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A profile of the Very Rev. Harry Pritchett, dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York City (p.8)

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THIS WEEK

"All of New York thoroughly and constantly uses the cathedral and that's how it should be, in the tradition of the great medieval cathedrals."

—The Very Rev. Harry Pritchett on the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City



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Cover photo and photo above by Mary Bloom



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SUNDAY'S **READINGS**

Power for Our Good

'You have a mighty arm ... love and truth go before your face' (Psalm 89:13a, 14b)

The First Sunday After the Epiphany

Isa. 42:1-9; Psalm 89:1-29 or 89:20-29; Acts 10:34-38; Mark 1:7-11

The images in today's lessons are of immense, irresistible power: From Isaiah: "Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out ... I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other."

From the psalm: "I have found David my servant ... I will make him my firstborn and higher than the kings of the earth."

From Acts: "Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all ... God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power."

From Mark: "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me ... I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Yet each lesson has the mark of profound gentleness and tenderness as well. In the lesson from Mark, the Spirit descends like a dove. In Acts, Jesus "went about doing good and healing." In the psalm, "I will keep my love for him for ever." And above all, in Isaiah, "He will not cry out or lift up his voice ... a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench."

In these lessons, we are taught that the immense power of God is always exercised for our good. The weak are treated with justice and patience, the oppressed are delivered, the needy are taken by the hand. The teaching becomes personal when we take note that today is one of the four customary baptismal days of the church year. The newly baptized are gathered into the family, and the faithful renew their commitment to the One by whom the family is named. Each is empowered with the Holy Spirit, and each is charged to exercise the privileges of membership in justice, mercy, patience, tenderness and deep love.

Look It Up

In the lesson from the Acts of the Apostles, what makes Peter conclude that "God shows no partiality"?

Think About It

In the gospel, the voice from heaven says, "With you I am well pleased." The words are familiar, but what do they mean? Why are the words, "You are my Son, the Beloved" not enough?

Next Sunday

The Second Sunday After Epiphany

1 Sam. 3:1-10(11-20); Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Cor. 6:11b-20; John 1:43-51

Sharps, Flats & Naturals



LUCREZIA VIZZANA

Musica Secreta Linn Records CKD 071 (www.linn.co.uk)

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The Roman Catholic hierarchy tried to maintain a tight control of all that took place in its religious institutions. Lucrezia Vizzana was a victim of a religious quarrel which reached as far as the pope in Rome. Of frail health, she was unable to withstand the strains and went insane, her fears causing her to lash out wildly whenever she heard the cloister bell.

Vizzana's eloquent motets reveal a haunting beauty, delicately phrased. Far from dwelling upon sad topics of death and suffering, they lift one's heart and inspire the listener. In Paratum cor meum, for example, one is exalted to exsurge gloria mea (rise up, my glory). Several were undoubtedly written for special religious festivals. The martyrdom of Christ and of the founder of their order, Santa Christina, are treated as inspiration to the faithful in their quest for eternal salvation and happiness.

In recent years much research into the works of early women composers and musicians has taken place, revealing music previously ignored and long forgotten. Musica Secreta gives us a lovely window into the soul of one passionate "secreted" young musician.

> Keith Underbrink Libertyville, Ill.

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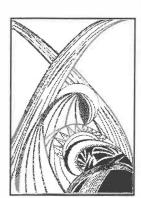
The American Friends of Canterbury Cathedral is pleased to once again offer the opportunity to participate in the life of the Cathedral for a full week. Under the leadership of the Rev. and Mrs. John Harper of Washington, the tour will include time in London and at the world-renowned Leeds Castle as well as five nights in Canterbury. Call or email for further details. Group size is limited to 20.



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While Continuing to Wait, Southeast Floridians Give Thanks for Missing Deacon's Life and Work

The life and ministry of the Rev. Miriam Dean Pratt, deacon, who has been missing since Sept. 28, was celebrated Dec. 18 at Trinity Cathedral, Miami, by about 350 people from throughout the Diocese of Southeast Florida.

After nearly three months with no answers in the mystery of the deacon's disappearance, her family — at the suggestion of the Rt. Rev. Calvin O. Schofield, Jr., Bishop of Southeast Florida, and their parish rector, the Rev. Norbert Cooper — agreed that Deacon Pratt's larger family in the church and the community needed a time to come together to give thanks for her life and work. The Advent Ember Day seemed an appropriate time for such a celebration of a diaconal ministry.

Family members were key participants in the service. The lessons —

the propers for an ember day — were read by Deacon Pratt's two sons, Gerald, Jr., and Stephen, and one of her daughters, Lisa. Another daughter, Stephanie Graham, was the intercessor, and the presenters of the oblations were the deacon's 8-year-old twin grandsons, Zachary and Chaz Pratt.

In his sermon, Fr. Cooper, rector of Church of the Ascension, Miami, the parish Deacon Pratt helped to establish in 1965, spoke of the broad effect of the deacon's ministry, and said her disappearance had "a devastating impact" on not only the parish, but the entire diocese and beyond. "Everywhere you go," he said, "people ask, 'What is the latest news of our beloved deacon?'"

Usually keeping his words about the deacon in the present tense, Fr. Cooper continued, "Her life is ministering to others ... she believes that no one is too old or too young to love and serve the Lord.

"She would never let anyone who asked of her leave without something ... but then comes the big question: 'What church do you attend?' If the answer is 'none', she would begin to witness."

Speaking briefly before communion, Bishop Schofield told of Deacon Pratt's humor, thanked the Pratt family for their "steadfastness," and then reminded the congregation, "We await the risen Christ even in the midst of our Lord's nativity.

"Miriam," he said, "is with God."

Deacon Pratt's daughter Lisa said the service helped "maybe a little" for the family. "But I think it was very helpful for all the other people ... and that's a good thing."

Mary W. Cox

10 Years Since Wall Came Down in Berlin

The Community of the Cross of Nails (CCN), USA, participated in the 10th anniversary of the demolition of the Berlin Wall Nov. 9.

The American community attended the inauguration of the Weddinger Reconciliation Parish at the invitation of its German counterpart. The parish chapel is built on the site of its original church building, built in 1894 and destroyed in 1985 by the East German government, according to the *Berliner Morgenpost*. The parish has been without a church since "The Wall" enclosed the building in 1961.

The Very Rev. William M. Hale, executive secretary of the American branch of CCN, assisted in the dedication of a statue of reconciliation and a cross of nails from Coventry Cathedral, England, at the chapel.

The site is part of the former "death strip," the area about 40 yards wide between the old walls. That area was once surrounded by guard towers and filled with rolled barbed wire to prevent people escaping East Germany for the West and called the "death strip" because East German soldiers fired on people who climbed on or ran between the walls.



Susan Lerner photo

The Episcopal Church Foundation honored the Rev. Loren B. Mead (right) with the Henry Knox Sherrill Award for his many years of significant contributions to the church, especially in the field of congregational studies. Fr. Mead is the founder of the Alban Institute and has served the church as educator, consultant and author. Also recognized at the Nov. 4 ceremony was William G. Anderson, Jr. (left), executive director of the foundation. Mr. Anderson was commended for his outstanding leadership of the foundation's ministries in education, religious philanthropy and leadership development. Pictured between them is George Allen Fowlkes, president of the foundation.

Priorities for American Churches in Europe

The Convocation of American Churches in Europe gathered at St. James' Church, Florence, Italy, for its convention Nov. 5-7.

The Rt. Rev. Jeffery Rowthorn, bishop-in-charge, in his opening remarks described the five priorities of the convocation, likening them to the five interlocking Olympic rings. The rings include:

- "Mission," following the goals set out by the Mission 2000 Consultation held in Nice in early May [TLC, July 4];
- "Development," a development committee to help expand current resources and implement the goals of the Statement of Mission Intent;
- "Transatlantic Collegiality," the strengthening of the interrelationship of the Board of Foreign Parishes and the convocation:
- "Provincial Collegiality," continued exploration of appropriate provincial structures for Anglicanism in Continental Europe; and
- "Episcopal Leadership," a sense that the convocation should have a far more direct role in the selection and possibly the election of its own bishop.

The special guest of the convention, and preacher at the opening Eucharist, was Italian Cardinal Silvano Piovanelli. The Rev. Canon Timothy Verdon, canon of the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, translated from the Italian.

Visions of the future were conveyed by members of the various churches and missions in the convocation as they provided their responses to the Challenge of the Millennium.

Resolutions adopted included formation of a working group to explore ways of choosing the most effective episcopal leadership for a missionary convocation and endorsing the Mission 2000 Statement of Mission Intent.

The highlight of the Sunday morning Eucharist was the "Prayers of the Future," written and read by teenagers attending Youth Across Europe.

Nell Toensmann

BRIEFLY

The Very Rev. M.L. Agnew, dean of St. Mark's Cathedral, Shreveport, La., and Province 4 representative to the Executive Council, has announced that his name will be "placed in nomination at [this] summer's General Convention" for the presidency of the House of Deputies. That position comes open with the retirement of Pamela Chinnis, who will have held the position for nine years.

The **Church Missions Publishing Company**, an affiliate of the Diocese of Connecticut, has announced grants to aid in publishing church literature and support of missionary projects. Among those awarded grants were: St. George's Anglican Church, Kabwe, Zambia, to publish church literature; the Anglican Diocese of Uruguay, to print brochures on the Bible, the sacraments and the church; and the Episcopal Church in Rwanda to assist in translating the prayer book from Swahili to Kinyarwanda.

The Electoral College of the **Church of Wales** has nominated the Rt. Rev. Rowan Douglas Williams as the new Archbishop of Wales. He will succeed the Most Rev. Alwyn Rice Jones, who has already retired. Bishop Williams, a noted theologian, has 42 days to respond. The diocesan bishops, meeting in sacred synod, will then confirm the nomination.

The College of Bishops of the Episcopal Church of Scotland has declared the ministry of the Very Rev. **Miriam Byrne**, provost of St. Paul's Cathedral, Dundee, and the Diocese of Brechin's most senior woman priest, "no longer sustainable," according to a report in *The Scotsman*. According to Reuters, the Rt. Rev. Neville Chamberlain, Bishop of Brechin, had offered her \$16,500 in November to "resign and

keep quiet" about controversy surrounding her appointment; the offer was later raised to \$85,000.

Responding to pleas from his diocese, the Rt. Rev. **George Browning** will return to service as Bishop of Canberra-Goulburn in the Anglican Church of Australia. Bishop Browning resigned his position [TLC, Nov. 7] after a special tribunal admonished him following an investigation into a sexual relationship he had with a parishioner 15 years ago, before he became bishop in 1993.

The Rev. William C. Cantrell, Jr., SSC, is the new national president and CEO of St. Jude's Ranch for Children, Boulder City, Nev. He was called from St. John's Church, Monterey, Calif. Fr. Cantrell holds a



Fr. Cantrell

degree in business administration from Texas A&M. He is a graduate of Nashotah House.

Marcus Borg was elected president of the Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars. A controversial "Jesus Seminar" scholar, Mr. Borg contends that much of the gospel narrative was "formed" by the church. He is the Hundere Distinguished Professor of Religion at Oregon State University.

The Rt. Rev. **Jeffery Rowthorn**, Bishop-in-Charge of the Convocation of American Churches in Europe, will continue his ministry for two years, on a reduced schedule, after his January retirement. He will be in Europe from mid-April to mid-July and mid-September to mid-December, 2000. The remainder of the time he will give one day per week to convocation work from his home in Connecticut.

In the Spirit of the City

A profile of the Very Rev. Harry Pritchett, dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York City

By James B. Simpson

A festive New Year's Eve millennium service with the Manhattan Symphony Orchestra and massed choirs was expected to rank with Christmas and Easter in drawing as many as 4,000 persons to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, a stellar event as its dean, the Very Rev. Harry Pritchett, rounds out his third year at the helm.

"All of New York thoroughly and constantly uses the cathedral and that's how it should be," he declares, "in the tradition of the great medieval cathedrals."

A funny thing happened to Harry Pritchett on his way to becoming dean of the world's largest Gothic cathedral — he fell in love with New York. It was during a three-month sabbatical in 1988 that he spent in the city and it was a big factor in deciding to accept the job of dean, leaving behind the Southern dioceses in which he'd spent his entire life.

Another positive consideration grew out of an autumn Sunday when he and his wife, Allison, arrived at St. James' Church on Madison Avenue in New York but, finding it was 11 a.m. Morning Prayer, they "decided to find us a Eucharist." They sped up to Morningside Heights and, providentially, found a parking space awaiting them in front of the cathedral.

"When my eyes adjusted to the dimness, I knew I was home," Dean Pritchett confides.

Astonished at the range of activities reflected in the day's announcements, he whispered to his wife, "This is what a cathedral, or any large, urban parish, ought to be."

Healing programs, crisis counseling, a men's shelter, soup kitchen, and a clothing exchange are high-



lights of outreach, as well as a theater group called Cathedral Productions and a textile conservation laboratory. Other concerns are the poet's corner, inter-faith events, pastoral psychotherapy, environment, recycling, and always the tourists — huge, chugging buses disgorging them, reverent or gawking into every corner and even taking the "vertical" tours of the towers.

Just past his 64th birthday, Harry Houghton Pritchett, Jr., is a blue-eyed, ruddy-complexioned man of medium height who keeps his weight at a healthy 170. He has a full head of white hair that, in the late 1980s, included a pony tail.

The Pritchetts have known each other all their lives — baptized on the same day, confirmed and married at Christ Church, Tuscaloosa, Ala., where he was ordained to the diaconate and from which both sets of parents were buried.

At the University of Alabama, where the Pritchetts were classmates, he pledged Delta Kappa Epsilon and made Phi Bete in his junior year. They were married at age 20 in order to have a short time together before Pritchett, an ROTC cadet colonel, was called to active duty with the infantry at Ft. Benning, Ga., and Ft. Knox, Ky. On emerging in 1959 as a first lieutenant, he joined his father's real estate insurance firm in Tuscaloosa and the Pritchetts' first two children were born there.

"Still, I had a mulling sense that there was something more and that was when my vocation shaped itself and crystallized," he says. "I loved all of Virginia Seminary, especially the stress on the Bible during the first year and introduction to biblical crit-

icism." Dean Pritchett did his clinical training at Washington General Hospital in Washington, and on Sundays was in charge of the children's service at Truro Parish in Fairfax, Va. In his first parish, St. Luke's, Birmingham, Ala., he was associate and then interim rector three years. As a rector at St. Thomas', Huntsville, Ala., 1967-75, he experienced "the most formative and wonderful years of my life, exciting and hard years of the new liturgy, integration on our doorsteps, the horrible assassinations — and, much more positively, the big positive point of having parishioners who were scientists working to get people on the moon — and they did it!"

Huntsville was 50 miles over mountainous roads from the School of Theology at Sewanee, and, after Dean Pritchett ran a seminar on parish education, Dean Terry Holmes convinced him to come aboard as full-time field director. The next four years were a time of creative growth and an excellent background for becoming archdeacon for the Diocese of Alabama.

Called to All Saints', Atlanta, over the next 16 years he saw the clergy staff grow from two to six while parishioners increased from 850 to 3,000.

During the New York sabbatical 11 years ago, the Pritchetts lived in a walk-up apartment owned by Trinity Church, Wall Street, in a busy area near the Fulton Street Seaport on the lower East Side, with several Sisters of St. Margaret softly singing their daily offices one floor below. The couple got off to a negative start when their car was riffled and damaged to the tune of almost \$1,000. He

Left: The Very Rev. Harry H. Pritchett, Jr., Dean of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, N.Y. and the Dalai Lama.

Bottom: President Nelson Mandela of South Africa, posing next to his stone portrait with Dean Pritchett.

Photos by Mary Bloom

was soon immersed in courses in the media, art, and art history at the New School for Social Research (including sketching of nude models) and long afternoons of reading in theology in the library of General Seminary.

Back home in Atlanta, more years fled across the calendar when, out of the blue, came an inquiry from the search committee for a new dean of St. John the Divine. One of its members, the Rt. Rev. Craig Anderson, reminded him that he'd said he wanted to do something different in the last part of his clerical career. "Well," said Bishop Anderson, "here it is, very different, indeed." During the next few months he made three trips to New York before being elected dean. He took office Feb. 1, 1997.

Perhaps the most consistent factor that carried over to Dean Pritchett's

new life in the city that he'd romanced is a thrice-weekly, six-mile run. In 1988, he'd raved at sunrises as viewed from the Brooklyn Bridge. Now he observes them from Central Park and along the Hudson River. The runs provide his most meditative time.

No two days are alike, he says. They bring visitors ranging from the Dalai Lama to

Nelson Mandela (he found his face carved in stone) to Hillary Clinton and her senatorial opponent, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

Guests come by the hundreds for the yearly Spirit of the City award and other dinners when the cathedral's nave is set up with round, candle-lit tables bedecked with crisp linen, silver, china and flowers. The high altar, glowing serenely beyond the choir, moved Harvard's chaplain, the Rev. Peter Gomes, to exclaim, "This is really the heavenly banquet!"

These and other events are reviewed at Tuesday staff meetings with a clergy staff of seven plus some or all of the administrative and program groups. The annual tab is \$8 million, according to an appeal in the nave, but Dean Pritchett has "pulled in the belt" to nearer \$7 million and depends heartily on corporate grants. There is little income from endowment.

In his short, highly readable book Morning Run: Sabbatical Reflections on the Church and the City (Susan Hunter Publishing, Atlanta), Dean Pritchett, like many clergy, brooded over not becoming a bishop (he was nominated in Alabama, Atlanta and North Carolina) or, as he put it in 1988, of being "more appointed than elected." But his destiny is to preside over Anglicanism's biggest cathedral and to participate in a program rivaling that of most dioceses.

He mentions with something approaching awe, a faded red line

was not the officiant.

Next day he preaches at the 11 o'clock choral Eucharist (one of the five Sunday services), holding forth from the pulpit for a disciplined 10 minutes with short pauses for resonance in the cavernous space. On weekdays he usually comes up on the rota to read Morning Prayer, celebrate one of the two Eucharists, or to officiate at Evening Prayer.

Sunshine streams in on rooms brightened even more by the Pritchetts' paintings in both pastels and striking color and silver-framed photographs of their burgeoning family. These include Harry III (Sonny), 42, who has a son and is a banker in Birmingham; Margaret, 39, who has a daughter and lectures in early child development at Georgia State; and Douglas, 35, a restaurateur and rock

"We can have faith that God continually seeks — that the center of the universe is out to find every one of us — even the president — even Kenneth Starr — that we all matter."

—The Very Rev. Harry Pritchett



where worshipers stand for communion in the hushed shadows of the cathedral. "Totally heterogeneous," he says proudly. "Black, white, yellow, old, young, straight and gay, American and foreign, regulars and tourists, blue jeans and T-shirts and suits."

On a summer Saturday, he trotted in loafers over a large area that included two services in the cathedral, and a three-hour observance of the 30th anniversary of Stonewall Inn—a landmark of gay liberation on the occasion of the bar's admittance to the National Register of Historic Places. There were also two weddings in which he'd had a hand but

musician in Washington.

"We can take heart, we can believe, we can have faith — the great faith that God continually seeks — that the center of the universe is out to find every one of us — even the president — even Kenneth Starr — that we all matter," Dean Pritchett said in a sermon. "That God won't rest until he finds us — broom in hand, flashlight pursing through the darkness, and only when we are all discovered and found, can there be wild and uninhibited joy, so that even the angels sing with the fullness of it."

The Rev. James B. Simpson is TLC's Washington correspondent.

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The Baptismal Covenant:

From a Rich Tradition
By Marc Collier

Several years ago I attended a retreat that began with the renewal of baptism as found in the baptismal covenant (BCP, p. 304). Since that time, I have deeply pondered and prayed our baptismal covenant, the questions asked and my response. The format is so structured and questions so challenging, applied to our journey through day-to-day life, that I frequently use this form as a daily "rule of life." The regularity of baptisms in our parish also gives me the frequent opportunity to renew my own responses to the questions.

Baptism is a significant sacrament and statement of our life and the life we hope to lead. It comes to us in a rite steeped in a rich tradition of a covenant people who took their faith, commitments, and relationship with God very seriously. Its roots came from the older, historic Jewish tradition (the most important baptismal event in history is Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River recorded in all four gospels). Christian baptism has a long history originating in the early church and becoming recognized as a formal sacrament by the third century. It is from this rich tradition that we can use the baptismal covenant daily as a foundation or "rule of life" within our families, at work, and at leisure.

The baptismal covenant comprises eight questions and corresponding answers. The first three questions — Do you believe in God the Father?, Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?, and Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? — are statements, proclamations of faith where we proclaim "I believe..." These first three questions clearly establish a foundation of belief and faith. It is only from this beginning and proclamation that we can proceed. If any element of the creed (our answer) is

not proclaimed affirmatively, then we cannot hope for strength and perseverance in upholding the obligation and commitment of the remaining five questions. These statements of a credal belief are quiescent, motionless, passive. They are the steady, static foundation from which to build our Christian life.

What is next is active. The remain-

The format is so structured and questions so challenging, applied to our journey through day-to-day life, that I frequently use this form as a daily "rule of life."

ing five questions demand something from us. They call us to live beyond a placid existence in the world. The questions are full of action verbs like seek, serve, persevere, resist, proclaim and strive. We are called to do something. Baptism asks us to live, not just exist; to act in the world, not just observe the world from a distance. So let us explore the implications of the remaining five questions. What do these questions mean in our everyday lives? How can we actively live out the answer: "I will with God's help"?

Will you continue in the apostles'

teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

Derived almost completely from Acts 2:42, the question is a reflection of activities of the early church. In this one question (a statement in Acts), we gain a profound sense of life at the very origin of the church. This question is multifaceted. We are

called to study the word of God. The early church gathered to study the proclamation of Jesus Christ as Savior. Historically, the apostles' teaching could have been a specific body of instruction, most probably about the life, miracles, teaching and salvation of Jesus Christ. So it is with this question following the creed that we are asked to continue in what we have already proclaimed believe: the apostles' teaching. In order for me to know Jesus, I must know what his friends knew of him.

And, as the early Christians gathered, so must we. We have great opportunities to do so at coffee after church, special church events, ordinations, or even small cell groups in our homes. Not only do we break bread at the

Eucharist, but also at potlucks, with our co-workers, cookouts, and anytime there are two or three gathered together in Jesus' name. Earlier in Acts (1:14) Luke describes the gathering of the apostles in the upper room when "they all joined together constantly in prayer..." How important it is for us all to engage daily in quiet prayer. We can gain so much strength by beginning our day much like Jesus did in quiet, remote, serene places. And, as the apostles prayed together, we too can pray with family, friends and co-workers.

Will you persevere in resisting

evil, and when you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

Evil surrounds us at every turn: TV, newspapers, the Internet. Our answer means we must take action to remain centered on Christ in our life, remembering that baptism is an opportunity for us to move from chaos to order, death to life, dark to light, condemnation to salvation. When we are baptized, we are for-

given and cleansed of the dirt of our inherent humanness. At that time, we also are asked to resist the temptations that come from the eminent exposure to evil and sin which sends us back into chaos and darkness. We must be steadfast in our home, at work, or on the soccer field. We must persevere in the faith. But, if we fall (which we most assuredly will), there is hope. God knows we are not perfect so by his grace and love, he gives us the opportunity to repent and return, actions of turning away from sin and moving toward him.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

The good news is that God sent "his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Wow! If you just had a baby, would you keep it a secret? What if your child just finished law school, would you hush it up? Or what if the Yankees just drafted your son? Would you tell anyone?

So what about proclaiming, shouting the fact that our sins are forgiven and we will spend an inordinate amount of time in paradise with God? I am not suggesting an offensive evangelizing technique. I am encouraging a way of life, focusing on the love of God. By proclaiming, I suggest sharing your salvation story in your family and at work. Tell your children (young and old), tell your

friends, tell your boss!

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? We can only love ourselves through understanding the sinfulness and frailty of our own spirit and praising God for his grace to forgive the "planks" we cannot see past in our own eye. We are called again into action — the action of love. Sometimes it is not easy to seek Christ in

The first three questions
[of the Bapismal Covenant]
enable us to be centered
on God, Jesus, and the Holy
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"I will, with God's help,"
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others. Our families get tense, our job is hard and demanding, life gets heavy. All this action is tiring. But we must be reminded that if we seek, God assures us we will find. And if I am constantly looking for Christ in the eyes of a 2-year-old, my spouse, the co-worker I can't get along with, or my boss who is always on my back, God assures me that I will live beyond myself and find him there. I

will find their hunger and thirst, serve them with love and it will be returned to me a hundred fold.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

As we ponder the last question of the baptismal covenant, we are asked to take ownership in a real and personal way for justice and peace. It is personal because we are asked to

strive for it in all persons. We are called to interact and intervene, to make decisions about truth. Close to home, respecting the dignity of our children means looking for better ways to discipline. Being the judge and jury carries a profound level of responsibility. The dignity we respect early in our children's lives will ensure dignity from them when they grow up.

The same applies to our work environment. You will rarely be faulted for having integrity and standing up for the truth. And, if you are, leave the company and find an employer that seeks employees whose standards are high, truthfulness and integrity valued.

It can only be through justice and peace that we live happy, productive lives. Dignity and respect are essential in our lives with others. This last question brings us full circle to basic truth. Out of chaos comes justice and peace and Jesus Christ, our Savior.

The baptismal covenant can be used daily as a "rule of life."

To live by the foundation of the proclamation of the first three questions enables us to be centered on God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. The last five questions challenge us to look at our daily encounters, and by answering all the questions with "I will, with God's help," we are prepared to live to a standard beyond our humanness.

Marc Collier is a member of All Saints' Church, Kansas City, Mo. He resides in Overland Park, Kan.

An Unassuming Bishop

The Desert Church, newspaper of the Diocese of Nevada, carried this interesting item about the Rt. Rev. Michael Garrison, who recently became Bishop of Western New York after moving from Nevada.

It seems a woman at a parish in Western New York saw a man she didn't know stroll in to a church before an evening service. He was dressed very casually and went directly to see the priest.

"Look at him," she said to another woman. "Another one of those guys asking for money!"

"That's not a homeless person," replied her friend. "That's our new bishop."

Bishop Garrison's "relaxed and informal manner has taken the eastern diocese by surprise," the newspaper

Emmanuel Church, Boston, presents a Bach cantata during its main service each Sunday.

manner has tak cese by surprise reported.

During his address to the convention of the Diocese of Olympia, the Rt. Rev. Vincent Warner, Bishop of Olympia, was recalling his consecration 10 years ago. He remembered that at the convention center there was a baptismal font "symbolizing the fact that the ministry for all of us comes from our baptism." Floating in that font was a rubber ducky.

"I found out later that a member of my past staff from Massachusetts, wanting to make sure I didn't take any of this too seriously, had added the duck to the font."

Someone sent me a copy of a clipping of an advertisement from the Toronto *Star.* There's no date on it (it may be years old) but it's still worth noting. The ad reads: "St. James' Cathedral, Toronto, 4:30 p.m. — Choral Heathensong."

As he normally does when he speaks, Archbishop Desmond Tutu got plenty of laughs during his recent appearance in South Dakota. He told of meeting a woman in San Francisco several years ago who ran up to greet him, waving her arms and shouting, "Hello, Archbishop Mandela."

"I sort of gave her two for the price of one," the archbishop cracked.

During his sermon at a memorial service for the late Bishop Gray Temple, the Rt. Rev. FitzSimons Allison told an amusing tale about his predecessor. He described Bishop Temple as "a high churchman without the fussiness of ritualism."

"When heckled by someone who confused

haberdashery with orthodoxy and asked why he didn't wear a mitre, he answered, 'I once tried one on in England and asked Maria (his wife) how I looked. She replied, 'Gray, you look like a half-born turtle'."

Bishop Dorsey Henderson of Upper South Carolina woke up one recent morning to a yard full of plastic flamingos. It was all in good fun. Young persons of St. David's Church, Columbia, provided the "service" as a fund raiser, and figured the bishop's house was a good target.

Nigel Renton, of Berkeley, Calif., noticed this item on the "master calendar" of the Diocese of

In San Francisco, a woman ran up to greet Archbishop Desmond Tutu, waving her arms and shouting, "Hello, Archbishop Mandela."





California: "Dec. 27 Christmas Day Observance."

"Evidently, St. John, Apostle and Evangelist, is being 'bumped' by his Master!," Mr. Renton quipped. Apparently, what it means is the diocesan staff got an extra day off following Christmas Day.

The license-plate watch: I spotted FTHFUL, MY GOD 2, JSUS ROX, WAIT4HIM and MT 13 38. At the Diocese of West Missouri's convention, I saw FR-BILL, FR BRAD and ST ALBN. News editor Judi Amey saw 2 GOD IO and music editor Patricia Nakamura saw SNG PRAS and HSGRACE.

Ray Hester, of Mobile, Ala., reports TASTNC, and the Rev. McAlister C. Marshall, of Bowling Green, Va., sends photos of PSLM23-2 and HES ALIV, which he saw parked across the street from an elementary school. "I suspect the teachers communicate their faith in spite of laws forbidding their articulating of it," he writes

Note to the nice woman who called our office but wouldn't leave her name: Labor Day never has been in the American prayer book. Neither is Memorial Day.

David Kalvelage, executive editor

Quote of the Week

Did You Know...

Fr. Aidan Mayoss, C.R., on the need for the Church of England to find more monks and nuns: "The pond we draw from is now a puddle."

Concern for Small Churches

It is encouraging to note the church paying an increasing amount of attention to small congregations. Given the fact that the Episcopal Church is composed primarily of small churches (those under 150 communicants), it is wise to be turning in this direction.

In recent months, episcopal elections in dioceses which have a sizable number of small churches have had at least one candidate with small-church experience. In Western New York, delegates to the electing convention chose the Rev. J. Michael Garrison, a regional vicar working with small congregations in the Diocese of Nevada. Eastern Oregon, a diocese in which small churches predominate, elected the Rev. Alexander James MacKenzie [TLC, Dec. 26], who also has small-church experience.

Elsewhere, various programs have been held and continue to be scheduled for members of smaller congregations, including the highly successful Leadership Program for Musicians Serving Small Congregations. In many places, members of smaller congregations are being elected to various diocesan offices.

Providing clergy leadership in small congregations continues to be a major issue in many dioceses. Because these congregations are small, their budgets are often not large enough for them to provide stipend and benefits for a full-time priest. Such arrangements as part-time clergy leadership, yoking of congregations and the ordaining of Canon 9 priests provide the answer in some places, and are unsatisfactory in others.

While some of the church's greatest problems and most urgent needs are in these smaller churches, these congregations also present wonderful opportunities for pastoral ministry, stewardship and evangelism. The development of more specialized ministries and programs for smaller congregations should be encouraging to all who care about the future of the church.

Baptism: Unity with Jesus

When we celebrate the baptism of our Lord on the Sunday after the Epiphany, we celebrate an event in his life which is also an event in our lives. We unite ourselves to Jesus in this holy sacrament, just as he was baptized in the Jordan River to unite himself to our humanity. In celebrating the baptism of Jesus, the church continues what has been, historically, an important part of the Epiphany observance. In the ancient churches, baptism was the main emphasis of the Epiphany and was a major celebration.

Baptism is the church's most basic sacrament, for all the others are intended for baptized people within the baptized community. It is not just something that happens to babies, nor is it something which comes and goes. Baptism is the foundation of our entire life in the church. Each of us is baptized once; then we live the rest of our lives as baptized people. This, of course, is worth celebrating, and what better time than when we celebrate the baptism of our Lord?



Peter loved his new Fitzhugh & Swell car air freshener ... **now with more frankingense!**

makes a sincere and serious attempt to graph of Article XXVI states that, "it address the issue of a potential division appertaineth to the discipline of the within the Episcopal Church on the Church, that inquiry be made of evil basis of one of the Anglican "title Ministers, deeds." It is unfortunate that his effort accused by those that have knowledge does very little to clarify the genuine of their offences; and finally, being issues involved.

Fr. Aldrich misrepresents the position of those of us who advocate breaking sacramental communion with the teachers of false doctrine within the Episcopal Church as Donatism. He clearly assumes that we believe that the sacraments which such ministers dispense are invalidated by their errors. We believe no such thing. The technical validity of the sacramental ministrations of such ministers, provided they are lawfully ordained, can safely be conceded, and no one I know denies it.

But validity isn't a sufficient condition for sharing sacramental communion, as our own historic practice demonstrates: Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox sacraments are valid, but that does not equate to our being in communion with those churches. Just ask them! Sacramental communion depends not just on validity, but on a mutual recognition that the persons and institutions sharing communion also share the same faith.

What is really at issue for us is the extent to which we, by availing ourselves of the ministrations of heterodox bishops, give a legitimacy or found guilty, by just judgment be tolerability to their errors. For the deposed." parish clergy among us, we must consider our charge to "banish and drive is no reasonable probability that the away from the Church all erroneous House of Bishops will exercise its and strange doctrines contrary to God's responsibility to administer discipline Word" — a charge which carries no upon its erring members. In such a disexceptions for those clothed with the ciplinary vacuum, the responsibility purple. When the episcopal shepherd for doing so devolves upon the faithful has become a wolf, when he has gone clergy and laity, who usually can exerfrom feeding to feeding upon the flock, cise discipline only by refusing sacrawhen the crook on his crozier has mental fellowship to purveyors of become not a reference to his office but falsehood and by refusing to fund mina description of his character, then istries which are destructive both of what real choice has the parish pastor faith and of the faithful. (I am aware of but to openly resist his incursion into no moral requirement that we must the life of his congregation?

Fr. Aldrich's assertion that "conservable hung.) tives have little or no ground to oppose

n his Viewpoint article, "Whatever diocesan bishops with dubious theol-Happened to Article XXVI?" [TLC, ogy from officiating in their parishes" Oct. 31] the Rev. Kenneth Aldrich is simply not true. The second paraand that



When the Shepherd **Becomes a Wolf**

By Samuel L. Edwards

As Fr. Aldrich himself admits, there pay for the rope from which we are to

The effect of Fr. Aldrich's argument

is to set institutional unity over biblical truth in the hierarchy of Christian values. This is a dangerous argument for an Anglican to make, given the history of our church. But beyond that, it is an argument which has no support in the tradition and practice of the catholic church during its first centuries of life: Fr. Aldrich correctly points out that "in the middle of the 4th century ... the majority of important sees were occupied by Arians ... The church survived by God's grace." However, he fails to point out that the grace of God which sustained the church through the Arian crisis was habitually manifested in the willingness of the orthodox faithful (exemplified by the likes of Athanasius) to break communion with the heretics and to sustain sacramental separation until they were reconciled to the catholic and apostolic

"Are we facing a greater crisis now than then?" asks Fr. Aldrich.

Probably not, but in all too many cases we are not dealing with it with nearly the degree of theological, practical, and yes, pastoral integrity that it was dealt with then. The parish priest who assumes that it does no great harm to let his erring bishop come to celebrate and preach every now and again (since he himself has the ear of the congregation for most of the time) is not considering that his doing so speaks far more effectively than any words he might utter about the bishop's doctrinal errors in a class or a sermon or in a coffee-hour conversation. What his action says, in the end, is that revealed truth is not of ultimate significance — what is really important is just getting along and maintaining the tranquility of the parish. After all, it's only a pinch of incense ... The fact is that, until romantic sentimentality began to take the place of theological thought, the consistent practice of the church's faithful was to break communion with those who taught false doctrine and promoted ungodly life. If we are not willing to follow this pattern, how can we hope to convince the heterodox of the seriousness both of our commitment to orthodoxy and of their departure from it? How can we credibly claim to be



How willing are we to defy the institution when its orders are to surrender the faith and to desert the Lord?

traditional Christians if we will not act in accordance with the tradition? How, indeed, can we claim to stand for the renewal of orthodox Christianity within the Episcopal Church if we will not ourselves act like orthodox Christians, standing for the truth without regard to the institutional consequences? How willing are we to dig a pit for the cross when we know that we are likely to be nailed to it ourselves?

How willing are we to defy the institution when its orders are to surrender the faith and to desert the Lord, or at least to stay quiet and keep our purses open while it causes others to do so?

As any parent knows, merely pointing out to errant children that they are doing wrong rarely does any good unless it is backed up by the certainty that there will be clear sanctions for not ceasing to misbehave. The absence of willingness to impose such sanctions merely enables their continued misbehavior and instills in them a contempt for their parents.

If we really want the restoration of genuinely traditional Christian faith and life, then we have to be willing to do the genuinely traditional Christian thing: That means breaking communion with the doctrinally and morally heterodox and not restoring it until they have repented of their errors. \square

The Rev. Samuel L. Edwards is executive director of Forward in Faith, North America.

The Prime Sponsor

The article "God's Ebony People" [TLC, Dec. 19] reported that the Transformation and Renewal Conference held at Kanuga Conferences was sponsored by the Office of Black Ministries and the Union of Black Episcopalians. This is only partially true

In fact, the principal sponsor was Kanuga Conferences. The conference was conceived and planned by the Diversity Development Committee of the board of directors of Kanuga Conferences. Bishop Frank Turner and Delois Ward, conference coordinators, are members of that committee and are also members of Kanuga's board of directors. They proposed the conference to Kanuga's which enthusiastically endorsed it. The Office of Black Ministries and the Union of Black Episcopalians were then invited to join as co-sponsors.

Kanuga Conferences also provided significant scholarship support, well beyond the usual offering for a Kanuga-sponsored conference.

It was a highly successful conference, but in all fairness, Kanuga Conferences, its Diversity Development Committee, and its board of directors must be given credit for the original idea and for much of the work toward its successes.

One more thing: The photo was taken by Cecil Patterson.

Albert Gooch, Jr.
President, Kanuga Conferences
Hendersonville, N.C.

The Real Date

I guess I need to let off a little steam, and as Dec. 31 gets closer I'm doing it more often.

An editorial states that at Y2K we will be celebrating 2,000 years of Christianity [TLC, Dec. 26]. While I don't know what year #1 was intended to designate — i.e. Jesus'

birth, the beginning of Christianity or what? — I do know that on Dec. 31, 1999, we will have completed 1,999 of those years, not yet 2,000 years. Midnight Dec. 31, 2000, is when we should celebrate the end of the millennium and the beginning of the new (the third) millennium which begins Jan. 1, 2001. I believe that most would understand that the first year of the common era began on Jan. 1, 1. In light of this, it would be wonderful if you would have another year of the Shapers of the Church series. It's been a good one.

Sue Lloyd Madison Wis.

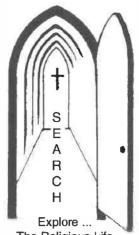
Greatest Boast

The commentary on the readings for Advent 4 [TLC, Dec. 19] states:

"Mary, next to Jesus certainly the most loved person in all history and our race's greatest boast, quietly and apparently without a qualm accepts her unique place in God's plan, and sets the standard of fidelity to which all others must aspire, but none can ever surpass."

Perhaps I interpreted it wrong, but would it not be better to say Jesus is "our race's greatest boast" not Mary? Jesus was, after all, fully of our race. I suggest Jesus "sets the standard of fidelity to which all others must aspire, but none can ever surpass," not Mary. Even Mary's humble submission, "Let it be with me according to your word," only points to a greater act of submission: "Nevertheless, not my will, but thine." To say otherwise seems to suggest that Jesus was not really, fully one of us, after all — not of "our race." The church highly esteems Mary and her witness, rightly so. But Jesus is "our race's greatest boast."

> (The Rev.) Michael G. Moore St. John's Church Worcester, Mass.



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PEOPLE & PLACES

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The Rev. **Benhail Praveen Bunyan** is rector of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 4740 S Buckley Rd., Aurora, CO 80015.

The Rev. **Robert Burton** is rector of St. Luke the Physician, 12355 SW 104th St., Miami, FL 33186.

The Rev. **Jeffrey Calder** is assistant at St. Francis', 399 San Fernando Way, San Francisco. CA 94127.

The Rev. **Sam Clarke** is rector of St. Joseph of Arimathea, 103 Country Club Dr., Hendersonville, TN 37075.

The Rev. Mary Page Curtis is assistant at Emmanuel, 350 E Massachusetts Ave., Southern Pines, NC 28387.
The Rev. Ronald Peak is priest in charge

The Rev. Ronald Peak is priest in charge of St. Peter's, 800 Center St., Key West, FL 33040.

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Alabama – Marc Burnette, Trinity, Florence, Ruth B. LaMonte, Grace Church, Birmingham

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Change of Address

The Rev. **John R. Steiper**, SSC, 7 Fernwood Dr., Barrington Hills, IL 60010-9675.

Deaths

The Rev. **Samuel W. Hale, Jr.**, died Dec. 7, at Cheshire Medical Center, Keene, NH, He was 72.

Fr. Hale was a native of Wellsville, NY. He was a graduate of Bowdoin College and Yale Divinity School. He was ordained deacon and priest in 1953. He served as assistant at Memorial Church, Baltimore, MD, 1953-56; as rector of St. John's, Athol, MA, 1957-62; as rector of Grace Church, Elmira, NY, 1962-76; as rector of Christ Church, Fitchburg, MA, 1976-81; and as rector of St. James the Fisherman, Islamorada, FL, and chaplain at the Chapel in Ocean Reef, FL, 1981-89. Fr. Hale is survived by his wife, Jessie (Taylor), five sons, William, Daniel, Rufus, Whitney, and Joseph, two daughters, Betsey and Jessie, a brother, the Rev. William M. Hale, and a sister, Margaret H. Kunhardt.

Send your clergy changes to P&P:

tlc@livingchurch.org P.O. Box 514036, Mlwaukee, WI 53203-3436 Fax (414) 276-7483

Next week...
Differing Gifts
of Lutherans

Epiphany Meditation #2

Lk 2: The Boy Jesus in the Temple

And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

and not knowing what news will come next.

When it finally dawns on them that he is gone it is as if the whole world suddenly stops spinning and by inertial force the seas roar and crash beyond their shores and the mountains burst and the trees rip free from their moorings and whirl into the air in a towering cascade of dirt and debris

and the sound is like no sound, or like a groan echoing from everywhere, from deep down and from inside-out, all at once, and it's as if they'd stopped breathing, and they spin around in their tracks and leave everything behind, everything, because there is no experience like it, you know, like losing a child

And even when they do find him and begin to breathe again there is something that remains of their anxiety, the full adrenaline pulse through the system, as if though they hold him close and squeeze him in their arms and smell the smell of his hair again they can't be sure they've really got him, or that he won't still, somehow, slip away.

- Bruce Monroe Robison

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REFER TO KEY ON PAGE 19

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Kent State Univ. Kent CHRIST CHURCH 118 S. Mantua St. The Rev. Robert T. Brooks, r 673-4604 Sun 8 & 10, 5 (Canterbury Club Eucharist). Wed H Eu 11:30. Bob Brooks@awis.com http://www.ne-ohio.net/cckent

PENNSYLVANIA

Lehigh Univ. Bethlehem CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY (610)) 865-0727 The Very Rev. William B. Lane 321 Wyandotte S' Sun H Eu 8, 10:30, Wed H Eu with anointing 9:30, Sat H Eu 5, 321 Wyandotte St. Dally Office 9, 12, 5 wkdys. World Wide Web: http://www.nativitycathedral.org

Susquehanna Univ. Selinsgrove ALL SAINTS' 129 N. Market (717) 374-8289 Sun Mass 9:30. Weekdays as anno

Univ. of Pennsylvania Philadelphia ST. MARY'S 3916 Locust Walk (215) 386-3916 The Rev. James H. Littrell, chap stmarvshv@aol.com Sun Eu 8, 11, 10:10. Tues, Thurs Eu 12:15, Wed Eu 6. Canterbury Club 2d Sun 4 meal

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WASHINGTON

Univ. of Washington Seattle CHRIST CHURCH—Canterbury 4548 Brooklyn Ave. NE, Seattle 98105 **The Rev. Mary Shehané,** chap Sun H Eu 8, 10, 11:30. Wed 11:30, **7.** Program Wed **8.** Sun 6:30 H Eu. (206) 633-1611. E-mail: marvshehane@msn.com

The College Services Directory is published in all January and September issues of THE LIVING CHURCH.

To the Clergy:

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The churches and chaplains listed in this directory welcome the names of students. Don't forget to write the students providing them with the names and addresses of the churches and clergy serving the area.

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ASSISTANT RECTOR, Memphis, TN. The Church of the Holy Communion in Memphis, TN, is seeking an approachable, enthusiastic preacher and teacher for our large suburban parish. Primary responsibilities would be young adults, newcomers and outreach ministries. Experience of 5 to 10 years with strong organizational and program development skills. Interested persons should send their resume to: Search Committee, 3607 Cowden Ave., Memphis, TN 38111.

RECTOR, Transfiguration, Dallas, TX. Transfiguration, a caring, diverse family, seeks a leader for its suburban church who will continue our tradition of excellence in worship, liturgy, music and sermons. As the fourth largest parish of the Dallas diocese, with 60% of our communicants under age 50, we seek to improve Christian education and youth programs. Interested applicants must be committed to our active, healthy, lay ministries. A progressive parish in this diocese, we were the first to ordain a woman, and we are responsive to contemporary social issues. A blue-ribbon pre-K through 6th grade parish day school is an important component of the parish. Please send letter of interest by February 1 to: Search Committee, c/o R. Jack Ayres, Esquire, 4350 Beltway Dr., Addison, TX 75001.

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THE CHAPEL HILL REGION NEW CHURCH PLANTING COMMITTEE of the Diocese of North Carolina seeks a priest called to plant a new and dynamic congregation in a fast-growing suburban area of Chapel Hill with the goals of empowering a laity-driven ministry and becoming self-sufficient in 3-5 years. Must be very motivated, have a heart for the unchurched and for extending ministry out into the community. Contact: The Rev. Stephen Elkins-Williams, Search Committee Chair, Chapel of the Cross, 304 E. Franklin St., Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

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

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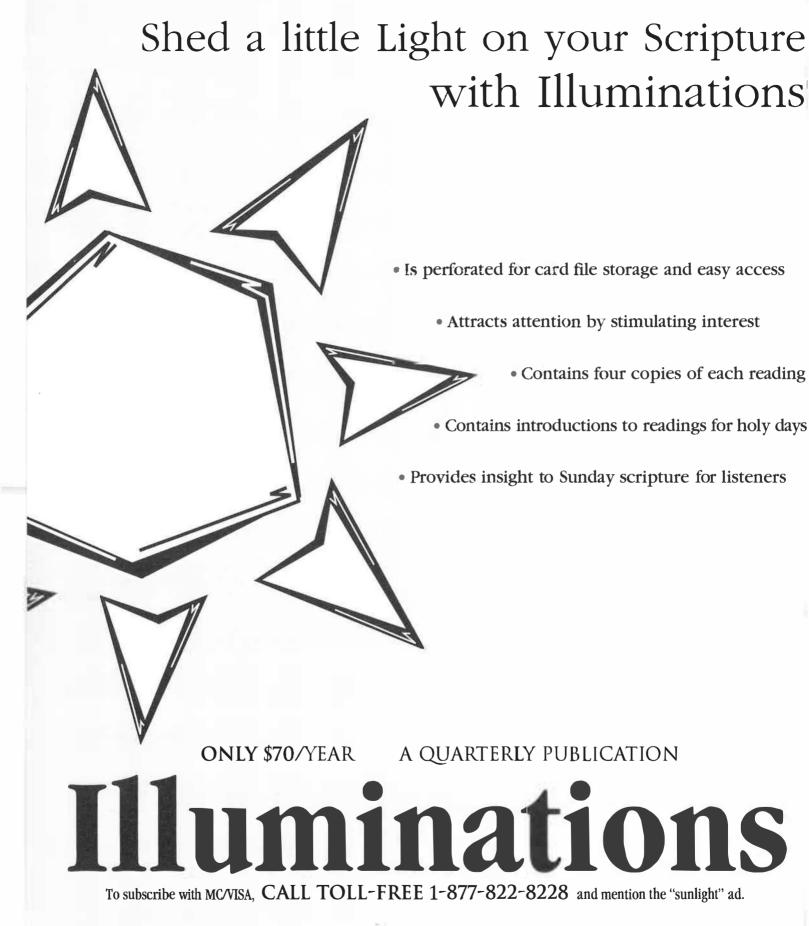
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