

Christus Rex

Anglican Province of Christ the King

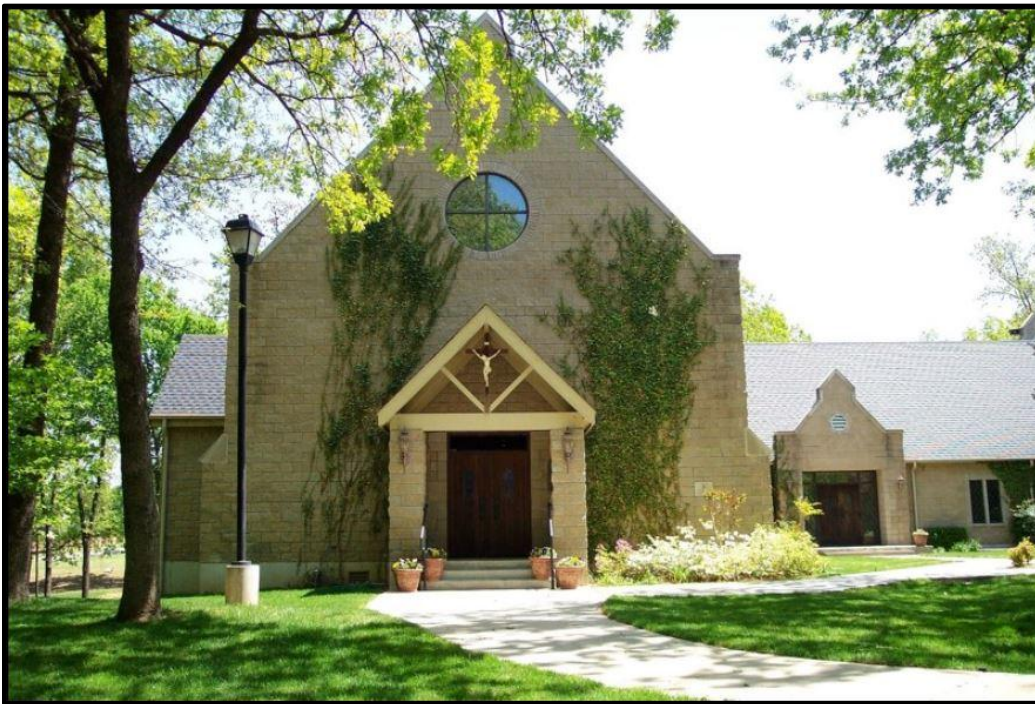


Vol. 9, No. 2

Apostolic Christianity in the Anglican Tradition

April, 2016

A New Hispanic Ministry in Tulsa



Bishop Frank Brulc and his wife, Kathleen, have begun a twofold Hispanic Ministry at All Saints Cathedral in Tulsa. The effort was initiated with an English as a Second language (ESL) class and will soon add a Spanish language Mass.

Kathleen works as the Assistant Principal at San Miguel Middle School of Tulsa and is fluent in Spanish. She first studied Spanish in

high school and then minored in the language in college. Although she has taught Spanish to students of all ages, she had never taught adult English classes before. The class meets every Tuesday evening at the Cathedral and is open to anyone at no cost. Kathleen commented, “We weren’t sure of what the response to classes would be but we wanted to explore this outreach ministry.” Tulsa has a growing Spanish speaking population.

Students have expressed their appreciation for the welcoming and relaxed atmosphere of the class which focuses on conversation. All Saints parishioners support the program by providing supplies, refreshments and joining in class conversations. Children often attend the classes with their parents, making for a lively multigenerational program. While the immediate goal of the class is to provide a service to the community, students have attended Christmas Eve and Ash Wednesday services and often ask questions about Anglicanism. Although it has been advertised only with a banner in front of the church, the class has been well attended, usually with ten to twelve people a session.

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Bishop Brulc, daughter Audra, and wife Kathleen

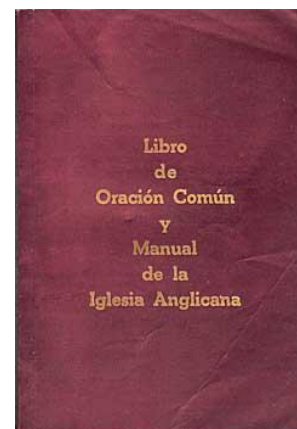
Beginning Easter Sunday and continuing every week, Bishop Brulc will be saying Mass in Spanish at 3:00 p.m. The 1928 Book of Common Prayer in Spanish, available on line, is the liturgy he will follow. Bishop Brulc commented, “Being Hispanic myself (my Mother’s parents were of Mexican/Spanish descent) I have much enthusiasm for this ministry and ask for prayer from all your readers.” Bishop Brulc took three years of Spanish in high school, but is not fluent, so he has been brushing up in preparation for saying the Mass.

Bishop Brulc plans to create Spanish Mass booklets for the congregation. He explained, “The Mass will be a said Mass. However, I would like to add music after we have gotten things underway. And we do not have a Spanish hymnal, but I am hopeful that we may develop this area eventually.”

Bishop Brulc has created his own “Altar Service Book” by printing the services for Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Holy Communion, Baptism, and Confirmation from the Spanish language prayer book. Besides the Mass, he plans eventually to offer Baptisms and Confirmations. “I am hoping that the Lord will bless All Saints parish with new members as we share the Gospel with our community,” said Bishop Brulc.

The Brulc’s daughter, Audra, is also involved in a Spanish language program. She is a third year student at the University of Oklahoma is currently in Uruguay as part of the Study Abroad program. She is an International Studies major with a Spanish language minor. Audra will return to Oklahoma in July. ✕

**Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre;
venga tu reino; hágase tu voluntad,
así en la tierra, como en el cielo.
El pan nuestro de cada día, dánoslo hoy
y perdónanos nuestras deudas,
así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros
deudores.
No nos dejes caer en tentación,
mas líbranos del mal,
porque tuyo es el reino, el poder,
y la gloria, por siempre jamás. Amén.**



The Spanish language prayer book *Libro de Oración Común y Manual de la Iglesia Anglicana* (1973) is available online at: <http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bcp/Chile/intro.html>

The Parish web site is at: www.allsaintstulsa.org

Lenten Mite Box Decorating at St. Francis

By Fr. Benjamin Brown



On the Saturday before Lent, eight parishioners at St Francis of Assisi Anglican Church, Livermore, CA, decorated wooden boxes for their Lenten Mite box offering. With acrylic paint and colored markers, the small, plain boxes were decorated with Lenten motifs, including lambs, crosses, palms, and crowns of thorns. The St Francis parishioners will use their mite boxes during Lent, and then bring them to Mass on Easter Sunday. Some will keep their painted boxes, and others will be donating them to St Francis to be used in following years. St Francis hopes to make this an annual event.

“Everyone did a fabulous job painting their boxes, and they were all finished in about an hour. Amazing!” – Fr. Benjamin Brown, Vicar of St Francis

A few parishioners were unable to attend the Saturday painting session, and will be decorating a box on their own to be used during Lent.

The collection of offerings in small, traditionally blue, cardboard boxes for missionary work sponsored

by the Episcopal Church Women began in 1889. The name “mite boxes” was first used in 1925.



In addition to painting Lenten mite boxes this year, St Francis is meeting for a Lenten Study series during the six Wednesdays in Lent. A simple soup dinner will be followed by Evening Prayer, and then a discussion of a devotional work. The work under discussion will be Tito Colliander’s, *Way of the Ascetic*, which is slowly becoming a classic of



popular lay devotion within both the Eastern and Western Church. ✠

A Great Great Baptism!



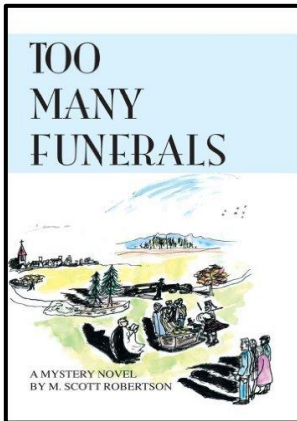
On Saturday afternoon, March 5th, at the Church of the Holy Apostles in Glendale, California, the Rector (Bishop Ashman) says he was privileged to baptize Liam Zion Taylor, Lena McFarlane's **great-grandson**. It was a wonderful moment in the life of the parish.

At left is granddaughter Aisha, Lena and young Liam. . ✠

Clerical Detectives

By Monty Stanford

In college I became hooked on reading mysteries with clerics as the sleuth when a Catholic priest gave me a copy of G. K. Chesterton's *Father Brown*. Since then I have found many others, but almost all have all been Church of England or Roman Catholic. I was delighted to find a new clerical sleuth who is neither CoE nor RC.



Archdeacon Cec Plowright is Anglican and a creation of one of our own, Canon Stanley Sinclair. Writing under the pen name M. Scott Robertson, Canon Sinclair has recently begun re-printing his Cec Plowright mystery series with *Too Many Funerals*.

Archdeacon 'Cec' Plowright is "retired" but serving as rector of St. Mary's in the little town of Ipswich, Saskatchewan. The story opens with Cec conducting a funeral for one of his congregation whose death seemed natural. But this funeral is one of several within the recent past and some of the townspeople remark about 'too many funerals.' Cec recruits the local, young Mountie, Constable Gordon MacArthur and the two of them set out to discover why all these deaths have occurred in such a short time. There are many twists in this warm and witty portrayal of life in rural Saskatchewan, and some reflections on current changes in the national church that will be familiar to American Anglicans. *Too Many Funerals* is a well crafted and well written page turner of a mystery.

Canon Sinclair has also written for newspapers and radio, a musical, *The Medicine Man*, produced officially for Saskatchewan's 75th anniversary. 'Cec' Plowright has been featured in 7 privately published mysteries, and Canon Sinclair has 8 other novels in print and 6 non-fiction works, and has written the libretto for a new opera, *The Plains of Abraham*. This is in addition to a long and busy life as an Anglican priest. He has lived in Canada, Devon (U.K.) and California. He is married, a grandfather, and lives in Victoria, B.C., where he still assists at St. Mark's, an APCK church. ✠



St Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College

Online Courses for Spring, 2016

Our Province's seminary, St Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Theological College, will offer a new online lecture course and a continuing course for interested clergy and laity this Spring. All lectures are pre-recorded and then posted on either YouTube or Vimeo (commercial-free) at a rate of one per week. Both classes are designed for postulants preparing for canonical exams as well as clergy who have not had a formal course in these subjects. But they will also work well for clergy seeking a refresher and for laity who want an introduction to Church history and doctrine.

The fee for those taking either course with written assignments is \$200. The fee to audit either course is \$50. The textbooks can be purchased from Amazon or bookfinders.com.

Please email Fr. Jeffrey Smith to sign up and to obtain instructions for access and for tuning in: frjeff1@qwestoffice.net

Please send your fees directly to SJAATC, P.O. Box 40020, Berkeley, CA, 94704.



Patristics (Part Two) will be taught by The Reverend Dr. Paul Russell, Parish of Christ the King, Washington, D.C. ***Eleven Lectures***

There is no better way to learn the doctrine of the Christian religion than to study its development in the writings of the ancient Fathers. This second eleven-week course of a two-part series will introduce the student to the post-Nicene Fathers (after Constantine), who give us the developed formulations of the doctrines of the Trinity, Incarnation, Atonement, Church authority, Baptism, and the Eucharist that we are still working with today.

The readings are from Stuart G. Hall's *Doctrine and Practice in the Early Church*, 2nd ed., and J. Stevenson and W.H.C. Fred's *A New Eusebius: Documents Illustrating the History of the Church to AD 337*, SPCK 1987 (rev. ed.) (from Part One) and also the third volume in the set, J. Stevenson and W.H.C. Fred's *Creeks, Councils and Controversies: Documents Illustrating the History of the Church AD 337-461*, SPCK 1989 (rev. ed.). ***Begins April 15 and ends July 1.***



Church History: 1300 — 1680 (continuing for those already enrolled) taught by The Reverend Jeffrey Smith, St Luke's, Redding, California ***Ten Lectures***

This middle course in the Church history sequence looks at a turning point in Christendom: the Protestant Reformation and Catholic response to it. It continues for those already enrolled, but one may begin it now. This course should also help the student to view the Reformation of the Church of England in its broader European context.

The readings for those who desire to do them will be from John D. Woodbridge and Frank A. James III's *Church History: Volume Two*, and Henry Bettenson's *Documents of the Christian Church*.

Patristics (Part One) taught by The Reverend Dr. Paul Russell, Parish of Christ the King, Washington, D.C. ***Eleven Lectures***

Anyone who missed this course last term is welcome to begin it now. Same price and arrangements as *Part Two*.

Church or Nature? (Why I Love the Anglican Way)

By Susan Prudhomme

I was talking recently with two friends, both of whom I know to be committed, faithful Christians – and both of whom expressed deep reservations about the Church’s authority. They agreed, rather vehemently, that in church they felt constrained by a kind of smug self-assurance about how to be a Christian, and that there was no room for honest questioning or individual variation.

I think a lot of people feel this way, and there are some good reasons for it. I, too, have some arguments with my church. The difference between me and my two friends is that they have chosen to separate themselves from church. Both say they find a closeness with God by being in nature that is more fulfilling to them than sitting in church.

I, too, find closeness with God by being in nature. But I also love to be in church. Why?

The church service, which for me is the Anglican liturgy, is a time of refreshment for my spirit, when the history of God’s love for man is rehearsed and expounded, when there is a time for praise and penitence, for remembering and looking forward, a time to solemnly celebrate Jesus’ self-giving to us. It is a time to share all this with others, laity and clergy alike, whose lives are as imperfect as mine, knowing we all belong to him despite our messiness.

Most important of all, the Eucharist is a window between heaven and earth, between divine perfection and human fallibility. When the bread and wine are consecrated, I sense the divine hand reaching through to touch them and make them gifts of holiness for us. We receive them in concrete, physical form, into our own bodies, making us one with him – our

humanity with his divinity. We sense God in nature, but we receive him into us in Communion.

All of this overrides arguments with this or that rule or doctrine. These concerns rise and fall, and may sometimes be the result of the hierarchy’s human fallibility – their fears, or obtuseness, or pride. But the hierarchy is not the final arbiter, nor am I, nor is any human. These concerns rise and fall, but the liturgy has remained constant for many centuries, and it is the liturgy that points me directly toward that window into heaven and prepares me to receive the holy gifts.

Yes, there is a lot of imperfection in any church. What else would you expect from a human institution?

And yes, there is a lot of truth in any church: truth about us, truth about God. What else would you expect from a divine institution? ✠

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

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The APCK Provincial web site is available on the internet at <http://www.anglicanpck.org>