



ECCE



The Newsletter of S. John the Baptist Anglican Church
Marshall, Virginia

Issue 47 October 2011



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Dear Family and Friends of S. John's,

I write this article having just gathered with many of you to wish Fr John and Michelle Needham Godspeed as they complete their move to Houston, Texas this week. All transitions present their challenges, and this one has been particularly difficult for the Needhams. We are grateful to God for the timely way in which their house was sold allowing Michelle to join Fr John as he continues his ministry to the good people of S. Peter's in Houston. I want to add my own gratitude for his support and encouragement during the time he served here at S. John's. We all wish him well in his new parish.

The loss of any family from our common parish life has an effect on us all and raises the larger question of how we go about growing our parish, a challenge that meets us on every front. In the past, Anglican parishes grew largely from disaffected Episcopalians. While Anglicanism offered a traditional alternative to those who discerned and disapproved of the progressive direction of The Episcopal Church, it tended also to group together those of a more negative outlook. People became Anglicans because they were "against" Prayer Book revision, women's ordination or the normalization of disordered sexual practices. While being against these things brought people together, it was not altogether clear what united them. Differences in churchmanship, liturgical practices, music and even more arcane matters led to disagreement and eventual division, both on the parish level and on the national level. Momentum in the Anglican movement weakened and left us in the fractured state in which we now find ourselves.

This historical background has practical effects on parish growth. It's doubtful that we will see many more Episcopalians migrate towards Anglicanism. Those who have stayed to watch the outright attack on historic Christianity will find it harder to abandon the institution. At the same time, we find ourselves in a largely Protestant demographic who view liturgical worship with some distrust if not disdain.

I do not write this with a pessimistic attitude but as a challenge to each of us: God will grow this parish only as we live out our faith visibly and with integrity with those with whom we come in contact. Additionally, we each must renew our commitment to the parish to which God has called us.

Affectionately, your Friend and Pastor,

Ordinariate Update

from the Blog: *Whispers in the Loggia*
**Anglicanorum "Unfolds Before Us": In Fort Worth,
 a US First**
 Rocco Palmo

Two years since Anglicanorum coetibus, they say the day is coming soon – the release of the CDF decree establishing a Stateside jurisdiction for groups of Anglicans entering full communion with Rome, bringing with them distinctive elements of their lifelong patrimony of faith.

Yet even without the formal starting-gun, the groundbreaking B16 venture has already begun taking root on these shores, reaching a new level of its ramp-up last weekend.

At a Sunday Mass in Fort Worth, some 30 former Episcopalians became the first US group to enter the Catholic fold in preparation for the American Ordinariate's launch. Fourteen months since beginning their catechesis, the group's Professions of Faith, Confirmations and First Eucharists in St Patrick's Cathedral took place four years after four priests of North Texas' Episcopal diocese met privately with Bishop Kevin Vann to investigate the possibility of swimming the Tiber.

Two of those clerics were among the group received by Vann, including the former canon, or top deputy, to the area's Episcopal bishop. Both have received the *nulla osta*, the Vatican clearance to proceed to priestly formation in the Catholic church.

While the bulk of the community – named St Peter the Rock – made its full entrance into the fold at the weekend, a handful who are on a later track took part in the preliminary Rite of Welcome; they'll be fully initiated once their catechesis concludes.

For the record, the liturgy was the standard post-Conciliar Latin-rite, except for the propers of the day, which were taken from the Anglican Use Book of Divine Worship, which is likely to form the

template for a Missal and Office for the global Ordinariates currently in the works in Rome.

Long the nation's de facto seat of Anglo-Catholicism, it's fitting that the final turn toward the new national jurisdiction began in Lone Star Country: Stateside Catholicism's two oldest Anglican Use parishes are in San Antonio and the Fort Worth church, all American clergy making the journey will have their formation at St Mary's Seminary in Houston, and many expect one or another locale in Texas to serve as the US Ordinariate's operational base.

All told, as many as 2,000 Anglicans (including a hundred or so priests) are expected to undertake the Canterbury-Rome trip in the domestic Ordinariate's first wave. Yet much like in England -- where its Ordinariate's launch birthed the UK's largest RCIA class in years last Easter -- an even larger second wave is expected once the structure is up and running. Along those lines, a second community in the Fort Worth church is soon to be established.

By provision of the Holy See, the US Catholic Catechism for Adults is the foundational text of the American groups' formation for entry.

Having met weekly for Morning Prayer and catechesis at Fort Worth's chancery since their path began in July 2010, the St Peter's group has likewise integrated into their local Catholic parishes for Mass until their clerics are ordained. According to their leader, the once and future Fr Timothy Perkins, none of the fellowship's 50 members have a commute shorter than 40 minutes across the sprawling North Texas Metroplex to attend their gatherings.

Even for its sacrifices, a joyful Perkins called the experience "surreal" in a chat the other day between calls with his people.

With their entrance into the fold, "we have come to the fullness of faith."

Kudos

To John Hagan for keeping up with the church lawn and grounds.

To Cathy Hagan for doing a spectacular cleaning of the church.


Transitus

There were no Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals recorded in the Parish Register during the past month.

What Happens When I am not at Mass?

- Somebody who was looking forward to seeing you, missed you.
- Somebody who expected to see you wonders if you are ill.
- Your neighbour, children, or house guests get the idea that church doesn't matter to you.
- There is one less voice in the hymns and prayers to God.
- You do something else instead, which you could do at any other time, *or* you do something else that you could only do then, *either way* thus proclaiming your priorities.
- You lead into temptation someone who is in church – the temptation to feel superior.
- The Church is less prepared for its daily work.
- Someone who admires you thinks, “If it isn't important to so-and-so, why should it be important to me?”
- Your family follows your lead and doesn't come either.
- Your family wishes you were with them at Mass.
- There is one less person praying for the troubled, sorrowful, and sick, for the Church and for the world. •
- Jesus is saddened.
- Your life is not offered up at the Offertory.
- You cannot receive Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.
- The work of the priest who baptised, taught and presented you for Confirmation is mocked.
- You make communication of parish news harder.
- You are not reminded BY the Word of God OF the Word of God.
- Departed loved ones are remembered by one fewer person.
- You start to form one new bad habit.
- You treat as optional something Our Lord commanded.
- People who are working to build up the Church are discouraged.
- You break the promise that you made, or which was made on your behalf, at your Baptism, and the promise that you made at your Confirmation.
- The church is emptier, and being emptier, lacks just that much exuberance and joy.
- The Devil is delighted.

October 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 TRINITY	 MATER DEI	 S. FRANCIS	 S. BRUNO	 MOST HOLY ROSARY	 S. TERESA OF AVILA	1 Of Our Lady S. Regimius, BC M.P. 9.30am Rosary 9.45am E.P. 5.30pm
2 ✠ TRINITY XV (Holy Guardian Angels) L.M. 8am M.P. 9am SCF 9.30am Mass 10.30am	3 S. Theresa of the Child Jesus, VD M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	4 S. Francis of Assisi, C M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	5 S. Placidus & Comp. MM M.P. 9.30am Mass 10am Bible Study 10:30 E.P. 5.30pm	6 S. Bruno, C (S. Faith, VM) M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	7  MOST HOLY ROSARY M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm Mass 6pm	8 S. Bridget of Sweden, W M.P. 9.30am Rosary 9.45am B. of Animals 10am E.P. 5.30pm
9 ✠ TRINITY XVI L.M. 8am M.P. 9am SCF 9.30am Mass 10.30am	10 S. Francis Borgia, C (S. Paulinus, BC) M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	11 MOTHERHOOD OF THE BVM M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm Mass 6pm	12 S. Wilfred, BC M.P. 9.30am Mass 10am Bible Study 10:30 E.P. 5.30pm	13 S. Edward, KC M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	14  S. Callistus I, PM M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	15 S. Teresa of Avila, VD M.P. 9.30am Rosary 9.45am E.P. 5.30pm
16 ✠ TRINITY XVII (S. Hedwig, W) L.M. 8am M.P. 9am SCF 9.30am Mass 10.30am	17 S. Margaret Mary, V M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	18 S. LUKE, Ev M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm Mass 6 pm	19 S. Frideswide, V (S. Peter Alcantara, C) M.P. 9.30am Mass 10am Bible Study 10:30 E.P. 5.30pm	20 S. John Cantius M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm TNM 7pm	21  S. Hilarion, Ab (S. Ursula & Comp. MM) M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	22 Of Our Lady M.P. 9.30am Rosary 9.45am E.P. 5.30pm
23 ✠ TRINITY XVIII L.M. 8am M.P. 9am SCF 9.30am Mass 10.30am	24 S. RAPHAEL, ARCHANGEL M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm Mass 6 pm	25 S. Chrysanthus & Daria, MM M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	26 S. Evaristus, PM M.P. 9.30am Mass 10am Bible Study 10:30 E.P. 5.30pm	27 Vigil M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	28  SS Simon & Jude, APP M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm Mass 6pm	29 Of Our Lady M.P. 9.30am Rosary 9.45am E.P. 5.30pm
30 ✠ CHRIST THE KING (TRINITY XIX) L.M. 8am M.P. 9am SCF 9.30am Mass 10.30am	31 Vigil M.P. 9.30am E.P. 5.30pm	 CHRISTUS REX	 S. LUKE	 S. EDWARD	 S. JUDE	 S. SIMON

Ab=Abbot; Ap=Apostle; B=Bishop; C=Confessor; Dn=Deacon; D=Doctor; E=Emperor; Ev=Evangelist; K=King; M=Martyr; P=Pope; Pn=Penitent Pr=Priest; Q=Queen; V=Virgin; W=Widow; SCF=School of Christian Formation; SOC=Stations of the Cross; TNM=Thursday Night at the Movies

A Look at the Liturgy

It is sometimes helpful to review what the Church expects of us at Mass.

We should arrive on time, early enough to prepare our hearts and minds in prayer, form our personal Mass intention and give thanks to God for the opportunity to participate in the Sacrifice of the Mass.

We should have all of our offerings ready:

- an open mind to be instructed
- an open heart to receive love from God and give to others
- a clean conscience
- a sacrificial offering from the treasure God has given us

We should be attentive during the prayers, readings and sermon. God may have something to say to us to-day. Lift up your heart at the Offertory, and offer to God all that we have and all that we are.

Receive God in Holy Communion if we are prepared to do so. In any case, adore Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Remain to the end of Mass; offer our proper thanksgiving for all the gifts God has given us. Each of us has received more than we could ever count.

If we go to the Coffee Hour, speak to visitors before speaking to friends. When speaking with friends, let charity inform every comment we make. If others speak lacking charity, change the subject or excuse yourself, and don't feel self-righteous – odds are that we have done the same and will do again.

Think what we can do this week to advance Our Lord's mission: is there work we can do? A weekday Mass or service we can attend? Can we support the clergy and laity who have work to do this week? Our lives in Christ should reflect steady growth. Are we doing the same things we did a year ago, two years ago, ten years ago? Is our weekly offering the same percentage of income as it was last year, two years ago, ten years ago? Or are we growing in faithfulness and being more fully converted every day to Christ and His Church?

After Mass, you may wish to visit the Blessed Virgin Mary shrine, offer a prayer and light a candle.

Let what you have heard and received inform and colour the rest of your week, and keep the rest of the Sabbath Day holy, as we are recreated in the likeness of Christ.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blessing of Animals: Sat, 8 Oct 10.30am

In honour of S. Francis of Assisi, we will bless our animals after Morning Prayer and the Rosary on the Saturday after his feast day (4 October). Please bring any and all creatures whom God has placed under your care and be sure to tell your friends and neighbours as well.

Forward in Faith National Assembly: 14-15 Oct

Forward in Faith – United Kingdom will hold its annual National Assembly in London over the second weekend of October. Since S. John's is a member parish, we have are entitled to attend. John Hagan and Fr Ostman will represent the parish and will give a report of the more salient points upon their return. Fr Ostman will be out of the parish in the UK from late Wednesday, 12 October through Monday, 17 October. DHC's new deacon, Jonathan Ulsaker will take the services on Sunday 16 October (Trinity XVII). This is not permission to be absent that Sunday. Names will be taken!

Thursday Night at the Movies: 20 Oct

Our film in August will be screened on Thursday, 20 October at 7pm, and is entitled: Stone of Destiny. Here is the Netflix summary: *Based on true events of 1950, this comic adventure follows Scottish nationalist Ian Hamilton (Charlie Cox) and three other young men as they make a daring raid on Westminster Abbey in an attempt to return the historic Stone of Scone to Scotland. Hamilton and his cohorts must outwit British authorities in their mission to right a centuries-old wrong and revive Scottish national pride. Kate Mara, Billy Boyd and Robert Carlyle co-star.*

October Agenda

Most Holy Rosary of the BVM	Friday, 7 October, 6pm
Blessing of the Animals	Saturday, 8 October, 10.30am
Vestry Meeting	Sunday, 9 October, 12noon
Motherhood of the BVM	Tuesday, 11 October, 6pm
S. Luke, Evangelist	Tuesday, 18 October, 6pm
Thursday Night at the Movies	Thursday, 20 October, 7pm
SS Simon & Jude, Apostles	Friday, 28 October, 6pm

The Anglican Church of
S. John the Baptist
PO Box 550
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Advertising Brochure

A color brochure is available
in the back of the church, by the west doors,
for use in advertising the parish.

Please take one (or two) to pass on
to a friend (or two).

Standing Notices

The occasional Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony,
Confession, Communion and Unction of the Sick, and
the Office of the Dead are always available
by appointment, at announced times, or as necessary.

Please call or e-mail the Church Office or the Rectory
to inform the clergy if you or a loved one is in hospital.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE PARISH IN YOUR WILL