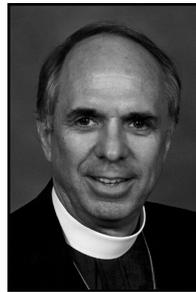




Sin Is Such An Ugly Word

BY FR. JAMES, DEAN INTERIM



Sin is such an ugly word. Oh, what a joy it would be to ditch it. It continually calls us to wrestle with our relationship with and our standing before God. If only we could see sin as a shortcoming or lack of gift. Indeed, the concept of sin as “missing the mark” might well lend itself to that interpretation. Like a person running track or jumping hurdles, we either make it, or we don’t, and as much of the possibility comes from our genes as it does from our behavior.

I remember all too well the time in my own life when the concept of sin gradually moved from being one of clear understanding to a meaningless construct used only to enhance an already overburdened psyche, that inner voice which speaks continually to us all.

And then I began to wrestle with the nature of sin in my own experience. Whenever I did something that felt wrong, I began to realize that it had grown out of a self-absorption that ended with my looking down my nose at someone. It was like the all too common habit so many of us have when we see someone handicapped or with a strange birthmark. Twice-cursed they are because of the physical or mental anomaly and then by the glances and comments of others. When I am like that I am measuring someone else by my own sufficiency. Gradually, I began to re-define sin. That definition has taken the following shape: To sin is to act as if I am the center of the universe, when by definition only God can be.

Sinning is not being real, it is acting. How often I act when it is acceptable to be myself. “Acting as if.” So much of life is spent attempting to present ourselves and others with an image which does not reflect reality, which has little if any integrity, and may be an out-and-out lie. That may be true for the way I fill out my income tax, or of the pretense I create when speaking with someone I want to impress, or with the pompous oration I may inflict on others in the area of politics or theology or some other favorite soapbox. It is all too likely that it will surface in a relationship and bear on treating someone with less than the respect that we as Christians are called on to exhibit – preferring someone else before ourselves. “I” become the important one, my world revolves around me, I am the one to be considered, I, I, I. But you see, only God can be the center of the universe, so any of these behaviors, all of these behaviors are sins against God. Whenever I act “as if,” I am acting “as if” I am God. No one knows better than I when that is happening. Sin is so common that when I stop and think of it today, I blush at my own temerity – sin as a meaningless construct, indeed.

Lent is that refreshing season when I can - without any of the sentiment or idealizations which may characterize Christmas or Epiphany or Easter - simply recognize myself for who I am. “Missing the mark” for sure, but not in some casual, unimportant context, rather in pitting myself against God and the rest of creation. It is when I see this that I realize that it is my sin that put Jesus on the cross. It is my sin that crucifies him afresh day by day. And then I see why the resurrection and Easter are so important for me, and for every person in the world. For it is the relationship that is possible with Jesus which allows me to be seen by God through the lens of Jesus. It is not baptism, which is the sacrament of cleansing and new life, but trusting in Jesus first, foremost, and always, that makes that possible. *(continued on page 2)*

- Weekly Services -

Sunday

8:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist
10:15 p.m. - Holy Eucharist
5:00 p.m. - An Order for
Evening and
Holy Eucharist

Wednesday

12:05 p.m. - Holy Eucharist

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri

12:05 p.m. - Daily Office



The Lenten Array offers meditation focus for the crucifixion of Christ.

The Right Rev. Barry R. Howe, Bishop of West Missouri; The Very Rev. Dr. James Alan Hubbard, Dean Interim; The Rev. Benjamin J. Newland, Associate Priest; The Rev. Dr. John O’Hearne, Assisting Priest; The Rev. Bryan England, Deacon; The Rev. Linda Yeager, Deacon; The Very Rev. J. Earl Cavanaugh, Dean Emeritus; Mr. John L. Schaefer, Canon Musician

Conversation and Dessert Anyone?

In February, Fr. James began meeting with small groups of parishioners in the homes of our Cathedral members.



The purpose of these meetings is to allow Fr. James to become acquainted with persons in the parish as well as for parishioners to share their visions and/or concerns for the Cathedral.

If you have not received an invitation to one of these meetings by April 5th, please call Kathy Jennings at (913) 722-5232.

If you did receive an invitation and were unable to attend on the date you were invited you may also call and reschedule a date.

(Sin is such an ugly word...continued from page 1) Baptismal regeneration is an old heresy. Marriage is a sacrament too, but unless you make of the marriage something wonderful, the sacrament will soon be lost to sight and memory.

Sin is an ugly word, but when you and I, sinners always, confess that sin, we are forgiven and are seen through the love of Jesus for us in what can only be one of the great wonders of the universe. The frog has become the prince whose identity is that he is loved by Christ. And oh, for one, I am so thankful that Lent is always followed by Easter.

A Time for Growth

BY JOAN BOCK, NURSERY COORDINATOR

We are a lively bunch! Spring has sprung and our little ones are full of energy. Lent is a time to grow – in faith, in love for God, in self-understanding. It is a time to grow in closeness to Jesus as we consider his great love for us.

A plant can be a wonderful reminder of this growth. Consider planting seeds that will sprout during the coming weeks as encouraging, visible signs of growth in faith, love and hope; while following the Lord's journey to the cross.

Here is what you will need: seeds such as uncooked lima beans, marigold, or other fast-sprouting varieties; cotton or paper towel, plastic bag (zip-lock) and water.

Place seed inside wet cotton ball or towel. Put inside plastic bag. Tape to sunny window and keep moist.

Look at the plant regularly during Lent, and consider that, as the plant grows, so can love for Christ. Allow his love to be re-experienced during this season.

Trinity Mixed Choir to Sing in Festival

BY JOHN L. SCHAEFER, CANON MUSICIAN

The Trinity Mixed Choir will travel to Independence to the Community of Christ Temple on Saturday, April 12, to sing in a Choral Festival.

The 7:30 event features the Kansas City Symphony Chorus, the Kansas City Children's Chorus, the Heartland Men's Chorus, the Fine Arts Chorale, and Choirs from UMKC and Johnson County Community College.

Choirs will sing individually and will join together to sing a new work by Ben

Allaway. The event is open to the public without charge and promises to be a wonderful experience for all attending.

Other concerts in April include the William Baker Festival Singers on Tuesday, April 15 at 8:00, the Kansas Children's Chorus on Sunday, April 27 at 2:00 and a recital by Tammie Farrie, tubaist, on Monday, April 28 at 7:00.

On May 1st at 5:30 the Mixed Choir will sing Choral Evensong to open the North American Deans Conference.



Led by Canon Schaefer, the Trinity Mixed Choir members spend time and care to perfect the hymns, anthems and service participation; which are integral parts of corporate worship.

The Angelus

Articles from all parish small groups are welcome.

Deadline for final submission of materials for the next issue is

April 14.

You may submit your articles via e-mail: communications@ghtc-kc.org or fax: (816) 474-8262.

Retreat Provides Renewal and Fellowship for Women

BY LINDA YEAGER, DEACON

“Healing, Humor, and Hope” was the theme for the fifth annual Cathedral Women’s Retreat. Twenty-four women spent the weekend of February 21-23 at the Franciscan Prayer Center in Inde-



Pat Martin places a flower in the vase, honoring a woman who has influenced her life.

pendence, sharing meditation, fellowship and worship.

The retreat committee developed the theme, and members of the committee led the meditations. Titles of the meditations included *Feast of the Foremothers; Eating on the Mountaintop; Taking Care | A Feast of Comfort; and You Who Are the Gift.*

Workshops were also offered, covering topics such as T’ai Chi Chih, Journaling, Centering Prayer, Lectio Divina, Stations of the Cross and Liturgical Dance.

Committee members included Lenette Johnson, Leona Schaefer, Joyce Morrow, Bunny Reefer, Whitney Kretsinger, Marnell Sparks, Lucy Ann Fleischman, and Linda Yeager. The retreat will be offered again the weekend of May 16-18.

Leigh Dennert, Christina Killmer, Joyce Morrow and Cheryl McDonald enjoy a moment of fellowship. Their praise garments are draped around their necks.



Laughter and fellowship highlighted much of the retreat. Caroline Mossie and Whitney Kretsinger share both.



Cathedral Continues Support for AIDS Walk

BY DAN CAMPBELL, OSL

In this 15th year of the Walk’s service to the community, we continue in our commitment as walkers and pledgers. Saturday, May 3, will find members and friends walking at Mill Creek on the Plaza, reaffirming our care and support. Funds raised for this cause are locally disbursed. Co-captains this year are Dan Campbell and Sandra Hornbeck.

The Social Action Committee is also in support of AIDS Walk 2003. You may contact any of these for further information.

Best of all – sign up and get a pledge form following a Service or Lenten Academy session, or make a donation at the table if you can’t join the walk crew. Take the next step!

Dan Campbell is a 15 year AIDS survivor.



Last year, thousands of caring people participated and raised over \$325,000 for the men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS in our hometown.

Wonder, Love, and Praise

BY JOHN L. SCHAEFER, CANON MUSICIAN

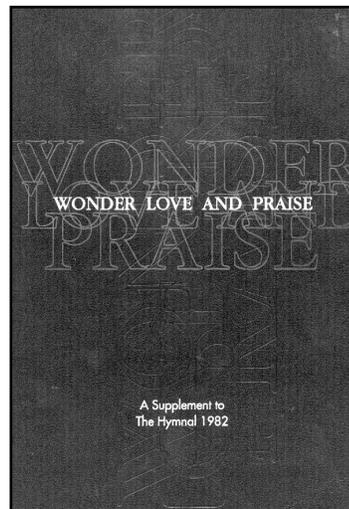
There is a really well written preface in the front of the supplemental hymnal, “Wonder, Love, and Praise,” which explains the rationale behind its production.

What it means for our congregation and countless others across America is that there is a hymnal which enriches our worship by making available music and hymnody from around the world, plus stellar new settings of some of the canticles and music for Eucharist.

The Choirs will continue singing material from the hymnal and they hope the congregation will join in.

It will not be possible to learn all that is therein; indeed, we have only sung a small percentage of what there is in Hymnal 1982.

What fun it can be to have a go with all we sing as a congregation in worship.



April Fools (Who is God Laughing at?)

BY THE REV. BENJAMIN J. NEWLAND, ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The Reverend Charles H. Christopher, Jr. was the priest at the very first church I joined. His first Sunday at All Saints' Episcopal as Rector was my very first Sunday at All Saints' Episcopal as a newly minted Christian, fresh from a summer-camp-inspired vow to join a church.

The first thing I noticed about Father Chuck (sometimes we called him Friar Chuck, but never The Reverend Charles H. Christopher, Jr.) was his ability to preach a good sermon. Even now, after more than a decade worth of years during which he figured largely in my ordination process, his sermons are what I appreciate most about him, what I most sought to emulate as I thought to become a priest.

One of the sermons that I remember particularly began with a joke. There is nothing unusual about this of course, many preachers begin with a joke, and occasionally even manage to make the joke apropos of the point of their sermon, assuming they have one. Chuck was no different; jokes figured prominently in his work, especially tortured, awful puns, which he could never resist no matter what the context. This sermon, however, began with more than the one joke. I don't remember what the jokes were, nothing special to be sure, but I remember that they just kept coming. Like Garrison Keillor and his annual joke show, the puns and one liners kept flowing until you laughed at the sheer ridiculousness of the volume, if not at the punch lines themselves.

Eventually the jokes came to an end and the point was made. I recall now that the sermon in question was an Easter sermon, and Fr. Chuck told us that in the Russian Orthodox Church, there was a tradition of telling jokes at the Easter dinner, for what was Easter if not the greatest joke of all time, the apocalyptic punch line to well set-up joke that God has played on the devil?

It is an integral part of my personal philosophy of life that almost everything can be laughed at. This can, at times, be a perilous moral position to take, as some things (and they tend to be very big things) in life are quite serious. Death and poverty, prejudice and oppression, addiction and hate; none are laughing matters, and unless you are on the suffering side

of any of these words, laughter and humor have no place.

And yet, for most of us, for most of the time, we take far too seriously most of what happens to us in life. Or to put it more bluntly, we take ourselves far too seriously. Laughter is the best medicine, or so I've heard, and I believe it. Laughter is a balm to suffering, a disarming of pride, a refusal of insult, the exclamation point of an epiphany, and a profound profession of the ignorance with which we stand before the mystery of life. Laughter is profoundly human.

That laughter is fundamentally human can be further demonstrated by our feelings towards dolphins. Most of us believe that dolphins are, after humans, the most intelligent creatures on the planet. (On bad days, I occasionally reverse that order.) While for marine biologists this belief might be grounded in scientific observation, for most of us I think it stems from the fact that dolphins appear to be smiling, and that they make laughing sounds, and that they like to play in the wakes of our boats. Of all animals they must be the smartest, we reason, because of all animals they are the most like us: they laugh.

This uniquely human ability to laugh is the subject of much speculation in the realms of science fiction. The peculiar characters of Spock and Data in the Star Trek TV series are peculiar in large part because of their inability to understand humor and to laugh. Ironically, much of the humor in these TV shows comes from the interactions with these humorless characters, as if the only way we can explain the failure to understand laughter is to laugh at it.

In Robert A. Heinlein's 1960's classic, "Stranger in a Strange Land," the Man From Mars has the greatest trouble understanding laughter out of all human emotion. Indeed, while he can imitate the sound of a laugh, even love is easier for him to grasp than laughter. In the end, he learns to laugh by watching monkeys in the zoo laugh at another monkey who has fallen and hurt himself. Laughter, discov-

ers the Man From Mars, is humanity's defense against the tragic. This dark side of humor is familiar to us all. We have all laughed a bitter laugh, watched a black comedy, and participated in gallows humor.

I think the Russian Orthodox Church has an insight into Easter that we can learn from. A good Easter Worship always makes me feel like I can barely contain a laugh, that if my grin got any bigger I might explode with the hilarious joy of it all. Yet even Easter joy is not immune to gallows humor. The resurrection of Our Lord is inseparable from his crucifixion, the borderless exuberance of Easter bound to the utter tragedy of Good Friday.

God may indeed have perpetrated the ultimate one liner on the devil in the Easter miracle. But if you, like me, cannot quite accept the reality of a bright red, cartoon rendered devil as the personification of evil completely apart from the human race, then you, like me, will have to admit that the evil represented by the devil is in the hearts of each and every

one of us. And if that's true, if the evil in the world is a part of the human condition, and not some separate, self-willed demon, then during the great joke of Easter God is actually laughing at us.

It makes more sense like that, in a convoluted sort of way. I imagine God in many different forms, but none of those forms are

frivolous. The laughter of God, to my way of thinking, is not a light-hearted thing, but rather a fierce assertion of joy in the face of overwhelming sadness.

It is rare in my experience, but most of us have laughed ourselves into tears, and some of us have laughed until we were actually crying. That is what Easter must be like for God, I think: that empty place between hilarious laughter and soul wrenching sobs, that terrible gulf between Friday and Sunday.

When faced with the tragi-comic reality of human history, we all, God included, can only laugh or cry, or sometimes both.

*God may indeed
have perpetrated
the ultimate
one liner on
the devil in the
Easter miracle.*

In The Shadow of War

A PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We, your bishops, write to you in perilous times. We do not know what the next days will bring. War and the threat of war make many afraid for the welfare of all that they love, and all those whom they hold dear. Such fear gnaws at the edges of consciousness and can shake the foundations upon which we have built our lives and our communities.

We do know that the certainty of God's goodness and faithfulness can never be shaken. In a time of great violence and anxiety we, as Christians, are not to acquiesce to fear; we are to witness to the reconciling love of God.

We are aware that within the community of faith there are a variety of opinions about the course our nation is pursuing. Nevertheless, Christians are called by Jesus to regard all persons as neighbors, to reach out in mercy, and to pray for one another and for our enemies.

We remind ourselves now of those who need our prayers and concerns: all who will be caught up in this conflict, our military personnel including our chaplains, their families, people who suffer for conscience sake, Arab Americans of all faiths, followers of Islam around the world - the great majority of whom share a longing for peace, and the people of Iraq, among whom are more than one million Christians.

Our prayers must continue for George, our President, and for the leaders of the nations, that they will make wise and measured decisions that will protect the innocent and will result in a swift and just peace, and the full restoration of the land and people of Iraq.

In this season of conflict and danger, our Church is called to be a community where all people can join in prayer for peace and healing in God's beloved world, for loved ones and those in harm's way, and for the assurance of our Lord's merciful presence and providence in the midst of crisis.

As your bishops, we commit ourselves to adopt a discipline of fasting and prayer for the return of peace. We commend such a discipline to each of you. We urge our congregations to open their doors for prayer and to be places where all can find the hospitality and hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

In all times and circumstances, our faith is set upon the firm foundation of the love of Christ. We reaffirm our confidence that "neither death nor life...nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38,39)

In these difficult times, may God give us the strength to witness to the Divine Compassion. *The House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church* • March 18, 2003

Children Celebrate Easter

By VALERIE JOHNSON

Church school classes will not be in session on Easter Sunday. However, some fun activities have been planned for this very special day!

A traditional 'flowering' of the cross will take place in Haden Hall. Children are invited to bring flowers with them to Haden Hall to decorate the cross. They will then follow the



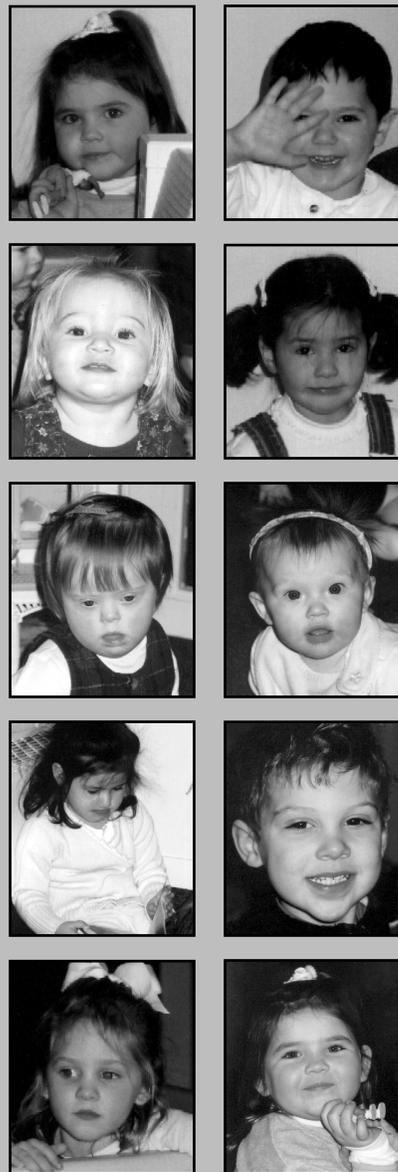
beautifully decorated cross into the nave after the sermon and join their parents at the service.

Following the 10:15 a.m. service, an Easter egg hunt will begin. Children should bring a basket or container to church on Easter to collect their eggs and goodies.

Details of the hunt will be given at the service.

Peek-a-Boo!

from the Cathedral Nursery



The Easter Bunny Needs Your Help!

Please donate Easter candy to the Easter basket in the north tower right outside of the nave. Then join the children on Easter Sunday as they search for the eggs that the Easter Bunny has hid overnight.



Pledge Report

BY STEVE MOORE, EMC CO-CHAIRMAN

The 2003 pledge campaign is winding down but it's not too late to make a financial commitment in support of our many Cathedral community ministries.

We continue to be blessed by the time, talent, and treasure of so many friends and family here at the Cathedral.

Please consider making a pledge if you have not done so. By meeting our annual pledge goal, we can assure a strong and vibrant spiritual home for all future generations.

Thank you to all who support our growing Cathedral ministries.

EMC 2003 PLEDGE REPORT

As of March 13, 2003 pledges received vs. this time last year are as follows:

2003 254 Pledges for \$552,302

2002 258 Pledges for \$569,497

Pledges needed to reach 2003 goal: \$37,388

2003 Pledge Goal: \$600,000

Grace and Holy Trinity's Financial Status

BY MICHAEL THOMAS, TREASURER

The monthly financials reflect a true cash basis budget based on a three-year trend. February was a good month for us. We were on target for income and continued to hold down expenses.

With spring just around the corner, our parish blooms with anticipation for a year of spiritual growth. Without your financial support, we would not be able to continue this mission.

Thank you to everyone who helps to make this possible.

FEBRUARY	BUDGETED YTD	ACTUAL YTD	VARIANCE
INCOME	\$ 120,378	\$ 118,171	\$ (2,207)
EXPENSES	\$ 117,910	\$ 115,626	\$ 2,284
VARIANCE	\$ 2,468	\$ 2,545	

Affairs of The Cathedral Addressed by Vestry Members

A SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY VESTRY MEETING

Following a presentation by Fr. John O'Hearne, the Vestry received reports concerning Commercial Property Insurance, results to date of the Every Member Canvass, the Dean's Conference preparation, the Social Action Committee, and January financials.

Actions Taken:

- Approved the Social Action Committee's requested permission to initiate a lay led emergency assistance program using monies both budgeted for them and received from the Dean's Discretionary account.

- David Barker and John Schaefer, representing the music department asked for \$225,000 to repair, restore and upgrade the organ, the money to be taken from the Faeth bequest over a period of five years. Resolution approved. This work will begin in January of 2004.

- Approved with gratitude Harriet Bigham's gift to the Cathedral of a painting of the Tiffany rood screen and the reredos with the understand-

ing that note cards would be made from the painting. Costs of up to \$1000 were approved, the proceeds from the cards being used to replace the costs, following which the revenues generated would be managed by the Bookstore.

- Approved \$8000 for new flooring in Haden Hall and a new door to the entrance on to the Diocesan Close, the money to come from the 2% Capital Appreciation Fund, and a new Draft Induction System for Founders Hall with \$3042 coming from the Broadway Property Fund.

- Instituted a question time suggested by Geoff Logan giving up to 10 minutes within each meeting for questions seeking information or clarification of issues from parishioners and vestry members.

- Tabled a resolution concerning nepotism.

The Dean announced that:

- Sergio Moreno was slated to become our new Communications Co-

ordinator. He comes with an undergraduate degree in theology, great graphics skills, experience in working in a similar position in a church with a one hundred member staff, and a new bride, Emily.

- Doyle White has submitted a friendly resignation as Stewardship Chairman after 14 years. He was commended and thanked by the Dean for his years of service.

- The Vestry retreat was finalized to be held the 25-27 of April.

- Sandra Stogsdill, our 10 hour a week Christian Education Coordinator, has resigned to give more time to her own children.

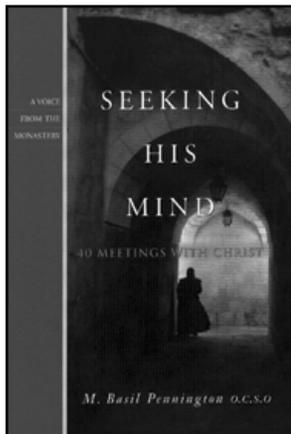
- An Education Committee is being formed to advise the Dean on the future shape of the educational program from the nursery years through junior and senior high youth.

- A committee to set up procedures to be followed in emergencies is being formed.

- Fr. Ben is preparing a liturgy in the event of the outbreak of war.

Resting in God's Presence

BY THE REV. LINDA YEAGER, DEACON



Seeking His Mind: 40 Meetings With Christ
by M. Basil Pennington O.C.S.O.

"Our aim is to have the 'mind of Christ,' to respond to reality in the way our Lord and Master does – to see things as God sees them, to share in the divine consciousness."

Basil Pennington is well known to those who practice Centering Prayer, the practice of holy listening. In fact, his book, *Centering Prayer*, has sold over a million cop-

ies. He has now written a book about lectio divina, the practice of holy reading. In *Seeking His Mind: 40 Meetings With Christ*, Pennington offers forty scripture passages from the life of Christ, paired with meditations which he has written.

He describes lectio divina as "simple, but not easy." The process itself comes from the Benedictine-Cistercian tradition and began in monasteries in the sixth century. The goal is movement toward God by resting, beyond words, in God's presence.

One begins lectio divina by slowly and thoughtfully reading a passage of scripture, then rereading until a word, phrase or sentence engages one's attention. Next is reflection on the words that have spoken to a person, until a prayer emerges. Finally, one rests in God's holy presence.

Among the 40 scriptures are many from the gospels and from the letters of Paul. The meditations, which range from one to three paragraphs in length, are thoughtful and pertinent. For example, in Pennington's meditation, Luke's passage concerning the road to Emmaus, he says: "You never know: you may share a word with your loved ones or friends that the Lord will use to change and enrich the rest of their lives...the Lord has his way of using our words to bear his message of love."

This book would be a helpful way for a beginner to practice lectio divina. It is also a powerful tool for those who are experienced in this practice. It is available in the Cathedral Bookstore.

Attention New Members

A retreat will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 12, at the Cathedral for those who have attended Episcopal 101 (Catechumenate) and are seeking Rites of Confirmation, Reception, or are reaffirming their Baptismal vows.

This day will invite questions, reflection; and provide time for instruction and rehearsal for the Great Easter Vigil. Please be sure to have your reservation in to Valerie Johnson at the Cathedral office.

They're Coming to Kansas City...

BY CANDY McDOWELL



50TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OF NORTH AMERICAN DEANS

In less than a month, members of the Conference of North American Deans will be arriving in Kansas City for their 50th annual gathering.

With the groundwork laid for the conference, the Planning Committee's focus is now on recruiting volunteers to help with preparing for and hosting various events during the May 1 through May 4 conference.

Our volunteer needs range from setting tables on Thursday afternoon to being bus tour guides on Saturday afternoon to preparing food items for the Sunday Coffee Hour-Brunch.

Volunteer opportunities are available to the entire congregation. Those interested in preparing food for and/or serving after the 10:15 Sunday service, please contact Janece Buckner at (816) 795-1325 or Jodie Kavanaugh at (816) 795-1264.

To sign up for any other of the conference volunteer opportunities, please contact John Brown at (913) 432-1144.

**GRACE & HOLY TRINITY
CATHEDRAL
BOOKSTORE**

For Easter and Confirmation we have a nice selection of:

- Prayer Books and Bibles
- Hand and Hammer sterling silver charms and bracelets
- Pewter labyrinths
- Wooden finger labyrinths
- DemDaCo Angel Figurines
- Trinity Collection sterling silver crosses
- Anglican Prayers Beads

If there is a gift or item you're looking for that we do not carry, please let us know, we'll try to find it for you.

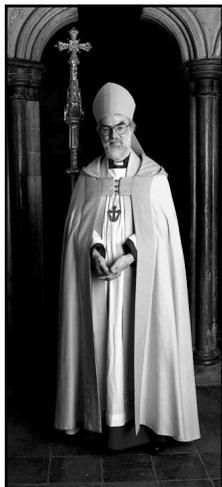
'Riches of the Catholic Faith' at Canterbury

TAKEN FROM "THE LIVING CHURCH," MARCH 23, 2003

Only the presence of modern technology betrayed the fact that the February 27 enthronement of the Most Rev. Rowan Williams was not occurring in another century when cathedrals and poetry dominated the life of most major cities in Europe.

With near perfect pilgrimage weather outside the mother church of the Anglican Communion, two groups of protestors – one opposed to a proposed U.S.-led attack against Iraq and the other, smaller group, opposed to what they believe are the unbiblical sexuality views of the new Archbishop of Canterbury – competed with each other for television coverage and also for a good viewing spot with a much larger outdoor crowd who had missed out on one of the 2,400 coveted invitations. A sophisticated security operation prevented those outside from getting too close.

Meanwhile, inside Canterbury Cathedral, representatives of government, members of nobility and those fortunate enough to have received an invitation watched as church leaders from both within and beyond the Anglican Communion participated in an ancient ceremony mingled with a sense of Celtic poetry and mystery.



Archbishop Williams
ACNS Photo

February 27 was also the feast day of the Rev. George Herbert (1593-1633). During his relatively short life he sought to be a dedicated country parson and Archbishop Williams also praised the Welsh poet for the inclusive way he helped shape the Anglican understanding of the Christian faith.

One of the high points of the service occurred when the new archbishop swore an oath on the Canterbury Gospels, a manuscript presented to St. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury, by Pope Gregory the Great in the 6th century.

After taking the oath, he moved to the throne of St. Augustine, where he was encouraged to "open to all people the riches of the Catholic faith."

Archbishop Williams, a Welshman, is the first Anglican leader from outside England since the church broke away from Rome in the 16th century.

He promised to build on his record of balancing introspective theology with social activism that truly defies liberal-conservative categorization.

New York, No Hassle

BY VALERIE JOHNSON, ADULT EDUCATION

The Trinity Institute will hold its 34th National Conference in New York this year. The theme is "Shaping Holy Lives: Benedictine Spirituality in the Contemporary World."

A webcast of the conference will make it possible for you to watch from the privacy of your home or join a group of viewers at GHTC on April 28-29.

St. Benedict's Rule has been shaping holy lives for over 1500 years. One would hardly expect such an ancient spiritual practice to have much relevance today.

Nevertheless, Benedictine spirituality seems uniquely suited for contemporary seekers.

The viewing session of this conference will begin at 11:00 AM (CST) at GHTC with a globally broadcast Eucharist to the Anglican Communion celebrated by The Right Rev. Mark Sisk. The Most Rev. Rowan Williams, 104th Archbishop of Canterbury, will preach.

Other featured speakers include: Joan Chittister, OSB; Kathleen Norris; and Laurence Freeman, OSB; over the two-day conference. Monday's session concludes at 4:45 PM. Tuesday's webcast runs from 8:30 a.m. through 12:30 p.m. For more information about the speakers and topics, go to www.ectn.org. To reserve your Kansas City seat at this national conference, call the Cathedral office.



Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral
Phone: (816) 474-8260 Fax: (816) 474-8262
Web: www.ghtc-kc.org

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 412048
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