

THE QUILL

Volume 17, Issue 8

August, 2004

PLAN AHEAD FOR SEPT. & OCT.

There is a hymn that begins, "In the bleak mid-winter..." However, in Church life, the "bleak mid-winter" is in August:

- ***the shortness of the calendar
 - ***no church school
 - ***no choir
 - ***no Breakfast & Bible
 - ***no St. John's Guild
- And the list goes on and on.

It is easy to forget that there is plenty to gear up for.

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

The second Sunday of September (9/12) will be our annual Homecoming with a BBQ and festivities. It marks the registration of children for Church School (which begins the following week) and also is a time for the gathering of rummage for Pueblo Nuevo. We need cooks, food buyers, etc...help the BoB's with this event!!

CHOIR & FRIENDS OF MUSIC

The Choir will begin its "season" on Sunday, September 19 with rehearsals at 9 and 11.30 a.m. Have you ever considered singing?? Come give it a try!

The Friends of Music will begin their season in late September or early October. Frank Basile needs the help of an active Board of Directors to print and distribute materials, to spread publicity about the events, to put on receptions following the concerts. Please see him about either of these areas!!!

THE PARTY OF PARTIES

This event will be held on Saturday, October 9, but by September 1, all of the Venues to be sold that night need to be set for publication and dissemination to the parish. Think now...what will you offer?

Inside this issue:

Canon Jim's Jottings:	2
Vital Statistics	2
August Birthdays	2
August Lessons	3
The Presiding Bishop	3
Contact Information	4
Class & Service Schedule	4
Staff/Vestry Directory	4

THIS MONTH

Rector's Column

Prepare for the Fall!!

The State of the Church

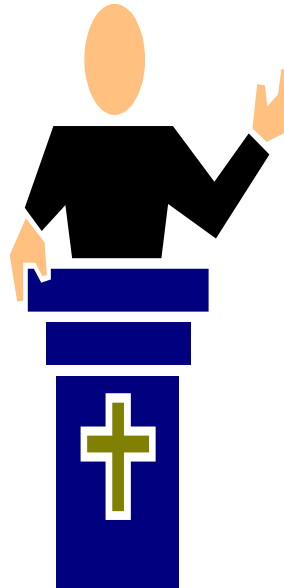
News Briefs-Around the Parish

CANON JIM'S JOTTINGS

As you read this letter, I am just into the sabbatical part of my experience. If I hold to schedule, on August 1, I will be at the Institute of Theology in Tallinn, Estonia. The course of study will look at the Church in Estonia (with special emphasis on the Lutheran Church, by far the largest) and how the churches in Estonia survived the half-century of Communist rule.

I think that we are spoiled and take "church" for granted. "It will always be there when I need it", "of course they'll marry me or baptize my child", or whatever. But what if that was not the case? What if going into a church was difficult and if doing so might cost you a job or a promotion? When I was in Germany two years ago in a similar program, it became clear that there is a big gulf between the peoples who have lived under freedom and/or totalitarianism.

Indeed, our freedom allows us to say yes or no to "church" because it is always there and accessible. But for much of history, the "church" has been



subversive when under the rule of totalitarian rulers. The Confessing Church Movement in Germany (led by the Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer, et. al.) worked to undermine the rule of Adolf Hitler. Forty years later, in Leipzig, E. Germany, the protests began and went into the streets from the Nikolaikirche (St. Nicholas Church), a beautiful building at which I was listening to a program of Bach.

I realize that in some areas parts of the church capitulated to the domination and tried to accommodate it. The Church is not perfect. Even in our day, when we have freedom to express views, the role of the Church is to be one that holds the state to ethical values that it thinks important. It is the job of the state to respectfully consider the voice of the Church in its deliberations. It is not the job of the state to become a "church" or to become a spokesperson for religious agendas.

I will see you next month!!

Canon Jim

VITAL STATISTICS

Visitors:

August Anniversaries:

Patricia & David Toy	08/25
Ned & Adelaide Vaughn	08/30

August Birthdays:

Jeffrey Hornof	08/01
Jaron Fuglie	08/03
John Hancock	08/04
Leona Jennison	08/04
Jefferey Leng	08/06
Eric Demer	08/12
Kit Russell	08/14
Amanda Harter	08/19
Gregory Vielhaber	08/19
James Raef, II,	08/23
Calypso Raef	08/26
Alex Harter	08/26
Jeff Manley	08/27
Don Shaw	08/28
Tori Patterson	08/30
Thomas Ledsam	08/31

PRESIDING BISHOP'S LETTER TO THE CHURCH (cont'd)

The love of Christ dwelling within us isn't simply a warm feeling for us to revel in and enjoy. Love possesses an urgency which directs it outward toward others; love by its very nature must give itself away. Love, Paul tells us, does not insist on its own way: "it bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." By these words I believe Paul is trying to suggest something of love's expansive and supple nature. Love can see below the surface of things and can find hints of God in often the strangest and most unlikely places and situations. Love opens us to constant surprise and supplies us with the imagination and resiliency not to be utterly undone by God's wild and unpredictable ways.

The love of Christ, given root-room within us, is a dangerous force. We know that--as was the case for St. Peter--love can take us where we do not wish to go. It can require us to die to our desire for safety. It can demand a relinquishment of our carefully crafted plans, of our fondly held views, and of our clear expectations.

Love does not obliterate difference or do away with divergent points of view. Instead, love takes us to a new place--making it possible for me to recognize Christ embodied in you and the pattern of your discipleship. And, love gives you the ability to discern the image of Christ in me and in the pattern of my discipleship.

Here I think of some words of Thomas Merton: "If I allow Christ to use my heart in order to love my brothers and sisters with it, I will soon find that Christ, loving in me and through me, has brought to light Christ in my brothers and sisters. And I will find that the love of Christ in my brothers and sisters, loving me in return, has drawn forth the image and reality of Christ in my own soul." What Merton is describing is what happens when "the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" allow us to see and perceive "the other" from Christ's own point of view.

We speak a great deal these days about communion. Are we in communion or out of communion? Is our communion real but imperfect, or is it impaired? We speak of communion as if it were a human construction, as if it were something we have the power to bestow or withhold. In so doing we overlook the fact that communion is an expression of God's love: the love with which the Father loves the Son and the Son loves the Father in what St. Paul calls the "communion of the Holy Spirit." And, it is this communion of the Holy Spirit into which we are drawn through baptism which unfolds within us the mystery of God's fathomless and all-embracing love. The joy of which Jesus speaks in the gospel is the deep knowing that he is rooted and grounded in--and indeed draws his identity from--the Father's love. It is this deep joy--Jesus' own joy--which the Spirit of truth works into us over time as we come "to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ."

Communion also implies difference. There would be no communion between the Father and the Son if there were no distinction between them. There would be no risen body of Christ if we were all a hand or a foot. Communion requires differentiation in order that love can go forth from itself and find another to love. Communion requires that there be singularities that set us apart from one another: that there be various ways in which we seek to inhabit and live the gospel, as well as different contexts in which we seek to discern the authentic workings of the Spirit--who is weaving the love of God into the fabric of our lives and spinning the webs of relationship of which our lives are made.

Continued next month

NEWS BRIEFS—AROUND THE PARISH

It is time to start thinking of what venues will be offered at the Party of Parties on Saturday, October 9. All prospective events need to be turned in to the SoB's by the end of this month.

Summer is upon us which means people travel and are less visible at church. Please remember that the bills continue and we do not have a great deal of extra cash sitting around. Please try to keep your pledge current.

NOTE:

The Iraqi dinner scheduled for May 1 will be held on October 23. The Chinese cooking class scheduled for May 22 will be rescheduled in July or August, please see Ina Klem.

Canon Newman is on sabbatical leave until September 3). In case of emergency, please call the Rev. Golie Haynes at 626-794-3562.

CONGRATULATIONS to Vicki Mouradian who has been granted Postulancy by Bishop Bruno. Vicki will continue her studies and, God willing, be ordained to the diaconate in June, 2006.

AUGUST LESSONS

SUNDAYS

August 1: Proper 13 (Mthr Haynes)
Hosea 11.1-11; Ps. 107.1-9,43; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

August 8: Proper 14 (Mthr. Haynes)
Isaiah 1.1,10-20; Ps. 50.1-8,22-23; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16;

August 15: Proper 15 (Fr. Asbury)
Jeremiah 23:23-29; Ps. 80.1-2, 8-19; Hebrews 11.29-12.2;
Luke 12:49-56

August 22: Proper 16 (Mthr. Haynes)
Jeres. 71.1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

August 29: Proper 17 (Fr., Asbury)
Ps. 81.1, 10-16; Jeremiah 2.4-13; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1,7-14

WEDNESDAYS

8/4: feria (Mthr. Haynes)
Ps. 121; Jeremiah 31.1-7; Matthew 15.21-28

8/11: Clare of Assisi (Mthr. Haynes)
Ps. 63.1-8; Song of Solomon 2.10-13; Luke 12.32-37

8/18: William Porcher DuBose (Mthr. Haynes)
Ps. 19.7-11; 2 Timothy 1.11-14; Luke 24.25-32

8/25: St. Louis of France (Fr. Hancock, cel.)
Ps. 21.1-7; Wisdom 3.1-9; Luke 12.22-31

ST. BEDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

3590 Grand View Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Phone: 310-391-5522 or 888-802-6722

Fax: 310-391-8113

Parish Hall Telephone: 310-391-9316

Rector's Pager: 310-569-1575

Email: stbedesla@yahoo.com

We're on the Web!
www.stbedesla.org

SERVICES & CLASSES

SUNDAYS: 8 am, Holy Eucharist (no music)
10 am, Church School & Nursery
10 am, Holy Eucharist (w/choir)
6 pm, Evensong or Evening Prayer

TUESDAYS: 9 am, Breakfast, Morning Prayer & Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS: 7 pm, Holy Eucharist & Healing
7:45 pm, Adult Class

BREAKFAST & BIBLE

*A weekly class — beginning with breakfast — which previews
the lessons for the upcoming Sunday.*

No Classes in July or August

WEDNESDAY EVENING FORUM

No Classes in July or August

ST. BEDE'S VESTRY & STAFF

RECTOR: The Very Rev. Canon James Newman

ASSISTANT: The Rev. Argola Haynes

ASSISTING: The Rev. Giles Asbury,
the Rev John Hancock, the Rev. Howard Happ, Ph.D.

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Mr. Frank Basile

SEXTON: Mr. Masoud Jamneshan

VESTRY

Mike Olsen ['06] - Senior Warden

Annete Graw ['07] - Junior Warden

Kyle Ferstead—Clerk

Tom Ledsam—Treasurer

Gordon Fuglie ('05) Michael Gallagher ['07]

Edmonde Haddad ['07] Ina Klem ['06]

Samira Tamer ('05) Jerry Hornof ['05]

Joelle Underwood ('06)

DELEGATES/ALTERNATES TO CONVENTION

Angus Mackay (D)/Frank Basile (A) - ('06)

Annette Graw (D)/Kyle Ferstead (A) - ('05)