



The Courier

Worshipping God, Learning Compassion, Building Community.

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October 2007

From The Desk of The Dean

“Worshipping God, Learning Compassion, Building Community”, how goes it?

As we have now entered fully into our program year I thought it would be good to reflect on how we are doing in relationship to our mission; Worshipping God, Learning Compassion, Building Community.

Worshipping God- As of this writing we have now had three weeks with our new schedule, and I am glad to say that I think that it is working well overall. My biggest concern was that by virtually splitting the old late morning liturgy the two new services would lack dynamism and energy, that they would , in effect, fall flat. But based on what I am hearing from people, and from my own perceptions, people are energized, thankful and finding the two new services to be very good. One of the fun parts about this for me is that prior to the fall I would hear people who were planning on going to 9:30 worried that no one was going to go to 11:00, and I would hear people planning on attending 11:00 concerned that no one was going to go to 9:30. That told me that we were going to have fairly healthy numbers at both, and we are. The attendance is about equal at both.

The one service that is not taking off at all is the Sunday Evensong at 5:00 p.m. The first week one person attended with me and the past two weeks I have been the only person. I have wondered if **the problem is that people don't know about it but I think that between our internal communications and ads in the Post-Standard we got the word out pretty well.** My sense is that we need to be more intentional about the kinds of music we are doing and then publicize it in the venues that make sense for that kind of music. John Rohde and his friends will provide the music for a Jazz Evensong with Holy Communion at 5:00 p.m. on October 14th, and this will be a great event. We will be publicizing this service in the appropriate venues for jazz lovers. There will be other Evensongs sung by the Cathedral Choir and here again we will publicize in venues for those who love classical music. My sense at this time is that we will not continue to offer Evensong on a weekly basis, but move to an occasional service and put a lot of energy and publicity into that effort.

Learning Compassion-Both our Children's and Adult Formations classes are well attended and the participants are saying very positive things about the content and the timing. My concern going into the fall was that a half-hour was too brief a time for this, and while people feel a bit rushed, they also find it complimentary with their total Sunday experience with the liturgy and social time. The Feminist Theology group is also continuing to meet and having lively discussions.

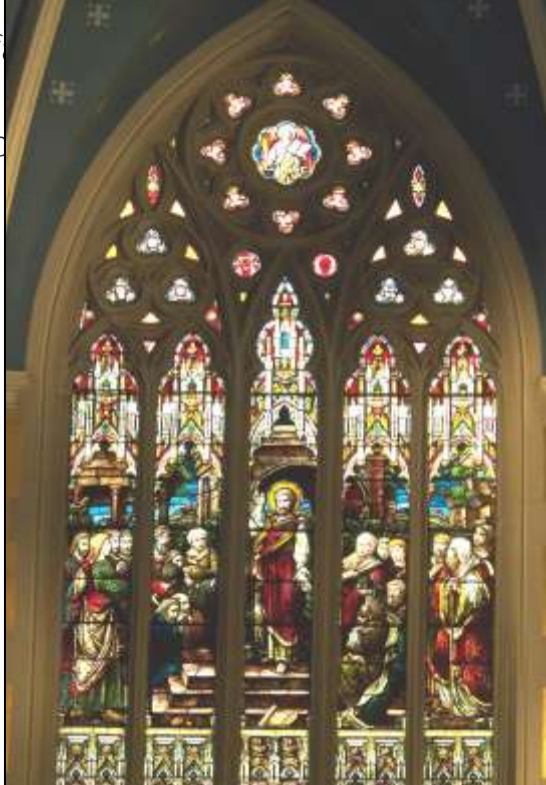
From the Desk of the Dean Continued

Building Community-While it did rain on September 9th we still managed to have a “picnic” in the Hanson Dining Room with a good mixture of people and great games for the children. The first Friday dinners have resumed which not only provide good fellowship but the food is great and funds are raised for the Millennium Development Goals. By supporting the Millennium Development Goals we are not only building community within St. Paul’s, but around the globe. Our next one will be Friday, October 5th. Another huge opportunity for fellowship is our fall fund raising dinner on October 19th! There is more information about it in this Courier, but please do come and enjoy great food, wonderful fellowship, good bargains and all to the benefit of the life and ministry of St. Paul’s Cathedral. Our fund raising goal is \$17,000 and with everyone’s help we can reach our goal! Finally, but not least, a great way to build community within St. Paul’s are the Foyers Groups. We may know people from seeing them on Sunday, serving on a committee together, or attending occasional meals at St. Paul’s, but it is still hard to get to know people well in these settings. A great way to go deeper is Foyers Groups. Simply fill out a form, and names are randomly drawn in groups of four. Then the four covenant to have a meal in each other’s homes, once in each home, over a period of time. I think our growing edge in terms of building community regards our efforts to build community in the world around us, outside of the walls and people of St. Paul’s Cathedral. Serving at the Samaritan Center, the Summer Day Camp, the Monday Afternoon Tutoring for inner city children from Burma, and working on the Millennium Development Goals are all good, but do not have wide participation within the parishioners of St. Paul’s.

All in all, I would say we have made a good start to the fall season. I am grateful for what we are already doing. I am very grateful to be part of this community, and I look forward to the future store for us!


























Yours in Christ,



















The Very Reverend G. Thomas Luck,
Dean and Rector






























The Bulletin Board Cathedral News

 Feminist Theology will meet
 this month on Wednesday
 October 10 at 5:30, (please
 note the time change) in the
 Brewster Room We will be
 finishing our discussion of
 Christopher Hedges book,
 *Losing God on the Freeway, the*
 *Ten Commandments in*
 *America* . We are meeting
 earlier this month so that
 those who would like to can
 attend Carrie's service at 7 at
 St. Matthew's , Liverpool. All
 are welcome! Parking is
 available in the lot and enter
 through the kitchen door.


Birthdays in October	
Marilyn Sharron	2nd
Hunter Noce	6th
Alexis Greenhalgh	7th
Virginia Meloney	7th
Anna Wright	9th
Kyle Bell	10th
Virginia Cluse	12th
Gelene Lewis	12th
Katy Boots	13th
David Ridings	13th
Beth Bojarski	14th
Margaret Belden	15th
Michael Glavin	15th
Suzanne Hoffman	17th
Sarah McLaughlin	20th
Virginia Rohde	20th
Tom Nettle	20th
Suzanne Beeching	23rd
Kasey Beucheler	26th
Walter Hansen Jr.	26th
Karenanne McConnell	27th
Kira Dirghalli	27th
Jean Yeiser	31st
Natalie Jones	31st

FUNDRAISER CHECKLIST FOR ALL ST

Mark calendar for Fundraiser:
Friday October 19 at St. Paul's
6:00 pm Social Hour
7:15 pm Dinner



**ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
4TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER**

**IN SUPPORT OF
OUTREACH AND MINISTRIES**



Send in reservation card now.
Add a friend to my reservation.

Consider a sponsor, patron or donor gift.
Contribute items for the silent auction which
Donations from a favorite business
Gift certificates or tickets
Gift baskets
"In kind" gifts
Hand made items
Gifts received and never used

Turn in contributions for the silent auction after church on Sunday but no later than the Sunday before the event: October 14.

Sign up to help in some way now. Review the job descriptions with each job that are on display in the dining room at church. This could be cooking, waiting tables, clean up, counting money, etc.

Arrive at the event in time to shop.

Select items to buy and bid.

Bid often and bid high.

Remember this is a fundraiser for the work of St. Paul's Cathedral with a goal of raising \$17,400.

Please turn in your reservations by October 14th

DINNER RESERVATION CARD
St. Paul's Annual Dinner and Fund Raiser
Friday October 19, 2007

Names of guests attending dinner: _____

Please enclose a check made out to St. Paul's Cathedral for each guest listed above.
of people _____ X \$35. per plate = \$_____ enclosed

SPONSORSHIP:
I/we would like to sponsor the event for an additional \$100. _____

PATRONAGE:
I/we would like to support the event for an additional \$50. _____

DONORSHIP:
I/We would like to make a monetary donation to the fund raiser of \$_____

in lieu of a silent auction item or attendance at the event.

****Sponsors, patrons & donors will be acknowledged at the dinner.**

Sponsors and donors will be acknowledged at the dinner.

Dinner Choice: Mark the number of each choice of entrée on the line below:

of each

- _____ Poached Salmon with Dill Sauce
- _____ Chicken with Boursin Cheese Sauce
- _____ Filet Mignon (medium), Mocha Crusted

*** a vegetarian option can be accommodated upon request

If you would like to be seated with a certain person or couple, list their names here

Please return your Reservation Card with your check as soon as possible to ensure we will be able to accommodate your party.

Adequate seating in the dining room will limit the number of reservations we will be able to accept. Your payment will guarantee your seat. Thank You.

EVENTS And News! Children & Family

By: Jeanne Avery

We are having so much fun!!

It is so good to be back together. After our new worship service we rush upstairs- have our refreshments- and head to class.

The new schedule is working for the families and church school. When asked: How do you feel about the new schedule? "We love it".

The children/youth that wish to participate in youth choir leave and go to practice at 10:45am. The teachers love saying to the kids "Church School is over"—and to have the kids stay back to continue the discussion or to chat with others. We are all feeling such an energy—we love it!!!

The *Chris Ames Concert* originally scheduled for St. Paul's was relocated to St. David's Dewitt due to the lack of parking with the Italian Festival on Montgomery St. Chris brought a combination of faith, fun and incredible music to his audience. It was a wonderful evening. Chris now lives in Liverpool. If you ever have an opportunity to attend a concert - it is incredible.

Of course we need your help!

The church school children will be collecting: coats, hats, boots, warm clothing, blankets, new socks and new underpants and (for fun) Halloween costumes or items that can be used to create costumes. The newly arrived refugees have no idea how HUGE Halloween is in Syracuse. The children will absolutely need costumes for school—we can help. Please bring any contribution to church or call Jeanne Avery and I will arrange to pick them up.

On Oct. 28th **our children will "make-up" costumes and we will deliver them to the Center for New Americans that morning.**

"The Nickel & Dime Project for the Children of El Salvador"

The nickels will be used for purchasing school supplies, and the dimes are to help fund the nutrition program for the children in El Salvador. The funds will go to El Salvador with the mission for miracles group.

Each class will be creating a clear bank- like container. The collection will begin on October 7 and end on December 22. We will be taking our coins to the collection gathering day on January 5. The coins will be counted by a big machine and we will be treated to a pizza party. We might need to come up with different ways that we can add to our bank!

Dean Tom Luck to attend CREDO Conference

The Very Rev. Tom Luck has accepted an invitation to attend a CREDO conference from November 5-12 at Duncan Episcopal Conference Center in Del Ray Beach, FL.

The eight-day conference provides participants with the means to find direction and clarity in four component areas: spiritual, physical, vocational and financial. CREDO provides a foundation for participants to embrace wellness and to prayerfully discern the direction of their vocation.

CREDO was founded in 1997 as a pilot program funded by The Church Pension Group. The number of participants has grown each year, with more than 500 clergy and bishops attending a conference in 2005. More than 2,300 Episcopal clergy, deacons and bishops from virtually every diocese in the country have taken advantage of the CREDO benefit. Participants are selected at random from all active clergy with more than one year in the pension fund. The Church Pension Group pays all but \$500 of the conference costs.

Dean Luck will join approximately 30 other clergy in the CREDO conference. Over the course of the conference, participants will meet in plenary sessions, small groups and private consultations with faculty members. Participants also have ample quiet time to reflect on their personal and professional lives.

Each participant commits to extensive reflection through pre-conference instruments and surveys that focus on personal and professional wellness. The work of CREDO is organized around four major areas in each person's personal and professional life. Each of these components is explored as an integral part of the whole.

- **Spiritual** – offers CREDO as a sacred space where each participant can reflect on his or her interior life and relationship with God in Christ.
- **Vocational** – provides opportunities for reflection, discernment and planning in the professional areas of vocation, career and work.
- **Health** – encourages reflection on physical and emotional health and well-being, stewardship of the body and development of a plan to address the individual's health needs.
- **Financial** – explores all aspects of personal financial management and encourages reflection on God-given resources and how best to use them in response to God's call.

Through this discernment and visioning process, and with the help of a faculty team of professionals, each participant builds a CREDO Plan – a personal covenant based on his or her CREDO work and a formal expression of the CREDO experience. The CREDO Plan provides a personal baseline and strategy for effective implementation.

Refugee Resettlement Update

As was expected, a large number of refugees are arriving in our community.

Most are Burmese (Karen) coming here from refugee camps in Thailand. **About 100 will come into our community in September!** This makes for a joyous but busy time for the Center for New Americans.

Volunteer Opportunities

Before families arrive their apartments need to be set-up and groceries bought. Also, help is prepared. This could be a ministry for one or two members of your congregation or church. If your congregation could help with any of these jobs please give the Center for New Americans office a call.

As families adjust to life here they need help with transportation to appointments. They need to learn how to use the bus, go grocery shopping and use a laundry mat. Sometimes they need a friend to visit them. If you have time to do this (one morning a week) please consider it.

Donations

Apartments for these families are entirely furnished through donations. If you have items to donate please call the Center for New Americans at 474-1261 Ext. 220 and leave a message for the Warehouse Manager. Currently there is a need for the following items:

- kitchen tables & chairs
- beds (not queen or king, please)
- rice cookers
- lamps
- TVs
- microwaves

It's not too early to start thinking about winter and the cold weather! We'll have to buy boots for a lot of new feet! Consider having a warm boots and coats drive (new socks and underwear are also needed).

If you feel that you could help please call Deb Virgo at the Center for New Americans at 474-1261 x 208.



We all need the Anglicans right now By Joan Chittister

Published on National Catholic Reporter Conversation Cafe (<http://ncrcafe.org>)

Created Sep 17 2007 - 13:32

From Where I Stand by Joan Chittister, OSB

Vol. 5, No. 13

Blaise Pascal wrote once, "The multitude which is not brought to act as a unity is confusion." But in the same place he wrote immediately thereafter, "That unity which has not its origin in the multitude is tyranny." Translation: The multitude needs unity but unity, to be real, requires the assent of the multitude. Understanding the conjunction of those two ideas -- confusion in the face of uncertainty and tyranny as the substitute for consensus -- may have never been more important than it is right now. If a country, if a religious body, cannot develop a common vision, the chances that they will survive, let alone be effective, are at best low. That possibility is about to be sorely tested in worldwide Anglicanism. And no one of us need take any comfort in seeing it happen to someone else rather than to us. Yet. Riven by the internal tension arising over the question of clerical homosexuality among the national churches of the denomination around the world, the delicately structured Anglican Communion, many say, is threatened by schism. Some would say, "If you don't like it, get out." This "We-are-the-church-crowd" put themselves up as norms of the faith. Those who do not agree with them, who dare to question anything, who open issues deemed by some to be closed for all time, they label "evil" or "dissident" or "unfaithful." Catholics who accepted the notion of separation of church and state, for instance, labored under a shadow of suspicion for years. The loss of the theocratic state after the Protestant Reformation struck a blow at the very theology of power and authority. Not until Vatican II, did the church really accept as theologically acceptable the whole idea of sectarian -- that is, non-theologically aligned -- governments. The debate over sectarianism may seem almost laughable now, but it was not funny when John F. Kennedy was running for president. The major political question of the time was whether or not a Catholic president could really be trusted to lead a government for the good of all the people, Catholic or not, or be expected to take orders from the pope -- as did the medieval kings before him. Theology and government are clearly not parallel institutions. They are interactive ones. What affects one will surely affect the other. Which is where Pascal's second insight is the other side of the coin. "Unity that does not have its origin in the multitude is tyranny," he says. Groups themselves, in other words, must have a part in the making of law if the group is to be unified rather than simply repressed. So the question the Anglican communion is facing for us all right now is a clear one: What happens to a group, to a church, that stands poised to choose either confusion or tyranny, either anarchy or authoritarianism, either unity or uniformity? Are there really only two choices possible at such a moment? Is there nowhere in-between?

We all need the Anglicans right now continued.

The struggle going on inside the Anglican Communion about the episcopal ordination of homosexual priests and the recognition of the homosexual lifestyle as a natural state is not peculiar to Anglicanism. The issue is in the air we breathe. The Anglicans simply got there earlier than most. And so they may well become a model to the rest of us of how to handle such questions. If the rate and kinds of social, biological, scientific and global change continue at the present pace, every religious group may well find itself at the breakpoint between "tradition" and "science" sooner rather than later. Theological questions driven by new scientific findings, new social realities, new technological possibilities abound. How moral is it to take cells from one person for the treatment of another if all human cells are potentially life generating? Is that the destruction of life? If homosexuality is "natural," meaning biologically configured at birth, why is it immoral for homosexuals to live in homosexual unions -- even if they are bishops? After all, isn't that what we said -- in fact, did -- when we argued "scientifically" that blacks were not fit for ordination because blacks weren't quite as human as whites? And so we kept them out of our seminaries and called ourselves "Christian" for doing it. Without even the grace to blush.

It is not so much how moral we think we are that is the test of a church. Perhaps the measure of our own morality is how certain we have been of our immoral morality across the ages. That should give us caution. We said, at one time, that it was gravely immoral to charge interest on loans, that it was mortally sinful to miss Mass on Sunday, that people could not read books on the Index, that the divorced could not remarry. And we brooked no question on any of these things. People were either in or out, good or bad, religious or not, depending on whether they stood at one end or another of those spectrums. Clearly, the problem is not that definitions of morality can shift in the light of new information or social reality. The problem is that we don't seem to know how to deal with the questions that precede the new insights. We seem to think that we have only two possible choices: the authoritarianism model, which requires intellectual uniformity and calls it "community" or a kind of intellectual anarchism, which eats away at the very cloth of tradition in a changing world. The problem is that threatened by change we are more inclined to suppress the prophetic question than we are to find the kind of structures that can release the Spirit, that can lead us beyond unthinking submission while honoring the tradition and testing the spirits. It's not an easy task. And we have had schisms aplenty to prove it. Catholicism, interestingly enough, has done better at preserving theological differences than we may give it credit for doing. We called the differences "ancient traditions" or ethnic "rites," or "custom," or "the private arena." The church recognized that there were instances or cultures for whom some ideals simply were not true. But those things functioned in a sea of sameness, in cultures essentially monochromatic and in countries basically one-dimensional in language and history. But now we live in an avalanche of awareness, of cultural interaction, of scientific-technological possibilities.

We all need the Anglicans right now continued.

To take too certain a position too quickly can shred groups to pieces now. Churches everywhere are polarized. In a study of churchgoers done in Minnesota in 1983, conservative Catholics and conservative Lutherans had more in common than conservative Catholics and liberal Catholics. But in a social climate like that, how do we maintain the best of the old and admit the best of the new? Absolutism and judgementalism, insult and downright slander, have poisoned the atmosphere, are making unholy the search, have stifled conversation. Conservatives, devoted to what they consider unchanging truth, adopt a mantle of fidelity to the past. Liberals, devoted to exploring the moral dimensions of new questions, see themselves as faithful to the future envisioned by Vatican II. But truth is commitment to what's under the changes and renewal is what's devoted to developing a tradition as well as reshaping it. They are not opposites. They are two faces of the same thing and, if we are all to survive together, we must learn to respect one another until the dawn comes and the light shines. From where I stand, we need those who can develop a model of faith in times of uncertainty in which the tradition is revered and the prophetic is honored. Unless we want to see ourselves go into either tyranny or anarchy, we better pray for the Anglicans so that they can show us how to do that.



First Friday Feast

October 5th

All Proceeds to Benefit the MDG's

6pm Approximate Start Time

Sign-up: call the office or look
in the back of the Cathedral.

Menu: Pasta Party with Cannolis. Please bring
something to add to a communal antipasto.

No Outcasts: A New Kind of Bible Study on Sunday Mornings

No Outcasts.org

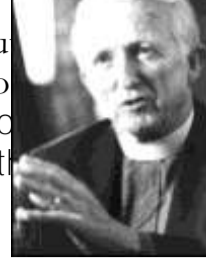
By Sue Wright

Website goes online October 1st.

Sunday bible study/discussion group open to all.

Beginning on Monday, October 1st, a weekly discussion of each Sunday's lectionary readings will be posted online. The website is targeted at, but not limited to, young adults, Gen-X and the un-churched and will provide short interpretations of the Sunday lectionary readings in a format attractive to those who do their spiritual searching in cyberspace. It will encourage open discussions through blogging and will invite those interested in further discussion to join us at St. Paul's Sundays at 10:15 during Christian Formation.

Drawing its inspiration from Bishop Browning's historic statement, "there will be no outcasts," the weekly interpretation of the Bible will deconstruct controversial passages, which are often used to exclude or marginalize others. At the same time it will shed new light on passages too violent or difficult to digest, especially those that the cynical culture points to as reasons to reject Christianity and the church.



The website and the Sunday morning bible study/discussion group will invite questions or state objections we rarely get the chance to voice. For instance, how are we, who live in a world threatened daily by rumors of terrorism, to react to the threats of God's wrath and judgment? Does God, who supposedly commanded Abraham to sacrifice his son, require the sacrifice of those people and things dearest to us? What are we to make of all the prohibitions in the Bible, especially those concerning sexuality? Should we seek answers to global problems such as AIDS and malaria, from a God who uses plague and pestilence to punish people?

By questioning scripture within the context of all the uncertainties and anxieties of contemporary postmodern existence, the discussions on the web and on Sunday morning will allow us to discover the relevance of our faith in today's world, creating in us a renewed sense of hope and transformation.

All are invited to participate online at No Outcasts.org and during Christian Formation Sundays at 10:15 during Christian Formation at St. Paul's. Join us any time!



Priorities

When wildfires threatened several California communities this summer, television crews rushed to cover the process of evacuation. As police briefed residents on the worsening situation, there were strikingly different responses. Some left quickly with little more than the family pet and a few treasured photographs. Others seemed almost immobilized by the prospect of leaving their accumulated property behind. Fortunately, many of us never face that kind of choice. But the thought of how we would respond raises interesting questions about the things we value most.

As Episcopalians, we believe that our lives are shaped for the better by the way we pray. One of our Sunday collects puts such choices in a larger **perspective. It begins, “Oh God, whose will it is for us to give thanks for all things, to fear nothing but the loss of you, and to cast all our care on you who care for us...” God’s presence, we’re reminded, is the one thing on which** meaningful living can be grounded. As our culture revels in conspicuous consumption, we find ourselves all the more attracted to people who show us another way. For them, extraordinary sacrifices appear to come naturally because of an inner confidence in something of greater value.

Stewardship is a spiritual discipline that helps us grow in that pattern. This fall, we will pass from household to household a special album of words and **photographs that tells the story of our ministries at St. Paul’s Cathedral—past and present.** As we celebrate our life as a community of faith, we will also make our pledges of time, talent and treasure for the year to come. Pledging **affects the ability of St. Paul’s to thrive and serve effectively. But more** important, it is an opportunity to revisit personal priorities and to declare from the depths of our hearts that something matters more than the things we accumulate.

--St.Paul’s Stewardship Committee

What is a Discovery Mass?

This fall we have begun a new service at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday morning called the Discovery Mass. This Mass is a bit different than our traditional Mass with Choir. In terms of length, the discovery mass is only 40 minutes long which is convenient for families and our youth who also attend Sunday school classes. This service is designed to bring new sights and sounds into our worship space. We have purchased a large screen where we project texts and images, taking the place of the traditional printed leaflet. We all wave scarves in the air during the Gospel reading to symbolize the presence of the Holy Spirit. Instead of using the High Altar, we use a smaller altar that brings the People closer to table of the Lord. Musically we continue to try new things. We have used some recorded music, live guitar, hymns we all know, and some we do not. Our goal for this service is to create a highly participatory service that engages everyone in a variety of sights and sounds and actions. Our families as well as church school classes are asked to sign up to write our Prayers of the People. If you are looking to try something new, please check out our Discovery Mass every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

The Saint Paul's Cathedral

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Worshipping God, Learning