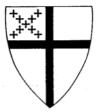


Give me my scallop-shell of quiet My staff of faith to walk upon,... and thus I'll take my pilgrimage. — Sir Walter Raleigh

# The Staff

Jesus said, "I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who spitefully use you."



June 2019

Luke 6:27-28 (English Standard Version)

#### Anglican worship of Jesus Christ and Biblical preaching of the Good News.

DIOCESE OF THE RIO GRANDE Jesus Christ, *Head of the Church* The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Hunn, *Bishop* The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Vono, Retired *Bishop* The Rt. Rev. Jerry Lamb (ret), *Assisting Bishop* The Rev. Dr. Jeanne Lutz, *Priest-in-Charge* The Rev. Dr. Frank Williams, *Assisting Priest* 

" The church is like the Incarnation itself, a shaky proposition. It is a human institution, full of ordinary people, sinners like me, who say and do cruel, stupid things. But it is also a divinely inspired institution, full of good purpose, which partakes of a unity far greater than the sum of its parts. That is why it is called the body of Christ."

-Kathleen Norris in Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith

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From the Priest-in-Charge, How to be Pentecostal (and still be a good Episcopalian)

The senior pastor at Peace Lutheran, Las Cruces, where I served for eight years, tells a story he found on LutherLink some time ago: There was a church off the main highway that decided to put up a sign that gave the name of the church and an arrow, saying "Two miles." Unfortunately, when you went two miles, you came to a church, but it wasn't the one that put up the sign. Theirs was three miles down the road. It didn't matter. The lettering on that sign was too small to read anyway.

The church in this story, apparently, was not passionate about growing or about spreading the Gospel, because they never changed their sign. That often happens in a parish. We say we want a lively, Spirit-filled church, but secretly, we do not want to change too much. I have not found this to be true at St. James' in the 13 months I have been here, but I will say more about that at the end of this article.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, the Church will celebrate the Day of Pentecost, sometimes called the Birthday of the Church. Jewish tradition held that the Law was given on this day, a feast they observed seven weeks after Passover.



On the Feast of Pentecost after Jesus' resurrection, the Holy Spirit was given to the disciples assembled together in the upper room. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of the Acts of the Apostles we read that in the midst of a mighty wind, tongues of fire hovered over each person in the room. They began to speak in languages they had never learned, languages represented by the huge crowds gathered in Jerusalem from all over the known world. The disciples rushed into the streets and began to proclaim the mighty acts of God, each person in a language understandable to someone, a sort of Tower of Babel in reverse. Afterwards, Peter gave such a rousing sermon that 3,000 persons were added to the Church that day.

And so it is, 2,000 years later, whenever the Church allows the Holy Spirit to work. Being Pentecostal is not about speaking in tongues, though that may be one of your gifts. We are Pentecostal as a congregation every time the Spirit moves us beyond the way we have always done things to some new vision, some new expression of the faith. Each of you is Pentecostal every time you say, "I believe that God is active in my life," and every time you tell a person, "I will pray for you." At St. James', we witness to God's activity in our worship and also at announcement time when we share the way God is at work in the organizations we serve and when we share the way God has answered prayer in our individual lives. We also witness through our service outside the walls of the church.

Most Episcopalians are stealth Christians; we can come and go and, for the most part, no one knows who or what we are. If Pentecostal means anything, it means that we make a difference. Pentecostal people are overtly Christian, obviously different. At St. James', we are trying, by the grace of God, to make such a difference in the lives of those who worship with us and in the community.

As you prepare to receive your new rector (not yet chosen at the time of this writing), you find yourselves at a crossroads in the history of this remarkable parish. You have already made some bold changes in the last year: expanding your community outreach in various ways; sharing worship on occasion with your sister Episcopal congregation in town; reconnecting with the diocese (with a lot of help from our new bishop!); improving your website and beginning to renovate more areas of the building; adapting and strengthening the Sunday school program; raising up new leadership in the parish; and witnessing to the

love of Christ with a St. James' booth once a month at the Farmers Market.

Your new rector should arrive sometime in mid-summer, God willing. I feel certain that you will welcome this person with the same generosity my husband and I received when we came to St. James' in May of last year. Meanwhile, I invite each of you to pray daily for your parish, if you are not already doing so, that God will give you the courage, the zeal and the love to open yourselves to the Spirit, to be a Pentecostal church in every sense of the word. Pray for St James', that this wonderful congregation will be more and more receptive to the winds of change that the Holy Spirit always brings his Pentecostal people. A

Blessings always,

Padrecita Jeanne+

## From Padrecita Jeanne: People to Thank—Things I will Miss

As most of you know, June 9th, the Day of Pentecost, will be my last Sunday as priest-in-charge at St. James'. Your vestry has decided that we will go to one service that Sunday at 9:30 a.m. It will be a Rite II Eucharist with choir, followed by a potluck brunch in the parish hall. Bill and I feel blessed to have been a part of your journey for the last 13 months, helping you to get ready for your new rector and making so many new friends in the process. Bishop Hunn has asked me to stay away from regular worship with you for a year, in order to give your new rector some space, though I hope to have a chance to meet your rector and offer the same kind of helpful orientation that Fr. Nick gave me before I came on board. It has been a joy to be with you. There are many things I will miss about being at St. James'. I shall undoubtedly leave out a few of these things, and a few people I ought to thank. Forgive me for that.

- I will miss presiding at worship in your beautiful nave and sanctuary.
- Many thanks to your excellent choir, and to your music director, Carol Nike. Carol, I will miss your beautiful voice and the heartfelt way you sing God's praises. Barbara, I will miss the way you rock the church on the piano!
- Margo Lamb, thank you for your hours of service to St. James', both at the 8 a.m. service and at the many funerals and special worship we have done together. You are always willing to step up to the plate when you are needed. Yours is a beautiful gift to the church!
- Father Frank, thank you for your challenging and engaging instruction and the sermons you have regularly preached on alternate Wednesday services. I will miss hearing you. Congratulations on over 67 years of faithful service as a priest in Christ's Church!
- Thank you to the vestry for all your hard work, especially in the last few months: Phala White; Manny Terrazas; Jennifer Terrazas, our clerk; Nyeta Haines; Everett Campbell; Daniel Armistead; Lynn Marshall; Terry Meyer; Susan Smith; Sig Johansen; and those who served last year: Mary Ancker; Ron Joyner; and Kathleen Fisher. Special thanks to the most amazing Executive Committee I have ever encountered. We may laugh our way through the meetings, but you know how to get things done!
- I will miss working with your pastoral care team: Johanna Binneweg; Mary Ancker; Mary Ganier; Charlene McKinney—and the way members of the congregation care for each other.
- I will miss your totally incomparable coffee hours, potlucks and Advent/Lenten dinners!
- I will miss working with Rick and Lynn Marshall in planning worship; Kathy Fisher and Margo Schultz, altar guild chairs; Carol Nike, music director; and all the acolytes, ushers, readers, and chalice bearers who make our worship so lovely. Lucy Lerdal, I love the way you pour water for baptisms. John Kirkland, Jr., I enjoy watching you carry the small cross so seriously. Pat Lamb, I will miss your bad jokes on Sunday mornings (yes, I will!).

- Thank you, Cheryl Wilson and Kay Schumacher for taking such good care of our parish hall. Betty Champion, no one does more beautiful decorations than you, including the ones in our office!
- Jennifer, Lynn, and all our quilters and sewing experts: thank you for your gorgeous work!
- If I want prayer, I will not fail to call on the Daughters of the King. Thank you, Daughters, for your faithful intercession on behalf of so many—and all those funeral receptions lovingly done!
- Thanks to our amazing treasurer, Nyeta Haines, for keeping our finances orderly and up-to-date and everyone informed, and using to such advantage your prodigious research skills!
- Thank you, Manny Terrazas, and Phala White for your hard work and tireless service as wardens of St. James'!
- Thank you to our search committee—Carol Baker; Johanna Binneweg; Betty Champion; Sig Johansen; Pat Lamb; Dottie Storey; Cheryl Wilson; Manny Terrazas; Everett Campbell— and to Larry White, Chair, for "directing the traffic" of the rector search.
- Thanks to our Sunday school teachers: Mary Ganier; Todd Parco; Luci Kirkland; Charlene McKinney; and Sarah Gormley—with occasional help from Lucy Lerdal. You minister behind the scenes to our ever-expanding number of lively young people.
- Thanks again to Rick Marshall for scheduling and training the worship assistants on Sunday mornings and to Cheryl Wilson for scheduling coffee hour hosts, and to Nyeta, for the counters.
- To our Safety Committee, formed last spring and working hard during the summer months to come up with a safety plan that earned kudos at Diocesan Convention: Manny Terrazas, Sue Bateman, and Lynn Marshall.
- Did I mention the food?
- Thanks to Terry Meyer and the Evangelism and Outreach Committee for spearheading the work on our new website, along with the Esperanza bags and the parish nametags, with special thanks to Laurie Gormley and her family for making the nametags. And to our webmaster, Andrew Terrazas, for creating such a beautiful website and being so patient with me as I changed detail after detail in the articles I sent you!
- A special word of admiration and thanks to Terry for organizing the Farmers Market table that advertises in such a gentle way the presence of St. James' in the community. Thank you to those who have staffed the table.
- Thank you to those who represent St. James' at the Gospel Rescue Mission, the J Paul Taylor Center, El Caldito Soup Kitchen, the diocesan archives, and our delegates to deanery and diocesan events. If I try to list you all, I am bound to forget someone, so please accept my thanks and admiration for your faithful ministry in these and other diocesan and community organizations.
- To our wonderful staff: I have truly enjoyed our monthly breakfast meetings at Chala's!
- A special word of gratitude to Eric Lerdal, our efficient, dedicated, and personable administrator, without whom I could not have done my job! I will miss working with you. Thank you, Eric!

And last, but not least—all of you, the congregation of St. James'! Your new rector will be blessed indeed! Welcome your rector warmly as you did me, keep your focus on Jesus—and all will be well.

## Senior Warden's View

As we regretfully prepare to bid farewell to Padrecita with a combined service and potluck on June 9<sup>th</sup>, I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you about our plans for the remainder of June and July.

The Reverend Canon Tom Lowe will be covering June 16, 23 and 30 as well as July 7.

The Reverend Catherine Lemons will be covering July 21 and 28.

Last, but definitely not least, our own Father Frank Williams will cover July 14.

Of course, supply clergy dates are subject to change depending on the results of the Selection Committee's search for our new rector.

See you all on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30! Senior Warden, Phala White



## Junior Warden's Report

Jr. Warden Report for May 2019 respectfully submitted by Manny Terrazas

- The cooler for the Parish Hall has been replaced, and the malfunctioning refrigeration unit for the church has been repaired. The temperature is much cooler now in the nave and hopefully the choir, organists, and those serving at the altar will be much more comfortable.
- The two malfunctioning sensors in the parish hall ceiling fan/ light units will be replaced.
- I received and read a letter from a parishioner who volunteers much time with maintenance of the parish hall and classroom wing. The Vestry was asked not to rush moving the books back into the library, but to consider the state of the bookcases and the condition of the books. The vestry discussed the need for leadership around library content and refurbishment. I have



spoken with this wonderful congregation member and she has agreed to spearhead the moving of the books and shelves back into the library. (You know who you are, and you and your spouse are much appreciated). She chooses to remain anonymous.

- I have asked the vestry to make a commitment to the Sunday school repair and renewal project with possible funding from an existing line item, in addition to the generous donations which have already been made. Rick Marshall has met with the teachers to come up with a plan. He and Lynn will return in early June, at which time I will ask for Rick to meet with the Sunday School staff and further define a plan for presentation to the Vestry.
- I have been extremely busy this month with the Search Committee, but things are looking good around the facility and I continue to be most grateful to all the parishioners who lend a hand in taking care of our church and grounds.

Your Jr. Warden, Manny Terrazas

## **THANK YOU, GRAND OLD LADY!**

**By Padrecita Jeanne** 

As most of you are aware, your vestry voted at our May meeting to act on information we were given months ago by our music director. After further consultation with Carol Nike at both finance committee and vestry meetings in May, the vestry decided the time had come for action. We took a deep breath and appropriated enough money from funds available to purchase a new piano for use in the church. This was not done "unadvisedly or lightly," but in full knowledge that the decision would require some explanation. The piano we have been using, mostly at the 10:30 service and special concerts and recitals, has special value to St. James, because it once graced the home of Preacher and Edith Lewis. This Grand Old Lady, as I call her, is also a beautiful instrument. But, like all Grand Old Ladies, she can no longer do what she used to do. In her case, this means that she cannot hold a tuning, but must be retuned whenever she is played for any length of time. In the past few months the frequency of tunings alone has become a question of fiscal responsibility and good stewardship of our resources.

At our Envisioning Weekend in December, the congregation participants supported the idea of reaching out more extensively into the community. In response, the Evangelism Committee added a monthly Farmers Market table and Esperanza bags for the homeless to existing ministries. The vision of our participants also included greater use of our beautiful sanctuary for concerts, recitals, and other artistic ventures connected mostly with NMSU, something we cannot do well with an out-of-tune piano.

With these thoughts in mind and three musical events scheduled in late May, Carol and Barbara Toth moved quickly, once the vestry authorized the expenditure, to take advantage of an excellent price on an oak upright piano with new bass strings, noted for its ability to maintain concert pitch. The church is now the owner of a Samick upright, which was placed in the chapel where the Lewis piano once stood. To put the expenditure in perspective, the price of the Samick was \$2590, as opposed to an estimate of \$10,000 to restring the Lewis instrument and \$30,000 to rebuild it. At present, our Grand Old Lady rests against the north wall of the parish hall with the possibility of further use in that location.

A few personal thoughts about the purchase of the piano: Preacher Lewis was himself a fine musician and his wife a concert pianist. I have no doubt that they would support any move by the parish to improve the quality of our music program, especially as it regards outreach to the university. We have already enjoyed several concerts this year by talented students, professionals, and university groups, along with an excellent community choir. Preacher would approve. It was he, after all, who started the parish Men's Choir composed of NMSU students. While the historic significance of the Lewis piano is compelling, I do not believe Preacher would encourage us to make too much of this, as he was a humble man who was uncomfortable with adulation. What he did, he did to the glory of God.

It has been suggested to me that the 10:30 service will benefit the most from this new acquisition. That is a good point and one the vestry is trying to address through more

frequent combined services. Our early worshipers appreciate having an organ prelude and postlude at 8:00. Carol assures me that the piano will also be available for that service. Meanwhile, I am excited about the expanded avenue of outreach that the purchase of a new piano affords this wonderful parish. I support what your vestry has done and would be happy to discuss this further with any of you. It is appropriate, however, to end with a word of thanks to our Grand Old Lady who has blessed us for so many years at St. James' with beautiful music. We honor her legacy, even as we look to the future of the parish she served so well.

### From The Daughters of the King



The St. James' Daughters of the King have been meeting a bit sporadically lately, as members have been busy with travel and with family needs. Kathy Fisher spent two weeks with grandchildren in Prescott, Arizona during March; Johanna Binneweg spent a week in May attending her grandson's graduation from college in Vermont, Chickie Lerdal has had a couple of trips to the North for family events; Lucy Gray has spent time in Boise Idaho with family, and is

set to travel to Boston for her great-grandson's graduation from Harvard law school; Charlene McKinney spends time at her home in Lincoln County in between visits to her mom in a local nursing home; and Jane Madrid has travelled recently with her sister to Colorado. But, be assured that, though we may be busy, we always have our prayer lists handy.

Since our meetings have been a bit hectic lately, when we do meet we do as many of the following activities as we can, to keep ourselves centered and prayerful: We "check in" with each other, sharing the ups and downs of our recent personal lives (this is where God really lives); we pray for our personal concerns, and try to help each other figure out what God might be saying to through our trials and tribulations, and through the happy times. We also share a bit of devotional literature that has inspired us since last meeting, or we respond to a selection from a book we have been reading together. Our meetings are currently held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 10 am, in Chickie Lerdal's home, but if you cannot attend then, we are flexible, and can meet at another time.

If we have any business to discuss—e.g. arrangements for a funeral—we do that over email, not during our precious "face time."

We value our friendships "in the Lord," our sisterhood of like-minded Christian women on a journey with Christ. Joining the Daughters of the King entails a 3-month Study and Discernment Period when you meet weekly with our teacher at a time convenient to you to learn all about the Order, and attend a few meetings while you decide if Daughters of the King is "for you." If you are interested in joining us on our journey with Jesus, contact any of the women mentioned above, or call Johanna Binneweg at 527-8575.

I quote below from Mother Teresa of Calcutta,

"Stay where you are. Find your own Calcutta. Find the sick, the suffering, and the lonely right there where you are—in your own homes and families, in your workplaces and in your schools. You can find Calcutta all over the world, if you have the eyes to see. Everywhere, wherever you go, you find people who are unwanted, unloved, uncared for, just rejected by society—completely forgotten, completely left alone."

And when you become involved with these lonely people, it is a blessing to have companions in the journey for support, inspiration and refreshment for your spirit.

For His Sake and in His Love,

The SS Mary and Martha Chapter, Daughters of the King Johanna Binneweg, Kathy Fisher, Judith Forney, Lucy Gray, Chickie Lerdal, Jane Madrid, Charlene McKinney



#### St James Episcopal Church Financial Report Summary APRIL 2019

#### Citizens Bank Account Balances at the end of the month from Balance Sheet:

ACCOUNTS	Current Month	Previous Month
Operating Account	\$ 78,676.98	\$ 71,662.34
Restricted Account	\$ 41,303.11	\$ 39,310.47
Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$ 1,738.26	\$ 2,273.36

#### Operating Income and Expense Summary for the month:

	Current	Current	Year to Date	Year to Date	Annual
	Month	Mo. Budget		Budget	Budget
Income	20,828.22	18,433.33	75,427.21	72,233.32	218,000.00
Expense	13,893.76	18,791.50	58,311.45	64,366.00	211,030.35
Variance	6,934.46	-358.17	17,115.76	7,867.32	6,969.65

#### **Restricted Account with Entries**

ACCOUNT	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
Mission and Outreach	7,071.67	587.33	0.00	7,659.00
Memorial Fund	16,777.02	400.00	0.00	17,177.02
Organ-Piano Fund	2,000.00			2,000.00
Organ Fund	5,026.65			5,026.65
Building Fund	5,831.78	500.00	-1,081.88	6,249.90
BLDG – Sunday School Room	1,792.00	1000.00		1,792.00
Flowers for Altar	1,505.51	274.63		1,780.14
Restricted – Special Offering	0.00	290.00		290.00
Columbarium Fund	12,923.15			12,923.15
Rector Discretionary Fund	2,273.36	1149.00	-1,634.10	1,738.25
Music Fund - CLOSED	0.00			0.00
Vestry Designated Fund	12,007.29			12,007.29

#### Fair Share Information

FAIR SHARE	Current Month
Total Income	\$ 24,380.55
Total Exclusions	\$ 4,394.33
Net Disposal Income	\$ 19,986.22
Fair Share Paid for Reported Month	\$ 3,147.83
Year to Date Fair Share Paid	\$ 16,007.67



## A few things to "Note" from your Music Director.

You will have seen the new piano in the Sanctuary (see Padrecita's article on this). We have already used this for special music at worship and for a concert and two recitals! Martin Luther said, "Music is one of the fairest and most glorious gifts of God, to which Satan is a bitter enemy, for it removes from the heart the weight of sorrow, and the fascination of evil thoughts." I am so thankful for being able to offer St James as a venue for Chamber music in Las Cruces, and to offer up to God music in Worship and Praise.



The choir will be continuing through the summer. We are blessed. I will be away in July and August, but one of our students, Francesca Larsen will be directing the choir. I will continue to choose the music for the congregation and the choir during this period.

### Reflections on Psalm 16 (appointed for June 30th)

Psalms are of course Songs written to express emotion, to praise, to pray. I would like to share some thoughts on a Psalm this month.

1	Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; *
	I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord,
	my good above all other."
2	All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, *
	upon those who are noble among the people.
3	But those who run after other gods *
	shall have their troubles multiplied.
4	Their libations of blood I will not offer, *
	nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
5	O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; *
	it is you who uphold my lot.
6	My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; *
	indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
7	I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; *
	my heart teaches me, night after night.
8	I have set the Lord always before me; *
	because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
9	My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; *
	my body also shall rest in hope.
10	For you will not abandon me to the grave, *
	nor let your holy one see the Pit.
11	You will show me the path of life; *
	in your presence there is fullness of joy,
	and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

God is my security and my refuge. (v 1) How can I be secure when I know that someday I will die, when I know the storms of life will come? Though I am aware of my mortality, I know that God is with me and gives me hope. As Augustine reminds me, my heart has a God-shaped vacuum that will never be satisfied apart from Him. My security must be in Him not in running after other people or things (v 3). My need to be loved and accepted must be met first by God. How will God meet my deep need for security? He assigns the boundaries of my life and my portion. (v 5 and 6) He gives me a good heritage (v 6). He helps me face things that might be hard in the night (v 7). He helps me through those rocky places in my life (v 8). He brings me joy and a glad heart in good times and hard times, bringing hope (v 9). He will not abandon me even in death (v 10), He shows me how to live, how to walk this path of life and brings me joy in His presence as I seek Him. (v 11).



Thank you for all your support, Carol

## Guest Celebrant and Preacher in June and July

The last three Sundays in June, and if needed, the first Sunday in July, your celebrant and preacher will be The Reverend Canon Dr. Thomas Lowe. Fr. Tom and his wife, Glenna, came on Sunday in March to be with you from their home in Alamogordo, where Fr. Tom retired as rector of St. John's Episcopal Church. They will be moving to Las Cruces in June. Fr. Tom is looking forward to leading you in worship between the time of my departure and the arrival of your rector. Before ordination, Fr. Tom served in the U.S. Navy on active duty for 20 years, retiring with the rank of Captain. While on active duty, he was one of the nation's AIDS experts, functioning as a special advisor to the US Surgeons General C. Everett Koop and Antonia Novello. In that role he testified before Congress and on national TV concerning AIDS prevention, wrote the Surgeon General's Statement on AIDS and Condoms, and was the first author on the CDC Recommendations for Prevention of HIV and Hepatitis Transmission in Healthcare Settings. For 10 years, he also treated AIDS patients as a volunteer in a free clinic in Washington, D.C. Fr. Tom has published numerous works on health matters and edited a medical journal with a circulation of over a million. After retiring from the Navy, he was a consultant for the National Cancer Institute and the American Red Cross and was an expert medical witness for 13 years. In our diocese he was elected for three terms on the Standing Committee, with several years as president, served on the Diocesan Council, chaired the Bishop's Search Committee, and served as Canon for Rural Ministry.

## A Greek Archbishop of Canterbury—Come On! Theodore of Tarsus, September 19

Greek if you like, but "citizen f the world" might be better. Anyway, this is the man who got the English church organized and, I'd say, educated, in the seventh century. His hoe town...did I hear right? Yes, it was Tarsus, the city in Asia Minor that St. Paul had come from. Its languages were Aramaic and Greek and Paul knew both; Theodore was a Greek, and he might have known Aramaic, but we can't be sure.

Tarsus wasn't the pleasantest place to grow up in those days. The Roman Empire and the adjacent Persian Empire had been in a very destructive war for 50 years (it destroyed every church in Palestine except the Nativity in Bethlehem, which showed the Wise Men on the wall wearing Persian clothing) and weakened both empires, making them easy prey to the Moslems, who burst out of Arabia about 630.

In 637 they arrived in Tarsus. Actually they weren't all that intolerant; lots of Christians



remained there and in the next century the great John of Damascus did his work under Moslem rule. But Theodore didn't like them and he moved to Constantinople, the capital, then, of the Roman Empire. There, did he ever study! Astronomy, astrology, medicine, Roman law, Greek philosophy...you name it. After a while he moved to Rome, where he lived in a Greek monastery but learned Latin and got acquainted with western literature, and also some of the Roman higher ups. In 667 a new archbishop of Canterbury was needed, the person appointed died, and Theodore was named in his place by the then Bishop of Rome.

His story is tied up with the story of the English church of the time. The Roman mission was in control in the south but hadn't done awfully well. Augustin had had to flee from a pagan reaction. He came back all right, but there were plenty of pagans around, and a couple of diocese were missing bishops. And they didn't get along particularly well with the thriving church in Northumbria (Yorkshire, on the northeast coast of England) which had been converted by Irish missionaries and was suspicious of Rome.

The main issue between them sounds a bit silly...the date of Easter. But is it that silly? I often wonder what downtown El Paso is like on Easter, when St. Clement's is whooping it up and St. George's Syrian Orthodox Church, a block away, is having their Pal Sunday procession in the street. The date was supposedly settled by the Council of Nicea, but in Epiphanius' time—the late fourth century—there were no less than five dates celebrated in various places. That' simply bizarre.

Anyway, both sides calculated Easter the same way; it was just that the Irish used the wrong sort of math and came out with a different date. A conference was held at Whitby, a higly respected monastery on England's east coast, with Oswy, the king of Northumbria, presiding. There was a lot of sympathy for the Irish, but Rome represented modern civilization. (It rather reminds me of the current situation, where half of England wants out of the European Union and the other half wants to stay in.) The Irish claimed the authority of St. John but one Wilfred, who made the main speech on behalf of the Roman date, came back with the orders of St. Peter. Oswy (who had probably made up his mind) said, "Well, if Peter holds the keys I'd better go along with him; I'd hate to have him lock me out." Some wouldn't give in and went away and sulked, but it was decided that the church of Northumbria would follow the Roman date, and this put Canterbury in charge of it.

Three years later Theodore arrived. Besides being a scholar he was was an organizer. He filled the sees which were without bishops and started a couple of new diocese. Most importantly he broke up the very large diocese of Northumbria, of which Wilfrid was bishop, into five smaller diocese. He had to exile Wilfrid to do it. Wilfrid was furious and went to Rome to complain, but we can't follow that story here.

Theodore mediated conflicts and prevented a bad war in northern England. He regularized various features of the church, but perhaps the most important thing he did was to start a school at Canterbury. Its main feature was Scripture of course, but they taught a lot more: poetry, astronomy, music, how to calculate Easter and so forth.

When his students graduated many of them became abbots, and so carried his curriculum all over England. For a couple of centuries—until the Norsemen came and began to mess things up—there was a golden age of Anglo-Saxon scholarship. Theodore's school was in large part responsible.

Theodore was Archbishop of Canterbury for 33 years; he died in 690 at the age of 88. He is an example of a man who was given a job and did it well.



—Father Frank

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Jazzercise—Have you tried a Jazzercise class yet? Jazzercise is a variety of jazz dance based exercise classes including Dance Mixx, Fusion, Strike, Core, and Strength60. Jazzercise instructors are trained to show modifications for all class varieties to ensure the safety and success of all of our fitness level customers. We offer class in the morning at 8:45 Monday through Saturday, and

evening class at 4:40 PM and 5:45 PM Monday through Thursday. We look forward to having you join in on our fun soon!

## Vestry Highlights for May 14, 2019

• Vestry heard a presentation from Music Director, Carol Nike. Carol reports that the piano in the church can no longer hold a tune but must be tuned after each performance. This is due to the piano's age and the fluctuations in temperature in the church. The piano has had multiple tunings in the last few months and will have two more before the end of May. Carol feels that she can no longer ask musicians to perform with an out-of-tune piano and will not schedule recitals or other special performances until the piano is replaced. She showed the vestry three possibilities for pianos recommended by Tom Lapinski that should stand up well under temperature variations. Each of them costs about \$2500.

• Carol also brought up the subject of her two months' vacation this summer and the question of her salary and that of Fran Larson, who will conduct the choir in her absence. The choir enjoys singing together and want to continue through the summer. Carol will choose the music, as always. The vestry thanked Carol for all her hard work and the beautiful music we have enjoyed.

• Padrecita reports that in June she will meet with the Executive Committee and the staff and do one more Communion service for Good Samaritan. She will also have another meeting with the pastoral care team. She will send in a report but will not be present at the June vestry meeting. Her last day as Priest-in-Charge will be June 14th. After she leaves and before the new rector arrives, Fr. Frank will take all the Wednesday services. Phala White has spoken with Fr. Tom Lowe, who will take Sundays in June and early July. There is coverage for the rest of July, as well.

• Senior Warden, Phala White, has made hotel reservations for the delegates and wardens for the Diocesan Convention in Silver City in October.

• Junior Warden, Manny Terrazas, reports that the cooler for the Parish Hall has been replaced, and the leaking air conditioner for the church has been repaired. The temperature is much cooler now in the nave. The two malfunctioning sensors in the parish hall lights will be replaced. Manny read a letter from a parishioner who volunteers much time with maintenance of the parish hall and classroom wing. She asked us not to rush moving the books back into the library, but to consider the state of the bookcases and the condition of the books. The vestry discussed the need for leadership in the area of library content and refurbishment. Manny will talk further with the parishioner who took the time to write.

• Manny asked the vestry to make a commitment to the Sunday school repair and renewal project with possible funding from an existing line item, in addition to the generous donations that have been made. Rick Marshall has met with the teachers to come up with a plan. He and Lynn will return in early June, at which time Manny suggests that we hear a report from Rick.

• Treasurer, Nyeta Haines, reports that, in accord with the vestry vote from March, the finance committee moved \$20,000 out of operating expenses and into a Charles Schwab savings account. Operating Income for April was \$20,828.22 and expenses were \$13,893.76, a variance of \$6,934.46. YTD income in April was \$75,427.21, which is \$3200 more than was budgeted. Currently, the church is \$17,115.76 in the black!

• Terry Meyer reports that the Evangelism and Outreach Committee had 90 Esperanza bags made (by 8 a.m. parishioners and Sunday school) which contain socks; a bottle of water; towelettes; granola bar; and soap. These can be passed out by parishioners from their cars. They are located on the tall table at the entrance to the restroom corridor in the parish hall. The second Farmers Market appearance on May 4th generated even more interest than the first one. A third Saturday is planned for June 1st. The challenge will be to keep the table staffed with volunteers. The vestry thanked and commended Terry for the outstanding job he and his committee have done this year.

• Phala reports that the finance committee anticipates enough money in the Rector Search line item to cover moving expenses for the new rector. Nyeta spoke to the need for two additional line items regarding music that were inadvertently left out of the budget. The Finance Committee recommends one line item for Music Scholarships for the students who sing in the choir and the other for Music Supplies. The vestry voted

to add these line items immediately, with \$3,000 in the scholarship fund and \$500 for music supplies.

• Phala would like to take another month to ask people to serve on the "Fixer Upper Committee" which will be formed to make recommendations to the Building Committee and the vestry on beautification projects. The vestry voted to table discussion on this committee.

• Manny reports that the Search Committee has two more applicants for rector to interview in person. They will vote on the one name to give to the vestry on May 24th, then will present that name with their reasons for the recommendation at a special vestry meeting on May 28th. The vestry will then need to consult with the Bishop, after which, the Senior Warden will call the candidate to schedule another face-toface meeting. This should happen in early June.

• Under New Business, the vestry voted to appropriate the money for an organ monitor (so the organist can better assess the volume) and a new piano for the church. We will ask Barbara Toth to make the recommendation on which piano. The vestry voted to table and send back to the Finance Committee for a more detailed plan the question of a fair salary for Carol during her vacation and adequate compensation for Fran during the summer months.



- 1 Col. Jack Ancker
- 2 Jane Madrid
- 6 Larry White
- 8 Stella Palm
- 10 Martha Pickett
- 11 Sue Bateman Everett Campbell

- 12 Ruth Wiley
- 18 Mary Elizabeth Armistead
- 24 Alma Bourland
- 27 Kathy Fisher
- 28 Shirley Medlin-Fountain
- 30 Willard Lamb

If your name is not listed and should be, please call the office (526-2389) and let us know. We'd love to wish you a Happy Birthday! St. James' Episcopal Church P.O. Box 2427 Mesilla Park, NM 88047 Tel.: 575-526-2389, FAX: 575-526-4821

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Love is the way. Love is the only way. Those who follow in my way follow in the way of unconditional, unselfish, sacrificial love. And that kind of love can change the world. —Bishop Michael Curry



St. James' Holy Eucharist Service Schedule

Sundays at 8:00 am Rite I Adult Sunday School 9:30 am Children's Sunday School & Nursery 10:15 am Sundays at 10:30 am Rite II Wednesdays at 10:00 am Rite I