

Christus Rex

Anglican Province of Christ the King



Vol. 4, No. 3

Apostolic Christianity in the Anglican Tradition

June, 2011

Province to Combine Two Dioceses

On Easter Monday, the Most Rev. James E. Provence announced the formation of a new diocese of the Anglican Province of Christ the King to be known as the Diocese of the Atlantic States.

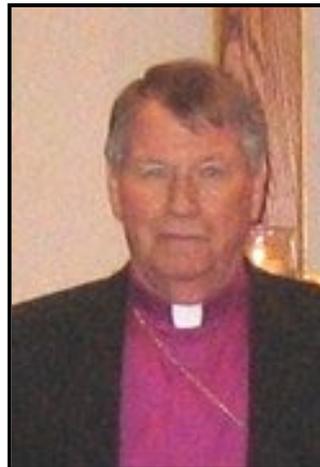
In his announcement, the Archbishop said that for some time the bishops have discussed realignment of diocesan boundaries in order to strengthen the two small dioceses of the Eastern and Southern States. After considering several alternatives, they concluded that the best option is to combine those two and create a new Diocese of the Atlantic States.

By combining resources, the Diocese of the Atlantic States will be in a strong financial position, will benefit from a larger clergy base, and will be in a better position to evangelize.

The Diocese will consist of parishes in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, New York, North Carolina, and Washington, DC, as well as other states in the area as new parishes are added.

The Archbishop intends to convene the inaugural synod of the Diocese of the Atlantic States after Pentecost 2012. He will serve as Bishop Ordinary until a new bishop is elected and consecrated. Bishop William Wiygul, the recently retired Bishop of the Diocese of the Southern States, has offered to assist the Archbishop with parochial visits and confirmations. The Rev. Dr. John E. Upham, Jr., and the Rev. Blair W. Schultz will assist with the administration of the new diocese. ✠

Bishop Wiygul Announces His Retirement



The early May synod of the Diocese of the Southern States marked the beginning of retirement for the Rt. Rev. William C. Wiygul as Bishop Ordinary. The Bishop informed the diocese of his decision in a pastoral letter read on the First Sunday after Easter. At synod, the clergy and people whom

he has faithfully served showed their appreciation and affection with a shower of gifts and good wishes for a happy retirement.

William Wiygul was born in Natchez, Mississippi, and is a graduate of the University of Mississippi. He received his Ph.D. in medical clinical microbiology from the University of Tennessee. For many years he was director of a large medical laboratory in Birmingham, Alabama.

Doctor Wiygul and his wife, Beth, are charter members of the Church of the Holy Comforter in Montevallo, Alabama. He was encouraged to test his vocation to the sacred ministry, and was ordained a deacon by the Rt. Rev. James Pollard Clark. Following study at St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College. *(Continued, Bishop Wiygul, page 2)*

(Bishop Wiygul, Continued from page 1)

College, Deacon Wiygul was ordained priest by Bishop Clark and instituted as Rector of Church of the Holy Comforter.

In 2004, William Conger Wiygul was consecrated and enthroned as Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Southern States. That diocese and the entire Anglican Province of Christ the King have been enriched by his episcopacy. While

Bishop Wiygul has retired from the daily work of a bishop ordinary, he will continue serving on the Council of Bishops and has graciously offered to assist the Archbishop with parish visits and confirmations.

We are grateful to Bishop Wiygul, and to his wife Beth, for their sacrificial and loving service to Christ and His Church and wish them a happy retirement. ✘

PRIEST COMPLETES 21-MILE PRAYER WALK

By The Rev. Benjamin Brown

On Good Friday, the Vicar of St Francis, Father Benjamin Brown, completed a twenty-one mile Prayer Walk through the five communities that the mission serves. At sunrise he began praying and walking from the center of Livermore, at the well-known flag pole landmark at First Street and Livermore Avenue. He continued to pray his way through the communities of Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon, and Danville. The prayer walk took eight-and-a-half hours to complete, ending at 3 p.m. at the Danville Women's Club, where St Francis holds its regular services.

At various points along the way, Father Brown was met by six St Francis parishioners, some of whom walked and prayed, and others who brought much-appreciated water and energy bars. The weather that day was cool for the walk, and some cloud cover gave relief from the sun.

Father Brown had previously prayed through the five communities one at a time, on the Saturdays of Lent, but felt moved to tie them all together into one prayer walk on Good Friday. "This didn't start out as a Lenten discipline, since I started praying the towns on the Saturday before Ash Wednesday. But after praying three of the five, I got the crazy idea of doing all of them on Good Friday," he said.

The prayer that Father Brown prayed on the walk was the well-known Eastern prayer known as the Jesus Prayer: "*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.*" Also, following many others of the East, Father Brown used a string of one hundred prayer beads, saying one prayer per bead, and reciting the Lord's Prayer after circling back to the Cross that begins another series of prayers. Although he did not keep count of the total number of prayers, Father Brown estimates that he may have recited the prayer over two thousand

times that day.

After the prayer walk, St Francis held Good Friday services, starting at 6PM at the Women's Club. And after walking for almost nine hours previously, the services were somewhat challenging for the Vicar. "Genuflecting was quite painful," he noted.

Father Brown was inspired by Archbishop Provence's pastoral letter of last November, in which he described Fr. Seraphim praying and walking through the war-torn country of Sierra Leone. "Not praying for any outcome, but just to make that Holy Name present," the Archbishop wrote.

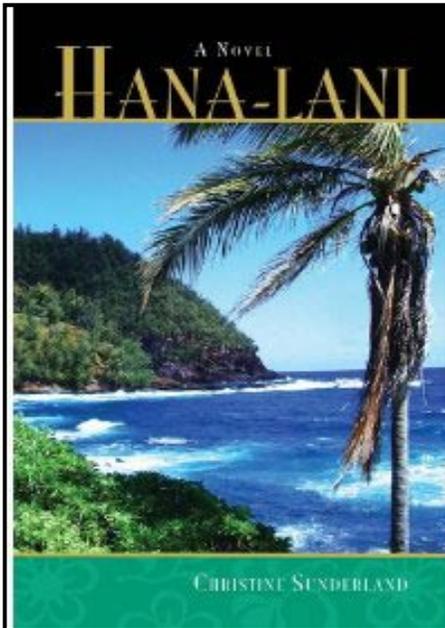
In addition to encouragement along the way from parishioners of St Francis, Father Brown also received several greetings from others who did not even know how far his journey was taking him. He received a shout of, "Keep going, Brother!", from a passing bicyclist, a few honking horns from well-wishing drivers (at least none seemed peeved), and in the final block of the journey, one small boy in the back seat of a passing minivan yelled out, "Hello, Father!" ✘



Fr. Brown praying through San Ramon.

A Review of *Hana-Lani* by Christine Sunderland

Reviewed by Susan Prudhomme



In *Hana-Lani*, Christine Sunderland serves up a compelling medley of characters – four very different lives entwined by unexpected circumstances – all within the unpredictable embrace of Hawaii itself.

Ancient Nani-lei, wise matriarch of Hana, keeps the old family home of Hana-lani with all its history and cultural traditions. The bookish Henry, her adopted grandson, has returned from Berkeley after the death of his beloved wife, Maria, bringing with him their six-year-old hearing-impaired daughter, Lucy. As Henry has buried himself in grief, trying to finish the scholarly work he and Maria had intended to produce together, old Nani pours her ample love on both him and Lucy, but she is coming to the end of her strength and Henry does not seem to notice either her growing weakness or his daughter's need for him – only his own grief.

Into this stalemate, an unlikely change-agent literally drops from the sky. Meredith Campbell is, according to *San Francisco* magazine, “one of the most eligible women in town.” Stunningly beautiful and committed to taking care of Number One, her life is centered around smug pleasure-seeking and captivating handsome, wealthy men. When her most recent lover leaves her, she flies to

Hawaii and, through a series of mishaps with the capricious Hawaiian weather, survives a small plane crash near Nani-lei's home and is taken in by the old lady, who undertakes to nurse her back to health.

In the weeks that follow, each of these characters influences, and is influenced by, the others, and as they grow and change, issues of faith and faithfulness, family, love, and self-sacrifice are explored. I found myself pondering the role of suffering and sacrifice in human spiritual growth, and it seemed to me that Hawaii itself, with its expected pleasures and shockingly unexpected dangers, presented a metaphor for the God Who guides our lives and knows the right mix of both enjoyment and trauma for each of us to achieve the maturity He wants for us.

Hana-lani is highly satisfying as a story, giving us full characters who struggle, each in his own way, through challenging circumstances. It is also satisfying on a spiritual level, bringing the deep questions of permanent values into the relationships and experiences of fallible and often wrong-headed people. I would recommend *Hana-lani* to anyone who will enjoy a sensitively written contemporary story that packs a profound spiritual punch.

Editor's Note: *Hana-lani* recently won Honorable Mention at the San Francisco Book Festival 2011 in the General Fiction category. See <http://www.sanfranciscobookfestival.com>.

Christine Sunderland is Vice-President of the American Church Union and Church Schools Director for the Province. Her web site is at: <http://www.ChristineSunderland.com>.

Our reviewer, Susan Prudhomme is the author of two fantasy novels, The Forest and The Wisdom of Ambrose. Her web site is at: <http://www.susanprudhomme.com/>. ✕.

Summer Camps

Anglican Youth Retreat

St. David's Anglican Youth Retreat will be held this year from June 26th to July 1st at the Jesuit Retreat Center of the Sierras camp, about two hours from Sacramento. St. David's is open to teenagers in the 7th to 12th grades. Details and application at: <http://anglicanyouth.com/>. ✕

Family Camp

DWS Family Camp 2011 will be at Cape Blanco State Park, North of Port Orford, Oregon, from July 21-24th, 2011. All the details about the Diocese of the Western States' Annual Family Camp for 2011 can be found at: <http://dwsfamilycamp.com/>. ✕

St. Martin's Stepping Stones

For nearly five months the parishioners of St. Martin of Tours, Concord, California, gathered after worship service for fellowship and stone making—stepping stones to be specific. Made from concrete, each stepping stone was inscribed with a favorite Bible verse, a symbol (such as a cross), or both. The stones have now been laid in a sidewalk from the street to the church, a path from the outside world to the church.

“We had a great time of fellowship working on the stones. It brought the whole parish together in community and purpose,” said The Rev. Mr. Tom Kelnhofer, Assisting Deacon.

St. Martin's is one of our smaller parishes, but obviously one that is great in Christian spirit! ✠



St. Martin's Stepping Stone Path

Left to right, kneeling: Janey Kelnhofer, Chris Baxter; standing: John Ponessa, Texas Herbst, Betty Beck, Dcn. Kelnhofer, Kathryn Self, Bill Miller, and Don Cantrell. Not pictured: Lyn Leighton, Shirley Dixon, Michelle Sullivan, and Kathryn Miller (photographer).

VISITOR WELCOME FOLDERS



These attractive folders will be handed to those making their first visit to St. George's, Las Vegas, Nevada. Inside the packet is a writing pen bearing St. George's name; a welcome letter from the Rector; a Sunday bulletin with a Visitors Order of Holy Communion booklet; a listing of their various ministries; contact information; photos of a few of their services and events; and a visitor information card. Rector Fr. Gordon Hines said, “Handing visitors this welcome folder is our way of letting them know we are thrilled to have them worship with us, and we hope it will instill in them desire to become a member of our church family. Having a Vestry member or other greeter introduce our visitors to parishioners following the Mass is vital in making newcomers feel welcome. Folders are one thing, but a warm welcome from our members can make all the difference. A follow-up call and informational letter are also extremely important in letting new people know we care about them. Our role as Catholic Christians is to personalize life.” ✠

Calendar

DSWS Synod: June 7-9, 2011. St George's Anglican Church is the host and the Synod will be held at the Suncoast Hotel and Casino, 9090 Alta Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Anglican Youth Retreat: June 26th – July 1st, 2011 at the Jesuit Retreat Center of the Sierra, Applegate, California.

Family Camp: July 21-24th, 2011, at Cape Blanco State Park, North of Port Orford, Oregon.

DES Synod: July 27-28, 2011, hosted by and held at All Saints, Bolingbrook, Illinois.

Christus Rex is the national publication of the Anglican Province of Christ the King.
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