



FORWARD *in* MISSION

A publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

Easter 2011

From the front lines of the faith

'God gave His love to me and asked me to give it to you'

by Summer Twyman

Editor's Note: Summer Twyman works in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, ministering to girls who are rescued from human trafficking. Pirum ("Pea-roam") is the nephew of one of these survivors. He came to the center at age 6, small enough to wear toddler's clothes. He was rat-bitten and had been collecting recycling to earn a few pennies. His parents are addicted to methamphetamines and have already sold two of his sisters into slavery. Summer helps look after Pirum. This is the account of an evening they spent together.

Tonight after dinner Pirum and I were eating our plate of fruit (standard dessert in Cambodia) and watching a Garfield cartoon. As we watched, Pirum asked me about the dog's name and the man's name.



To contribute toward the cost of Pirum's care, please send a check made out to Open Heavens Foundation to 3201 Preston Hollow Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76109, marked for "Pirum's support."

I said the dog is named Odie, and the man's name is Jon. He said his school principal's name is John, and I told him that my dad's name was also John, but that he died a few years ago.

Pirum said, "Don't talk about that; I'm scared." He was scared that my dad's ghost would come to the house. It's a common belief here that ancestors come back, and you have to make sacrifices to

them to honor them; but everybody is afraid of them.

So I said, "No Pirum, don't worry. My Dad loved Jesus, so when he died he went to live with Jesus." (I forgot the Cambodian word for heaven!) Pirum looked shocked.

"He lives with Jesus?"

I said, "Yes, if you love Jesus, when you die, you go live with Him; you don't come back to Earth."

Pirum said, "I love Jesus! Do you love Jesus?"

I said, "Yes. Pirum, Jesus is the reason I came to Cambodia. I was talking to Him, and he told me to come here."

Again, shock: "You heard Him?"

I said, "Not with my ears, but with my heart." I told Pirum that Jesus wanted me to come to Cambodia to tell him that Jesus loves him.

Pirum said, "He loves me?" (Big smile.)

"Yes," I said. "The reason I have love to give you is because Jesus loves me, and He *awy kynom awy*." (That's a Khmer phrase meaning roughly, 'He gave it to me and asked me to give it again.')

Pirum said, "Oh. Before, I thought, 'Why does Summer help me?' I was confused. Now I understand."

"From the front lines of the faith" will be a recurring feature in these pages, telling stories of those who step out with the Gospel in places of persecution or dire need.

New diocesan curates assigned



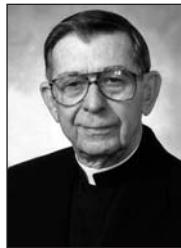
Deacon Mark Polley & Deacon Alan Horton

Ordained March 19, 2011

St. Vincent's Cathedral

Starting July 1, two new diocesan curates will begin ministry. Deacon Mark Polley and Deacon Alan Horton were ordained in March and will graduate from Nashotah House Seminary in May. Deacon Polley has been assigned to serve his curacy at Christ the Redeemer Church in Fort Worth, while Deacon Horton will serve at St. Peter & St. Paul Church in Arlington. Both are expected to be ordained to the priesthood in early autumn.

REMEMBERED: The Rev. Canon Billie R. Boyd, the first priest licensed by Bishop Davies after the formation of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth in 1983, died March 3, 2011. Canon Boyd was chaplain to the retired clergy during his own retirement and a good friend to the diocesan staff. His Requiem Mass was celebrated at the Church of the Holy Apostles in Fort Worth.



RECTORS INSTALLED:

Five parishes have called new rectors in recent months. The priests and their parishes are:

Fr. Jonathan Duncan • Holy Comforter, Cleburne

Fr. John Jordan • St. Laurence, Grapevine

Fr. Darryl Pigeon • All Saints', Fort Worth

Fr. Andy Powell • St. Andrew's, Grand Prairie

Fr. Zeke Rogers • St. Gregory's, Mansfield

Fr. Pigeon continues to serve at St. Michael's in Richland Hills, as well as at All Saints'. Fr. Powell is new to the diocese; he has previously served churches in Midland and in Monroe, La.



Above left: Fr. John Jordan greets his family during the service of institution. His dad, Fr. Terry Jordan, preached the sermon.



Above right: Fr. Zeke Rogers is presented with a Bible by his wife, Adeline, as a symbol that the priest is to "preach the Word" to his people.

You are invited to an evening with The Rt. Rev. Michael Nazir-Ali

former Bishop of Rochester, England

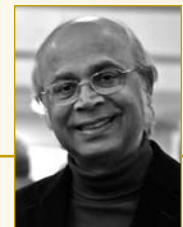
Tuesday, May 24, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. † Will Rogers Center, Fort Worth

No charge for admission • Parking \$5

See letusholdfast.com

We live in an era when nations around the world are losing their Christian identity. Yet Christ's imperative is to "hold fast the profession of our faith."

Dr. Michael Nazir-Ali has shared the Gospel around the world despite countless challenges. Come hear firsthand accounts of Christians who hold fast despite persecution. Come and learn to live out the victory over darkness we've already been assured in Christ.



HOLD FAST
AN URGENT CALL
TO THE WESTERN
CHURCH

Anglican Diocese of Northern Mexico

La Gran Familia ministry grows; mission team forming for summer trip

by *Barbara Hautanen*

A dozen years ago, a little boy came to the house of an American Anglican priest in his Mexican village. The boy needed a meal, a bath, and a place to sleep. The priest – a bachelor – took him in. Today the ministry dubbed “La Gran Familia” (Big Family) provides a Christian home for some 30 children, about half boys and half girls. They live in two houses connected by a playground. They attend parochial and public schools and are members of Cristo Rey Anglican Mission, part of the Diocese of Northern Mexico.

Many of the children come from the nearby Tarahumara Mountains. Pressed by poverty, families abandon children on the streets of Cuauhtémoc, a city of about 100,000. Many are brought to



LGF by the Mexican government’s equivalent of Child Protective Services.

Secondary education is not

free in Mexico. Among the general populace, many children are forced to drop out or never even go at all. To help mold LGF children into self-sufficient, productive adult citizens, the diocesan World Mission Committee offers a Sponsor-a-Child program. It costs \$750 for an individual or church to fund a teen’s school fees, medical care, and other expenses for a year. A brochure is available on the World Mission web site, fwworld-mission.org.

The success stories are numerous. Minerva Arizmendiz came to LGF at the age of 16 seeking a place to work and put her life back together. She was able to finish high school and go on to graduate from nursing school. She is now a Registered

Nurse working in Cuauhtémoc.

Jorge came to LGF at age 14. His parents had abandoned him in a rental house. With his intelligence and talent for soccer, he quickly found a place at La Gran Familia. He completed high school and now attends classes at the University in Chihuahua City.



There are many more stories like these. God is a good God!

Last summer, La Gran Familia opened a government-sponsored day care center for children ages 1 to 4 whose mothers work in factories or apple orchards. The level of care being provided is extraordinary for Mexico. These children will be able to remain in this loving and supportive environment until they are ready to go to public school. Through this ministry LGF is providing a better start in life for the children and enabling families to stay together.

A mission team is now forming to travel to La Gran Familia June 23-27. We ask you to keep the orphanage and the mission team in your prayers.

Because of our companion relationship with the Anglican Diocese of Northern Mexico, our diocese has pledged to support this ministry. We give thanks and pray God’s blessings to all of you for your prayers, presence, and gifts. Without you, La Gran Familia would not have the opportunity to minister to so many.

Barbara Hautanen chairs the Northern Mexico subcommittee of the diocesan World Mission Committee. If you are interested in the June mission trip, contact her at bhautanen@svcs.org.

Around the Diocese

Youth Ministry Director appointed

Bishop Iker has appointed Liz Jordan to be the diocese's first Director of Youth Ministry. She is



working working with youth leaders around the diocese to develop and present programs for our young people in grades 7 to 12. You can meet her this summer at Camp Crucis, where she directs the Summer Camp program. Liz is married to Fr. John Jordan, the rector of St. Laurence Church in Grapevine. They have two young children. Contact her at L.Jordan@fwepiscopal.org.



TOURNAMENT ADDS SENIOR FLIGHT FOR 2011

The 11th Annual Bishop Iker Challenge Golf Tournament will be held Friday, June 3, at Squaw Valley Golf Course in Glen Rose. The format is a four-person scramble. If you need help finding a foursome, your Parish Coordinator can assist you.

This year we will add a Senior Flight. To qualify, all four players on the team must be 60 years of age or older. Tell your Parish Coordinator you want to play in this flight when you turn in the entries for your team.

If you have a business or ministry, consider becoming a Hole Sponsor for \$250 and up. This year's tournament proceeds will provide 40 Camp Crucis summer camp scholarships for youngsters who need financial assistance, plus funding for improvements to the facility.

It's a great day of golf, and a great way to support our diocesan camp in its ministry to our children and grandchildren.

Who doesn't love a quasiquicentennial?

St. Paul's, Gainesville, marked the 125th birthday (AKA the "quasiquicentennial") of its church building in August with the blessing of a new chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The chapel is located in Sanders Hall, which adjoins the church, and is appointed with a blue English tapestry and a San Damiano cross, which is associated with the ministry of St. Francis of Assisi. An altar, lectern, pews, and window dressing were added as well. The conversion was directed by Fr. Chuck Hough, the rector of St. Paul's. The chapel was consecrated by Bishop Iker during his annual visitation and is used for weekday Masses.

The church's construction began in May 1884, seven years after the congregation's first meeting. The anniversary celebration took place exactly 125 years *and two days* after the building was dedicated. Among the improvements made in the past century have been the addition of radiators and electric lights. In 2010, members of the youth group repainted the parish hall. Outside, little has changed: St. Paul's remains a prominent feature on Gainesville's bustling main thoroughfare, California Street.

Daughters of the King Annual Assembly

The diocesan Daughters of the King will hold their 2011 Assembly on Saturday, May 7, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Comforter in Cleburne. DOK President Dorothy Gregory has asked Bishop Iker to celebrate Mass for the Daughters; Fr. Jonathan Duncan, the rector of Holy Comforter, will present a program. There is a charge of \$10 for continental breakfast and lunch.

Cathedral organist to retire

Barbara Marquart Burton will be honored on Sunday, May 15, with an evening of music and a reception in thanksgiving for her years of dedicated service. The program begins at St. Vincent's Cathedral, Bedford, at 5:30 p.m. with a half-hour recital by Barbara, to be followed by Choral Evening and a surprise recital by friends, with the reception following in the parish hall.

Around the Diocese



On Sept. 23, Archbishop Justice Akrofi (center) visited Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County. The Archbishop was intrigued by UGM's Spiritual Development Program, run by parish ALPHA leaders. He commented that ALPHA is sweeping Africa and is in use in the Anglican church in Ghana, where he is based. Pictured with Archbishop Akrofi are Don Shisler (right), President of the Mission and Fr. Stanley Maneikis, Chaplain.

Mother's Day is May 8!

Our diocesan tradition continues with the annual Mother's Day ingathering benefiting La Gran Familia children's home in the Anglican Diocese of Northern Mexico. Simply pick up a donation envelope and complete the form, naming the woman you wish to honor. No donation is too small, so this is a great gift that even a child can afford. Envelopes will be collected at church, and the names of all the honored women will be published on the diocesan Web site. Gift enclosure cards are available, making it easy to tell Mom, Grandma, or your favorite teacher that she is appreciated. All donations go to the support of the boys and girls of La Gran Familia.



First Fest was fabulous

Mark your calendar for the Second Annual Family Fun Festival, to be held Saturday, Sept. 17, celebrating Camp Crucis' 64th birthday.

The first Fest, held last September, was a wonderful day of fellowship that raised \$10,000 for camp improvements and operations. About 200 people attended for some or all of the day, beginning with Mass in St. John's Chapel, and ending

with a barbeque dinner and live dance music. In between were games for kids, a silent auction, and time for everybody to get into the pool. A drawing was held, with a seven-night cruise for two as the first prize.

So, have you marked your calendar yet for this year's Family Fun Fest? It's Saturday, Sept. 17.

Diocesan Convention election results

The following were elected to diocesan leadership positions at our 28th annual convention, held Nov. 12 & 13, 2010:

Fr. Scott Wooten • Standing Committee

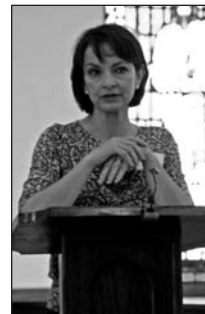
Larry Votto • Standing Committee

Fr. Jay Atwood • Ecclesiastical Trial Court

Women's Congress

The annual Congress of Episcopal Church Women, held each October, brings together members of the Daughters of the King and Altar Guild, along with the ECW Cabinet and parish leaders. The 2010 Congress, which gathered at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Granbury, marked the conclusion of Gay Marquardt's three-year term as ECW President. Pictured left, Gay, a member of All Saints' Church in Fort Worth, passes a silver cross necklace symbolic of the office to her successor, Barbara Mills (left), a member of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Willow Park.

Pictured at right, keynote speaker Debbie Petta described her role as a prayer team member supporting mission trips and Anglican councils. This year's Congress will be held Saturday, Oct. 8, at St. Andrew's Church in Grand Prairie.



“Come to Me, all ye that are weary and heavy-laden”

Rachel Ministries offer Christ’s healing and reconciliation after abortion

by Ann Chambers

Time does not heal the emotional, spiritual, and psychological effects of abortion. Post-abortion stress can come years after the crisis which led to the abortion of a child.

Statistically, one in three women will have an abortion, and half of those will have multiple abortions. For most, it is a traumatic event, and they live with the pain and regret, usually in isolation.



Rather than being the remedy they were seeking, the experience overshadows their lives.

Women – and men, too – can feel guilt, grief, sadness, and/or depression. Some become ill. Most are hesitant to talk about it to anyone, fearing that those who are pro-abortion may trivialize their feelings, and

those who are pro-life may be hostile.

Many women believe God won’t forgive them for aborting their babies, even after begging for forgiveness. They may think that they never will be worthy of forgiveness. They forget that God forgives the penitent. Without this knowledge of being forgiven, their pain may go on for years.

Dr. Theresa Burke calls abortion “an intimate weapon” against a woman, who may be “silenced by shame.” Even those who encouraged her to abort are no help to her, Burke adds, “because of their own unresolved feelings of guilt.” A woman can face depression, guilt, and grief alone, isolated even from God.

Fortunately, there is help. Rachel Ministries is a Christian organization especially for those who need healing after abortion. Its purpose is to help those who are hurting in whatever way they can, and do it with utmost confidentiality.

Betsy Kopor, the founder of Rachel Ministries, says, “making the call to get help for post-abortion pain may be the hardest thing that someone has ever done, but the fruit of that call is coming to know hope, healing, forgiveness, and the mercy of the Lord.”

Among a variety of programs and services offered, the most popular and effective is the Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat, developed by Dr. Burke. The retreat weekend is a blend of spiritual and emotional help for those going through the deep pain of loss and grief. It is scriptural and sacramental and offers an experiential process to help participants work through issues of loss and come to know the mercy of the Lord. The retreat helps those who suffer to know that they are not alone and that they can return to God. It gives them hope for the future.

Rachel Ministries also offers weekly and monthly support groups and referrals to licensed counselors and clergy who have special training in post-abortion trauma and healing.

Our diocesan Pro-Life Ministry has arranged for the first Anglican Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat to be held May 13-15 at Camp Crucis.

For confidential help after abortion, please contact Rachel Ministries. To get more information or register for the May 13-15 retreat, call 817-923-4757 or email forgiven@racheltx.org. You can also visit the Web site at www.racheltx.org.

Joining hands as partners in mission

by the Rev. Christopher Culpepper

“We want to move from a ‘hand-out diocese’ to a ‘hand-up diocese,’” said Bishop Fanuel Magangani almost as soon as I arrived in the Diocese of Northern Malawi with our mission team in January. It was just two months since his consecration, and already he was working toward that goal.

Bishop Magangani is young (38), and his diocese is even younger. When it was established just 16 years ago, its first bishop, the Rt. Rev. Jackson Biggers, proposed a companion relationship between Northern Malawi and the Diocese of Fort Worth. I went along when Bishop Iker led the first mission exchange team in 1996. At that time, I was a 25-year-old whippersnapper who had never left the country, let alone traveled to Africa. I found an expression of Christianity like none I had ever experienced. On Likoma Island I met my friend Fanuel, who has now become the first indigenous bishop of Northern Malawi.

This past January, on my second visit to Northern Malawi, I saw abundant growth. The Diocese of Northern Malawi is building the infrastructure that will allow it to develop into mature self-sufficiency, with Christian discipleship the foremost goal of all. For our part, our diocese continues to be renewed and instructed by our connection.

The Diocese of Northern Malawi is our kindred spirit in the advancement of catholic and orthodox Faith and Order. It is blessed with evangelical preaching for the conversion of souls, ablaze with the fire of the Holy Spirit and manifestations of

His gifts, and lit by the beauty of reverent worship. Thanks to our companion relationship, the pulse of international mission beats strong in Fort Worth. As we mature in mission, we are beginning to have an impact in the formation of mission-minded priests for other dioceses. The January mission team consisted of nine students from Nashotah House Seminary, representing our diocese and several others. One does not have to read between the lines very much to appreciate the impact this can have for the renewal and welfare of the Church.

During our visit, Bishop Magangani allowed me to preach and celebrate at St. Mark’s Church in Mzuzu, where I first experienced Anglican worship in Africa. The 8 a.m. “ex-pat” service was much like what we find in the States; the 10 a.m. service was a different story altogether. St. Mark’s seats 200 people, but I observed roughly 100 additional worshippers standing outside the crowded building, craning to participate, even through a steady downpour. We may have given “hand-outs” in the past, but just of our blessing as these faithful hands and hearts reach back to us!

Since our return, Bishop Fanuel has visited the Diocese of Fort Worth. It has been a joyful occasion to celebrate a wonderful past and establish a prosperous future in our common mission to serve Jesus with all that we have and all that we are. Thanks be to God that we have this opportunity to join hands.



Fr. Culpepper is the vicar of Christ the Redeemer Church. The two-year-old congregation meets at the Lockheed Martin recreation facility in Fort Worth.

At left, Bishop Magangani and his wife, Beatrice, are shown at his November consecration in Mzuzu.

DIOCESAN CALENDAR - EASTER 2011

Boldface type indicates Bishop Iker's visitations • Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are held at the Diocesan Center for Ministry

<i>January</i>	4/24	<i>Easter Day</i> CROSS OF CHRIST, Glen Rose
<i>February</i>	4/25	Diocesan Offices closed
<i>March</i>	5/1	ST. ANDREW'S, Fort Worth
<i>April</i>	5/8	<i>Mother's Day</i> IGLESIA SAN MIGUEL, Fort Worth
<i>May</i>	5/13-15	Anglican Rachel's Vineyard Retreat
<i>June</i>	5/15	HOLY TRINITY, Eastland
<i>July</i>	5/16	9:30 a.m. Commission on Ministry 1:30 p.m. Standing Committee
<i>August</i>	5/19	1:30 p.m. Executive Council
<i>September</i>	5/22	ST. BARNABAS, Fort Worth
<i>October</i>	5/29	ALL SAINTS', Weatherford
<i>November</i>	5/30	<i>Memorial Day</i> Diocesan Offices closed
<i>December</i>	6/2	Ascension Day
	6/3	11th Annual Bishop Iker Challenge Golf Tournament, Glen Rose

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