massive doses of pesticides. Green Revolution hybrids, the practice of monoculture (devoting vast acreage to one crop), and soil depletion all contribute to susceptibility to insect attack.

Pesticides may make possible mass production of crops, but much of what is harvested in the Third World is not consumed by the native field laborers; it is destined for export. Illiterate farmers applying the pesticides are neither raising subsistence crops nor dabbling in the garden for fun — they are "manufacturing" coffee, cocoa, tea, bananas, cotton, and other commodities to sell abroad — often to us. Often, dangerous chemicals, banned in the United States, find their way back into our homes through this back door.

We are not as safe here as we think. Toxic materials seem to be oozing up ever closer to our own city's water supply and our own backyards. Already there is a slow poison at work in our bodies. We see it in lowered resistance to disease, in increased birth defects, in higher incidence of cancers. Such pollution eats into us as surely, if not as dramatically, as the tear-gas-like effects of methyl isocyanate searing the eyes and lungs of its Indian victims.

Yet we, too, have been untroubled in our ignorance. We've always thought our new chemicals were the miracle "medicines" of progress that would clean our toilets better, wash our clothes whiter, kill the snails faster, or make the house paint last longer. Maybe so. But what sacrifice must we bring to the idols of technology?

Technology cannot save us. Neither "medicine" nor miracle cure, it is as much hazard as help. Yet we in the church seem just as susceptible as anyone else to the temptation to put our trust in science. We separate its sphere of influence from that of faith, mistakenly thinking them mutually exclusive. But this is more than the senseless science-versus-religion squabble; it is another form of Sunday-morning Christianity that leaves God at the church door after mass.

We have been trustingly asleep next to the factory and its deadly contents. But how little it takes to precipitate disaster. Authorities now believe that leakage of just a pint of water into the methyl isocyanate storage tank triggered the explosive reaction at Bhopal. All around the globe, toxic chemicals and their potent ingredients, by-products, and wastes are produced at a rate of tons per person per year.

The pressure in the tank is steadily mounting. We are just now waking to choke on the searing fumes. Let us pray we wake in time.

LETTERS

THE LIVING CHURCH welcomes letters from readers, and selection for publication is solely at our editorial discretion. We urge writers to limit length and confine themselves to one topic.

Secrecy of Confession

In the Prayer Book is a service entitled, "The Reconciliation of a Penitent." This sacramental rite exists for Christians who desire to confess their sins, receive absolution, and be reconciled with God. The order of the service is very simple and forthright. Usually when a person desires to make a confession, an appointment is arranged or a priest is available in a church for an established time for this purpose.

Our church has always understood that what is truly a confession is to be kept under a seal of secrecy by the priest. He or she is under an absolute moral obligation not to divulge its content. All information gathered from a confession is under an inviolate seal in regard to a priest. That is why our Prayer Book states: "The secrecy of a confession is morally absolute for the confessor and must under no circumstance be broken" (p. 446).

Recently this matter has become an issue in regard to the rector at St. Stephen's Church, Belvedere, the Rev. William Rankin, and a parishioner, Mrs. Sheridan Edwards [TLC, Sept. 8]. I have spoken with Fr. Rankin extensively on this matter. I attended the Superior Court trial in Marin County which dealt with the matter, and in fact I was a witness at that trial. Most emphatically I want to underline my confidence in the good ministry of Fr. Rankin and say publicly that he has a high doctrine and a correct doctrine of the reconciliation of a penitent. Furthermore he has not, in this situation or in any situation that I know of, broken the seal of confession.

The church will continue its centuriesold practice of hearing confessions, respecting the seal of confession and pronouncing absolution.

(The Rt. Rev.) WILLIAM E. SWING Bishop of California

San Francisco, Calif.

In view of earlier reports, readers are asked to note this statement by the Bishop of California. Ed.

Surviving Gothic

I want to say how very much I enjoyed Fr. Du Priest's article about St. Luke's Church, Smithfield, Va. [TLC, August 11].

I have wanted to visit this church ever since I read about it in that gloriously illustrated book *American Churches* by noger remneuy, which is deminitive for us amateur students of architecture. In it, he describes St. Luke's as the only true Gothic church in America, Gothic "survival" rather than "revival." He goes on to tell how it just pre-dates the style we call "Colonial," and which I believe the British call neo-classical or Georgian.

I also rejoiced in the analogy with Stoke-Poges Church. Our parish here in Lansdale just celebrated its centennial climaxing on Trinity Sunday. In researching our history we found some fascinating information. It all started when I realized that the parish in my home town of Shamokin, Pa., also called Holy Trinity, was probably built on the same set of plans in the same year.

From there we discovered that a Philadelphia architect brought these plans from England. One very old lady in the community (not an Episcopalian) was the only one who had a memory that the checked this out with the help of and pictures from the English vica it is indeed true. A 19th century G revival building copied from an 11tl tury church.

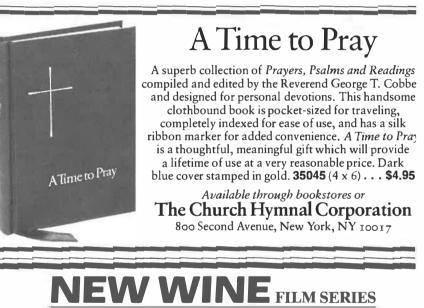
We then found out that Stoke-] was the parish church of the Penn ily, and all are buried within except liam who is nearby in a Quaker ch yard. The Penn manor was once atta to Chalfont St. Giles. Pennsbury M Pa. is just a short drive from he small world.

Next time I am in Tidewater ' shall indeed make a pilgrimage t Luke's Church.

(The Rev.) J. ROBERT ZIMME The Church of the Holy T Lansdale. Pa.

• •

On August 11, The Living CH published a First Article by Trav



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entitled "The Unurch on The Side of The River" concerning his nage to the "old historic church of ke's, Isle of Wight County, near field, Va." It is on the "other side" James River from Williamsburg. eside a road in the open country, pular like Jamestown and Bruton h, but old and beautiful and be-It is the one place in the area of th that calls him back every year. n the Diocese of Southern Virginia iate gratefully this attention to ke's in this notable account by Fr. iest.

The Rev.) MOULTRIE GUERRY (ret.) lk, Va.



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BOOKS

Constructive Options

CRIME AND RECONCILIATION: Creative Options for Victims and Offenders. By Mark Umbreit. Abingdon. Pp. 144. \$7.95 paper.

Mark Umbreit's little book contains a masterful message in opposition to the slammer mentality that seems to control much of American thought about crime.

"The media accounts of crime" he says, "cannot help but trigger intense fear. This fear, understandably, cries out for quick and simple solutions."

The author's solution is a sensible effort to bring victim, offender, and society together in a program called PACT (Prisoner and Community Together). PACT tries, often with surprising success, to establish restitution to victim and society as well.

The book points out that the incarceration rate in the U.S. exceeds all other nations except South Africa and the Soviet Union. Obviously, this increases greatly the burden on taxpayers who pay for the explosive rate of growth in prison construction.

His way, he says convincingly, will save vast amounts of money, and result in an overall healthier society. He says: "Working with victims and offenders must be a part of a holistic concern for justice and the presence of God's kingdom in our midst."

I recommend this book without reservation.

PHILIP ARDERY Louisville, Ky.

Vintage French Spirituality

LETTERS OF DIRECTION: Thoughts on the Spiritual Life from the letters of the Abbe de Tourville. With an introduction by Evelyn Underhill. Morehouse-Barlow. Pp. 103. \$3.95 paper.

Here is a splendid little book to take with you when you go to say your private prayers before the Blessed Sacrament; when you sit down with a cup of tea or even a glass of sherry; when you turn the light on next to your bed to read for just a few minutes before going off to sleep.

Samuel Johnson used to say that he *dipped* into his books in his personal library — like consulting old friends on a certain point or matter. When I learned that about Dr. Johnson, it relieved me to know that the great master of liberal knowledge (and Anglican faith) did that sort of thing, because I have done it for years myself and was glad to have authoritative precedent.

Now, Morehouse-Barlow has republished a book (first published in 1939 by the Dacre Press of A & C Black) which is

Continued on page 16



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EDITORIAL AND BUSINESS OFFICES 407 E. Michigan St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53202 TELEPHONE 414-276-5420

The Rev. H. Boone Porter, editor and general manager; John The Rev. R. Boone rorter, editor and general manager; John E. Schuessler, assistant editor; Kirsten V. Reeves, news editor; J. A. Kucharski, music editor; Violet M. Porter, book editor; the Rev. Travis T. Du Priest, Jr., People and Places editor and editorial assistant; Peter A. Dayman, business manager; Irene B. Barth, circulation manager; Lila J. Thurber, advertising manager.

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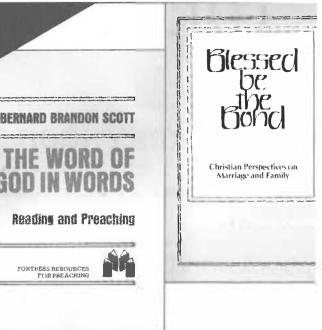
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THE LIVING CHURCH

er 13, 1985 ost 20 (Proper 23)

eneral Convention News

ng from Anaheim: e Porter, Editor James L. Considine Ward McCabe Kirsten Reeves Lila Thurber

> of Bishops

te House of Bishops continued its in important action was approval proposed revision of Title III of ion law, the section which deals ie ordained ministry and related 5. Changes in numbering and a many changes in nomenclature volved, but it was said that there change in substance. The motion with surprising ease.

ral items related to Africa. A moom the deputies called for a spepeal through the Presiding Bishund for World Relief to assist Tutu in South Africa. Bishop Birney of Idaho asked that it be ed to provide help for the Prov-Southern Africa as whole, and otion was carried. Another resolualt with the plight of African stuin the U.S. who are unable or unto return to their own nations in some cases, they would be subreprisals.

ral other motions were passed reto public or international issues, ing resolutions supporting religious freedom, the Helsinki Accord, and the reform of the criminal justice system in the U.S. A friend of the court petition to the District of Columbia court of appeal sought freedom from pre-trial imprisonment for individuals allegedly involved in subversive activities, including some past employees of the 815 staff.

Bishop Ogilby of Pennsylvania reprimanded his fellow prelates for poor attendance when representatives of the UTO were presented to the house.

A resolution deploring the careless disposal of toxic wastes failed. It was argued that the resolution was so sweeping that it was futile. Commenting on such resolutions, Bishop Edward Jones of Indianapolis said "We need a policy change with regard to issues of conscience. We are pushed into fearing that nonconcurrence may be seen as lack of concern. Many, many members of the church are in fact involved in this very issue, often in highly effective ways, and the same is true in other areas to which we have addressed resolutions. There must be a better way to deal with these issues."

Several items also pertained to church

Wit and Wisdom of the House of Bishops

ot more gets done shoulder to shoulder than nose to nose. To learn to work ther and to become reconciled is nearly always superior to winning." Presiding Bishop Allin

hen I was at Sewanee I was the head fire warden. We had fire break out in Id Victorian house, and I found out as nozzle man how much you depend ach person down the line to the fire hydrant. First, our axe men smote the t door mightily. Then we turned the knob to find it was open (Ponder !). I rushed into the smoke-filled dining room as nozzle man, found there too much smoke and found it hard to get everyone else to let me back up a e. As P.B. I have had similar experiences!"

Presiding Bishop Allin

solved that we encourage each other to refrain from the use of liturgical rs or clergy shirts of neon intensity, that the height of mitres be no more 1 six and three-quarters inches, and that our phylacteries be no broader 1 the nose of the Bishop of Atlanta and that Roger Blanchard and Philip th be a committee of two to set further guidelines."

Bishop C. FitzSimons Allison (South Carolina)

w much longer can the Church afford the enormous expense of General vention at its present size and with its length? Is it moral?"

Bishop L. C. Ogilby (Pennsylvania)

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music. A resolution encouraging the creation of an adequate Spanish hymnal passed, but that favoring a comprehensive folk hymnal in English failed. Opponents argued that many such hymn books now exist, and the popularity of such hymns comes and goes too quickly. A resolution encouraging study of proper compensation for church musicians at first failed, but was reconsidered and passed 86-24.

The bishops agreed with the deputies that the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations pursue careful consideration of the World Council of Churches fund to combat racism, while also deploring misinformation about the WCC which has been circulated by some of the media.

The Bishop of Cuba, the Rt. Rev. Emilio J. Hernandez, addressed the house very briefly, toward the end of the convention, and stated that there were prospective ordinands in the diocese, and the resources of an ecumenical seminary are being used for training.

At noon of the final Saturday there was a dramatic presentation of Indian blankets to Bishops Allin, Frederick Putnam (retired, of Navajoland), and Browning. Indian churchmen expressed appreciation of the addition of Deacon David Oakerhater to the calendar, the first Indian so honored.

The House of Bishops, having caught up with resolutions passed by the deputies, benefited from personal observations and anecdotes from its presiding officer, Bishop Allin [see box] and three long recesses. At the end, a number of resolutions from the other house were quickly passed, and the weary prelates adjourned in the early evening of September 14.

(The Rev.) WARD MCCABE

House of Deputies

The House of Deputies astounded this long-time observer by adopting on Friday with no debate and very few questions the Program and Budget proposals [TLC, Oct. 6]. Surely it was the quickest adoption in at least 18 years. Approved are a \$27.6 million budget for program and outreach and a \$5.3 million General Convention (assessment) budget. Income projections are such that the budget is deemed to be balanced.

The resolutions from the House of Bish-

Ops amending items in Title 1 and Title I II of the canons, however, took long and protracted debate and votes by order. The Title I addition was eventually approved. It provides that "No one shall be denied rights or status in this church because of race, color, ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, physical disabilities, or age, except as otherwise specified by canon." Readers may note the phrase "sexual orientation." An amendment to delete the phrase failed in both orders on a vote by orders. The effects of the approved change is that canonically this church is open to everyone.

The Title III proposed changes concern the process of ordination. A new Section 2 for Canon 9 of Title III would read: "No one shall be denied ordination in this Church because of ..." (same wording as above). This failed acceptance, being defeated in the lay order. To be approved 58 votes were needed in the lay order and 57 in the clerical order. The vote: Yes: clergy 69, lay 53; No: clergy 31, lay 44; Divided: clergy 15, lay 16. Divided votes in effect serve as negative.

The Vice-President Election

Although electing a president on Thursday had been a one-ballot matter, election of a vice president on Friday required three ballots of the deputies. Beginning with five nominees, by the third ballot the contest only remained between Pamela P. Chinnis of Washington, D.C. and Judge George Shields of Spokane. By a vote of 389 to 385, Mrs. Chinnis was elected as the first woman to be vice president of the house.

Two resolutions which were approved concern women. One asks the Presiding Bishop to "appoint a broadly representative group to study women's participation in congregational, diocesan, provincial, and national Church bodies and to review ... and propose policy on women's full participation...." Another directs several church agencies to "seek increases in various federal programs which aid women and children in poverty and need."

Our representatives to the World Council of Churches are asked to evaluate "the administration of the ... fund known as the 'Special Fund to Combat Racism' especially in those instances where it has been alleged that this Fund has been used by groups engaged in terrorist activity."

The 1988 General Convention of the church will be held in Detroit, Mich. Five possible sites for the 1991 convention will be evaluated and selected by the Joint Committee. They are: Indianapolis, Lexington, Louisville, Phoenix, and San Antonio.

In an attempt to encourage and assist Episcopal Churches in Central America, especially in the present difficulties they and companion diocese relationships and exchanges of people was approved.

Funding for the church's black colleges will continue at the current level of about \$1 million a year. By vote of the house the Stewardship Commission is asked to advise those colleges in seeking ways to generate more support from the church and other sources.

Soviet Union

Three actions relate to the USSR. One states it offers a step on the road toward peace with that country. The Executive Council is requested to distribute educational materials "on the culture, politics, values, history and religion of the peoples of the Soviet Union" for use in the parishes and missions.

Another calls on the "...Soviet bloc governments and on all other signatories to the Helsinki Accords to fulfill their human rights obligations...." The third, condemns "the genocidal six year war conducted by the Soviet Union and its client Afghan regime ... and calls for immediate and unconditional withdrawal ... with United Nations supervised negotiations...."

Back home, the Executive Council is asked to provide educational resources about the plight of homeless people, including those mentally ill.

On the final day of the 68th General Convention, weary deputies were invited to ponder the question: How long should the 1988 convention be? They discussed the question during a ten minute break. The clear consensus was that this eight day convention, even with committees meeting two days in advance, was not long enough. Deputy Bartlett, Kentucky, said, "This has been the least satisfactory one in terms of debate on the floor since I began attending in 1964." He suggested one or two additional days and that the convention should end on a Thursday evening instead of Saturday. In standing votes, the preference shown is for a two day extension, with a one day extension preferred by a sizeable minority.

And AGAIN the question came up of reducing the size of the House of Deputies. Should there be three deputies instead of four in each order? And AGAIN, the vote on the 200th anniversary of the first time the issue came up is, not to change that number.

The closing day was far from uneventful or dull routine. A number of committees of conference between the two houses had to be formed. Some succeeded in effecting compromises. There were also several instances where one house refused to concur with the other.

The content of the "Annual Parochial Report" was debated at length on the noor of the house of Deputies. nally altered, they wished Title I (5, Sec. 1 to read: "This report sh clude the following information number of baptisms, confirma marriages and burials during the the total number of adult baptized bers, baptized members under 16 of age, and total number of baj members; the total number of confi adult communicants in good stat the total number of confirmed com cants in good standing under 16 ye age; and the total number of confi communicants in good standing."

Deputies defeated a resolution vould have made confirmation datory.

A resolution passed by the Hou Bishops which addressed the cu military and political situation in F vador was rejected when the dep voted nonconcurrence.

Consecration of Women

The Presiding Bishop was asked point a special committee "to stud make recommendations concernin ecumenical and ecclesiological con ations involved in the election and nation of women Presbyters to the copate"; In the approved resolutio also provided that "...the results study... be made a part of the Ho Bishop's report to the 1988 Lan Conference ... and shared witl Standing Committees of the se dioceses...."

A topic which stimulated long d in the House of Deputies was enact of a canon providing for lay eucha ministers. The bishops had alread proved the proposal but, seemingly did not reduce discussion. As conc in after two votes by orders, the S ing Liturgical Commission is ask prepare appropriate forms to be us lay persons as they go out from the ish Eucharist carrying consecrate ments to institutions and to those bound. The licensing of such lay e ristic ministers is to be only upo quest of the priest in charge of the gregation and of those persons me qualifications established by the bi

The shorter convention sch seemed to have many people feelin though they spent the entire time " ing" to meetings, a reflection whicl surely shared by many deputies. schedule kept most of them until le Saturday, September 14, after eight days of legislation, a fact which some issues still untouched or hurn dealt with at best. It will be some before the results and effects of labors are sorted out for use in the three years.

(The Rev.) JAMES L. CONS

ries liect vice president

he day before the adjournment of d Convention, Pamela Pauly Chinis elected vice president of the of Deputies, the first woman to be sen. In her words of acceptance, 'hinnis made it clear that she had ight this office as a "women's can-" but regarded it, nonetheless, as a c step.

n in Missouri in 1925, she attended n and Mary College and has lived of her later life in the Washington There she has long been an active ioner of the Church of Epiphany she is currently a member of the and was formerly senior warden. 54 she married Carter C. Chinnis le couple have two children.

n" Chinnis has held a great variety sitions of responsibility in the 1 and in secular life. Among them, 1s presiding officer of the Women's ial in 1976, was a member of the ngton Cathedral Chapter, the An-

Consultative Council, and other i, and was one of five prominent i people sent by the Archbishop of rbury to South Africa to support p Tutu in 1983.

has just completed six years on the tive Council, and has chaired the it which has successfully directed re in Mission. In her many capacine has traveled widely in this cound abroad and has become one of the snown lay leaders in our church.

nunicators Meet

• 100 members of the Episcopal unicators gathered in the Ana-Hilton on September 7 for their meeting. Episcopal Communica-

an organization for church jourand broadcasters at local, diocead national levels.

Dara Braver of Massachusetts and IcDonald of Missouri were unaniy re-elected to the board, the conof which is the Rev. Leonard Freef Trinity Church, New York City.

y Bond awards for excellence in opal journalism excited interest. Braver's diocesan paper, *The Epis-Times*, was honored by several cis including photography and genexcellence. Awards were also ed by Sal Breck of Denver, editor : Journal of Women's Ministries, y The Witness, by Soundings of the se of Minnesota, and by others.

he electronic media category, "The Land: A Pilgrimage" by Trinity h in New York, "A Priest Indeed" piscopal Church Publishing Co., he Idaho Ad Project were comed by judges from the University uthern California.

> late Rev. Frederick A. Pope,
 > cartoons appeared in THE LIVING
 CH and many other church-related

publications, was given a postnumous award for his unique contribution. Fr. Pope's widow, Grace, accepted the award.

In other business, the Communicators supported the *Canadian Churchmen* in its efforts for journalistic freedom, and commended the Most Rev. John Allin for his encouragement and support of the church press and of Episcopal broadcasting. An effort to enact a clear and comprehensive statement of eligibility for membership in the Communicators was not successful.

Centennial Celebration

The Daughters of the King celebrated their 100th anniversary recently and elected Ethel Boyle Ripley of the Diocese of South Carolina as their new president September 6. She will serve a threeyear term.

Over 400 members of the order met at the Sheraton Hotel in Anaheim for their four-day convention which took place just before General Convention. The Most Rev. John M. Allin, retiring Presiding Bishop, was the preacher at the opening service at St. Anselm of Canterbury Church in Garden Grove, Calif. The Rt. Rev. C. Shannon Mallory, Bishop of El Camino Real and the national chaplain of the order, celebrated the daily Holy Eucharist with meditations.

The Daughters of the King are allied with the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and grew out of a Bible class led by Mrs. M.J. Franklin at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in New York City. Members of the order — who number about 10,000 dedicate themselves to prayer and service "for his sake." The theme of this triennial was "Lift High the Cross."

From its inception, the order has supported overseas missionary work and is currently sponsoring two missionaries in Brazil.

The Rev. Dr. Samuel Van Culin, the secretary general of the Anglican Consultative Council, spoke to the organization at its concluding banquet. "The great advantage of the Anglican uniqueness lies in this global flexibility," Dr. Van Culin said.

Following his address the new president and other officers were installed.

CORL Holds Meeting

The Conference on the Religious Life in the Anglican Communion in the Americas (CORL) held its triennial meeting at the Center for Spiritual Development in Orange, Calif.

Meeting a few days before the opening of General Convention where several members later staffed an exhibit booth, the gathering was attended by over 55 representatives from 21 religious orders belonging to the association.

These orders of men and women live in

vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. The organization represents an estimated 500 Anglican monks, nuns, friars and sisters in the U.S., Canada and the West Indies.

Special action of the meeting was the adoption of a restated constitution. Fr. Andrew Rank, Prior of the Society of St. Paul, was elected president for a threeyear term under the new constitution. Mother Anne Marie, Superior of the Sisters of St. Margaret, was elected vice president.

Another important aspect of the renovated constitution was the formation of a Superior's Council which will meet annually. Fr. Rank commented that the council will facilitate CORL's role to speak on behalf of the religious orders of the church. Other communications resources include CORL's seven-year participation with the Permanent International Ecumenical Consultation for Religious Life, which include members from Anglican, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant religious communities world-wide.

At an evening meeting, the Rev. Ennis Dunnis, head of the Anglican Institute in Nicaragua, addressed the members on the role of the church in his country and its special needs. Fr. Robert Hale, a Roman Catholic Camaldolese monk and author of the book *Canterbury and Rome*, *Sister Churches*, was also a participant and was guest preacher at one of the Eucharists during the conference.

Participants submitted a letter to the church-at-large as a statement of purpose from the religious orders. "We believe we are gathered toward reconciliation, wholeness and holiness," the letter stated. "We believe that the vowed religious life is an invitation to continuous renewal of ourselves, our communities, and the church for the ministry of service to the world."

Altar Guild Association Meets

The program for the triennial meeting of the National Association of Diocesan Altar Guilds September 7 · 13, ranged from lectures to workshops to an afternoon of artists demonstrating their work principally in various areas of needle arts. Tinka Tarver, San Antonio, Texas, who paints on cloth and creates soft sculpture, spoke about design as an expression of personal spirituality, using slides, samples of her creations, and a workshop. The Rev. David Schofield, St. Columba's Church, Inverness, Calif., discussed liturgy and the church year.

The altar guild, under the leadership of Mrs. John Hayden of Eau Claire, retiring president, responded to the invitation of the Women's Triennial to participate in a program of workshops for all women by presenting a four-part wedding workshop. Sandra Hynson, head of demonstrated flower arranging for large and small weddings. Special vestments and kneelers for weddings were on display and participants were given a guide for preparing wedding booklets.

Officers for the next triennium were installed by the Presiding Bishop, the Rt. Rev. John M. Allin, at the closing Altar Guild Eucharist Friday, September 13. Elected president was Mrs. R. M. Grandfield of San Carlos, Calif. As at previous conventions, an exhibit of fine vestments and liturgical crafts was opened to visitors. Unusual chasubles and other items were loaned by parishes in the diocese and others.

Surgeon General Addresses NOEL

One of the most distinguished national figures to visit Anaheim during the convention was C. Everett Koop, M.D., Surgeon General of the U.S. The renowned pediatric surgeon came as a guest of NOEL, the National Organization of Episcopalians for Life, which sponsored a reception and dinner for Dr. Koop September 8, after which he spoke.

Dr. Koop traced the legal disregard for life in the 20th century back to the euthanasia movement in Germany in the 1920s, the ideas of which were later extended by the new chancellor, Adolph Hitler. Challenging the relevance of a position widely held in the Episcopal Church, Dr. Koop stated that abortion is virtually never necessary to save a mother's life, and less than three percent of abortions in this country concern cases of alleged rape or incest. Meanwhile, changing medical technology makes the positions of a decade ago increasingly obsolete.

Canon John W. Howe, rector of Truro Church in Fairfax, Va., is president of NOEL. The Rt. Rev. Joseph M. Harte, retired Bishop of Arizona, is chairman of the organization which spans many points of view within the Episcopal Church.

KEEP Honors Paul Rusch

The American Committee for KEEP held its 35th annual meeting in Anaheim during General Convention. KEEP is the Kiyosato Educational Experiment Project in Japan.

Japanese visitors, directors of the committee, many members of the convention and other guests took part in a reception honoring the memory of the founder of KEEP, the late Paul Rusch. A lay missionary of the Episcopal Church and long-time associate editor of THE LIVING CHURCH, Dr. Rusch, who died in 1979, devoted the later years of his life to building a rural Christian community with church, clinic, youth camp, and farm for dairy cattle which he introduced into Japan.

The board of the American Committee



The Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop, M.D. chats with Canon John Howe, president of the Na Organization of Episcopalians for Life, after Dr. Koop's address on the sanctity of human life.

announced with satisfaction that KEEP is now almost entirely self-supporting in Japan. Only five percent of the budget is supplied from the U.S. This five percent was declared vital, as there is no such tradition of voluntary giving in Japan, and the American linkage inspires significant respect and support from the Japanese government, businesses, and private donors. Thomas L. Harris of New York City was re-elected president of the American Committee for KEEP.

CPC Benefit Concert

When Rosalind Runcie, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, performed a benefit concert sponsored by the Church Periodical Club on September 6 in Anaheim, over \$10,000 was raised. Mrs. Runcie opened her program with "Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue" by J. S. Bach and continued with selections from Schubert, Beethoven, Schumann, Shostakovich, and the contemporary English composer Alan Richardson. The house was packed, and the delighted audience obtained an encore. Mrs. Runcie is both a teacher and concert pianist and has given many benefit concerts in Britain.

Money raised will assist the Church Periodical Club (CPC) to purchase Bibles, Prayer Books, and other religious books and magazines for use in many parts of the world. The CPC, long recognized as an outstanding expression of women's work in the church, has been providing periodicals and books to Episcopal missionaries, clergy, and church institutions in the U.S. and abroad since 1888 through its ministry of the printed word.

Beginning its triennial meeting three days before General Convention, the CPC had its opening service at the Church of St. Anselm of Canterbury in Garden Grove. Bishop Robert Rusack of Los Angeles celebrated and preached. Business sessions followed under leadership of CPC president B Thomas Baker of Lake Quivira, J Sixty-one delegates representing 41 ceses made this the largest CPC mee ever held.

Over \$27,000 was allocated for be and magazines for use in locations r ing from the Philippines, Africa Spain to Idaho and South Bronx, For the first time, the delegates the selves made the decisions as to w National Book Fund requests woul honored.

On the evening of September 5, CPC held its customary dinner for (seas bishops, most of whom y present and were introduced by the Samuel Van Culin, secretary gener; the Anglican Consultative Council. Rt. Rev. Leo Frade, Bishop of Hondu spoke on conditions in Central Ame

The next day, Presiding Bishop . Allin officiated and preached at the closing service and installed S Hableston Park (West Virginia) as president, Barbara Braun (Eau Clain chairman of the National Books F and other new officers. As presic Mrs. Park will also serve on the boar another distributor of church bo SPCK in the USA, and she and Braun will be the CPC representative PEWSACTION, a fellowship of org zations for renewal.

MARVYL AI

Fr. Geldard Addresses ECM

The Rev. Peter Geldard, general s tary of the Church Union in the Chur England, visited Anaheim for sev days as the guest of the Evangelical Catholic Mission and addressed a n ing sponsored by ECM.

Fr. Geldard was asked what he tho would be the reaction in the Churc England to the resolution passed by House of Bishops, that a majority of a do not intend to withold consent election of a woman bishop, and on the new Presiding Bishop to unicate this to the other Provinces wek the advice of the Anglican Epise through the various Primates, at rliest possible date (presumably beambeth '88).

replied, "If it means they are going sult and really listen and take note consensus of the Primates, that is hing positive and encouraging. But y only pretend to consult, and if pre-empt the consultation or ignore usensus, then the resolution will be ed to the whole Anglican Commuis being completely hollow.

r Catholic theology, we are in comon with you because all our bishops communion with your bishops and each other. If the American Church is a woman bishop unilaterally, it ring the whole question of commuinto question. The passing of this ition will undoubtedly strain the reis with the Church of England, but y also affect the progress toward the ation of women to priesthood, for rdination of women to the episcois the problem writ large."

DOROTHY MILLS PARKER

iding Bishop's Address

pts from the Address to the General ention by the Most Rev. John M. (Some of these excerpts are also in the Pastoral Letters of the e of Bishops.)

thers and sisters, I offer you now ccumulated will and testament of 3rd Presiding Bishop....

the world today a concept called "nal security" has been allowed to bean earth-shadowing idol ... It is red to be for human benefit while ally being a source of threat.

; it be noted clearly here that there 3 to be adequate provision for a na-3 security. The point is that the pre-1g policies concerning national secuof the majority of nations are ing life-threatening idols and not sey. The major result of policies for nal security among nations has been asingly oppressive national debts.

ave people on every continent in bage-heap" housing, overcrowded os, rat-infested slums and homeless ie streets, and you rob them of essenhuman dignity. Prevent enough hubeings from tilling the earth, provide oportunities for many human beings arn a decent livelihood, add to the s of the unemployed increasing numof uneducated unemployables, limit icipation in production or service, you have the virulent seeds of violent ution.

believe the President of the United

sionate concern and of strong, sincere convictions. If I have a prophetic responsibility, I must tell him that in spite of his access to the best communication media, in his present surroundings of maximum security and staff protection, he does not have an adequately detailed or in-depth comprehension of the human predicament, the causes and effects of human suffering in the world.

I believe the only defense and security, nationally, or internationally, against the destructive chain-reactive forces of injustice and poverty already activating violence and terror around the world is a new humanitarian offensive, more imaginative than an Alliance for Progress, more extensive than the Marshall Plan, an initiative the U.S.S.R. would be pressed to imitate and exposed in opposing. I believe the United States of America has the talent and ability, the imagination and moral integrity, the spirit and faith and compassion to incorporate our national ideals in an offer of justice and better living to nations of the world that they can't refuse.

I call upon this convention to authorize through private solicitation the raising of five million dollars to endow the support system of this Church's Volunteers for Mission program. I offer my services to the next Presiding Bishop to assist in securing these funds.

With the new standard Prayer Book well in place, let us provide a lead for our congregations to consider and review our development of worship, with consideration of music, ritual, ceremonial, vestments, schedules and settings.

As a much-traveled Presiding Bishop, I can tell you a variety of places in this church that might be called "Bethel." The presence of the Lord God is experienced in such places, sometimes in silence, sometimes with simplicity, at times in great solemnity with all senses quickened.

Regrettably, there are also places that might be called "Babel," where one is tempted to believe in "the real absence." The halting uncertainty of the services, the distractions, the muttered or murdered lections, the misplaced or misleading ceremonial, the confused and irresponsible rearrangement of the ritual, the redundant reading of wordy announcements, the dullness and lack of enthusiasm only prompt one to give thanks that attendance was limited to one Sunday.

This church has been moved at times to talk of the poor and to give money to some described as representing the poor, while failing to offer to share our life and membership in the Lord's mission with the poor.

To many the Episcopal Church is seen as vague and permissive. As expressed by one observer, "It is unclear whether the Episcopal Church is officially for or against abortion. Their statements sugof abortions, but does it builtany approve them." Or again it has been said, "It must be confusing to be an Episcopalian and be urged to condemn the death penalty for the guilty in every case, but allow abortion of the innocent in some."

Education is a prerequisite to mission, and effective Christian education leads to evangelism.

Not every Christian is skilled in preaching the gospel. Yet every Christian can know the gospel, keep the Lord's company, tell the Lord's story, serve the Lord's spirit, and be moved by his love to love others.

The lost, strayed, alienated, disillusioned members of this church family are a judgment on this church's pastoral care and "carers." The estranged are not to be written off by us or dismissed in terms of percentages.

Our provisions for pastoral care should be reviewed to improve our support systems to marriage and family relations and the relations of individuals to community. Under our present canons, remarriage in the church has become so easily arranged that the support of marriage is gravely weakened.

A major concern of mine is the partner in a failed marriage who feels abandoned by and is lost from the church community, bearing unjustly the onus of having been the one chiefly responsible for the broken relationship.

Accordingly, it is misleading and pastorally confusing when clergy who suffer the trauma of a marriage failure attempt to substitute a second spouse in the church's community where they serve with the assumption that there is no harm, loss or damage to the community. Clergy are entitled to the same due process as other citizens and the opportunity to replace a lost relationship with one of promise. In making such a choice however, faith and love and courage may be clearer and the church's mission better served by the willingness to relinquish the role model of clergy and to continue faithfully in a valid form of lay ministry. The church must have effective means of dealing with human failure, but such cannot be provided by assuming that, with clever canonical amendment, we can repeal the law of cause and effect.

Four good men are designated nominees for the office of Presiding Bishop. Others can be added. All are of such good experience and dedication that the church could safely choose by casting lots as did the first apostles in the choice of Matthias. I hope, however, the current soon-to-be-predecessor enjoys a better reputation than does Matthias' predecessor.

Ann and I expect a change of pace, time for reflection and further enquiry and new adventures in "the Way." And along "the Way" we'll see you. Grace and peace. Farewell!

Address by Presiding Bishop-Elect

Excerpts from the address to the General Convention by the Rt. Rev. Edmond L. Browning, Presiding Bishop-elect.

My sisters and brothers in Christ, bound to you in the bond of baptism, I accept with a full heart and a genuine humility, your election to serve this church as its 24th Presiding Bishop.

I want to express at the very outset to you, Bishop Allin, my profound gratitude for your superb address to us last Saturday... I pray, kind sir, for my sake as well as this church's sake that there will never be a time when you're not willing to make your tremendous contribution to the mission of the church and to the unity of our witness.

Bishop Allin has initiated a process to identify our future agenda as a church in mission. I invite each of you to enter that process. I have always seen my ministry as one of enablement and empowerment. I will continue in this style of leadership with which I am most comfortable.

I have today invited you, all of you, to share the diversity of views, of hopes, of expectations for the mission of this church. I want to be very clear — this church of ours is open to all — there will be no outcasts — the conviction and the hopes of all will be honored.

This leads me to say that for you I seek to be a listener, an enabler of the ministry for the whole church, to be pastorally sensitive *and* to speak out unequivocally on the issues of justice and peace.

I have this day sent a telex to Bishop Tutu offering the full support of my office to his courageous ministry. I have extended my sincere hope that he might be present for my installation next January 11.

To our sisters and brothers in Central America and Panama, I state today my firm support. I want you to know personally of my commitment to you and to the self-determination of your dioceses and nations.

I have also sent a telex to Bishop Watanabe, Primate of Japan, to see his presence next January 11 and to affirm my personal interest in developing the ministry of this church in the Pacific Basin.

Speaking of the Pacific, to Archbishop Paul Reeves, Primate of New Zealand, I have sent greetings and support of his witness for a nuclear free Pacific.

My position on the nuclear arms race is well known in my diocese. A visit to the memorial at Hiroshima several years ago did much to awaken a sleeping conscience.

I said then, and I reaffirm now, that I believe the production, testing and deployment of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons to be inconsistent with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our compassionate, if imperfect, response to the shameful famine plaguing large areas in the continent of Africa must not lead to complacency at home.... The scandal of increasing hunger among the poor of our country is intolerable during a time of so-called prosperity. No where is this more evident than in our major cities.

Today, we must add with equal priority our concern for the plight of our rural areas — farm families devastated by bankruptcy, bringing a massive burden to this once thriving part of our nation's economy. Let us engage in just and fair solutions to a critical problem.

I want to share with you my support of [the resolution of the House of Bishops not to withhold consent of an election of a woman to the episcopate] and that I will request of Sam Van Culin that he convey to the Archbishop of Canterbury my desire to have this issue placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Anglican primates.

Well, dear friends, there is so much more in my heart that I want to share. But I may have already said more than you want to hear.

So, I go now to prepare myself to hear from you.

As we walk this journey together, let our common love for one another be the source that heals our wounds, seeks the truth of the Gospel, nurtures our souls and leads us into a common witness of hope to a troubled, dangerous and broken world, bringing to it a message of a new creation, and a new humanity through the resurrection of Christ Jesus.

BKIEFLY...

George W. MacRae, S.J., intern ally known New Testament schola fessor of Roman Catholic theologica ies, and acting dean of Harvard Di School, died suddenly September 6 apparent heart attack. He was 57. Di Rae helped train an entire generat scholars who have translated rare that have taught much about the c of Christianity. Among those, and pe the most celebrated, is The Nag madi Library (1977), a collection o tic texts that, along with the Dea Scrolls, rank among the most ordinary finds in 20th century b studies [TLC, Feb. 17].

Four adults and six high school dents from Trinity Church, Galv Texas, spent a week in August pa the interior of a church in Mexic Templo de Cristo, Guadalajara, J It was a ministry of service and 1 ship with the Diocese of Western ico, companion to the Diocese of ' On the Sunday following the v work, a service was held in the bished church celebrated by the Rt Samuel Espinoza, Bishop of W Mexico, who recalled that 24 year lier when the church was last pain and other college students did the

As a way of promoting Lutl **Episcopal relations in South Dak** meeting of the Commission of Lut Indian Relations was called recer McLaughlin, S.D. Attending the ing were Bishop Norman Eitrhein the Lutheran Church and the Rt Craig Anderson, Bishop of Dakota, along with other comm and staff members. The convent the American Lutheran Church in Dakota last spring passed a reso to promote ecumenical efforts be other denominations. Many idea unity were presented at the comm meeting, including shared ministri umenical programs, denomination change internships, and more soc tivities between the two churches

The Diocese of Idaho is conti with its Idaho Ad Project design promote the Episcopal Church. Th ject Committee will use newspape created by the Episcopal Ad Proj Minneapolis. In addition, the comm has created three radio and three vision pubic service announcement that they will be able to promot church in three mediums.

ETWEEN THE ANGELS AND THE BEASTS

Catholic Dogma in the Art of Walker Percy

By ORMONDE PLATER

ral recent books about the famous rcy family of Mississippi - espe-William Alexander Percy (1885and his younger cousin and d son Walker Percy (born 1916) s to examine the role of religion in American writers.

e include two volumes from Louisiate University Press, a reprint of n Alexander Percy's memoirs Lanon the Levee (1941), with a new intion by Walker Percy, and a scholudy by Lewis Baker. The Percys of sippi: Politics and Literature in the outh (1983). Even more revealing is rsations with Walker Percy (1985), by Lewis A. Lawson and Victor A. er, a collection of interviews which Percy's five novels and two books of as an extended comment on the onship of religion, language, and

hough Lewis Baker is concerned y with the social, political, and literistory of the Percys, he makes it that the religious tradition of the ⁷ includes the Episcopal Church. William Alexander Percy and his , Senator LeRoy Percy (1860-1929). led the University of the South at 166

loy, an Episcopalian, "was a little about religion (p. 81). The son Will aised as a Roman Catholic by his er, Camille, and as a child developed tense devotion. At college, however, ost his faith. "His ethics teacher at nee, William Porcher DuBose, raised ions about all established religions, Will could not answer some of

... Will realized that Catholicism in part attractive as a refuge from

n Ormond Plater serves at St. An-"hurch, New Orleans, La.

the world, and he could no longer afford such a refuge" (p. 62).

The war restored his capacity for faith. In Will's poems written after seeing the war, "aesthetic values become the grounds for religious faith and a means for reconciling the physical world of nature with the spiritual kingdom of God" (p. 80). But Will never regained the capacity for devotion. Although his memoirs have high literary quality, he would prefer to be remembered as a poet, planter's son turned gardener.

Ironically, DuBose, unwitting challenger of Will Percy's faith, is now remembered in the Episcopal calendar (August 18), and one of Will's poems, "His Peace" (1924), was later adopted as the much-loved Hymn 437, "They cast their nets in Galilee."

Sewanee plays a strange role in the religious history of the two Percy writers. After World War I, Will taught English at Sewanee for one semester but was replaced after some Episcopal alumni objected to his Roman Catholic affiliations. He remained close to Sewanee, visited friends there and raised funds, and in 1922 was elected to the board of trustees. "His election acknowledged his contri-

butions to Sewanee, but the day after he



the Episcopal Church" (p. 89). Will declined to belong, although he held the Episcopal Church in regard and sympathy and later established a summer home at Sewanee.

In the South, Sewanee has long been looked upon as a mountain sanctuary for various needy sorts, including retired bishops, artists and intellectuals, and the widows of Confederate generals, and in the summer of 1946 Walker Percy and his bride moved to Will's summer home there to read and study religion. A few months later, in 1947, they converted to the Roman Catholic Church.

What Percy was reading, at Sewanee and elsewhere, included European philosophy, anthropology (the nature of man) and existentialism, especially the Lutheran Kierkegaard. Despite the Protestant nature of some of Percy's reading, his studies led to conversion - and also to an acceptance of Catholic dogma as congenial to the art of writing.

He defined this dogma in a 1971 interview reprinted in Conversations: "As I say, it's a view of man, that man is neither an organism controlled by his environment, not a creature controlled by the

Books About the Percys

LANTERNS ON THE LEVEE: Recollections of a Planter's Son. By William Alexander Percy. Alfred A. Knopf, 1941. Reprinted with an introduction by Walker Percy, Louisiana State University Press, 1973 (1984 printing). Pp. xviii, 348. \$19.95.

THE PERCYS OF MISSISSIPPI: Politics and Literature in the New South. By Lewis Baker. Louisiana State University Press, 1983. Pp. 237. \$19.95.

CONVERSATIONS WITH WALKER PERCY. Edited by Lewis A. Lawson and Victor A. Kramer. University Press of Mississippi, 1985. Pp. xiv, 325. \$9.95 paper.



say, nor is he a detached, wholly objective, angelic being who views the world in a God-like way and makes pronouncements only to himself or to an elite group of people. No, he's somewhere between the angels and the beasts. He's a strange creature whom both Thomas Aquinas and Marcel called *homo viator*, man the wayfarer, man the wanderer. So, to me, the Catholic view of man as pilgrim, in transit, in journey, is very compatible with the vocation of a novelist because a novelist is writing about a man in transit, man as pilgrim" (pp. 63-64).

With Walker Percy, expression of Catholic faith takes the form of story-telling. *Conversations* brings out Percy's attitude towards the communication of faith which readers of his fiction should already suspect. One of the symptoms of the human predicament — our tortured alienation from ourselves, others, and God — is our difficulty with language. The old words about religion no longer work. We can't even speak about God and get a response from a listener or reader.

Percy shares the opinion of Flannery O'Connor, also a Roman Catholic, who had to write about grotesque people and situations to get her theological point across. In 1971 he told an interviewer: "the so-called Catholic or Christian novelist nowadays has to be very indirect, if not downright deceitful, because all he or redemption and the jig is up, you know. So he has to do what Joyce did: he has to practice his art in cunning and in secrecy and achieve his objective by indirect methods" (p. 41).

As a consequence, religion as a formal observance all but disappears from Percy's fiction, except on rare occasion and then often as the butt of satire. Instead, Percy places his men and women in strange situations and expects them to think and act in ways which are bizarre rather than edifying. Especially, they avoid the language of religion. They may rise from the dead, from one of the forms of living death, but they don't talk about "resurrection." Percy prefers empty caves to empty words. He seems to have discovered in his art a secret of communication which is entirely opposite that of most practitioners of faith.

Behind his use of story lies a continuing acceptance of Catholic dogma, despite a church that is "in a mess these days, badly split, its liturgy barbarized, vocations declining," yet which "survives these periodic disasters" as " a sign of its divine origins" (p. 176, from a highly ironic self-interview in 1977).

In 1984 Percy continued to stress the importance of Catholicism to his art: "I have never felt constrained by my own beliefs; but, on the other hand, a good number of writers I know are paralyzed mystery of the church, a body of pilg Percy explores the mystery of huma istence.

Perhaps because of the publicati his interviews, Percy is now relucta give more. He has talked himself both idly and at purpose, and, at lea the moment, has said all he wants t about religion, art, and life at least t Conversations eventually becomes ous with repetition. Yet perhaps the interesting chat is the last one, 1984, in which Percy talks about a ing he had with Thomas Merto Gethsemani Abbey in 1967, a year b Merton's death in Burma. Merton. ing jeans and a T-shirt, served bou and-water and impressed Percy as re and tough-looking.

But the conversation went now Percy called him "Father Louis," (think of little to say, and got only I talk from Merton. Except for one dote: "He was talking about nonviol he was very strong on nonviolence. he was saying how the Trappists, the Trappists, violated this prin And either I, or somebody, said: " what do you mean? How do the that?' He said: 'Well, look at the way exploit these brothers, these monks I remember the expression was 'The to break their ass carrying all this cl around'" (p. 319).

Merton and His Biographers

By MAGGIE ROSS

In 1980, the miasma of pious rhetoric that had surrounded Thomas Merton's memory since his death in 1968 was dispersed by the fresh breeze of Monica Furlong's biography, *Merton* (now available in paperback from Harper and Row). Furlong attempted to put some human flesh on what had become one of those heavily draped plaster figures which Merton himself so loathed. One can almost imagine his sigh of relief as the book went into circulation.

Furlong's work is not without its faults: it attempts a superficial psychological analysis of the evolution of Merton's complex personality and the paradox of his life. In this she thankfully failed, but her instincts throughout the book are accurate enough that this is a minor annoyance.

Her work also has been criticized because of her obvious bias against Dom James Fox: she defends Merton as only a woman can defend a man, and it is interesting that in doing so she fulfills a role that Merton not only may have sought from flesh-and-blood women but also understood as an archetypal role, one he explored in part in his work *Hagia Sophia*.

But even given its flaws, Furlong's book is remarkable. Denied access to those works and letters scrupulously guarded by the Merton Trust, and, until 1983 available only to the "official" biographer, Michael Mott, Furlong had to make some intuitive guesses. Perhaps precisely because she did *not* have cess to the enormous morass of mat Merton left behind, she may, in the have succeeded in giving a more acc ble portrait.

She was, we know now, factu wrong in some areas due to lack of t documents, but re-reading her bool ter Mott's *The Seven Mountain Thomas Merton*, gives an apprecia that the risks she took were more 1 justified.

Michael Mott also has been cc geous in undertaking the daunting t first of all, of following in the step John Howard Griffin — himself s⁴ thing of a legendary figure — who first authorized to undertake Mert official biography, and who died befc could be completed. Mott wisely aside Griffin's work not only to avoit impossible task of continuing Grif

Maggie Ross is a solitary and the author of The Fire of Your Life (Paulist Press, 1983). She gratefully acknowledges a grant from the American Philosophical Association, which made possible the leisure to write this article.

ach, but also, one suspects, bein some ways Griffin had become bject. Happily, excerpts from Grifinfinished biography of Merton, rom Griffin's own journals kept working on it, have now been puband provide a penetrating look ionastic and solitary life that is in ways more accurate than Merton's. ondly, Mott has managed to wade rhaps swim) through the vast sea erial Merton left behind, as well as take to re-interview people who been forced to talk about their countless times, itself a somewhat il duty. Mott wisely has not set out ite a biography in an ordinary He states in his introduction that rpose is to raise questions, not an-

them, and in this he admirably suc-Instead of a standard biography s written a guide for future Merton rers and makes little attempt at intation, which is perhaps imposwith only ten years in which to do inimal distillation necessary to unke even the present book.

tt's work also has flaws. The beginhas too much of Mott's own confor poetic expression and is often erous. Fortunately he soon drops elf-conscious style and falls into a chtforward narrative which serves urposes much better. Toward the one feels Mott is slightly overned and anxious to get rid of the ct. One can hardly blame him.

hough Mott has tried to present ibject from as many points of view issible, there is still the lingering that this is an "official" biography hus subject to censorship. Comparhe quotations used by him and by ing, there is an uneasy sense that are subjects which are better not ssed. It is tantalizing to speculate if any) the present censors are. But

under constraint must have added ott's burden. ditionally, Mott does not seem to

a single emotional risk in the entire . For his purpose of raising ques-

, this approach provides what may necessary detachment, but at the time fails to communicate Merton her than object.

ott has a poet's bias and while critif Merton's often awful poems, his pathies to Merton's difficulties as a are obvious. Mott reveals someof himself in this attractive vulnerty, which provides part of the muched human element.

ott illuminates where Furlong was only to guess. Merton appears

ugh his own words in all his naked. One is struck by the almost incredimmaturity of the man — a mixture of neurosis and the naivete necesto the artist that often (and Merton exception) leads to folly, if not trag-It also becomes apparent that Mer-



ton was quite possibly chemically dependent, which may explain some of his erratic behavior, as well as cast light on other aspects of his thinking and writing.

It is a commonplace that artists (especially writers) suffer from too clear a vision, which continually forces a choice between dealing with the sharp light of reality by asceticism, meaning a willingness to be done to, be seared, changed, and bear the consequent suffering, or anesthesia when the suffering becomes unbearable.

Like most artists, Merton seems to have alternated between the two, whether his anesthesia was expressed chemically or in terms of relationships. Sometimes it seems that writing was itself the drug, and again he falls into a classic pattern; most writers realize they are maintaining some kind of inner balance by writing, much as they might hate it — and Merton obviously reveled in it, even as he was tormented by it.

Mott's book is extremely valuable in that it shatters most of the stereotypes that have grown up not only around Merton but also the monastic and solitary life, in spite of the sanity of such books as *Merton by Those Who Knew Him Best*. Reminiscence about him is invariably cautious, and some of Merton's friends have been more honest than others. John Eudes Bamberger's insights are particularly helpful to supplement and focus the Merton who emerges from both Mott's and Furlong's treatments.

These two books complement one another, yet the definitive biography has yet to be written. Perhaps we will have to wait for it until more time has passed, and there is a chance for some historical digestion to occur. Merton is a large mouthful for any age to swallow, and, perhaps because I am writing from Oxford, and in spite of the obvious personality differences, there seems to be an

Merton Books

MERTON: A Biography. By Monica Furlong. Harper and Row. Pp. 342. \$8.95 paper.

THE SEVEN MOUNTAINS OF THOMAS MERTON. By Michael Mott. Houghton-Mifflin. Pp. 690. \$24.95 hb.

MERTON BY THOSE WHO KNEW HIM BEST. Edited by Paul Wilkes. Harper and Row. Pp. 168. \$12.95 hb.

intriguing similarity to Newman. In Oxford Apostles, Geoffrey Faber comments on Newman's "Spiritual self-hatred and intellectual self-admiration. When these currents meet with such force as they did in Newman, the result is a vortex into which a whole society might easily be drawn" (p. 65).

For all of Merton's 20th century insight into monasticism, which thankfully has wrought profound changes in the institution and made the solitary life not only possible but also legally acceptable to the church; for all of his 20th century hedonism, angst, and practicality, Merton remains something of a 19th century romantic. In fact, it might be possible to see Merton's life in terms of a 19th century romantic poet growing into a 20th century prophet — but this is perhaps the subject for another article.

In the end, what do these books tell us about Merton's sanctity in everyday terms, as opposed to those of hagiography? That far from being some fantastic perfection, human holiness is the struggle to willingness (to use Gerald May's distinction), willingness to offer one's self to God to be done to, to be transfigured and, by extension, transfigure the surrounding milieu.

We do ourselves great disservice by insisting on an unreal and saccharine uniformity of what we falsely think of as "holiness" in our saints. Merton himself remarked on this with some weariness close to the end of his life, pointing out that to be holy means, no more, no less, to be marked by God, and to be willing to live out the consequences of that marking, no matter how flawed the material one has been given to work with may seem, or how impossible the task.

Merton never gave up seeking this willingness in spite of his great liabilities and spectacular failures. In this he provides us both comfort and example to aspire to the true holiness to which each of us is called.

EDITORIALS

Reviews and Book Articles

Reviews of books, and articles about books, constitute a special kind of writing, and we hope our readers find these items useful and interesting, both in special book numbers such as this, and in ordinary issues in which we usually have a few reviews. We were recently encouraged by a reader who, attracted by the review of an unusual and rather expensive volume, persuaded his local public library to purchase it, and has since found out that a succession of other individuals have withdrawn the book. Books expressing spiritual values can indeed spread the Christian message both directly and indirectly.

Writing reviews is not easy. If a reviewer is enthusiastic about a 500-page volume, which one has spent days reading, it is very difficult to write something helpful about it in a mere three or four paragraphs. If one is not enthusiastic, it may be all the harder.

We do not usually print extended information about our reviewers, but readers must have noticed that some of them are nationally or internationally recognized authorities in their fields. Others, equally important, are informed individuals who speak more from the point of view of the thoughtful but non-specialist reader. Still others are strong advocates in certain areas of interest.

We are sincerely grateful to all our reviewers and the authors of book articles. They play an important part in the life of this magazine, and we are sure they enrich the lives of many readers.

What Was Convention Like?

What was it like?

The weather was pleasant enough, although most of us were busy in large air-conditioned buildings all day and scarcely saw the out of doors. The vast convention complex was very well equipped, and the major hotels were sumptuous. A very professional closed circuit TV program provided convention news every morning and evening. Accommodations and meals were expensive, but no more so than most experienced travelers expect today. The arrangements made by local committees were good.

The convention was also marked by ethnic diversity. Deputies and guests from many backgrounds and many parts of the world were present, some wearing native dress. In this sense, the catholicity of our church was very visible.

On the other hand, the atmosphere was somewhat more confined than in other recent conventions. We were not within easy walking distance of anything away from the convention center, and taxis were not always available. Few members of the convention saw any local churches. Meeting rooms were locked except for scheduled times (and sometimes even then!). Social gatherings tended to be formal receptions or dinners. There was not the place for banners, posters, and impromptu meetings that characterized other recent convention

The well ordered air of the expensive hotels set tone. Many welcomed the comfort and convenienc the facilities. It was perhaps less well adapted, how to young people and to less affluent visitors.

Services of worship were generally impressive. opening service with the UTO presentation was in a arena. Official daily services were in a large hall, 1 some hundreds of seats, where an attractive sancti was set up by the diocesan committee. A smaller sp was curtained off for private prayer, where the Blee Sacrament was reserved and where a priest was n larly available for confessions. We were pleased 1 Morning and Evening Prayer were led daily by memi of the religious orders, although the times were not most convenient for many. The regular daily Eucha at 7 a.m. with hymns and short sermon, regularly tracted three hundred or more worshippers. The Tr nial and other groups sponsored additional services

Our one serious criticism of the worship is that the continues to be no visual representation of our Lore the saints in the areas arranged for convention servi Most people are more impressed by the eye than the There are people in the church who know how to cre large temporary murals for such occassions.

Gratitude was very properly addressed to the bish other clergy, and people of the Diocese of Los Ang who had spent months in successful preparation for convention. As in previous years, many aspects of necessary convention work and administration were ried on by a large staff of volunteers, some of wł serve in convention after convention. We all owe a c of gratitude to these faithful men and women.

In this issue we conclude our coverage of the Hous Bishops and the House of Deputies. Some other its relating to Anaheim are yet to come, as well as eva tive comments and interpretation. The meaning of actions of this convention requires further thought.

Ill-founded Journalism

Many Episcopalians in the New York area, a also in other parts of the country, were offen last month by an article in the New York Times Mazine entitled "The Episcopalians: A Church in Sea of Itself." The article contains some authentic cucisms of the church, and some points of humor. course Episcopalians have long been accustomed snide and satirical attacks. The relation of the Epis pal Church to the Church of England has always m it distasteful to a certain type of American journal and in the recent past (although not today) our chuearned criticism in appearing too much as the churcl the privileged and elite.

Careless reporting and ignorance of the Episco Church today was reflected in the author's assert that "liberals" were not nominated for Presid Bishop. The nomination of Bishop Frey of Colora the one Anglo-catholic on the slate, is described a possible sop to the evangelicals, "no more." Of cou the fact that an observer could construe the sc backwards is an indication that party labels are what they used to be. Reporters who do not understa these mysterious matters, however, should not atter to pontificate about them, if the pun may be pardon

BOOKS

Continued from page 4

:tly designed for this "dipping." you draw out is almost always il, good, and memorable.

chapter headings give you the flaliving in the Truth; On beginning Ourselves; Breadth of Soul, Fearess; On Forgetting Ourselves to at God; Interior Difficulties; Suf-;; Illness; Death. Under these headare short passages from the Abbe urville's letters of spiritual counsel rious correspondents.

th a fine French flavor, his remarks to the highest heaven in their au-3 familiarity with God's majesty, at the same time savor of the good on which we all stand in their flatd common sense. The book is hed by an introduction by Anglim's great spiritual authority, Eve-Inderhill.

here is something of real substance engthen us, to reflect on, to offer in r, to underline and save and share. not a book about prayer and it is not ok of prayers. It is right on the dary between these two categories: od priest, who knew what it means ffer, offering dearly purchased adto the souls he loved, with reference e good God he trusted.

(The Rev.) ANDREW C. MEAD Church of the Advent Boston, Mass.

tuality and Culture

TH AND THE FUTURE OF THE JRCH: Ministry with Youth and ıg Adults. By Michael Warren. ston-Seabury. Pp. 148. \$8.95 paper.

is is one of the best books on youth stry that I have read in years of ing such books. Yet, I have found it cult to write a review, perhaps bee there is an extra breadth of dimenwhich in my estimation tends to set f from other very good books in this

What words will convey this dth, other than the usual superlaroutinely dished out in short book ws?

ie words that we need, most approtely, are not mine, but the author's , found in his preface:

aders will note in the essays certain nes that link much of my thinking. se themes are those of spirituality culture ... the pieces that meant t to me were the ones that best got nese two issues. In the entire collecthe essay most significant to me is one on politicization; it represents edge of my thinking and many emng questions and concerns."

would add that the chapter on "Why nnie and Joannie Can't/Don't Care' cceptionally good. Continuing:

e final three essays deal with aspects

of ministry to young adults, that is, young people in their twenties and thirties, with special concern for those who do not have families. Churches in the United States have a tendency to define their ministry too narrowly along family lines and to ignore those persons not fitting into that pattern. Ministry to young adults needs more attention in the future from all the churches." Do read.

> (The Rev.) SUSAN M. CLARK Deacon, Christ Church Whitefish Bay, Wis.

Loving Wisdom

TRAILING CLOUDS OF GLORY: Spiritual Values in Children's Books. By Madeleine L'Engle, with Avery Brooke, anthologist. Westminster Press. Pp. 143 incl. indices. \$12.95 hb.

Madeleine L'Engle, who finds meaning in story and builds her theology through story, draws spiritual truths from more than 45 excerpts chosen by anthologist Avery Brooke from well-loved children's books in this profound, slim volume.

Audience appeal of this anthologywith-meditations cuts across all boundaries of age and station. It can be used to spark reflection; to guide young people in discriminating appreciation of literature; to cast fresh light on deliberations of theologians; to remind grown-ups of the insights gained from their childhood reading favorites; to provide a standard by which to measure current children's literature; or just to enjoy for the loving wisdom of L'Engle's shining faith.

The book lives up to its title taken from Wordsworth; L'Engle shows that "there is far more to everything than the dailiness of the everyday world.

HELEN D. HOBBS South Bend. Ind.

Foundations of Marriage

BLESSED BE THE BOND. By William Johnson Everett. Fortress Press. Pp. xi, viii and 130. \$6.95 paper.

A subtitle could be "A Fresh Look at the American Family," but that's trite. The actual subtitle is "Christian Perspectives on Marriage and Family," yet the text is broader than a Christian foundation (excellent and important though that be).

This is a book the clergy will find helpful in pastoral ministries; indeed, any of the helping professions will be glad to see it. The rising numbers of divorced clergy today warrants a careful study of this text in preparing for one's own marriage.

The ambience of the book is a mix of social factors with theological, philosophical, and psychological insights. The author attempts to be holistic in stance, and succeeds quite well. He declares his own ideal for this book, ... to order our theological reflection in a systematic way that can give us some leverage for dealing with (marriage's) complex and emotional issues." This is generally fulfilled.

Mr. Everett summarizes marriage customs of the past several centuries, including what society has declared from time to time to be the professed purposes of marriage. This reaching back in social customs brings to the surface the word "bond" which appears in a bit of poetry, and this antecedent study is what brought that word into the title of this book.

The text sets out "four subjects" of marriage: person, couple, family, households. This is a strength of this book and this portion is typical of several other sections. There are several notes provided at the conclusion of each chapter; putting them together, one has an excellent bibliography.

(The Rev.) PAUL Z. HOORNSTRA Diocesan Missioner Wilmington Island, Ga.

Real, Live Woman

TERESA: A WOMAN: A Biography of Teresa of Avila. By Victoria Lincoln. With introduction by Antonio T. de Nicolas. State University of New York Press. Pp. 440. \$39.50.

Victoria Lincoln, a novelist, has written a rather full life of Teresa of Jesus. known to us as Teresa of Avila. The author takes most of her material from the letters of Teresa, telling us the story of a forceful reformer of the 16th century Roman Catholic Church in Spain. She draws from other contemporary accounts of the saint as well as from secondary sources.

As the title indicates, the author seeks to free us from the pious legend that has surrounded Teresa from the latter part of the her life up to our own time. As novelist, she is concerned to draw for us a rounded and full picture of a real, live woman, not a prettified saint. She focuses on the day-to-day activities of this extraordinary woman, who succeeded in hallowing the everyday and ordinary.

Where the biography fails is in its lack of attention to Teresa's spirituality, that part of her life that adds the dimension of greatness to her story. Fortunately, this dimension of her life and work are available to us in good translations of her mystic works: The Life, The Interior Castle, and The Way of Perfection. Ms. Lincoln gives these only passing notice, telling us the occasions for the writing and some contemporary response.

Another flaw is the absence of footnotes or complete bibliography. (A very short bibliography is included.) There is some material, especially that dealing with Teresa's ancestry (perhaps Jewish) and the nature of the sins of which she repented so lavishly, that cries out for documentation. On the latter point the author engages in speculation based on the letters that is interesting but hardly adequate historical documentation.

As almost novelistic biography, the work succeeds rather well even if it is far too long. Lincoln includes description of the circumstances surrounding Teresa's career and introduces us to the friends who influenced and helped her.

ALICE COWAN St. Paul School of Theology Kansas City, Mo.

Adults with Vocations

BECOMING, ADULT BECOMING CHRISTIAN: Adult Development and Christian Faith. By James W. Fowler. Harper & Row. Pp. 154. \$13.95 hb.

The past decade has brought a flood of research and writing on adult development. Based on the early work of Freud, Jung, Pavlov and Piaget, these biopsychological models have really not addressed faith development at all. Dr. Fowler's new book, a follow-up of his earlier Stages of Faith, is an attempt to remedy that situation.

In a most readable style, the author summarizes in the first part of his book some of the most recent work in the field. Especially welcome is a presentation of the work of Carol Gilligan and her important findings on the moral development of women.

The author then moves into his own field of faith development with a focus on adulthood within the context of the Christian community. Readers looking for a description of the traditional stages of spiritual development will find some of this material, but not in the form they are accustomed to. Nor is this a book of the "how to" genre. Rather, it is a volume which should provoke some thought about what it means to be an adult with a vocation.

> JEAN SMELKER, M.D. Minneapolis, Minn.

Freedom and Authenticity

THE FREEDOM OF MORALITY. By Christos Yannaras. St. Vladimir's Seminary Press. Pp. 278. \$12.95 paper.

Reviewers often say that a book is so good that they could not put it down. I found *The Freedom of Morality* by Christos Yannaras, Orthodox lay theologian, so compelling that I had to put it down many times so as to probe its meaning. This is not to say that it is an obscure book, but rather a profound one. To a Westerner it is a journey into another world.

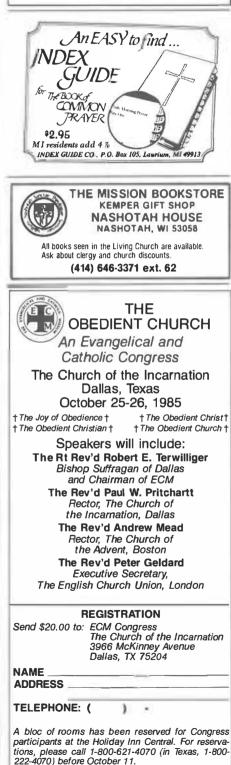
In the beginning of chapter two, Yannaras says, "What we call the morality or ethos (ethics) of man is the way he relates to the existential adventure of his freedom." Conventional ethics tend to omit the ontological question of truth

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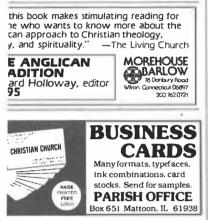
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and the reality of human existence. However, morality is not an objective measure for evaluating human behavior, but the dynamic response of personal freedom to the existential truth and authenticity of man. The way of righteousness is man's practical refusal to wrong his nature. Sin is not the breaking of rules but missing the mark, being less than we are. St. Isaac of Syria says, "When you enter upon the path of righteousness, then you will cleave to freedom in everything."

It is clear that Yannaras recognizes that existentialism and Christian thought share a concern for the person. He builds a bridge between the outlook shared by Marx, Freud and the death-of-God theologians. He illustrates his point of view by references to the arts and literature, especially in his brilliant discussions of icons. He cites the historical example of "Fools for Christ" as they have appeared in Orthodox societies as surprising examples of freedom and especially shocking to Westerners.

I will conclude this review with a quotation which is also a challenge to thoughtful people who are sick to death of the shallowness of most contemporary "Christian Ethics," to buy this book and make it your companion for as long as it takes to make its thoughts your own.

"The truth of the person distinguishes the life of the Church . . . from any other concept of ethics. In contrast with every other code of ethics, the Church does not seek to safeguard the individual, either in isolation or collectively; she does not aim at individual security, either transient or eternal. She asks man to reject his individuality, to 'lose' his soul. For this loss is the salvation of man, the existential realization of his true life, of personal distinctiveness and freedom."

A special thanks must go to Elizabeth Briere of the Fellowship of St. Alban and St. Sergius for this excellent translation from the Greek.

(The Rev.) WILLIAM H. BAAR Emmanuel Church LaGrange, Ill.

Books Received

HERALDS TO A NEW AGE: Preaching for the Twenty-first Century. Edited By Don M. Aycock. Brethren Press. Pp. x and 264. \$11.95 paper.

HOW TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION. By Arnold and Tompkins. Ballantine. Pp. vii and 178. \$2.95 paper.

BEYOND REJECTION. By Don Baker. Multnomah, Pp. 95. \$7.95.

ACCEPTANCE: Loosing the Webs of Personal Insecurity, By Don Baker. Multnomah. Pp. 123. \$5.95 paper.

TELL ME WHY: A Guide to Children's Questions about Faith and Life. By Marilyn Franzen Holm. Augsburg. Pp. 144. No price given, paper.

PHILOSOPHY AND ATHEISM. By Kai Nielsen. Prometheus. Pp. 231, \$18.95.

PRAYING THE NAME OF JESUS. By Robert V. Dodd. Abingdon-Upper Room. Pp. 95. \$4.95 paper.

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WANTED: Moss: Christian Faith; Bicknell: Thirty-Nine Articles; Alcuin Club Directory of Ceremonial, Pt. I-II. G.P., Box 446, Soudan, Minn. 55782.

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PEOPLE and places

Appointments

The Rev. Bettina Anderson is deacon-in-training at St. James', 3400 Calumet St., Columbus, Ohio 43214

The Ven. Enrique R. Brown is archdeacon of Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland in the Diocese of New York; add: Rectory St., Rye, N.Y. 10580. The Rev. George Latimer Campbell, III is an area

missioner in the Diocese of New York.

The Rev. Shanda Carignan is deacon-in-training at St. Andrew's, 1060 Salem Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45406.

The Rev. Philip Michael Carr-Harris is rector of St. John's, Pleasantville, N.Y.

The Rev. John Paul Carter is now rector of St. John's, 9120 Frederick Rd., Ellicott City, Md. 21043.

The Rev. Andrew C. J. Cornes is rector of the Church of the Ascension, 4729 Ellsworth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213. Fr. Cornes was previously asst. at All Souls', London, England.

The Rev. James L. Davis became vicar of St. Gabriel's, Philadelphia, Pa. on Sept. 1.

The Rev. William F. Duffey is asst. at St. Martin's, Radnor, Pa.

The Rev. Christopher Duffy is now interim rector of Holy Innocents', Marine St., Beach Haven, N.J. 08008.

The Rev. Alan C. French is rector of St. Andrew's. Murray Hill, N.J.

The Rev. Maurice L. Friedman is now on the staff of the Cathedral Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, Pa.

The Rev. Lance Giuffrida is rector of St. Stephen's, 9191 Daly Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45231. The Rev. Elaine M. Kebba is rector of St. Mary's, Haledon, N.J.

The Rev. Joseph Keblesh, Jr. is vicar of St. Andrew's, 733 S.R. 41 S.W., Washington Court House, Objo 43160

The Rev. Lewis H. Mills is now the senior assoc. at St. David's, Wayne, Pa.

The Rev. Richard William Palmer was named asst. to the bishop of the Diocese of Wyoming, Diocesan Office, Hunter Hall, 104 S. 4th St., Laramie, Wyo. 82070 on August 1.

The Rev. Ralph W. Pitman, Jr. is now rector of St. Peter's, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Rev. James R. Porter became assoc. of the Church of the Incarnation, Santa Rosa, Calif. on Oct. 1. Add: 550 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa 95401.

The Rev. Kenneth Reis Shepard is now rector of Christ Church, Sidney and vicar of Good Shepherd. Bridgeport, Neb. Add: 1217 10th St., Sidney, Neb. 69162.

The Rev. John R. Tinklepaugh is now rector of the Church of St. Jude and the Nativity, Lafayette Hill. Pa.

Retirements

The Rev. Ronald A. Wiley, as rector of St. Luke's, Newton, Pa., effective Oct. 31.

Receptions

The Rev. Jairo Mejia, a native of Medellin, Columbia and for 21 years a priest in the Roman Catholic Church, was received on Sept. 1 as a priest by the Rt. Rev. Shannon Mallory into the Diocese of El Camino Real; Fr. Majia continues his Hispanic mission in that diocese.

Changes of Address

The Rev. Harry J. Knickle should be addressed at 856 Sutton Pl., Palm Harbour, Fla. 33563, effective Oct. 10.

The Rev. Charles L. McClean, Jr. may now be addressed at 99 Madison Ave., Apt. 102, Westwood, N.J. 07675.

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 v. Andrew C. Mead, r
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