



The Fisherman

"Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only."

St. James 1:22

Newsletter of St. James Anglican Church, Olympia

July-September 2008

The Rector's Corner

There is a story about a priest heading to Church when he saw someone in the distance pushing his car, so he pulled up and said to the man, "Are you having trouble?" "No!" the man said and continued pushing his car. "Well, can I give you a hand?" the priest said, a bit reluctantly thinking of his bad back. The man responded, "It's very kind of you but I'm fine, really I am. I'm quite used to pushing on my own. Do it everyday." The priest tried again and asked, "Have you run out of GAS?" "Gas?" the man said, "What's GAS?" The priest gulped, and said, "GAS is what you put in the tank; then you sit in the driver's seat, switch on the ignition, put the car into gear, and drive off". The man looked at him bemused and said: "I've been pushing this car ever since I bought it. It's my first car. Neone's ever told me about gas before..... you know I wondered why everyone else seemed to be going so easily, and yet when I sat in the driver's seat NOTHING HAPPENED." So, the priest helped the man push his car to a garage where he filled up with gas- and off down the road he went like a rocket. A few minutes later the man returned to the priest and said, "Thank you" "Thank you for telling me about gas. It makes such a difference, doesn't it?"

Well, of course, the story is fiction, and yet in a way it's a story that's happening continually every day. Lots of people live as if all that was necessary for them to achieve happiness is to have a few more dollars a week in their pockets, and all will be well. Our political parties trade on this, trying to buy our vote by promising better schools, better hospitals, better pensions – that's all you need to make life great, so "VOTE FOR US, AND WE'LL GIVE IT TO YOU". But, of course we know it isn't true. We know, deep down inside that something's missing, that there's a hole within us that can't be filled with money or things- we KNOW that we don't have gas in our tanks, that's why so many people are experimenting with strange new religions and looking for new spiritual experiences. They know that life is a grind, going nowhere and they're longing to find an answer to their lack of power and meaning.

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The Disciples were facing the same dilemma that many people face today. They had been brought up as good religious people by their parents. But, as the years went by, the power and the joy had gone out of their faith - they realized they were just going through the motions of religion, pushing the car and getting nowhere as it were. Then they met Jesus, and saw immediately that there was something completely different about Him. He was going somewhere, going somewhere fast. Compared to Him, they were cold and dead, helpless and powerless. They saw He had a SPIRIT THAT THEY WERE LACKING. Oh, they tried to live like Him, but couldn't do it. Finally in frustration, they let Him down and abandoned him. And when they saw Him dying on the Cross, they thought it was over, His promises just as empty as their lives.

But, when Jesus rose from the dead, He promised them that their tank would now be filled, their lives would have a new power, and that they too would live life in the fast lane, and all they had to do was wait and pray and it would happen - so they did. And, it happened on the Day of Pentecost. That Day the very Spirit of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, came and filled them.....filled them with such power that they were astonished and so was the world around them. Our word "POWER" comes from the Greek word "DUNAMIS" (also the origin of the English word "dynamite"). From that day on their lives were like dynamite, shaking the religious and secular foundations of their world. Filling the disciples then and now with the same power to teach and preach, and love and heal, and live as He had, God's Gas, the Holy Spirit, had come to fill their lives and ours now they and we are going somewhere.

But, I think we may have given up a little bit, and that is a terrible shame. Pray with me that we shall be as open to the work of the Spirit today and all the tomorrows, just as were those ancient pioneers who had no Bible for reference, but were forced to depend on the living presence and guidance of God. That's a prayer we need to pray so that we will have an answer to give to all those countless people who are looking for spiritual meaning and not finding it in the cafeteria style Churches.

Let's pray the rest of this year and all of next, that we will see a renewed and powerful Church, witnessing to the community that Jesus is still alive living His life out in me and you! "Fill us again with your Holy Spirit, Lord!"

Fr. Doug

True Joy

God wills us to be happy, but happy in the things of God more than those of the world. True Joy comes in pleasing God not self. Live for self and happiness is never found, for all the lavish gifts of the world. Live for God and true joy is found, in trouble and trial, in sickness and sorrow, as well as in joy, peace and prosperity. Without God, nothing is really worth while. With God, naught is necessary, yet all that God sends is welcome.

He who has True Joy in God is always thankful. For as Saint Augustine wrote, "When God gives earthly blessings, give thanks; when God takes away earthly blessings, give thanks; for it is God who gives and God who takes away but God never takes Himself away from one who gives thanks."

Source: *The Practice of Religion: A Short Manual of Instructions and Devotions*, pg 256, by Archibald Campbell Knowles, D.D., 1908 (Seventh Edition, Tenth Printing in 1950; Publisher: Morehouse-Gorham Co., New York)

From the Senior Warden

Bishop Williams to Visit St. James

In August, (scheduled for Sunday, August 17, 2008), St James Parish will be visited by the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the West, Anglican Church in America, the Right Reverend Daren Williams. We have also invited him to our annual picnic the day before, August 1st at the Albros. We hope he can fit our picnic into his busy schedule (note: he is also the rector of All Saints Parish, Fountain Valley, CA in addition to his Bishop's duties). If he can come, it will provide you a chance to get to know him in an informal setting and to directly ask him questions.

In beginning to prepare for his visit, I asked myself what the visit would entail, and how could I get ready to receive the gifts of the Spirit he would bring. I'd like to share some of the nuggets I discovered in scriptures and with the help of a book recommended to me by Fr. Doug. ([An Outline of an Anglican Life: Lessons in the Faith and Practice of the Anglican Church](#) by Louis R. Tarsitano.)

In a nutshell, I found that while he does have oversight responsibility for St. James, the Bishop's visit will especially remind us that we are part of the Diocese of the West of the Anglican Church in America, which is a part of the Traditional Anglican Communion (TAG) a world-wide community of Anglican Christians. He will do this by his sermon, by visiting with us, and through symbols and duties of his office. I'm sure you too will want to observe these latter two carefully during his visit. A summary of a few of these symbols and duties follow below:

Symbols of his authority

Bishop's Chair - A high backed chair called a "cathedra" is used only when the bishop is present (we take this out of storage, brush it off, and place it in the sanctuary during his visit only.) Thus, the place where it usually sits is called a cathedral.

Crozier - The pastoral staff, which looks like a shepherd's crook, is the symbol of the governing office of the Bishop. He bears the staff as "shepherd of the flock of God" and uses it when conferring sacraments and presiding at liturgies.

Miter - Worn by Bishops as a sign of their office. The Western form is a doublepeaked hat, representing the Holy Ghost's descent upon the Apostles as in cloven tongues of fire. (Acts 2:3)-- (a beautiful and distinctive reminder)

Bishop's Ring - The Bishop's ecclesiastical ring is worn to denote his special office; the stone, if there is one, is usually an amethyst. (it, too, is beautiful, and distinctive)

Pectoral Cross - This cross is worn around the neck, and lies against his chest. It reminds us of the power which resides in the cross.

Duties

Sacramental Duties:

The basic parts of a sacrament are *the inward and spiritual grace* promised and given by God, and *the outward and visible sign* used by God to demonstrate his graceful action on our behalf in the physical world. (Second Office of Instruction, BCP, pg 292) In his visit, Bishop Williams may administer those sacraments reserved for a bishop, such as Confirmation.

It is the belief of the Church, that in Confirmation the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are bestowed upon the soul which rightly approaches this sacrament. The ancient list of the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit is based on the Septuagint (Greek) text of Isaiah 11:2. These gifts are: wisdom; understanding; counsel; spiritual strength, fortitude; knowledge; true godliness (piety); and holy fear (the fear of the Lord).

Confirmation is administered by the laying on of the bishop's hand upon those who have been baptized while he says the special prayer found on pg 297, BCP. Thus, it is sometimes named, as in the Prayer Book, "the Laying on of Hands." The word "confirmation" comes from the Latin "to make firm". It also means "to sign" or "to seal". The English phrase "signed, sealed, and delivered," used to describe the completion of a contract, expresses the sense of "confirmation" very well.

Other duties:

Preside at liturgy, conduct the Eucharist and preach - this is self explanatory.

Sheppard the flock - this will include being the pastor to our priest and deacon; getting to know us getting acquainted by visiting with parishioners; discussing our goals, successes, and problems; visit with the vestry; strengthen communication between our parish and Anglicans elsewhere.

As I look over this list I realize that my expectations for Bishop Williams' visit are huge! But really, I just hope to get to know him better and have him get to know all of you a bit better too. (maybe a little miracle!?)

Faithfully,

Sue Carmick

Quotes of Note

Albert Schweitzer:

One truth stands firm. All that happens in world history rests on something spiritual. If spiritual is strong, it creates world history. If it is weak, it suffers world history.

Helen Keller:

It gives me a deep, comforting sense that things seen are temporal and things unseen are eternal.

Thank God for my handicaps, for through them, I have found myself, my work, and my God.

Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadows.

Mother Teresa:

I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world.

We do not do great things; we do small things with great love.

The Fisherman regularly features articles on Anglican history, contributed by Steve Carmick. This is the tenth chapter in the series.

**ANGLICAN HISTORY
OR
HOW DID WE GET TO BE WHAT WE ARE?**

CHAPTER X - Medieval Monks & Monasteries

In addition to parishes, monasteries were the other main form of Church presence. They were self-contained enclaves where monks or nuns chose to live a simple life of prayer and work. At least, that was the theory. In practice, monks were often criticized for their laxity and for their concern with worldly affairs.

The first monasteries adhered to the Benedictine Rule, established by St. Benedict in the sixth century. In the early 12th century, the Cistercians, under St. Bernard of Clairvaux, advocated a return to simplicity and a rededication to simplicity in monastic life and in the architecture of the church buildings themselves. Cistercian monasteries were established in remote areas to emphasize this ideal. Today, they are the most interesting and evocative ruins of the Middle Ages.

At Gloucester Cathedral, which was originally a Benedictine monastery church, can be seen the carrells, or individual study nooks, built into the cloister. There the monks would study their precious books. As the numbers of books increased with the advent of the printing press, special library rooms were built, usually over the cloister walk. These were long narrow halls containing booths for reading set at right angles to frequent windows. Books were chained to the desks for safety.

Friars first appeared in the 13th century. They were clergy not attached to any particular parish, and indeed had no visible means of support. They rejected the monastic ideal of seclusion and went to live among townspeople and survived by begging. The mendicant friars were enormously popular, much more so than priests or monks, who were often seen as rich and indolent. The main orders of mendicant friars were the Dominicans and the Franciscans.

The monastic life suffered greatly in England during the Reformation when under Henry VIII monasteries and convents were closed and the property seized by the Crown. Except for a few abbots who resisted and were executed, the monks quietly accepted the closings and returned to the world.

Please Pray for St. James Clergy, Vestry, and Staff:

Rector: Fr. Doug Driscoll Phone: 253-265-8489; Email: drisco@centurytel.net

Deacon: Dcn. Bill Albro Phone: 360-455-9048; Email: wambro1@aol.com

Senior Warden: Sue Carmick (Vestry)

Carole Dudley (Vestry)

Junior Warden: Jan Gesche Vestry)

Frank Fahland (Vestry)

Treasurer: Stacy MacEwen

Mike Holderman (Vestry)

Secretary: Vacant

Drew MacEwen (Vestry)

Al Rettenmier (Vestry)

Music Director: Shirley Young

Where Are You?

By
Phil Latimer

See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. (Ephesians 5:15-16)

When you come into the building on Sunday morning, where are you? Sounds like an obvious question, doesn't it? I'm in church, of course.

Are you?

Your body may be in church but where's your heart? Where's your focus? What are you here to do?

Think about that for a moment.

You're here to give worship and adoration to God for your salvation. You're here to receive the Word of God into your hearts and lives. You're here to remember in the bread and wine the sacrifice that Christ made. You are here for the communion of the saints.

Part of that worship is preparation.

In Job 38:3, the Lord declares to Job... "Gird up thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee and answer thou me." St. John Baptist preaches by the Jordan... "Prepare ye the way of the Lord." And, of course, we all recall the Great Commandment of our Lord Himself... "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

How can we do this except that we are prepared?

Perhaps some of you have noticed that just before the service, the celebrant and acolyte go back by the cabinet for a few minutes. What are they doing? They are praying the prayers of preparation. They are doing what I stated earlier, preparing their hearts and minds for this time of worship. Are they the only ones that should be doing that? No-- of course not. We **ALL** should.

What should this preparation be? Should it be corporate or should it be private? Well, maybe a little bit of both. For example, one might read and ponder the Exhortations, BCP pg 8589. At the very least, the period in church before the start of the service should be a time of quiet reflection and prayer. This brings me to my next point, the part about the quiet.

Life, of course, is full of distractions-- Things that can pull us away from our true purpose for coming together as a church. Some of them seem so innocent but they are distractions nonetheless. Do you bring those distractions with you into church? It's so easy to do. It happens so often that we probably don't think about it.

These distractions push their way to the front of your mind and crowd out the things you need to be thinking about. It happens to all of us. The trick is to recognize it when it happens and realize what it's doing to you -- Especially on Sunday-- Especially in church.

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Now, no one has a perfect discipline of life and, as the Body of Christ, we must help and support each other in walking the Way. "...make us ever mindful of the needs of others" comes to mind. So, with that in mind, let's maintain that quiet air in the time before service begins and use it to prepare ourselves for worship.

There's a time and place for everything, folks and social time is important too, But not before church. Let us help each other in remembering where we are and why we are there. Oh, and please remember to turn your cell phone off for the service or better still, leave it in the car.

The Apostolic Succession

What is this handing down of the Apostolic office called? The Apostolic Succession.

Why is this continuance of the Apostolic Order and Ministry considered of such great importance?

(1) Because a true and valid Ministry is necessary to the existence of a true and valid Church. (2) Because it connects us directly with Christ, the Great Head of the Church.

How do we know that this succession or continuity in the chain of the Ministry has not been broken?

(1) Because for the first 1500 years after Christ we find no branch of the historic Church, orthodox, heretical, or schismatical, in any part of the world, without Bishops who had been ordained by other Bishops.

What precaution was taken, in early times, as a safeguard to the validity of the Ministry? At the Council of Nicaea, A.D. 325, a law was enacted requiring that no Bishop should be consecrated without the concurrence of three other Bishops; so that if, by any chance, one of the consecrators was not competent to act, the valid succession would yet be secured through either or both of the other two.

How has this rule affected the matter of a valid and true Apostolic Succession? It has placed it beyond all doubt. If three persons united in an ordination, and one, or even two of them were incompetent to act, the ordination would yet be valid through the third.

How does this make sure the Apostolic Succession? It makes the supposition of its failure incredible, because the longer it continues the stronger become the chances against its failure.

How can you illustrate this to make it plain? If three Bishops unite in every ordination, the Apostolic Succession becomes a network of interlacing cords, that cross and recross, and unite at many points. If you break one link in a chain the continuity is destroyed, but if you break one cord, or even many cords, in a mesh or net, there is still a continuity that remains unbroken between the top and bottom of the mesh. The wider the network becomes, and the more numerous the strands, the more difficult it becomes to break it.

What then do we infer? That the unbroken continuity in office between our Bishops and the Apostles is a moral certainty.

Excerpted from: *The Prayer Book Reason Why: A Text Book of Instruction on the History, Doctrines, Usages, and Ritual of the Church* by Nelson R. Boss. Revised and Enlarged by Marshall M. Day, Fifth Edition. Morehouse-Barlow Co., 1963

A Prayer

Deacon Bill recently came into possession of the Book of Common Prayer that had been presented to his mother at Christmas 1923. Pasted inside the front cover is this prayer:

Another day has come
O help me God, I pray,
To full forget the bitter things,
That happened yesterday,

And give me strength, O Lord,
Each issue so to meet,
That I may face Thee unashamed
Before the judgment seat.

Help me to rule myself;
And kindly let me live,
To all my work, to all mankind,
My very best to give.

And should in Thy great plan,
This day my labors end,
Forgive my sins, my soul receive,
For Jesus' sake. Amen.

H. B. Wood

DOW Missions Retreat and Clericus 2008

The Annual Diocesan Missions Retreat was held from the afternoon of June 2^d to noon on June 4th at The Serra Retreat Center in Malibu, California. Both Deacon Bill and Phil Latimer attended, and Phil also attended a meeting of the DOW Standing Committee that preceded the retreat. Theme for the retreat was "Paths to Holiness." During the retreat, separate workshops were held for both Clergy and Laity. The Clergy workshop was a practicum on the Liturgy of the Eucharist and Anglican Missal, led by Bishop Williams and Canon Beau Davis. Canon Scott Kingsbury led the Laity workshop which focused on Spirituality.

The Clericus (meeting of the Clergy) commenced on the evening of June 4th and ended about noon on the 6th. The Rt. Rev. Peter D. Wilkinson of the Anglican Church of Canada was the featured guest and speaker. Bishop Wilkinson gave six inspirational presentations with the overall title of "The Face of Christ." Following each presentation, the attendees had time to meditate and reflect on the Bishop's remarks. The beautiful setting of the Serra Retreat facility served to enhance the spirituality of this wonderful event.

Throughout the week, each day began at 7 AM with Morning Prayer followed immediately by Holy Communion and ended with Evensong at 7:30 PM. The services were in the Serra chapel with a fantastic view of the Malibu hills and the Pacific Ocean in the distance. Without a doubt, the Holy Spirit was present and everyone departed refreshed with renewed inspiration to do the Lord's work.

Special Upcoming Events

Annual Picnic & Bishop's Visit. Our annual picnic will be held on Saturday, 16 August at the home of Deacon Bill and Judy Albro. Festivities will commence at 3 PM. We anticipate that Bishop and Mrs. Williams will attend and that the members of St. Erasmus will join us. Details and a map with directions will be distributed in early August. Please **mark** your calendars!

Bishop's Visit. The Rt. Rev. & Mrs. Daren K. Williams will visit St. James and St. Erasmus on Sunday, August 17th. Bishop Williams will celebrate Holy Communion at both churches.

Annual DOW Synod. The DOW Synod will be held September 29^h - October 1st, hosted by the Bishop's Parish, All Saints in Fountain Valley, California. Please consider being a delegate.

Please remember our members with birthdays and anniversaries in your prayers.



Birthdays

Maria Immormino- July 10th
 Becky Holderman - July 11th
 Judy Albro - July 12th
 Betty Rettenmier - July 23rd
 Chuck King- August 5th
 Gil Hofling- August 19th
 Fran Mead- August 23rd
 Jan Gesche - August 26th
 Tim McDonald- September 15th
 Bill Albro- September 30th

Anniversaries

Steve & Sue Carmick - July 1st
 Lee & Barbara Wells - July 10th
 Bill & Judy Albro- September 2nd

Prayer Works!

How wonderful it is to know that our special needs and those of our loved ones are being remembered in prayer by our clergy and the dedicated members of our congregation. Please give special requests to Fr. Doug or Judy Albro, Prayer Chain Coordinator (360-455-9048).

Don't Forget

Your input to the Fisherman is needed! Please submit to your editor, Deacon Bill, any announcements and/or draft articles that will be of interest to the Congregation. Submissions for the October to December issue of the Fisherman are due not later than **September 15th**.

Thurston County Jail Ministry

"I was in prison, and ye came to me." Matthew 25:36

Volunteers needed! St. James is a member of a Prison Ministry Team conducting services for inmates of the Thurston County Jail. There are several teams, each composed of members from local area churches. The teams take turns conducting four services over two-week periods - our team goes into the jail about once a quarter. All that is needed to become a member is commitment to our Lord and a background check, conducted by the County Sheriff's Office. Contact Deacon Bill.

Thurston County Food Bank

The Food Bank greatly appreciates the monthly food donations from St. James. These donations are visible evidence of our genuine concern for the less fortunate amongst us.

Upcoming Events — St. James Anglican Church

ONGOING EVENTS:

Every Sunday at 10:00 AM

Holy Communion (1928 Book of Common Prayer) & Church School for Children during Service

Sundays - July 6 to August 10

Confirmation/Reaffirmation Instruction (after Holy Communion Service) for those interested, in preparation for our Bishop's visit.

1st Sunday of Month

Donation of Articles for the Food Bank and Prison Ministry

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Sunday - July 13, August 10,
and September 14

Vestry Meeting at 8:30 AM (before Holy Communion Service)

Saturday, August 16

Annual Picnic at home of Deacon & Judy Albro (*see pg 9*)

Sunday, August 17

Visit of Bishop Daren K. Williams (*see pg 9*)

September 29-October 1

DOW Synod hosted by All Saints, Fountain Valley, CA (*see pg 9*)

St. James Meets at: American Legion Post 3
3201 Boston Harbor Road
Olympia, Washington

Web: www.stjamesolympia.org

Message Phone: 360-455-8448