

# Christus Rex

## Anglican Province of Christ the King



Vol. 2, No. 3

Apostolic Christianity in the Anglican Tradition

May, 2009

### DWS Artists Contribute Their Creativity

By Kathy Webb and Monty Stanford

The Anglican Church Women of the Diocese of the Western States held a unique fund raising art auction at the DWS Synod this year. All of the art was created and contributed by Diocesan lay and clerical artists. Eight artists donated an icon, a stained glass Bible box, two Giclee prints, a signed proof, and six paintings.

The auction was quite successful in raising almost \$3,000 which the ACW contributes to the Youth Retreat. The art works were displayed in the public area of the Synod hotel and the winning bid on the Bible Box was submitted by a guest who was not a member of APCK.

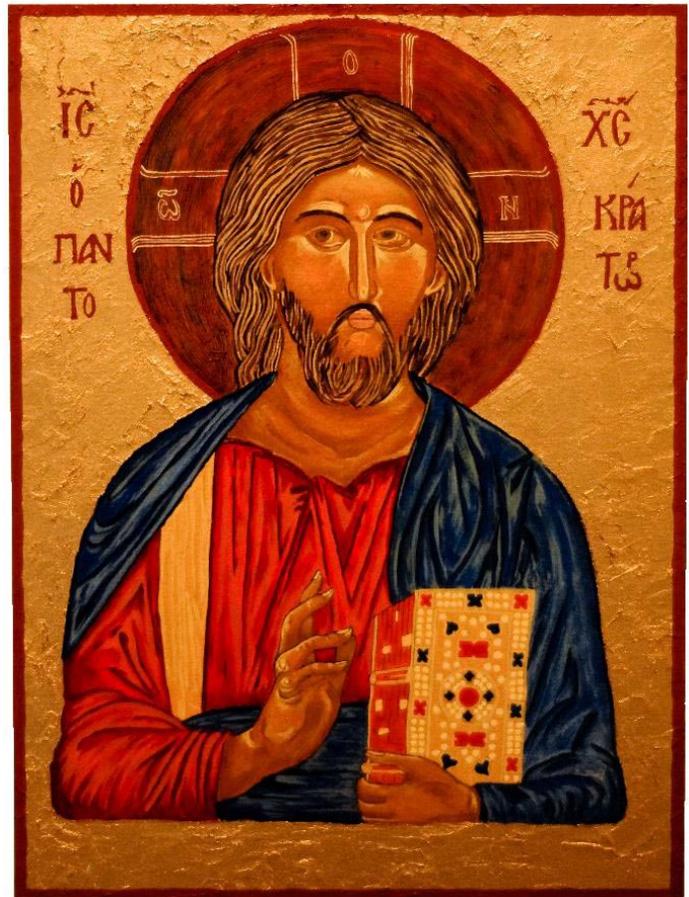
Representative works by each of the artists are featured in this issue.

Deacon Benjamin Brown started painting in oils seven years ago and became interested in writing icons after buying a book by Guillem Ramos-Poquí, *The Technique of Icon Painting*, by Guillem Ramos-Poquí, whose techniques he has adapted to the oil medium. This icon of CHRIST PANTOCRATOR is rendered in oils, different from traditional egg-tempera paint, although retaining many of the luminous qualities of that translucent medium.

CHRIST PANTOCRATOR shows Christ as the “All-ruler.” His right hand is raised in blessing, while He holds the book of the Gospels in His left arm. His two-piece robe—red tunic and blue cape—symbolizes His two natures, divine and human. The yellow band indicates His status as Ruler. The gold background surrounding the figure symbolizes the uncreated light. Christ speaks of Himself as ‘the light

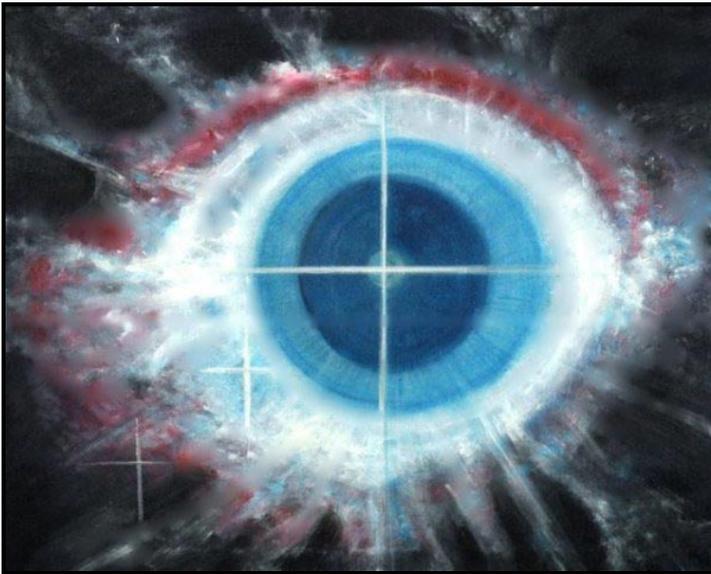
of the world’ (John 8:12), and He, therefore, casts no shadow.

Deacon Brown is the Deacon-in-Charge of St. Francis of Assisi church in Danville, California.



*Christ Pantocrator*  
Byzantine prototype, 14<sup>th</sup> C.  
Oil on wood panel, 12" x 16"  
By Deacon Benjamin Brown

(DWS Artists - Continued from page 1)



*Eye of God*  
Original Artwork  
By Ron Reno

Ron Reno is the General Manager of a pharmacy in Omaha but he and his wife, Louise, drive 100 miles to attend services at St. Stephen the Martyr Anglican Church in Sioux City, Iowa.

Painting is an avocation for Ron and symbols are important in his art. *Eye of God* was influenced both by a photograph of the Helix nebula and the phrase "at the end of space is God." The three crosses symbolize the Trinity.



*Lone Pine*  
Original Painting  
By Malcolm Wilson

Malcolm Wilson, a parishioner of St. Luke's Church, Redding, California, began drawing the

English countryside as a teenager. He took evening classes in a variety of arts, including pottery, jewelry making, clay modeling and life and portrait drawing, although never in painting.

He moved from London to the U.S. and eventually to Redding. When he retired, he was able to devote time to learning to paint, a process that Malcolm says, "is still very much ongoing."



*Don't Mess With Texas*  
Signed Giclee Print  
By Lynn Smith

Lynn Smith may be better known to APCA members for her altar linens (See <http://altarlinens.com/>). Lynn was born and reared in the great cathedral city of Durham in Northeast England, where she studied needle arts. She has been making altar linens since 1998. Painting was actually an earlier interest and she is especially fond of painting cows. Her husband, Fr. Jeffrey Smith, is Vicar of the Anglican Church of the Ascension, Windsor, Colorado.



*Episcopal Portraits*  
Oil on Canvas Painted from Photographs  
By Erin Culbreath-Shepard

Erin Culbreath-Shepard grew up in Southern Colorado. She studied art at Colorado Mountain

College and received a B.A. in Commercial Art and Graphic Design, which she now pursues professionally. She paints in many other styles and media, but portraits are her favorite. Erin's husband, Fr. Paul Shepard, is the Vicar of St. Aidan's Church in Colorado Springs.



*Country Garden*  
Oil on Canvas  
By Tom Watson

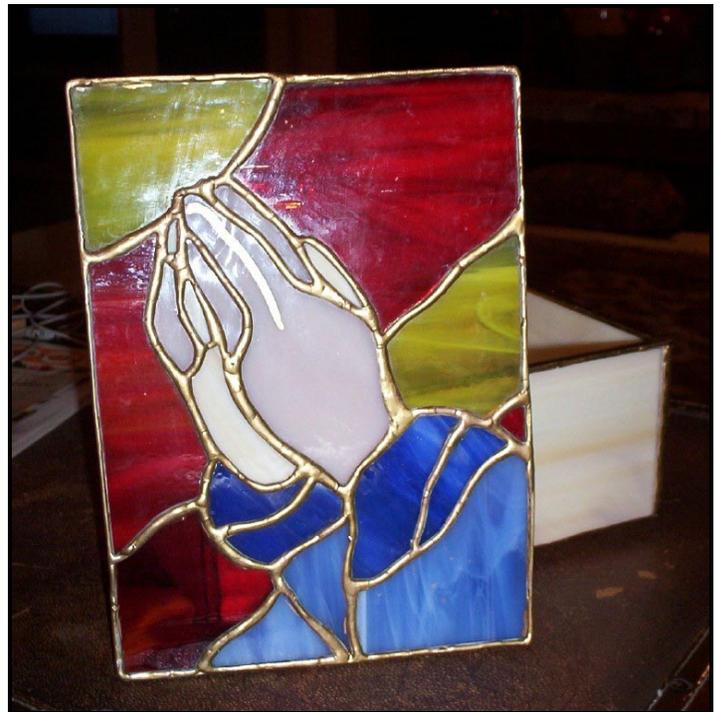
Born and raised in the Napa Valley, Tom Watson entered the Academy of Art in San Francisco not long after high school. He has had a career as an illustrator, art director, and graphic designer in San Francisco and Chicago. Tom is a signature member of the Oil Painters of America and has won numerous awards. In 2000, he and his wife, Joan, moved to South Placer County where they are members of Holy Trinity Church in Sacramento.



*Tropical Sunset*  
Giclee Print  
By Neil Shaw

Neil Shaw is a retired Monterey County, California, Forensic (police sketch) Artist and Deputy Sheriff with over 20 years experience. He spent over 10 years specializing in Forensic Art. From forensic drawing came Neil's hidden talent of fine portraiture. It began when a news reporter saw one of Neil's crime sketches and liked it enough to commission Neil for a portrait. Neil now resides in Redding, California, where he attends St. Luke's Church.

Neil's tropical prints began when he and his wife, Doreen, started taking trips to Maui and Hawaii. Neil was so inspired by the island lifestyle, rich traditions and marine life that he began painting tropical scenes. Since then, Neil has left law enforcement and is now painting professionally. See Neil's art at <http://www.neilshawcollection.com/>



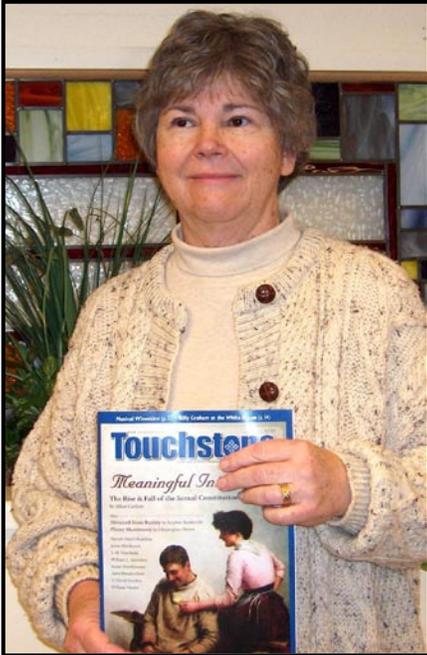
*Stained Glass Bible Box*  
By The Rev. Robert F. Ponec

The Rev. Robert F. Ponec is Vicar of St. Stephen the Martyr and St. John the Baptist Anglican Churches. He began studying and making stained glass pieces in 1979 and, although his complete work encompasses many styles, most of his work has religious themes.

Fr. Ponec has worked with antique glass, restored church windows, and created a baptistery window and screen. His recent duties as Vicar, as well as his business, have kept him rather busy, so the ACW is very grateful that he was able to create this Bible box.

# Susan Prudhomme Creates Worlds in Her Writing

Susan Prudhomme is a member of St. Stephen's Church in Oakville, in northern California's Napa Valley. She is also a freelance writer and novelist. Her last article, "Talking about Abortion" was published in the January issue of *Touchstone*, a popular conservative Christian journal. Susan skillfully and compassionately discusses the emotional pain caused by a woman's decision to have an abortion and the need for redemption and forgiveness.



Susan is a native Californian who was born in Burbank and grew up mostly in Santa Rosa. She and her husband Jim have been married for 30 years and have lived most of that time in Napa. Their daughter, Lily, is currently studying for a master's degree in philosophy at the University of Edinburgh and

expects to enter the PhD program there this fall. Her area of special interest is "forgiveness."

Susan discussed her writing and faith journey in response to questions from [Christus Rex](#).

*Why did you join the Anglican Province of Christ the King?*

We left a church home of more than twenty years with great sorrow due to what we perceived to be an increasingly cavalier attitude toward Scripture and Church Tradition, and the political conflicts that engenders. While attending our old church in Napa, we had heard about "that renegade church in Oakville." When we knew we needed to change, we decided to see what it was all about.

We began attending St. Stephen's in 2003 and joined formally in 2005. Jim graduated from St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College

in 2008 and is now the assistant priest at St. Stephen's. APCK, and especially St. Stephen's, has given us a sanctuary where we can worship wholeheartedly and securely.

*Have there been any particular influences on your religious life?*

I was raised in a Christian but non-churchgoing family, and given free rein to explore questions of faith. In my early adulthood I began to realize that human solutions to the big problems did not work, and turned toward Christianity and acceptance of the authority of God. In my mid-thirties, I experienced the living presence of Jesus, an event that changed me and set me on the path of gradual transformation that is the Christian way of life.

*How long have you been writing?*

I've always loved to write, all kinds of things. When I needed to help earn a living, I asked God for a job that would allow me to do so by writing. Next thing I knew, I was writing pre-sentence reports for the Napa County Probation Department – not exactly the kind of creativity I had in mind! But I think that experience honed my ability to write clearly and succinctly, which has helped have two articles published in *Touchstone*, as well as several letters to their editor.

On retirement, I was looking for something more fun, and started playing with an idea that dated back to a camping trip years before, when, on being drawn to the mystery of some nearby mountains with mist floating among their ridges, I began to imagine a solitary journey into them. The result was *The Forest, a Menchian's Journey*, which is set to be published later this year by OakTara, a small Christian publisher, along with *The Wisdom of Ambrose*. It is about a woman longing for purpose in her life, who is drawn mysteriously into a parallel world where she meets a bear named Ambrose. My goal in writing fiction is to delight the reader, while illustrating Christian themes. Someone suggested that I write children's stories for adults – but I think that is perhaps an exaggeration.

*We look forward to testing that exaggeration when we read Susan's books later this year.*

# St. Peter's Church, Oakland, California

*By The Rev. Paul Hauge*

St. Peter's is the Pro-cathedral of the Diocese of the Western States (DWS) and is the host this year of the Synod of the DWS.



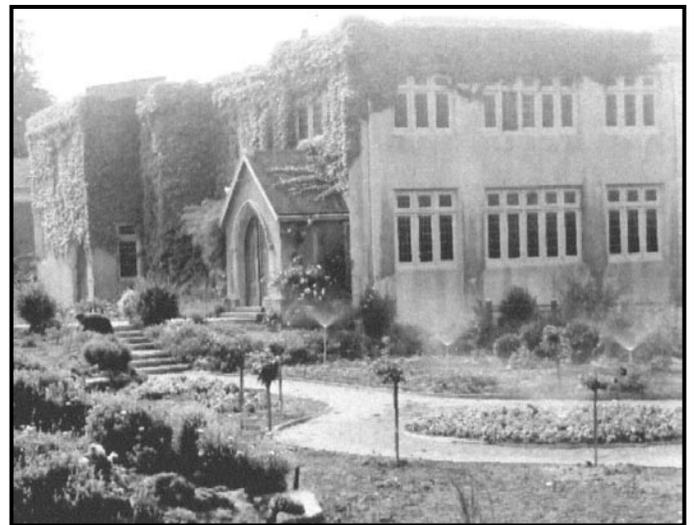
*(Staff Photo)*

St. Peter's was organized as a mission on February 4, 1912, with 15 communicants. The Rev. Edgar F. Gee, Rector of St. John's, Oakland, was the founding priest after visiting the Rockridge district in 1909. He passed a huge rock and the thought occurred to him: "Upon this rock I will build my church." Afternoon services were held in a store on Shafter Avenue. The first confirmation class was started and Bishop Nichols was the visitor.

On March 26, 1913, the mission petitioned to organize as a Parish and on June 29th the cornerstone of the present Parish House was laid. The building was completed and the first service was held on Palm Sunday, April 5, 1914. The first floor served as sanctuary and church school rooms, and the second

floor was the community room and stage. The present sexton's quarters are now located on the second floor. A distinctive feature of the building was four gargoyles (to warn away evil spirits!) at each corner. Two of them are still extant, but two were lost when the building was enlarged on the south side. On April 18, 1916, a special meeting called for the purchase of additional land on the adjoining corner of Broadway and Lawton Avenues, where the present church is now located.

St. Peter's has been blessed with a wonderful spirit since its founding with each rector serving about 20 years. Only five have served from 1913 until now. Following Fr. Gee's retirement, The Rev. Canon Lewis Gottschall was elected in 1935. In 1953 plans for the present church were formed. The cornerstone was laid in 1957 and blessed by Bishop Karl M. Block. Many memorials, such as the stained glass windows, were included in the church. Father (now Archbishop) Robert Morse succeeded as Rector in 1966 after Canon Gottschall's retirement, followed by Father George Clendenin in 1984 and the present Rector, Father Roderick Pomroy, in 2005.



*The original church of 1914.  
(Photo from the St. Peter's Archives.)*

While the parish was originally composed of Rockridge area residents, present members come from as far away as northern Marin County and Contra Costa County as well.

*(Note: Much of this historical information was taken from a newsletter by Canon Gottschall.)*

## Calendar of Events

Mark your 2009 calendars for these events:

- ❖ June 16-18, 2009 – Diocese of the Southwestern States Synod hosted by St. Nicholas Church, Scottsdale, AZ.
- ❖ June 21-26, 2009 – Summer Youth Retreat
- ❖ July 9-12, 2009 – Family Camp at Patrick's Point State Park on the California coast near the Oregon border.

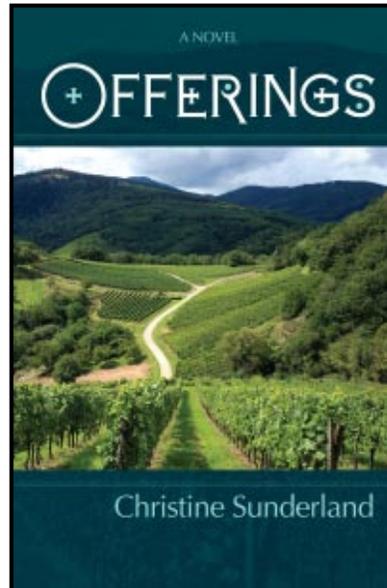
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2725 Sacramento Street  
San Francisco, California 94115  
Archbishop James E. Provence  
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Contact: Dr. Monty C. Stanford  
messenger@anglicanpck.org  
The APCK Provincial web site is available on the internet at <http://www.anglicanpck.org>.

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*Offerings* Just Published

## Offerings Just Published



Oaktara has just published a new novel by Christine Sunderland. *Offerings*, set in France, is the second novel of a trilogy. Christine's first novel, *Pilgrimage*, set in Italy, was published in 2007. The third novel of the trilogy, *Inheritance*, set in England, will be published this fall.

The trilogy takes place in modern times and deals with questions of faith and the healing of the soul.

Christine is a member of St. Thomas's Anglican Church in San Francisco.

More information is available on the internet at: <http://www.christinesunderland.com/>, and at: [http://www.oaktara.com/Christine\\_Sunderland.html](http://www.oaktara.com/Christine_Sunderland.html).



*"On the Seventh Day He Rested"*  
*Signed artist's proof*  
By Ron Reno