



# THE CURATE



## Rector's Corner

**Vestry Meeting Time Change –  
Tuesday, August 9, 5:30 PM**

books that I have recently read:

***The Bell*** – Iris Murdoch  
Outside of Imber Abbey, the home of an enclosed order of nuns, lays Michael Meade's ancestral home, Imber Court. A new bell is being installed when suddenly the old bell, a legendary symbol of religion and magic, is rediscovered. And then things begin to change. Meanwhile the wise old Abbess watches, prays, and exercises discreet authority. And everyone, or almost everyone, hopes to be saved, whatever that may mean. Originally published in 1958, this funny, sad, and moving novel is about religion, sex, and the fight between good and evil.

Michael's sexual orientation has in the past complicated his desire to become an ordained priest, and he has decided to make Imber Court a lay community of the Abbey. To the court comes a small group of more and less "pure" people, "whose desire for God makes them unsatisfactory citizens of an ordinary life, but whose strength or temperament fails them to surrender the world completely." Added to them are the visitors: Toby Gashe, a handsome and earnest young man, soon to attend Oxford; Nick Fawley, with whom Michael had a disastrous affair several years previously; Paul Greenfield, an egotistical art historian; and Paul's rather bohemian wife Dora, who "had begun to suspect that Paul thought her the tiniest bit vulgar." Iris Murdoch combines rarefied philosophy, intellectual introspection, and a terrifically dry humor as she takes us into the minds of troubled people seeking a good and satisfying life in the midst of their religion, their culture, and the natural tendencies of their own personalities. The force



estry meeting for August will be abbreviated in order to allow time for the ***Safeguarding God's People*** training required for all vestry members.

### ***Safeguarding God's People Training – Tuesday, August 9, 6:00 PM***

This training is required by the Diocese for anyone who is involved in a ministry at St. Philip's where there is a "pastoral relationship." This would include vestry, small group leaders, Bible study leaders, lay Eucharistic visitors, hospital visitors, and spiritual directors. If you are required to attend, you will be contacted.

### **The ALPHA Course – Monday, September 20, 6:00 PM**

This is the second time for the ALPHA Course at St. Philip's. I think that anyone who attended the last ALPHA will tell you that the food was delicious, the teaching was excellent, and the fellowship was exceptional. If you didn't get a chance to participate in the last course and would like to sign up for this fall, please call the church office. It's as simple as that. We are hoping to get participants from outside the St. Philip's community for this course. The best way to promote ALPHA is by word of mouth so please invite anyone that you think might be interested. If you need a brochure to pass on, see me.

### **Summer Reading**

Just in case you have run out of summer reading material, here are a few of the

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## Rector's Corner Continued

and tension of repressed contemplation grows until it is released by a series of stunning events.

***The Unlikely Disciple*** – Kevin Roose

Brown University student Roose didn't think of himself as being particularly religious, yet he conceived the novel idea of enrolling at Liberty University, the school Jerry Falwell built, thereby transferring from a school "a notch or two above Sodom and Gomorrah" to the evangelical equivalent of Notre Dame or Brigham Young. His reasons were logical, though curious. To him, a semester at Liberty was like studying abroad. "Here, right in my time zone, was a culture more foreign to me than any European capital." He tells his story entertainingly, as a matter of trying to blend in and not draw too much attention to himself. One hardened habit he had to break was cursing; he even bought a Christian self-help book to tame his tongue. Throughout his time at Liberty, he stayed level-headed, nuanced, and keenly observant. He meant to find some gray in the black-and-white world of evangelicalism, and he learned a few things. His stint at Liberty hardly changed the world but did alter his way at looking at it. That's a start.

***Joker One*** – Donovan Campbell

Campbell decided as a junior at Princeton that attending Marine Corps Officer Candidate School would look good on his résumé. Three years later, in the spring of 2004, he was in Iraq commanding a platoon known by its radio call sign, Joker One. Campbell tells its story, and his, in an outstanding narrative of the Iraq War. Joker One counted around 40 men: country boys and small-town jocks; a few Hispanics and a single black. Some were college men with futures; some had pasts they preferred to forget. The battalion was assigned to one of Iraq's worst hot spots: the city of Ramadi, where faceless enemies found shelter among 350,000 Iraqi civilians. Joker One fought from street to street, house to house and ambush to ambush for seven straight months. By the end of the tour, even the Gunny's hands had started ceaselessly shaking, Campbell writes. Faced with urgent life-and-death decisions, Campbell had learned that there are no great options...you live with the results and shut up about the whole thing. For all his constant self-

questioning, Lt. Campbell brought Joker One home with only one KIA - a record as impressive as his account.

Even though this is a story of fighting, leadership, and brotherhood, it is also a lesson in love, agape love. Here is an excerpt: *So that was how we loved those who hated us; blessed those who persecuted us; daily laid down our lives for our neighbors. No matter what we felt, we tried to demonstrate love through our daily actions. Now I understand more about what it means to truly love, and what it means to love your neighbor – how you can do it even when your neighbor literally tries to kill you.*

***The Yoke of Jesus: A School for the Soul in Solitude***

– Addison Hodges Hart

*The Yoke of Jesus* is an introduction to spiritual discipline, emphasizing the individual's devotion to Jesus. The thirteen chapters of *The Yoke of Jesus* explore the meaning of faith, our need for stillness and solitude, how we should read, how we must engage nature, how we ought to pray the Psalms, and much more. Addison Hodges Hart works to deepen our understanding of essential spiritual disciplines, explaining them in terms both ancient and contemporary. The book is at once informative and pragmatic in its approach, grounding the disciplines in Scripture and patristic sources and making them relevant for Christians of the twenty-first century.

***The Seven Faith Tribes*** – George Barna

Evangelical Christian researcher Barna believes that a U.S. in which self-interest has overtaken shared interests is spiraling toward self-destruction but that it's not too late for the country to reinvent itself. He clearly states, however, that this book doesn't aim to convert anyone to his religious views; indeed, he insists it is crucial for Christians to work with non-Christians. From analyzing more than 30,000 interviews with U.S. adults, Barna has determined that Americans, while belonging to more than 200 different religious affiliations, belong to just seven faith tribes: casual Christians (67 percent); captive Christians (16 percent); Jews (2 percent); Mormons (1.5 percent); pantheists, mostly Eastern religions (1.5 percent); Muslims (less than 1 percent); and skeptics, including atheists and agnostics (11 percent). Barna profiles each group's religious beliefs, political perspectives, and self-conceptions. A chapter on the media is especially provocative, since Barna considers media exposure

America's most widespread and serious addiction. Barna's prospective call to action will upset some and please others while remaining fascinating, important, and worthy of reflection by all its readers.

**Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes** – Kenneth E. Bailey

Kenneth Bailey has been teaching New Testament in the Middle East for over 50 years, and he has tremendous cultural insights into the text that only someone living in the Middle East at the time of Jesus and afterward would get. For example, he points out that when Jesus tells Peter to launch out into deeper water, Peter says, "Master, we were out all night and didn't catch anything." Fishing was never done during the day on the Sea of Galilee because during the daytime, the fish would hide under the rocks hundreds of feet below sea level to escape the heat. So when Jesus was telling Peter to do this, Peter would have thought, "There's NO WAY this is going to work! Jesus ought to stick with what He knows and leaving the fishing to the paid professionals - us!" But when Peter and his buddies caught the huge, net breaking catch of fish, he knew right away that this traveling rabbi had a special connection with God!

This is the best New Testament commentary that I have ever come across.

Enjoy your reading for the rest of the summer. Blessings in Christ, Ted†

## Treasurer's Report

Norwood Brenneke

	June	Year-to-Date
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	53,344.67	49,461.53
<b>Total Income</b>	17,904.92	120,103.95
<b>Total Expenses</b>	15,045.75	117,248.63
<b>Ending Balance</b>	53,316.85	52,316.85

## Jr. Warden's Report

Curt Winkler

**H**ope everyone is having a wonderful summer. I am working on our grass situation. It will take the rest of the summer to repair. The plaques for the windows have been put in place. I will get the rest installed as soon as I can. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and I hope to see you in church.

## DOK

**I**n July, the Daughters of the King met on Thursday morning, July 8. In August, we will meet at our regular time on Thursday, August 12 at 5:30 p.m. We continue to study Prayer: Finding the Heart's True Home by Richard Foster. We will be starting Part III, *Moving Outward* from August 12 to September 9. Should our meeting time change again, we will contact all DOK members.

## HIS THOUGHTS SAID... HIS FATHER SAID...

A selected reading by  
Amy Carmichael

**Let My Love Restore Thee**  
**H**is thoughts said, I am not what I meant to be, or what others think I am. His Father said, It is written, 'He restoreth my soul. The Law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul.' Let some word of Mine restore thee. Let My love restore thee. Didst thou think thou hadst a Father who did not know that His child would need to be restored? I will restore health unto thee: I will heal thee of thy wounds. I will restore comforts unto thee. I will restore unto thee the joy of My salvation. I will renew a right spirit within thee. I will not cast thee away from My Presence.

Child of My love, trust thy Father. If the Spirit speaketh some word in thy heart, obey that word. And, or ever thou art aware, thou wilt know thyself restored. *Miss Carmichael's devotion was based on Ps 23:3, 19:7, Jer 30:17, Isa 65:18, and Ps 51:10-12*

## CONFIRMATION

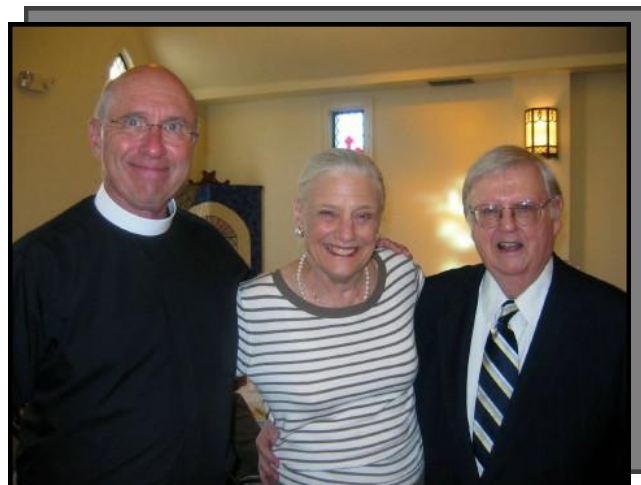
**O**n June 27, 2010, Bishop Andy Doyle visited St. Philip's for the first time since he has been consecrated as Bishop of Texas. Bishop Andy confirmed Bob Beck, Bennett Gierkey, and Justin McClane during the 5:00 p.m. service. The Bishop preached a powerful and encouraging sermon and then joined members of St. Philip's for a covered dish supper. Bishop Andy has been a long-time friend of St. Philip's and it was great to see him again.

CONFIRMATION PICTURES →

# CONFIRMATION PICTURES



Justin McClane & Parents



Bob Beck, Beverly Beck & Fr. Ted



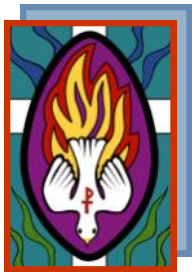
Fr. Ted, Bishop Andy, Justin, Bennett,  
and Bob



Bennett Gierkey, Family, and  
Fr. Ted



St. Philip's Family Celebrating Justin, Bennett, and Bob's Confirmation



# CONFIRMATION PICTURES

More St. Philip's Family Pictures  
Celebrating Confirmation





# INDEPENDENCE DAY SERVICE JULY 4, 2010



**M**aj. Gen. Ted Hopgood, USMC (Ret.) was the guest preacher for the St. Philip's Independence Day Service. General Hopgood served in the United States Marine Corps for more than 30 years, and completed three combat tours of duty in Vietnam. Following his retirement from the Marine Corps, General Hopgood was Commandant of Cadets at Texas A&M University. His message reminded us, as Americans, of our strong Christian heritage. The service included patriotic hymns and prayers for the welfare of our country. The Vietnam Veterans of Anderson County provided a color guard that attended to the Colors. The singing of the National Anthem at the end of the service was particularly moving.

## INDEPENDENCE DAY PICTURES



## MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST

By Oswald Chambers -Selected  
reading from July 21st

### THE GATEWAY TO THE KINGDOM

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit."* Matthew 5:3

**B**eware of placing Our Lord as a Teacher first. If Jesus Christ is a Teacher only, then all He can do is to tantalize me by erecting a standard I cannot attain. What is the use of presenting me with an ideal I cannot possibly come near? I am happier without knowing it. What is the good of telling me to be what I never can be - to be pure in heart, to do more than my duty, to be perfectly devoted to God? I must know Jesus Christ as Saviour before His teaching has any meaning for me other than that of an ideal which leads to despair. But when I am born again of the Spirit of God, I know that Jesus Christ did not come to *teach* only: *He came to make me what He teaches I should be.* The Redemption means that Jesus Christ can put into any man the disposition that ruled His own life, and all the standards God gives are based on that disposition.

The teaching of the Sermon on the Mount produces despair in the natural man - the very thing Jesus means it to do. As long as we have a self-righteous, conceited notion that we can carry out Our Lord's teaching, God will allow us to go on until we break our ignorance over some obstacle, then we are willing to come to Him as paupers and receive from Him. "Blessed are the paupers in spirit," that is the first principle in the Kingdom of God. The bedrock in Jesus Christ's Kingdom is poverty, not possession; not decisions for Jesus Christ, but a sense of absolute futility - I cannot begin to do it. Then Jesus says - Blessed are you. That is the entrance, and it does take us a long while to believe we are poor! The knowledge of our own poverty brings us to the moral frontier where Jesus Christ works.

## Altar Flowers

Altar Guild Flower Chair-

**T**o donate **ALTAR FLOWERS**, please contact flower chairman Francis Williams at 903-729-5743 or call the church office at 903-729-4214. Checks for altar flower donations should be made out to **St. Philip's Altar Flowers** and mailed to the church office.

## Cursillo

**T**here will be an Ultreya on September 11, 2010 at St. Michael's and All Angels in Longview from 3-5 p.m. Let's all go to this one if possible...I think their music will be done by Jeff Richardson who is the fabulous musician who was Music Cha on the last Cursillo (#228). This Ultreya will be on Saturday (which is always a better day for the Palestine group). Let's all go and be encouraged in our Christian life and have some great fun and fellowship!

## ALPHA

Mary Kolstad

**A**lpha meant constant blessings for me every week as I had the pleasure of working with many of our church family members preparing and serving meals for our dinner guest (other church family members and friends). I really enjoyed everything about planning the menus, grocery shopping, planning the different table décor and themes each week, cooking and baking, coordinating the kitchen teams, and best of all serving our dinner guest. We actually had so much fun in the kitchen on Monday nights, that many volunteers kept coming back to help each week, and we shared our meal in the kitchen before clean-up.

I am grateful for Leo and Muriel Mizell and my Chris Kolstad for cooking every meal with me for eleven weeks; you were totally committed and I thank you. Thank you to: Father Ted Welty, Sid Walton, Frank and Jeanette George, Tom Prater, Bill and Audrey Tatum, Sandy Mettauer, Cathy Summers, Jane Nickle, Charlie Jonas, Lottie Jonas, Dan Raney, Michael Lucian, Jay Dietz, and Charlie and Mary Nichols and every Alpha Task Force Member for your dedication and preparation work each Monday night working in the kitchen and/or serving our dinner guests. I offer a special thanks to Ann Royall Maffitt and Martha Styner for "setting" the tables each Monday and Toni Rogers, Meador Montgomery, Joann Evans, and Ann Davis for donating or preparing food. I appreciate Kelan, Church Administrator, and Chris, our Sexton, for helping me with many tasks.

Thank you Father Ted for your confidence in me to organize this important part of Alpha (you were a great "Waiter", where are the tips). I look forward to being a group member in the next Alpha starting September 20.



# AUGUST 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I <b>8:45a Bible Study</b> 10a Euch Rite II	<b>2</b> 6p OT Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study <b>5:30p Euch/Heal</b> 6:30p Choir	<b>5</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group	<b>6</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I <b>8:45a Bible Study</b> 10a Euch Rite II	<b>9</b> 6p OT Study	<b>10</b> 6p Vestry Mtg.	<b>11</b> 9 a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study <b>5:30p Euch/Heal</b> 6:30p Choir	<b>12</b> <b>5:30p DOK</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group	<b>13</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I <b>8:45a Bible Study</b> 10a Euch Rite II	<b>16</b> 6p OT Study	<b>17</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group	<b>18</b> 9a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study <b>5:30p Euch/Heal</b> 6:30p Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I <b>8:45a Bible Study</b> 10a Euch Rite II	<b>23</b> 6p OT Study	<b>24</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group	<b>25</b> 9a Staff Mtg. 10a Bible Study <b>5:30p Euch/Heal</b> 6:30p Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8:00a Men's Cursillo Group	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 7:30a Euch Rite I <b>8:45a Bible Study</b> 10a Euch Rite II	<b>30</b> 6p OT Study	<b>31</b> 5:30p Women's Cursillo Group				

July 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2010						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## BIRTHDAYS

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Curt Winkler      | 24 Ronnie Elliott  |
| 3 Kathryn Price     | 25 Scott Nicholson |
| 4 Cathy Summers     | 28 Albert Holmes   |
| 11 Stacey Nicholson | 30 Ann Davis       |
| 13 Cynthia Dickey   | 31 Nick Gouras     |
| 16 Frank George     |                    |
| 16 Joan Niece       |                    |
| 17 Don Patterson    |                    |
| 19 Mike Knippers    |                    |
| 20 Ed Minton        |                    |
| 21 Leo Mizell       |                    |
| 23 Wanda Grimes     |                    |
| 23 Molly Kolstad    |                    |



## ANNIVERSARIES

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 Sid & Linda Walton    | 23 Tim & Janet Cornwall |
| 7 Bob & Merry Blackwell | 25 Mike & Linda Paul    |
| 16 Tommy & Ann Davis    |                         |

# CHURCH INFORMATION

## St. Philip's Staff

## Parish Office Hours

Rector Ted Welty  
Church Administrator Kelan Eckerman  
Organist/Choirmaster Clarissa Delany  
Sexton Chris Rogers

Monday -Thursday 9a-5p  
Friday 9a-12p  
**Closed Federal Holidays**  
**Phone:** 903-729-4214  
**Fax:** 903-729-8691

Leo Mizell (Senior Warden)  
Curt Winkler (Junior Warden)  
Norwood Brenneke (Treasurer)  
Mark Davis (Vestry Clerk)  
  
Bob Blackwell Kay Chapman  
Frank George Jay Dietz  
Ann Royall Maffitt Sparky Kolstad  
Charlie Nichols Martha Styner

### Church Office email:

**Priest:** [twelty4235@aol.com](mailto:twelty4235@aol.com)  
**Church Administrator:** [kelan@stphilipepiscopalchurch.org](mailto:kelan@stphilipepiscopalchurch.org)  
[stphilipsalastine@embarqmail.com](mailto:stphilipsalastine@embarqmail.com)  
**Website:** [stphilipepiscopalchurch.org](http://stphilipepiscopalchurch.org)  
**Curate:** [ma\\_polasek@earthlink.net](mailto:ma_polasek@earthlink.net)

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