Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.

There is a particular hymn that we sing at Christmas, a hymn that we all know so very well. It is sometimes called a Christmas Carol and we often think of it as such. But the libretto is rich with deep theological meaning; the words convey a sense of longing and wonder, great joy as well as sadness, silent meditation and exaltation. It is a masterful creation and one that moves the hearts of all who sing it.

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” was written in the late Nineteenth Century by Phillips Brooks, Anglican clergyman and rector of Trinity Church, Boston. This hymn conveys the mystery of Advent better than nearly any hymn I know. Although it is assigned to the Christmas section in our hymnal, the spirit of Advent is present in every line. We hear the note of anticipation, the quiet wonder of the season, the expectation of the birth of Emmanuel. We hear of the angel voices that bring us tidings of great joy. We hear of angels keeping watch while we mortals sleep, of the dark night waking and of Christmas coming once again. Once again, Christmas is here.

The genius of Phillips Brooks' lyric is that it compresses time; it shows us the present and the past as always with us, but always belonging to God. We are aware of the past, that first Christmas so long ago. We are aware, too, that Christmas will come to us yet again this year. Christ was born to Mary over two thousand years ago. He
lived in time as a human being. Yet, as God, He is beyond time; He is eternal and forever. We are reminded of that truth in this familiar hymn, just as we are reminded of it in the Scriptures.

During Advent, we are asked to prepare ourselves in very special ways. We are asked to use this penitential season to prepare a place for God. We need to relearn the gift of patience; to wait, to reflect, to empty ourselves so that God may enter in. At times, it is very difficult for us to do this. We have busy lives, cares and worries that occupy our every waking moment. But even in these waking moments we are often asleep to the presence of God among us. At such times (and they are many), we often seem to reflect the stillness of Bethlehem in the days before the birth of Jesus. We may know of the signs and wonders that foretell the coming of a Messiah; we may hear in the stillness of our lives that He is coming among us. And as we awake along with the darkness, we know that something deep and truly profound has taken place. We know it in our hearts as this new understanding grows within us. And it is in such moments that the angels truly rejoice: when Christ is born in us.

Advent is a time of preparation. Christmas will come again. But it will be new this year. That which is eternal meets that which is now; God enters time and becomes one with us.

“The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.”

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I wish you a Blessed Advent and a Joyous Christmas!”

Your Brother in Christ,

+Brian
**Diocesan Synod**

Our Diocesan Synod was a great success due to the advance planning of Deacon Merrill Perkins and St. Matthias Church in Mystic, Connecticut. It is a tribute to Deacon Merrill and his small congregation, as well as a reminder to us all that even the smallest parishes can make an enormous contribution to God’s Holy Church. Indeed, it is a reminder that every Christian can make a great contribution when the work is done in the spirit of Christian mission.

Thanks to St. Matthias from a very grateful diocese.

Thanks to Linnea Shaver and Kathy Lippman for their work in arranging the administrative details; the business meeting moved easily through the agenda due to their planning and expertise. For the fourth year, Allan Wylie has assembled a booklet of report that has streamlined our reporting process. Over the years, this booklet has expanded to include the agenda, consolidated report of the diocese and reports from the national church such as that of the International Anglican Fellowship. It is a very useful document and one that can be used as a resource throughout the year.

Kathy Lippman, our diocesan treasurer, chairs a meeting of the Deo Gratias fund every year. This year, Deo Gratias contributions will go to St. Luke’s Camp and Fr. LaMarre’s animal rescue program, among others. Deo Gratias is a very worthy ministry of the women’s guild.

The Houses of Clergy and Laity divided just prior to lunch and discussed several important issues particular to each body. The House of Clergy focused on mission and evangelism. Many ideas were shared and perspectives offered. It was noted that, through the faithful preaching of the gospel much can be accomplished. The House of Laity focused on St. Luke’s Camp, reconciliation and stewardship. St. Luke’s Camp is currently operating at approximately thirty percent capacity. Though the camp has the necessary financial resources, it is essential that we attract more children to this excellent program.

The synod Mass was held in the meetinghouse at Olde Mystick Village, the chapel that is used by St. Matthias. The meetinghouse is less than a quarter of a mile from the hotel where we held the business meetings. Because it was so close - and the weather delightful - many people chose to walk to and from the church. It was a lovely setting for our worship.

As is typical of our synods, appointments are made for the ensuing year. Kirby Wood was appointed assistant to the chancellor. He will work with Wally Jones to ensure that all aspects of our work are consistent with the diocesan canons. Concern was expressed by both the Standing Committee and the synod itself that the bishop’s workload had been expanding exponentially. Although there are currently no resources available to pay for administrative support staff, it was suggested that a line item be placed in the budget for a time when such resources become available. In the meantime, Rebecca Harrington has offered to assist in a voluntary capacity. She will handle routine correspondence, travel arrangements and document preparation. She will also be able to determine the time that might optimally be needed for an administrative assistant.

Finally, synod would simply not be
synod without the talents of Bishop George Langberg. His work within both the Standing Committee and the synod itself is invariably supportive, his counsel wise and thoughtful. But his musical talents are truly exceptional. Many thanks to him for singing a wide variety of musical numbers (including one very popular—but unmentionable—tune).

Many thanks to all who contributed to our Twenty-Second diocesan synod.

Reconciliation: As a final note, we must keep the full reconciliation of the ACA and the APA in our prayers. The House of Laity passed a resolution stating that we should keep the reconciliation in our daily prayers. We are moving together, seeking ways to cooperate, resolve conflicts and join together in as Godly a manner as possible. I thank the House of Laity for their thoughtful and generous resolution and I will pray that His will be done and that we do indeed become one.

——Bishop Marsh

The recent consecrations in England.

On October 18, Bishops Ian Gray (R) and Michael Pope (l.) were consecrated at St. Katherine’s cathedral in Lincoln, England. Bishop Gray will serve the United Kingdom as its first Bishop of the Traditional Anglican Communion. Bishop Pope will serve Australia, replacing Archbishop John Hepworth. Both bishops are godly men and will serve their national churches effectively. They are knowledgeable and both possess a good sense of humor (an essential quality, I have learned, for Anglican bishops). Bishop Pope has (as Bostonians are fond of saying) a particularly "wicked" sense of humor.

Bishops from around the world attended the event and served as co-consecrators for the new bishops. Archbishop Prakash traveled from India for the event and served as Chief Consecrator. Bishop Craig Botterill, as Episcopal Visitor to the United Kingdom celebrated the Consecration Mass. Bishops Strawn and I represented the Anglican Church in America. Bishop Craig Janzen, along with Bishop Botterill, represented Canada. Bishop Michael Gill represented the church in South Africa. Bishop Roberts represented Australia. It was truly an international gathering, one that represented the fulness of God’s Holy Church.

St. Katherine's cathedral is a 900 year-old parish. Although it has been renovated and largely rebuilt over the years, it is filled with artifacts. It serves a variety of functions within the community and is the site of concerts, theatrical performances and community events. It operates much as a medieval cathedral did in years past; it is a center of community activity. We pray that Bishops Gray and Pope will have productive episcopal ministries and serve their respective national churches with great dedication.

College of Bishops:

On Saturday, October 19, the College of Bishops of the Traditional Anglican Communion, met in informal session. A formal session of the College of Bishops will likely be held during 2015. Nine bishops were present, including the two newly-consecrated bishops. Most business focused around the Concordat of the TAC, as well as relations with other Classical Anglican bodies.

This was a good meeting, one that was characterized by collegiality and mutual problem-solving. Several bishops noted the greatly improved communication processes that the COB employs and the bonds of affection that is evident in our work together.
Greetings from Saint Nicholas’ Anglican Church on the Niagara Frontier. We are pleased to provide this report on 1st Advent, the sixth anniversary of our inception as a parish.

At this writing Saint Nicholas Anglican Church has expanded our choir with two new members from Hamburg’s Frontier Central School District. Soprano—Kaitlin Howard and Bass—Kyle Muench join our choral group by lending their talents to further enhance our corporate worship and sacred hymnody on Sunday mornings. Don Bliss, our choir master and Fr. Ed Ihde welcomed them both to Saint Nicholas on All Saints’ Day.

In September we welcomed Aaron James as guest organist for one of four public music recitals offered during the year. Aaron was the 2011 winner of the National Organ Playing Competition of the Royal Canadian College of Organists and is currently the organist-choirmaster at Holy Cross in Webster, NY. The event was listed in the Buffalo News and was very well attended. Aaron played a number of very difficult pieces in an organ performance that was enjoyed by everyone who came to listen. Our next free recital concert will include the Chanters on Nov 24th from the Orchard Park Ismailia Shriners group.

On November 17th we celebrated Fr. Ed Ihde’s first anniversary as priest at Saint Nicholas Anglican Church. A special music program was performed by Vic and Pat Chiodo, local professional artist musicians, and friends of St. Nicholas Church. The sermon was preached by Fr. Richard Molison from St. Bartholomew’s Anglican Church in Tonawanda (ACNA), a long time friend of Fr. Ed’s.

On All Saints Day we were hosted by Saint Luke’s Anglican Church (ACNA) in East Aurora, NY for a joint parish celebration. Fr. Seth Booker, rector of St. Luke’s, preached and Fr. Ed Ihde celebrated. This was the second of an annual joint parish event where we hope to get to know each other better in our common faith and life as Anglican believers.

Our church website and sermon blog continue to be accessed by many users from all over the world. The website, just this month, surpassed 2,500 unique users. At last tally our sermon blog is accessed an average of 400+ times each week.

These two electronic information venues plus our Facebook page are instrumental to our success in reaching people beyond our physical ‘brick and mortar’ location. Virtually all of our newest members accessed our website before deciding to come to Saint Nicholas Church to ‘give us a try’. These include two recent visits from local college students from Nigeria.

On December 7th – St. Nicholas Day (transferred), St. Nicholas Church will again host the Buffalo Silver Band, a 25 piece British brass band, for a night celebrating our sixth year of operation. The band performs many familiar national tunes and inspirational hymns. Saint Nicholas Church provides a practice area each week for the band during the year and this is their way of reciprocating the favor. Included in the event will be a special appearance from our own Ed Pacht (the editor), as Brother Sylan the Bard, reading from selections of his poetry, and by a coincidence of timing, our Bishop, +Brian Marsh, will also be in attendance.

--- Fr. Ed Ihde

Portland ME
St. Paul’s

It seems like it was just yesterday when we were eating dinner outside under the warmth of the setting sun. Now Christmas is rapidly approaching. Our Christmas Fair is on Saturday, December 7th from 9Am to 2PM, with a large number of gifts for everyone on your Christmas list.

The Advent Sunday services are especially planned by Father Logan to prepare us for a greater understanding of the events of the season.

Our Christmas service schedule begins at 10 PM on Christmas Eve with a service of Lessons and Carols. The First Mass of Christmas (the traditional Midnight Mass of times gone by) follows at 11PM.

We are thinking of reviving the reception after the Midnight Mass which was regularly held in Father Mac’s time. The congregation could go back to the parish hall for a few minutes to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, exchange some gifts, and have some eggnog or coffee and the first Christmas cookie of the season. It would be their first unless, like me, they
had already sampled one when the baker was not looking. Sampling the uncooked cookie dough was a special accomplishment.

Afterwards everyone heads out for the drive home in what must be one of the quietest and most beautiful nights of the year.

There will also be, for the faint of heart, a mass on Christmas Day at 10AM.

---------- John Serrage

Concord NH
All Saints

“Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!” This is a standard anthem that is sung in many parishes throughout Christendom as a part of their general thanksgiving during worship. For All Saints in Concord, New Hampshire it is a constant evolving reality of the magnificent Providence of God that continually manifests and sustains the parish in its mission to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In late September the parish hosted the first annual spaghetti dinner on St. Matthew Day, September 21, Diane Williamson, chairman, lead the troops in the preparation and feeding of guests and visitors, with ample amounts of food. Jane Cormier and Carlos Martinez provided the entertainment with a repertoire of Broadway musical hits that kept the guests entertained in the interactive performance. So well received was this “first” that many more such dinners are now in the planning stage to both feed and nourish in body and soul those that come to the door of All Saints.

It is a well-known documented fact—almost an article of faith!—that if Fr. Christian places a post-it note (usually with such a command as ‘give to Father Christian’) on an object or garment of liturgical provenance, it will eventually find its way to his closet. But sometimes this practice of extreme Faith can even surprise him. Many years back he spied a beautiful carved and gold leafed reredos and altar that was languishing in an obscure storage unit: a unit rented by a modern and progressive ecclesial organization with no love lost for those of traditional piety or conservative Christianity. Fr. Tutor inquired discretely about the pieces and was told “we would rather burn it than hand it over.” God had decided otherwise. Fast forward to September 2013, an email comes with a cryptic byline and Fr. Christian answers with trepidation: said progressive organization stopped payment on the storage unit and declared ‘dispose of all the contents.’ The managers of the facility gifted the whole of the unit to Fr. Christian who also received many historic stained glass and other worthy pieces from the disposal. The grand total expended for the priceless find: $57.68…the cost of the Uhaul rental.

The Re-dedication of the rescued Altar and Reredos took place on the Feast of Saint Michael and All Angels amid a large congregation with many visitors who once worshipped at the old Church of the Redeemer in Rochester, New Hampshire from whence the altar came. Mrs. Deane Marsh, wife of the late Fr. Donald Marsh, who celebrated on the altar as rector of Redeemer, was present and overjoyed at the resurrection of the beautiful historical piece. Using the Rite for the Reconciliation of a profaned Altar, Fr. Christian anointed and exorcised the Holy Table restoring it to sacred use, and celebrated the Holy Sacrifice anew amid lights and incense. A festive potluck reception followed with much laughter and reminiscing.

Fr. Robert Smolley, who is a great friend to the Parish of All Saints (and hosted our Synod Mass in 2010), received a Papal Honor being installed as a Knight of the Holy Sepulcher in October. He was invested with other Knights by Cardinal O’Malley of Boston at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Manchester, NH. The ceremonies were well attended and Fr. Christian represented the parish at all the events, attending the Solemn Mass and banquet as well as the parochial reception held at Fr. Robert’s parish of Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

All Saints, too, held a surprise reception for Fr. Robert on the Feast of All Saints. Parishioners from Manchester and around the State came to the festal liturgy and saw him dressed in the new white mozzetta emblazoned with the Jerusalem Cross that is
part of his new dignity. During the Holy Mass Fr. Smolley was presented with a beautiful silver, ornamented Greek pectoral cross from the people of All Saints as a congratulation present and a sign of the affection they hold for him and his Ukrainian Catholic parish.

Coming in December we will be hosting our “Dicken’s Christmas” at the parish. This year we will be expanding the concept with more interaction between performers and guests. Baked goods will be offered as well as visits from Santa Claus and Saint Nicholas. The event, which is FREE, is to be held on Saturday, December 21 starting at 6:00 PM at All Saints, 124 Hall Street, Concord, NH 03301. All in the Diocese are welcome to this family-friendy offering and encouraged to bring as many people as possible.

The Christmas Mass schedule is as follows:

Christmas Eve Solemn High Mass: 9:00PM
Christmas Day Mass: 9:00 AM

Old Orchard Beach ME
St. Augustine of Canterbury

Well, summertime in Maine has past and we’re watching the red and yellow leaves turn brown and fall to the ground. Those cold fronts keep moving in from the west and one of them soon will bring our first really cold day. But for now, we’re enjoying our fall with its brisk air and early evenings.

Our fourth year as a mission began with a surprise. Father Andrew Faust joined us as our Priest in Charge. Father Andrew brings with him the hope that our small parish will continue to grow and gain strength over the next year. We keep our Deacon Al, so we have a strong clergy. Father Andrew and his wife, Brenda, began their time with us by hosting our fourth anniversary party, an October Fest potluck that was fit for a king. We packed into Father’s house and took over for the afternoon and had a wonderful time.

Also in October we had our annual Blessing of the Animals service. We had several dogs, a couple of cats and even some guinea pigs this year that, for the most part, were well behaved and gratefully accepted Father’s blessing. Because some of us were at the Mystic Synod, we had to reschedule the service but everything worked out very well, as it does every year.

Father Andrew, on behalf of the parish, was also able to make a pre-Christmas delivery to the homeless shelter. There were socks, underwear, flip flops, toothbrushes and backpacks, all items provided through our continual bottle drives and other fund-raisers and all needed by the residents of the shelter. The shelter director was on hand to receive the delivery and we had, perhaps, an opportunity to strengthen our relationship with the residents.

This year we will be having what we hope will be the first of an annual project. We spent some time in the Saco Library signing Christmas cards that will be sent to wounded soldiers. The event was open to the public and we signed 148 cards. All of the Christmas cards have been donated and we hope to be able to send a hearty “Merry Christmas” to our wounded military. We will also be signing cards in Sunday School so the students will be able to participate in a community outreach project along with the adults.

We are very excited to be getting ready for our first bake sale. Our facilities do not lend themselves easily to public events of this sort so we were pleased beyond description when St. Margaret’s in Conway invited us to have a bake table at their annual Christmas Fair. What big hearts our fellow Anglicans have! So, we are busily collecting our recipes and planning a short trek over to New Hampshire to sell our wares and enjoy one of the basic activities of parish life. What a blessing!

We are also gearing up for our annual Bicycles for Foster Children Christmas project. We have already been in touch with our contact who gets the descriptions of the bikes that we will need so we can buy the bikes. We don’t get any information that tells us who the child is – to protect the child’s privacy – but we do need to know the gender and size so we can purchase an appropriate bike. This will be our third year with this project.

And finally we continue to try to strengthen our music ministry in the community. We have been invited to provide the musical portion of the Festival of Trees program at the Saco Museum. We will be singing our traditional Anglican carols, telling Christmas stories and greeting the visitors. We will also be joined by a friend of the parish, Marta Lane, who will provide some flute music. Also from our Choir Loft are plans for this year’s Service of Lessons and Carols. This is always a well-received service during our Advent season and hope this year will be just a spiritually uplifting as it has been in the past.

We will be reading each other’s entries in this newsletter as we enter Advent and begin our anticipation of Christmas. The people of St. Augustine wish you all a blessed and safe holiday. May the meaning of Christmas be fresh in your hearts and the peace of the holiday keep you warm.

-----------Sister Mary Raphael, O/OSB
Amherst NH
St. Luke's

On Sunday, Sept. 15 a Christian Education Scholarship Day was held following our main service. The event began the church’s campaign to raise funds for ten children from the New Life Home for Women and Children in Manchester to attend the Mt. Zion Christian School as part of the home’s faith-based program. Pete Hinkle and Jim Pinard spearheaded the campaign. St. Luke's Christian Scholarship Committee made a commitment to raise $10,000 as a contribution to their education. The response was overwhelming. To date, the church has received approximately $8000 in pledges. Another $10,000 was received from the New Hampshire Network for Educational Opportunity (NEO) that was created to fund alternative forms of education. We are particularly appreciative of the Mount Zion Christian School's commitment to develop within these children a Christian world view and a faith in Christ as the foundation for their lives.

We invite other Anglican churches in New Hampshire which might like to be a part of this effort as a Christian outreach to contact St. Luke’s.

Bible Studies: Tuesday night class is studying the Revelation to John. The Spirit Series on "The Holy Spirit and You" continues on Saturday mornings and the regular Saturday Bible Study is studying the Book of Daniel.

Bishop Hiles made his episcopal visitation on Friday, 18 October (St. Luke’s Day) to celebrate the Eucharist and consecrate our new chapel (St. Andrew's Chapel). We are grateful to the vestry of All Saints Episcopal Church in Whalom, MA for the furnishings for our chapel. Members of that former congregation were present for the consecration. The evening ended with a wonderful parish supper. Thanks to all who participated. With the chapel now in place we are able to celebrate midweek Eucharists on Thursday mornings at 11:00.

A Prayer Ministry has begun under the direction of Deacon Ted Powell and Alice Kysar. This is an extension of prayers offered during the weekly and mid-week services. On a daily basis the group will intercede for the world, trauma and terrorist events, our nation, the church, the Rector, staff, vestry, services, events, and ministry of St. Luke’s. Requests for prayers can be in person on Sunday after the 10am service or by completing a card and dropping it in the proper receptacle in the narthex or parish hall.

----------Submitted by Lee Garre

Canandaigua NY
Holy Redeemer

Holy Redeemer celebrated the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Sunday, October 6th, in the tradition of Anglican churches, with a “Blessing of the Pets.” This is a favorite with not only the priests, but with the parishioners. This year, we were fortunate to have two live canine participants join us for Sunday morning worship. Father Jim and Cindy brought their beloved coonhound mix, Sophie, to be blessed. This was a very important blessing for Sophie, as she had been diagnosed just recently with bone cancer. Lee Rice’s Golden Doodle, Lucky, settled her paws between the pews and helped Lee with the music. They were both beautifully behaved, (the canines, that is, since Lee knows how to behave!) as if this were an everyday occurrence! Many of the congregation had brought photos of their pets to be blessed, and Sophie and Lucky laid in front of the communion rail waiting their turn. They both seemed to sense the piety of the service. Afterwards, during coffee hour, Sophie and Lucky enjoyed the treats that Cindy had brought, and many parishioners were spotted slipping goodies under the table! (A sad note: Later the following week, Sophie, due to her unforgiving pain, began her journey to heaven to join all the other beloved pets that St. Francis so dearly loved and protected.)

During that same weekend, the Jones family travelled to Mystic CT to attend the Synod. It was a delightful time, and so inspiring to be with so many like-minded Anglicans in such a beautiful part of New England. We participated in the House of Laity’s passing of a Resolution urging reconciliation and re-unification with the Anglican Province in America (APA.) We saw some old friends, and met many new friends, as we all worshipped, prayed, ate, and sang together (and we all enjoyed Bishop Langberg’s musical entertainment program at the banquet – what fun!) We were impressed with the hard work of Deacon Merrill Perkins and his tiny parish (fewer than 10 parishioners, I believe!) in pulling off this enormous event, so a resounding THANK YOU VERY MUCH to him and to St. Matthias! On Saturday, we were blessed ourselves to participate in the “Blessing of the Pets” service held in historic Olde Mystic Village, where St. Matthias is located; it was a beautiful setting, with unintended musical accompaniment by the various animals who attended. We explored the whaling and sailing ships on the Mystic River at the Seaport museum, and, of course, some of the wonderful shops and restaurants!

Holy Redeemer has been instrumental in establishing a Dress-A-Girl-Around-the-World ministry for the Canandaigua community. After a year of small contributions each month from our own church (mostly by Nancy Bove) we now have had over 50 women participate in the first “sew-in” on October 24th. The next meeting is December 5th. HRAC has collected supplies such as fabric, pillowcases, rick-rack, and ribbon for this ministry, and serves as its storage site, and continues to seek donations. St. Elizabeth’s parish in Tuxedo, NY has begun a small group to make dresses, and we pray that they will be successful in this ministry. Dresses
Dresses have been sent to more than 60 countries around the world, including the US and Canada. HRAC has contacted the International Anglican Fellowship (IAF) to explore other opportunities for this ministry.

We are all saddened by the tragic passing of Elijah Dibble, and we continue to pray for his family and for all whose lives were touched by God’s newest angel. ————Diane S. Jones

November Light:
In Loving Memory of Elijah Jacob Dibble

A light went out too quickly this November,
So here on earth we’re standing all alone
In darkness, growing cooler as the memory
Of life with you, and joy, and warmth, are gone.

The light that was your smile now has faded;
That impish grin you had no longer shines
Except within the confines of our memories,
And, now, upon the saints, there so divine.

Too young, your light on earth has been extinguished.
Too soon, our lives are left without a part
Whose presence was around us and within us,
Its essence in our souls and in our hearts.

You lived your life with passion and abandon;
You loved and worked and played so hard each day.
The sun was shining, but the light that beckoned
Was God’s great glory calling you to Him.

We know your love for us will get us through this,
But, Lord, it’s hard to reconcile that thought
With feelings of despair and loss and sorrow.
Please give us strength and grace
with all you’ve taught.

A light went out too quickly this November;
The sun was shining, then it disappeared.
The light, instead, did beckon you to follow,
And, then, to you, God’s glory soon appeared.

You stand with angels, saints, and with the Father,
The Son, and Holy Spirit, ’round God’s throne.
With angels’ choirs we sing in praise, rejoicing:
Our tears are banished now that you are home.

Let all our days be filled with praise and glory,
With hope and joy, and memories to share.
A new star in the sky is twinkling brightly:
Your laughter and your love are shining there.

--- 9 November 2013  by Diane S. Jones

St. Johnsbury VT
Christ Church

Warmest greetings from all of us at Christ Church, St. Johnsbury, in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont.

This year’s Synod was an extremely fulfilling event…from the accommodations, to the Mystic area, the wonderful food, the very informative business meeting, but most of all being together with so many fellow Anglicans (that we usually only get to see once a year). St. Matthias Church and Deacon Perkins did an outstanding job. We are already looking forward to next year’s Synod.

It was also announced at the Synod that our own Jim Steelman was accepted into the Deacon Study Program and has already started his courses.

One of the highlights for our parish since the last NEA was having a “full house” at church on October 20, 2013. One of our parishioners had a milestone birthday, and her family surprised her by coming to Vermont to celebrate the occasion. On that Sunday all 16 people in her family attended church with us. It was glorious to hear so many voices praying and joyously singing together. Father Art Bennett was almost speechless, but still managed to give a great sermon that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Here is a picture of the group of us on that memorable Sunday. NOTE: One of our Lay Readers, Bill McFarlane, was inadvertently cut out of the picture. ☹

We wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and New Year. ————Marlene Steelman

Maritime and Port Chaplains

The disaster in the Philippines has hit close to home since so many of the ships arriving in our ports are manned by Filipinos, our ship visitors have been consoling these seafarers who have heard tales of devastation from home, or worse yet, have not heard anything and do not know the fate of their loved ones.

The typhoon that cut a swath directly across the Philippines was more powerful than Hurricane
The animals of the Rescue that is run at the Priory are so deserving of a safe and loving home. They are handicapped, abused and old creatures. The handi-capped, abused and old are generally the ones that we take in only handicapped, abused, old, orphaned or pregnant creatures. The chaplains ask everyone to keep the people of the Phillipines in your prayers and hope families can be reunited soon. There is little worse than being thousands of miles from home where you are helpless to do anything for those you love.

**Raymond ME**

**Our Benedictines**

It was Fr. Prior Kevin’s pleasure and honor to pray for the souls of the faithful departed during an 8 day Novena. We thank those people who submitted names to add to our already very long list. It is always a privilege for a contemplative, whether it be monk, priest or nun, to pray for the concerns of others on this side of eternity and for those who have passed. Fr. Kevin is away on retreat, now, at St. Joseph’s Abbey in Spencer, Ma. He has had a close and unique relationship with the monks there for over 20 years so he is always happy to have the chance to visit his Cistercian brothers in Christ.

The animals of the Rescue that is run at the Priory as an outreach of the Benedictines want to thank everyone who contributed to their care at Synod. Your generosity was overwhelming and much appreciated. The keeping of these animals is an expensive undertaking as we are a permanent home for most of them. We do place those who recover from their issues and are suitable for a new situation however, we most usually take in only handicapped, abused, old, orphaned or pregnant creatures. The handi-capped, abused and old are generally the ones that we get and will live out their lives with us here. We are always looking for regular, consistent benefactors (animal angels) to help us maintain these creatures who are so deserving of a safe and loving home.

The farm recently took in a young poodle mix that had jumped off a 20’ deck in pursuit of a family of ground hogs living in their backyard. He became paralyzed and had surgery to repair some ruptured disks. The family had a child who is very ill and could not keep up with the dog’s care so he was brought to us. Charlie is a truly inspiring, courageous and persistent little dog. He is full of love and curiosity and loves to greet everyone from his wheelchair (more like a go cart !) Charlie has gone to live out the rest of his life, in a wonderful home, with a pair of our special animal angels. Charlie has a long way to go, but is trying to use his rear legs and I believe with his attitude, and the love and attention he is going to receive, he will be able to walk again. Keep him in your prayers.

--------Sr. Mary Francis OSB

**Lebanon, New Hampshire**

**Trinity Anglican Church**

As we are just finishing up the Long Green Season and will, in fact, have finished it by the time you read this, I have to report that the most significant aspect of the last quarter was the continuing weekly offering of praise and thanksgiving to our Lord.

That regular offering has, however, been punctuated periodically. It is said, for instance, that God never closes a door but what He opens a window. At Trinity, we are graced with a peripatetic rector often called to Episcopal duties in remote (at least to us!) parts of the nation and world. While we miss his ministrations, his absence offers us the opportunity to benefit from Dcn. Rob Philp’s preaching on a more frequent basis. Indeed, we were honored to have Dcn. Rob be invited to preach the diocesan synod mass sermon. His sermons are available on the Trinity website at acadiocese.org and I highly recommend them.

Way back in September, the bishop, as rector, presented the final session of our Christian education series on the four aspects of the Foundations of Anglicanism as defined in the Chicago/Lambeth Quadrilateral, that is, the sacraments. The program continues in December with a subject yet to be announced.

Finally, we have had two recent serious illnesses in the parish, both of which have been attended by active prayer within the parish. I am happy to report that, at least at the time of this writing, prayer seems to work quite well, for which we are truly grateful. It is now Advent and as we all look forward to the celebration and recollection of the Nativity of our Lord and he beginning of a new church year, as well as a new calendar year, may our parishes, our diocese, and our entire church continue to grow and prosper in the worship of our Lord.  

----------Allan Wylie

**Logos House**

The seminary continues to have growth in the year since our founder’s passing. We have reached our 50th active student including 3 new women in the deaconess program. Improvements have been made at Logos House library / administration...
building and the bookstore is getting material to students on schedule. Fr. Monroe and Dr. Webb did a presentation at the ACA Executive Committee and at the DNE Synod. The seminary is hopeful as we enter into a new year with good support from the national church and diocese. A number of students come from the APA and we have 6 students in the Philippines. Please keep Bishop Belmonte and his students in your prayers during this difficult time.

Dr. Webb and faculty are updating and improving the current course offerings in all areas. We have also added a new course of study “Introduction to Holy Scripture” for lay persons and Deacons. We are also experimenting with verbal examinations for some students where appropriate.

We sold a number of calendars at Synod as a fund raiser. We were also pleased to present Mark Black his Associates Degree in Sacred Theology at the DNE Synod in October. The APA also had three graduates who completed programs. We also have a new Logos House e-mail address.

Wehots@myfairpoint.net

Valerie and Mike McCadden have done an exceptionally job and we want to extend our deepest appreciation for all of their work.

Tuxedo NY
Saint Elizabeth’s

October in Tuxedo was a delight. We were blessed by God’s handiwork displayed in beautiful fall colors and many lovely days to enjoy them. As I recall, when I was writing this article last October, we were in the midst of recovery efforts from the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy. We are so thankful there was no repeat performance this year!

Several of us attended Synod in Mystic and had a wonderful time. We extend our sincere thanks to the parishioners of St. Matthias for all of their hard work in putting together such an enjoyable and successful Synod. Kudos to all of you! The Synod gives us a great opportunity to see old friends, share in fellowship with Anglicans from throughout our Diocese and participate in discussions in support of ACA growth and prosperity, both here in the Northeast Diocese and throughout the world. Bishop Marsh inspires all of us with his gifts of leadership, devoted faith and genuine concern and compassion for his flock – we are so blessed to have him leading our Diocese.

In October, we had our annual roast beef dinner fund-raiser. The dinner was cancelled last year due to Hurricane Sandy, so folks in our community were especially looking forward to attending this favorite event once again. As always, our faithful volunteers did a superb job of preparing and serving a delicious meal and donating a wonderful array of homemade desserts.

On November 26th, we will participate in our annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service and we look forward to sharing thanks to God for His many blessings with fellow Christians in our community. One way we are able to put this thankfulness into action is through our support and volunteerism at the local food pantry. This ongoing ecumenical outreach is assisting growing numbers of local families in need. We’re excited about a new event this year in support of the food pantry, sponsored by our Sloatsburg-Tuxedo Ecumenical Council of Churches. On December 14th, a Christmas Concert will be performed at St. Mary’s-in-Tuxedo, featuring the Rockland County Concert Band. The band consists of 40-50 musicians who perform at various local venues throughout the year. The concert will be free admission, with all free-will donations going directly to the food pantry. Our very own Russ Shaver from St. Elizabeth’s is a trombonist in the band and he and his wife, Linnea, are enthusiastically helping to coordinate and publicize this event. Thank you, Linnea and Russ!

Other activities in December include our annual wreath and poinsettia sale on December 5th – 8th and our Sunday School Christmas Pageant on December 15th. The residents at St. Joseph’s Home, where we have our pageant, really enjoy attending this.

Wells VT
St. David

The Rev. Alexander Stringer, Rector of St. David’s Parish in Vermont, has been awarded the Arctic Star Medal for his service during World War II on a convoy to Murmansk.

At age 88, the award is 68 years overdue.

Thousands of merchant, navy and CoastGuard sailors lost their lives in World War II. Thousands of ships were sunk in the North Atlantic alone.

(The National Memorial from Great Britain and Russia was dedicated in 2000 in Portland, Maine by the Very Rev. Lester York, late rector of St. Paul’s in Portland. A copy of the Memorial hangs in the church.)
Christmas event and look forward to visiting with the children.

Before closing, we convey our deepest sympathy to Fr. Rich and Caroline Dibble who tragically lost their young son, Eli, in a recent bicycle accident. We pray that they and their children will find comfort and solace in the love of Jesus and the hundreds of friends who are praying for them. Eli brought joy to all those around him during his short time on earth and those memories will live on in all of our hearts forever. We pray, also, that the new life that the Dibbles were blessed with just a few hours later, baby Uriah, will fill their heavy hearts with joy in the years ahead. Fr. Rich, Caroline and children - may God bless and keep your family in His care now and always.

We hope that everyone will have a meaningful and prayerful Advent season in the weeks ahead, as we prepare for the busy Christmas season and the celebration of our Lord’s birth. May the Holy Spirit remain with all of us and guide us as we serve our Lord and Savior in 2014.

Ingrid Magar

Webster NY
Holy Cross ACA

Early in September, Harry Hoyen organized a work crew to repair, refurbish, and rejuvenate a variety of items that needed attention in and around our century-old school-house church.

Thus, when we held our Church Family Reunion Pot Luck Supper on September 14th, everything was up to par and then some. Jeanne Hoose spearheaded this first official social event of the new school year. The groaning board was doing just that and we all left with a good feeling of camaraderie and satiated appetites. Many of the recipes we enjoyed are in In St. Martha's Kitchen: Tried and True recipes from St. Martha's Guild. This cookbook is available for $9 per book.

On October 22nd, our organist, Aaron James, performed on the fabulous organ of our western sister's congregation on the Niagara Frontier St. Nicholas in W. Seneca, NY. Aaron did, of course, give an outstanding performance. His talent and versatility are rather noteworthy.

We feel very blessed to have him as our regular Sunday organist and director of the Dr. Walmisley's Folly choir on the first Sunday of each month at 4:00PM. Attendance has been steadily growing for the Choral Evensong.

During the summer, Holly Hoyen and Paula Mahoney began an Out-Reach project with our children. Holly donated yards and yards of soft, warm fleece material for the children of all ages to work on. They measured, cut, and tied knots to make a variety of stocking caps, mittens, blankets and pillows. These items will be blessed on St. Nicholas’s Day and donated to keep many of our neighbors warm throughout the winter, not just with the items, but with the warm spiritual knowledge that we love them.

Our Elegant Junque Sale, Jewelry Boutique, and Bake Sale was held on Saturday, November 9, 2013 from 9:00 AM-4:00PM. A heart-felt thank you to Linda Bowen for spearheading this huge event. We entreated “Come one! Come All!” and they did. The Elegant Junque Sale had the exact treasure some folks had been looking for. The Jewelry Boutique of previously enjoyed items became several people’s new favorite accessories. The Bake Sale had numerous, tasty treats to satisfy many a tummy rumbling.

This day of sales was sponsored by St. Martha’s Guild, all of the women of Holy Cross Anglican Church in America. Many visitors to the sale also toured our century-old church that was formerly the Webster one-room school house.

We are looking forward to Wednesday, November 27, when Fr. Mahoney will officiate our Thanksgiving Eve service.

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Ellsworth ME
St. Thomas

Greetings from St. Thomas!

Our new priest, Fr. Ian Emile Dunn, was elected as rector by the Vestry of St. Thomas in July, and his election was affirmed by the Bishop. We are grateful to Fr. Dunn for his dedicated service to our parish.

On August 11 we received our first episcopal visit since Fr. Dunn’s ordination. It was also Bishop Owen Williams’ first episcopal visit to a parish. He was accompanied by his wife Marilyn, and Bishop Williams gave a homily based on Luke 18, followed by a reception after the service.

Our vestry now meets on the second Sunday of each month. Recent topics discussed include outreach to the community, along with some possible international outreach. The vestry meets in the second floor of the tower, which has recently been completed. Our thanks to those whose hard work has made the second floor possible, including David and Ellen Simmons, James Geary, Leroy Weed, and thanks (and apologies) to all others who helped.

In His Hands, Kate Chamberlin, Clerk of the Vestry
Greetings in the name of the Lord from St. Joseph’s Anglican Church in Brooklyn, NY.

I am writing to you on behalf of the congregation of St. Joseph’s Anglican Church. The following is a quick listing of some of the events that have transpired during the last few months.

In September we had our yearly Episcopal visit by Right Rev. Bishop Marsh. Five of our parishioners were confirmed as evidenced by the smiles on the right. Pictured you will find (from left to right) Ms. Lewanna Rodney, yours truly, Ms. Laverne Swift, Ms. ReJeun Heusner, Bishop Brian Marsh, Rev. Mr. Herby Rodney, Mr. Eric Young and, last but not least, Mr. David Christian. It was a beautiful day in which the confirmands were brought into the light of Jesus.

Also in September, Synod was held at St. Matthias Anglican Church in Connecticut and St. Joseph sent me, Canon Brathwaite and Deacon Rodney to attend. I am pictured to the left holding my Associates in Sacred Theology received from Logos House after the completion of all of the required courses for the Diaconate.

I would like to thank the Koller Family and the congregation of St. Joseph for all of the support that they gave to me during the time it took to complete that level of study. Pictured to the right, is me and Deacon Rodney, standing outside of St. Matthias, on the bright and sunny day of Synod.

In October we celebrated our Annual Harvest Thanksgiving Evensong service. It is a service held in honor of God for giving us the many blessings that we enjoy daily. This is manifested by the “fruits” of our labor in which we decorate the parish with fruits, vegetables and corn stalks (pictured on the right).

God has been very good to us this year by giving us another year in which to live and honor Him through this tradition. On the left, you will find, the Venerable Archdeacon Alan Koller, our organist and choirmaster, Mr. Earl Morris and Canon Neville Brathwaite.

Also occurring during the month of October was our Annual Children’s Halloween Party, which was quite well attended. On the right is a picture of some of the children who attended including Ms. Marie Black which is a surprise as you can never get her to stand still for a picture.

Also on the right is a picture of Ms. Evadne Banner who celebrated her birthday during the month of October. When asked how old she was, I kept hearing 17 but only she can tell you for sure. In case you can’t see it, she’s smiling and what a pretty smile it is.

Blessings to all during the Advent season ————Sincerely submitted, Mark Black Subdeacon, Postulant & Webmaster.

Brooklyn NY
St. Joseph’s

In Brooklyn NY
St. Joseph’s

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Conway, NH
St. Margaret of Scotland

Greetings from St. Margaret’s in Conway. Well, both the leaves and the tourists
appear to have left the Mt. Washington Valley, and it is quiet time of year between the leaf peepers and the snow skiers. Even though valley activity has temporarily slowed, that doesn’t mean St. Margaret’s is taking a nap! We are gearing up for our busy fall season which includes our Christmas fair and the beginning of Advent and the beautiful holiday season.

St. Margaret’s hosted a blessing of the animals recently in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals as well as the environment. St. Francis’ feast day is October 4. Several parishioners as well as people who had read the announcement in the paper gathered outside the church for the blessing. A young man just walking by with his dog was delighted to join the group as well.

October also saw a meeting of the vestry. Two new faces have joined the vestry this year. They are Andrew Ferguson, Jr. Warden, and Kathy Kropac. They are already becoming active and contributing members.

Our choir, under the direction of Tracy Gardner, continues to provide our worship with varied and lovely musical selections every week. To honor their service, Fr. Monroe recently offered a special blessing to the choir members present. Rebecca and James Harrington, Michelle Hamilton, Wendy Kropac and Tracy Gardner were called forward to receive this blessing, recognition and the gift of a cross. Also in attendance was McGee, currently being trained as a service dog by Wendy Kropac, a certified animal trainer. As you can see, St. Margaret’s is an inclusive church! Missing from the photo is Corinne Page, whose lovely soprano voice can often be heard in a solo, or in a duet with Jim Harrington, as in “He touched Me” sung at the October 13 service.

On Sunday, November 3, we were delighted to welcome Bishop Owen Williams and his wife. The occasion was the interment of the Rt. Rev Bruce Stewart Chamberlain and his wife Lois in the altar of the chapel. He was joined by Fr. Kevin Lamarre, OSB, from Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Priory in Maine.

Bishop Chamberlain was a founding member of St. Margaret’s, and its first Rector. There are many pictures at St. Margaret’s of Chamberlain, tools in hand, literally helping to build St. Margaret’s. Several members of the Bishop’s family were present for the ceremony, and joined us in the undercroft for refreshments where Bishop Williams delighted the gathering with some comments and recollections.

Veteran’s Sunday was observed at St. Margaret’s on November 10. Flags from all branches of the military were on display, and a representation from the local American Legion and the VFW were also on hand. Father’s sermon, “Pro Deo et Patria” (for God and Country) was a fitting subject for the occasion. Musical selections also reflected the holiday.

The parish is eagerly planning their annual Christmas Fair and luncheon, scheduled for November 23. Gift baskets, baked goods, plants, as well as other selections will be available to the public, and it is always a well attended event. This year we are raffling off an American Girl Doll named Saige, complete with several outfits and bedding made by Michelle Hamilton, and a bed made by John Kropac. All of us with little girls in our families are eagerly buying tickets for this beautiful doll and accessories.

The day following the fair is our annual “Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan”, which is a blessing of the different clan plaids worn on that day by Scottish members of the church, or those who would like to be Scottish! This is always a colorful and fun filled event. Often, our own Deacon, Rev. Mr. Harry Wellsman, entertains us with his accomplished bagpipe skills.

St. Margaret’s is looking forward to all these events, as well as the Advent and Christmas season,
when the “Word made Flesh” comes again to dwell among us. We wish all our Anglican and other friends a beautiful holiday season filled with family, joy and peace in the Lord.  

---Maureen Ferguson

**Mystic CT**  
St. Mathias

The big event for St. Matthias Church, of course, was hosting the Diocesan Synod. By all accounts it was successful, we received a number of compliments on the accommodations and food service, the people at Quality Inn - Mystic and La Luna Ristorante we duly commended for their wonderful service.

Also to be commended are our wonderful parishioners, especially Mary Diffendall, the Wonneberger and Kennedy families, all who shared in the success of this event. Above all, all praise and thanks to our wonderful heavenly Father who gave us the ability and endurance to pull it off!

Deacon Merrill Perkins plans to conduct a Blessing of Pets ceremony at Olde Mistick Village Gazebo, Ed Pacht had composed a poem for phones. The ceremony began at the Olde Mistick Village, following the close of Synod, Deacon Perkins planned to conduct the Sunday Morning Prayer service that Sunday, the children of the parish gave a short pageant based upon the beloved hymn, “I Sing A Song Of The Saints Of God”. Prayerfully, next year there will be a few more children on hand to take part!

As part of our charity outreach, St. Matthias Church this year will be making a contribution to the Heifer Project, which provides animals to poor farm families in third-world countries, giving them saleable items such as milk, eggs, and wool, so as to enable them to get above bare subsistence living. On December 7, as part of Olde Mistick Village's Holiday Festival, the women of St. Matthias Church will conduct a bake sale, the proceeds of which will go toward our Heifer Project contribution.

We will be having a Service of Lessons and Carols, using the traditional Nine Lessons from the service of King's College Chapel in Cambridge, on Christmas Eve at 8:00PM, and Christmas Day service at 10:30AM. May everyone have a blessed, joyful, and peaceful Advent and Christmas season, as we celebrate the gift of God's only-begotten Son given to us and for us.

---Yours in the faith,  
Deacon Merrill Perkins

**Charlestown, NH**  
Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd

The Fall season has been a busy one for the parish of the Good Shepherd as we prepared for the coming winter. First on the agenda were a number of long anticipated renovations to the fabric of the church and parish hall. These included the installation of a porch roof on the rear of the building to keep snow and water off the deck and to replace two door frames on the rear of the building that had deteriorated over the years. We also replaced a facia board on the front of the parish hall and painted the wooden pediment on the front of our 1824 federal-style brick building. Inside the church, we had a sink and piscina installed in the sacristy for the benefit of the altar guild. Additional King Alfred daffodills were planted in the churchyard.

In late September, Fr. David served as supply to Christ Church Anglican in St. Johnsbury, Vermont and could not conduct the Sunday Morning Prayer service at Fort at No. 4 in Charlestown. Fr. Art Bennett kindly outfitted Phil Turner as an mid-18th century gentleman, and Phil read the Morning Prayer service that Sunday. In early October, Fr. David, Jeanne Moody, and Aare Ilves attended the Diocesan Synod in Mystic, Connecticut. The Moody’s left the synod before the banquet. Big mistake! On Sunday at
Fr. Joseph Bizamana was recently assigned as a non-stipendiary associate priest at Trinity Pro-cathedral in Rochester, New Hampshire. He currently resides in Old Orchard Beach in Maine, but comes to us from his native Africa, and comes with an interesting and highly moving story.

He was born in the small East African country of Burundi, the son of an Anglican Father (a product of the East African Revival of the 1920s) and a Roman Catholic mother. His family was caught up in the genocidal conflicts of 1972, and of that family of seven, only Joseph survived. His relatives did their best to care for him, but economic limitations led to his being handed from family to family and thus attending elementary school in many different places. Most formative was the time spent with his uncle, an Anglican priest. Though Joseph had been brought up in the Faith, it was in 1979 at a youth convention that he made a solid commitment to Christ, which led him to feel a call to ministry and to enter seminary.

He married at the age of twenty and their son was born in 1983. Father Joseph was ordained deacon in 1985 and priest in 1986. The early years of his ministry were marked by the continuing unrest in that area and ultimately in 1992 Fr. Bizimana had to flee for his life, leaving his family, so he thought, in relative safety. However, in 1993 the massacres began again. His wife and ten-year-old son were visiting her mother when they (and 12 others) were killed.

He came to Portland ME in 2001 and served with the Charismatic Episcopal Church until 2011. He then grace our services with sacred music played on a synthesizer.

Fr. Ed is assisted at the altar by Dick Finley, and sometimes by Ben Kane, a Thomas College student, who is active in the college’s athletic program.

Holy Trinity services are held in the lovely side chapel of Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The chapel has provided us with a perfect space for Anglican worship.

-------------Linda Kalish

Profile: Fr. Joseph Bizamana

Fr. Joseph Bizamana

On September 8, Holy Trinity welcomed Bishop Owen Williams to our service, followed by a great time of fellowship at a local restaurant.

Fr. Ed and Linda Kalish attended the DNE Synod in October, where they were glad to not only participate in the business of the church, but to also see old friends.

Richard Spear continues to fill in with a service of Matins for Fr. Ed at least once a month. The Spears make the long journey from Bath to Waterville to join their former parish. They have been regularly attending Portland’s St. Paul’s, where Richard often assists at the altar.

Our own Dr. Tom Pierce just celebrated his 90th birthday. Tom and Alice are filled with life and humor that belies their years. Alice has recently retired from her long-held post as church treasurer, and Dick Finley has kindly offered to take her place.

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Later in the month Aare Ilves, Fr. David, and Dee Blanchard and her dog Midnight participated in the annual Charlestown Harvest Walk to raise funds for the Fall Mountain Food Shelf. On the subsequent Saturday, five of us attended a one-day parish retreat at the Weston Priory in Weston, Vermont. It was a beautiful day and provided a spiritually fulfilling respite from the busy world. We hope this will become a tradition. Advent blessings to all our friends in the diocese and beyond during this holy season of the church year.

---------Submitted by The Rev. David W. Moody

Waterville ME

Holy Trinity

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entered ACA and has served at St. Paul’s in Portland and St. Augustine at Old Orchard Beach.

After the tragic loss of his family, Fr. Joseph remarried in 2006 and they now have four young children (two boys and two girls) as well as a now grown adopted daughter, 22, living in Portland.

I’ve begun to know Fr. Joseph since he has begun assisting at Trinity. He has supplied for Bishop Williams on several occasions, when he has had to be away for episcopal visitations and during the rector’s recent period of health problems. Yes, Mass with him can be a challenge. His accent is sometimes a bit difficult to understand, and it is clear that he’s not yet familiar with our liturgical forms and customs, but all that is secondary. Fr. Joseph clearly knows our Lord, knows what it means to be under persecution, to face tragedy, and yet to continue to trust and serve Jesus with all his heart. Listen to his story, and then look at his smiling face, and hear the gentle way that he speaks of God’s love. I’ve been learning something about faith, something I haven’t really learned in all my 72 years as an American Christian.

--- ed pacht, editor

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Rochester NH
Trinity Procathedral

Fall at Trinity has been one of much activity. Sunday, September 23rd, we had our annual Sunday School kick-off and picnic. The weather was perfect and most of the kids were here. We had the usual fare of hamburgers and hot dogs along with several delicious desserts. The Choir also regrouped under the direction of Mr. Richie Gress, our interim organist.

Near the end of September, Bishop Williams unfortunately had a nose bleed. After five days including a visit to the emergency room, it was determined that there was a need for surgical intervention. Following the procedure, the Bishop was ordered to do nothing (no exertion) for two weeks. Also, he had to sleep in a recliner until directed otherwise. It was a blessing that Fr. Joseph Bizimana was able to take the Sunday services during this time. As of this writing, Bishop Williams has been allowed to resume his full duties.

The Parish is presently preparing for its Annual Christmas Fair Fund Raiser. It will take place on Saturday, November 24th from 9 AM to 2 PM. This event is put on every year by the Saint Anne’s Guild of the parish. Baked goods and crafts are available. The Choir will also be provide brief performance to enhance the event.

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News Notes
(Taken from Bishop Marsh’s monthly newsletters)

Clergy and Postulant News: Father Sam Logan has been appointed chair of the Board of Examining Chaplains. Archdeacon Koller has rotated off the board. He will devote more time to his work as Vicar General of the Armed Forces.

Jimmie Steelman and Charles Wonneberger have been granted postulancy status. We wish them well and pray that their journey will be rewarding and productive to God’s Holy Church. Mr Wonneberger is a parishioner of St. Matthias Anglican Church in Mystic, Connecticut. His grandson, Sean, was crucifer and acolyte at synod Mass. Mr. Steelman is a parishioner of Christ Church in St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

Episcopal Visits: During my travels, Bishops Williams and Hiles have conducted episcopal visits. Bishop Hiles visited St. David’s in Poultney, Vermont and Bishop Williams visited St. Margaret of Scotland in Conway, New Hampshire. I am very pleased that both visits went well. Our new bishops are assuming their responsibilities with great effectiveness and I give thanks for their work and ministry among us. During his visit to St. Margaret’s, Bishop Williams assisted in the placing of the cremated remains of Bishop Chamberlain and his wife, Lois, in the altar of the chapel at St. Margaret’s. This chapel was built by Bishop Chamberlain nearly thirty years ago.

National Church News: The House of Bishops and Executive Council met in Quincy, Illinois from September 17-19. Much emphasis was made on the need for effective clergy education. The Diocese of the Northeast has the expertise in this area and two presentations were made regarding education. Bishop James Hiles delivered a report that expressed a need for highly educated clergy. Anglican clergy have long been noted for their educational attainments and Bishop Hiles’ report underscored that need. Father Jeff Monroe delivered a report on Logos House, which now has several dozen students and is likely the only functioning house of studies among Classical Anglican jurisdictions.

At the end of the Executive Council session, Bishop Hiles proposed that the national church commit a line item for education. Initially, this would be in the annual amount of $10,000. This passed unanimously.

St. Mary of the Angels: On October 27, your bishop celebrated Mass at St. Mary of the Angels church in Hollywood, California. As many of you know, this parish has been subject of disputes, the ecclesiastical trial of its former rector and divisiveness related to the Ordinariate. During the past two years, the parish has declined considerably in both parishioners and revenue. It was, therefore, with a great sense of joy that I witnessed a rebirth of activity in that historic parish. The congregation was large and enthusiastic. There were two confirmations and one reception. Furthermore, on November 16 the parish will celebrate a festival of rededication. I look forward to preach and celebrate on that occasion. In a spirit of ecumenism, I have invited
Greetings from the director of Saint Luke’s Camp, our diocesan youth program. This summer we held our camping session from August 4-10 at Camp Ashmere in Hinsdale, MA. We ended up with 17 young people served by 9 staff with our beloved Diocesan Bishop there for some of the session. Our theme this year was “RENEW, KEEP, REDEEM!” and our educational aspects touched on the stages in Christian life of RENEWING our way of thinking, which is different from the world, KEEPING or guarding against things which will hinder us in growing closer to the Lord, and finally REDEEMING things which are lost in our lives, which we can do once we have done the other two.

Our dedicated volunteers worked hard to make it a great week for the youth, and participated not only in education and worship but lots of other fun things such as sports, swimming, boating, campfire, crafts, lots of music and all sorts of cool things. Rumor has it that there may have even been a prank or two perpetrated, but I don’t know if I believe it.

Please know of my prayers to you all.
Your Brother in Christ,
+Brian

### Saint Luke’s Camp
—Aug. 10-16, 2014—
Campers and Volunteers Needed

St. Luke’s Camp
from the Director

Bishop Stephen Scarlett to concelebrate. He has pledged his assistance in rebuilding the parish and I am deeply grateful for his generous offers of support. (ed note: continue to pray for this parish. Such prayers are still much needed.)

### ECUMENICAL NEWS

**Anglican Catholic Church:** On October 23, your bishop attended the synod of the Anglican Catholic Church. During the past two years, we have grown closer to our brothers and sisters in the Anglican Catholic Church. Although we are nowhere near signing an inter-communion agreement similar to the one we have signed with the APA, our relations are better with the ACC than they have been in nearly twenty years.

Archbishop Haverland, the Archbishop of the ACC, in a very symbolic gesture, invited me to address the ACC House of Bishops and join him in a way that suggested our solidarity. It was very gracious of him and the ACC House of Bishops meeting was characterized by friendliness and mutual support. I do expect that this cooperative spirit will continue over the next few years. At some point, I expect we will consider an inter-communion agreement.

**Consecration of Bishop Stephen Scarlett:** The Rt. Rev. Stephen Scarlett was consecrated bishop on Saturday, October 26. He will serve the ACC Diocese of the West. This consecration is extremely important for Classical Anglicans in the United States. Bishop Scarlett is very ecumenical in his approach to the Continuing Churches and seems to support the fact that we are, de facto, in communion already. He is a very enthusiastic and engaging man and will provide excellent leadership to his diocese.

St. Matthew’s Church in Newport Beach, California is the parish church served by Bishop Scarlett and was the setting for his consecration. St. Matthew’s is the largest parish church in the ACC. It has over six hundred members. By one estimate, this parish has thirty percent of the domestic ACC membership.

We certainly pray that Bishop Scarlett may have a long and productive episcopate.

Please know of my prayers to you all.
Your Brother in Christ,
+Brian

### Episcopal Visit Schedule

*Dates will be finalized later.*

**BISHOP MARSH**

- All Saints, Concord, New Hampshire
- Holy Cross, Webster, New York
- Holy Redeemer, Canandaigua, New York
- Holy Trinity, Waterville, Maine
- Resurrection Mission, Camden, Maine
- St. Augustine, Elizabeth, New Jersey
- St. David, Poultney, Vermont
- St. Elizabeth, Tuxedo, New York
- St. Francis, Deblois, Maine
- St. Luke, Amherst, New Hampshire
- St. Margaret of Scotland, Conway, New Hampshire
- St. Paul’s, Brockton, Massachusetts
- Trinity, Rochester, New Hampshire

**BISHOP LANGBERG**

- St. Lucy, West Winfield, New York
- St. Thomas of Canterbury, Halfmoon, New York

**BISHOP WILLIAMS**

- Good Shepherd, Charlestown, New Hampshire
- St. Augustine of Canterbury, Old Orchard Beach, Maine
- St. Nicholas, West Seneca, New York
- St. Paul’s, Portland, Maine
- Trinity, Lebanon, New Hampshire
- Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Priory, Raymond, Maine

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Saint Luke’s Camp
from the Director

Greetings from the director of Saint Luke’s Camp, our diocesan youth program. This summer we held our camping session from August 4-10 at Camp Ashmere in Hinsdale, MA. We ended up with 17 young people served by 9 staff with our beloved Diocesan Bishop there for some of the session. Our theme this year was “RENEW, KEEP, REDEEM!” and our educational aspects touched on the stages in Christian life of RENEWING our way of thinking, which is different from the world, KEEPING or guarding against things which will hinder us in growing closer to the Lord, and finally REDEEMING things which are lost in our lives, which we can do once we have done the other two.

Our dedicated volunteers worked hard to make it a great week for the youth, and participated not only in education and worship but lots of other fun things such as sports, swimming, boating, campfire, crafts, lots of music and all sorts of cool things. Rumor has it that there may have even been a prank or two perpetrated, but I don’t know if I believe it.
Our camp program needs your help. There is advance planning which goes into the operation of our program. We need everyone who can benefit from our program to use it. We need people who will communicate with us and help get accurate data on who will come ahead of time. We need to know for planning the number of volunteers, meals, supplies, etc. We also need people who can communicate with us on ideas to help keep our content focused on things which the young people need; what they are up against every day. How can we help them? How can we help parents and families? Youth is an absolutely critical time to form ideas and we are biblically commanded to give it top priority in our daily lives in our interactions with young people. We need input and we need it ahead of time.

We also need young solid Christian volunteers. Every volunteer we have has a heart of gold; it is my privilege and honor to labor with them. But I feel very strongly that we need to have young people on staff, good young people, to relate better with some of the youth. To be a full counselor one must be at least 18 years old. This is a stage of life when college and summer jobs make participation difficult to schedule, so the more advance planning we can do the better. We need solid Christian young people to encourage the campers. I am not concerned that you be perfect and win every battle, but that you do fight the good fight. Are you a young person who can help? Do you know one? Won’t you get in touch with me if so, now? If you have any thoughts to help our camp please drop me a line at dia-konio@windstream.net. — Many thanks and God bless you, Father Rich Dibble

———

St. Luke’s Camp
From Allan Wylie

At a Standing Committee meeting last March Bishop Marsh asked for volunteers to help Fr. Dibble with the administrative and planning aspects of St. Luke’s Camp. As it appears the Bishop has enough to do, I volunteered and write to you in that capacity today.

Though St. Luke’s 2014 is at least eight months away, I encourage you to start thinking about St. Luke’s now. Planning for the next season is already under way. In the coming months we will be showcasing various aspects of the camp as experienced by both councilors and campers. We hope their enthusiasm will encourage you to think seriously about sending your children, or grandchildren or any others you might consider. As you will see, the enthusiasm of campers and their parents is unbounded and we hope that enthusiasm will be contagious.

In today’s world, parents are challenged to instill in their children sound values and good habits, qualities that will support them throughout life. Parents are also challenged to find safe venues to which they are comfortable entrusting their children. We hope their enthusiasm will encourage you to think seriously about sending your children, or grandchildren or any others you might consider. As you will see, the enthusiasm of campers and their parents is unbounded and we hope that enthusiasm will be contagious.

In today’s world, parents are challenged to instill in their children sound values and good habits, qualities that will support them throughout life. Parents are also challenged to find safe venues to which they are comfortable entrusting their children. We recognize these concerns and have continually worked to create programs to build Christian character in a safe and healthy environment.

It is obvious that our future lies in our children and St. Luke’s is not only good for our own children, but an outstanding outreach tool. Elsewhere in this issue you’ll find a great piece by Diane Jones. Please read it and think about how this sort of experience might affect someone you know.

St. Luke’s is an important part of our diocesan Christian education program, and, if it is to grow and be a meaningful part of Christian formation, we must show our confidence in the future by supporting it, not only financially, but by sending our children to it.

There is a contact person in your parish who will have more information on St. Luke’s. Space prohibits their listing, but your rector should be able to help you. If you have any concerns about St. Luke’s, I encourage you to contact him/her or me at allan.wylie@gmail.com. It is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and spiritual growth in a fun atmosphere that kids love.
“I Don’t Know How to Pray”

One night at St. Luke’s Camp, I was waiting for the younger girls to finish brushing their teeth, so that I could walk them back to our cabin for devotions and then lights out. One of the girls began to complain: why did we have to go to church so much during camp? “First, we go to chapel for Morning Prayer, then later we go back to chapel [for Holy Eucharist], then we have to do prayers at night! Why?” I explained why it was important for us to do this, that God has given all of us so many blessings, and that it’s important for us to recognize His love for us, and to thank Him, and to learn how we can be better Christians; and that it was also important to ask His forgiveness when we did not behave properly. Earlier in the day, I had several times admonished her and some of the other campers when they were talking and laughing instead of listening and learning and participating, both in chapel and in class. I suggested to her that tonight she should pray for help in focusing better tomorrow.

“But I don’t know how to pray.”

I was startled by this unexpected response from this young girl. She explained that she didn’t go to church at home, and she admitted simply that she had never before prayed.

It’s easy, I told her. Praying is just talking to God. You can pray out loud, or you can pray silently, by just thinking. You can pray when you’re in a church, or when you’re outside; when you’re alone, or when you’re with others. You can be kneeling down, or standing up, or sitting, or walking, or swimming, or riding in the car, or you can be asking for God’s blessing as you say Grace before eating a meal. The important thing is to just talk to God, the way you would talk to anyone. God’s always listening to us, and, even though we may not hear His answer right away, He’s always there. Tell Him how you’re feeling, whether you’re happy or sad or frightened or worried. Thank Him for all that He’s given you, and ask Him for help and forgiveness. Ask Him to keep you safe. Ask Him to help you to pay attention when you’re in church, or in class, and to use all of His gifts to you so that you can do your best always.

She smiled at me, and I at her, and at the other girls who had been listening, and we all returned to our cabin. It was a beautiful teaching moment, and a lesson for me, too. I thanked God for blessing me with the opportunity to make a difference in that child’s life.

----- Diane S. Jones, St. Luke’s Camp Counselor
West Winfield NY
St. Lucy
And
Halfmoon NY
St. Thomas of Canterbury

Sadly attended the memorial Mass for Eli Dibble, son of Fr. Richard Dibble, the priest they share, conducted by Bishop Langberg in a borrowed church before a packed congregation. Two cows much loved by Eli, bearing garlands, formed an honor guard outside the church. The accompanying pictures show the Dibble family and Strawberry their rein cow a couple of Christmases ago, and Uriah Elijah Dibble, born just after his brother’s departure. Pray for them all.

—-ed
A newsletter like this is full of all sorts of news, of the joys and triumphs of our churches, sometimes of their struggles, and of the grand doings of synods and other major events, in short, of the various things we do as a church. This issue is filled with this kind of valuable information, but sometimes we are brought up short and reminded of what ‘church’ is really all about, about the Last Things, about the shortness of life, about the need for mercy and comfort, about the nearness of the gates of heaven, about the love of God for us when we most need his love, about His nearness in the midst of our sorrows. Sometimes we need to draw together, to share one another’s tears, and to lift one another up in prayer, and in more “practical” ways. This is one of those times, when an event mentioned in several of the parish reports has struck deep into our emotions.

On November 4, Eli Dibble, young son of Fr. Rich and Caroline Dibble, rode on his bicycle down his family driveway and through the gates of heaven, struck by a car in a tragic accident. He was rushed to the hospital and everything possible was done for him, but Eli didn’t make it, and is now in the arms of the Savior and on his journey to the heavenly throne.

To quote Bishop Marsh, “Eli was a wonderful, friendly and outgoing young man. He attended St Luke’s Camp for several years, where he was an expert archer. He also participated in the many activities at the camp.” He was homeschooled by his Mom, active in many projects for the church (being a member of both St. Lucy’s in West Winfield NY and St. Thomas of Canterbury in Halfmoon NY) and on the family farm, including the raising of his own cow (pictured), playful, and all boy. He will be deeply missed.

Eli leaves his parents, two brothers, Joe and Abe, and two sisters, Emily and Ruth, and also his brand new brother Uriah, who was born the day after his death. Bishop Langberg celebrated his Requiem Eucharist.

May he rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon him.
Pray for his soul and for those he leaves behind. They need a special touch from God.

The Gates of Heaven Are Not Far
for Eli

The gates of heaven are not far, much nearer than we ever know, and we never know our time for passing through. The gates of heaven are not far, often reached before we are aware how near it is we sit and stand and walk and ride to the open portals and the open arms of God. The gates of heaven are not far, perhaps mere steps from our front door, perhaps a short bike ride away. The gates of heaven are not far, and where the gates of heaven stand, so stands the Savior with His arms outspread, so waits His loving welcome for His own, so waits His guiding hand as we ascend upon the road from those blest gates that leads us to the throne of God. The gates of heaven are not far, and those who pass those gates are blest, and the prayers we pray we know are heard, heard and answered with the sureness of His love, with assurance of the coming perfect joy. The gates of heaven are not far, but those of us now left behind below cannot somehow come with ease to see it so, but there is a distance in our mourning, and we see no more the one we hold so dear, and with broken hearts we taste our pain. The gates of heaven are not far, and though there is a gulf that we perceive, and though we cannot see him here below, we can know that we are one in Him who saves our souls, that resting in the Savior’s arms in our sorrow, we receive the same embrace as he does there. The gates of heaven are not far, and we one day shall also pass them, and there in joy that is eternal we will see and touch and know the ones we love.

DIBBLE FAMILY FUND

A fund has been set up to assist the Dibble family at this time. They have many financial needs. In addition to the tragic death of their son, there is the arrival of their newborn, Uriah. Please send checks to: Kathy Lippman, 189 Shearer Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Make checks out to "Diocese of the Northeast" Memo: "Dibble Family Fund." You may also send checks to the Bishops Discretionary Fund.

----------ed pacht
Parishes and Missions

Connecticut

Mystic: St. Matthias—Sun 10.30
(at Old Mistick Village, Coogan Blvd.)
Mail to: P.O. Box 293, Mystic, CT 06355
Dcn Merrill Perkins 860-581-0484

Maine

Deblois: St. Francis
Fr. James Dumond 1069 Rt 193 (207)638-2441

Ellsworth: St. Thomas—Sat 3pm, Sun 10am
(373 Bangor Rd., Rt. 1A) (207)667-2001.
Fr. Ian Dunn, Fr. Frank Grey

Old Orchard: St. Augustine of Canterbury
Sun 10am, (Cathedral Pines Chapel,
156 Saco Ave), Father Andrew Faust
Deacon Allen Ryan, (207-229-8700).

Portland: St. Paul
Sun 8 & 10 am (279 Congress St.)
(207)828-2012. Fr. Samuel Logan
Fr. Amos Mihanda, Dcn Bro Ignatius, Dcn Al Ryan,
Dcn Michael Cupoli, Fr. Joseph Bizimana

Raymond.: Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Priory
Sun 8am (May through Nov.) (4 Shaw Road)
(207)655-4441 Rev. Prior Kevin LaMarre, OSB

Rockland: Resurrection Mission
(at members’ homes.) (207)236-2421. Fr. Frank Gray.

Waterville: Holy Trinity—Sun 10am
(chapel, Sacred Heart RC, 70 Pleasant St.)
Fr. Ed Kalish (207) 989-2117,

Massachusetts

Belchertown: occasional services
at the bishop’s oratory (1 Main Street)
contact Bishop Marsh (413)323-7869

Brockton: Saint Paul’s—Sun 8 & 10.30
(701 Pleasant St.) 508-588-7285
Bp. James R. Hiles, Dcn. Czarr Freeman

New Hampshire

Amherst: St. Luke—Sun 8 & 10am
(3 Limbo Lane) (603)672-6054.
Fr. Alexander H. Webb

Charlestown: Good Shepherd—Sun 9am
(20 Summer St.) (413)552-1580.
Bishop Brian Marsh.
Fr. David Moody

Concord: All Saints’—Sun 10am
124F Hall Street (603)545-9079
Fr. Christian Tutor OSA.

Conway: St. Margaret of Scotland—Sun 10am
(85 Pleasant St.) (603)447-2404
Fr. Jeffrey Monroe, Dcn Harry Wellsman

Lebanon: Trinity—Sun 11am
28 Maple St.) (413)323-6445.
Bp Brian Marsh, Dcn. Robert Philp

Rochester: Trinity—Sun 8 & 9.30am
(180 Rochester Hill Road) (603)332-4121
Bp. Owen Williams, Fr. Joseph Bizimana

New Jersey

Elizabeth NJ: St. Augustine—Sun 10am
(55 Jefferson Ave.)
Fr. Luis Aguilar, 786-342-5841

New York

Brooklyn: St. Joseph - Sun 11am (123-131
Arlington Avenue). Canon Neville Brathwaite
(718) 756-1258, Archdcn. Alan Koller (845) 496
-2804, Dcn. Herby Rodney

Canandaigua: Holy Redeemer—Sun 10am
(4575 Rte 364 - East Lake Road).
Fr. James Ayers. (585)334-3512,
Fr. Dale Bove (585) 905-3084

Tuxedo: St. Elizabeth—Sun 10am
(38 Chapel Turn, Eagle Valley)
Bp. George Langberg. (845) 753-2580
Fr. Robert Ley (973) 962-6849

Webster: Holy Cross—Sun 10am
(615 Bay Road).
Fr. Martin Mahoney (585) 236-7190

West Seneca NY: St. Nicholas. Sun 10am
(2783 Seneca St.), Fr. Edward Ihde
716-609-1919

West Winfield: St. Lucy (10265 US Rte 20)
(315)725-3745. Fr., Richard Dibble

Vermont

St. Johnsbury: Christ Church—Sun 10am
(54 Southard St.—SDA church) Fr. Art Bennett
Cell 603-504-5631

Wells: St. David—1st Sun 9.30am. A house
church, usually at 18 Mountain View Court.
Call Fr. Alexander Stringer (802)645-1962

Associated Anglican Parishes

Halfmoon (Clifton Park), NY: St. Thomas
of Canterbury—Sun 10am (242 Grooms Road)
Fr. Richard Dibble (315)725-3745
Clergy Anniversaries

My list is woefully incomplete and probably inaccurate. Please help me get it right. ed.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Dec</td>
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<td>06 – Fr. Frank Grey, D 1997</td>
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<td>08 - Fr. Christian Tutor, vows 1987</td>
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<td>14 - Bp George Langberg, D 1985</td>
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<td>Jan</td>
<td>10 – Fr. Ed Ihde, birthday 1950</td>
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<td>Feb</td>
<td>02 - Fr. Christian Tutor OSA, D 2007</td>
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<td>09 - Bp Robert Harvey birthday 1916</td>
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<td>22 - Bp. Owen Williams, D 1998</td>
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<td>23 - Fr. Kevin LaMarre OSB, birthday</td>
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<td>24 - Fr. Alexander Stringer, P 1953</td>
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Next Issue in March
Deadline for submissions will be around February 15.

Projected regular deadlines will be the 15th day of Feb, May, Aug, & Nov

Northeast Anglican
P. O. Box 1078
Rochester NH 03867