

ST. BEDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, LOS ANGELES, CA

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 25, 2010

Welcome to St. Bede's Church. We're pleased that you have chosen to worship here today. If you are visiting, please sign the guest book or fill out the card in the Visitor's packet, and join the congregation downstairs in the parish hall for refreshments after the service. If you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Episcopal Church, simply relax with the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. The rest rooms, nursery and classrooms are located downstairs off the parish hall.

The Gospel reading today is Luke's account of Jesus' teaching about prayer. He gives his disciples a model for prayer and then speaks of God's willingness to hear our prayers. Jesus describes human situations in which a parent's willingness to give children what they need is a sign that God, who is far more loving and good than any human parent, is even more ready to grant that which we need.

We continue today to read Paul's Epistle to the Colossians. Jesus in his death, resurrection, and ascension is the ultimate and perfect mediator between God and humanity. In our baptismal union with him we are not only beneficiaries of his intercession but share with him in that mediatorial role. That role is expressed in the liturgy in the Prayers of the People, and more generally in our life of prayer. We gather in the Eucharist as the priestly people of God, called by God into union with Christ, and bringing the world to God that it may be redeemed.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*. Copyright 1998 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

The Rt. Rev. J. Jon Bruno D.D. is the Bishop of Los Angeles

The Very Rev. Canon James Newman M. Div. is the Rector of St. Bede's Parish & Dean of Deanery 3

The Rev. Vicki Mouradian, M.A. is the Assistant • The Rev. Giovan King, D. Min. is the Associate

Mr. Frank Basile is the Director of Music

Canon Annette Graw is the President of Deanery 3, Diocese of Los Angeles

Ms. Rea Crane & Ms. Carly Portalupi are the Wardens of this Parish

Lay Canons of the Diocese of Los Angeles: Annette Graw, Edmonde Haddad, Wes Hartley, Ruth Nicastro

- *Nursery care is available downstairs. We also have speakers in the patio should your child wish to go outside*
- *You are invited to receive communion at the Lord's Table.*
- *If you wish a pastoral call, please see a member of the Clergy or the Vestry member on duty.*
- *Items to be included in the bulletin must be at the office by the preceding Tuesday morning.*

ST. BEDE'S CHURCH

The Episcopal Parish of Mar Vista, Venice, Ocean Park, Marina del Rey & Playa Vista

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INTERCESSIONS

◆ We pray for the Archbishop of Canterbury; Katharine, our Presiding Bishop; Jon, Diane & Mary, our bishops, and James, Vicki & Giovan, our clergy; for Frank-Joaquin-Tom-RoseMarie-Michael & Jeannette, our lay staff & for the clergy & people of St. Andrew's with St. Agnes in Romford, England and St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Los Angeles. In our parish, we pray for the St. John's Guild, the Sisters of Bede, the Brothers of Bede, the Bookworms of Bede, the Kids of Bede & the Friends of Bede.

◆ [ANGELICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: PRAY for L'Eglise Episcopale du Rwanda The Most Revd Emmanuel Musaba Kolini Archbishop of Rwanda & Bishop of Kigali;

◆ **DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER: World Mission Companions:** *The Diocese of El Salvador: Misión Santiago de Jeruzalen (El Carmen Jiquilisco, Usulután), the Diocese of Belize: St. Anne's (Belmopan); Congregations: St. James' (South Pasadena, Los Angeles, Newport Beach), St. Martha's (West Covina); Clergy: Dina Ferguson, Jerome Kabler; Widows: Kitty Lindusky.]*

◆ We pray for Barack, our President; Arnold, our Governor; & the mayors of our cities. We pray for peace in the world & remember all those serving their countries at home and abroad, especially those we name ...

◆ We remember the **ill & those in need:** Frank, Linda, Dulcie, Michael, Edmonde, Harriet, John, Elsie, Daniel, Joe, Wes, Peggy, Kim, Frances, Kanan, Jo, Peggy, Marilyn, Vicki, Steven, David, Dan, Kelly, Eileen, Michael, Caleb, Dennis, Zach, ...

◆ We remember those who have **died:** ...

◆ The **flowers** are given to the Glory of God ...; the **Sanctuary lamp** is lighted this week to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for her granddaughter Courtney Lake Mills AND in thanksgiving for the birthday of Kyle Ferstead by Nancy Mills.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

**WEDNESDAY - J. S. Bach, G. F. Handel
& Henry Purcell:**

2 Chronicles 7.1-6; Ps. 150; Colossians 2.2-6; Luke 2.8-14

SUNDAY – Pentecost 10/Proper 13:

Hosea 11.1-11; Ps. 107.1-9,43; Colossians 3:1-11;
Luke 12:13-21

CLERGY SCHEDULE

(available for office appointments or confessions)

Canon Jim

M: 2 - 7 pm; T: 10am-6pm; W: 2 - 10 pm;

F: Noon - 4 pm; S: 9 am - 5 pm

Mthr. Vicki

M: 6-9 pm, W: 11 am - 9 pm



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THIS WEEK AT ST. BEDE'S

DATE	TIME	EVENT
TODAY	3 pm	Needlers of Bede
	6 pm	Evening Prayer
Monday	7.30 pm	Vestry
Wednesday	7 pm	Holy Eucharist
	7.40 pm	Adult Forum: <i>History of Early Christianity</i>
Saturday	9 am-@ pm	Parish Work Day
	4 pm	OPCC/Turning Point
Sunday	8 & 10 am	Holy Eucharist
	[Hosts: 8/J. Newman; 10/M. Mullins]	
	9 am	Choir rehearsal
	9.45 am	Nursery
	6 pm	Evening Prayer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The **Pentecost Quill & July Calendar** is available on line and in the narthex rack.
- Please sign up for **refreshment hosting** in coming weeks – the list is bare!!
- **EARLY CHRISTMAS: AIDS Project** – We need new toys for children & help with stamps as each client (228) receives a stamped Christmas card to send where they wish; also looking for gifts (\$10 gift certs./Target) for 228 adolescents; also shampoos or soaps from hotels
- Next **OPCC/Turning Point** on July 31.
- **Parish work day:** 9 am - 2 pm, July 31
- **Bookworms of Bede** will discuss:
8/16 - *Gilead*, M. Robinson

SERVING TODAY

Presiding & Preaching (8): The Rev. Victoria Mouradian
Lay Minister (8): Michael Gallagher
Lector (8): Roger Jayne
Greeter (8): Ron Zullo
Healing Chapel (8): Gina Turella
Refreshments (8): Joan Reitzel & Tana Raikes

Presiding & Preaching (10): The Rev. Victoria Mouradian
Music Director (10): Frank Basile
Vocal Section Leaders (10): Anita Van Tellingen; Cynthia Rothschild; Ben Enright; Joe Montgomery
Lay Ministers (10): Angus Mackay, Diane Gandara, Kim Hudson, Peggy Levenstein, Michael Mullins, Ashkan Sobhe, Adelaide Vaughn
Greeters (10): Russ Harter, Penny Jennings
Healing Chapel (10): Sharon Arthur
Refreshments (10): Joan Reitzel & Tana Raikes

Vestry Member on Duty: Gina Turella

Counters: Nancy Holly & Dennis Doherty

Maintain an attitude of gratitude

By Dean Wolfe

...the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control ...

—Galatians 5:22-23

What an exciting time to be an Episcopalian! In this dynamic (and sometimes dramatic) moment in our church's history, I am enthusiastic about the good work the Episcopal Church continues to accomplish. The Episcopal Church holds open one of the widest doors in Christendom while working tirelessly to care for those in the greatest need. Our work in Haiti, on the Gulf Coast and around the planet reflects our concern for every child of God. We have seldom been led with such clarity and self-control, and it is a privilege to work under the patient leadership of our presiding bishop as we seek to interpret the vision and mission we share with the wider church.



Dean Wolfe

Our economy has given us a wild ride over the past several years. We've all watched carefully as it rose and, more particularly, fell. Many people, including my own spouse, lost jobs in the economic downturn, and these losses invite our care and concern.

For others, however, a difficult economy has offered an easy excuse to cut back on giving to the church, even though they themselves have not been affected personally by the downturn. The Rev. John Claypool used to speak compellingly about our "not-enoughness," that gnawing sense that we never have enough and, indeed, we never can be enough. It's easy to succumb to such anxiety and fear when money is involved.

For still others, disagreement with a particular clergy person, policy or decision becomes the motivation for withholding their gift. As a parish priest, I've begged parishioners not to hold the ministry of the parish hostage to personal agendas.

The work of a parish, a diocese or even the wider church is larger than any one of us. In the Episcopal Church, we continue to trust the Holy Spirit speaking through all God's people through the various councils of our church. How can we call it Christian stewardship if there are strings attached to our giving?

Jesus preached a gospel of radical generosity because he knew what a spiritual difference it made in the hearts of the people, and Jesus knew everyone, even the poorest widow, had something important to give.

As Dr. Joseph Fort Newton was leaving a Baptist pulpit to become an Episcopal priest, he wrote in *River of Years* my favorite description of our beloved church:

Something deep in me responds to the sweet and tempered ways of the Episcopal Church. Its atmosphere of reverence, its ordered and stately worship, its tradition of historic continuity, linking today with ages ago; its symbols which enshrine the faith of the past and the hope of the future; its wise and wide tolerance; its old and lovely liturgy — like a stairway, worn by many feet, whereon men climb to God — and, still more, the organized mysticism of its sacraments — all these things of beauty and grace move me profoundly.

More vital still, if possible, is the central and strategic position which the Episcopal Church holds in the confused religious situation of our time. It is the roomiest church in Christendom, in that it accepts the basic facts of Christian faith as symbols of transparent truths, which each may interpret as his insight explores their depth and wonder. Midway between an arid liberalism and an acrid orthodoxy, it keeps its wise course, conserving the eternal values of faith while seeking to read the word of God revealed in the tumult of the time. If its spirit and attitude were better understood, it would be at once the haven and the home of many vexed minds torn between loyalty to the old faith and the new truth. After all, there is one church of Christ. It may wear many names, but its faith is one, and finally, soon or late, it will be one fellowship, drawn together by creative desire or driven together by sheer necessity of facing the forces of destruction in our day, which, if they have their way, will end in materialism and futility. Each man should labor where he can do his best work in behalf of our common Christian enterprise; and I look forward to happy and fruitful service in a great and gracious fellowship.

Newton wrote these words more than 60 years ago, but they hold meaning for us as well. Who would not want to be deeply generous — joyfully, wholly, radically generous — to a church like the one he describes, the church we love and the church to which we belong?

The Rt. Rev. Dean Wolfe is bishop of the Diocese of Kansas and vice president of the Episcopal Church's House of Bishops. This commentary appears in the August 2010 issue of Episcopal News Monthly.