



The Shepherd's Staff

*Newsletter of the
Diocese of the Western States*

June 2019

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Twenty Eighth Diocese of the Western States Synod

The twenty-eighth Synod of the Diocese of the Western States took place from May 15th to May 18th, 2019 at the Lafayette Park Hotel in Lafayette and Saint Joseph's Seminary Chapel in Berkeley. The Synod began (unofficially) at 8:30 a.m. with two candidates for the diaconate, Mr. Glenn Karcher of Saint Ann's Palo Alto and Mr. Ben Lawrence of Saint Luke's Redding, taking their oral exams before the Board of Examining Chaplains. Both men did well and passed. At 11:00 a.m. The Standing Committee met and discussed the parochial status of the diocese. Both Ben and Glenn appeared before the board which recommended to the bishop that they be made deacons. The committee also interviewed Deacon

Michael Ruffino of Saint Chad's Colorado Springs, and Deacon Franz Longworth of Saint Peter's Oakland, who were recommended to proceed to studies for the priesthood.



At 3:00 p.m., the Opening Reception provided a forum for Synod delegates to



socialize, meet with old friends and make new friends. At 5:00 p.m.

light refreshments (provided by the Anglican Church Women) were set out followed by the Bishop's Auction to raise funds to help send clergy to Synod.



At 6:00 p.m., the Deluxe Synod Radio Players presented its second performance *Father Brown goes to Synod*. Afterwards, the delegates went to no host dinners at the various eateries.



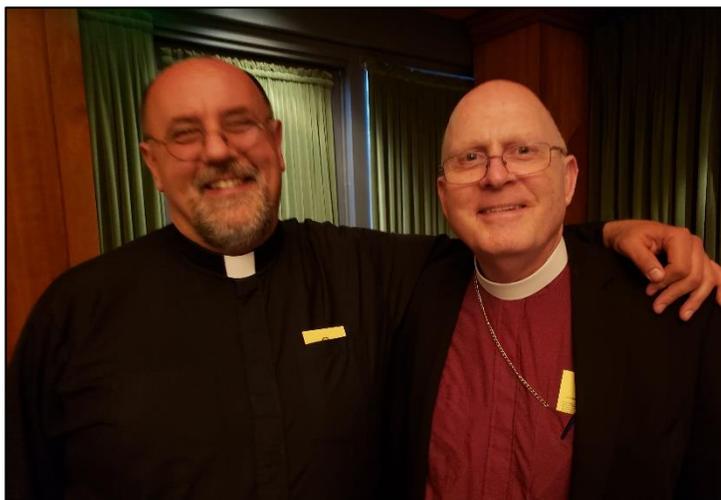
Thursday morning began with a well-attended 7:30 a.m. Eucharist celebrated by Father Mark Lillegard of Saint Mark's Portland, assisted by Deacon Michael Ruffino of Saint Chad's, Colorado Springs. After breakfast (during which three members of the Standing Committee interviewed and recommended advancement for Mr. Jerry Jewett of Church of Our Saviour Los Angeles for the deaconate), the Board of Directors of the Corporation met and established a budget for the coming fiscal year. Father Matthew Weber of Saint Ann's Palo Alto concurrently presented a workshop on *How the Ordo Kalendar teaches the Faith*.



At 11:30 a.m., Anglican Church Women and Clergy Lunch filled the Ben Franklin Room. Attendees were treated to an astounding presentation by Mr. Robbie Messer (Saint Paul's, Newman) who overcame a challenging childhood and told us many of his secrets with much good advice – no substitute for good parents and strong family. Father and Deb Ponec of Saint John the Baptist in Omaha thanked the diocese for the relief monies which members of the diocese sent to flood ravaged Nebraska.



After the clergy left, Chris Sunderland (Saint Peter's and Saint Joseph's) gave a presentation on Sunday School and education of our children. She gave every ACW member a copy of *Teaching the Church's Children* for grades three to six. Nona Gourley (Saint Paul's Newman) reminded everyone how the order their Ordo Kalendars and how important it is to coordinate with their parish priest. During the Clericus (held concurrently), the clergy discussed challenges to the ministry in the modern world including the duties of ministers in this diocese; the chain of command and the role of the minister, the chancellor and the bishop; Second Amendment issues; clergy self-evaluations and the role of the Diocesan Administrator; and compensation for visiting clergy. Following the Clericus, Evening Prayer was led by Father Robert Ponec assisted by Deacon David Jackson of Saint Augustine's Chico. The laity were on their own for dinner and the clergy and wives attended dinner at Scott's Seafood in nearby Walnut Creek.





A chartered bus took Synod delegates to Saint Joseph's Seminary Chapel for the 8:45 a.m. Friday Solemn Pontifical Mass which was a Votive Mass of the Holy Ghost with Propers for the Ordination of Priests. Father Scott Mitchell was the preacher and Father Matthew Weber chanted the Litany for Ordinations. During the Mass, all the priests present heard the exhortation of their ordination day and repeated their ordination vows. The Plainchant (Missa Marialis) Kyrie, Gloria, Creed, Sanctus and Agnus Dei were sung magnificently by the choir of Saint Ann's Church in Palo Alto led by Helen Holder. The Offertory Anthem was *Veni Creator Spiritus* composed by Tomás Luis de Victoria and the Communion Anthem was *Tu solus qui facis mirabilia* by Josquin des Prez. And on his former Episcopal Throne, Bishop Morse's miter reminded all present of our beloved founder.

All were shuttled back to the Lafayette Park hotel. The laity and clergy had a free lunch, while the clergy wives were honored by Bishops Ashman and Hansen. Sharon Brown organized the luncheon and made a wonderful presentation of old dresses and purses from her mother's and grandmother's collection. Thank you, Sharon!

After registration, the Synod Business Meeting began at 2:00 p.m. in the George Washington Room. Present were two bishops, two canons, fifteen priests, three deacons and twenty-five lay delegates plus visitors and one proxy. In all, nineteen of the diocese's twenty-two parishes were represented.



After Call to Order, Opening Prayer and Quorum Call, Saint Chad's Mission in Colorado Springs was admitted to the diocese. Father Ben Brown of Saint Francis of Assisi in Livermore rehearsed the minutes which were accepted. Bishop Ashman gave his address and the treasurer Bishop Hansen gave the Treasurer's Report. Elections were held for Secretary of Synod, Standing Committee, Directors of the Diocesan Corporation, the Ecclesiastical Court, the Chancellor, and delegates to the Provincial Synod and the Provincial Court. Then the Bishop's appointments were announced.

Canon Charles "Rusty" Dillon gave the Standing Committee Report. Bishop Hansen gave a report for the Diocesan Corporation. Canon Richard McNeely of Saint Thomas San Francisco gave the Chancellor's Report. Father Michael Mautner of Saint Peter's Oakland gave the report of the Examining Chaplains. Mrs. Erin Salazar of Church of Our Saviour Los Angeles gave the Youth Camp report and showed a delightful film clip which can be found on the Provincial Web Site. Bishop Ashman talked about Saint Joseph's Seminary and our need for men to give themselves for the ministry. Gillian Golden gave the Diocesan Anglican Church Women's report. [It was Gillian's birthday and she received a standing ovation.] Bishop Ashman reported how important it is to honor Altar Guild Member and Lay Readers by lapel pins and medals. After Resolutions, Bishop Ashman gave a blessing and the business meeting was adjourned. Evening Prayer followed led by Father Daniel Canda of Saint James Golden CO assisted by Mr. Glenn Karcher. The Synod Banquet and ACW Fundraiser were enjoyed by everybody, one and all.



The Synod ended the next morning with the Eucharist celebrated by Bishop Hansen assisted by Deacon Franz Longworth; followed by breakfast parties, wonderful fellowship and warm farewells.

The Bishop's Address 2019

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

These last two verses of Saint Matthew's Gospel teach us two things: that we are called to spread the Good News and that Jesus Christ is always with us. And it is belief in this Great Commission given by our Lord that underpin the Province of Christ the King and the Diocese of the Western States. To be sure, we have had our ups and downs, our wanderings in the desert and difficulties in crossing Jordan, our human frailties and worldly temptations, but we have kept our eyes on the Great Commission as we have continued to spread the Gospel of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. Moreover, I am particularly proud of you in this diocese who have borne so many changes in the last four years.

I am proud of you because you have not turned your backs to the plow; you have kept your lamps burning brightly; you understand that we must be about our Father's business. And you know that it has never been any different: Roman persecutions, Arianism and Pelagianism morphed by Satan into modernism, relativism and old heresies warmed over. Bishop Morse knew that. He tried to prepare us. In 1967 he wrote: The role of the Church has not changed. It is to preach the Gospel that God is love, He gives us life, He forgives us, and He gives us eternal life. The eternal mystery is that the living Christ is known and experienced in the Holy Eucharist. Living up to the Great Commission and Bishop Morse's vision is what we are doing; it is our Mission Statement; and it the special calling of our priests.

I wanted to make this clear at our Synod Pontifical Mass this morning when I chose a Votive Mass of the Holy Ghost, the Propers for the Ordination of a Priest and the recitation of priestly vows by the priests who were present. As we sang the final hymn, we sang of their sorrow and joy, their labors and their triumph of their calling. They are prophets who must tell what must be said; they are priests who bring souls to Jesus Christ; they are kings anointed to win a kingdom not of this world; they are apostles sent to tell all worlds God's grace. And when all is said and done, crosses and crowns, intercession and preaching; pardoning, showing Christ's love and peace; they will stand at last with joy before the face of God. We need more of them. We need vocations. And we thank Bishop Morse for St. Joseph's Seminary.

Our Seminary Summer Session did outstanding work last Summer with nineteen men interested in or actively pursuing Holy Orders attending. Core courses were offered in Church history, the Prophets, Homiletics and the Liturgical Kalendar. We were honored by the teaching presence of Fr. Dr. Paul Russell and Dr. Paul Evans. We recited Morning Prayer, celebrated the Eucharist and chanted Evensong every day. Two of the men present will (Deo volente) be ordained Deacons later this year. We were also treated to a Saturday evening reception and dinner party hosted by Father Ben and Sharon Brown. This coming summer, we will offer history classes on the Reformation, Anglicanism in America from the Colonial Period to the present, and detailed classes and practicums in liturgics.

But the Seminary good news does not stop there. Using the Zoom platform, Bishop Upham has just completed a semester class in Priestly Formation which had regular attendance of over sixteen students. I have just finished a two semester Theology Class in the First Seven Church Councils which had a regular attendance of twelve students. My second-year Latin class (including two bishops) want to continue next fall. My smaller first year Latin class has also done very well. And finally, Bishop Blair Schultz taught a fall class on the Book of Common Prayer. Students "zoomed-in" from Florida, Alabama, Illinois, Wyoming, California, Oklahoma and Georgia. In September, the Seminary plans on offering Biblical Greek, Second Year Latin, Reading the Vulgate, Diaconal Formation, and Canonical Exam Preparation.

As you will hear shortly, our Diocese is in good shape. Our bills are paid, and we have efficient officers and committees to whom we owe a great deal. I want to praise the work of the Standing Committee led by Canon Charles Dillon which examines men who believe they have a vocation to the Sacred Ministry. And the same for the Board of Directors who watch over the finances of the Diocese. And, of course, the Board of Examining Chaplains, under the chairmanship of Father Michael Mautner. I have appointed Father Scott Mitchell as Diocesan Administrator. He will help the bishops coordinate Clergy Self Evaluations, collect and forward Diaconal and Postulant Ember Day Letters, maintain a list of active and inactive clergy and parishes; and oversee Bishop Morse Youth Camp. And we continue to remain in debt to our Chancellor, Canon Richard McNeely and to Father Benjamin Brown, secretary of Synod.

I want to recognize Canon Stanley Sinclair and Deacon Jonathan Carrothers who, along with Father Bart Dellinger, care for Saint Mark's in Victoria BC. Father Daniel Canda has moved Saint James from Fort Collins to the Denver suburb of Golden. I am sad to report that Saint Stephen the Martyr in Sioux City Iowa was forced to close but, thanks to Father Robert Ponec, its sister Parish, Saint John the Baptist in Omaha has grown dramatically. Transfiguration Mission in Colorado Springs CO also closed but Deacon Michael Ruffino has started a new Mission, Saint Chad's, in Colorado Springs and regularly drives to Westcliffe to shepherd Saint Patrick's. And I am pleased to announce the Father W. Scott Herb has been elected as the new Rector of Saint Bartholomew's in Woodinville WA.

Thanks to the efforts of Bishop Hansen and Father Larry Shaddix, we are working with Bishop Anthony Rasch (HCCAR) to combine our parish of the Holy Trinity in Folsom with Bishop Rasch's parish of Saint Thomas à Becket in Sacramento to create a new parish to serve the greater Sacramento area. (Bishop Rasch is an old friend with whom I worked with Southern California.) I am grateful to Father David Napier who serves as the interim dean of Saint Joseph of Arimathea Seminary and vicar of Saint Joseph's Seminary Chapel. Father has started a second midweek mass and his homilies are worth coming to hear. I also want to recognize the stalwart Father John Pennington in Bend OR who has suffered ups and downs in the last few years but hangs in there and never gives up. The same praise can be given to Father Richard Andrews of All Saints' in Cheyenne WY, Father Oliver Barrios of Saint Mary the Virgin in San Diego CA, and Father David LaBarbera of Saint Jude's in Grants Pass OR.

I want to pay tribute to our traveling clergy, especially to Bishop Hansen, Father Peter Sandercock, Father Matthew Weber, Father Bart Dellinger, Father Scott Mitchell, Father Robert Ponec, Father John Pennington and Father David LaBarbera (with special kudos to Deacon Paul Shepherd who covered for him), who all took turns over a nine-month period serving Saint Bartholomew's in Woodinville after they lost their Rector. I am particularly grateful to Father Ponec and Bishop Hansen who spent extra days in Woodinville visiting with the parish family. I also want to thank Father Boyd Britton who serves Glendale, Los Angeles and Santa Barbara and Father Dan Canda who not only serves his parish but (along with Deacon Mike Ruffino) travels to Colorado Springs and Westcliffe.

And this brings me to a pain that many of our priests, deacons and laity acutely feel; and that is why is my parish small; why do I seem to accomplish so little; why do we seem to be dying out. Well I am here to tell you that when we think such thoughts, we are falling right into the arms of Satan and his minions. As I recently wrote to the clergy, Archbishop Michael Ramsey, the last orthodox Archbishop of Canterbury, used to write to his about-to-be-ordained clergy that they must concentrate on our Lord himself. He said that the glory of Christianity is its claim that small things really matter and that the one small company (or church), the very few, the one man, the one woman, the one child are of infinite value to God. So, you see it doesn't matter how large or successful or rich our parishes are; what matters is that we care for the one as much as the many. And that is why Father Tony Sands who went to God on November 28th, 2018 was a hero and one of the most successful priests of our Diocese.

The youth are vitally important. I am praying we can get more youth to come to the Bishop Morse Youth Camp this summer. I hope you can help. We had a wonderful camp last year and we have some fresh ideas such as involving youth graduating high school becoming a part of the planning and staffing the camp. Two currently graduating high school seniors will be counselors. They will have adults to assist but we must give them ownership of the camp and its directions. I am grateful to Mrs. Erin Salazar and Father Mitchell who will be taking more of the burdens off my shoulders and to Chelsey Canda, Ben Lawrence and Father Mautner who will guide the kids in this year's theme of Keeping the Faith. We are making it a priority to try to draw campers from across the province. And my most humble and profound thanks to the individuals, parishes and groups who help fund our youth camp.

Since our last Synod, I visited St. Jude's in Grants Pass OR and Saint Paul's in Bend OR in late June. I visited Saint Mark's in Portland OR where I confirmed John Parrish on July 1st. A week later I confirmed Marsha Hill and received Michael Hill at Saint Mark's Victoria BC. On August 24th, I confirmed Susan Rae Gourley at Saint Paul's Missionary Chapel in Newman CA. On December 2nd, I confirmed Lenny Noyce at Saint James' in Fort Collins CO and three days later confirmed Ashley Evans and Christopher Rawlins at Saint Patrick's Westcliffe CO. In between, Deacon Ruffino and I met with interested laity which has led to the establishment of Saint Chad's Mission in Fort Collins. (They are doing very well with an average attendance of over ten) And on December 30th, I confirmed Aiko Brooks and Benjamin Brooks at Saint Bartholomew's in Woodinville WA. I was also part of the clergy brigade to Saint Bartholomew's and in January drove through my first blizzard on my way to Saint Jude's in Grants Pass OR. And I have kept my monthly routine of spending three to five days a week in residence at Saint Joseph's Seminary.

I would like to give particular acknowledgement to our Suffragan Bishop, the Right Reverend Peter F. Hansen. He not only cares for his own parish of Saint Augustine's but he helps me with parish visitations and confirmations; and in handling sensitive and delicate issues. Bishop Hansen played a pivotal role in helping Saint Bartholomew's keep on a steady keel as the searched for a new Rector. Moreover, he has been a superb confidant to whom I can turn for sound advice. Moreover, he tutors men for Holy Orders, is treasurer of both the Diocese and the American Church Union and sits on the Board of the Saint Joseph of Arimathea Foundation. I am proud to call him my Suffragan.

The debt owed to Gillian Golden and the Anglican Church Women is incalculable as they raise money for a variety of needs, especially our youth projects. But more important than that, they provide a tie of unity and fellowship that helps unite all our parishes together in love. Would all the officers of the ACW (past and present) please stand to be recognized.

I would also like to give recognition to Nona Gourley who works so faithfully for our synods. She is simply remarkable! And the same goes for the clergy and laity who help her run Synod: Claudia Baker, Sharon Brown, Mary Ellen Feagin, Gillian Golden, Salud Gordon, Carole Karcher, Linda Hooks, Adrianna Mautner, Belinda McNeely, Patsy Ronat, Ann Samo, Debbie and Monty Stanford, Jerry Swanson, Father Tom Kelnhofer and Father David LaBarbera. And I would be remiss if I did not thank those whose contributions my sometimes-frail mind has forgotten. For you especially, the gift of your charity epitomizes the glory of Christianity in its claim that one man, one woman, one child is of infinite value to God.

Finally, I know we have become very comfortable here at the Lafayette Park Hotel, but room rates next year will go up by twenty percent; so, it has been decided to go back to the practice of having individual parishes host the Synod. Given that in the old days, the host parish had to come up with many extra dollars, our parish contributions to Synod will take that burden away. So, (if you do not yet know) I am happy to announce that next year's Synod will be held at Saint Augustine of Canterbury in Chico CA during the first week of May 2020. And in 2021, the host parish will be Saint Luke's in Redding CA.

ACW CORNER - 28th Synod and ACW Conference

By Gillian Golden

Another successful Synod! From the opening Reception to the final Mass on Saturday, everything seemed to run on oiled wheels. Old friendships were renewed, and new ones established. Our Church Family had come together for its annual reunion. ACW members pay a big part in the Synod. Our incredible Provincial President, Nona Gourley, coordinates the whole thing, working on it throughout the year. ACW holds a fund-raiser each year, to which ACW Chapters and individuals contribute items for drawings. A brochure of these items is compiled, and sent, with tickets, to each church, so every church member has a chance. ACW members attending synod bring the money raised, and completed tickets, and tickets are sold up until the time of drawings. This year, the drawings raised \$1500 for the Bishop Morse Youth Camp. ACW members also contribute items for the Welcome bags, and man the Hospitality Room.

The ACW Lunch took a slightly different format this year. Instead of the clergy leaving right after lunch, we were treated to a masterful presentation by Robbie Messer on Autism. Robbie himself is autistic and graduated with his High School class last summer with a 4.0 grade average! He is currently taking college classes and maintaining his 4.0 average! He has decided to become an autism advocate, and you can find his website at www.autismquest.org. He is incredibly articulate, putting us all to shame by speaking entirely without notes. He told us of the difficulties of growing up with autism, and of the unfailing support and encouragement of his mother, family and friends. He encouraged all of us to be more caring of those who suffer physical or mental challenges. He made all of us THINK about how blessed we are. Robbie will be very successful in life.

Robbie's talk was followed by a presentation by Fr. Robert and Debra Ponec, who live in Omaha, NE, which was recently hit with serious floods. They thanked the many people who have already donated to their Flood Relief Fund and told the sad stories of many of the farmers. The flood waters will recede, but many farmers have little left, and will be unable to plant this year due to the residues left by the flood waters. They will need financial help for a while. If you would like to help, checks (which are tax deductible!) can be made out to Fr. Robert Ponec, with a notation Flood Relief and sent to him at 10005 N 60th Street, Omaha, NE 68152. Containers for donations were put at each table at the banquet, and over \$400 was raised. Fr. Ponec said that, with that money, the Diocese had contributed over \$3000!

The ACW meeting then got underway, and we will circulate the minutes, hopefully next month. Chris Sunderland gave us a very thought-provoking talk on 'Teaching the Church's Children'. She reminded us that the children are the future of our church, and that every church, even if they currently have no



children, should prepare a basket with books, coloring books and crayons so that they are ready. The ACU has a series of books and lessons, which can be found at americanchurchunion.com. The ACW has voted to use the Shepherd's Staff as a means of communication, and chapters and individuals are encouraged to send pictures and stories of events to Bishop Ashman.

Finally, we owe a huge vote of thanks to Bishop Ashman and to Nona Gourley. Thank you, Thank you.

House Blessing at Saint Paul's Newman CA

On May 5th, Father Larry Shaddix blessed the home of Margaret Montgomery in Newman in the San Joaquin Valley. Margaret is the daughter of Nona Gourley and the mother of Robbie Messer who spoke at the ACW luncheon. Father Shaddix is one of our foremost traveling priests who serves Saint Joseph's Seminary Chapel in Berkeley, Church of the Holy Trinity in Folsom near Sacramento and Saint Paul's Missionary Chapel in Newman.



Tentative Agenda for Next Year's Synod in Chico

Wednesday May 6, 2020

8:00 a.m. Mass – St. Augustine's church

10:00 a.m. Standing Committee (light meal) - 1:15 p.m., Board of Directors – St. Augustine's vestry

3:00 p.m. Reception – St. Augustine's Canon Reed Hall

5:00 p.m. Refreshments, Bishop's Auction and Fr. Brown – St. Augustine's Canon Reed Hall

No host dinner – suggested downtown Chico restaurants

Thursday, May 7, 2020

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Mass – St. Augustine's church

10:00 a.m. Workshop – St. Augustine's Canon Reed Hall

11:30 a.m. ACW-Clergy Luncheon – Hotel Diamond basement

1:00 p.m. ACW Meeting – Hotel Diamond basement

1:15 p.m. Clericus – St. Augustine's Canon Reed Hall

3:00 p.m. Evening Prayer – St. Augustine's church

4:00 p.m. Clergy Dinner - No host dinner for laity – suggested downtown Chico restaurants

Friday, May 8, 2020

9:00 a.m. Pontifical Mass – St. Augustine's church

11:15 Clergy Wives' Luncheon/rest, No host lunch – suggested downtown Chico restaurants

2:00 p.m. Business Meeting followed by Evening Prayer – St. Augustine's Canon Reed Hall & church

6:00 p.m. Social Hour – Chico Event Center - 7:00 p.m. Banquet – Chico Event Center

Saturday (Optional) May 9, 2020

8:00 a.m. Mass – St. Augustine's church

No Host Breakfast and more time to socialize till next year – Mom's Restaurant

A Twenty First Century Parable

Once upon a time in the early twenty-first century, there was a small Anglican parish somewhere out somewhere with about twenty-five (maybe it was fifteen) communicants and with a median age between sixty-five and seventy. They were (still) part of a great movement of conscience that began in the years leading up to 1976 when the Episcopal Church went theologically off the rails and abandoned the Faith of their Fathers. With like-minded parishes, they gained apostolic succession and bravely set out to continue orthodox teaching and practice, but they soon found out it was not so easy as they had assumed. The secularism of society, marginalization, quarrels within their ranks along with the moving van and the hearse decimated their ranks. They felt they were a “dying” church. They cried out for a “super priest” to come and save them, but when he never showed up, they turned in on themselves and waited to die in desolation and fear.

Their cries for a “super priest” very much hurt their old vicar, Father John, who had worked bravely and faithfully serving his flock. On Low Sunday, Father John was reading the Gospel when he hesitated (he was dumbstruck!) and could almost no longer continue. Jesus’ disciples were hiding in a room for fear of their enemies when Jesus suddenly stood in their midst and said Peace be unto you; and he showed them his hands and his side. Father John’s mind was flooded with thoughts of an old story, *The Rabbi’s Gift*, but he finished the Gospel and the Creed. Then he discarded his sermon and told them this parable.

He told them of a Monastery in the early twentieth century. It too had been decimated by secularism, modernism and internal quarreling. The monks were down to five and all seemed lost; they were dying. One day the old abbot met with a longtime friend, the local rabbi. The rabbi had the same hurts and woes as the abbot; no one came to synagogue services, the youth were drifting away, and they too were dying. But he said he still had faith in God; and the two old men wept together. And as they were taking leave of each other, the rabbi added, “And I also believe that one of you monks is the Messiah.”

When the abbot returned to the monastery, his fellow monks gathered around him to ask, “Well what did the rabbi say?” “He couldn’t help,” the abbot answered. “We just wept and read the Torah together. But he did say, just as I was leaving --it was so cryptic-- was that one of us is the Messiah. I don’t know what he meant.” In the days and weeks that followed, the old monks pondered this and wondered whether there was any possible significance to the rabbi’s words. The Messiah is one of us? Could he possibly have meant one of us monks here at the monastery? If that’s the case, which one?

There was no answer, but the old monks began to treat each other with exceptional respect on the offhand chance that one of them might just be the Messiah. And then an extraordinary change took place. Nearby villagers began to feel a new and attractive sense of holiness and peace in the old monastery and they came and visited more and more. They also brought friends to this special place. And their friends brought their friends. Then some of the younger men started to talk more and more with the old monks about their newfound peace. After a while one asked if he could join them. Then another! And another! So, within a few years the monastery was thriving once again, thanks to the rabbi’s gift.

It was Vestry Sunday and Father John explained that what the monks had found was peace; only that peace which the Messiah can bring; that peace which passes human understanding. That too brought about a wondrous change! Slowly, steadily the members of that small Anglican parish began to treat each other and their neighbors with a respect never before known. Their material problems persisted but they saw their religion differently. They stopped worrying about dying out and started living the Gospel in their daily lives. They now understood that the work of the vineyard is more important than personal achievement or success. They now understood that it was irrelevant whether their parish survived physically or not, because in the risen Christ there is grace, peace and salvation. They now understood Jesus’ words: *Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.*

And from the Diocese of the Atlantic States' Synod

During the same week as our Synod, Bishop John Upham presided over the Diocese of the Atlantic States Synod at Saint George's Pro-Cathedral in Raleigh North Carolina.



The Clergy of the Atlantic States (left – right) Father Greg Koon, Deacon Robert Wilson, Canon Michael Church, Bishop Blair Schultz, Father Shannon Clark, Bishop John Upham, Archdeacon Dave Sweeney, Canon Ben Jones, Father Mark Brown.

Announcement of 2019 Summer Seminary Session

By Bishop John Upham, Vice Provost
St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College

July 15th – July 26th, AD 2019

St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College will again be hosting an intensive Summer Seminary Session on its campus at Berkeley, California, from Monday, July 15th through Friday, July 26th, 2019. The Summer Seminary Session attempts to immerse participants in a typical course of study that would be experienced in a residential Seminary environment replete with corporate worship, instruction, daily Eucharist, and spiritual formation. Topics to be covered this summer include the History of the Protestant and English Reformations, the History of the American Episcopal Church, and Liturgical Practicums regarding the practice of the Seven Sacraments and how to properly offer Mass from the Book of Common Prayer and the Anglican Missal.

Instructors, this summer, will include The Rt. Rev. Donald M. Ashman, Provost of the Seminary and Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Western States, The Rt. Rev. Dr. John E. Upham, Jr., Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Atlantic States, Dr. Paul Russell, and Fr. Matthew Weber. Classes will be arranged in a block system of instruction with worship interspersed. A sample schedule is shown below:

9:00 am – Morning Prayer in the Chapel
10:00 am – Noon – First block of instruction
Noon – Daily Mass in the Chapel
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm – Lunch and errands
3:00 pm – 5:00 Second block of instruction
5:00 pm – Evensong in the Chapel



This schedule provides adequate time for instruction and interaction between students and faculty. Certificates of completion and credit will be given those who demonstrate mastery of the information covered.

Participants will be lodged in the Seminary for the two-week session. There are many inexpensive venues where participants can dine during their stay at the Seminary. Saturday is usually free during the Summer Session, though there is a standing invitation for the evening meal that day. On Sundays participants are expected to visit one of the local APCK parishes in the area for Sunday Mass.

The application to attend the 2019 Summer Seminary Session is attached. Please return it to The Rt. Rev. Donald M. Ashman via his email: (bishopashman@gmail.com). The costs of the two-week program is \$300.00. Please make checks payable to St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College. Please



note that scholarships are available on an as needed basis. Please contact Bishop Ashman for scholarship information.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2019 Summer Seminary Session this year. Thank you! +JEU

AND.....More Pictures of the DWS Synod

