

THE QUILL

Volume 22, Issue 1

Mid-Epiphany—Lent, 2009

Lent~ “Taking Something On”

By Reed Wilson
Senior Warden

In this month's "Rector's Column," Father Jim reminds us that "Lent is not a time for giving anything up. Lent is a time for taking something on." We all certainly have personal goals and aspirations to "take on" this time of year. But I would like to suggest we make a special effort to "take on" our goals and aspirations for St. Bede's and the community of faith it represents.

Stewardship is an ongoing, ever-expanding opportunity to let Christ's presence grow in our lives and the lives of others. Is there a program or outreach opportunity you would like to participate in or begin? Is there some special way your particular gifts and talents can shine forth for the good of your brothers and sisters here and beyond?

We are blessed to have so many ongoing mission and outreach activities to reinforce and share our faith. Bring a food donation the first Sunday of the month for the St. Joseph's Center. Help with the AIDS Ministry. Serve dinner at Turning Point transitional housing, or tutor at the NYA. Volunteer to teach Sunday school or arrange coffee hour. Or maybe create yet another opportunity for you and others to love your neighbors as yourselves.

Let's all use this time of contemplation and renewal to strengthen and reinforce what matters to us. There's work to be done!

WITH THANKS!

By Mother Victoria Mouradian

Our **Christmas Pageant** was stunning! What a beautiful accomplishment for all involved! Our Kids of Bede told the story of Christ's birth with narration and action interspersed with Christmas hymns sung by the congregation. Our family service was a true tribute to the Christmas message of Christ's incarnation. Our parish came together for this effort with so many individuals contributing time, talent, and funds. I give heartfelt thanks to all who participated, especially our cast for an excellent performance, Lana Spraker for directing, Pammela Jackson for costume design, Paul Meek for props, and Terry Nicastro for hospitality. I also give special thanks to the parents of our cast members who believed in our efforts and supported their children's participation. The pageant experience was a fitting example of what happens when a church community comes together!

I would also like to express my deepest thanks to St. Bede's for their generous support of my **ordination to the Priesthood**. There aren't words to express how touched I was to enter St. John's pro-Cathedral before the service on January 10 and see rows of St. Bede's faces! It meant so much to have those there who were able to attend and it also meant so much to have the prayers of all those who were not able to attend. I am also humbly grateful to St. Bede's for my ordination gift of cassock, surplice, tippet, and academic hood! I will always feel especially connected to this community whenever I wear these vestments in service to Christ and the church. I will open my church discretionary fund with the surplus which will touch others in the spirit of Christ. Thank you all as well for the beautiful reception at coffee hour after I celebrated my first Eucharist, especially Daphne Moote and Amy Dugre for their efforts.

Yours in Christ,

Mother Vicki

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THIS MONTH

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Sisters of Bede Events

2009 Quill Schedule

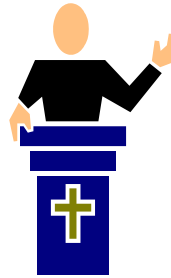
St. John's Guild News

2009 Turning Point
Dinner Schedule

Christmas Services

CANON JIM'S JOTTINGS

This issue of the Quill covers the end of the post-Epiphany season and all of Lent and Holy Week. It will include a special service remembering the evening 30 years ago when I was ordained to the priesthood at St. Christopher's Church in Roseville, MN. We will also have several occasions to gather both in worship and fellowship with our friends from St. Andrew's Lutheran Church.



face to face after an especially tasty Sisters of Bede venue dinner or while leading another group of pilgrims around holy sights in Italy, Greece, England or the Holy Land. Like the especially alluring dessert, better to have a bit of it before one gets too full with dinner.

ANNIVERSARY

I had just turned 30 and the pictures certainly make me look younger than I remember ever having looked. It was cold and there was much new snow (think Minnesota in early February). My friend and mentor Br. Tom Schultz, OHC, was the preacher and talked about the meeting of God's time (*kairos*) and human time (*chronos*). Bp. Robert Anderson (yes, the same Robert Anderson who just retired as our assistant bishop) was the ordaining Bishop. I was working with the absolutely best priest with whom to learn about being a parish priest. Fr. Henry Hoover helped to mold me into the person I am today. He gently guided his young curate towards being a potential rector. St. Christopher was a great place to work. It was the second largest congregation in the diocese. We had many things going on and a wide variety of households. I worked with an experienced deacon (now a priest) Ted Neuhaus and a brilliant priest-professor, the late Patricia Wilson-Kastner (whose husband was the originator of the famous recipe for fudge-almond cheesecake).

Well, here we are 30 years later. Bishop Bob and Henry and Ted are retired and out of state. Pat is theologizing in heaven. And Br. Tom is now based in Santa Barbara and will be with us as the guest celebrant. In fact, I am hoping that we can give a big gift to the Mt. Calvary brothers that day as our offering of thanksgiving. Our guest preacher will be the Rev. Canon Dean Farrar. Canon Farrar is the retired rector of St. Francis, Palos Verdes Estates and is the person with whom I have shared many retreats in Hawaii working on Lenten or Eastertide sermons.

It is not an ending by any means and it is possible that I may celebrate other major anniversaries here before I retire. But, like a really tempting dessert, why wait. The ability to celebrate 30 years of priesthood is really a celebration of those who formed me, those who served with me, and those in whose congregations I have been called to serve. It is a day of thanksgiving for the Shattuck-St. Mary's School, Cathedral of Our Merciful Savior (Faribault, MN), Virginia Theological Seminary, St. Mary's (Washington, DC), Holy Spirit (Dale City, VA), St. Christopher's (Roseville, MN), All Saints (Northfield, MN), Holy Cross (Dundas, MN), Christ Church (Redondo Beach, CA) and St. Bede's as well as Chaplaincies at Carleton College, St. Olaf College and UC, Irvine.

So, its good to do this. Who knows, I might meet the Lord

HOLY WEEK AND LENT

As I mentioned in the last Quill, we are sharing much of this period with our brothers and sisters at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church. In this period, we will gather together in several ways:

- Feb. 24: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner at St. Andrew's, 6.30 p.m.
- Feb. 25: Ash Wednesday (Noon service at St. Andrew's; 7 p.m. service at St. Bede's)
- Joint Lenten study of "The Great Emergence" by Phyllis Tickle, introduction after the evening service on Ash Wednesday
- March 4, 11, 18 & 25 and April 1 & 8 – shared evenings of light supper (6.30 p.m.), worship (7 p.m.) & study (7.30 p.m.)
 - at St. Andrew's: March 4, 18 & April 1 (Vespers)
 - at St. Bede's: March 11 (Evensong), 25 (Eucharist/Annunciation), and April 8 (Tenebrae)
 - April 10: Good Friday (Noon at St. Bede's; 7.30 p.m at St. Andrew's)

STUDY

We are called continually to open our minds in a number of areas. Mthr. Vicki coordinates the work with the younger members of the congregation. There will be some special events either announced elsewhere in this issue of the *Quill* or in the Sunday bulletins. Our adult Christian formation options include:

The Bookworms of Bede meet on the 3rd Monday and are reading *American Savior* by Ron Merullo (Feb. 16) and *The Bridge of San Luis Rey* by Thornton Wilder (Apr. 20). In March, there will be no book study due to the Lenten study of Phyllis Tickle's book (see above).

On Tuesday morning, the Breakfast and Bible classes meet to study the lessons for the upcoming Sunday.

The Wednesday evening class prior to Ash Wednesday will continue to study "Great People of the New Testament" with Prof. Amy-Jill Levine (on CD).

Another session of the VIA MEDIA class begins after the 10 a.m. service in February. This is a great class to attend if you are new to the Episcopal Church and/or if you wish to be con-

firmed or received into the Church and/or if you wish to reconfirm your baptismal promises at some point because of changes or growth in your spiritual path.

SPIRITUALITY

Spirituality is hard to define. For some people, it is how they communicate with God. For others, it is about frequency of prayer or intensity of faith. For still others, it is about faith-driven service. One's spirituality may be based in silence while another's is based in tumult and mess. Sometimes it is organized and precise and sometimes it is chaotic. Lent is a time for allowing oneself to take a fearless, critical inventory and see what is working and what is not. Part of that process may be availing oneself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation of a Penitent (BCP pp. 446-452). Should you wish to meet with Mthr. Vicki or myself during Lent or Holy Week, please take the time to talk with us after the service both to discuss the sacrament and to schedule a time to meet.

Lent is not a time for giving anything up. Lent is a time for taking something on. I would suggest that "the peace of God that passes all understanding" be one of our goals. Being centered on and in our faith will give us balance and stability as we walk the path of Lent and Holy Week.

In Christ,

Jim Newman+

Potluck Movie Night!

Please join the St. Bede's community for an evening of fellowship and entertainment on Saturday, March 14, at 5:30 p.m. in Luther Hall. Bring a favorite dish to share for dinner and enjoy *Keeping the Faith*, a poignant comedy about the enduring childhood friendship of a priest, a rabbi, and their tomboy buddy. The movie stars Ben Stiller as the rabbi, Edward Norton as the priest, Jenna Elfman as their buddy, and Anne Bancroft as the rabbi's mother. This movie will touch your heart with laughter, life's lessons, and a sense of the spiritual. We will savor dessert after show time to give us an opportunity to chat about the movie. Questions? Call Mother Vicki: 310.625.7364.

Volunteers Needed!

The Guided Cages at 8917 B South Sepulveda Blvd. is in need of volunteers. Filled with beautiful gifts and a large selection of greeting cards, the shop actively supports the Airport Marina Counseling Service and is a credit to the Westchester Community!

Volunteer training is provided. For information, phone Gloria Chesen at 310-839-7398.



Sisters Of Bede Program: The Manzanar Experience

Betsy Hiteshew and Phyllis Morrison recently visited Manzanar Relocation Camp with Japanese-American friends from West Los Angeles Methodist Church.

Deeply moved by seeing first-hand the camp where their friends and thousands of other Japanese-Americans were interned by the United States during World War II, the two returned committed to sharing what they had learned about the experiences and hardships of the internees.

After they described their visit to other members of the Sisters of Bede, the Sisters decided to learn more about this dark period in our recent history, and to invite the rest of the parish to learn with them—from Betsy and Phyllis and also from several Japanese-Americans who were among the internees.

**Dessert and Program:
Monday, March 2, 7:00 p.m.
Luther Hall**

St. John's Guild Announcement~

Would you like to donate your unused costume jewelry to Saint John's Guild for our preowned Jewelry Board? The board is located on the wall next to the back door entrance to Luther Hall.

If you are interested, please contact Ina Klem, President of the St John's Guild. Thank you!

Do you need a Housesitter?

Gloria Bando is available for housesitting and/or petsitting on the Westside—weekends and/or weekdays. Please call 310-430-0591, or see Gloria.

ST. BEDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE PARISH OF MAR VISTA, VENICE, OCEAN PARK & PLAYA VISTA

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

3590 Grand View Blvd

Los Angeles, CA 90066

Phone: 310-391-5522 or 888-802-6722

Fax: 310-391-8113

Rector's Pager: 310-569-1575

Curate's Cell: 310-625-7364

We're on the Web!
www.stbedesla.org
Hear Sunday's Sermon!

SERVICES & CLASSES

SUNDAYS: 8 am, Holy Eucharist (no music)
10 am, Church School & Nursery
10 am, Holy Eucharist (w/choir)
6 pm, Evensong or Evening Prayer

TUESDAYS: 10 am, Morning Prayer & Bible Study

WEDNESDAYS: 7 pm, Holy Eucharist & Healing
7:45 pm, Adult Class

TUESDAY BREAKFAST & BIBLE:

9 a.m.: Breakfast and study of the upcoming Sunday's lessons
No meetings on December 23 & 30

WEDNESDAY EVENING FORUM:

Feb. 4, 11 & 18: "Great Figures of the New Testament (Parts 7-9)"
Feb. 25: Introduction to [The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why](#) by Phyllis Tickle

"THE OTHER MONDAY"

Feb. 9: No meeting

BOOKWORMS OF BEDE

Feb. 16 Ronald Merullo, *American Savior*
Mar. 16 -- no book due to Lenten Book Study on Wednesdays

***ST. BEDE'S
VESTRY & STAFF***

RECTOR: The Very Rev. Canon James Newman

CURATE: The Rev. Victoria Mouradian, Curate

ASSISTING CLERGY: the Revs. Giles Asbury, Jason Cox, & John Hancock

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Frank Basile

VERGER: Michael Gallagher

HEAD SACRISTAN: Jeannette Young

FACILITIES MANAGER: Tom Ledsam

SEXTON: Joaquin Perez

VESTRY

Reed Wilson ('10) — Senior Warden

Michael Mullins ('10) — Junior Warden

Sharon Arthur ('11) Rea Crane ('10)

Akani Fletcher ('10) Michael Mullins ('11)

Dean Pace ('11) Carly Portalupi ('11)

Alice Short ('10)

Annette Graw — Clerk

Laird Hegamin — Treasurer

Jennine Townsend — Financial Secretary

DELEGATES/ALTERNATES TO CONVENTION

Michael Mullins (A)/ Jerry Hornof (A) - ('10)

Kyle Ferstead (D)/Annette Graw (A) - ('11)