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## The Shepherd's Staff

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Anglican Province of Christ the King <frhines@stgeorgeanglican.org>

Tue, Jul 5, 2022 at 3:21 PM

# The Shepherd's Staff



## *Newsletter of the Anglican Province of Christ the King July, 2022*

*The Most Reverend John E. Upham  
The Right Reverend D. M. Ashman  
The Reverend Gordon Hines, Publisher*

*Message from Bishop Donald Ashman:  
"A New and Really Not So New Newsletter"*



The Shepherd's Staff's first newsletter was produced in August of 2018 and has been published monthly every month since. When I was privileged to attend the Diocese of the Southwestern States Synod a week ago, there were many clergy and laity who wanted to know more about the other two Dioceses. So thanks to Father Gordon Hines, the Rector of Saint George's in Las Vegas, and with the approval of Archbishop Upham, this is the first issue of the new Shepherd's Staff which will serve the entire Province of Christ the King.

I remember the countless times I have asked for news clips and pictures from parishes in the Western States; now I am making the same plea nationwide. It was so obvious at the Southwestern States Synod that our folks across the

nation want to know more about each other. If you take a picture of confirmands or a birthday cake or any other event, it really cheers people to read and see them.

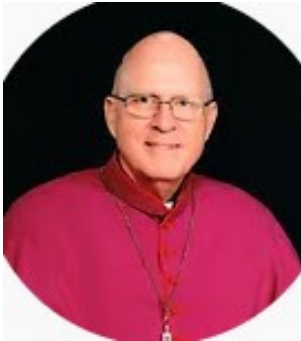
Below is a birthday picture of my 100 year old parishioner, Lena McFarlane (Our Saviour, Los Angeles), and below her picture is a picture of the three children Keikilani Johnson, Hillary Torres, and Sean Salazar who attended the Southwestern States Synod last week.

So please help and share your news. It really does make a difference to our folks all around the county. A hearty thank you to the Archbishop who has given his permission and support for this *new-not-new* Shepherd's Staff, and especially to Father Gordon Hines who has volunteered his time and talent for this new provincial undertaking.





## Synod Address from Bishop Peter F. Hansen, Episcopal Visitor



I was seven years old when my father, along some friends of his and their sons, drove from LA to Las Vegas, and then on to Lake Mead. We were the guests of a man who owned a large cabin cruiser able to sleep ten or so of us. The great boat was launched across the vast waters of that great reservoir and moored on a distant shore. The first night, it was apparent the men were busy smoking and drinking and telling stories, and that I was the youngest boy on the boat, and I was the brunt of all the other boys' jokes. In the morning, my dad told me to get dressed for fishing. Without more information, I put on light clothing and we all piled into a large aluminum fishing boat that had been hauled behind the cruiser, with a 50-horse Chrysler outboard. It was just dawn, and we raced out over that oceanic expanse.

A strong wind set up a chop on the surface of Lake Mead, as far as you could see, miles across, causing the boat to spray freezing water back on me in my cotton shirt. Soaked to the skin and blown around, I was miserable and shivering. I remembered Sunday school lessons about prayer, and God hearing prayer, and it made me wonder if He would hear my prayer now, silently said in the back of the boat. "God, please stop the wind," said the seven-year-old boy.

The next second, all the wind stopped over Lake Mead, and the chop flattened out until, for as far as you could see in all directions, the entire lake settled like a sheet of glass. We skimmed along now, no longer kicking up spray and finally getting where we would fish the deep waters.

Life is a kid freezing and praying, apparently powerless in someone else's boat. Life is boys a year or two older, making you the goat, and nobody noticing or coming to your rescue. And life is God listening to a 7-year-old boy's first prayer, and changing the weather, signing His name on his creation, and setting up the next miracle.

I had never fished before. The men loaded my line with a slimy salamander called a Mud Puppy, weighted down to sink where the big ones were. Or so they said. I threw it out and watched the helpless puppy sink out of sight. Then a strong pull startled my small hands and the drag on my reel let out its rasp. I had one on! Everybody shouted advice, but the best advice was to let him run a little. I did that. I reeled it in some, then when he pulled hard, I let him run a little. By that method I didn't lose my fish, and when the largemouth bass was netted at the side of the boat, it came up weighing 5 pounds! My first fish in my life has remained my biggest fish ever, and was the record for that trip, for all the men and boys, the biggest fish caught.

God was talking to the young guy. He would speak more clearly to me in momentous words and actions over the years ahead, including my call to the priesthood. Some other time I might tell that story, but it involved an Orthodox monk, a prayer in a bar, and a sword through my heart. At 31 years of age, I was caught, and I went back to tell my childhood priest about my call. The 92-year-old priest just looked at me and said, "I know. I told you so. Remember?" I remembered, at 17, the priest leaning over by the altar and suggesting, "You could always be a priest."

We have a number of what looks like true calls to the priesthood, and to the perpetual diaconate, in this diocese. God is up to something. We have about this number or more now in the Western States too, and it is for some divine reason, preparing the hearts and lives of many to serve. He gets ahead of something like this. But it has meaning and shape and His purpose is written all over it. God's getting set to go fishing and the wind of the Spirit is blowing over our land. Don't be distracted by the culture wars, the odd news stories, the anger and violence around us. God loves people and He's fitting us to meet a challenge. God's goin' fishin'. And I believe He's asking us to go fishin' with Him too.

How many of you thought last night when you turned in that the first news of this morning would be the overturning of Roe v Wade? I know it was leaked earlier, but it isn't real until it's real – and I've had a serious commitment to see that happen, for many years, along with millions of others. Sometimes change can be good. And this one is very good. Roe was a horrendous decision that stood almost 50 years. Today's announcement came up out of the deep waters like a big bass on the line. Remember this day.

Seven wonderful congregations are building strong relationships in this Diocese of the Southwestern States. I've gotten closer to all of you during my term as your Visitor, and this dynamic church unit has a lot going. My trips to Las Vegas, Fountain Hills, Peoria, Scottsdale and Carefree, Tulsa and Oklahoma City prove to me you're very special. Holy Cross, OKC, rejoices in its return from COVID with big gains from 2020, in people and pledges, and three postulants for holy orders. Christ Church, our host at this Synod, saw a new Deacon, Darius Gasatura, raised up this year and the parish celebrates its 25th year as a congregation. St. George's hosts cotillion this summer with young people learn to formally dance, and be civilized, in church. Imagine that. All Saints Tulsa is so beautiful – for any of you who have yet to walk its gracious acres. Faithful witnesses all, my friends and colleagues Canon Steven Dart, Fathers Edward Jones, John LesCallett, Mark Williams, Gordon Hines, Jaime Torres and now Deacon Gasatura: these are fishermen! Anglers. Men in a boat. Pouring their lives out for you all. Casting their nets.

I am humbled to be among you. And I am expectant of miracles. I think the future of this biblical number of churches is now only hinted from the deep waters. Launch out into the deep. When you feel the tug, then pull, faithfully bring up God's blessing. It's there. Don't be impatient. But by prayer and determination, know that it is coming up. New congregations perhaps, new members, new clergy, younger leaders, a new wave of enthusiasm, a fresh wind of inspiration, in the age-old path laid out for us over centuries. We don't need that to ever change. Our messages is eternal. Our worship is timeless.

And if you need any advice from an old fisherman when you feel that pull on the line... I always let them run a little.

Thank you and God bless you!

+ Peter F. Hansen





*The Business Meeting at which Bishop Hansen gave his Address*



*St. George's, Las Vegas, parishioners (from left to right): Mike Dredla, JoniLynn Katchuk, Laura Pastrick, Abel Wilson, Fr. Gordon Hines, Michael Douglas, Jeff Field*



*From left to right: Chrissy Dart, Deacon Darius Gasatura with his wife Diane*



*From left to right: Ellen Ashman, Bishop Donald Ashman, Fr. Jaime Torres, Keikilana Johnson, Hillary Torres, Sean Salazar*



*Left to right: Fr. Edward Jones (St. Nicholas, Scottsdale, Arizona), Charles Newcomb (Postulant, Holy Cross Church, Oklahoma City), Bishop Peter Hansen*





*Canon Steven Dart & wife Chrissy, Deacon Darius Gasatura & wife Diana - at Synod Mass Reception*



*A cake enjoyed by Synod attendees at the Synod Mass reception, in celebration of the 25th Silver Anniversary of the founding of Christ Anglican Church, Carefree, Arizona.*

## St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College Courses for the Summer Session, 2022

### **The Apocalypse of the Revelation of St. John the Divine**

**Instructor:** The Reverend Father Paul Russell;  
Retired; The Cathedral Parish of Christ the King,  
Georgetown, D.C. The Diocese of the Atlantic  
States, APCK.

**Time:** July 18 through July 22, 2022, Morning  
Session, 10a PDT to 12 Noon PDT.

**Text:** Eugenio Corsini, The Apocalypse: The  
Perennial Revelation of Jesus Christ, Translated & Edited by Francis J.





Moloney, S.D.B., Wilmington, Delaware: Michael Glazier Inc. 1983,  
Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock 2019 (reprint)

Fr Russell will lead a class on the Apocalypse of the Revelation of St. John the Divine with emphasis on the Seven Letters, the Seven Seals, and the Seven Trumpets, as an introduction to the Seven Bowls being given and being poured out. Fr. Russell will conclude the study with an intensive review of the death of Jesus as judgment upon history, as the final destruction of evil forces, and as the heavenly Jerusalem revealed.

## **Pastoral Ministry**

**Instructor:** The Rt. Rev. Scott Mitchell; Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of the Western States, APCK. Rector; St. Luke's Anglican Church, Redding, CA.

**Time:** July 18 through July 22, 2022, Afternoon Session, 3p PDT to 5p PDT.

**Text:** Harold L. Senkbeil. The Care of Souls: Cultivating a Pastor's Heart. Lexham Press, 2019. Available from Amazon. To be read prior to the class.

\*\*\* A Manual for Priests available from the Anglican Parishes Association 5th edition 1968. This will be a reference. And can be downloaded online.

Bishop Mitchell will lead a combination of lecture material and the practical application of Pastoral Ministry in order to understand that in its very roots is the direction that our Savior gave to His Apostles, and in their instructions to their successors, to care for the flock of God, both spiritually and practically. The very word "Pastor" refers to the work of a shepherd. Every Bishop, Priest, and Deacon enters into the work of pastoral ministry through their ordination. "I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding" (Jeremiah 3:15). Pastoral Ministry is a work of sacrifice in love, but so many members of the clergy lack the skills for such ministry that are called for to be practiced at any hour of the day or night, and sometimes under very trying circumstances.

Preparation is the key, and a willingness to enter the trenches to minister the love of Christ to those who are facing death, suicidal tendencies, loss of a loved one, to accidents, disease, or violence; broken close relationships, hopelessness, and other extreme life difficulties.

It is the work of binding up the broken hearted; of coming alongside to offer compassion, hope, direction, and comfort. In this class, we will discuss the

role of the “pastor” as it pertains to how to minister in a hospital setting, in the funeral home, at the graveside, in confession, in the requiem and funeral, in the streets, in the homes of the afflicted, and anywhere and at any hour the need may arise; to enter into the suffering of those to whom we will minister, knowing when to speak and sometimes, when not to speak.

A pastoral call may be to someone not of our faith and practice, or of no faith and practice at all. It is primarily the ministry of presence. We do not go in under our own power and authority, but in the power and authority of the Good Shepherd. We will discuss both the positive spiritual and practical aspects of pastoral ministry and its pitfalls, as well as the care of the pastor himself.

## **Vocational Discernment**

**Instructor:** The Rt. Rev. Ben E. Jones, Jr; Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of the Atlantic States, APCK. Vice-Provost, Registrar; St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College, Berkeley, CA.

**Time:** July 25 through July 29, 2022, Morning Session, 10a PDT to 12 Noon PDT.

**Text:** Thomas Á Kempis. The Imitation of Christ. Penguin Classics. 2013.

The Council of Bishops passed a resolution stating that Vocational Discernment is to be taken and passed satisfactorily before a man may be made a Deacon and Ordained to the Priesthood. This course will be an intensive study of the Imitation of Christ in order to encapsulate the fundamental tenets of Christian devotion: its inherent biblicism; its Christ-centered focus; and its exposition of the main Christian virtues of humility, redemptive self-denial, and grace, while applying the three practices of prayer; vocal, meditative, and contemplative.

## **The Place & Function of Music in the Worship Life of the Church**

**Instructor:** The Reverend Father Matthew L. Weber, Vicar; St. Ann Chapel, Palo Alto, CA, The Diocese of the Western States, APCK.

**Time:** July 25 through July 29, 2022, Afternoon Session, 3p PDT to 5p PDT.

Fr. Weber will lead an intensive and comprehensive study of the 1940 Hymnal, not just to address the hymnal, but to embrace and to incorporate the place and the function of music in the worship life of the church. He will

instruct the practical aspects as well and the exposition of the basic principles of managing a music program to enhance the worship experience.

### **Registration Requirements:**

The on-site cost for the Summer Session is \$200.00. Credit will be received for courses that are satisfactorily completed. The Zoom platform cost is \$100.00 for credit and \$75.00 for audit. The cost of tuition includes the four courses. Please address any requests for tuition relief to your individual parishes, your diocese, and then to the Provost at [bishopashman@gmail.com](mailto:bishopashman@gmail.com), or [provostsjact@gmail.com](mailto:provostsjact@gmail.com), in that order.

The Application for the Summer Session is required in addition to your tuition payment to complete your registration. Please enter the required information in the auto-fill application, (those taking courses for CREDIT fill out the entire form and those taking the courses by AUDIT fill out sections 1, 2, 3, and the acknowledgement at the end of the application), and return by email to the Provost, The Rt. Rev. Donald M. Ashman, [bishopashman@gmail.com](mailto:bishopashman@gmail.com) or [provostsjact@gmail.com](mailto:provostsjact@gmail.com) and to the Vice-Provost/Registrar, The Rt. Rev. Ben E. Jones, Jr., [bishop.benjones@gmail.com](mailto:bishop.benjones@gmail.com). A printed copy is required to be mailed with your tuition payment.

Please forward the cost of tuition by check to the following address.

The Rt. Rev. Ben E. Jones, Jr.

St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College

[2820 Exeter Circle](#)

[Raleigh, NC 27608](#)

Checks are to be made payable to 'St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College.

1. Please DO NOT make the checks payable to any person or to any Parish. Period.
2. Please DO NOT mail your registration to any other address than the address given above.
3. Please MAKE SURE to include a printed copy of the Application for the Summer Session with your tuition.

Your prompt attention is greatly appreciated!!

Registrations and payments are due to be RECEIVED no later than July 9th, 2022. [\[call if there is a problem\]](#)

**\*\*Late registrations WILL NOT be accepted for the Summer Session 2022.\*\*** If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Bishop



Ashman or Bishop Jones. We look forward to seeing you for the Summer Session!!

## DSWS ACW AT 2022 SYNOD



*It is important to be available, interruptible, trustworthy and courageous – to be ready when God presents opportunities and answer God's call. - Renee Las Collett*

At this year's DSWS ACW, nine women attended the annual meeting. Ladies were also encouraged to attend via Zoom.

This year's Mite box offering totaled \$537.05 which were forwarded to the Provincial ACW.

This past year we made scholarship gifts to each of the seven postulants and discussed where we should make this year's outreach donation.

We discussed our current fundraiser, a silent auction, which raised \$871.11 at the Synod.

We are continuing to sell T-shirts pictured (posted in this issue of The Shepherd's Staff) for \$15 each. Any remaining items not sold at the silent auction will be sold on Ebay later this year.

To continue to learn and grow as Christian women, I will be offering a Zoom book study of the women of the Bible, studying from the following book, "The Women of the Bible Speak: The Wisdom of 16 Women and Their Lessons for Today" by Shannon Bream, beginning Saturday, August 13th, 2022. Anyone interested in participating can email me at [dswsacw@gmail.com](mailto:dswsacw@gmail.com).

We give thanks to Our Lord for all of the women of the Diocese who give of their time, treasure, and talent to support this all important ACW ministry!

Sincerely in Our Blessed Lord,

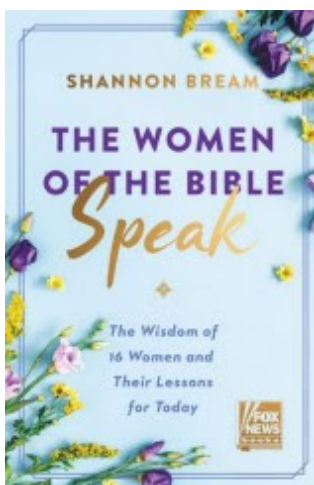
Renee Les Callett  
President, DSWS ACW

## ACW NOTES, JULY 2022

To date, the Lenten Offerings total \$1961.81 for 2022, and these will benefit Student Support at St. Joseph of Arimathea Seminary. Thank you so much to all churches that have participated, and we will gratefully receive more donations. You can never be too late! The drawings at the synod raised \$1,085 for the Bishop Morse Youth Camp. A huge thank you to Fr. Dan Canda for calling this event, very ably assisted by Fergus Connor of St. Mark's, Portland. We hope you will both come back next year! The online auction raised \$285 for Student support at St. Joseph of Arimathea Seminary. Preserving the Priesthood raised \$220 for St. Joseph of Arimathea Seminary. Grateful thanks to everyone who took part, both in contributing items and buying tickets. The Summer Session for the Seminary is coming up very soon (July 18th). Consider taking one of the zoom classes – you will learn so much! Wishing everyone an enjoyable summer, and remember if you have events at your church, take pictures and send them to Bishop Ashman. We love to share! - Gillian Golden, President ACW-DWS



## ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN DIOCESE OF THE SOUTHWESTERN STATES BIBLE STUDY



**The DSWS-ACW will be hosting a Zoom Bible Study.**

**Please join us starting August 13, 2022.**

**#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER!**  
**The Women of the Bible Speak: The Wisdom of 16 Women and Their Lessons for Today**  
**by Shannon Bream**

The women of the Bible lived timeless stories—by examining them, we can understand what it means to be a woman of faith. People unfamiliar with Scripture often assume that women play a small, secondary role in the Bible. But in fact, they were central figures in numerous Biblical tales. It was Queen Esther's bravery at a vital point in history which saved her entire people. The Bible contains warriors like Jael, judges like Deborah, and prophets like Miriam. The first person to witness Jesus' resurrection was Mary Magdalene, who promptly became the first Christian evangelist, eager to share the news which would change the world forever.

In *The Women of the Bible Speak*, Fox News Channel's Shannon Bream opens up the lives of sixteen of these Biblical women, arranging them into

pairs and contrasting their journeys. In pairing their stories, Shannon helps us reflect not only on the meaning of each individual's life, but on how they relate to each other and to us.

From the shepherdesses of ancient Israel who helped raise the future leaders of the people of God, to the courageous early Christians, the narrative of the Bible offers us many vivid and fascinating female characters. In their lives we can see common struggles to resist bitterness, despair, and pride, and to instead find their true selves in faith, hope, and love. In studying these heroes of the faith, we can find wisdom and warnings for how to better navigate our own faith journeys.

The Women of the Bible Speak outlines the lessons we can take from the valor of Esther, the hope of Hannah, the audacity of Rahab, and the faith of Mary. In broadening each woman's individual story, We will begin to have a deeper understanding of each, and wisdom and insights that can transform our own lives today.

Please sign up by email request so that I can send study information, [dswsacw@gmail.com](mailto:dswsacw@gmail.com). You can reach me at 480-374-0096 for further information.

**Topic: DSWS-ACW Bible Study – The Women of the Bible Speak**

**Time:** 03:00 PM Arizona Every week on Sat, until October 29, 2022, 9 occurrence(s)

August 13, 2022 03:00 PM – Sarah and Hagar: Women of the Covenants

August 20, 2022 03:00 PM – Rachel and Leah: Sisters and Rivals

No class for Labor Day Weekend

September 10, 2022 03:00 PM – Tamar and Ruth: Outsiders

September 17, 2022 03:00 PM – Deborah and Jael: Women of Valor

September 24, 2022 03:00 PM – Hannah and Miriam: Speaking God's Truth

October 8, 2022 03:00 PM – Esther and Rehab: Unexpected Heroes of Faith

October 15, 2022 03:00 PM – Mary and Martha of Bethany: Two Pathways

October 22, 2022 03:00 PM – Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and Mary Magdalene

Witnesses to the Gospel

October 29, 2022 03:00 PM – Jesus and the Women and discussion of next book use for bible study

The link to the zoom meeting is below.

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system. Weekly: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/84461202000?pwd=OWp0QduGrrj0tE9CKzCR8Kgdk7zIMxhj7MjtT/ics?icsToken=>



98tyKu6hqToiGdSTtxC DR7Z5B4j4WenziCFaj\_p-  
twXGMXh4ZQfnYfhOH6p3Go\_9

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79718306794?pwd=djA7loVDy5zNhL4r-j66t2PD7setGX.1>

Meeting ID: 797 1830 6794 Passcode: 5hHcgJ If you have any questions,  
please call me at 480-374-0096 or email me at [dswsacw@gmail.com](mailto:dswsacw@gmail.com)

| I CAN DO T-SHIRT         |         |         |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| QTY                      | SIZE    | COST    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SMALL   | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MEDIUM  | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | LARGE   | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | X-LARGE | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 XL    | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 XL    | \$20.00 |

| EVER FAITHFUL T-SHIRT    |         |         |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| QTY                      | SIZE    | COST    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SMALL   | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MEDIUM  | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | LARGE   | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | X-LARGE | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 XL    | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 XL    | \$20.00 |

| TRUST GOD T-SHIRT        |         |         |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| QTY                      | SIZE    | COST    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SMALL   | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | MEDIUM  | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | LARGE   | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | X-LARGE | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 XL    | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 XL    | \$20.00 |

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Make checks payable to: DSWs-ACW

PLEASE SUPPORT THE DSWs-ACW

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I CAN DO (BLACK)



TRUST GOD (BLACK)



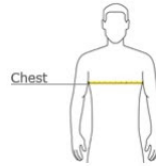
EVER FAITHFUL (WHITE)

**SIZES S-XL \$15.00**  
**2XL - 3XL \$20.00**

DIOCESE OF THE  
SOUTHWESTERN  
STATES ACW

COTTON T-SHIRTS ARE  
SCREEN PRINTED IN  
ARIZONA

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO  
SUPPORT THE CONTINUED  
OUTREACH OF THE DSW-  
ACW



### SIZE CHART

|       | XS    | S     | M     | L     | XL    | 2XL   | 3XL       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Chest | 33-35 | 35-38 | 38-41 | 43-46 | 45-48 | 48-52 | 53 1/2-56 |

- 4.3-ounce, 100% combed ring spun cotton
- 90/10 combed ring spun cotton/poly
- 1x1 rib knit neck
- Shoulder to shoulder taping
- Tear-away label
- Side seamed

#### CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Machine wash cold. Only non-chlorine bleach when needed. Tumble dry low. Do not iron decoration.

TO PLACE ORDER  
COMPLETE FORM BELOW.

CHOOSE STYLE, QUANTITY AND SIZE ON OPPOSITE PAGE

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHURCH NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

BILLING ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

ORDERS WILL BE PLACED 4/30/21  
FOR MAY DELIVERY.

TO PURCHASE ON-LINE GO TO  
[WWW.ATONEMENTANGLICANCHURCH.ORG/ACW.HTML](http://WWW.ATONEMENTANGLICANCHURCH.ORG/ACW.HTML)

## Trinity III - Sweetwater

There is an old folk story told about a young man who was exploring the desert on an archeological dig. He had been sent to look for fresh water. Finally, he came across a spring of cool crystal-clear water. The day was hot and the water was so sweet that he filled his leather canteen so he could bring some back to his professor back at camp. On his return, he gave some of the water to the old professor who took a deep drink, smiled warmly and thanked his student for the sweet water. Later, after the student left, the teacher let another student taste the water. He spat it out and said it was awful. It apparently had become stale in the old leather canteen. The student challenged his teacher: "Professor, that water was foul. Why did you pretend to like it?" The professor replied, "You only tasted the water. I tasted the gift. The old leather canteen was simply the container for an act of loving-kindness and nothing could be sweeter."

The sweet water from the cool spring made the student so happy that he wanted to share his good fortune with his professor. The water had turned stale but the professor was overjoyed at the kindness of his student who could have just told the camp were a fresh water supply was located. And so he reminded the other student of the kindness of the first. In the Gospel, the Pharisees and Scribes complained that Jesus was associating and eating with sinners. To the Scribes and Pharisees, these sinners were like the water turned

foul but Jesus knew they were wrong. As their God and their brother, he saw value in these sinners who were not as righteous and religiously observant as their hypocritical critics.

So Jesus told the hypocrites a story about a man who had lost a sheep. He was so upset that he left all his other sheep and searched till he found the lost sheep. Then he told all his friends and neighbors of his joy; how that one lost sheep – which, of course, can be compared to sinners – was found and his joy was complete. Now notice that the sinners in Jesus' society were many more in number than the Scribes and Pharisees but even the lowest of them is of great importance to God. That is what Jesus meant when he said: *I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.*

*Bishop Peter Hansen with Austin Richards (Postulant and member of Christ Anglican Church), at the Saturday Synod Mass, June 25th, 2022.*



Click on the link below to watch the Mass in its entirety



PENNY DREDLA, ASSISTANT EDITOR OF "THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF"

Penny Dredla is pleased to have joined the Shepherd's Staff crew. She assists as needed.





Penny resides in Las Vegas, Nevada and is a member of St. George's Anglican Church. Penny has a Master's in Journalism and Latin from the University of Chihuahua. Besides attending Mass and reading her Bible, Penny enjoys playing bridge, solitaire, and chasing skateboarders.



**Anglican Province of Christ the King**