

# THE PARISH VISITOR

Published by St. George's Anglican Church, Las Vegas, Nevada  
& Holy Trinity Mission Church, Henderson, Nevada  
Diocese of the Southwestern States  
Anglican Province of Christ the King



## LENT & EASTER, 2007

### MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR:

*Our parish, St. George's, has the honor of hosting the annual Diocesan Synod 2007, June 13 – 16 this year. Being the host city enables all of us the chance to participate in this conference. What follows is the letter of invitation to our sister parishes in the Diocese of the Southwestern States.*

### SYNOD 2007

St. George's Anglican Church is pleased to be hosting SYNOD 2007 of the Diocese of the Southwestern States on June 13 - 16 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

We all know that Las Vegas is the "Entertainment Capital of the World," but we welcome this opportunity to showcase the strong presence of faith and family that exists here. Our local parish family has experienced wonderful growth, both in number and in depth of faith, and is committed to making SYNOD 2007 the best ever. The program we have planned is a perfect example of God's love of irony: an oasis of deep faith and commitment to family in a town noted for worldly distractions.

The weather in June will be sunny and very warm, but you won't have to worry about rain! Recreation is abundant, with many historic sights such as Hoover Dam, Red Rock Canyon and Mt. Charleston. The kids might be more interested in Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay, Siegfried and Roy's Secret Garden at the Mirage, and the Aventura dome Amusement Park at Circus Circus. Our famous restaurants and world-renowned shops are just too numerous to mention.

The early Christians understood that "where the Bishop is, there is the Church." We will come together with our Bishop throughout this SYNOD and will culminate the event with the Pontifical Mass at St. George's Anglican Church.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

We look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely in Christ, The Reverend Gordon W. Hines, Rector

### WELCOME BACK JOHN RILEY

We are very happy to have our Music Director back where he belongs. Due to the growth and success of our choir, John no longer has time to publish our newsletter, although he will continue contributing to its content through his music column. In addition, John is learning the intricacies of a new Midi (a computerized device that digitally records and reproduces sound for our organ) which is on loan to us.

John wants to thank all those who offered up prayers for his speedy recovery from his recent shoulder surgery.

### THE LENT & EASTER, 2007, KALENDAR

*This kalendar contains only items submitted up to the time of publication. It will be continuously updated monthly.*

March 18, Lent IV (Rose Sunday), Baptisms of  
Zach Pastorius, Matthew Bakken

March 22, Lenten Supper, 6:15 pm, Evensong 7:00 pm  
March 24, Marriage of Joelle Daccache  
& William Schwar, 4:00 pm

March 25, Lent V, Mattins and Mass, 10:30 am  
Annual Parish Meeting, 12 pm

April 1, Palm Sunday

April 4, Wednesday in Holy Week

Evening Prayer, 5:45 pm, Mass, 6:00 pm

April 5, Maundy Thursday, Mass 6:30 pm

April 6, Good Friday, 12 to 1:30 pm,

Stations of the Cross & Litany & 6:30 pm, Good Friday Liturgy

Saturday, April 7, Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil Mass, 6:00 pm

(NOTE: Easter Vigil Mass to be held at Holy Trinity Anglican  
Mission Church)

### APRIL 8, EASTER DAY

**8:00 am Mass with hymns, 10:30 am Choral Mass**

### TAKING LENT SERIOUSLY

To help us in our effort to keep a "good Lent," Fr. Hines is offering a series of instructional sermons on Sundays during Lent. They'll cover a few of the Church's disciplines. The schedule is as follows: Lent I - Prayer; Lent II - Meditation; Lent III - Fasting; Lent IV - Simplicity; Lent V - Solitude. Our path to spiritual growth can be found in these timeless disciplines the Church has offered its members through the ages.

### KEEPING A "GOOD LENT"

+ Read The Lord's Prayer, by N. T. Wright.

+ Attend Bible study during Lent. If you can't make it, select a book of the Bible to read such as: St. John's Gospel, St. Mark's Gospel, St. Paul's 1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to the Corinthians, Genesis or Jeremiah.

+ Attend weekday Liturgies.

+ Get involved in a church ministry. Interested? Talk to Fr. Hines+

+ Attend the Adult Confirmation/Enquirer's class every Sunday  
9 - 10 am. Cont'd p. 2

### **TIMES FOR MAKING YOUR CONFESSION DURING LENT**

Fr. Greer will be available to hear confessions on Saturdays, March 18, and March 31, from 4 to 5 pm. Fr. Hines will be available to hear confessions on Saturday, March 18, 1 to 2 pm, and Good Friday, April 6, from 9 to 10 am. Fr. Cantrell will be traveling off and on but will be happy to hear confessions by appointment (cell: 335-2398).

### **MATTINS and MASS Sunday March 25, 10:30 am EVENSONG**

#### **Thursday, March 22, 6:15 pm for 7 pm**

Traditionally, our church has always marked Lent and Advent as times for reflection, penitence, fasting and resolve, and as an observance of those aspects, many churches hold special services and meetings during those seasons. A year ago, we added Even- song on three occasions during Lent, and three more during Advent.

It seems accurate to say that we at St. George's have the highest respect for the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. We love its doctrines, the unsurpassed beauty of its language, its traditions and orders of service. Unfortunately, the busy lives we have all built for ourselves do not often provide enough incentive for reading through the "28's" prayers and services. As a Catholic congregation, we seem well versed in the "Order of Administration of the Lord's Supper," or "Holy Communion," and some of us took the opportunity to renew our reading and singing of the "Order for Daily Evening Prayer." This year seems to offer a fine opportunity for us to continue our renewals of our prayer book's services by holding the "Order for Daily Morning Prayer," immediately before our Mass one Sunday morning.

It is possible to combine both services within our usual Sunday morning service time if we apply a few acceptable changes:

- First, we shall omit the customary, "Opening Hymn" (It isn't listed in the Prayer Book!) Because it would be illogical to sing, "O Lord, open thou our lips," when we had just finished singing several verses of a bright morning hymn. Perhaps we will diminish the silence by having the choir singing a short introit during the entrance of the celebrant and acolytes.
- We shall sing only one of the "Psalms of the Day"
- Following the guidelines in the Prayer Book, at the end of the Te Deum, we shall move on to the Lord's Prayer on page 67.
- The Mass itself will be said throughout, but we shall sing three hymns: the Sermon Hymn, the Communion Hymn, and the Closing Hymn. On Thursday, March 22, we shall continue the sequence of last year's Lent and Advent services by singing Evensong at 7:00 pm, preceded by a light supper at 6:15 pm.

Yes, we do live busy lives, and families, jobs and a host of other responsibilities place heavy demands upon us, but I hope you will be able to spare some time to share in these beautiful traditional services we shall be holding in Lent.

### **HOLY TRINITY MISSION CHURCH**

In looking forward to Easter, Holy Trinity is excited to have the opportunity to share a service with St. George's. This year the Easter Vigil will be a combined effort with Holy Trinity and St. George's, meeting in Henderson on April 7, 2007. Please come join us on this solemn occasion as we change from the penitential season of Lent into the celebration of Christ's victory over sin and resurrection. We will also be witnesses to the Holy Baptism of "Baby Girl" Recher (soon to be recognized as Katherine Anne). Watch for the time and more information in upcoming weeks in the bulletins of St. George's and Holy Trinity, or visit our website at: <http://www.holytrinity-nv.org/>.

Holy Trinity has been meeting weekly at the Hawthorn Inn & Suites, located at 910 S. Boulder Highway in Henderson. The major cross streets are Greenway and Boulder Highway, which is approximately 1.5 miles south of Lake Mead Drive. Holy Trinity's schedule, contact information and location are on the website.

### **FR. GREER'S CLASS ON THE MASS**

Learn more about the meaning behind our worship in the Mass by attending Fr. Greer's class on the Mass, which will begin after Easter. The first class starts on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> between 9 and 10 am. Fr. Greer regrets that the parish's spring schedule wouldn't allow him to teach his Anglicanism class.

### **WHAT'S UP WITH OUR AYG?**

Our Youth Group is involved in a number of events to help raise money for their summer church camp. Our AYG recently raised over \$200 at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Upcoming fundraisers include a candy sale, an off-site car wash, and renting a fire-works stand, selling fire works in a designated retail area. It is vitally important that we make every effort to support our youth and all their activities. The youth have their sights on holding this year's summer camp at Mt. Zion National Park.

Also, the AYG has begun a new instructional program offered by acclaimed evangelist Chuck Colson and prominent teen evangelist Ron Luce. Their program, "Rewired" teaches a biblical world view through an "engaging, often humorous, and always relevant DVD program." The "Rewired" curriculum consists of twelve one-hour lessons supported by group participation.

We want to thank Jeff Field, our former Senior Warden, for stepping up and assisting Julie Viacava, our Youth Group Director.

### **LECTOR SCHEDULE**

Each week: 8:00 am: John Riley  
10:30 am Mass  
Lent IV, March 18, Tracy Belt  
Lent V, March 25, Ed Jost  
Palm Sunday, April 1, Tracy Belt  
Easter Day, April 8, Mike McKeag

## COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

March 18, Fely Covert & Julie Viacava  
 March 25, Martha Murray, Kim Jones, Laura Seibert  
 April 1, Tracy Belt

## THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

People have been asking me about recent developments at the now concluded gathering of leading Anglican bishops from around the world in Tanzania, Africa.

At this time, I feel the best way to respond is to quote what our Archbishop, Robert Morse, has had to say on this subject from his pastoral letter he sent to all the churches last year.

“For 30 years we of the Province of Christ the King as orthodox Christians have unflinchingly withstood the assault of the zeitgeist [spirit of the time]. The rejection of the moral standards of Christ now shredding the Anglican world is only a symptom not the root cause. The initial cause was and has continued to be the rejection by leading Anglican bishops of the divinity of Christ and His bodily resurrection. This is the foundation of our Catholic faith. Without it, humanity stumbles like blind men in spiritual darkness. There are no absolutes or moral guides.”

Time will tell where each of these bishop’s stand. In the meantime, we can heed the counsel of our Archbishop, who has called on each of us to pray “that God’s Grace will pour forth and heal our brethren blindness and restore their sight to see the light of Christ’s Incarnation.”

## MITE BOXES FOR EVERYONE

Sunday School teacher Kim Jones says, “We are teaching the children about Lent and giving a little extra and we have provided them all with mite boxes.” However, we set the example of giving; therefore, everyone should take home a mite box. If you would like a tax deduction, feel free to write your name on your mite box. These monies are a vital means of financial support for our national seminary, St. Joseph’s Anglican Theological College. Mite boxes are available on the table near the entrance to the church.

## EASTER BASKET RAFFLE

St. Anne’s ACW annual Easter basket raffle drawing will take place on Palm Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. This year two Easter baskets are being offered, one for children and one for adults. These beautiful baskets are filled with an assortment of goodies like gift certificates, food, candy and toys. Raffle tickets are available during Coffee Hour -- \$5 for one, three for \$10.

## EASTER DAY DEDICATION

Early in February, our Music Director published a full-page article about the renovations and additions which had been given to our Rodgers "T807" organ. He explained that a vital element of the improvement was by the addition of an organ expansion instrument, known technically as a "Midi," that adds to our instrument more than 200 stops.

The additions are brilliantly outstanding ranging from reproductions of sound from Saint Sulpice in Paris, a Cor Anglais, Oboe, and Clarinet in Prague Symphony Orchestra to the state trumpets in the Royal Albert Hall.

Of course, the new expansion instrument is costly, and we accepted it merely on a trial basis. One of our choristers, Bill Welter, is well-skilled in our church music and procedures, having a wealth of music experience as far back as he can remember. In addition to seeing how thrilled John Riley was by the myriad sounds, Bill himself was impressed by them and saw the potential they have to make excellent support and almost continuous improvement to our music.

Bill has been extremely generous in providing for several of our needs at St. George’s, and, perhaps because he loves and understands church music, he came forward even once again and stated in no uncertain terms that he would provide the music expansion for us. Because of his foresight and generosity, the expansion instrument will be permanently installed on our T807 before the end of March. Far more notable, our Easter music will be taken to a new and thrilling level from the beautiful sounds from all over Europe and North America. Our music for Easter Day and the future will indeed be accompanied by sounds that do indeed, ""...Praise God in His Holiness..."

## A NEW ALTAR TABERNACLE

A parishioner recently gave a generous memorial cash gift for acquisition of a new altar tabernacle. We accepted the help of Retired Harvard Professor of Religious Art, and member of St. Nicholas Anglican Church in Scottsdale, Bill Coles, in our search. After much research and prayer, he found a very rare solid bronze tabernacle. (Tabernacles house the Blessed Sacrament on the altar, where it is kept in reserve and administered by the Priest to the sick and to others unable to attend Mass). The tabernacle is meant to be our permanent tabernacle and its most appropriate setting will be in the future church building.



## CHOIR NEWS

A couple of times last year, with less humor than truth, I described our choir as "Roller Choralis." We have endured and overcome more ups and downs than ever seems possible for such a small group of dedicated folk, yet here we are, in the second month of 2007, still smiling at our very impressive progress since last fall, quietly happy about the fine music we produced for Advent and Christmas.

For the past few months we have enjoyed good strength brought by new members and the vastly improved contribution we are able to make to our Mass each Sunday morning. A very large part of our success has been effected by a matching improvement in our surroundings: the noisy platforms and metal folding chairs have been replaced by good upholstered heavy wood pews and kneelers; the new windows decorated by stained glass borders are uplifting, and coming close to the heart of home for a choir, the cassocks and surplices, the traditional white on black, have been every bit as much of a psychological boost as a visual one. The opening and closing hymns sung in procession by a robed choir provide dignity and form for our services, and Carol Starr and Sandra Mihail gave beautiful solos at the "Nine Lessons," and the Three Kings, not even with us last year, sang the traditional solo verses.

Things are going very well. Even at the Wednesday choir practices, attendance has improved and with it, our music has improved. We are well in control in pointing the "new" psalms and canticles we shall sing at Mattins and Evensong in Lent; we have an Armstrong Gibbs anthem, "O Praise God in His holiness" ready perhaps for Easter, perhaps for the Archbishop's visit, and the choir's singing of the Introits and Graduals is unfailingly one of the most beautiful aspects of the music at our Mass.

That is quite a glowing assessment compared with one a year ago when we were down to three for four members, and here with a muster of fourteen singers, but wider view suggests a word of caution. Roller Choralis lives on. Even in the moment of enjoying fourteen singers, we are mindful that because of the times we live in, the hackneyed term, "fluid community," affects choirs just as much as anything else. We are told that within a time frame of a few weeks to three or four months, we shall be losing three of our lead singers to family relocations; and two of the remaining members must, because of business demands, miss choir occasionally, sometimes for several weeks at a time; and at least two other members cannot always attend choir owing to work responsibilities.

So even at this time, theoretically surrounded by fourteen robed singers, I have to make with great sincerity the plea for more choristers. I would very much like us to have at least three people who can take over in the few weeks ahead. In addition, we are in dire need of two more basses and one more tenor.

Would I accept four basses and three tenors? Try me!

I would like to thank publicly all the members of our choir for their dedication and constant gifts of time, care and good will – they give much good to St. George's and in many tough times have worked hard to keep the Roller Choralis on the rails. To each of them I offer a heartfelt, "Thank you." - *John G. Riley*

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