

# THE SAN JOAQUIN ANGLICAN

## *The Bishop's Corner*

*The Right Reverend Eric Vawter Menees*

“When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.” (Acts 2:1-4)

This scripture should be familiar to you as it was read on Pentecost Sunday, May 27th. Across the diocese and around the world as the church celebrated her birthday.

With this scripture we are reminded of the fulfillment of the promise of Jesus Christ to the disciples and to the church that he would not leave them alone but that he would send a helper, an advocate and guide, the Holy Spirit. On that Pentecost in the year AD 33 the church was born in the power of the Holy Spirit and we in the Diocese of San Joaquin are the embodiment of that action two thousand years ago.

It is important to recognize that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit not for the personal fulfillment of individual believers but so that the Church could fulfill her mission given by Jesus just prior to his Ascension - this mission is generally called The Great Commission. “And he (Jesus) said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.” (Mark 16:15-18 ESV)

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to assist the individual members of the church to go out to preach and teach and to baptize.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## *BISHOP'S SCHEDULE AND DIOCESAN CALENDAR*

**June 2nd** - Spring Day at St. Mary's, Fresno

**June 3rd** - Bishop at St. Columba's, Fresno

**June 10th** - Bishop at St. David's, San Rafael

**June 12th** - Rural Deans

**June 16th** - Diocesan Council

**June 17<sup>th</sup>** - Bishop at St. Alban's, Los Banos

## CHAPTER TWO

### The Foundations Are Laid

*[ed. note—the following is a series of historical essays taken from “History of the Diocese of San Joaquin,” Chapter 2, “The Foundations Are Laid.”]*

*[ed. note—the beginning paragraphs of chapter two begin with, “St. John’s Parish, Stockton”... as the April edition of the SJAnglican contained the article “A Brief History of St. John’s” this series continues with:]*

### ST. JAMES’ PARISH, SONORA



Historic St. James’ is located in the “mother lode” area of the gold rush days of early California. It was founded in December of 1859. Sonora, like other mining communities in the “mother lode,” experienced a rough and rugged period in the early mining days. In 1859, a group of loyal churchmen, who had remained in Tuolumne County after the boom days of the gold rush had ended, discussed the possibility of having a church of their own. Three men – Cabel Dorsey, Abrier Pitts, and Frederick Salter – comprised the committee that started the move towards building a church in Sonora.

They began by drafting a letter to Bishop Kip in San Francisco outlining their plan. In a short time Bishop Kip was able to assign a man who was capable of filling the position, the Rev. John G. Gassman, a native of Norway, who arrived in Sonora on December 17, 1859. He was enthusiastic about the challenge and had considerable skill as a builder, and his ideas for the plan and architecture of the church were useful in the construction.

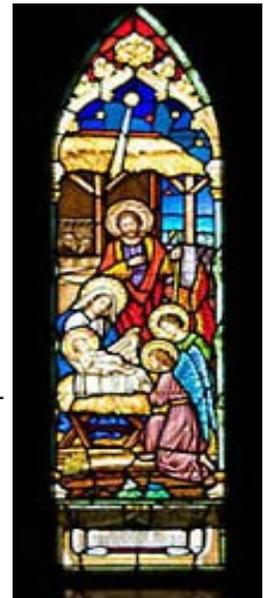
The church was built over the abandoned workings of the Bonanza Mine, one of the richest pocket mines in California. The first service was held in the new church building on October 4, 1860, and it was consecrated in November 1870 by Bishop Kip.

In 1868 the west side of the building was damaged by fire when the United States Hotel across the street burned. This necessitated extensive repairs to the church. In 1949 the building was again carefully renovated and modernized. Further renovation was done in 1970 and 1973.

Since 1860, St. James’ Episcopal Church has occupied its position on Washington Street, overlooking Sonora’s business district. It is a testimony to the faith and consecration of those who planned and built it, and to the loyalty of those who have maintained it. But above all it is a symbol of the changelessness of Almighty God and of the fact that men do feel that they must worship Him; the same yesterday, today and forever.

[Taken in part from an article by Mr. John Germain, The Tuolumne County Historical Society Quarterly]

St. James’ has had twenty-eight Rectors, Deacons and an Assisting Priest from its beginning. At the time of Bishop Rivera’s accession to the episcopate the Rev. Galen Onstad was the Rector. He retired in 1971 and was succeeded by the Rev. Ronald Swanson who, at the time of his call, was a Canon on the staff of St. James’ Cathedral, Fresno. During Swanson’s tenure mission congregations were begun in Sonora, St. Michael’s, established in February 1983, and Groveland, Grace Church Mission, in February 1985. The Rev. Ronald Swanson resigned in 1987 and at the time of this writing the congregation is being served by the Rev. Dr. William E. Craig, former Director of St. Francis’ Home For Boys.



# The Bishop's 2012 Spiritual Pilgrimage to Israel



Greetings,

If you have ever considered making your spiritual pilgrimage to the land of the Bible, visiting the spring in Nazareth where Mary drew water, sailing across the Sea of Galilee where Jesus walked, climbing the very steps on the temple mount that Jesus climbed, and praying in Gethsemane where Jesus prayed, you will want to join us. And on this very special tour we will welcome in the new year on the Sea of Galilee and celebrate Epiphany in Bethlehem.

I invite you, your friends and families to join me and my family on a very special spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Esti Barak of Middle East Connection has put together a wonderful tour. We have secured the renowned Israeli tour guide, Mr. Roni Winter and we will be departing from LAX December 27, 2012 and returning January 8, 2013.

Seating is limited so do not delay. Send queries to Fr. Derek Thomason at [thomasonpi@yahoo.com](mailto:thomasonpi@yahoo.com) or call him at 559-960-0966.

Faithfully yours in Christ,  
+Eric

The Right Reverend Eric Vawter Menees  
Bishop of San Joaquin

**FORWARD IN FAITH, NORTH AMERICA**  
**THE TWENTY FOURTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, JULY 11-13, 2012**  
**They devoted themselves to the Breaking of Bread...**

**Wednesday, July 11, 2012**

- 3:00 p.m. Registration begins
- 5:00 p.m. Solemn Pontifical Eucharist (Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit)  
 The Rt. Rev. Keith Ackerman, FiFNA President  
 Homily: (John 6:35) The Bread of Life—Food for the Journey  
 (Viaticum; Medicine of Immortality [Medicina Immortalitatis])
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. Introductions of guests, attendees; Meeting Agenda and Nominations  
 and Resolutions update
- 8:00 p.m. **Presidential Address: The Rt. Rev. Keith Ackerman**  
**MDAS Report: The Rt. Rev. William H. Ilgenfritz, Ordinary of MDAS**  
 Responses to reports, comments, questions, etc.
- 9:00 p.m. Adjournment



**Thursday, July 12, 2012**

- 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 8:30 a.m. **First Teaching: Father Lawrence D. Bausch, SSC: The Sacraments:  
 Christ's Gift to the Church**
- 9:30 a.m. General Session I
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Reports: Financial Report; Publications Report; Status of Nominations;  
 Resolutions update; Voting; Other Business
- Noon Noonday Prayers and Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. General Session II
- 2:30 p.m. **Second Teaching: The Rt. Rev. Ray Sutton: Christ in the Eucharist  
 (Real Presence of Christ in the Sacrament)**
- 3:30 p.m. Break
- 4:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Anointing for Healing: The Rt. Rev. William  
 Ilgenfritz, Celebrant  
 Homily: (John 6:51) For the Life of the World
- 6:00 p.m. Mediterranean-style Dinner
- 7:15 p.m. "Colossians Live" – a dramatic monologue of the book of Colossians by  
 Fr. Gordon Schroeder
- 8:00 p.m. Fellowship

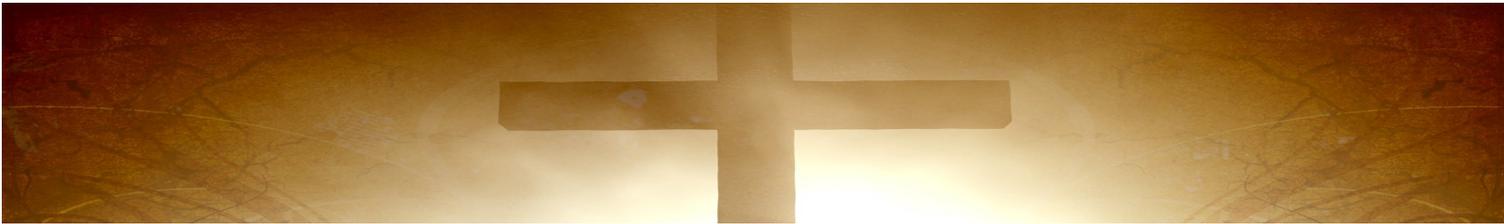
**SAVE THE DATES – PLAN  
 TO ATTEND**

The 2012 [Annual Assembly](#) of Forward in Faith North America will be held July 11-13 at The National Shrine of [Our Lady of the Snows](#) in Belleville, IL.

Registration form at: [http://fifna.org/sites/default/files/registration\\_2012.pdf](http://fifna.org/sites/default/files/registration_2012.pdf)

**Friday, July 13, 2012**

- 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 8:30 a.m. General Session III (Voting Results, Concluding Business)
- 9:30 a.m. **Third Teaching: The Rt. Rev. Donald Parsons: The Eucharist as the  
 Source and Center of Christian Life**
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 11:00 a.m. Closing Eucharist: Votive Mass for Mission:  
 The Rt. Rev. Frederick Fick, Celebrant  
 Homily: The Holy Eucharist, the Foundation of Christian Mission of FiFNA
- Noon Adjournment



## A Little Faith

by Fr. Don Cleave

Dearest Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Nine years ago, my family and I took a leap of Faith. Under the discernment of then Bishop of San Joaquin, John-David Schofield, we answered a call to ministry. Don resigned from what he had always wanted to do in life –work as a professor of medieval English Literature. Junko, with a baby boy just born and an adventurous little girl in tow, left friends and family for the second time in her life to travel across the country. We sold literally everything and arrived in the wild woods of Wisconsin where for three years, we prepared for ministry at Nashotah House Seminary.

And thru the loving support of our friends and family, God blessed us.

When we returned to California we arrived without work, without insurance, and with a student loan debt of \$60,000. Yet, in a month we found ourselves in Bakersfield at All Saints' Anglican Church with full-time work in ministry, and new friends. In six years of careful stewardship and God's blessing, the student debt was paid, we owned two cars free and clear, but found ourselves in many ways making yet another new beginning as our time with our friends at All Saints' came to close.

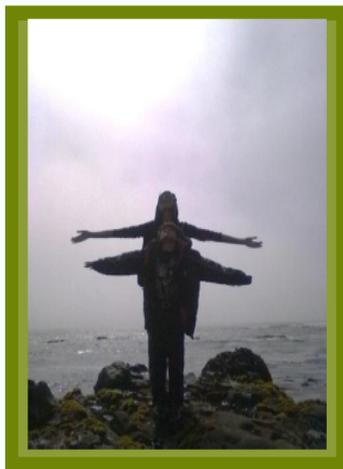
And thru the love of the people of All Saints', God has blessed us.

Today, my wife, my adventurous eight year old son, and my mega-cool teenage daughter are about to move to a quiet coastal town to share the life-changing love of Jesus Christ. We have no income, no insurance and it is once again another leap of Faith. And yet we cannot doubt that thru his people,

God is blessing us.

*"Jesus told them: 'Take nothing for the journey...'  
And they departed and went through the villages,  
preaching the gospel and healing everywhere."*

Luke 9:3,6



"Kids' Cross"  
Moonstone Beach



Vestry Members and Friends  
Picnic in Shamel Park

**Sunday Services 9-10am**  
**Children's Ministry Available**

At the Joslyn Recreation Center  
950 Main St.  
Cambria, CA 93428  
[www.anglicancoast.wordpress.com](http://www.anglicancoast.wordpress.com)

Email: [theanglocat@gmail.com](mailto:theanglocat@gmail.com)  
Phone: 805.395.1221  
Fr. Don Cleave, Vicar

If you would like to partner financially with Fr. Don and his family in the Christ Church Cambria mission, please send your tax-deductible gift to:

Christ Church Cambria  
1241 Knollwood Dr. PMB 148  
Cambria, CA 93428

*May the floodgates of heaven open in blessing you!*

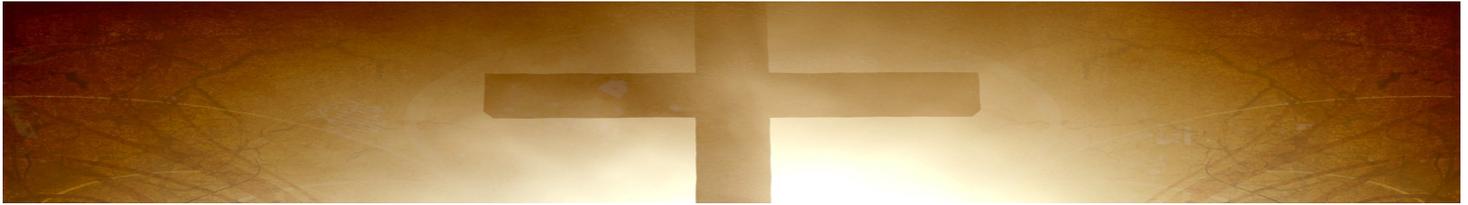


### Prayers Answered!

Thank-you Lord for answering our prayers for housing in Cambria!

Many of you were praying that we would be able to get a home despite the fact that we are currently "unemployed". We have been blessed with a family that prayed about our leap of Faith and then agreed to let us rent their beautiful home.

Thanks to all for your prayers.



## The Bishop's Corner

(Cont. from Front Page)

The promise of Jesus is that when we will faithfully share the Good News of Jesus Christ and trust in the Holy Spirit signs and wonders accompany that proclamation. I can tell you first hand that God the Holy Spirit is alive and well and moving in the Anglican Church worldwide AND the Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin! What a joy to go into our congregations on Sunday mornings and not only hear the gospel faithfully preached but to see first hand the work of the Holy Spirit working in our congregations. It is common to hear of people being healed, demons cast out and new languages spoken. All I have to say about that is Alleluia - Happy Pentecost!

### AYM & FLAYM @ Camp San Joaquin!

Bishop Menees is emphasizing youth ministry throughout the diocese and in doing so is leading two important Camps.

July 23-28 AYM (Anglican Youth Ministry) is for those students entering high school through 12th grade. This is a Christian Camp experience where emphasis will be placed on developing a vital and living relationship with Jesus Christ. This Camp will be filled with friendships, fun activities, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

July 29 - August 2 FLAYM (Following the Lord Anglican Youth Ministry) is for those students in the 7th & 8th grades. FLAYM will be Christian Camp run on a family theme with emphasis on the Christian family and their role within the family. Set in the High Sierras at 8,000 ft. Camp San Joaquin offers several wonderful opportunities for Alpine fun in a strongly Christian environment.

The cost of the Camp is \$240 and is all inclusive. For more information you may contact the diocesan office at 559-244-4824 or check out the diocesan website - [www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net](http://www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net)

## Transitions

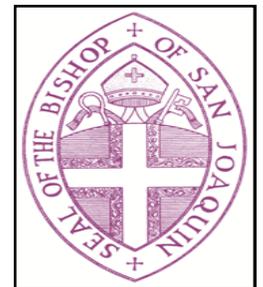
In May Fr. John Riebe stepped down from the position as Rural Dean for the Kern Deanery and Fr. Karl Dietze has been appointed as the new Rural Dean for Kern Deanery. Please take the time to thank Fr. John for his faithful ministry and to pray for and support Fr. Karl in this new ministry.

In May Bishop Menees appointed Deacon Francie Levy to the position of Archdeacon for the Diocese of San Joaquin. Dcn. Francie takes over the position that was vacated with the death of Dcn. Bob Hilliard. The Archdeacon assists the Bishop of the diocese especially with the development and care of our deacons. Please welcome and support The Venerable Francie Levy in her expanded ministry as a deacon in the Diocese of San Joaquin.

In May we bid farewell and Godspeed to two of our saints in the diocese:

Reid Paige served the diocese in several ministries through his home parish of St. Matthias, Oakdale - most recently Reid served on the diocesan Standing Committee.

Verna Dietze ministered at St. Paul's, Bakersfield, and served the community faithfully and well in many different areas. Verna was mother to Fr. Karl Dietze, the Rector of St. Paul's.



*The San Joaquin Anglican* is published monthly by The Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin, California.

Submissions will be accepted for consideration anytime; Contributions must be received by the 20th of the month for possible inclusion in the newsletter in the following month.

Please send these to [uncleted3@aol.com](mailto:uncleted3@aol.com)

Thank you!