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horne Crafton

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LIVING CHURCH

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

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The Cover

The four authors of the gospel were among a number of stained-glass windows recently installed in the chapel at Episcopal High School in Jacksonville, Fla. The original designs were

created by Maureen McGuire of Phoenix, Ariz., and were assembled in Germany from hand-blown glass by Derix Glasstudios in Taunusstein. Each apostle is identified by a symbol with which he has come to be associated: the winged man in the Matthew window symbolizes Christ's humanity; the lion below Mark represents Christ's royal lineage; the ox in the Luke window symbolizes Christ's servanthood and the eagle below John represents Christ's glory.

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SUNDAY'S READINGS

Love Proven in the Test

'I give you a new commandment' (John 13:34).

The Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 9, 2004

Acts 13:44-52 or Lev. 19:1-2,9-18; Psalm 145 or 145:1-9; Rev. 19:1,4-9 or Acts 13:44-52: John 13:31-35

More than halfway through the Easter season, today's gospel plunges us back into the night of the Last Supper. Only a few hours before his passion will begin, Jesus brings up three points to the disciples who remain at the table with him after Judas has left. Judas' departure sets irrevocably in motion those events that will lead to Jesus' arrest, and Jesus states that "now the Son of Man has been glorified" (John 13:31).

Next, Jesus tells the disciples that he is going to a place where they cannot follow him - that is, to condemnation and death — though they will follow later, as Jesus states a little later in John 13:36.

Finally, following up on these two portentous declarations, Jesus commands the faithful eleven to love each other. They are to do so by following the example Jesus set by loving them, and also as a testimony so that "everyone will know that you are my disciples" (13:35). It is astonishing to realize that Jesus speaks these words after one of the twelve has left the table to betray him to those who seek his life, and when he faces a night of indescribable torment that will culminate in the public spectacle of his agonizing death. Of all those involved in the events - Judas, the other disciples, the Jewish leaders, the Roman government, the general populace engaged in celebrating the Passover - only Jesus at this time knows that his death is certain. And in that certainty, he commands his followers to love each other. Clearly he speaks of a love that cannot possibly be mere sentiment or emotion, no matter how powerful. It is a love stronger than betrayal and death.

This kind of love is built on a fourdation of the absolutes of God's sovereignty. This is why Jesus describes the betrayal by Judas as his "glorification." Similarly, the command at the end of the lesson in Leviticus - "you shall love your neighbor as yourself - is the culmination of a list of details about behavior that enjoins justice upon the citizens. That is, it is acts, not feelings, that are commanded. This is so important that Jesus adds it to his answer when asked which is the greatest commandment. Then he puts this teaching into action "on the night he was betraved" in this triumph of invincible love in the face of hatred.

Look It Up

With today's lessons in mind, read 1 Corinthians 13. Look through and beyond its familiarity and find something new in this well-known and beloved passage.

Think About It

Identify the followers of Jesus who are most attractive or convincing in your life. Is it not true that they are those who are most truly loving, rather than those who are perhaps mostly sentimental about Jesus?

Next Sunday

The Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 16, 2004

Acts 14:8-18 or Joel 2:21-27; Psalm 67; Rev. 21:22-22:5 or Acts 14:8-18; John 14:23-29



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BOOKS

Image and Spirit Finding Meaning in Visual Art

By Karen Stone. Augsburg Fortress. Pp. 192. \$16.99. ISBN 0806645504.

The premise of Karen Stone's book is wonderful: how to look at art, to understand and to appreciate what



one is looking at and, hopefully, to feel what the artist is trying to say to us. The role of communication between the artist and the viewer is a very important one. The author puts together the tools to help us understand what

the artist has put before us.

As a photographer, I want to be able to reach my audience, to make a connection with others. I want my viewers to feel as I feel. Karen Stone understands that artists have always wanted to communicate with their viewers. She also understands the confusion that happens when one is first exposed to the arts of all kinds from all ages — the feeling of "I don't get this," "what was the artist thinking?," and the frustration of "why must I look at this?" She has provided us with suggestions to help with this confusion.

Unfortunately, I found it difficult to read this book because there seems to be no order or cohesion. I had the feeling that perhaps her class teaching notes and her file cards were just put on pages and printed, with very little editing.

> Anne Wetzel Mt. Desert, Maine

Seeking Paradise

By Thomas Merton. Selected and edited by Paul M. Pearson. Orbis. Pp. 144. \$24. ISBN 1-57075-501-9.

The editor of this book brings together passages from a variety of sources that reveal Thomas Merton's interest in the Shakers: publications, correspondence, personal notes and lectures. While the casual reader of Merton's works quickly becomes

(Continued on next page)

COWLEY PUBLICATIONS

A MINISTRY OF THE SOCIETY OF SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST



On Being a Priest Today

Rosalind Brown and Christopher Cocksworth This important book on pastoral identity embraces many contemporary varieties of ministry: male and female, paid and unpaid, parish and work-based, catholic, evangelical, charismatic. Essential reading for those in ministerial roles, leaders in training, and everyone considering the ordained ministry.



Trustworthy Connections

Interpersonal Issues in Spiritual Direction Anne Winchell Silver

Silver offers a comprehensive and practical exploration of the many issues surrounding successful spiritual direction. An invaluable resource for directors, directees, and anyone wanting to learn more about this important area of pastoral care.



God of Dirt: Mary Oliver and the Other Book of God Thomas W. Mann

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for American Primitive, Mary Oliver has published twelve books of poetry and five books of essays. In this engaging study, Mann shows Oliver to have keen eyes and ears for reading the book of nature. God of Dirt is an important study of a contemporary poet whose work is as likely to be read by a preacher in a pulpit as by an activist at an environmental rally.



Incarnation

New and Selected Poems for Spiritual Direction Irene Zimmerman

Zimmerman's scripturally-based poetry has been read from pulpits, savored by individuals, and served as the focus of many discussion groups. *Incarnation* restores to print the poems from Zimmerman's popular *Woman Un-Bent*, and includes more than four dozen new and selected poems on scriptural themes.

This Far by Grace

A Bishop's Journey Through Questions About Homosexuality J. Neil Alexander

In August 2003, the legislative body of the Episcopal Church confirmed the election by the Diocese of New Hampshire of the church's first openly gay bishop, V. Gene Robinson. Bishop Alexander was a participant in that vote. The experience compelled him to share with others his journey through issues of homosexuality and the church, offering a personal view of his changing perspective—from exclusion to acceptance.

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A PRIEST'S JOURNAL OF HOPE: God and 9/11 by Philip C. Linder



Religion/Christianity ISBN 0-595-30413-3 6" x 9" Softcover, 76 pages \$10.95

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Philip Linder, Dean of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia, South Carolina, holds a Master's from General Theological Seminary and a Doctorate from Columbia Seminary. As a priest for 18 years, Linder has become a noted teacher of spiritual life with a passion for art, teaching, and writing.



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> - The Very Rev. James E. Carroll, D.D., Retired, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, San Diego, CA



Fr. Bart Sarjeant, #1 Santa Cruz Avenue, San Anselmo, CA 94960

BOOKS

(Continued from previous page)

aware of the multifaceted nature of his spirituality, he or she might no: realize how taken Merton was with the similarity between the Shaker tra-

dition and his own as a Trappist. The first chapter ("Seeking Paradise: Thomas Merton and the Shakers") is a relatively lengthy introduction by the editor. Paul Pearson



not only extracts from Merton's writings, but integrates these passages with Merton's deep dedication to the roots of Cistercian monasticism.

Merton showed a particular interest in the Shaker village at Pleasant Hill Ky., and took many photographs there. a number of which are reproduced in the book. There is an entire chapter on the Pleasant Hill community — its history, values, work ethic, and worship A chapter originally written as an introduction to Edward Deming Andrews' *Religion in Wood: A Book of Shaker Furniture*, comes across as somewhat esoteric unless one is a devotee of William Blake.

The book seems to be best read as individual chapters. An extensive bibliography provides resources for further delving. Readers interested in Merton, traditional monasticism, or simplicity of living should be pleased with this book.

> Mariana Keene Milwaukee, Wis.

Labyrinths

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Walking Toward the Center By Gernot Candolini. Crossroad. Pp. 160.

\$16.95. ISBN 0824521021.

Gernot Candolini's book titled Labyrinths: Walking Toward the Center begins as a gentle travel guide. He and his wife, Uli, quit their jobs. placed their possessions in storage. and with their 2-year-old daughter set out in their trailer, their only plan to explore the labyrinths of Europe. Each brief chapter is focused on a specific labyrinth. Its shape is hand drawn in the text along with a statement that imparts wisdom about walking the path of life followed by a brief text

faith is contagious."

that tells more about the labyrinth and reflections about their trip.

Gernot Candolini is an Austrian and writes in German. His entry and interest in the labyrinth comes



from the early work of Hermann Kern, a German whose early research in the late '70s and early '80s led to the European branch of the labyrinth revival occurring in the West.

At times the author seems to confuse labyrinths and mazes in that some illustrations are clearly mazes designed as a game to confuse you rather than a single path labyrinth designed to help you find your way. That aside, this is a gentle and insightful book that serves as a guide to both labyrinths and our spiritual path.

> (The Rev. Canon) Lauren Artress San Francisco, Calif.

Pilgrims in the Kingdom Travels in Christian Britain

By David Douglas and Deborah Douglas. Upper Room. Pp. 256. \$17. ISBN 0-8358-9872-5.

Pilgrims in the Kingdom offers spiritual reflections written from 16 of the most significant Christian sites in the United Kingdom. Using personal observations and thoughts with auotes from poetry. sermons. hymnody and placement in history, the authors share their knowledge of places and people who have influenced them, kneeling in those places "where prayer has been valid." Deborah Douglas, an Episcopal laywoman trained in English literature and spiritual direction, writes on the spiritual life and reaches a wide readership in journals and magazines. David Douglas is a writer and president of the non-profit organization Waterlines, which provides drinking water to rural villages in developing countries.

The book is beautifully written and well researched. Their descriptions of sites enable one to recall places visited or whet the desire to visit. The Introduction explains what motivated

them to write the book which has yielded them a wide view of the Church in the world and a clearer perspective of their own calling. Each author writes in his/her own voice as they ventured out singly in their travels to these sites.



The chapters are in chronological order according to the time period of the person most closely associated with the site. Beautiful black and white photos by Joan Myers enhance each chapter, and a map of the United Kingdom is included.

"Travel Notes" gives the reader information on location, access, times, background book titles, envi-

(Continued on next page)



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BOOKS

(Continued from previous page)

rons, web sites/phone numbers for each site. It is an invaluable resource for aid in planning a visit as a pilgrim or tourist. To read this work is to be on a holy pilgrimage, one that widens our horizons and expands our hearts. This paperback of spiritual reflections would be a valued gift.

> (The Rev.) Mariyne J. Seymour Delavan, Wis

That's A Keeper

By H. Norman Wright. Bethany House. Pp. 262. ISBN 0-7642-2550-2.

This is a book essentially about bass and fishing for bass. It is gentle reading, clearly written and easily understood. One does not have

to wonder what the author is trying to get across. This is a complete book of bass fishing and a choice gift for a bass fisherman.



H.NORMA'N ST

Tucked away toward the end of most chapters and based on scripture, the author offers spiritual insights or shares the light of scrip-

tural truth with clear references to life situations. It is refreshing to read positive, clear, orthodox use of the word of God. Norman Wright does it in a gentle, caring manner in almost a bythe-way style - never pushy but kindly and interesting.

(The Rev. Canon) Bill Lester Fort Myers, Fla.

A Losson of Love

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The Revelations of Julian of Norwich Unabridged

Translated and Appointed for Daily Reading by Father John-Julian, OJN. Writers Club. Pp. 285, \$21.95, ISBN 0-595-26246-5,

The Essence of Julian A Paraphrase of Julian of Norwich's **Revelations of Divine Love**

By Ralph Mitton. Northstone. Pp. 126. \$15.95 ISBN 1-896836-52-6.

The medieval English mystic Julian of Norwich has never been as popular as she is today. Versions of her Revelations of Divine Love keep appearing. as do books and articles about her



spirituality. Thomas Merton says, **"Julian** is without doubt one of the **most** wonderful of all Christian **voices."** Herbert O'Driscoll declares **that** she is "not only a great lady of the **past**; she is also a great woman in our **future."**

Part of what makes this Julian renaissance remarkable is that the *Revelations of Divine Love* is not an easy book to read. Two of her editors, Edmund Colledge and James Walsh, freely admit that "Julian is tough going!"

Another, John-Julian, finds the text "daunting in the alien density and convolutions of its literary presentation, in its countless unattributed pronouns, its arcane internal referencing, and its obscurely technical theological language." Thankfully, John-Julian and Ralph Mitton have come to the rescue by producing markedly accessible versions of the *Revelations*.

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Father John-Julian, founder of the Episcopal Church's Order of Julian of Norwich, provides the entire text in a fresh translation divided into 195 portions, each a page or two in length, and set forth in sense lines. This arrangement encourages slow. thoughtful, prayerful reading. His exceptionally valuable introduction deals with the book's major themes and explains why this medieval mystic speaks so powerfully to our own time: Julian invites us past fundamentalism and rationalism to "the rediscovery of the ungualified and transcendent love of God."

Ralph Mitton, a Canadian storyteller and author, offers a paraphrase and condensation featuring page-long passages based on the accepted chapter divisions. His English is remarkably smooth and clear. The introduction recounts the story of Julian's life.

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BOOKS

(Continued from previous page)

Resources are listed that can help readers better understand the mysta and her times. Mitton has published a novel on Julian's life, Julian's Cell [TLC, Oct. 5] and is host to an on-line discussion group, also called Julian's Cell.

Mitton's edition is to Julian what the Contemporary English Version is to the Bible. John-Julian's edition resembles the New Revised Standard Version. Each meets a need. May each gain a large and enthusiastic readership.

(The Very Rev.) Charles Hoffacker Port Huron, Mich

Who Are You, My Daughter?

Reading Ruth Through image and Text By Ellen F. Davis and Margaret Adams Parker. Westminster John Knox. Pp. 123. \$19.95. ISBN 0664223745.

The more sensually engaged, the more we appreciate and experience the scriptures. While the biblical story engages our verbal perceptions, images from the story capture



our visual sensibilities. Margaret Adams Parker's woodcuts invite the reader of Who Are You, My Daughter? Reading Ruth Through Image and Text to pause and enter the story meditatively. Her woodcuts providea visual biblical commentary that deepens our experience of the Book of Ruth. Through a series of images generated from the artist's dwelling in and responding to the text translated by Ellen F. Davis, the reader/viewer is beckoned into the story of suffering, loss and redemption. Parker's images present the story of Ruth in a way that is refreshing, gentle, and strong; and at the same time, disturbing of our familiar storvbook images.

The author and the illustrator have taken a format normally relegated to children's books and reoriented it to expand our "understanding of the processes of reading and interpreting a biblical book." The reader is given the narrative with independently whole images, and enough practical reflection in note form to cast the Book of Ruth in an open and satisfying way. Unhurried reading and sitting with this book will yield its riches, just as it did for the translator and the illustrator in their collaborative effort.

> Barbara Baumgarten Kalispell, Mont.

The Psalms

Strophic Structure and Theological Commentary

By Samuel Terrien. Eerdmans. Pp. 971. \$95. ISBN 0-8028-2605-9.

This prodigious work by Samuel Terrien has its source in both his long years spent in scholarly study and teaching of the psalms and his deep passion for them emanating from his roots in the French Reformed faith. At the time of his death in 2001 at the age of 90, Terrien was the Davenport Professor Emeritus of Hebrew and Cognate Languages at Union Theological Seminary in New York. Unlike his first work in 1952, *The Psalms and Their Meaning for Today*, intended solely for lay readers, this work is directed to both scholars and general readers.

In his Preface, Terrien names three tasks for the exegete of the psalms. They include clarifying obscurities in the text and articulating its theological significance, analyzing each psalm's strophic structure, and, perhaps most challenging, finding a connection between their "archaic language and the intellectual demands of modern thinking and spirituality." In hopes of accomplishing these tasks, he created a new and more accurate translation of the psalms, incorporating modern scholarship. He states clearly that poetically his translations in no way match those of the King James or Coverdale works.

The Introduction provides essential background information for the gen-

eral reader on such topics as the ancient origins in Near Eastern culture and ecumenicity of the psalms; the Psalter's growth from diverse elements into a book of 150 hymns and prayers known to Greek transla-



tors as early as the third century B.C.E.; the music of the psalms; their strophic structure; their literary genres; their theology; and the psalms and the New Testament.

The format used in the main body of this work lends itself readily to con-

(Continued on next page)



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BOOKS

(Continued from previous page)

sideration of any particular aspect of a psalm. Following the text itself is an extensive bibliography, then a section on the form.

Next comes his Commentary, in which strophe by strophe the author provides the psalm's theme, analysis of certain key words, its geographical, political and/or historical context, its purpose — prayer, praise, supplication, etc. The concluding section, Date and Theology, often presents the problems of dating as well as drawing the theological and stylistic relationship of one psalm with another.



AN ANTHOLOGY OF THE WRITINGS OF JOHN DONNE

> Compiled and edited by JOHN MOSES

JOHN DONNE'S enormous legacy to English literature is of equal significance in prose and poetry, in writings both religious and secular. Most people, however, are familiar only with Donne's poetry; his pro e remains largely unknown. One Equall Light fills this gap by collecting nearly one thousand extracts, some eight hundred of which come from Donne's sermons, letter, and other prose works.

"John Moses here offers a superb selection, introduced and expounded with authority. I hope that this volume will be an orientation not only to Donne but to all of that robust and exhilarating world of mind and spirit to which he belonged." — ROWAN WILLIAMS

-ROWAN WILLIAMS from the foreword

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Using this work on the psalms is not to be taken lightly by the general reader, for Terrien's presentations employ, of necessity, any number of scholarly terms as well as his own erudite use of language. How many general readers are likely to know such terms as "chiasmus," "gnomic," or "lenotheism"? Even this lay reader with a seminary background found these a hurdle. However, having said this, this work is a rich treasure calling the committed individual or Bible study group to an ongoing study of the psalms.

> Joyce M. Glover Richmond, Va.

Joy in Our Weakness

A Gift of Hope from the Book of Revelation By Marva J. Dawn. Eerdmans/Lime Grove. Pp. 220. \$16. ISBN 0 8028 6069 9.

"The Book of Revelation is a book that overwhelms us with hope ..." writes Marva Dawn. It is about suffering, yes, and it includes some amazing and unusual stories of spiritual warfare.



In this newly revised

edition of Joy in Our Weakness, Dawn cites her own and friends' physical weaknesses and handicaps to show that from a position of weakness and suffering we may be more aware of our "total dependence upon God's rule in our lives." In so doing, she achieves one of her goals, which is "to encourage us all to value the gifts of the infirm." From them "we may learn the redemptive power of suffering."

While most of the Bible books we study focus on one of these seven types of literary form — poetry, prophecy, apocalyptic literature, narrative, sermons, history, and liturgy the Book of Revelation includes all seven, making it complex and difficult to understand. But it is possible, and Dawn proceeds to show us how as she works her way through the 22 chapters, offering insightful details into scripture and its application.

She suggests four guidelines for studying the Book of Revelation: 1. We

(Continued on next page

12 THE LIVING CHURCH + MAY 9, 2004

Joyful Noise to Honor Dorothy Sayers

THE

By Alzina Stone Dale

In 2004 we observe the 70th anniversary of the publication of

Dorothy L. Sayers' Anglican church mystery, *The Nine Tailors*. UK publisher Hodder & Stoughton will bring out a new paperback edition of all Sayers' mysteries; *The Nine Tailors* appeared in April.

Not only was it based upon Sayers' recently published memoir. Mu Edwardian Childhood, a loving portrait of her daily life in the Fens where her father, the Rev. Henry Sayers, was rector at Bluntisham-cum-Earith, but the mystery was also a 1996 winner of the British Crime Writers Association's Rusty Dagger for the best crime book by a British authors in the 1930s. The dagger, pre-

sented to the Dorothy L. Sayers' Society by chair Kate Charles (another writer of delicious churchy mysteries), is on display at the Dorothy L. Sayers Centre at Witham, Essex.

Savers Society volunteers not only prepared the information about the society to be included in each mystery and helped with the extensive proofreading, but also allowed scanning of illustrations from precious early editions. Each mystery contains the new introduction to the series by American Elizabeth writer George, who describes her first encounter with Savers' novels, praises the standards set by Sayers, and encourages a new generation of readers to enjoy them.

In addition, since The Nine Tailors'

(Continued from previous page)

must know and understand the time period in which it was written; 2. We must consider its literary purposes, that is, why the author used those particular stories and images based on scripture and the traditions of Israel; 3. It is prophecy and must be looked at as prophecy for first-century Christians, "a persecuted people in Asia Minor," before we draw conclusions about its meanings for living in our 21st century; 4. We must find its theocentric pereight bells were used not only to call the congregation to worship and to toll their deaths, but also for the ancient and mathematical art of

> change-ringing, in the book's honor peals will be rung and carillon concerts held around the world from Perth, Australia, to Washington, D.C.

Great Britain's yearlong celebrations will include Cambridge's Perse School, which will reproduce the 1908 concert where Sayers played. Peals were rung in Devon, West Sussex and Bath. On May 3 at Terrington St. Clement, Norfolk, a full peal of 15,000 changes, lasting 8-9 hours, took place. Peals will be rung May 9 during the Chelmsford Cathedral festival and on June 13, Sayers' birthday, at All Saints', Basingstoke, Hampshire, and St.

Peter's Upwell, Cambridgeshire.

Some change-ringing/Carillon concerts in United States:

May 8, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., presentation on *The Man Born to be King* by Marion E. Wade Center's Marjorie L. Mead. Carillon recital: Change Ringing selection, Edman Chapel Tower, 11:15 a.m.

June 10, Old Post Office, Washington, D.C., and June 13, Washington National Cathedral, Washington, D.C. Change ringing by Washington Ringing Society, 12:15 p.m. Both events organized by Washington Ringing Society. mclark@4THPRES.ORG.

Alzina Stone Dale is a freelance writer who lives in Chicago, Ill.

spective, what it says about God, not about us, and about God's timing and purposes rather than our own.

This review cannot do justice to Dawn's depth of study and application. But readers who journey with her through this sometimes confrontational, biblical and pragmatic approach to the Book of Revelation may be convinced, as she is, that God is in control of history.

> Lois Sibley Glenside, Pa.

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BOOKS

The Road to Assisi

The Essential Biography of St. Francis By Paul Sabatier. Edited by Jon M. Sweeney. Paraclete Press. Pp. 187. \$19.95. ISBN 1-55725-328-5.

The Reluctant Saint

The Life of Francis of Assisi By Donald Spoto. Penguin Compass. Pp. 256. \$14 paper. ISBN 0 14 219625 8.

The Saint Francis Prayer Book

A Guide to Deepen Your Spiritual Life By Jon M. Sweeney. Paraclete Press. Pp. 156. \$13.95 paper. ISBN 1-55725-352-8.

"Of all the saints, Francis is the most popular and admired, but probably the least imitated; few have attained to his total identification

with the poverty and sufferings of Christ" [Lesser Feasts and Fasts: Biographical note for Oct. 4: Feast of St. Francis].

So often over the past 40 years as an Anglican Franciscan friar, I have struggled to express what I believe to be distinctive about St. Francis and the Franciscan way. I have said something along these lines:

"St. Francis experienced an irresistible call to make his life as literal

an imitation of the life of Jesus as possible. He truly believed that the gospel values that Jesus taught, however apparently unrealistic, ('Love your enemies; turn the other cheek; etc.') really could be lived in practice, joyously but at great cost. In the course of a lifetime he came to realize that

he would never meet Jon Sweeney another human being of whom our

Creator God had said, 'Oh, by the way, I am not making you in the divine inage'; he would never meet another human being of whom Jesus had said, 'Oh, by the way, I am not dying on the cross for you'; and, as his encounter with the leper whom he embraced



taught him, he would never meet another human being, no matter how outcast and rejected, in whom Jesus was not waiting to be recognized."

Again and again I have met this response: "Then how is being a Franciscan different from being a Christian?" Ultimately, there is no difference. Perhaps that gives us a clue to the seemingly universal appeal of St. Francis to all sorts and conditions of people.

This perennial fascination with St. Francis also means that no saint is the subject of more biographies, quite apart from the occasional movie (e.g. Zeffirelli: Brother Sun and Sister Moon) or novel (e.g. Nikos Kazantzakis: St. Francis). Then there are the books that make a particular connection between Francis and ecology, or

> peace, or stewardship of creation etc. It seems that not a year goes by without a new publication.

Two recently published biographies stand out. though written a century apart.

Paul Sabatier, a French protestant, set a precedent in 1894 when he wrote a biography of St. Francis researching original docu-

ments and applying a critical appartus similar to that beginning to be used by biblical scholars. Until Sabatier, almost all lives of saints

were not biography but hagiography, with the sole purpose of edification of the reader. The fact that his book was instantly placed on the index of forbidden books by Roman Catholic authorities only served to make it a best seller, appealing to a much wider readership.

This rediscovery of St. Francis triggered a new wave of Franciscan scholarship that persisted throughout the 20th century. Thus, in 1974, marking the 750th anniversary of the coming of the Grey Friars to England, the publication of the Franciscan Omnibus ϕ

New



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Would in Sources energized a renewed surge of being m : research, culminating in 2000/1 with reted are the publication of three volumes of to be mee. Francis of Assisi: Early Documents, an be giving us access in English for the first how see time to many sources. This in turn will from ter: assuredly lead to yet more research, and more books.

In The Road to Assisi, Jon Sweeney ndvers gives us a new critical edition of al style Sabatier's Life of St. Francis of Assisi

translated into English by Louise Seymour Houghton in 1906. Only a minimum of updating of the text has been made, to reflect changes in current English usage.

A brief introduction is followed by Sabatier's text, with Sweeney's comments and annotations italicized in sidebars. Thus one can read the original text uninterrupt-

edly, while the new reader especially, coming to St. Francis for the first time, will find in the sidebars a wealth of illuminating context and background. Appendices include a useful glossary of terms, and summaries of major characters in the story, together with a select bibliography.

Donald Spoto gives us an immensely readable and mov-

ing biography of Francis as The Reluctant Saint. Once embarked upon this book, it is hard to put it down. It seems as if there are no footnotes or annotations, which probably makes book even more the accessible, but appearances are deceptive. Turn to the back of the book.

and we find that the effortless style conceals a great deal of research, as the notes provide all the sources and references page by page for those who want to explore further.

Sixty years ago, the first biography of St. Francis that I read was by G.K. Chesterton, who quite magically captured the essential spirit of Francis, even though today the scholarship upon which it was based often seems outdated. Spoto also captures the spirit of St. Francis, and has the advantage of a further 75 years of Franciscan scholarship to support it.

Again, there is a current bibliography, with surprisingly little overlap with the books cited by Sweeney, a further indication of the vast range of Franciscan reading choices before us.

Jon Sweeney also gives us The St. Francis Prayer Book: A guide to deepen your spiritual life. This

> attractively presented little book is truly pocket-sized and portable, but full of rich content. Part I is Sweeney's introduction to the prayer life of St. Francis; Part II, the largest section of the book, is called "Praying Alongside St. Francis," and provides a week of daily offices morning and evening,

with each day focused on a theme that was central to Francis' spirituality. Thus, the theme for Wednesday is "Love for all creatures," and for Saturday "Joyful Simplicity." Part III provides some Occasional Prayers of St. Francis, including his paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer, and his Canticle of Brother Sun.

> While the choices for the daily office include some material from Francis himself, and from other early Franciscans such as Caesar of Speyer, Thomas of Celano, and St. Bonaventure, I was surprised that offices on specifically Franciscan themes drew so heavily on non-Franciscan sources, such as St. Patrick, St. Benedict and St. Bernard of Clairvaux. I would

have supposed that there is ample Franciscan material to example those themes for the week.

To spend a week using these daily offices can only deepen one's appreciation for the spiritual depth of the St. Francis whose biographies we have considered.

Br. Robert Hugh King-Smith, SSF, resides at the San Damiano Friary, San Francisco, Calif.



Music of the Heart New Psalms in the Celtic Tradition David Adam ISBN 0-281-05220-4 • paper • \$13





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Tallahassee Church Destroyed

Arson ruled as the cause

A fire which destroyed the Church of the Holy Spirit in Tallahassee, Fla., on April 16 has been ruled arson, and law enforcement officials have identified a suspect. Although as of press time police had not revealed the identity of the suspect, the incident is not thought to be related to a theological dispute which led in February to the resignation of the rector and the departure of two-thirds of its 150 members to form a new congregation unaffiliated with the Episcopal Church.

Six units of the Tallahassee Fire Department responded with 20 firefighters who had the flames extinguished in about an hour. In addition to the total loss of the

church, an adjacent administration building sustained smoke and water damage. A spokesperson for the sheriff's office estimated damage to be \$750,000, which does not include 14 stained-glass windows. The church does have insurance, according to a diocesan spokesperson.



Virginia Barrett Barker/The Diocescu, plac

Prior to a comprehensive search for the source of a devastating April 16 fire at Church of the Holy Spirit in Talahassee, Fla., arson investigators separate and categorize debris, including items placed at the foot of the church's Easter cross. The early-morning fire caused an estimated \$750,000 worth of damage and destroyed the area where the congregation worships. Police have issued a warrant for a suspect.

Later on the day of the fire, evidence of burglary and vandalism was found. On April 19 a spokesperson for the Leon County sheriff announced that an arrest warrant had been issued, but would not be served until the suspect was released from a mental health facility.

Central Florida Redirects Funds to Network

At its regular meeting on April 15, members of the Diocesan Board in the Diocese of Central Florida voted overwhelmingly to redirect to the Network of Anglican Communion Dioceses and Parishes \$20,000 originally designated for the program portion of the General Convention budget. The gift to the network is the first from an entire diocese.

For a number of years, parishes

within Central Florida could request that the portion of their diocesan contribution which passed through to the national church could be directed to other ministries. A special convention last fall changed the default position so that parishes must now request that their contribution pass through to the national church. It is estimated that only

about 15 percent of that amount will be sent to the national church this year.

Both the former rector, the Rev. Dennis Ackerson, and the current priest-in-charge, the Rev. Sterling Henderson, were on the scene shortly after the fire was reported by a nearby resident around 2 a.m. Numerous current and former members stopped by throughout the day while investigators from local, state and federal agencies combed through the debris for clues as to the cause.

Ms. Henderson told The Tallahassee Democrat that the 20-year-old congregation would survive. Many still recall having spent the first decade worshiping in temporary locations before moving into their own building at the current location in 1992.

"The roots of this church are gypsy: we'll tent worship if we have to," Ms. Henderson said. "But we'll rebuild here without a doubt."

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African Provinces Cut Financial Ties with U.S.

The Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa (CAPA) has called upon the Lambeth Commission to discipline the Episcopal Church for unilateral changes to church teaching on sexuality, and as a mark of its resolve, stated it would no longer accept financial assistance from American dioceses and organizations which seek to normalize homosexual behavior.

Meeting in closed-door session outside Nairobi, Kenva, April 13-14, representatives from 11 of Africa's 12 provinces, with observers from six other provinces, debated the Global South's continuing role in the Anglican Communion. While making room in the agenda for a discussion of the humanitarian crisis in the Sudan, unrest in the Middle East, reconstruction in Rwanda, and a constitutional stalemate over the election of a new primate for West Africa, the bulk of the meeting sought to articulate a common African response to the American branch of the Communion.

While rejecting calls to break with the Anglican Communion at this time, CAPA did reaffirm its support for the Church's traditional teachings on sexual ethics and morals. CAPA further asked the primates' theological commission "to call ECUSA to repentance, giving it a three-month period to show signs of such repentance." If the Episcopal Church does not respond appropriately after the Lambeth Commission task force issues its report next year, "discipline should be applied."

The president of CAPA, the Most Rev. Peter Akinola of Nigeria, told a press conference at the close of the meeting African church leaders, including Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane of South Africa [TLC, April 25], were united on this issue. Archbishop Akinola also noted that breaking the financial tether binding the African provinces to the Episcopal Church would sting as the bulk of CAPA's support came from the U.S., but was essential to the Church's health.

"If we suffer for a while to gain our independence and our freedom and to build ourselves up, I think it will be a good thing for the Church in Africa," he said. "We will not, on the altar of money, mortgage our conscience, mortgage our faith, mortgage our salvation." Archbishop Akinola noted that U.S. parishes which continue to uphold historic Church teaching on sexuality would not be affected, even if they were geographically resident in revisionist dioceses. "We are not against every church in the America. We are not against everyone in the West," he said.

(The Rev.) George Conger

Kansas Priest to Assist the Primate of Uganda

The Archbishop of Uganda has appointed the Rev. Canon Alison Barfoot, co-rector of Christ Church, Overland Park, Kan., to be his assistant for international relations. She will begin her new assignment in July.

Canon Barfoot will advise the Most Rev. Henry Orombi on relations with the wider Church, act as a liaison between the Church of Uganda and the expatriate community within Uganda, and will be involved in the mobilization of Ugandans to serve as missionaries to the West and the non-Christian world. She will be supported by a U.S.-based mission organization, Global Mobilization Ministries, Inc.





Members of Christ Church, Bethany, Conn., performed a children's skit on April 10 in order to make the Easter story more understandable and the Easter service more meaningful. Among the scenes: Peter repents after having denied Jesus three times (left), and Jesus washes feet (above).

Tern Miles photo



Ohio Consecration

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr., receives a "high five" from his 5-year-old son, Eli, and a hug from his daughter, Lily, after his consecration as Bishop of Ohio on April 17 at the Cleveland State University Convocation Center. The Rt. Rev. J. Clark Grew II (left) retired as Bishop of Ohio that day. Bishop Hollingsworth's son, Isaac, is looking at his oldest sister. Sophie, who stands next to Sue Hollingsworth. In a show of solidarity after the unauthorized March 14 confirmation service, 32 bishops accepted an invitation to participate. In an inclusionary break with tradition. priests and bishops were encouraged to process with their husbands, wives, children and same-sex partners.

Lee Jennings/ChurchLife! photo

Bishop MacDonald of Alaska Wins No-Drilling Concession

At its annual meeting in London on April 15, BP, the third largest energy company and the fifth largest corporation in the world, announced that it has no future plans to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The announcement came immediately following comments by the Bishop of Alaska, the Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald, who helped present a shareholder resolution directing the company to report on the risks associated with operating in environmentally fragile areas.

"This is certainly a significant

announcement for the Gwich'in people, who are arguably one of the most Anglican native nations in the world," Bishop MacDonald told reporters after the meeting. The Gwich'in are the only humans to inhabit ANWR. They rely on caribou for a significant portion of their food supply and have consistently opposed plans to open the wildlife sanctuary to oil and gas development in part because it would disrupt the annual migratory behavior of the caribou.

"For centuries, the Christian moral tradition and the Western legal tradi-

tion have consistently promoted aboriginal rights as a fundamental element of basic and minimal commitment to justice," Bishop Mac-Donald said in his comments to shareholders. "Though these traditions are accepted almost unanimously in theory, governments, corporations and sadly even religious institutions have far too consistently undermined or stolen the capacity for aboriginal peoples to survive."

Episcopal News Service contributed to this report.

Primate on Lambeth Commission Expects Discipline for the Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church will be disciplined for permitting same-sex liturgical blessings and for consecrating a sexually active homosexual person as Bishop of New Hampshire, according to the Most Rev. Drexel Gomez, Primate of the West Indies and a member of the Lambeth Commission, which is due to issue a recommendation later this year. The bishops of Dallas and Pittsburgh were joined by some leaders of the Episcopal Church's mission community, the Presiding Bishops of two "continuing" Anglican churches and the Primate of the Southern Cone at a conference in Nassau, Bahamas, March 30-April 1.

Building upon the relationships forged by meetings of the U.S. Anglican Congress over the past two years, participants envisioned a mission-centered approach to resolving the crisis of faith and order facing the Anglican Communion. The conference was "atypical" in that "no papers were pub-

• More News, pages 30-34 •

lished, statements released or strategies produced," said the Rev. Todd H. Wetzel, executive director of Anglicans United.

The Primate of the Southern Cone. the Most Rev. Gregory Venables. asked American traditionalists to be in "non-stop, around-the-clock prayer" over the next five months for the members of the primates' commission. "There is no way to know what our Communion will look like in two years, but we can be assured of the steadfast presence of God and Christ."

Mother's Day Unsentimentalized

"MAY is Mary's month, and I Muse at that and wonder why"

By Paul Barthelemay

Writing *The May Magnificat* in 1878, Victorian England Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins could not have known that 30 years later in the state of West Virginia in the United States a woman named Anna Jarvis would begin a campaign to establish Mother's Day. Her persistence in pursuing her dream to the highest levels of government finally paid off in 1914, when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day.

Mrs. Jarvis would hardly recognize today's Mother's Day. Phone and brunch lines are jammed and florists and card shops turn over their best weekend since Easter, but few, if any, know what Mrs. Jarvis intended Mother's Day to be — a day of prayer for peace. That was not the case in 1914. Mothers still mourned sons killed in the Civil and Spanish-American Wars, and, in an eerie irony, only three months after that first Mother's Day the guns of August unleashed World War I, arguably the most costly and senseless war ever fought.

But why choose May for Mother's

Day? For Gerard Manley Hopkins, the answer was obvious: May is the heart of spring, the month of "growth in everything," the month of "nature's motherhood," an outward and visible sign of Mary's inner and spiritual motherhood of all

creation. It's hard to argue with that on a beautiful May day when the sun shines, the birds sing, and the blazing magenta rhododendron outside my door blooms with flowers fit for Mother's Day, But there is a darker side to May. Along with what Hopkins called the "ecstasy all through mothering earth," there is also an agony, and maybe it was that agony that stirred Anna Jarvis to campaign for a Mother's Day. That agony is the line side of nature's motherhood, fecundity, what Annie Dillard in Puoring at Tinker Creek calls '... the teeming evidence that birth and growth, which we value, are ubiquitous and blind, that life itself is as asionishingly cheap, that nature is as carcless as it is beautiful and with extravagance goes a crushing waste that will one day include our own cheap lives, Henle's loops and all. Every glistening egg is a memenio mori."

Anna Jarvis wanted Mother's Day to be a sweet and litting tribute to those most aware of the dreadful price of war. Who better than mothers, she thought, who had felt both the ecstasy and the agony of giving birth, could teel the even greater gui-wrenching pain of seeing their children's lives squandered on the field of battle? Who better than mothers could identify with both fecund May Mary, who birthed the Christ, and dolorous Mother Mary standing at the foot of his cross? And, though we may have forgotten why Mrs. Jarvis established this day, isn't it clear that she was right? Aren't mothers more often than not the ones who have led the fight for peace and established movements to bring warring peoples together - in Northern Ireland, where the mothers' movement may in the end be the only one with a prayer of making peace

May is the heart of spring, the month of "nature's motherhood," an outward and visible sign of Mary's inner and spiritual motherhood of all creation.

> between Roman Catholics and protestants, and in the war-torn Holy Land where Israeli and Palestinian women, in their common bond of motherhood, are striving to break the cycle of

Digitized by Google MAY 9 2004 - THE LIVING CHURCH IF hatred and revenge that still takes such a toll of their sons and daughters? Who better than mothers? Unfortunately, usually males, who may understand their pain intellectually but can never feel it physically, make their work more difficult.

Anna Jarvis probably would not like the sentimentalized and commercialized Mother's Day we know. She'd be deeply disappointed that so few know what she wanted it to be and why she worked so hard to establish it. She would be profoundly distressed that so little has changed in the last hundred years - that mothers around the world still grieve daily for children senselessly slain in age-old conflicts between aging old men. She would want us to stop and pray that wars may cease, that children may live, and that enemies might learn to live in peace. She would ask us to remember the sacrifices of our own mothers and of mothers throughout the world. And even amid all that, I'm sure, she would rejoice with us in the beauty and joy of the day, just as Hopkins did in his May Magnificat. But she would want most of all, I think, for us to remember the One to whom we pray, from whom we seek succor, and the holy mother who gave the Savior life. His life, after all, was a partnership between her and God, between heaven and earth, flesh and spirit, the outward and visible and the inward and spiritual, and so, in the Spirit, are ours. We are nourished both spiritually and physically by a power we believe ultimately to be the way to the peace for which Anna Jarvis then and we now so fervently pray. That power, that Spirit, is beyond and within, of the Father and the Mother, as close - wrote Gerard Manley Hopkins in another poem, The Blessed Virgin Compared to the Air We Breathe as the air we breathe,

World-mothering air, air wild, Wound with thee, in thee isled, Fold home, fast fold thy child.

The Rev. Paul Barthelemay is the vicar of St. Catherine's Church, Manzanita, Ore.



Against Hierarchy

By J. Douglas Ousley

"For most laity, the diocese and the national church will remain invisible ... the national church seems utterly removed from local life ... the historic ideal of the national church has largely disintegrated."

Restoring the Ties That Bind: The Grassroots Transformation of the Episcopal Church by William Sachs and Thomas Holland is full of explosive accusations. Moreover, the book comes under the seal of a quasi-official Episcopal publisher (Church Publishing), and it describes a study underwritten by the venerable Episcopal Church Foundation. Yet as far as I can tell, the church press has paid little attention to this potentially inflammatory book.

The lack of reaction may stem in part from the fact that this leaden, repetitive, and jargon-laden book is so difficult to read (though one can get the main points from looking at just the Introduction and the Conclusion). This is too bad, because it raises important issues about the structure of the Church. *Restoring the Ties That Bind* — based on the Zacchaeus Report that studied 200 Episcopal parishes — contends that local parishes believe that they are doing just fine on their own, without the aid of expensive diocesan and national staffs. These churches have discovered "an invigorating new sense of identity and vocation in the very midst of controversy and turmoil."

Ironically, given the ultra-progressive image of Episcopal bishops in some quarters, the authors charge the hierarchy with being too conservative. Bishops and their staffs haven't caught up with the spiritual renewal at the grassroots.

With success breaking out all over at the parish level, regional and national church officials need only provide local congregations with "resources." When not rendering such assistance, these leaders should avoid public controversies and stay out of the way of grassroots renewal.

And there is perhaps some sub-

stance to these extraordinary assertions. William Sachs (director of research at the Episcopal Church Foundation) and Thomas Holland (who works for the University of Georgia) are surely right to suggest that people in the pews often prefer studying the Bible and feeding the hungry to worrying about complex theological controversies. Episcopal churches do contain eager and energetic seekers of a type unseen 50 years ago. Recent catalogues from church presses list far more books about spir-

ituality than institutional issues. Sachs and Holland correctly observe that "spiritual searchers" are "a new reality" in our Church. And because fewer children are now indoctrinated into a lifelong commitment to a given denomination, religious migrants are likely to be a part of our congregations for a long time.

It is also true that numerous laypeople and parish clergy feel their leaders are more interested in national concerns at the expense of parochial issues. And, in any event, the top-down, hierarchical model of authority is on the decline — a decline likely to continue if the most valuable Spirit-filled, lifechanging ecclesiastical events are occurring on the local level.

But even if we find truth in these observations, we may wonder whether parishes have quite turned the corner as the study contends. Certainly the successful local churches presented as models in this book (in an often tiresome kind of show-andtell) seem too good to be true. Can we honestly say that the majority of our churches are poised to grow larger and happier on into the future?

As for the ideal church leader, would we have wanted Augustine of Canterbury and Anselm and William Temple and Michael Ramsey and other great Anglican bishops to be "resource providers"? *Restoring the Ties That Bind* says that "institutional staff and bishops" would be more appreciated if they set up "links among congregations for developing collaborative ministries" instead of inserting "themselves into those efforts as managers and overseers." But "overseer" is a biblical definition of "bishop." Oversee is what bishops do. They provide oversight of an ancient order of prayer and service. They serve as a necessary focus of unity, and they recall individual

The Episcopal Church could journey further toward the near-congregationalism it enjoyed in colonial days when bishops were far away in England. Or it could return toward a more balanced Episcopal ecclesiology, with bishops, priests and lay people working together and giving the glory to God.

parishes to broader mission beyond their own good works.

The authors might respond that the local churches they praise aren't really congregationalist because these parishes are able to connect themselves with the larger Church by means of "networks" of other parishes such as Cursillo, Stephen Ministry, and Total Ministry. Sachs and Holland write, "We disagree that the cohesive force that qualifies the congregation as the basic unit of religious life in America necessarily leads to insularity, and we offer as evidence the many Episcopal congregations that are creating and sustaining a wide variety of extended networks." Such networks, however, tend to come and go with such frequency that few of them would be able to provide pastoral care to individual parishes.

It is also possible that the trend toward lay power will continue, and the laity who share leadership today will have even more work to do in the future, as clergy become more scarce and more expensive. But it is also possible that eventually activist laity will

> get tired or distracted and be happy to let clergy and other professional staff take charge. And whatever criticisms can be made of bishops and their staffs, they deserve considerable sympathy for all the work they have to do behind the scenes to prop up shaky parishes and supervise erring clergy and generally avoid scandal. If this work is done well, one never hears about it.

> Much of this controversy is a question of Anglican balance. When orders are delivered from on high, there's a good chance that lay people and clergy will feel left out. On the other hand, when congregations have been and renewed energized, there's a danger they will get caught up in their own local issues and neglect Anglicans in other parts of the Church.

In the end, the anti-hierarchical theses of this book will be subject to the test of time. The Episcopal Church could journey further toward the nearcongregationalism it enjoyed in colonial days when bishops were far away in England. Or it could return toward a more balanced Episcopal ecclesiology, with bishops, priests and lay people working together and giving the glory to God.

The Rev. J. Douglas Ousley is the rector of the Church of the Incarnation, New York, N.Y.

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Dress-up Sunday

No, you haven't heard it all. How about a "fashion liturgy"? Grace Church, Norwalk, Conn., holds what it calls an "out-of-the-box" liturgy once a month. According to *Good News*, the newspaper of the Diocese of Connecticut, the parish takes "traditional elements of Episcopal worship and mixes them up a bit to create a new experience."

I'm sure "fashion liturgy" was a new experience for those in attendance on the Sunday in which it was presented. According to Bowie Snodgrass, a recent graduate of Union Theological Seminary, the purpose of the event was to encourage people to think about how they dress and present themselves to God. Members of the congregation were given an opportunity to dress up and walk around the church in new "fashions."

Ms. Snodgrass said, "I wanted to explore questions about incarnation and transformation, giving people the opportunity to dress up and see how that can be transforming."

According to the newspaper, 30-40 people dressed up for the event in a variety of clothes, including clerical vestments, that had been laid out on tables and in racks at the back of the church.

Ship of Fools, my favorite website (www.ship-of-fools.com) and the Methodist Church held a competition to find the best 11th commandment that ought to placed beside the original 10. The following five were announced as winners:

Thou shalt not worship false pop idols. Thou shalt not kill in the name of any god.

Thou shalt not confuse text with love. Thou shalt not consume thine own body weight in fudge.

Thou shalt not be negative.

From the website of St. Patrick's Church, Enterprise, Ore.:

Three Church of England priests are sharing a cabin on a train ride to an Anglican conference. Shortly into the trip, one of the priests says, "Well, we've all worked together for many years, but don't really know one another. I suggest we tell each other one of our sins." They look nervously at each other but nod OK. The first priest says, "Since I suggested it, I'll go first. With me it's the drink. Once a year I take off my collar and go out of town to a pub and drink myself blind for a few days. Get it out of my system." They all look at each nervously, but the next priest slowly starts, "Well . . . with me, it's gambling. Periodically, I nick money out of the poor box and go to the races. Spend it all! I get it out of my system." They both look at the third priest, waiting. He doesn't say anything. Then one of the other two speaks up, "Come now. We've both told our innermost faults. It's your turn." He looks at the others and starts hesitantly. "Wellll . . . with me it's the gossip . . ."

Doris E. Myers, of Greeley, Colo., offers this "Epitaph for a biblical literalist":

Here lies Parson Jehosophat Gray, Who died defending his one right way. He was right, dead right, as he drove along,

But is just as dead as if he'd been wrong.

The Rev. Robert Carroll Walters, of Worcester, Mass., tells of a recent encounter with a prominent physician: "...he remarked that he was considering reducing some of his many activities. When I asked him what he would like to do with more discretionary time, he told me that among other things he wanted to write a book. After he told me about it, I said that if I am still alive (I am approaching 69) when he finishes, I would like to read it. Without a smile, he replied, 'In that case, I'd better hurry and get it written'."

Observed in large print on the title page of one parish's website: "St. James Epsicopal Church."

Observed on another parish website recently: "Thanksgiving Day Eucharist 10 a.m." In 2002.

The Rev. Canon C. Don Baugh of San Antonio sent a photo of a signboard of a Methodist church which read "Lent: A time to Walk With God! Line Dance Thur 10 am."

Note to Don in Chicago: The Church is not able to proceed after New Hampshire as though nothing happened because many Episcopalians believe something significant happened in that diocese last Nov. 2.

David Kalvelage, executive editor Digitized by GOOGLE

Did You Know...

According to its own statistics, the Anglican Diocese of Central Zimbabwe loses an average of three members per day to the AIDS pandemic.

Quote of the Week

The Rev. Canon Tom Furrer, rector of Trinity Church, Tarriffville, Conn., In the diocesen paper *Good News* on Anglican Christianity In northern Nigeria: "It Is an assertive, aggressive and no-nonsense approach. It's 'meat and potatoes, sin and salvation, turn or burn, leave paganism behind, decide to follow Jesus and mean It' Christianity."

Reforms Worth Considering

When the Rt. Rev. Edward S. Little II presented some proposals for changing General Convention [TLC, April 11], he echoed a position long advocated by this magazine. That is, the General Convention needs to be reformed. THE LIVING CHURCH has been only one of the voices calling for a restructured General Convention. There have been frequent resolutions brought to the convention, at least one attempt was made within the national Executive Council, and various papers similar to Bishop Little's article have been circulated around the Church. All have been unsuccessful. Convention deputies do not seem willing to reduce their number, their agenda, or their scope.

General Convention meets every three years. It allows leaders from every diocese to participate in decisions that determine the future of the Episcopal Church, and it enables a wide variety of Episcopalians to gather in fellowship and for worship in a setting no other gathering can provide. So why does it need to be reformed? Without repeating Bishop Little's article, there are plenty of reasons — it is tremendously costly, it is time consuming, too large, and it attempts to be too encompassing, among them.

Some possible reforms worth considering would be to reduce the number of deputies from four in each order to three in each order per diocese. Not only would such a reduction cut the cost of sending deputies, having an odd number of clergy and laity would avoid the unfortunate occurrence of divided deputations, which count as "no" votes. Reducing the length of convention from 10 days to seven would enable more cost cutting to take place, and might help to keep deputies more alert and focused. Keeping resolutions, as Bishop Little suggested, more focused on matters of canonical and financial concern rather than on public policy and political concerns ought to ease the workload for participants and enable business to be completed in a shorter time. The idea of merging the two houses of convention into a unicameral body. explored a decade or so ago, could be considered. The English and Canadian churches and other Anglican provinces use a unicameral system effectively, with bishops, other clergy, and laity debating resolutions together, cutting down on the time needed for debate and discussion and requiring fewer support personnel.

Bishop Little's plan, and other similar suggestions, deserves a hearing by the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church. The fact that other efforts at reform have failed may mean only that the time wasn't right. A shorter, slimmer, less expensive convention might be just what is called for at this time.

Comfort from Reading Books

The books described in this Spring Book Issue offer much to learn, to enjoy, and to ponder. Here are Saint Francis, and Julian of Norwich, and Ruth. Here are travels physical and mental: Pilgrimage in Britain (the pictures make one reach for one's passport), walks through labyrinths and bass fishing! There is a tutorial on how to see art, and another illustrated with the profoundly simple Shaker sense of the beautiful. Here is a book to enhance one's experience of the liturgy, another to help us read and hear the psalms with deeper comprehension.

For all the newer blessings curses, sometimes — of television and radio with their immediacy, of Google with its access to something about absolutely everything; for all the blast of information and argument on, it seems, every flat surface, and in every enclosed space, for all we are deluged, swamped, drowned in data, there is nothing so comforting as a book. A good old-fashioned book is calm. It is quiet even when its author is screaming at the reader. A book can be taken in small portions, nibbles and sips when the text becomes too rich to gulp. It can be laid aside, to contemplate and digest for a time. It will be where

it was left, waiting for the reader's return.

A book is comfortable in the hand. It is a companion on the journey, even, oddly, if it isn't opened but is just present, to enrich the spare moment if needed. A wealth of books is provision against boredom, against mental and spiritual starvation. A room with many books is warm and friendly, welcoming.

Now if only there was time to read them all.

READER'S VIEWPOINT



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Let the Diocesan Search for a Visiting Bishop

By Maurice M. Benitez

The Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight (DEPO) plan [TLC, April 11, 18] was adopted by the House of Bishops in order to provide pastoral care for those congregations in the Episcopal Church that were well described by the primates of the Anglican Communion in their statement of October 2003: "for those who in all conscience feel bound to dissent from the teaching and practice of their province, their diocese or their bishop, in issues concerning human sexuality."

I know some of the clergy and laity who are in the "beleaguered" parishes for whom the plan was adopted. My first observation is that it does not sound as though the bishops consulted with the congregations for whom DEPO was established. I fear that the complexity and cumbersome nature of the outlined process will seem oppressive to the congregations in need of DEPO. Therefore I propose an alternative process — one that is far more simple, one that any bishop can implement right now, because it affirms fully the canonical authority of the diocesan bishop. I believe the proposed plan has a much better chance of accomplishing the goal for which DEPO is intended.

Let the beleaguered congregation make the request to its diocesan for that bishop to license another bishop who is available to give the congregation pastoral care. Let the diocesan bishop search for such an available bishop, including asking for nominations from the congregation. Above all, let the diocesan bishop consult with the congregation and obtain a mutually acceptable bishop.

Here I must state what to me seems obvious, which is that for this, or any such plan, to work, the bishop chosen to give the delegated pastoral care must be like minded with the congregation in the matters to which the congregation has dissented from the views and policies of their bishop and diocese. Where the difference is on sexuality matters, the visiting bishop must be one who agrees with the congregation on the sexuality issues that are dividing us. In the case of Forward in Faith congregations, the visiting bishop should be one who is opposed to the ordination of women, and one who probably has an Anglo-Catholic theological persuasion. This would avoid creating the suspicion in the congregation that the diocesan bishop is sending someone into the parish to change people's way of thinking, and to brainwash them. In the case of a liberal congregation in a conservative diocese, the same principle would hold true.

Good examples of that gracious principle working well are the "flying bishop" system currently used in the Church of England and in Wales to provide ministry for congregations opposed to the ordination of women. Then there is the practice employed by Bishop Allen Bartlett, when, during his tenure as Bishop of Pennsylvania. he authorized Bishop Don Parsons. retired Bishop of Quincy, to make regular episcopal visitations to several parishes in Pennsylvania.

The frequency of such visits would be negotiated by the diocesan bishop. the visiting bishop, and the congregation. However, soon after the first The Reader's Viewpoint article does not necessarily represent the editorial opinion of THE Lines OHURCH or its board of directors.

such visitation takes place, the rector and vestry would be required to begin periodic meetings with the diocesan bishop, to talk together and get better acquainted with each other, perhaps with an outside consultant present. These meetings might, or might not, lead to greater reconciliation, or to the "highest degree of communion," or to any agreement between the bishop and congregation, but they could lead to greater Christian love and understanding between the parties involved.

By beginning the DEPO visitations before requiring the "reconciliation sessions" to be held, the impression would be avoided that the congregation must first be reconciled with the bishop before it would be given the

The DEPO plan shows little understanding

of division.

delegated pastoral care, as well as the impression that the meetings with the bishop were being used to manipulate the congregation into being reconciled to him. Ours is most assuredly a ministry of reconciliation, to which we are all called, and reconciliation must ever be our goal. However, this reconciliation cannot be coerced or manipulated.

I regret the statement by the bishops in their document, stipulating: "This [the DEPO plan] is to be understood as a temporary arrangement ..." This obviously is true in the sense that the process is canonically under the authority of the diocesan bishop, but saying these words at the time the process is being outlined shows, I believe, little appreciation for the depth of the current divisions in the Church. After all, 21 other Anglican provinces, representing more than half of the Communion, have declared that the Episcopal Church has broken communion with them by our actions at General Convention last year, and that they are at best in impaired communion with us. Furthermore, at the present time, we have some bishops who feel they are not in communion with some others in the House of Bishops.

Under these circumstances, I feel it might be more realistic to realize that we could likely be looking at a decade, or perhaps a generation, before these differences are reconciled.

The so-called appellate system in the DEPO process could easily be a lengthy one that will move slowly. I

cannot imagine many a bishop who is a provincial president or vice president siding with the congregation against the diocesan bishop, and I am sure that the members of the congregation that is making an appeal will have the same suspicion.

A number of other matters will need to be raised and addressed. Among these are convictions that many in these congregations now have that the bishop would like to get rid of their priest and replace him or

her with one who is like-minded to the bishop. And there is the feeling by some that the diocese has an unwritten, and unacknowledged, rule that no priest who is opposed to the bishop on sexuality matters will ever gain approval to move into the diocese. Another concern is the inability of an aspirant for holy orders from one of these parishes that is opposed to the bishop on sexuality matters to make it through the ordination process.

There are additional questions that ultimately are focused around what is the future for these congregations, and their clergy in the Episcopal Church, but space does not permit details. The House of Bishops' plan needs refinement.

The Rt. Rev. Maurice M. Benitez is the Bishop of Texas retired.



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While I agree with the editorial that both the product and the process of Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight assumes more goodwill than often exists between a bishop and one or more congregations in his or her diocese [TLC, April 18], I find it difficult to imagine any alternate solution that doesn't initiate the slippery slope toward a congregation formally severing ties with a diocese and the Episcopal Church.

In our current polity, for good or ill, the diocese is the primary administrative unit (not the parish, as some might think and prefer) and the bishop has both the authority and the responsibility to keep all of the sheep in the diocesan fold, even those who disagree with him or her.

The biggest disconnect that I see is that Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight seems to assume a personal conflict between a congregation and the individual who happens to be their bishop, while the current sexuality issues seem to elicit more of an official conflict between the two parties. I fail to see why people should care what the theological

position of their bishop is when they are either confirmed or ordained. The confirmation or ordination is done as a part of the office and work of a bishop, unrelated to his or her theological position. No one asks my opinion on a variety of issues prior to receiving communion from me as his or her priest and I similarly didn't do so before being either confirmed or ordained by my bishop. In this instance, it might be more useful to separate the person from the office. One may object to one's bishop's sermon content or theological position, but that hardly disgualifies him or her from exercising the duties and responsibilities of the office of bishop.

> (The Rev.) Tom Sramek, Jr. St. Alban's Church Albany, Ore.

I am grateful for the excellent and insightful editorial, "Response from the Bishops Not Very Helpful."

Is it any wonder that hundreds of thousands of Episcopalians no longer have confidence in the integrity of the members of the House of Bishops and



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David Instone-Brewer Researcher

the Presiding Bishop? The bishops efforts to preserve the facade of the Episcopal Church at all costs while not taking seriously the brokenness and pain of so many faithful Episcopalians is tragically reminiscent of the insensitive efforts of Roman Catholic bishops in our country to preserve at all costs the image of their church Long, long ago, it was said that an emperor played his fiddle while his city burned.

> (The Rev.) C. Edward Sharp New Bern, N.C.

I thought the "Caring for All the Churches" document was a reasonable approach to resolving the conflict between dissident churches and their bishops, both canonical and pastoral. The editorial outlined a worst-case scenario of the appeal process when initiated by an "orthodox" congregation. From what I've seen and heard. I suspect that scenario is much more likely to occur if the dissident congregation should happen to be in a diocese where a NACDP bishop is in charge.

> John K. Webster Dayton, Ohio

Flagrant Disrespect

I am appalled by the editorial, "Divisive Strategy" [TLC, April 11]. To say that "it is understandable that those churches [that participated in the illegal confirmation service in Ohio] wanted episcopal ministry from someone other than ... J. Clark Grew" is an insult to a man whose episcopal ministry is and has been characterized by openness to all persons, especially those who disagree with him. It is beyond comprehension how any member of this church, any clergy person serving in his diocese, or any bishop who has worked with him in the House of Bishops, could exhibit such flagrant disrespect for a priest and bishop whose service to God and to our Church has been of the highest caliber.

Even more ridiculous is the editorial's assertion that the six bishops who officiated at the illegal service [TLC,

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April 4] exhibited "courage and admirable pastoral care." Their actions were planned in secrecy, executed in violation of our canons and traditions, and paraded before the public though secular media. This is the very epitome not of bravery or admirability but cowardice and scandal.

It is Bishop Grew and his successor, Bishop Mark Hollingsworth Jr. [p. 18] who have demonstrated courage and pastoral sensitivity in their handling of this affront. They could have sought discipline for the offending bishops during the recent House of Bishops meeting [TLC, April 18]. They could have presented the offending parish clergy to the Ohio diocesan judicial panel. Instead they have declined to do so and have reached out to the bishops, clergy and congregations in a spirit of reconciliation and Christian fellowship.

TLC owes them both an apology.

(The Rev.) C. Eric Funston St. Paul's Church Medina, Ohio

Voting Details

In the interest of reporting all the facts, I offer the following clarifications to the report about the Diocese of Springfield's decision to affiliate with the Network of Anglican Dioceses and Parishes [TLC, March 28].

Nearly 90 percent of the elected members of council voted against joining the network (including almost all of the clergy from the diocese's largest parishes). Unfortunately, because Bishop Beckwith appoints approximately two-thirds of the council, these elected members constitute only about one-third of the council's voting members. About 90 percent of Bishop Beckwith's appointed members voted for joining the network.

This is the second consecutive council meeting that has drawn a large number of so-called observers. The previous meeting dealt with the unfortunate and premature closing of a nascent mission plant effort — the first church plant in more than a decade in the diocese.

This level of lay involvement is

indeed a positive sign for the diocese, but it is also, unfortunately, a sign of growing concern about troubling developments within the diocese. It is interesting that Bishop Beckwith characterizes the matters that have catalyzed such interest as "administrative details." I would hope that he and all council members view the decisions to affiliate with the network and to shut down a church plant as far more than mere "administrative details."

Chuck Evans St. George's Church Belleville, Ill.

Cradled Al

the While

Sara LCo

A Reassurance

The Guest Column, "A Resurrection Journey" [TLC, April 11] was

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

truly one of the most touching pieces I have ever read in your magazine. The love of the Rev. George Heller for his people, his dedication and concern were spiritually expressed. The devotion of Bishops Smalley and Wolfe was a reassurance of the love of the episcopacy for the clergy and laity. When we see bishops only once a year, we seem to forget their real roll of lover. My thanks to TLC for publishing this article and to Melodie

Woerman for writing this timely reminder in the midst of our struggle for unity. I have never been ashamed of being an Episcopalian, but now I have a renewed pride.

> Ron Graham San Antonio. Texas

Not Always the Best

I was really interested in the article "Calling Young People to Ordained Ministry" by Stephen L. White [TLC,



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March 14]. While I certainly agree that we need to begin speaking to our young people about a vocation in the Church, I find nowhere in scripture did God call the brightest and the best In fact, God seemed to call the fugtive, the failed, the weakest and the least of these my brothers. So let's keep telling the youth about this incredible ministry, and if the Church is to have a dynamic future, it may not be from the brightest and the best, but those God calls from the fugitive. failed, and weakest, and transforms from the least to the greatest.

(The Rev.) Hugh O. Bell, Jr. St. Mark's Church Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

No Longer Necessary

A writer [TLC, April 11] noted the lack of kneelers in more and more churches. I believe this stems from the fact that some Episcopalians, including some most and very reverends, are so cocksure of their own stands on religious matters that devout or humble kneeling is no longer necessary. Even the General Confession is skipped as often as not. We stand so we can be equal to God and chat with him face to face. You may have noted how much we also use the language of the neighborhood bar or grocery - no more of that formal English stuff. My. how far we have come.

> Kenneth H. Kerr Raleigh, N.C.

They Remained Steadfast

Recently, I read two Associated Press stories each reporting that the Roman Catholic Archbishops of Atlanta and Boston had banned women from having their feet washed in Maundy Thursday ceremonies. The archbishops were reportedly following a Vatican mandate based upon the fact that the 12 whose feet Christ washed were all men.

I have been looking in vain for the followup news reports indicating those same bishops banned men from attending Good Friday services, especially Stations of the Cross. After all, with one exception, our Lord's male

disciples abandoned him at, and before, the foot of the cross. Only the women remained steadfast in the face of evil and danger.

At our parish Maundy Thursday service, our female rector washed the feet of all who approached the altar men, women and children.

For all its problems and human imperfection, I thank God for the Episcopal Church.

Michael Perillo Grayslake, Ill.

² Hardly the Middle

Nice try, Via Media, but not quite. Via Media USA represents a middle way in the Episcopal Church [TLC, April 18] about as much as Ted Kennedy represents a middle way in the Democratic party.

As a supporter of the Network of Anglican Communion Dioceses and Parishes (NACDP), let me carry the logic of Joan Gundersen's quote one step further: "I believe our position represents the majority in the Anglican Communion, even if it isn't perceived that way in our particular province (ECUSA)."

> (The Rev.) David Wilson St. Paul's Church Kittanning Pa.

In His Company

In response to David Kalvelage's column about Gene Robinson [TLC, March 28] in which he questions Bishop Robinson's appearance in a gay bar, I am reminded of the charge "He eats with outcasts and sinners..."

(The Very Rev.) Todd M. Donatelli Cathedral of All Souls Asheville, N.C.

Drop the Labels

A substance abuse therapist I know does not allow his clients to use AA buzz words such as codependent, enabler, dry drunk, Higher Power, etc. He claims labeling often misleads and requires his clients to put into words what they are saying and, in doing so, to get in touch with the feelings that using labels fails to provide.

It would seem the Church might better understand one another in this time of schism and name-calling [TLC, April 25] if we all tried not to use labels such as conservative, liberal, traditional, revisionist, evangelical, fundamentalist, charismatic and such. Are our concerns so shallow as to be so easily labeled? Do the labels really speak for us? Do they adequately express the views of others?

Labels facilitate polarization and are rather like Molotov cocktails tossed back and forth, bearing more heat than light

We need to hear one another more than ever before. Doing away with overly simplistic labels and replacing them with honest definition and expression would be a step in that direction.

(mention offer #LC49)

(The Rev.) Ken Thompson Elk Creek, Ky.



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Signs of Stability

Delegates to the convention of the Diocese of **Kentucky**, March 5-6 at Trinity Church in Owensboro, deferred decisions on resolutions arising in response to last summer's General Convention in a bid to preserve the unity of the diocese while passing a budget that reflects a modest rise in income and expenditures.

In his convention address, the Rt. Rev. Edwin (Ted) F. Gulick, Jr., Bishop of Kentucky, conceded the depth of

Lives Transformed, Periphery Activated

By the Rev. Rona Harding, Rector Church of the Ascension, Lexington Park, MD Diocese of Washington

It was with some trepidation that we held a Faith Alive Weekend in our parish.

Our concerns that we would be inviting a lot of people to come into our parish to stir up controversy were unfounded. Instead, we received a highly focused group of lay Episcopalians and a very professional retreat for three days which has rejuvenated our parish.

Since the visiting Faith Alive team has left, a new sense of intimacy and joy has spread through the parish. The ECW, which had died, has been revitalized. The youth

group has new life. The Foyer groups have been reformed. A new discussion group on spiritual life has been formed and -- best of all -- many who were on the periphery of the parish are now joining those in the center.

Our mid-week services have more than tripled in size, and our Bible study attendance has doubled.

l encourage any parish that feels that it needs a shot in the arm, and a spiritual renewal

to consider Faith Alive. It certainly touched and changed many people's lives in my parish.

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Faith Alive • 431 Richmond Place, NE Albuquerque, NM 87106 • (505) 255-3233 FAOfficeNM@aol.com www.faithalive.org feeling on both sides of the sexuality issue within the diocese, but noted a number of "concrete" signs that "Christ is holding and sustaining the Church in this diocese." The number of adult baptisms, confirmations, and number of active communicants in the diocese had all increased, he observed, as had the number of candidates for ordination and reception to the Episcopal ministry, while attendance declined by only 1 percent from the prior year.

While 16 of the diocese's 38 congregations decreased their pledges to the diocese, Bishop Gulick observed, 18 increased giving with some setting higher levels of support for the mission and ministry of the diocese.

Bishop Gulick held out an olive branch to disappointed traditionalists conceding that the vote of the diocese's General Convention deputation did not reflect the beliefs of a "significant number" of Kentucky Episcopalians, and he also stated that he would be "even more attentive in my appointments to be sure the conservative perspective is honored on diocesan bodies."

Convention approved a budget of \$1.3 million, an increase of about 1 percent from 2003, while parochial giving was expected to decline \$51,000 for 2004. The diocese's pledge to the national church was increased by \$4,851 to \$195,000.

Resolutions supporting the unity. mission and ministry of the bishop and the diocese; asking the diocese to formally disassociate itself from the actions of the 74th General Convention; requiring the commission on ministry to clearly define how the diocese interprets "wholesome example" so that "clear moral guidance be given to the faithful"; and attesting that scripture and the Book of Common Prayer recognize only marriage between a man and woman were all deferred for consideration to a study committee.

In other business, the convention affirmed the 20/20 initiative to double the diocese's baptized membership and adopted a goal of 0.7 percent giving for international development.

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Priest Pleads No Contest and Renounces Orders

A California priest has been jailed on charges of child abuse. The Rev. Richard E.A. Adamson, a non-stipendiary assistant in San Francisco, pleaded no contest in a California court on March 10 to charges of molesting a schoolboy.

The canon to the ordinary in the Diocese of California, the Rev. Canon Michael Hansen, told THE LIVING CHURCH Mr. Adamson had renounced his orders and the Rt. Rev. William E. Swing, Bishop of California, has accepted his renunciation.

According to court documents, Mr. Adamson, 47, sexually molested a 14year-old boy to whom he gave singing lessons in the late 1990s. The boy, now age 20, filed a complaint with the Visalia, Calif., police last July.

Mr. Adamson served as a Sunday assistant at the Church of the Advent of Christ the King in San Francisco while working as a schoolteacher. Canon Hansen said Mr. Adamson had completed the diocese's sexual abuse awareness training program and that no reports were made against him. "By reports he was well liked," Canon Hansen said.

On March 10, Mr. Adamson pleaded *nolo contendre* to five counts of lewd acts with a minor, and declined to refute the evidence of the prosecution. The prosecution dismissed five other counts.

Washington Diocese Prepares Same-Sex Blessing

The Rt. Rev. John B. Chane, Bishop of Washington, recently announced the composition of a task force charged with developing by June a liturgical same-sex blessing ceremony for use in the Diocese of Washington.

The six-member group will seek one that is "classically Anglican" in tone and format.

Named as co-chairs of the panel were the Rev. Michael Hopkins, rector of St. George's Church, Glenn Dale, Md., and a board member of the Claiming the Blessing group which lobbied for General Convention approval of same-sex blessings last year, and the Rev. Susan Blue, rector of St. Margaret's, Washington, D.C. Both have performed same-sex blessings previously, according to *The Washington Times*.

"We want to make sure there's a standard in the diocese, so that what is used is good liturgy," Fr. Hopkins told the *Times*. "Having a standard will help many other congregations to consider it who are not performing it now."

Fr. Hopkins estimated that about six of the 94 congregations in the Diocese of Washington would be interested in using a same-sex blessing liturgy.

Diocese of San Diego Will Conduct Its Own Investigation

The Diocese of San Diego announced recently that it will conduct its own financial investigation into Episcopal Community Services (ECS). The announcement came less than a week after it was reported that the San Diego County District Attorney was investigating alleged irregularities involving finances and fulfillment of public contracts [TLC, April 25]. ECS was founded in 1927 and last year provided more than \$20 million in a wide variety of community services such as day-care, low-income housing assistance and substance abuse treatment programs. In the past two years, however, it has been accused of management lapses, faulty record-keeping and high staff turnover.

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Sudanese Primate Delivers Messages of Alarm in Visit to the U.S.

Sounding warnings of an impending secular and spiritual crisis, the Archbishop of the Sudan urged Presiding Bishop Frank T. Griswold and the Episcopal Church at a meeting in New

York City to pray for a speedy end to the decades-long civil war devastating his country and for the Episcopal Church to repent and return to the fold of Anglican orthodoxy.



Marona

The Most Rev. Joseph Marona was a guest at the House of Bishops' retreat at Camp Allen [TLC, April 11] and afterward met with the Presiding Bishop and his staff at the Episcopal Church Center, where he hand-delivered a note chastising the Episcopal Church's consecration of the Rev. Canon V. Gene Robinson in New Hampshire and the *de facto* authorization of same-sex blessings. "The recent terrible news about homosexuality has undermined our strong Anglican Communion, its firmness of faith, joy and hope, and commitment to the plain meaning of God's word for us," he wrote.

In a pastoral letter released April 8, Bishop Griswold wrote that Archbishop Marona had also "urged us to do all we could to bring an end to the crimes against humanity being committed by government-backed militias and to help both those internally displaced and those taking refuge in Chad."

Arab Jingaweit militias, acting as "proxies for the government" are "systematically burning African villages, killing and abusing civilians," Acting Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Charles Synder told Congress on March 11, and have created, according to Secretary of State Colin Powell the "worst humanitarian crisis in Africa."

Archbishop Marona is not the only

Sudanese bishop with a message of international alarm. On a tour of the United States, the Rt. Rev. Andudu Adam Elnail, the 33-year-old Bishop of Kadugli and the Nuba Mountains, told members of Congress that Islamic relief agencies allowed into his diocese by the Khartoum government are insisting that people convert to Islam in order to receive aid. Bishop Andudu, whose diocese straddles the frontlines of the fighting, told Sen Sam Brownback (R-Kansas) that wealthy Muslim Arabs from Khartoum are "buying" four wives apiece as a means of converting people to Islam

Addressing the Diocese of Louisiana's convention on March 12 Bishop Andudu stated "the Church was strong" and that genocidal persecution had not dimmed the light of faith for Nubians as "We have a message for our people that Christ will come."

(The Rev.) George Conger

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The Rt. Rev. Walter Righter, retired Bishop of Iowa, has reportedly been performing sacramentally **without permission or license** at Calvary Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., for more than six months while the rector has been away on sabbatical. Bishop Righter, who publicly criticized five retired bishops in March for performing an unauthorized confirmation service in Ohio, has not responded to the accusation.

In acquitting the Rev. Karen Dammann — a **self-acknowledged lesbian minister** who married her partner in a civil commitment ceremony the week before her trial — of violating a church law prohibiting homosexual persons from the ministry, a jury of 13 Methodist clergy from the Pacific Northwest Conference said laws against homosexual ministers in the Book of Discipline were imprecise and found more persuasive other declarative statements regarding inclusiveness and acceptance.

A 15-year-old altar boy was badly injured when a **church bell struck him** on the head during Easter services in eastern Romania. The boy, a regular worshiper at the Orthodox church in the village of Movila Verde, was standing in the wooden bell tower when the bronze bell broke loose from its support. He lapsed into a coma for 24 hours, suffering a fractured skull and legs, according to *The Australian*.

The Rev. Johnna Camp has been appointed interim program director of the Education for Ministry program at the School of Theology of the University of the South. She replaces the Rev. Edward de Bary who retired.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I of **Constantinople**, the spiritual leader for Eastern Orthodox Christians, has formally accepted an apology made three years ago by Pope John Paul II for the destruction of the city and killing of its inhabitants by Crusaders from Western Europe in April 1204.

Taking advantage of the fact that the **moveable feast day of Easter** this year was celebrated on the same date by both the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches, Pope John Paul II renewed a proposal he made years ago that the two agree on one date to be celebrated by all. Most churches celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the full moon of the spring equinox, but most of the Eastern Orthodox churches did not adopt the reforms which were instituted by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 to the calendar introduced by Julius Caesar in 46 B.C.



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Canon Jeffrey John Named Cathedral Dean

British Prime Minister Tony Blair has appointed the Rev. Canon Jeffrey John, the man behind last summer's row in the Church of England over homosexuality and the episcopacy, to be dean of St. Albans

Cathedral.

A founding member of Affirming Catholicism, chancellor and canon theologian of Southwark Cathedral, John Canon was appointed Bishop Suf-



fragan of Reading last year but was persuaded to step down by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev. Rowan Williams, because of opposition to some of his published reports in which he has stated that homosexuality and heterosexuality are morally equivalent. Canon John lives with a male partner but has stated that though his relationship in recent years has been celibate in obedience to Church law, he intends to remain a forceful advocate for changing the Church's teachings on the morality of homosexual behavior.

Anglican Mainstream, the evangelical coalition that led the successful opposition against Canon John's appointment last year, offered a muted response to the latest appointment noting only "we will remember Canon John in our prayers as he moves to a new cathedral ministry."

New Venture for Morehouse

Morehouse Publishing and explorefaith.org will join forces to produce books targeting readers "who find spirituality information on-line," said Christine Cook, publicity assistant at Morehouse. Morehouse had noted several of the non-profit site's authors and decided to explore a collaboration. The website will excerpt books in the explorefaith.com series, while Morehouse will publish the volumes.

The first two titles will be by familiar Episcopal authors. Beginning Again: Benedictine Wisdom for Living with *Illness*, by the Rev. Mary Earle, will be published in October. Beyond Words: 15 Ways of Doing Prayer, by Kristen Johnson Ingram, a licensed preacher, will appear in September.

PEOPLE & PLACES

Appointments

The Rev. Joseph K. Acton is rector of St. Luke's, 5923 Royal Ln., Dallas, TX 75230.

The Rev. Carolyn Davis is vicar of St John's, PO Box 1026, Center, TX 75935-1026 The Rev. Jonathan Folts is rector of St.

John's, PO Box 422, Essex, CT 06426.

The Rev. Donna Mayhow is interim associate at St. Paul's, 2747 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44106.

The Rev. Edward Hunt is rector of Zion, 14 W Liberty St., Rome, NY 13440.

The Rev. Mary L Jacobs is rector of AL Saints', 9201 Wornall Rd., Kansas City, Mu 64114.

The Very Rev. Hollinshead T. Kalght 15 interim rector of St. Paul's, 1444 Liberty St. Salem, OR 97302.

The Rev. Douglas Smith is rector of AL Saints', 890 McCosh St., Hanover, PA 17331

The Rev. Brad St. Romaine is priest-incharge of Christ Church, PO Box 638, Cedar Park. TX 17011.

The Rev. Mark D. Stuart is associate at St Thomas', 7501 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90046.

The Rev. Sharon Sylves Williams is assistant at St. Mark's, 118 3rd St. SE, Washington, DC 20003.

Ordinations

Priests

Colorado — Warren Hicks, Dawn Simpeon East Tonnessee - Brad Smith, assistant, St Andrew's, PO Box 4368, Maryville, TN 37802-4368

indianapolis — Charles William Aflen, Ele Jones Morrell.

Vermont — Carole Wageman.

Deacons

Chicago — Jonathan Bavingartun, Dale Bennett, Phillip Gregory, Melody Knowles, Deeples Rogers.

Fort Worth - David Madison, Jeffrey Moare Indianapolis — Kathryn Lee Thomas.

Renunciations

Southern Ohio - Mary Louise Reed, Dolores W. Witt.

Resignations

The Rev. Hugh Beli, as rector of St. Cyprian's, Lufkin, TX.

Retirements

The Rev. Philip D. Henderson, as rector of St. Paul's, Oregon City, OR.

The Rev. Peter Glyn Thomas, as assistant at St. Martin's, Houston, TX.

Deaths

The Rev. Canon Ross Barrett Hilde-

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brand, 73, rector of St. Peter's Church, Westchester Square, Bronx, NY, for 26 years, died Feb. 16 in Newton, NJ.

Canon Hildebrand was born in Canton, OH, and graduated from Miami University and Berkeley Divinity School. After being ordained deacon and priest in 1966, he was assistant at St. John's, Larchmont, NY, then served the Bronx parish from 1971 until 1997, when he retired. He served on the Companion Diocese committee and was made an honorary canon by the Diocese of Klerksdorp (now Matlosane), South Africa.

The Rev. **Sheila McKivergan Biggs**, 63, who served the Diocese of New York for 23 years, died March 5 following a stroke.

A native of Providence, RI, she was educated at Massachusetts General Hospital School of Nursing, Simmons College, and the General Theological Seminary. She was ordained in the Diocese of New York and served several congregations and hospital chaplaincies there. Most recently she was interim pastor at St. Luke's, Eastchester. She is survived by three children.

The Rev. **Ray Hert Averett, Jr.**, retired priest of the Diocese of Alabama, died Feb. 14 in Birmingham, AL. He was 83.

Born in Birmingham, Fr. Averett was a graduate of the University of the South and Virginia Theological Seminary. He was ordained deacon and priest in 1952, then served congregations in the dioceses of Alabama, Atlanta, Maryland and Connecticut for 36 years. He was rector of St. George's, Griffin, GA, 1958-64; coordinator of services to parishes in the Diocese of Maryland, 1967-72, and canon to the bishop in that diocese, 1972-75. He was rector of Trinity, Southport, CT, 1975-82. He retired in 1988. He served with the departments of Christian education in the dioceses of Alabama and Atlanta, and was a member of standing committee and an alternate deputy to General Convention while in Maryland. Surviving are his wife, Nancy; a daughter, Kathryn, and a son, Samuel.

The Rev. **Gordon D. Griffith**, 82, rector of St. Clement's Church, Berkeley, CA, for 23 years, died Feb. 26 in Santa Rosa, CA.

Fr. Griffith was born in Newcastle, Australia, and was educated at St. John's College and University of Queensland (Australia), Oxford University and the General Theological Seminary. He was ordained in the Diocese of Newcastle. After serving in the Anglican Church of Australia for nearly 20 years, he became associate at Trinity Cathedral, San Jose, CA, serving from 1963 to 1965, then was rector in Berkeley until his retirement in 1988. In recent years he assisted at the Church of the Incarnation, Santa Rosa, and was the drummer in a Dixieland band. He is survived by his wife, Natalie; four children, Sam, Melinda, John, and Angela Cropper; five grandsons, and a sister, Joan Partridge, of Hamilton, New South Wales, Australia.

The Rev. **Patricia Sandra Horton**, 56, associate priest at St. Michael's Church, Birmingham, AL, died Jan. 13 in Birmingham. She was canonically resident in the Diocese of Atlanta.

Ms. Horton was a native of Asheville, NC. She graduated from Western Carolina University, University of Georgia, and the School of Theology of the University of the South. She was ordained deacon in 1986 and priest in 1987 in the Diocese of Atlanta. She was assistant at St. David's, Roswell, GA, 1986-90; rector of St. Francis', Macon, 1990-93, and served as a chaplain at University of Tennessee Medical Center and UAB Hospital, Birmingham.

The Ven. **Robert Campbell Chapman**, sometime archdeacon of the Diocese of New York, died Feb. 1 in Port Charlotte, FL, where he has resided since his retirement in 1993. He was 78.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, he was educated at City College of New York-Brooklyn, and the General Theological Seminary. Following ordination as deacon and priest in 1952, he served at a number of churches in Long Island, Pennsylvania, Michigan and New York, including rector of St. Matthew's and St. Joseph's, Detroit, MI, 1966-68; rector of All Souls', New York City, 1974-76, and archdeacon from 1976 to 1983, and rector of St. Philip's, Brooklyn, 1983-92. He retired in 1992. Canon Chapman is survived by his wife, Muriel, and three children.

The Rev. **Herbert Washburn Florer**, Jr., of Kerhonksen, NY, died Feb. 3. He was 76.

Fr. Florer was born in Pontiac, MI. He graduated from Columbia University, Yale, and Philadelphia Divinity School. Ordained deacon in 1958 and priest in 1959, he spent much of his ordained ministry in non-parochial positions, including chaplain at the Leake and Watts Children's Home in Yonkers, NY, and in a number of interim ministries. He also was a chaplain for the British Embassy in Moscow, 1991-93, and a liason to the Russian Orthodox Church, 1990-92.

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For more information, visit our website z http://stnouls.wilkesboro.org Send inquiries to Marry Moore, Search Committee Chairman, St. Paul's Episropal Church, P.O. Box 95, Wilkesboro, NC 28697 or E mail: stnoulwilkesboro@earthlink.net. Applications mass be postmarked by May 28.

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PART-TIME OR RETIRED PRIEST: Long Beach Island (LBI), NJ St. Peter's at the Light is not the largest of panshes. but we are one that offers a potential candidate a very unique opportunity of employment. Built in 1890, St. Peter's is a historic and artistic edifice that is virtually unchanged from its original concept. There is an adjacent Pansh House, Memorial Garden and nearby vicarage. Located at the northern tip of Long Beach Island, in the resort community of Barnegat Light, St. Peter's is 1½ hours from Philadelphia. 2 hours from NYC and 45 minutes from Atlantic City.

We are looking for a part-time or retired priest who can readily adapt to our seasonal changes where church attendance does fluctuate. Those who worship at St. Peter's have been very fortunate to enjoy an atmosphere that puts one in mind of earlier times when life was not as complex. To that end, we are eager to work with a priest who is a proactive, innovative individual who will provide evangelistic leadership and guidance to the congregation. A priest who can assist us in creating an outreach program for others to come and share in St. Peter's testimony to vision, faith and courage. A priest who will administer to those members on our parish prayer list and will have ecumenical and community involvement. Please send resumés to: Clergy Search, St. Peter's at the Light, NJ, 08006. E-mail: <u>streterlight@juno.com</u>

ASSOCIATE RECTOR: Darien, CT. Saint Luke's Parish in Darien, Connecticut, seeks an associate rector to join a new team of three other clergy in a strong congregation happily engaged in discerning a new vision. The position will have primary responsibility for incorporating members into the life of the congregation, by developing small groups for fellowship, learning and spiritual formation, and by coordinating pastoral care. This associate will also be a resource and pastoral presence to our large and vibrant Children's Ministry, working with the program's full-time director. We are looking for someone with an engaging spirituality, a genuine faith she or he can share with others. We need someone with a heart for people, an organized person who can empower and coordinate the ministries of others. Send resumes to The Rev. David R. Anderson, 1864 Post Rd. Darien, CT 06820 or E-mail: david.anderson@saintlukesdarien.org.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: We're looking for a new shepherd to partner with us to meet our goals of: Increasing our membership across all ages; expanding education and fellowship; increasing outreach; and growing lay ministry to increase the number and their development. For more information about us, please visit our website at www.sfgoodshepherd.org. If you wish to be considered, please contact Mother Karen Hall, at canonkaren@gwest.net.

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR: All Saints Church, Jacksonville, Florida, an established (over 100 years old) suburban congregation in the Diocese of Florida, is seeking an energetic person with a warm, inviting personality to serve on the ministry team. With an average Sunday attendance of 367 in 2003 and a 2004 budget of \$625.000, All Saints offers an exciting opportunity for the right person.

Currently the Rev. Dr. Molly Dale Smith serves as Interim Rector to this corporate-sized parish. The congregation is searching for an ordained person to assist Dr. Smith during the interim period and stay through the first several months of the pastorate of the next settled rector — an estimated 2+ years.

All Sants is committed to the support and empowerment of Lay Ministry. The assistant to the rector will work closely with the laity in the areas of Pastoral Care, Parish Life. Christian Formation and Youth Ministry. In addition this person will preach and preside at worship on a regular basis.

Benefits: Minimum Stipend \$30.000 and housing Allowance: \$12,000 Additional questions and/or resumes may be E-mailed to <u>msmith@allsaintsjax.org</u>. Phone: (904) 737-8488.

POSITIONS OFFERED

Is God Calling You To Be Our School Chaplain? Seeking an Episcopal priest for full-time ministry as Chaplain at Bethany School, a co-ed day school, grades K-8, located on convent grounds in Cincinnati, Ohio. Bethany School is a ministry of the Community of the Transfiguration, an Episcopal religious order. The primary role of the Chaplain is to continually hold up the love and call of Christ to faculty, staff, students and Sisters. The School Chaplain will celebrate the Eucharist for at least two services each week with the Convent Chaplain. Other duties include but may not be limited to teaching Christian Education courses and counseling children, parents and faculty. Will work with Sisters, school administration and faculty. Organizational, teaching and counseling skills are essential.

We seek a warm, loving, outgoing person who feels called to minister to children. This person also needs to be a team player, willing to make decisions collegially with other members of the Christian Education Department and Administration. An understanding of the religious life and an appreciation of worship in a traditional chapel setting are necessary. Information about the school can be found at <u>www.bethanyschool.org</u>. If interested in this opportunity, please contact: Sr. Marcla Francis, 495 Albion Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45246. PH: (513) 771-5291 E-Mail: <u>ctsisters@aol.com</u>.

CHILDREN'S MINISTER: Young, dynamic Episcopal church in far West End of Richmond, Virginia, is seeking a special full-time Children's Minister to guide the youngest members of our church community and their families. Congregation numbers approx. 1,800 families, ASA is between 750-950, and children's Sunday School programs have approx. 300 each week. Search team is accepting resumes immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Please check our website at <u>www.christchurchrichmond.com</u>. Send cover letter, resume and references ASAP to: Cindy Harper, Chair Search Team, Christ Church Episcopal, 5000 Pouncey Tract Rd., Gien Allen, VA 23059. E-mail: <u>cmkharper@aol.com</u>.

ASSOCIATE RECTOR/CURATE: Kenilworth, Illinois: The Church of the Holy Comforter, a historic and vibrant Episcopal parish in Kenilworth, Illinois, on Chicago's suburban north shore, is seeking an energetic and team-oriented priest for an opening on our clergy staff this summer. We are willing to consider candidates for either an associate rector or curate position, depending upon the individual's qualifications and experience. This is a wonderful opportunity for someone who would like a thorough grounding in the full range of clerical responsibilities - preaching, teaching, liturgical leadership, pastoral care, youth ministry and parish administration. Our parish is growing slowly, but steadily, with an influx of young families. We have an open, active and engaged laity and a broad range of ministries focused on both the community and our parish. The parish is strong and stable financially and our compensation package is attractive. Send inquiries to: John Campbell, Junior Warden, Church of the Holy Comforter, 222 Kenilworth Avenue, Kenilworth, IL 60043 or call (847) 251-0589 E-mail to: ifc1219@aol.com, For more information, please visit our website at www.holycomforter.org/whoweare/parishleadership.asp.

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POSITIONS OFFERED

FULL-TIME RECTOR: Christ Church, Woodbury, New Jersey. Historic 147-year-old parish seeks a rector for a family-oriented congregation. Debt free and located in a small city only a short distance from Philadelphia. Parish emphasizes traditional masses several times a week with fine music and education for all ages. We seek a candidate with strengths as pastor, preacher and teacher with administrative skills to lead our parish of 500 members and a Sunday School with 85 children.

Our parish hall, to be rebuilt this fall, has a newly remodeled educational wing. We have both a large Victorian rectory and an assistant's residence. Our profile is available on request. Receiving resumes and profiles through June. Contact: Chairman, Search Committee, Christ Church, 62 Delaware Street, Woodbury, NJ. 080%. See our web site at <u>http://christchurch.woodburyni.com</u>.

FULL-TIME CHAPLAIN: The Episcopal Church Council of the Diocese of Chicago seeks a full-time chaplain to Brent House, the Episcopal ministry to the University of Chicago. Further information is available on our website <u>www.brenthouse.org</u>. Inquiries: Ronald Thisted, Brent House, 5540 S. Woodlawn, Chicago, IL 60637. Phone: (773) 834-1242.

FULL-TIME MISSIONER PRIEST: The Pine Ridge Episcopal Mission, located in rural South Dakota, offers a challenge and opportunity for a missioner priest to develop mutual ministry, strategies for growth and redevelopment, and provide pastoral care in 20 family-sized congregations with an experienced ministry team among the deeply spiritual Oglala Sioux people. Contact The Rev. Canon Karen Hall, (605) 338-9751 or canonkaren@cwest.net.



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Ed 10, Sol E&B 4 (1S) Daily: MP 6:40	0 (ex Sun) Masses 7, 6:20
(Wed), 10 (Sat); EP M-S 6, Sun 4; (C Sat 5:30-6, Sun 10:30-
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face PM; add, address; anno, announced; A-C, Ante-Communion; appt., appoint-ment; 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. Euchanst Ev, Evensong; ex, except; 1S. 1st Sunday; hol, holiday; HC, Holy Communion; HD Holy Days; HS, Healing Service; HU, Holy Unction; Instr. Instructions; Int. Interces sions; LOH, Laying On of Hands; Lit, Litany; Mat. Matins; MP, Morning Prayer P. Penance: r, rector; r-em, rector emeritus; Ser, Sermon; Sol, Solemn; Sta, Stations V. Vespers; v, vicar; YPF, Young People's Fellowship. A/C, air-conditioned; H/A, handicapped accessible.



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