

THE SAN JOAQUIN ANGLICAN

The Bishop's Corner

The Right Reverend Eric Vawter Menees

“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?” (Matthew 2:1-2) With these familiar words the Wise Men prove the fact that they truly were wise. It is the wise who seek Jesus and it is the wise who humble themselves at the manger of a babe.

As we conclude Christmas and celebrate Epiphany I pray that we will have the same wisdom and the same humility as those Wise Men two thousand years ago.

This is the motivation behind our Mission in the Diocese of San Joaquin **“WE ARE AN APOSTOLIC COMMUNITY ON MISSION WITH THE LIFE GIVING AND TRANSFORMING MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST”**

There are three parts to this mission that we, as a diocese, need to live into. First, “We are an Apostolic Community...” In saying this we acknowledge that we are direct descendents of Peter and Paul, James and John and the other disciples turned Apostles. Of course, the difference between the two—disciples & apostles—is huge. A disciple is one who studies under a master and an apostle is one who is sent out by that master to disciple others.

In 2012 my prayer for the Diocese of San Joaquin is that each and every parish, each and every Christian in that parish will live into our baptismal vows... Question: “Will you continue in the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread and in the prayers?” Answer: I will, with God’s help!

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BISHOP'S SCHEDULE

January 1st
Eucharist at ECCO

January 3rd
Sierra Deanery Mtg.

January 6th
Winter Family Camp @ ECCO

January 8th
Epiphany, Corcoran & Sequoia
Deanery Party

January 10th
Rural Dean’s Meeting

January 12th -16th
Bishop’s Conference Lima, Peru

January 21st
Diocesan Council

January 21st & 22nd
St. Paul’s, Bakersfield

January 22nd—23rd
ECCO Commission Mtg.

January 24th
Dinner with Bishop’s Committee
of Nuestra Sra. De Guadalupe

January 28th –29th
Trinity, Lone Pine

AS WE GATHER

Jesus the Good Shepherd



For the second year, Jesus the Good Shepherd entered the Henderson Christmas Parade with a 1944 John Deere tractor pulling a trailer decorated with white lights and parish banners. The children and parents sat on hay bales singing Christmas Carols led by our parish musician, Redo Concepcion.

While classic tractors may be com-

monplace in many communities, they are as rare as they are beautiful on the city streets of the Las Vegas Valley.

The father of Ken Hinman, a parishioner, ordered the tractor in 1944. Ken found the tractor in a neighboring farm after years of searching, and restored it.

The parish banners and our traditional carols created conversation among fellow entries and the attend-



ing public, allowing us to evangelize through joy and beauty, important

aspects of our parish life. As Dostoevsky wrote, "God will save the world through beauty."

Parish reports

The Order of the Daughters of the Holy Cross

Diocese of San Joaquin

By Cynthia Shaheen

The Order of The Daughters of the Holy Cross (DHC) is Anglican women called by God who have committed their lives to the work and service of our Lord Jesus Christ. In community with one another we are strengthened and encouraged to keep our lifelong vow of daily Prayer, Service, Study and Evangelism.

There are 13 Chapters in the San Joaquin Valley (SJV) alone, 51+ nationwide and Canada. The 13 Chapters in the SJV are: **St. Paul's** in Visalia, **St. Francis** in Turlock, **St. Jude-of-the-Mountains** in Tehachapi, **St. Michael's** in Ridgecrest, **Christ's Anglican** in Oakhurst, **Jesus Our Savior** in Modesto, **St. Andrew** in Lancaster, **St. Mary's** and **St. James** in Fresno, **Anglican Church of the Epiphany** in Corcoran, **St. Philips** in Coalinga, and **St. Paul's** and **All Saints** in Bakersfield. We invite any woman who seeks further information about The DHC to visit the Provincial website at <http://daughtershc.org> or talk with any member from the above churches. There is a three (3) month discernment period of training in which you will learn about the order and reflect on whether God is calling you to the order.

Quotes from some of the members on what it means to them to be a Daughter: From the Bishop's Chapter at St. James in Fresno: **Cathy Wilson** – "Opens my communication with God every day. I love the DHC cross, which is worn every day; it is such a good witness, at the bank, exercise class, grocery store and other places, to be able to share the love of God with others." **Susan Katzakian** – "I have a group of sisters I never thought I had. If I have a need, I can phone anytime with my need for prayer."

Perhaps God is calling you to be a member of the Daughter's of the Holy Cross we encourage you to speak to your parish priest or your parish representative.

Disciples Anglican Church is Born!



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the first Sunday of Advent, I had an historical service in Orange County. It was the first Korean Anglican service after we launched ACNA. Including kids, eighteen people attended the service. Our church name is Disciples Anglican church and our vision is to become a community of disciples who love each other and fulfill the Great Commission. My church planting team is Dr. Rim, my coworker and a candidate for Holy Orders, and Peter Gang, worship leader, who is coming to study at a Korean seminary in So California.

I was told that about a million Koreans live in southern California. We are eager to see more Korean and other Asian Anglican churches planted in southern California and to raise and train Asian missionaries who will go to their own people groups in Asia to preach the Gospel.

I want to see a mission-based churches and church-based mission through this church planting and mission work.

I humbly ask your fervent prayers for our church planting team and my missionary works.

In Christ, Fr. Michael Jun

AN ADVENT/CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP DUNCAN

Beloved in the Lord,

Advent begins to turn toward Christmas. In the early days of the season, Charles Wesley's hymn "Lo, He comes with Clouds, descending" summarizes the focus on Christ's coming again at the end of the ages. Now the strains of "O come, O come Emmanuel" direct us toward all the prophecies of the first coming at Bethlehem in Judea.

In Britain, eight different evening antiphons were used (seven on the continent) - a different one each evening - as a "countdown to Christmas." These eight antiphons are the source of the hymn now known to almost everyone. *Come Wisdom (O sapientia)! Come Lord! Come Root of Jesse! Come Key of David! Come Dayspring! Come King of Gentiles! Come Emmanuel! Come Virgin Born!*

The ancient Advent antiphons are cries to the Lord that He would come and "ransom" us, that He would fulfill His promises to us, that He would be God with us.

In this Advent of the Year of our Lord 2011, as we shift our call from Revelation's *Maranatha!* [Rev.22.20] to Isaiah's *Emmanuel* [Isa.7.14] there are many, many situations where we need the wisdom, the key, the dayspring and everything else promised in Scripture and rehearsed in the familiar hymn. There are so many needs that require the Lord's help and our conversion: hunger, homelessness, sickness, despair, oppression, conflict, addiction, abuse, no one to care...

One need is peculiar to us as Anglicans and as Christians: unity in Christ. These last weeks have been filled with much heart-break for our brothers and sisters of the Anglican Mission in the Americas and, as a consequence, for us in the Anglican Church in North America. At Pentecost of 2004 Bishops Leonard Riches, David Anderson, Chuck Murphy, Keith Ackerman, Don Harvey and I wrote to Archbishop Rowan Williams pledging to make "common cause for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and for a biblical, mis-

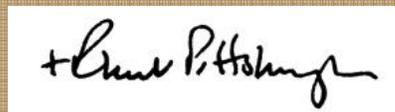
sionary and united Anglicanism in North America." The crisis of the moment is also opportunity. We need the wisdom, the key and the dayspring for this as for every situation. We need to seek the Lord's help and commit our best efforts to this Anglican need as well as to all the other needs of our human family. I, as Archbishop, will do my part. As your gift to Jesus this year, I trust you will do yours.

We received word this week of a decision by the Province of the Episcopal Church of the Sudan that their House of Bishops had taken action to recognize "fully" the Anglican Church in North America as a "true faithful Orthodox Church" and to commit to "work with [us] to expand the Kingdom of God in the world." I pray we will prove worthy of the trust this Province has expressed. I pray we will do it in the same fidelity to the Word of God and with the same Christ-like charity they have shown. I pray we will do it with the same courage and unity in adversity as the Church of the Sudan has shown through thirty years of civil war, suffering and martyrdom. What trust they place in us!

"O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lowly exile here, until the Son of God appear." Our God has come and is coming. We have nothing to fear with Him, as long as we are in Him.

Be assured of my prayers for every one of you in these closing Advent days, in the twelve days of Christmas, and in all the days that are ahead.

Faithfully in Christ,



Archbishop and Primate
Anglican Church in North America

The Bishop's Corner

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Question: "Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?" Answer: I will, with God's help.

If we answer in the affirmative these questions then we are living into our Mission to be an Apostolic Community.

Secondly we are "ON MISSION" - there is nothing passive in that statement—it is the positive response to being An Apostolic Community! Our identity as Anglican Christians in the Diocese of San Joaquin is steeped in the knowledge and understanding that we are on a mission. We are sent out by God Himself. This is not "our" mission, it is God's mission and we are His missionaries. Remember that next time you are at the store or visiting with friends or neighbors—you are a missionary sent into a world and among a people who are lost, broken and sin-sick.

Thirdly, this Mission is not carrying out our words or our emotions but the Life Giving and

Transforming Message of Jesus Christ.

If we come to the realization that we are an apostolic community on mission then we absolutely must be convicted of the Truth and the power of the Message of Jesus Christ. We need to be prepared to describe to any and all who will listen about the transformation that God has wrought in our own lives. The truth is that when we invite God the Holy Spirit into our lives we cannot help but be transformed! I know that this is true in my life. As a young man I accepted the fact that I was a sinner in need of salvation. I invited Jesus to be Lord of my life AND I asked Him to send His Holy Spirit. Transformation began to take place... old habits of depending on others for a sense of self-worth and value were replaced with the knowledge that I was loved beyond imagination by the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Mostly, the transformation came in my life when, by God's Grace and the Power of the Holy Spirit I stopped living for myself and began living for God. Peace, Joy and Love were

the fruits of that transformation. This is the same Message and Transformation Wise Men both seek to receive and seek to share. Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and a blessed Epiphany to all!

Announcements

Winter Family of God Camp @ ECCO

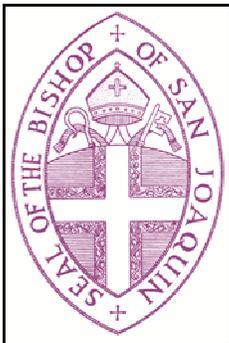
Jan. 6-8. Register now and join the fun!
www.ECCOYosemite.org or 559-683-8162

Anglican 4th Day

The Anglican 4th Day Movement in our Diocese is alive and growing. We are eager to spread the word about this ministry which so enriches one's life with Christ by providing both practical and powerful tools that equip us to be His disciples in this world. Please come join us! Anglican 4th Day #3 – will take place August 2-5, 2012 with the theme of "Christ Lives In You" – Galatians 2:20. Watch for more information to come in following issues of the Anglican.

From Deacon Debbie Buffum

I have 74 "Celebrate Songs for Renewals" books. Looking for a congregation or youth group that could use these.



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 june@sjoaquin.net

Thank you!

CALENDAR

Jan 1
New Years @ ECCO

January 6-8
Winter Family Camp @ECCO

January 7
Commission on Ministry Meeting
@ Diocesan House 10am

January 14
Stand Committee Meeting
@ Diocesan House 10am

January 21
Diocesan Council @
Diocesan House 10am

January 22-23
ECCO Commission @ ECCO

January 28
Mission Board Meeting
@ Diocesan House