



Fr Troy Allison of El Paso, Texas was incardinated on December 9, 2007. (See page six for story.)



Fr Miles Calvin, also of El Paso, Texas, was incardinated during Archbishop McLaughlin's visit to Tucson. (Also see page six.)

*Thus saith the LORD,
Stand ye in the ways,
and see, and ask for the
old paths, where is the
good way, and walk
therein, and ye shall find
rest for your souls.*

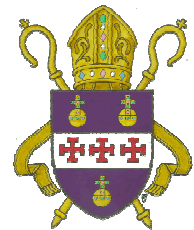
Jeremiah 6:16



Five were Confirmed at St Jude's, Tucson, on December 9...

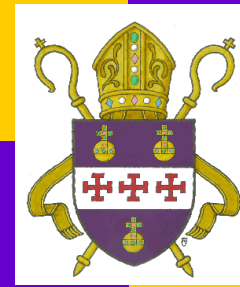
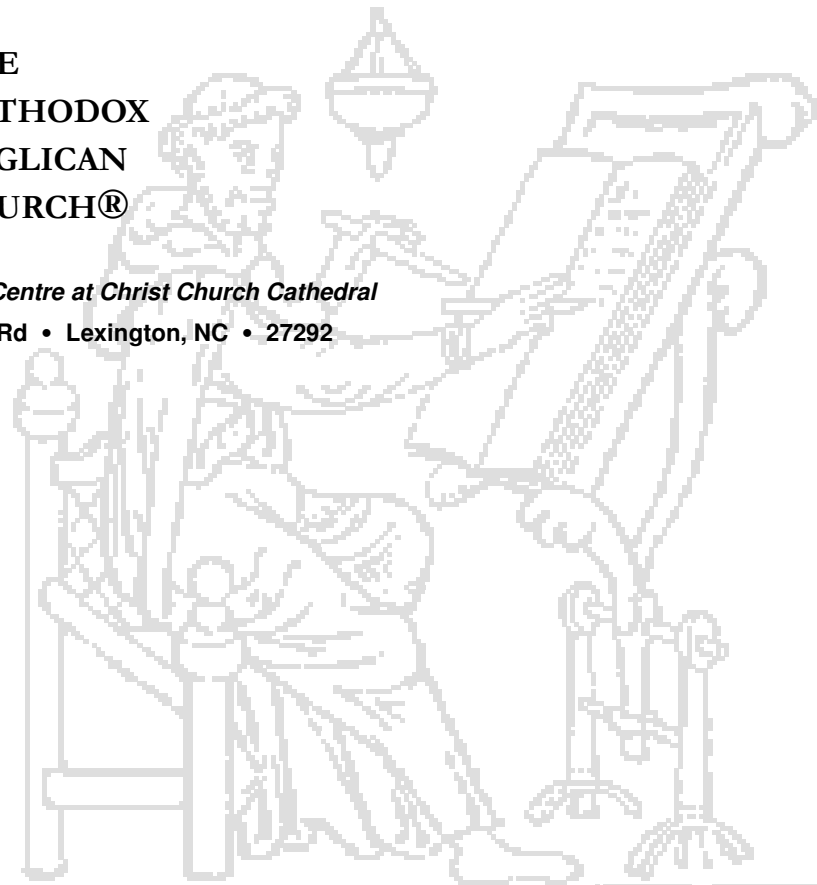


... and Dr William Norwood, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Scottsdale, AZ, received his Doctor of Sacred Theology degree from St Andrew's.



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THE ORTHODOX ANGLICAN HERALD

Volume XXXIX Issue III

Advent /Christmas 2007

Unto us, a Son is given!

Inside:

A word from the Archbishop 3

A generous gift from one and an opportunity for all 4

Soundings from St Andrew's 5

Sacred sounds 6

In the parishes 7

News from the Communion 8

YOAC and CE news 9

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We Believe...

- ◆ *The Holy Scripture is God's written word.*
- ◆ *... and confess the Nicene, Apostle's, and Athanasian Creeds*
- ◆ *In the genuine spiritual power of the sacraments.*
- ◆ *God has the power to heal the sick and broken-hearted.*
- ◆ *Loyalty to our Lord is expressed by service to our fellow man.*
- ◆ *In the necessity of inward spiritual development and outward amendment of life of every Christian.*

The Church...

- ◆ *... practices an ancient Way of Faith instituted by Christ, through the Holy Apostles, and brought to England in the earliest days of the Church.*
- ◆ *... has restored the original traditions of the Church of England, the Mother Church of the English-speaking people.*
- ◆ *... has re-instituted the original vision of the Anglican Reformation: a return to the doctrine and practices of the Early Christian Church, without Roman additions or Protestant subtractions.*
- ◆ *... is the Orthodox Church of the West.*
- ◆ *... is not led into error or heresy by political and social trends: only godly men are ordained to Holy Orders and marriage is affirmed as a sacred bond between a man and a woman.*

THE ORTHODOX ANGLICAN HERALD

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Archbishop McLaughlin (Headline stories, archepiscopical communications); Fr Michael Clancy (priory news); Canon John Kennedy (seminary news); Heidi Hawks (Christian education & youth), and other clergy/laity as noted.

The language format of the Herald is UK English.

Young Orthodox Anglicans

Revd Tom Gordon

This has been an exciting formative year for our Church's youth ministry, the YOAC.

In recent months, the youth of Christ Church Cathedral in Lexington, NC, and Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Concord/Kannapolis (suburban Charlotte), NC have continued to meet regularly and grow.

YOAC activities have been a mixture of events that are fun and social, as well as service oriented. These events have included topical Bible lessons, a Christian service project, some challenging and interesting games, a Mexican food night, swimming, and movies.

Additionally, several of the youth graciously assisted the Saint Andrew's faculty in making Priest week a success.

In November, George and Jeanne Eddy very kindly opened their home for an all night YOAC event that was enjoyed by all.

So, as I said, 2007 has truly been an exciting year to YOAC. As the year is almost at a close, we have already begun the process of planning programs and activities for 2008.

Would the youth in your parish like to join us for an event? Or, is it perhaps time to start a YOAC chapter in your parish?

If you are interested, Sr Heidi Hawkes, SSP can provide some valuable assistance. Please feel free to contact her via the information on page two.



A recent YOAC pool party.



All wrapped up in having a good time!



Our youth realize the importance of service, too. Here, several of them assist with Priest's Week.

Christian Education ---

Heidi Hawks, National Director of Christian Education

God's Greetings!

We are in an exciting time of the year... the beginning of a new church year, which is always a good time to pause and reflect on where we've been and where we are going.

In the secular world, January 1st is the day when people traditionally take time to reflect and make resolutions about changes they'd like to make in their lives.

In the Church, we devote whole seasons to this kind of reflection and resolution to change—those seasons are Advent and Lent. Rather than using the word resolution, however, the Church uses another word; repentance.

A former religion professor and Greek scholar once told me that "repentance" is most accurately translated from the Greek as "a change of mind."

I read recently that the average length of time people hold to their New Year's resolutions is 3 weeks (21 days), which is half the amount of time Christians will spend reflecting and repenting during the season of Lent (40 days).

The most obvious reason Christians are more successful with Lenten resolution and repentance than we are with New Year's resolutions is because Lenten resolutions occur in partnership with God. When we prayerfully reflect and resolve, our resolutions are steered by God's will for us.

In contrast, most peoples' New Year's resolutions are based on self-centered, often unrealistic and impulsive desires.

Now consider those Christians who pray on a daily basis; as they reflect and resolve with God, how much

more likely is it that they will succeed in achieving their changes of mind and heart?

This year, as you celebrate the New Year, allow me to recommend you only make one resolution: resolve to pray daily.

Out of that prayer life, who knows how many more resolutions you and God will partner up to achieve?

News from the Communion



Brasil

We welcome Igreja Anglicana Ortodoxa do Brasil (The Orthodox Anglican Church of Brasil, South America) as the newest member of the Orthodox Anglican Communion. The Presiding Bishop of the Church is the Right Revd Dr Celio Franca Spinelli. Bishop Spinelli is joined by three priests, Fr Nilson Wanderlay, Fr Expedito Fillio, and Fr Getulio Getemberg at the Cathedral of St Paul, Recife, Brasil.

Bishop Spinelli is a medical doctor, a graduate of the Medical School of the University of Pernambuco. He also

holds the Bachelor of Theology from Anglican Seminary for Theological Studies in Recife, Brasil.

Originally a part of the Canterbury Communion, this Church was previously affiliated with a "continuing" Anglican group which began to practice the ordination of women to the Diaconate. Bishop Spinelli's Diocese of Recife then withdrew from this jurisdiction in search of a truly orthodox home.

They are very excited to become a part of the worldwide Orthodox Anglican Communion.

At present, plans are for Archbishop

McLaughlin to visit this new Church in 2008. Details of the Archepiscopal Visit will be announced as soon as they are available.

India

The Anglican Church of India is continuing its efforts to provide regular financial assistance and, in certain cases shelter, to the aged, widows, orphans, and the destitute. They are also providing, when possible, assistance with food, clothes, school books, and medicines.

Presently, more than 60 orphans are being cared for in their Bethania Children's Home.

For the rural masses, the Church is providing free medical camps. One aspect of these medical camps is to raise awareness and increase education about HIV/AIDS.

Besides trying to meet these daily needs, the Church is providing scholarships for higher education to students who show great promise, but have no means to afford these studies. Their assistance doesn't end there... they also help educated youth who are unemployed find work that utilises their strengths and skills.

Please pray for Bishop John Sathiyakumar and the entire Church as they continue these compassionate efforts, as well as their work to proclaim the Gospel.

The Cathedral Priory of St Stephen the Protomartyr

Fr Michael Clancy, SSP, Prior

We all have witnessed the secular move to make Advent and Christmas simply a "Holiday Season". It has become a time that is everything for everyone, as long as no one is offended. It has also become a time of unbridled consumer consumption.

Even before Thanksgiving, radio stations were playing non-stop holiday music, most of which had no religious content or any relation to Advent.

What are we to do with such a powerful attack on our senses, our culture, and our traditions?

It is simple. No complex approach or secular solution is needed to solve the "Holiday Season" dilemma.

St. Marcarius the Great wrote, "Today the Lord is born, the life and salvation of mankind; today a reconciliation is made of Divinity to humanity, and of humanity to Divinity; today all creation has leapt for joy; those above sent toward those below; and those below towards those above; today occurred the death of darkness and the life of humanity; today a way was made toward God for man and a way for God into the soul."

The Feast of the Nativity is a great

mystery. One cannot understand it or enter into Advent without being prepared. That in itself is the simplicity of our solution. Prepare. How do we do this?

The first action is to fast. Advent is a time of fasting. Fasting has always been linked with preparation. When we fast, we arm ourselves spiritually. We are also reminded of our reliance on material things.

The second action is to pray fervently. We can make a daily effort at prayer where we ask God to reveal to us this Mystery of the Incarnation.

In prayer, we can meditate on the beauty and pure simplicity of the Virgin, who heard the angel proclaim her great joy and great sorrow; Mary, the tender mother who wrapped her child in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger. She who had nothing, she, who had no comfort or riches, found that she had enough. This can be the simple message of Advent and the Feast of the Nativity. God is enough. Let us practice this in our lives. Let us pray to be delivered from attachment to the world so that our Christmas is what it was intended to be.



A word from the Archbishop



Archbishop Scott E. McLaughlin

A quick glance at the front matter of *The Book of Common Prayer* shows that the Advent season is one of the most important of the Christian year.

Each Sunday in Advent takes liturgical precedence over any other celebration. Obviously, the Church is attempting to teach us something important by such a designation: Advent is both a penitential season and an opportunity for real spiritual growth.

Genuine spiritual progress is advanced by a deeper apprehension of the connection between our penitential practices (contrition and confession) and our love for God. Centuries ago, St Thomas Aquinas analyzed how our love for God has a direct bearing on our ability to advance in our relationship to Christ. Giving modern names to Aquinas' categories, the love of God, in ascending order is:

God as a Fire Escape. The love of God is limited to a sort of celestial insurance policy, "just in case" Christianity is true. Millions have made professions of faith or submitted to baptism (or their parents did) in order only to escape the fires of hell. Of course, this is hardly "love", since it is entirely self-centered and not based upon real faith, and "without faith it is impossible to please Him" (Hebrews 11:6).

God as Santa Claus. God is loved primarily for the perceived advantages and gifts he brings us in this life. Many Evangelical Christians, especially those affected by television ministries, display this immature love for God. The Santa Claus God wants everyone to be wealthy, healthy, and to have the first place in all things. Of course, when the goodies don't manifest themselves as expected, the person with this self-seeking love of God can sink into bitterness and may eventually apostatise from the faith entirely.

God as Cosmic Parent. Here we begin to see a true love for God—one not totally defined by love of self. This love of God displays sincere gratitude for His grace through Christ. While genuine, it falls short

of the truth. When temptation comes and sin results, it is difficult for the individual to understand God's love for the imperfect. Also, when suffering or loss occur, those who love God as the Cosmic Parent are the first to become disillusioned, asking, "Why does God allow sickness and suffering?" Ultimately they still relate to God by the measure of themselves.

God as God. The final step in our love for God is Perfect Love: the love of God shorn of any thought of self. Here God is loved as the ultimate object of all Truth, Beauty, Goodness, and Perfection. He is adored for Himself alone; no other reason to love Him is needed. This Perfect Love of God is consistently manifested rarely, yet this is the distinctive feature of the Saints of the Church. This is the ideal love

"...the only time many of us spend in the Scriptures is to teach Bible stories to our children."

of God to which we must strive.

Although at different times we manifest one or more of these types of love for God, usually one predominates. Where are you on the ladder of love for God? This is an important question, since one's love for God stands in direct relationship to one's penance during Advent (and Lent) and the consequent ability spiritually to grow. The closer you are to God—the more your love for Him reaches Perfect Love—the greater your awareness of sin and its pernicious nature. Your contrition (sorrow) for sin reaches and reflects only the level of your love for God. In ascending order one is contrite for sin due to fear of hell (*God as Fire Escape*); fear of losing God's gifts and/or currying God's favour (*God as Santa Claus*), disappointing God (*God as Cosmic Parent*), or acknowledging that sin is an outrage committed against Him (*God as God*).

In his book *Your God is Too Small*, J. B. Phillips, the Anglican priest and Bible translator, argued that the pre-eminent problem of modern Christians is childish notions of God. Yes, Jesus taught us to pray to "Our Father," and we are told that we need faith "like a child." Yet this is far from having a childish faith. Many of us thus fail to comprehend the Perfect Love

of God because our religious education stopped somewhere between the age of eight and thirteen. We grow, are educated, and live in an adult world without a corresponding education and maturity in the Faith. Too often the Church lacks pastors with the ability and courage to teach the mature—and sometimes hard—disciplines and truths of Christianity.

Phillips' book (which I recommend for your Advent reading) pinpoints a vital issue. Yet spiritual immaturity displayed in a selfish love of God is not confined to the modern era. St Thomas Aquinas distinguished between these types of love for God eight centuries ago. The author of Hebrews urges his readers to grow beyond the need for basic instruction in the Faith (Hebrews 6:1-6). And the pages of the Old Testament show the ancient Hebrews to be especially childish and self-absorbed in their love for God (see, for example, Numbers, chapter 11).

This problem must be addressed in each generation. Again, the author of Hebrews wrote: "...We have much to say, much that is difficult to explain, now that you have grown so dull of hearing. For indeed, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the ABC of God's oracles over again; it has come to this, that you need milk instead of solid food. Anyone who lives on milk, being an infant, does not know what is right. But grown men can take solid food; *their perceptions are trained by long use to discriminate between good and evil*" (Hebrews 5:11-14, NEB, emphasis mine).

Advent is the time of year to train to discriminate between good and evil by the practice of penance. Advent is the season to be weaned from baby's milk and eat meat instead! After all, Christmas is a Feast best enjoyed by those with a well developed spiritual palate.

How do we begin? In the *Second Book of Homilies of the Church of England* is "An Homily of Repentance and True Reconciliation unto God." In the second part of this Homily we find, "there be four parts of repentance; which being set together, may be likened to an easy and short ladder, whereby we may climb from the bottomless pit of perdition, that we cast ourselves into by our daily offences and grievous sins, up into the castle or tower of eternal and endless salvation...."

continued on page 4

**The staff of
The Orthodox Anglican
Centre
wish you a blessed and very
Merry Christmas!**

A word from the Archbishop

"The first is the contrition of the heart: for we must be earnestly sorry for our sins.... And verily this inward sorrow and grief, being conceived in the heart for the heinousness of sin, if it be earnest and unfeigned, is a sacrifice to God...."

"The second is, an unfeigned confession and acknowledging of our sins unto God....without the which we shall never obtain pardon and forgiveness of our sins."

"The third part of repentance is faith; whereby we do apprehend and take hold of the promises of God, touching the free pardon and forgiveness of our sins: which promises are sealed up unto us, with the death and blood-shedding of his Son Jesus Christ...."

"The fourth is an amendment of life, or a new life, in bringing forth fruits worthy of repentance. For they, that do truly repent, must be clean altered and changed; they must become new creatures; they must be no more the same that they were before...."

Here are three brief words of encouragement and warning:

Although the penitential practices, above, are called an "easy and short ladder," true contrition, confession, faith, and amendment of life constitute one of our greatest challenges. In order to meet this challenge, we need to understand: First, *don't blame the splinters*. Jesus told us to take the beam out of our own eye before we presume to take the splinter out of our brother's eye. In other words, we are always more ready to spot sin in others than ourselves. In regards to true penance, we are always more ready to blame our sins on others than ourselves. "If only my husband weren't such a hypocrite, I'd be a

better Christian myself." "If my wife would stop nagging me, I'd come to church!" "If only the kids weren't so troublesome...." Beware the tendency to peg your own spiritual progression to another person. Doing so can blind you to your real spiritual condition. When God confronted Adam with his sin in the Garden, he blamed his wife: "the woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat." (Gen. 3:12)

Second, (speaking of Adam and Eve), *read the Scriptures as a mature Christian*. The Bible is God's word to mankind; its narratives also show us mankind from God's perspective: we see every example of sin, we see sincere confession, and we see the consequences of sins not confessed and purged from the soul. Referring to the sins of the ancient Israelites, St Paul wrote, "Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted" (1 Cor. 10:6). They are recorded in the Bible, "and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:11, 12). Sadly, as children, we learned the biblical narrative as a string of disconnected "Bible stories". Today, the only time many of us spend in the Scriptures is to teach Bible stories to our children. We need to grow up to true biblical literacy. We must read the Bible as an adult to see sin from God's perspective and to grasp fully the depth of Christ's redemption of our souls by His death.

Finally, *we need to use the tools at our disposal*. We can grow closer to Christ through penitential practices. *The Book of Common Prayer* provides a confession of

sin in the Daily Offices, Holy Communion and the Litany. General Confession, however, may not be adequate to the demands of spiritual progress as I have described them here. The holy priesthood of the Church is prepared to hear your individual confession, offer counsel, and absolution for sin. "And because it is requisite that no man should come to the Holy Communion, but with a full trust in God's mercy, and with a quiet conscience; therefore, if there be any of you, who by this means cannot quiet his own conscience herein, but requireth further comfort or counsel, let him come to me, or to some other Minister of God's Word, and open his grief; that he may receive such godly counsel and advice, as may tend to the quieting of his conscience, and the removing of all scruple and doubtfulness." (Second Exhortation, BCP).

The Homily on Repentance and True Reconciliation unto God urges us to take action now, while we have time to grow in Christ: "Let us hearken to the voice of Almighty God, when he calleth us to repentance; let us not harden our hearts, as such infidels do, *who abuse the time given them of God to repent*; and turn it to continue their pride and contempt against God and man" (emphasis mine).

Let us not abuse the time given us to repent. By the path of contrition for sin, Advent allows us to amend our lives and deepen our love for God. The Advent Sundays' Epistle and Gospel teach us to look toward the future return of Christ in His second Advent and thereby be spiritually fit for a pure celebration of His first Advent, at Christmas. May He bless and guide your steps toward Him at Advent and Christmastide.

Orthodox Anglican Church receives generous gift

The Office of Development gratefully acknowledges the very generous bequest to the Orthodox Anglican Church by the late James Northern, a faithful, long-time supporter.

Mr Northern's remembrance of the Church serves as a wonderful example of Christian stewardship.

His bequest will make a real difference in the Church's ministry.

Have you remembered the Orthodox

Anglican Church in your will?

One simple sentence is all that is needed:

"I give _____ Dollars (\$_____.00) to the Orthodox Anglican Church."

The Office of Development has several pamphlets available to assist you in planned giving to the Church.

To receive additional information on how you can benefit the Church both

now and in the future, please contact me via the following:

frmacleanoac@aol.com

or

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Christ Church Cathedral
464 North County Home Road
Lexington, North Carolina 27292*

The Revd Fr Patrick Maclean, ObSSP
Director of Development

In the parishes...

As we approach one million members worldwide, there continue to be many exciting things happening within the Orthodox Anglican Communion!



Here are some items shared with us by US parishes, missions, and clergy...

Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd, Myrtle Beach, SC (Fr Creighton Jones): Ten of our members recently completed a Fall study course; *Fruits of the Spirit* By Bill Hybels. The class was led by Fr Jones and included Evening Prayer and a soup and sandwich meal. Plans are being made for a similar study during Lent.

Members are working hard to prepare for our annual **St Nicholas Fair**. This is the third year the event has been held. Last year was the best ever with over \$1,400 raised. The fair includes food, baked goods, books and a *Trash and Treasure sale* and is held on the Saturday closest to the Feast of St Nicholas.

The annual parish meeting of Good Shepherd was held on November 18. Raymond Bretsch and John Iredell were elected to 3 year terms on the vestry.

Good Shepherd is looking forward to our first confirmation class for young people. Fr Murray will prepare this class which will include some of his grandchildren.

† † †

Amazing Grace Anglican Mission, Gastonia, NC (The Very Revd Canon John Kennedy): Senior Warden Timothy Huffstetler recently welcomed new attendee and catechumen Mr Lonnie Ballard of Dallas, NC. Mr Ballard was baptized on the 23rd Sunday after Trinity by Canon Kennedy.

During this Advent and Christmas season, Amazing Grace is involving itself in several charitable giving pro-

jects within the community.

† † †

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Kannapolis, NC (Fr Patrick Maclean): Holy Trinity continues its representation of Orthodox Anglicanism in the Charlotte metropolitan region.

The youth meet on Sunday mornings for religious education at the home of Deacon Tom Gordon and each month join with the youth of Christ Church Cathedral for field trips and other activities.

Holy Trinity has been blessed by several visits by Canon John Kennedy, and will welcome Archbishop McLaughlin on the third Sunday of Advent.

† † †

St Jude's Anglican Church, Tucson, AZ (Fr Mark D'Amico): On Sunday, December 9, St Jude's welcomed Archbishop McLaughlin, who confirmed 5 people and received 11 into the Church.

St Jude's also reports they had one Lay Reader ready for certification and even have a possible aspirant for St Andrew's.

Great things are happening in the southwest!

† † †

Holy Cross Anglican Church, Baraboo, WI (Fr Jerry Pfaff): Fr Jerry performs one of the most valuable tasks in the (US) Church. Every prayer request he is asked to publicly share is typed into the form of an e-mail... including a short, appropriate prayer... and is then distributed to each member of the OAC's Prayer Request List. Sometimes these requests are specific, sometimes they are vague, depending upon what information he has been asked to share. Sometimes he is able to share full names, sometimes only first names, and sometimes no name at all.

But, the important thing is that whether or not we know the name or specific circumstance, Fr Jerry ensures that as many people as possible know that a need exists for someone and that we know to be in prayer.

This is a tremendously important aspect of pastoral care, of outreach, and of keeping all members of the Church united. Thank you, Fr Jerry, for demonstrating such love and care!

If you would like to receive these prayer requests, please email Fr Jerry at oacprayer@yahoo.com.

† † †

From the editor: Please share your news with us! Sometimes our requests for information go unanswered!

Typically, we give a two-week notice for submissions, which should be ample time to put together a few sentences.

However, as this newsletter has grown in both size and scope, the need for specific editorial deadlines is now essential.

Beginning in 2008, the deadlines for parish news (and all other submissions) is:

Lent/Easter, February 1

Trinitytide, May 1

Michaelmas, August 1

Advent/Christmas, November 1

Remember, this column is a wonderful opportunity to share with others what your parish (or even an individual ministry) is accomplishing in the Lord's vineyard. Others may learn or benefit from your submissions.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Second Ghana visit scheduled

Archbishop Scott McLaughlin, as Metropolitan of the Orthodox Anglican Communion, will return to Ghana, West Africa, in 2008.

The visit, scheduled for April 3-6, is for the purpose of overseeing the nomination, election, consecration, and installation of the Presiding Bishop of the Orthodox Anglican Church of Ghana.



Bishop Mfika-Kayinji

Bishop Alphonse Mfika-Kayinji, Presiding Bishop of Eglise Orthodoxe Anglicane Episcopale du Congo, (representing the Orthodox Anglican Communion in the Congo), will participate with Archbishop McLaughlin in the consecration.

Confirmation of the participation of other bishops in the Communion is pending.

This will be the archbishop's second visit to Ghana in recent months. His previous visit was widely covered by international media and drew crowds in the thousands.

It is expected this upcoming visit will draw similar excitement, as the election and consecration of their own bishop will be a tremendous source of pride to Ghanaian members.

Ordinations

We pray God's blessings upon the following men as they work to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Ordained to the diaconate:

Archbishop McLaughlin issued the following statement regarding the ordination of James Ward:

"I am pleased to announce the ordination of the Revd James Ward to the Diaconate, on Sunday November 18th at St Augustine's Anglican Church in Bryson City, NC. As a layman, James proved himself to be a stalwart servant of Christ. I believe he will continue and deepen his dedication to our Lord and his Church as a Deacon. Please pray for James' ministry as an assistant to Fr Rusty Marts at St Augustine's."



Priests incardinated:

During the archbishop's December 7-10 visit to Tucson, Fr Troy Allison of El Paso, TX and Fr Myles Calvin, also of El Paso, were incardinated into The Orthodox Anglican Church.

Fr Troy comes to us from another Anglican jurisdiction. He has been endorsed by us to serve as a military chaplain in the US Army Reserve and intends to seek active-duty status as a chaplain. He holds the Master of Divinity degree and has also served as a parish priest in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Fr Myles comes to us from an Old Catholic jurisdiction. He has been endorsed by us as a military chaplain with the Texas State Guard (National Guard) and the US Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol. He holds a Master's degree in Counseling and has earned the degree of Doctor of Ministry.

Their photographs are on page 10.

Sacred sounds

One of the many hymns you may hear during Advent is "The Advent of our King" by Charles Coffin (1676-1749).

Coffin, born in Ardennes, France, spent the majority of his professional career at Beauvais College, part of the University of Paris, and was eventually Rector of the school.

Upon his death, the rector of his parish refused Coffin last rites or a Christian burial, due to his persistent appeals against the papal Constitution Unigenitus.

Nonetheless, Coffin gave the world 100 beautiful hymns, many of which have been translated and have made their way into numerous hymnals.

The Advent of our King

The advent of our King
our prayers must now employ,
and we must hymns of welcome sing
in strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son
incarnate deigns to be;
himself a servant's form puts on
to set his servants free.

Daughter of Zion, rise
to meet thy lowly King,
nor let thy faithless heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.

As Judge, on clouds of light,
he soon will come again,
and all his scattered saints unite
with him in heaven to reign.

Before the dawning day
let sin's dark deeds be gone;
the old man all be put away,
the new man all put on.

All glory to the Son
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever One,
through all eternity.

Soundings from St Andrew's

Enrolment update

2007 has been a year of progress and growth for Saint Andrew's Theological College and Seminary. Seminary enrollment is up 25% since our board meeting in June. We now have over fifty active students. As a testament to the quality and value of a Saint Andrew's degree several of our graduates have recently decided to pursue a second degree at St. Andrew's.

(PS: Yes, enrolment is spelled with one L or two!)

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St Andrew's expands curriculum

Saint Andrew's is committed to expanding our course offerings. As a result this year we have added courses on the Geography of the Bible, the Spiritual formation of Clergy, Ecclesiology, and several Christian Education courses. To ensure that our new course offerings meet proper academic standards a curriculum review committee has been appointed. The Very Revd Fr Guy Dunklee SSP is serving as the committee chair; members of the committee include seminary faculty, and staff.

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New faculty

The growth in students and courses has necessitated the addition of new faculty members. The Academic Dean is pleased to announce the appointments of the Very Revd Fr Michael Clancy SSP as an Assistant professor of Theology, the Revd Fr Owen Loftus Jr. SSP as an Assistant professor of Theology, and the Revd Fr Harry Naeem as an Instructor in Sacramental Theology.

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Update on accreditation process

On November 13th, President McLaughlin, Vice President Kennedy, and Registrar Gordon attended a workshop on Accreditation. As a result of this workshop it was determined to retain a consulting firm to

assist us in our pursuit of U.S. accreditation. (The public is invited to attend a 9.30 am meeting on January 21, 2008 at Christ Church Cathedral with the consultants from Agron and Associates. Your input on the accreditation process is welcome!)

Although the accreditation process is one that will take years, the seminary should be able quickly to become an affiliate institution of the ABHE, the Association of Biblical Higher Education, which is a federally recognized accrediting body. As we go forward we will need your prayers, financial contributions, and the participation of many in committees and projects. If you would like to help us in the process please contact the Academic Dean, Fr Guy Dunklee at (405)-410-4834. Financial contributions can be sent to our Lexington, North Carolina address.

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St Andrew's joins ACCESS

Saint Andrew's is pleased to announce that it has become a member institution of ACCESS, the Association of Christian Continuing Education Schools and Seminaries. ACCESS is a network of Christian organizations and individuals characterized by a commitment to make education accessible. To learn more about this organization please visit their website: www.accessed.org.

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Special thanks

The seminary is grateful to all of those who make it possible for us to accomplish our mission. We would especially like to recognize our former Registrar, the Revd Fr Jerry Pfaff SSP. Fr Jerry continues to provide invaluable assistance to the seminary as a Reader and recruiter.

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Mission statement

If you haven't visited the school's updated web site lately, you may not be

aware of our mission statement. It reads:

The Mission of St Andrew's Theological College and Seminary is to glorify God and edify His Church by providing students a classical Anglican theological education and developing clergymen trained and competent to preach and teach the Word of God and to administer the Holy Sacraments according to *The Book of Common Prayer* (1662 English and 1928 American editions).

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Denominations and churches represented

The following Churches and denominations are represented among our students:

African Orthodox, American Baptist, Anglican Church in America, Anglican Province of America, Anglican Province of Christ the King, Bible Presbyterian Church, Charismatic Episcopal Church, Church of South India, Communion of Evangelical Episcopal Churches, Cumberland Presbyterian, Episcopal Church USA, Episcopal Missionary Church, Greek Orthodox Church, Independent Baptist, Orthodox Anglican Church, Reformed Episcopal Church, Roman Catholic Church, Southern Baptist, and United Methodist.

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Alumni Association being formed

A St Andrew's Alumni Association is being formed. The school is currently building a data base from which to communicate with our current and past students and graduates. We expect to have a letter mailed out to all alumni by April 2008. If you do not receive a letter and are a student or past graduate, please contact the school.

