



*Diocese of the Holy Trinity and Great
Plains*

Newsletter

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Editor: Vickie Scrapper

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(Left to right: Bishop King, Diocese of the Southwest and Pacific, Bishop McNeley, Bishop Michael, Bishop Kleppinger, Bob Klein, St. James, Deacon Jim Dean, Church of the Holy Family, and in the far back, Jim King, St. James.)

Welcome to Our New Bishop Ordinary!

On June 12, 2008, The Diocese of the Holy Trinity and Great Plains enthroned the second Bishop Ordinary, Bishop Leo J. Michael. The ceremony took place as part of the 2008 Synodal Mass. For many of the attendees, this was the first experience of this sort. The Mass was a beautiful example of what makes the Anglican faith what it is – ancient tradition in all its glory. The new Bishop Ordinary succeeds Bishop Emeritus, James McNeley, who has served our Diocese for 15 years.

Presiding over the enthronement was The Rt. Rev. Thomas Kleppinger, Metropolitan of the Holy Catholic Church (Anglican Rite) in the US. The sermon given by Bishop Kleppinger was a call to uphold the traditional values, beliefs, and ceremonies of the ancient church. He implored us all to be vigilant, to not allow complacency and ambivalence to lead us astray, as has been the case with other Anglicans in our country. His message was to stand firm for our Lord and against the secular movements which threaten our beliefs and traditions.



Bishop Ordinary Leo Michael and his wife, Holly.



Bishop Kleppinger, Metropolitan



Bishops Michael & Kleppinger

*Note –
New Provincial Website
www.holycatholicanglican.org*

Parish News...

St. James, Kansas City

The delegation from St. James wants everyone in the Diocese to know that they are “still here.” Bob Klein spoke to the Synod about the efforts being made to revitalize St. James’ parish. He said there are about 22-25 faithful people who are ready to move onward. On behalf of St. James, he invited anyone and everyone to come to St. James for services, meetings, ecumenical gatherings, whatever is needed.

St. Gabriel, Greeley

St. Gabriel, Greeley, CO, is celebrating its 25th anniversary. April 16, 1983, was the first service recorded for St. Gabriel’s with Fr. Gregory Haring (formerly of the Diocese of Nebraska) celebrating. At that time, services were held at the United Brethren Evangelical Church.

June 3, 1984, St. Gabriel’s services were moved to the First Christian Church. By then, Mass was celebrated by Fr. Quintana, Fr. Parry, or Fr. Brainerd (all of St. Mary’s, Denver), and sometimes by Father Rudd of Estes Park.

The parish moved to its current location on Sept. 24, 1986. However, the building was leased until the following year when the parish was able to purchase it.

St. Gabriel’s Parish hosted the Diocesan Synod in May, 1990. Later that year, Dec. 23, Fr. Lynn Glenn celebrated his first Mass there.

Currently, Fr. Lawrence Kern is the priest-in-charge.

In 2005, St. Gabriel’s applied for and was granted “historic building” designation, thus protecting the building.



File photo: St. Gabriel’s HCC/AR

The Parish of St. Gabriel takes a great deal of pride in preserving and improving the appearance of the church. Decorative work that is now behind the altar was given to the church by Bill Wells from Estes Park.

Also worthy of noting is the dedication shown by the members of the Parish. Vaughn Trout has served as Lay Reader, Senior and Junior Warden. Also serving terms as Senior Warden are Jack Bengtson, Ken Hobbs, and DeAnn Rowe. Those who have served terms as Junior Warden are Sid and Velda Baldrige and DeAnn Rowe. Irene Bengtson has served the Parish as Treasurer, a position now held by Cheta Lebsack.

St. Gabriel’s parish continues its service to the poor with the operation of the Food Shelf. This ministry provides food for the needy and has experienced an increase in demand with the recent economic problems in the area.

Fr. Kern and the Parish sent this message: “It’s amazing how St. Gabriel’s has evolved over the years. We look forward to furthering its history in the years to come and providing service to our community.”

Holy Trinity, Sheridan

Holy Trinity parish in Sheridan, Wyoming, is moving forward with the remodeling plans for the church. The idea is to make the appearance of the converted house more like a church. In the process, they are adding space to accommodate about 50 more people.

Fr. Crawshaw is continuing with his work as a Chaplain at a cancer treatment center in Sheridan. He is also very active in the Third Order Franciscans, which he describes as a way of life dedicated to the glory of God.

Louis Shepherd is nearing ordination as Deacon in the church. His studies have been delayed due to the illness of his wife, Janet. Please add Janet to your prayer list as she recuperates from liver transplant surgery. Anyone interested in sending her well-wishes may do so at: Janet Shepherd, Residence Inn, #120, 16490 E. 40th Circle, Aurora, CO, 80011. Please pray that she and Louis can return home to Sheridan soon and in good health.

St. Peter, Albuquerque, NM

It has been a long time since we have received an update from St. Peter's Parish. Richard and Sue Zimpel attended the Synod and filled us in on what has been happening. The sad news is that St. Peter's has experienced the death of two clergy members in the past four years. Because of this, they have been looking for a new priest for quite some time.

The good news is that their prayers have been answered and the new priest has just arrived...and I mean literally "just arrived." Father Scott Lay moved his family from Alabama to Albuquerque just days before the Synod

convened. He and his daughter, Helen, (pictured below) turned around and drove to Wichita for our gathering and the enthronement. They were back on the road immediately following the enthronement ceremony on Thursday evening.

St. Peter's parish members are thrilled to have the new additions to their family, and Fr. Lay was quite anxious to get settled and serve his first Mass in his new church home.



Fr. Lay and daughter, Helen

Church of the Holy Family, Casper, WY

Deacon Jim Dean spoke at Synod about the upcoming youth camp plans. He pointed out that the annual camps began in 1998. Every year the plans are made around a theme...this year's theme is "Take Up Your Cross." The teachings of the camp will focus on the idea that suffering is a part of life and that what you do about it is the key. The campers will learn how to deal with obstacles they will face in their lifetimes by keeping their faith strong and "taking up their cross."

The camp will be held in Thermopolis, WY, July 31 – Aug. 5. This city is known for its hot springs, so the campers will be swimming and soaking in the springs during their stay. There will also be crafts, morning and evening prayer, and a tour of St.

Stephen's Catholic Church, which houses much artwork that combines ancient religious scenes with Native American influences.

Campers will attend a ceremonial parade put on by the Shoshone people in the area. Additionally, they will attend a Mass on the Wind River Reservation at the Church of the Morning Star. If you know of any children interested in attending this camp, contact Jim Dean or Bishop Kinner at Church of the Holy Family, 6492 W. Riverside Terrace, Casper, WY, 82604.

St. John, Lander, WY

St. John's parish is another group we have not heard much about lately. After the passing of their beloved priest, Fr. Werner, the number of members has dwindled to less than ten, according to Bishop Kinner's update at Synod. However, "wherever two or more are gathered in His Name," there is hope. Mr. Salwick of St. John's has just begun studying for orders. This is the new hope for the parish, and in Bishop Kinner's words, "This is a sign of new life." Please pray for the continuance of St. John's parish.

St. Joseph of Glastonbury, Wichita

St. Joseph has been renting chapels from other churches for 21 years. As of June 16, 2008, we will be the proud owners of our own building! We are all full of mixed emotions about this development – nervousness, anxiousness, apprehension, extreme excitement, you name it!

Therefore, our focus over the next thirty days or so will be to move into the new building and to do some renovating so that we have a sanctuary and fellowship room.

The building was used as a day care/preschool center. Our first order of business is to create a sanctuary in the north half of the building. This will entail removing a half-wall and erecting a permanent wall with entry doors. We also plan to paint the outside of the building fairly soon. It currently has a nursery-school version of a train painted on the side facing the street.

The building is located in a residential area near a business district which serves the south side of Wichita. Our next door neighbor is Westside United Methodist Church. They were the original owners of the building and will share their parking lot with us. We are looking forward to our new life as a parish.

Synod Notes...

Welcome to our "new" parishes! With the enthronement of the new Bishop, our Diocese also gained three parishes. Of course, these parishes have been around for a while, but they are new to us. I hope my notes will help to introduce them to all of you as well as introducing all of us to them. I, for one, am looking forward to learning more through the gathering of information for the newsletter.

WELCOME –

Christ Our Savior, Alpine, CA

The best way to become acquainted with Christ Our Savior HCC/AR is to go to their Website, christoursavior-anglican.com. There you will find photos of the church which is set in an old barn – a building within a building – located on donated land in a breath-taking setting. They have approximately 75 communicantes.

Fr. Frank Pannitti and his two delegates asked for seat and vote at the Synod and were granted such. Fr. Pannitti talked about the parish location and history. They will be part of our Diocese for only a short time, eventually transferring into the Diocese of the Southwest and Pacific. There is a little sadness about that, however, as Father and John & Joanne Talamantes developed fast friendships with many at Synod.

WELCOME – All Saints, Chicopee, KS

Seat and vote was asked for by Father Jon Hunter and his wife, Paula, as clergy and delegate from All Saints. The request was granted.

Chicopee is a small community just outside of Pittsburg, KS. The building was originally St. Barbara's Roman Catholic Church. It was, however, abandoned many years ago. In 2003, All Saints had its first Mass in the old church building, and they have been there ever since.

Fr. Hunter stated that there were 12 members in 2006, but the parish size has more than doubled since, with 29 in 2007. He commented that they feel privileged at All Saints to have Bishop & Madelyn McNeley as frequent attendees. Fr. Hunter is assisted at All Saints by Fr. Paul Trentham, Curate, who travels from Neosho, MO. He and his wife, Fran, also attended the Synod.

Fr. Hunter keeps busy with Bible studies for his parishioners, as well as traveling regularly to Joplin for Bible study at Cornerstone Village.



Paula & Fr. Jon Hunter, All Saints

WELCOME – St. Gabriel, Springdale, AR

Our new Bishop comes from the parish of St. Gabriel in Springdale, AR. He is assisted there by several young and energetic clergymen: Fr. Don Pendergraft, Fr. John Slavin, Fr. Rafael Carvajal, and Deacon Ed Knox. The delegation from St. Gabriel asked for, and was granted, seat and vote.



Pam & Fr. John Slavin (They celebrated their wedding anniversary at the Synod.)

St. Gabriel's began services in the chapel of a funeral home. When Bishop Michael arrived there many years ago, there were about 15 members. Eventually, they were able to purchase a building in another state. They poured a foundation and rolled the building into town! They celebrated their 20th anniversary in 2007. The parish has

grown to around 90 communicates with many young families with children.

St. Gabriel's is extremely involved in the community of Springdale supporting a food pantry and other outreaches. Fr. Carvajal heads the Hispanic ministry with a Mass in Spanish at 1pm every Sunday.

The newest update to the church was a recent purchase of a 1904 pipe organ. The parish had a loft built to house the organ, and Fr. Pendergraft, Curate, says the sound is quite wonderful!

Fr. Pendergraft was instrumental in getting the new Website up for the Holy Catholic Church (Anglican Rite). He will serve as Webmaster. He was assisted by graphic designer, Phil Gilbreath, who is also the youth director for St. Gabriel's. Notices about the Website went out in emails the week before Synod. The photos from the Synod – all 255 of them – are already on the site for you to see.

St. Gabriel's, Springdale, will be hosting the HCCAR Anglican Youth Camp, August 6-11, 2008. The theme for this camp is "For me, to live is Christ." Campers will be treated to swimming at Table Rock Lake in the Ozarks, a trip to Branson, MO, as well as other fun and faith-based activities. They will stay at Hillspeak in Eureka Springs, AR.

For more information and registration, contact Holly Michael, St. Gabriel HCC/AR, 102 Westwood Lane, Springdale, AR, 72762; 479-756-5074; hjmichael@sbcglobal.net. This is a great opportunity for any young person interested in attending.

Announcements...

The Diocese will not host an Ecumenical Congress this fall. The

Bishops will be traveling to San Diego, CA, in September for, yet, another enthronement! As you may know, Bishop David Seeland is in poor health and has decided to retire from his duties as Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Southwest and Pacific. Stepping into the vacancy will be Bishop Henry King. His enthronement is set for Sept. 20, 2008.



Retiring Bishop David Seeland

In addition to the enthronement of Bishop King, Father Anthony Rasch will be ordained as Bishop. He will then serve as an assistant to Bishop King.

Therefore, the next Ecumenical Congress will be held in the fall of 2009. Dates and location will be announced at a later time.



Bishop Ordinary Elect, Bishop Henry King

By unanimous vote, the next Diocesan Synod (2009) will be held in Springdale, AR, and hosted by St. Gabriel's. Dates will be determined later.

Also by unanimous vote, the Diocesan Synod 2010 will be held in Albuquerque, NM, and hosted by St. Peter's HCC/AR. Jr. Warden, Richard Zimpel said at the Synod meeting that his parish believes they will be in a position to accommodate us by then. They are looking forward to wonderful things with the new priest now in place.

As you have read, we have two youth camps in the Diocese this year. Both of these camps are for older children, old enough to travel and function away from home. We urge you take advantage of one of these camping opportunities. To help with the cost, the Synod delegation voted to dedicate the offering from the Synodal Mass to scholarships for these camps in honor of Bishop McNeley and his wife, Madelyn. The collection was \$405. As the administrator for the scholarship funds, I will see to the distribution of funds accompanied by a certificate for each recipient.

While on the topic of scholarship funds, I would like to ask all of you to consider contributing to the Bob Green Memorial Scholarship Fund. Any and all donations are welcome. Sadly, some portion of the money that should have gone into this fund over the past two years did not make it there. Therefore, the fund is at a mere \$200, which is not much to work with. If you can help us rebuild this fund, your efforts will be greatly appreciated. Please send all contributions to our treasurer, Lynn Baxter, 2415 Applegrove St. NE, Canton, OH, 44721. Please make checks payable to the diocese.

On the other side of this issue, any student who wishes to apply for assistance through this fund is asked to contact me, Vickie Scaper, 4480 S.

Meridian #233, Wichita, KS, 67217; email: sfprod2001@yahoo.com. The idea behind the upstart of the fund is to provide some "extra cash" to students for unforeseen expenses such as utility deposits, paper & pencil, initial purchase of food for the dorm room or apartment, and other small expenditures that tend to add up quickly. To apply, send name, address, phone number, and school you plan to attend. We would also like to know the declared major and church home. Money will be distributed based on the number of applicants in a semester, the amount of money available, and proof of enrollment. Membership in an Anglican church is *not* a requirement.

About the newsletter –

This newsletter is an attempt to keep the parishes of the diocese informed and connected to one another. Geographically, we are spread out over several states making it difficult, at times, to be in touch with each other. When we only see or talk to some members once a year, it is difficult to develop and maintain relationships. It is the intention, therefore, to stay connected through the newsletter...with your help. Please consider appointing or electing one person to the task of passing on newsletter information. Your efforts are much appreciated.

Your editor,

Vickie Scaper, St. Joseph's

****The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter is **Aug. 10**. PLEASE send me your information, comments, book reviews, stories, & ideas. Send to Vickie Scaper, 4480 S. Meridian #233, Wichita, KS, 67217, or email to sfprod2001@yahoo.com. Thanks!**