Anglican Province of America

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BISHOP'S EPISTLE

At this time of year as we approach the Lenten Season, we read articles and newsletters telling us about the importance of the season and what it means. We get suggestions as to how to make the best use of this penitential time. All of these words can be helpful as we make our plans for our Lenten Disciplines. It can be amusing to hear people talk about what they plan to give up during the weeks of Lent leading up to the Easter celebration. Some of this can be self-serving, e.g. think of the weight I can lose or how much money I can save on food.

Jesus reminded his disciples in Matt. 6:1-18 "... when you do some act of charity, do not announce it with a flourish of trumpets as the hypocrites do in the synagogue and in the streets to win admiration from men... when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, they love to say their prayers standing up in the synagogue and at the street corners, for everyone to see them...So too when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites; they make their faces unsightly so that other people may see that they are fasting...."

Why go without lunch and then plan a lobster dinner? Why go without your cocktail and then plan a party to end all parties on Easter evening? Why refrain from smoking if abstinence from it gives you a bad temper, makes you impossible to live with for six weeks, moaning and groaning and full of self-pity the whole time? Why spoil penitence with depression instead of hope? Why assume that penitence is alien to you? Why economize if you keep the rewards of the economy for yourself instead of giving it away?

Our Lord recalls, again and again, the need to be sensitive to the sufferings of others. Our Lenten Appeal for our Anglican Province goes to the outreach of the church and is about self-denial as we seek to help others less fortunate. Our lunch money or going out to eat once or twice a week can soon amount to something considerable if given to help those in need. But, it is not just hunger for food, but hunger for love. Is there someone who wants our love, in whose face we shut the door of our hearts? Is there someone who is being starved for our affections, when with an effort of the will on our part we can open our heart to that soul? Is there someone who has offended us and whom we resent for it? Now is the time to reconsider and open your heart for restoration and reconciliation of a broken relationship.

Christ wants us to grow into his fullness, into the fullness of his abundant life. He wants us for himself, as a preparation for our companionship in eternity with him, as he created us to be, which we are not. At least not yet. He does not want us with the "fatty degeneration" of the soul from which none of us are free. Our pride... our self-pity... our preferences... our bitterness... our jealousies... our resentments ...prevent that growth and until we love him more and ourselves less, we shall never grow.

God loves a cheerful giver, and he wants us to give ourselves to Him and each other in the joyful liberty that comes from our closeness to him.

May you have a blessed and prosperous Lenten Season,

+Walter

2021 Synods Update - Possible Date Change Bishop Jones noted that the dates of July 19-23, 2021 for the DEUS, DMA, DOW, and APA Synods may need to change due to hotel issues. Watch your emails for more updates.

Lenten Appeal

This past year of battling the Corona Virus has taken its toll on churches in general and our Church is no exception. It has been sad to look at so many of the APA as well as other of our G-4 Communion churches and see small congregations as so many are fearful of being in church. Most of our churches have been to maintain the social attempting recommendations of the State and Federal governments but keep their doors open and Mass and other activities. Still, there is a fear of exposure. We pray that as we have more people who are in compromised physical conditions get their vaccine, the more likely they will wish to return to their normal routine including going to church.

The Domestic Mission Board has been discussing the possibilities for the recipient of this year's Lenten Appeal. The decision has been made to designate St. James' Church, Gloucester, Virginia as the 2021 recipient. It is a small but faithful congregation with area demographics that are increasing along with a historic glebe house and outbuildings with 65 acres of mostly undeveloped property. We will once again be seeking to raise \$100,000 for the Appeal to be distributed incrementally to St. James. We are praying that the Lord will lay it upon the heart of one of our young priests who would be willing to take on the challenge of building St. James' Church.

We need everyone to participate in making this goal a reality. God has truly blessed us as the APA, let us show our love to him in return.

Possibilities for DMA and DOW merger into new Diocese.

The DMA and DOW are discussing the opportunity currently present to create a new and unified Diocese that, if successful, will be the presence of the APA west of the Mississippi River all the way to the Pacific Coast and south to the border of Mexico.

The process is rapidly progressing, including the collating and merging of the Canons of both Dioceses, arranging for an expanded and merged

Standing Committee and Board of Examining Chaplains, as well as gathering ideas about how such a large geographic Diocese would function and sustain its viability and presence.

It is hoped that this unification effort will be ratified by both Dioceses at their upcoming 2021 Synods, to be held in Dunwoody, GA. After ratification, the proposed merger of the Dioceses as a new entity (likely called the "Diocese of the Central and Western States") will be submitted to the Provincial Synod. Following this acceptance, God Willing, the new Diocese will convene after Provincial Synod and elect its new Standing Committee, etc., and develop a new and robust website as well as other social media pages.

Please pray for this effort of unity in the APA, as it will not only aid in the mission for this large geography, but also pool resources and ministries that will better assist us to expand and grow while working with our fellow G4 jurisdictions.

Winter Clergy Conference January 2021

Just a few weeks ago we had our APA Winter Conference via Zoom. The plan originally was to have it live at St. Alban's Cathedral, Oviedo, Florida, but due to the concerns about the Covid Virus, we opted for a Zoom Conference. We welcomed to our Conference those clergy and postulants who are new since last year. Those new men coming our way are Father Scott Greene from the ACNA, a recent Nashotah House Seminary Graduate, and Postulant Dr. Eric Byrd. The first presentation was given by the Rev. Jon Abboud of the Reformed Episcopal Church Plan Administrator of the REC/APA Pension Plan and Trust. Fr. Abboud reminded the clergy that the APA has been part of the Pension Plan since the late 1990s and it has been a good working relationship. He mentioned that we agreed that all clergy would participate as this program is for part of their financial security in retirement. The session was recorded on Zoom and is available for any of our clergy or vestry members upon request from the APA office. A key topic was the new requirement of waivers if a church is not contributing 12%based on the clergy compensation as well as the consequences of a

church "opting out" entirely if not meeting the minimum \$500 contribution for compensated clergy (based on the Plan definition) and required paperwork and approvals.

Our second presentation was given by Fathers Myles Hixson of Holy Cross Church, Farragut, Tennessee, and Wesley Walker of St. Paul's Church, Crownsville, Maryland. These two APA priests work together doing *The Sacramentalist* Podcast. The Sessions included a presentation about social media and website usage "Living up to our calling in a digital age: Framing and fashioning ourselves according to the doctrine of Christ online." The sessions were recorded and are available for those unable to attend upon request. Many thanks to our presenters for preparing and presenting these critical subjects for our Church.

Although we missed the opportunity for some great fellowship among the brethren because of the ongoing fear of the pandemic, we did the next best thing by using the technology of Zoom.

Winter Conference Standing Committee Meeting

The Meeting was held on Friday morning January 29, 2021. Among regular business, two men were interviewed following approval of the Board of Examining Chaplains to obtain the Standing Committee's recommendation to the Bishop for their ordination to the priesthood. They were: Deacon Raymond Davison of St. Paul's Church, Melbourne, Florida, and Deacon Creighton McElveen of St. Barnabas' Church, Dunwoody, Georgia. Both were approved unanimously.

Other important items considered were the several policies and procedures to be updated. We have an electronic book of the policies and procedures which is available by contacting your area Dean. At each Standing Committee meeting, several policies and procedures are reviewed and considered for updating and/or revising. There were 6 of these revised at this last meeting and then sent to the area Deans. Thanks to Bishop William Perkins for his administration and oversight of this important project. Since Bishop Grundorf will be retiring there was discussion concerning the Diocesan Office relocation. Bishop Chad Jones gave an update on the progress. They are still seeking a bank loan to move to the next stage of a building addition at St. Barnabas' Church for the Bishop and Executive Secretary's Office.

The transition of Episcopal Leadership in the DEUS and the APA was reviewed by the Bishop. This will take place at the Diocesan and Provincial Synods in July 2021. There would be 2 times of voting for the Presiding Bishop. The APA House of Bishop's will elect the Presiding Bishop on Tuesday evening and the APA Synod deputies will vote to ratify the HOB's vote electing the Presiding Bishop on Friday morning. Bishop Grundorf's retirement dinner will be held on Wednesday evening. On Thursday evening there will be the Enthronement of Bishop Chad Jones as the DEUS Bishop Ordinary with a dinner to follow. On Friday mid-morning the new Presiding Bishop will celebrate his first Mass as Presiding Bishop.

A New Resource for the G-4

The APA along with the other G-4 jurisdictions have formed Continuing Forward Mission in Motion. This is a joint committee to encourage planting of new mission churches along with promoting growth in existing churches. The APA is represented by Bishop William Perkins Chairman of our Board of Domestic Missions. I to their encourage vou to go website www.continuingforward.org to read more about the purpose and goal of the joint committee and get involved and share helpful information from your own experience.

Reminder-New Hires and APA/REC Life and Disability Insurance

For those churches offering newly hired priests, deacons, or staff meeting the 20-hour requirement of the APA/REC Life and Disability Insurance, please be sure to have them complete their paperwork <u>within 30 days of hire</u>. Information and paperwork can be found at the APA website at anglicanprovince.org under the "Resources" tab then "Canon Law and Policies."

Annual Parish Reports: Newly Updated

As Required by APA Canon 43, all churches in the Province need to turn in their annual Parochial Reports (Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2018) to their Bishop Ordinary. Deadline is March 1. The form is updated so please use the newest form. All forms must be submitted online. The online format is similar to the type used for Clergy Conference Registration with a quick questions and answers format. The online form is on the APA website at www.anglicanprovince.org under the "Resources" tab and "Parish Reports." A copy of the Report is included in this Epistle as a worksheet to prepare answers before entering online. The online form will automatically send the parish data to the APA office and send a copy to the church email address used for submission. For DMA parishes, data will then be forwarded to the Rt. Rev. Robert Giffin, Bishop Ordinary, and for DOW parishes, to the Rev. Canon Robert Hawkins, Vicar General.

Ad Clerum APA

Ordinations:

<u>DEUS</u>: Rev. Mr. Creighton McElveen was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests on February 11, 2021, at St. Barnabas Church, Dunwoody, GA, by the Rt. Rev. Chandler H. Jones, SSC. Father McElveen will serve as Curate at St. Barnabas Church assisting Rector, Bishop Jones.

<u>DEUS</u>: The Rev. Mr. Stephen Miller was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests on September 12, 2020, at St. Matthew's Church, Weaverville, NC, by the Most Rev. Walter H. Grundorf, D.D. He will serve as Curate assisting Vicar, the Rev. Klein at the 2 Alabama Missions, St. Matthias in Dothan and St. James the Great in Smiths Station starting in late October.

<u>Resignations/New Assignments:</u>

<u>DEUS</u>: The Rev. Paul Beutell resigned from St. Thomas Church, Alto, GA Nov. 29, 2020, and is now serving as assisting priest at St. Philip's, Blacksburg, VA.

<u>DEUS</u>: The Rev. David Masterson resigned from St. James, Gloucester, VA, effective Jan. 31, 2021.

Retired:

<u>DEUS</u>: The Rev. Mr. Josef Mayntz retired (medical) from All Saints, Prescott, AZ effective Dec. 1, 2020.

<u>Rest in Peace</u>:

<u>DEUS</u>: The Rev. Dick Miller entered life eternal on November 17, 2020.

<u>DEUS</u>: The Rev. Irving Cook entered life eternal November, 26, 2020.

<u>DEUS</u>: The Rev. Mr. Alton Witham entered life eternal December 29, 2020.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them.

Closures:

St. Philip's Church, Pinellas Park, FL

Vacancies

- St. Athanasius, Glen Allen, VA
- St. Luke's Church, Port Orange, FL
- St. James, Gloucester, VA

Prayer List

Of your charity, keep in your prayers:

Fr. Greg Miller, Bishop Loiselle, Fr. Michael Clay Smith; Fr. Tom Burr, Fr. John Gibson; Bishop Hanlan; Bishop Shaver; Fr. Bakley and wife, Pat; Fr. Gardner.

<u>APA Presiding Bishop, DEUS Bishop</u> <u>Ordinary Itinerary</u>

Mon., Jan. 11: Conference Call with DMA Bp Ordinary and DOW Vicar General.

Tues., Jan. 12: Prospective Clergy Transfer Meeting.

Tues., Jan. 19: G-4 Archbishop Conference Call.

Fri., Jan. 22: Central Florida Deanery Meeting, St. Alban's Cathedral, Oviedo, FL.

Sun., Jan. 24: Episcopal Visitation, St. Paul's, Melbourne, FL.

Thurs, Jan. 28: APA Winter Conference (Zoom).

Fri., Jan. 29: DEUS Standing Committee Meeting (Zoom).

Sat., Jan. 6: Communion to Bishop Loiselle and Emily, Jacksonville, FL.

Sun., Feb. 7: Episcopal Visitation, Blessing of Outdoor Crucifix, Altar Crucifix, new Bishop's Chair, and memorial Garden, St. Martin's Church, Ocala, FL.

Presiding Bishop Itinerary (cont.)

Tues., Feb. 23: G-4 Archbishop Conference Call. Sun., Feb 28: Episcopal Visitation, St. Peter's, Kingsport, TN.

Sun., Mar 14: Episcopal Visitation, St. James and St. Matthias, Opelika and Smiths Station, AL.

Sun., Mar. 28: Palm Sunday Services, St. Alban's Cathedral, Oviedo, FL.

Apr. 1-3: Holy Week & Easter Services, St. Alban's Cathedral, Oviedo, FL

Sat., Apr. 10: Ordination to Sacred Priesthood of Fr. Raymond Davison.

Apr. 17-18: Confirmation and Episcopal Visitation, St. George the Martyr, Simpsonville, SC.

DMA Bishop Ordinary Itinerary

Jan. 24: DMA and DOW (Zoom) meeting regarding possible merger

Feb. 28: DMA and DOW meeting (Zoom) regarding possible merger

APA Missionary Bishop Haines Itinerary

Jan. 15 - 17: Visit to St James, Gloucester, VA for Visitation, meet with Vestry and to assess the potential uses of agricultural property.

Jan. 28: DEUS Clergy Conference (Zoom).

Jan. 29: DEUS Standing Committee Meeting (Zoom).

DEUS Bishop Coadjutor Jones Itinerary

Sun., Jan. 10: St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Alto, GA, Episcopal Visitation, Confirmation, and chairman of the Annual Parish Meeting.

Thur., Jan. 21: Blairsville, GA, ecumenical meeting with a representative of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).

Tues., Jan., 26 - Jan. 27: Meeting of the Diocesan Board of Examining Chaplains (Zoom).

Thurs., Jan. 28: Anglican Province of America Winter Conference (Zoom).

Fri., Jan. 29: Meeting of the Diocesan Standing Committee (Zoom).

Thur., Feb. 11: St. Barnabas Church, Dunwoody, GA, the Ordination of Father Creighton Campbell McElveen to the Sacred Order of Priests.

Sat., Mar. 6:, All Souls' Church, Asheboro, North Carolina, Instructed Eucharist.

Sun., Mar. 7: All Souls' Church, Asheboro, North Carolina, Episcopal Visitation. Sat., Mar. 20: St. Michael the Archangel Church, Matthews, NC, meeting with new parishioners.

Sun., Mar. 21: St. Michael the Archangel Church, Matthews, North Carolina, Episcopal Visitation and Confirmations.

Sun. Apr. 11: St. Philip's Church, Blacksburg, VA, Episcopal Visitation and Confirmations.

DEUS Suffragan Bishop Perkins Itinerary

Fri., Jan.1: Southwest Florida Traditional Anglican Clericus, Delray Bch, FL.

Fri., Jan. 22: Central Florida Deanery Meeting, St. Alban's Cathedral, Oviedo, FL.

Thurs., Jan. 28: Anglican Province of America Winter Conference (Zoom).

Fri., Jan. 29: Meeting of the Diocesan Standing Committee (Zoom).

Mon., Feb. 1: Continuing Forward Conference Call (Joint Anglican Synod Domestic Missions)

Tues., Feb. 16: Southwest Florida Traditional Anglican Clericus Delray Beach, Florida

Tues., Mar. 9: Southwest Florida Traditional Anglican Clericus Delray Beach, Florida

Wed., Mar. 10: Continuing Forward Conference Call (Joint Anglican Synod Domestic Missions)

Tues., Apr. 13: Southwest Florida Traditional Anglican Clericus Delray Beach, Florida

Wed., Apr. 14: Continuing Forward Conference Call (Joint Anglican Synod Domestic Missions).

Birthdays and Anniversaries

<u>January Birthdays</u>

- 01 Dss. Linda Burns, BCOS
- 01 The Rev. Don Edlemann
- 02 The Rev. Scott Koszalinski
- 03 The Very Rev. Mark Menees, BCOS
- 14 The Most Rev. Dr. Larry Shaver, Obl OSB
- 15 The Rev. Vincent Varnas
- 20 The Most Rev. Walter Grundorf, D.D.
- 21 The Rev. Daniel Rieger, PhD
- 24 The Rev. Bradley Cunningham
- 25 The Rev. Brian Oldfield

January Anniversaries

- 06 The Rev. John Klein, *Priesthood*
- 09 The Rev. Louis Johnson, EdD, Priesthood
- 10 The Rev. Ian Dunn, *Diaconate*
- 10 The Rev. Daniel Squires, *Diaconate*
- 19 The Rt. Rev. G. Raymond Hanlan, *Bishop*
- 19 The Rev. Canon Robert Jennings, Priesthood

January Anniversaries (cont.)

- 19 The Rev. Mr. Peter Joslyn, *Diaconate*
- 19 The Rev. David Sokol, OPS, OHI, Priesthood
- 22 Dss Suzanne Standiford, Setting Apart
- 23 The Rev. Dennis Washburn, PhD, *Priesthood*
- 25 The Rev. George Harding, *Diaconate*
- 25 The Rev. Gregory Miller, *Priesthood*
- 25 The Rev. Brian Oldfield, Priesthood
- 29 The Rev. Wade Miller, Diaconate
- 29 The Rev. Stokes Smith, Diaconate
- 31 The Rev. Mark Menees, BCOS, *Diaconate*

February Birthdays

- 01 The Rev. Clarence (Chip) Sills
- 05 The Rev. Stephen Sommerrock
- 10 Dss. M. Clare Burgess
- 11 The Rev. Dick Miller
- 12 The Rt. Rev. C. Peter Brewer, OSF
- 13 The Rev. Thomas Burr
- 19 The Rev. Canon Michael Ward, SSA
- 20 The Rev. Myles Hixson
- 25 The Rev. William Martin, SSC

February Anniversaries

- 02 The Rev. John Gibson, Priesthood
- 03 The Rev. Dr. Creighton Barnes, *Priesthood*
- 06 The Rev. Brian Oldfield, *Diaconate*
- 08 The Rev. Yossi Sarid, DMin, BCC, Priesthood
- 12 The Rev. Frank Bartlett, SSM, Priesthood
- 12 The Rev. Kenneth Bailey, Jr., Priesthood
- 13 The Rev. John Poole, *Diaconate*
- 14 The Rev. Paul Beutell, II, Priesthood
- 18 The Rev. James Danford. *Diaconate*
- 19 The Rev. James Danford, Priesthood
- 19 The Rev. Myles Hixson, *Diaconate*
- 20 The Rev. Benjamin Holland, Diaconate
- 21 The Rev. Rosemond Etienne, Diaconate
- 21 Dss Jocelyne Lezin, *Setting Apart*
- 21 The Rev. Pierre Nacius, *Diaconate*
- 21 The Rev. Yvon Thermidor, Diaconate
- 22 The Rev. John Lohmann, IV, Priesthood
- 24 The Rev. Don Edlemann, Priesthood
- 24 The Rev. Sean McDermott, Priesthood
- 25 The Rev. Robert Placer, *Priesthood*
- 27 The Rev. Canon Michael Ward, SSA, Priesthood
- 28 The Rev. Michael Smith, Priesthood
- 29 The Rev. Nicholas Henderson, Diaconate

March Birthdays

- 02 Dss. Suzanne Standiford
- 03 The Rev. Kevin Fife
- 05 The Rev. Louis Johnson, Ed.D
- 07 Dss. Elizabeth Jenkins
- 11 The Rev. Mr. Eugene Godbold, PhD
- 19 The Rev. Stephen Miller
- 20 The Rev. Guerrier Mews
- 24 The Rev. Benjamin Holland
- 30 The Rev. David Keller

March Anniversaries

- 01 The Rev. David Coady, SSA, Priesthood
- 02 The Erik Wilson, *Diaconate*
- 03 The Rev. Kevin Burks, Priesthood
- 07 The Rev. Canon Glenn Spencer, Priesthood
- 11 The Rev. Frank Bartlett, SSM, Diaconate
- 11 The Rt. Rev. Robert Loiselle, Bishop
- 17 The Rev. G. Allen Fisher, Priesthood
- 18 The Rev. Peter Joslyn, *Priesthood*
- 18 The Rev. Robert Tufton, Priesthood
- 19 The Rt. Rev. G. Raymond Hanlan, Priesthood
- 19 The Rev. Scott Koszalinski, Priesthood
- 21 The Rev. Eric Holle, *Diaconate*
- 21 The Rev. David Keller, *Diaconate*
- 22 The Rt. Rev. David Haines, Priesthood
- 22 The Rev. Scott Koszalinski, Diaconate
- 22 The Rev. Scott Koszalinski, Priesthood
- 24 The Rev. Clarence (Chip) Sills, *Priesthood*
- 25 The Rev. Scott McDermott, *Diaconate*
- 26 The Most Rev. Walter Grundorf, D.D., Bishop
- 26 The Rev. Robert Kirk, *Diaconate*
- 28 The Rev. Mr. Thad Osborne, *Diaconate*
- 29 The Rev. Mr. Josef Mayntz, *Diaconate*

Please contact the APA Office at 407.657.0880, 800.480.1087 or apa.deus@outlook.com if any dates are in error or a date has been omitted.

Parochial Report <u>Worksheet</u> on Next Page.

PAGE 7

Approved March 3, 2020

Date mm/dd/yyyy

Signature of Rector/Vicar/Minister-in-Charge

Marriages