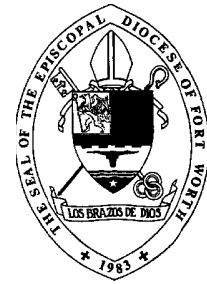


The Epistle



A PUBLICATION FOR THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY APOSTLES

PENTECOST A.D. 2010

FROM THE RECTOR:

BELOVED in Christ,
AUGUST. The month sees three great feast days - The Transfiguration of Our Lord and the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Saint Bartholomew's Day.

THE Transfiguration (August 6th) bears witness to the identity of Jesus as God made Man. What Peter, James, and John saw on the mountain was confirmation of the reality of the Incarnation. Jesus is revealed in his glory speaking with Moses and Elijah - the embodiment themselves, of the Law and the Prophets! It was a wondrous event. That sort of thing just doesn't normally happen - but it did! And Saint Peter and the Sons of Thunder (*What a great name for a band!*) are strengthened for the launch of the Gospel enterprise by their presence at the occurrence.

THE other great feast of this month is the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the BVM (August 15th). It is kept as the Assumption of the BVM by the Roman Catholics, as the Dormition - the Falling Asleep of the Theotokos by the Eastern Orthodox, and the Anglican world simply as the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

THE Feast declares that the Mother of God was resurrected to eternal life as a pledge of the general resurrection that awaits us. As the collect in our Prayer Book has it, "O God, who hast taken to thyself the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of thy incarnate Son. Grant that we, who have been redeemed by his blood, may share with her the glory of thine eternal kingdom." The vast majority of Christians past and present hold the Blessed Mother in very high regard. We have collectively believed her to



be already in the glory of the eternal kingdom. That is where we want to be, I trust. I take comfort in knowing of the close and special relationship between Our Lord and His Blessed Mother. The consistent witness of the Church is that she is concerned for us also. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. She enjoys that life even now.

I AM most grateful for your devotion expressed in our recitation of the Angelus at the beginning of the 10:00 service. If it is new to you, I ask that you give it time and allow yourself to join in this prayer of the Church. I have heard it prayed by Anglicans all over the US and most recently at Walsingham. The Angelus is a meditation on the mystery of Our Lord's Incarnation through the involvement of the Blessed Mother. In reciting that devotion we join with countless numbers of Christians in calling her blessed whom the Father chose to be the mother of His incarnate Son for us and for our salvation. And so we ask her intercession for us "to be made worthy of the promises of Christ."

THE month rounds out with another apostle's feast day; that of Saint Bartholomew (Tuesday, the 24th). Bartholomew is usually identified with Nathanael, he whom Jesus observed was "an Israelite indeed in whom is no guile." (John 1:45-51) Saints Matthew, Mark, and Luke all mention Bartholomew in the company of Philip, but no Nathanael. Saint John speaks of Nathanael in the company of Philip, but no Bartholomew. Bartholomew is usually taken to mean "Son ("Bar" in Hebrew means "Son") of Tolmai." So Nathanael Bartholomew was probably his whole name. We will keep his feast with the regular Tuesday 9:00 celebration of the Eucharist.

FALL is just around the corner and the summer nearly over - get ready to jump back into the swing of things.

GOD Bless you all,
Father Chris +

*The purpose of the Church of the Holy Apostles
is to glorify God through worship, discipleship, stewardship, fellowship, and love.*

AROUND THE PARISH

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN:

I'M NOT sure where the summer went, but suddenly it's August, school is just around the corner, and soon we'll resume a fuller schedule of activities including Sunday morning classes and Wednesday evening activities.

UNTIL then, we'll celebrate some special events this month.

FIRST is the Feast of St. Mary the Virgin on Sunday, August 15, which we'll celebrate with a solemn high mass.

THE FOLLOWING Sunday will be Deacon Sam Keyes' last one with us before he leaves for Boston to resume his academic pursuits later that week. It has been a blessing to have Sam with us this summer and for our parish family to support his formation in his vocation. Please make a special effort to be in church on the 22nd to wish Sam well before he leaves us. (Something tells there may even be cake.)

LOOKING forward, September 12 will be our annual Fall Rally Day, an event at which we'll "bring into orderly arrangement, to renew order or united effort, as troops scattered or put to flight; to assemble; to unite" (as an ancient Webster's Dictionary defines "rally") and sign up for the various groups and volunteer activities that are essential to our parish life. Please make a special effort to be in church on that Sunday, too.

IF YOU visit the kitchen for a soft drink, you'll notice that there's a new refrigerator, courtesy of the HAMs (Holy Apostles Men's group). Thanks to Collin Andrus and Shorty Mendoza for picking it up and delivering it. Thanks also to the HAMs for picking up the cost of our lawn maintenance through the summer. Guys, we'll continue to do a Saturday breakfast once a month — please join us if you possibly can, and get to know your brothers in Christ. I'll send out an e-mail prior to our August breakfast.

PLEASE continue to be faithful in your attendance, your stewardship, and your prayers for our parish.

In Christ,

Todd Marchand

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

August 2-8: Fr. Chris on vacation
(Dcn. Sam will still be in the office.)

August 15 SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN, aka Assumption
10:00 AM - Solemn Mass (with incense)

August 16-18: Fr. Chris away at SSC retreat

August 22 The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Dcn. Sam's last Sunday at Holy Apostles

August 24 SAINT BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE
9:00 AM - Low Mass

September 12 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Rally Day

September 18
5:30 PM - Fish Fry

PARISH OUTREACH:

OUR present project is to help supply the food pantry run by **Iglesia San Miguel**, our Hispanic mission on the south-east side of Fort Worth. We are collecting non-perishable food items & canned goods. Place them in the basket in the narthex

PLEASE remember that green box sitting on the table in the narthex. It costs about \$100 a month to support a priest in Northern Malawi. Please be generous.

THE DIOCESAN Summer Book drive will continue through the first week of August. Please donate new children's books in the box in the narthex. See the flyer on the box for more information on where the books are going.

WE WOULD like to begin gathering in school supplies to be given to needy kids in the area. So if you are able pick up some extras and drop them off with us.

ALTAR FLOWERS:

FLOWER guild volunteers are needed to help make the weekly floral arrangements and water plants. Experience is helpful, but not necessary, we will provide training as needed. It's a fun and creative way to serve. If you are interested, please contact Leah Lancaster at 817-709-5776 or lelanc@sbcglobal.net.

FROM THE DEACON:

IT IS amazing to me how quickly the summer has gone by. And you should take that as a subtle compliment—I may not have very much pastoral experience under my belt, but I have had several summer church jobs, some of which felt much longer!

THIS past week I was able to go down to the prison with David Huebner for the Kairos meeting. I was very moved by this ministry, and the devotion of the prisoners involved in it. Please remember it in your prayers, as we do at mass every week. And if you ever feel inclined to participate, I encourage you to do so. Kairos is much less a ministry *to* prisoners as it is a ministry *by* and *with* prisoners. I was a little surprised to find a group of prisoners devoted to intercessory prayer each week—not only for themselves, but for concerns of the Church and the world everywhere. Those men witness in a powerful way to the abundant life of the Spirit. It is easy to convince ourselves that we are the “haves” and others are the “have-nots”, but God so often surprises us. Those deprived of material things have much more to give us in the spiritual realm.

LET ME echo the Rector’s comments on the first page. Please do not allow yourself to write off Marian devotion as something that those Roman Catholics do and therefore irrelevant to Anglicans/Episcopalians. Truth is truth is truth, and our concern should never be, “Is it Anglican?” or “Is it catholic” but, “Is it true?” Now that is not to say that we should each go off on a rationalistic quest devoid of communal commitments; what it means is that we should shun any kind of party loyalty when it comes to our religion. Certainly I and many Anglo-Catholics are often guilty of doing things in a “Catholic” way simply because we do not want to do them in a “Protestant” way or whatever. But that kind of oppositional stance is not the way of the gospel. If we spend all our time worrying about how to be “good Anglicans” or “good Catholics” or any other thing, we won’t even be able to do that. Our only task is to follow Jesus.

WHENEVER people have tried to follow a Jesus without Mary (and there have been such attempts since the beginning), they’ve ended up constructing a Jesus in their own image. The only Jesus I know is the son of Mary. Other Jesuses may be more comfortable, more familiar, or more convenient, but they are not the Jesus of the Bible and of history who by his cross and passion redeemed the world. Let’s follow the real Jesus. Can you think of anyone better than Mary to show us how?

SADLY this will be my last newsletter piece for Holy Apostles. I leave Texas the last weekend of August for Mississippi (where my family is) and then Boston. It has been wonderful to get to know you over these short months. I will miss you. Remember me in your prayers when you can. I embark on

a long course of study in a new and unfamiliar place. Lord willing I will be involved with a diocese in New England while remaining canonically resident here. Hopefully I will be back in Fort Worth from time to time. God grant you every blessing. Keep the faith!

Deacon Sam

MANY THANKS:

To **Gordon Henry** for tending the Garth so well.

To **Jim McClellan** for keeping things stocked up and refilled.

To **Carole Huebner** and the **Altar Guild** for faithful behind-the-scenes service to us all.

To the **HAMs** for the new drink fridge for the parish hall.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

The Stephen Ministers will meet next on September 20 at 7 pm in the Library. If anyone is interested in becoming a Stephen Minister or learning more about this ministry, contact Joe Rubin at 817 922-8810 or talk to Fr. Chris.

HAM (HOLY APOSTLES MEN) NEWS:

Mark your calendars for our HAM fish fry on September 18 at 5:30 PM. The other parishes of the Deanery will also be involved. Tickets will go on sale soon: \$10 for adults, \$6 for kids age 6-12, free for kids under 6.

Yours in Christ,
Jim Owens
Head HAM

HAM questions or suggestions?
Please contact: Jim Owens: softtextplus@sbcglobal.net or
Richard Weber, *HAMs* clerk: rfweber3@gmail.com



ANNIVERSARIES:

- August 2 Jack Noble & Johanna White
 5 David & Nikki Wilson
 6 Richard & Cyndi Weber
 10 David & Carole Huebner
 21 John & Pam Upward
 24 Numan & Dianna Loafman



BIRTHDAYS:

- August 1 Patty Fenoglio
 2 Hank Hentz
 10 Danny Hentz
 11 Tommy Farris, Ann Hentz
 12 Stacy Weber
 13 Dianna Loafman
 14 Mary Jacque Thompson
 15 Cody Self, Tracey Mince
 25 Dot Irons
 26 Kelsi Upward, Sue Warner
 27 Sarah Stubblefield, Michele Walker
 29 Kyle Farris

YOUR VESTRY:

Todd Marchand, Sr. Warden	817 444-3811
Tim Gauntt, Jr. Warden	817 789-5949
Charra Wright, Treasurer	817 244-2397
Nikki Wilson, Clerk	817 568-2357
Bruce Trahey	817 271-6204
Susan Henry	817 926-0376
Debbie Reddick	817 236-9874
Paul Simpson	817 594-0379
Jim Owens	817 925-2611


The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available at announced times
 and by appointment.
 Holy Day Services are as announced.
 A Nursery is provided 9:30 - 11:30 on Sundays.
 The Parish Office is open 9:00 AM.- 4:00 PM. Monday - Friday

How to contact us:

Office: (817) 560-7187
 Rectory: (817) 560-2199
 Fax: (817) 560-1518
 Web: www.holyapostlesfortworth.org
 E-mail: hapostles@swbell.net

Sunday	8:00 AM. Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
	9:00 AM. Sunday School
	9:30 AM. Choir Practice (starting 9/12)
	10:00 AM. Holy Eucharist (Rite I)
	11:15 AM. Coffee Hour

Mon-Thursday	8:30 AM Morning Prayer
Tuesday	9:00 AM Holy Eucharist
Friday	Rector's Day Off



CHURCH *of the*
HOLY APOSTLES
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