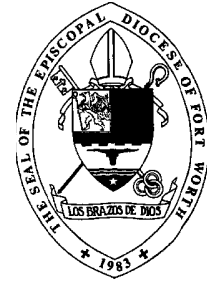


The Epistle



A PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES

TRINITYTIDE A.D. 2009

From the Rector:

BELOVED in Christ,

THE month of July begins with the feast of the Most Precious Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. In fact, all of July is kept by the Roman Catholic Church as the month of the Most Precious Blood. It is a good thing to call to mind the price paid for our salvation, and to render thanks for it. And not to take away from that, but July always brings to mind, for me, Saint Swithun of Winchester. Apparently, in England, St. Swithun's Day (July 15) is even today observed with some degree of devotion. Swithun was bishop of Winchester, born during the reign of King Egbert. He lived from 800 to about 862.

HE left specific instructions, that at his death, he should be buried outside - *ubi et pedibus praetereuntium et stillicidiis ex alto rorantibus esset obnoxius* [where it might be subject to the feet of passers-by and to the raindrops pouring from on high]. Sometime later (July 15, 971 to be exact), it was decided to move his remains indoors to a new and improved shrine. Apparently, the saint was not pleased by the move, the skies blackened and then poured torrential rain, a real frog-strangler. It is also remembered that it rained for forty days thereafter.

THE belief grew up that if it rained on St. Swithun's Day, it would rain every day for the next forty. If it did not, it would be clear weather for the same period. Well, it seems to never fail, that long about the 15th of July, we here in Texas are likely looking at the skies thinking about how nice it would be to have a bit of a shower. We are a long way from Winchester, England, and I don't know how far the good bishop's influence

might extend, but I can't see how it can hurt anything to ask him to put in a good word for us with the Boss. Blessed Swithun, *ora pro nobis* (pray for us!)

IT IS a time of transition. Last month saw the organization of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) at its first provincial assembly at our cathedral in Bedford. ACNA is being composed a number of groupings of Anglicans who have come out of the The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada - some recently like our diocese and others who left quite some time ago, like the Reformed Episcopal Church (REC). ACNA now has a constitution and canons and

an Archbishop, Robert Duncan of Pittsburgh. We are now in a season where the various groups making up the new province will formalize their membership in it. We will be asked to do just that at our diocesan convention this fall. It is also a time in which it is hoped that other provinces of the Anglican Communion will move to recognize ACNA. The Anglican province of Uganda (*one of the largest in the Communion*) has already taken formal measures to do just that.

THE General Convention of The Episcopal Church (TEC) begins its triennial meeting this week. It is fully expected, that especially with the departure of four conservative dioceses since the last General Convention, at this meeting, TEC will move forward in its advancement of the human sexuality issues that have troubled the Anglican Communion so much so far. It is telling that South Carolina, a conservative diocese still within TEC has acknowledged that it does

Continued on page 3.

*Please remember to keep your pledge current,
God does not take the summer off,
neither do the utility companies!*



*The purpose of the Church of the Holy Apostles
is to glorify God through worship, discipleship, stewardship, fellowship, and love.*

Stephen Ministry at the Church of the Holy Apostles

(From the web site www.stephenministries.org)

The **Stephen Series** is a complete system for training and organizing lay people to provide one-to-one Christian care to hurting people in and around your congregation.

The Stephen Series provides congregations with the structure, training, and resources to set up and administer a complete system for lay caring ministry (called Stephen Ministry) in the congregation. In Stephen Ministry congregations, lay caregivers (called Stephen Ministers) provide one-to-one Christian care to the bereaved, hospitalized, terminally ill, separated, divorced, unemployed, relocated, and others facing a crisis or life challenge. Stephen Ministry helps pastors and congregations provide quality caring ministry for as long as people need it.

MUCH prayer and deliberation was part of the determination process in establishing a Stephen Ministry at our church. Ministry leaders will begin a class for training members of our parish to be commissioned as Stephen Ministers of Holy Apostles starting this September. This ministry of presence emanates from the book of Acts, which tells of Stephen, the first deacon of the early church. He was commissioned by the Apostles to do acts of caring ministry reaching out to his community. Our community would be our church membership. We believe there are many parishioners qualified for training. Blessings to them, and we hope they will become a part of this ministry.

IF YOU are interested in this ministry, which supports people in need, please request a questionnaire from Fr. Cantrell or Dr.

Joe Rubin. It will be mailed to you and should be returned in the envelope provided, by the end of July. Then, you will be contacted for an interview with one of the leaders. During that time you will be given a training schedule for Monday evenings, 6:30-8:30 pm, held at our church. A total of 50 hours will prepare participants for a Commissioning service held in mid-January at the 10:00 AM service. Training will begin Monday, September 14, 2009.

EACH training participant will be asked to purchase and use a set of materials, required by the National Stephen Ministry headquarters. These will be ordered for you. Anyone needing assistance with this expenditure of \$50.00 should speak to either of the leaders listed below. Do not let cost deter you.

YOUR commitment to becoming a Stephen Minister in our parish is one that will bless you as you serve others. We sincerely hope and pray that you will join us. Your faithfulness and grace is needed. The motto of the Stephen Ministry is "Christ Caring for People Through People." God's blessing on this ministry proclaims his being well pleased with how Stephen Ministry is simply about being our brother's keeper.

Feel free to call me with any questions or for additional information. Thank you.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. Joe Rubin

Holy Apostles' Leadership:
Fr. Cantrell 817 560-7187 or Dr. Joe Rubin at 817 922-8810

An Introduction

MY NAME is **Leslie Holder** and I am the new Parish Secretary here. I am a member of St. Anne's Church in Fort Worth and serve on the Altar Guild, St. Deborah's Guild as well as the Member Care and Outreach committee. I am a native Texas and have been in Fort Worth most of my life. I don't have any human children, but I do have two 8 year old adopted canines that I have had since they were puppies. Both of my girls are rescues, a subject very near and dear to my heart. My hobbies include spending time with my dogs, cooking, running, Pilates, reading, scuba diving and Photography. I am here to assist Father Cantrell as well as the parishioners of The Church of the Holy Apostles. If I can be of assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to ask. I am very excited to be here and look forward to getting to know you all. This is a job worth waiting for AND I know for certain, one God picked out for me and led me to.

Leslie Holder

Parish Outreach

YOU MAY have noticed the basket out in the narthex. It sits under the easel announcing what it is that we are currently collecting each month. Each week at the offertory at the 10:00 a.m. service that basket is brought forward by the ushers to be blessed along with the alms. Our present project is to help supply the food pantry run by **Iglesia San Miguel**, our hispanic mission on the southeast side of Fort Worth. We are collecting non-perishable food items & canned goods. Please remember to bring something for this offering - by all of us doing a little, collectively we can achieve much. Likewise, please remember that green box sitting on the table in the narthex. Money deposited there goes to support a priest in our companion diocese of Northern Malawi. That priest has a name, it is Connex Nyirenda. We pray for Fr. Connex at every mass here. It costs about \$100 a month to support a priest in Northern Malawi. We can do that much out of our pockets each month.

From the Rector, *continued.*

not think it can effectively participate in General Convention anymore. They are sending a deputation, but their expectations for moving the Convention in an orthodox direction are extremely low. So, we shall see what unfolds over the next couple of weeks.

AND speaking of transitions, we have a new member of the parish staff, Leslie Holder (*see page 2*). Leslie has just come on board as our new parish secretary, filling the position recently vacated by Dara Island. She is an Anglican, a very active member of Saint Anne's Church in our deanery, so she has a good understanding of how a parish like ours works. I hope you will go out of your way to make her feel welcome to the parish.

THIS also seems to be the season for weddings. Congratulations to Allison (Farris) and Hugo Gonzalez who were married at Holy Apostles on June 27th. And likewise to Tim Gauntt and his bride Karen. They are to be wed Saturday the 11th at 4:00 p.m. And you are all invited.

OUR new sign is taking shape out in front of the church. You may have noticed the handsome stone arch out in front on Longvue Avenue. It replaces the original one which was rotting away. It is amazing how long paint will hold its shape even when the wood underneath is gone. I think the finished product is going to be magnificent. It's new setting certainly is. We have Paul Simpson to thank for overseeing that project. After a false start with another sign company, we are finally making some progress. The signboard itself is still under construction. Stay tuned, we should soon have it completed.

AND finally, yesterday I received in the mail a notice of inhibition from Bishop Gulick, the bishop of Kentucky who is functioning as the provisional bishop for those folks who remained in TEC after our vote to realign last Fall. The notice listed me as one among 60 priests and deacons. I mention this because, no doubt, there will be some publicity regarding this. In six months I will be sent a notice informing me that I have been deposed from the ordained ministry of The Episcopal Church. Simply put, I am not under Bishop Gulick's authority (*he was not canonically elected*), therefore he cannot inhibit me. We (*you and I*) have been assured that we are rightfully under the authority of Bishop Iker and Archbishop Gregory Venables of the Province of the Southern Cone. So despite what you may hear to the contrary, I feel quite uninhibited when it comes to exercising my ministry as a priest in the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. Our responsibility is to continue to witness joyfully to the saving grace of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

God bless you all,

Father Chris +

A Word of Thanks

WHEN I dedicated an Easter lily "in thanksgiving for our Holy Apostles' family" I had no idea how grateful we would be. When I lost the mobility of my legs and was housebound for several weeks, they rallied round and kept us going with meals. This was a tremendous relief as, at the time, the burden of shopping and cooking fell on Ron's shoulders. Not only were the meals welcome, but it was a joy to be able to sit and visit with our providers. Special thanks to Linda Hentz who organised a rota. Thank you also for all the phone calls, cards and offers of transport, much appreciated.

*We love you all,
Pam and Ron Hedges*

From the Sr. Warden:

IHOPE everyone is staying cool as we move through the "Dog Days" of summer. Please remember as you go on vacation and chase kids while they are out of school, that our electric bills and water bills continue come in monthly, let's not forget our pledges as we enjoy the summer.

AS EVERYONE is aware we are moving forward as a Parish through our Diocese, as are hundreds of other churches in becoming part of the Anglican Church in North America. Please keep in mind this is a change that will not affect how we conduct ourselves as a Parish Family nor will it affect how we worship on Sundays; we will continue to be the family we are led by our wonderful rector Father Chris.

IHOPE you have noticed that our sign out front is changing and the frame has been modified already in preparation of the new sign being installed. Please bear with us as the process evolves and the sign is being built, I am sure you will be pleased with end result. If you see Paul Simpson, give him a pat on the back and a big thanks for his supervision and involvement in this project.

LET'S all look out for one another, we have had several folks that have been ill lately and thanks to our "Parish Family" many of you have made a point to involve yourselves in helping out. I know those that were helped are grateful, and I thank everyone who pitched in. What a great Parish and what a great congregation!

PLEASE continue to welcome our visitors and try and stay cool this summer.

*Peace be with you,
Collin Andrus*



ANNIVERSARIES:

| | | |
|------|----|---------------------------------|
| July | 3 | Chris & Rebecca Upward |
| | 11 | Robert Bohler & Helena Cantrell |
| | 12 | Thomas & Cheryl Farrell |
| | 19 | David & Michele Walker |



BIRTHDAYS:

| | | |
|------|----|-------------------|
| July | 1 | Sandy Van Der Aa |
| | 3 | Roy Wood |
| | 10 | Helon Latimer |
| | 13 | John McHugh |
| | 16 | Betty Bradley |
| | 18 | Thomas Farrell |
| | 18 | Lannie McHugh |
| | 18 | Paul Simpson |
| | 19 | David Wilson |
| | 23 | Ian Hiller |
| | 25 | Jackie Hentz |
| | 31 | Anna Clare Bohler |

YOUR VESTRY:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Collin Andrus, Sr. Warden | 817 598-0676 |
| Jim Owens, Jr. Warden | 817 560-1744 |
| Sabrina Caudill, Treasurer | 817 894-7972 |
| Nikki Wilson, Clerk | 817 568-2357 |
| Tony Hiller | 817 367-7633 |
| Michael Pinnau | 817 249-6464 |
| Todd Marchand | 817 444-3811 |
| Debbie Reddick | 817 236-9874 |
| Paul Simpson | 817 594-0379 |


The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at announced times and by appointment.
 Holy Day Services are as announced.
 A Nursery is provided 9:30 - 11:30 on Sundays.
 The Parish Office is open 9:00 AM.- 4:00 PM. Monday - Friday

How to contact us:

Office: (817) 560-7187
 Rectory: (817) 560-2199
 Fax: (817) 560-1518
 Web: www.holyapostlesfortworth.org
 E-mail: hapostles@swbell.net

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Sunday | 8:00 AM. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) 9:00 AM. Sunday School 9:30 AM. Choir Practice 10:00 AM. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) 11:15 AM. Coffee Hour |
|---------------|---|

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Mon-Thursday | 8:30 AM Morning Prayer |
| Tuesday | 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist |
| Wednesday | 10:00 AM Healing Mass 6:45 PM Evening Prayer |
| Friday | Rector's Day Off |



CHURCH *of the*
HOLY APOSTLES
 3900 Longvue Avenue
 Fort Worth, Texas 76126-9500

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