



DIOCESE OF THE MISSOURI VALLEY

TRADITIONAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

Anglican Church in America
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The Right Rev. Patrick S. Fodor, Bishop Ordinary

The Very Rev Canon Christian Tutor, Canon to the Ordinary

The Rev. Canon John F. D. Armstrong, Canon Missioner

The Most Rev. Louis Falk, Diocesan Chancellor

Mr. Michael Ift, Diocesan Treasurer

Mrs. Janie Burgett, Diocesan Secretary

Mrs. Crista Fodor, Administrative Assistant

Brothers and sisters in Christ, greetings in Christ, Lord of our life and God of our salvation!

This is a brief letter to give some updates about events taking place in the Church.

Many of you have asked about the results of the **College of Bishops meeting** which took place in Calgary, Alberta last month (June 19-23). I was somewhat concerned that this meeting of the College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Church would not be particularly productive. As those of you who know me are aware, I have a great aversion to idle chit chat. But I am very happy to say that the College took a good number of very significant steps for the welfare of the Church.

After significant discussion and clarifications of process and content, the bishops agreed to use of St. Bede's Anglican Catholic Theological College as the vehicle for international clergy education, including satellite locations in South Africa, and in Brazil and elsewhere in South America, in Portuguese and Spanish respectively. We approved clear standards for education connected to the synthesis of all jurisdictional canonical exams. Discussion of qualified faculty in satellite locations was discussed, as well as technology for translating English materials (syllabi, and the whole curriculum, with lectures, textbooks, etc.) into Spanish and Portuguese. This now includes resources for giving both printed and oral presentations of English sources directly into those languages. Also, the use of St. Bede's for preparing lay leaders was discussed. Certificates in Anglican Studies for lay people are available, as well as a program for preparing Licensed Lay Readers and Subdeacons, and it was decided to use this as a venue for the entire TAC in the future. The possibility of connecting the diaconess program to St. Bede's is also under discussion.

We also provisionally accepted two new Brazilian dioceses into the TAC. The Continuing Anglican Church in Brazil (Diocese of Natal)

We discussed and set plans for multiple ecumenical dialogues, including with the Polish National Catholic Church, the Charismatic Episcopal Church, and the Anglican Province of Christ the King. We also had discussions of inquiries from Anglican Churches in South America and in Africa, where the situation has become quite dynamic and fluid. Actions to have discussions and dialogue with a variety of bishops and diocese are underway.

The synod rescinded approval for the consecration of Canon John Prakash as bishop for India, after three times scheduling his consecration and not having him come. Canon Prakash had also repeatedly violated standards of behavior, presenting himself as already a bishop when he had not been consecrated, and this despite attempts to correct him about this. This was a factor in the decision of the College as well. Also discussed was a freezing of the funds from the IAF to India, until various problems and irregularities are addressed. The primate will be making a personal visit to India in 2024 as part of this process.

The TAC bishops also participated, along with Archbishop Chandler Jones and bishop David Haines of the APA, in the consecration of Panyem Rajeshkumar as bishop in India. He will minister especially to the so-called "Untouchables."

The College also worked on development of communication techniques for the TAC and made the decision to create an actual budget and regular reports for it for the TAC (much of this is connected to the movement from the TAC as a Communion to being an international Church).

The additional required step was the planning for an **International General Synod** of the whole Church, the first to take place in 2025. It was decided to hold that meeting in the United States, but the exact location is yet to be determined.

The College also had major discussions surrounding the dialogue between the TAC and the ACC in preparation for a meeting between Archbishops Shane Janzen and Mark Haverland. This involves many difficult problems outside of the USA, and these were thoroughly discussed, with proposed ways of moving the dialogues forward and establishing initial agreements to allow for progress. All of these are just the highlights of what was done at the June meeting.

One item which came out at the College of Bishop's meeting was the need of various parishes throughout the TAC. One of these is the **Parish of the Transfiguration** in Chumanzana of Chichicasanango, part of the Anglican Missionary District of Western Guatemala. The parish's priest is Fr Mario Daniel Monje. They have 35 communicants, and 75 total members. They have been building a church, and the main body of the Church is completed, but it does not yet have a roof. I asked what the estimated cost for the roof would be, and Bishop Lobos indicated between nine and ten thousand dollars. As most of you know, the DMV was recently given \$100,000 for missions and development. A tithe of that money would be ten thousand. The connections seemed providential. The Standing Committee of the DMV has voted to give that money, distributing it (as per Archbishop Garcia's suggestion) to the parish through the International Anglican fellowship (to make sure the moneys reach them and are used for the purpose for which they are intended). That has been processed. God's will be done, and may He continue to grow His Church!

In other major news, **Bishop Owen Williams** has retired from the office of Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the West. He will be continuing to serve within our diocese, giving pastoral care to the people of St. Francis in Estes Park. Christ our God give His richest blessings to Bishop Williams and all the people there!

The approval of a call for the election of a new bishop of the DOW has been approved by the DMV Standing Committee, and the hope of the Diocese of the West's Standing Committee is to be able to have an election at their next synod, which will happen during the General Synod in Orlando in October. Please keep the Diocese of the West in your prayers, that the Lord would give them wisdom and direction.

As another major item, as some of you know, **the Cathedral celebrates the 25th anniversary** of the current building this year. A rededication celebration and lecture series have been scheduled. Everyone is invited. We hope that it will be an opportunity to invite in people of the Quincy area, including those at Quincy University and other people from local religious and academic communities. The explanation and outline presented by Canon Tutor follows:

With the enlargement and renewal of the pipe organ, refurbishing of shrines, altar and appointments, we are planning a re-dedication on October 1, to offer praise to Almighty God for the gifts and graces received.

Recognizing this as a Jubilee Year for the cathedral family, and as the Mother Church of the Diocese of the Missouri Valley, we have also planned a Cathedral Lecture Series for the week of October 16-19, which will provide an opportunity for the Quincy community, both secular and academic, the Diocese of the Missouri Valley, and the wider Continuum to be enriched by the stellar conferences that will be presented by the Reverend Doctor Neil J. Roy, STL, PhD.

Father Roy is a colleague of mine of 13 years, and possesses an impressive academic, spiritual, and educational Curriculum vitae, as is available to lead our proposed Cathedral Lecture Series in October. He holds a Ph.D. in Medieval Studies from the University of Toronto, as well as an M.A. in the same discipline from the same institute. An S.T.L. (magna cum laude) from the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant' Anselmo in Rome, as well as the S.T.B. (magna cum laude) from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome. He has taught and lectured at the following Institutions: College of Saint Mary Magdalene, Warner NH (2011-2013) University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN (2007-2011), The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, The Liturgical Institute, University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL, Ave Maria College, Ypsilanti, MI (Academic Dean and Theology Department Chair). He is a sought-after speaker on the Liturgy, and has organized, chaired and convened such conferences as: Culmen et fons Conference/Workshop on Liturgical Formation, September 2017, 42nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2007, International Conference "Sacrificium laudis": The Medina years (1996-2002), October 2005, and was the editor of Antiphon: A Journal of Liturgical Renewal (Jan 2005-Dec 2008; associate editor, 2002-2004.)

Here is the prospectus for the Cathedral Lecture Series:

The English Church in the First Millennium: Origins, Developments, Highlights

Presenter: Fr Neil J. Roy, STL, PhD
Cathedral of Saint John, Quincy, IL
16-19 October 2023

Series Description:

The Coronation of King Charles III in Westminster Abbey on 6 May 2023 drew worldwide attention to the British monarchy and to the rituals involved in crowning a Christian sovereign. The event likewise raised new interest in the ancient relationship between the Church and the Crown.

This series on the Venerable Bede's History of the English Church and People (731) explores some of the towering figures and institutions that helped to shape the Christian Church in Britain from its origins until Bede's own lifetime. The series will also treat the iconography and devotional cultus of Our Lady of Walsingham (1061), a pre-Conquest Madonna still attracting pilgrims and visitors to her Norfolk shrine in the twenty-first century.

The series combines both lecture and seminar formats, allowing participants to gain familiarity with the context of Bede and his remarkable History, as well as to share insights gleaned from the interface between Roman and Celtic approaches to ecclesial and liturgical life. The role of Benedictine monasticism in shaping British institutions and sensitivities will receive due attention. ...

The whole of the Conferences will be live streamed for the convenience of those in the Diocese and Continuum that would like to participate via internet. The local academic Institutions will be invited to use our lectures as possible course credit, and the same will be offered for St. Bede Seminary and the Deaconess Formation Program.

Holding this program will allow for the local community to visit and enjoy the hospitality of St. John, and to be engaged with the history, spirituality, and richness of the Anglican Tradition. Each evening tea and refreshments will be proffered in the break between lectures, and after the conclusion of the lectures by the cathedral volunteers.

In addition, the following updates are noteworthy:

After initial extensive discussion by phone conferences and personal visits by Bishop Hewett to meet with the LCMS Chief Ecumenical Officer, the **Ecumenical Dialogue between the G3 and the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod** has come into focus. Official representatives for our side are:

For the Anglican Province of America (APA):

The Venerable Father Mark Menees, Rector/Archdeacon St. John's Greensboro, NC

For the Anglican Church of America (ACA):

The Rt. Rev. Brian Marsh, Ecumenical Officer, ACA and TAC, Trinity Anglican Church, Rochester, NH

The Rt. Rev. Patrick S. Fodor, St. John's Cathedral, Quincy, IL

For the Anglican Catholic Church (ACC):

The Rt. Rev. Paul Hewett, The Cathedral Church of the Epiphany, Columbia, SC

The Most Rev. Mark Haverland, Archbishop of the ACC, St. Stephen's, Athens, Georgia

Face to face meetings are expected by the end of this year or next spring, probably starting in St. Louis, at the LCMS headquarters. While the ultimate goal of this is, in part, to see if the LCMS (or parts thereof) will be open to the restoration of genuine Apostolic Orders, and hold to the same essential doctrines of the Church catholic with us so as to be brought into full Communion with us (admittedly a very ambitious goal), another goal is the cooperation in levels of fellowship which means cooperation in making joint statements to the public and to government on matters of essential concern to all true Christian people, including matters of true morality, protection of the family, true marriage, Christian liberty, and so on. An example of this sort of thing is here: <https://reporter.lcms.org/2021/lcms-president-harrison-signs-letter-defending-faith-based-student-groups/> .

Discussions continue also with representatives of a group of **five Lutheran parishes in the Northeast Iowa region**, designated this past year as the Mission District of St. Peter (under the direction of Bp. Terry Landsgaard) continue, and an open pastoral letter to those parishes, indicating support and willingness to engage with them. Please pray that God would help and guide these folks as they go through a process of discernment about their future, and possible application to the DMV for membership.

Finally, in response to questions being asked throughout the Christian world and the discussions that took place at this Spring's House of Bishop's and Executive Committee meetings, the series of "**Responding to _____**" **bulletin inserts**, prefaced by my pastoral letter, are intended to be a help to all God's people in understanding our Faith and being able to give an answer for the hope which is in us (1 Peter 3:5). It is being distributed throughout the G3 and TAC Churches, and various bishops and other clergy are going to be helping with specific contributed responses to challenges and false statements and positions in the world around us. Please feel free to submit specific questions you would like to see addressed, and even very specific statements or quotations that you are hearing that require a response, and we will do our best to address them.

In all things, may all we do bring glory to His Name, and draw all peoples to Jesus!

Yours in Christ our God,

+ *Patrick*

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