



FORWARD *in* MISSION

A publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

Lent 2013

New leader of the Anglican Communion

From oil executive to Archbishop of Canterbury

When the Most. Rev. Justin Welby is enthroned as the 105th Archbishop of Canterbury on Thursday, March 21, he will have been a priest for 20 years and a bishop for under two. In June 2011 he succeeded theologian N.T. "Tom" Wright as Bishop of the Diocese of Durham, one of the most prestigious dioceses in the Church of England. As the successor of Dr. Rowan Williams, he comes to the See of Canterbury at one of the most vexed times in the history of the Anglican Communion.

Archbishop Welby, 56, is descended from German-Jewish emigrés who fled anti-Semitism for Victorian England. His mother was a private secretary to Winston Churchill. He was educated at Eton College (prep school) and Cambridge University, where he studied law, then spent 11 years working for oil exploration and production firms, becoming group treasurer for England's Enterprise Oil.

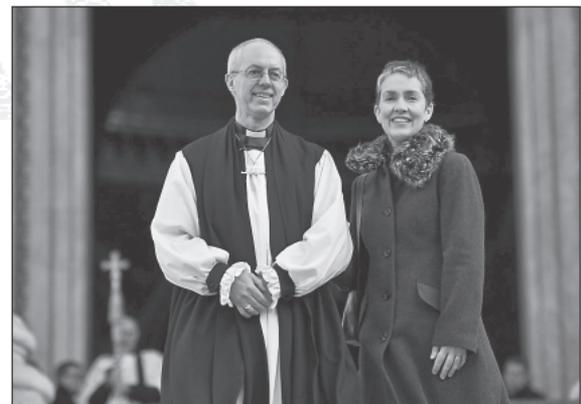
During this time, he and his wife, Caroline, became members of Holy Trinity, Brompton, the evangelical London parish where the ALPHA program was born. The Welbys are parents of five children. Their first child died in 1983 in an auto accident. Six years later, the future Archbishop left off being an oilman to attend seminary.

In the 1990s, Fr. Welby served at several parishes in the Diocese of Coventry, inaugurating ministries that helped to revive moribund parishes. In 2002, as a Canon at Coventry Cathedral, he joined other clergy in a conflict resolution and reconciliation ministry which took him to Kenya, Nigeria, and the Middle East. It was dangerous work; he was once threatened at gunpoint. Eventually Canon Welby lectured on reconciliation at the U.S. State Department.

From Coventry, the Welbys went to Liverpool and then Durham. Less than a year later the new Bishop was "told" to submit an application for the Archbishop's post; he wrote to the committee that he knew his candidacy was a "joke." His appointment was announced in November.

The new Archbishop began working from Lambeth Palace, his official London office, in February. He surprised the staff by canceling most of the appointments they had made for him, preferring to set his own agenda. This includes work on a special Parliamentary task force on banking, which will wrap up this spring.

Archbishop Welby's views on church issues are still emerging. He opposes same-sex marriage. Last fall he backed a measure to approve women bishops in England, but it failed. Concerned for the deep divisions among Anglicans, on Feb. 18 the Archbishop created the post of Director of Reconciliation and appointed Canon David Porter, who has worked in Northern Ireland, to fill it.



The Most Rev. Justin Welby and his wife, Caroline, stood on the steps of St. Paul' Cathedral, London, in January just after his selection was confirmed in an official ceremony.



Growing in Christ

Confession: A step nearer to God

by Fr. Jon Jenkins

Sin and holiness are never good roommates. They won't abide in the same place. Sin always tries to push holiness out. You are the landlord of your own soul. Choose to let the Spirit of God dwell in you, which begins by evicting sin.

You don't have to do it alone. The rite of confession, also called the reconciliation of a penitent, is a great aid in clearing sin from your life. Your priest is available to hear your confessions and to help you get on your way to something better. Unfortunately, whenever the clergy mention confession, fasting, or tithing, immediately people start to shut down, tune out, and try hard to think of something else. This is sad, really, because they are three of the best ways to come into a closer relationship to God. All three, by the way, are only uncomfortable if you aren't practicing them. If you are, you are probably quite comfortable talking about them, and even more comfortable in your walk with God.

After all, what makes the soul sick, if not sin, and particularly, sins that we hold on to? So why not get rid of it? Why hold on to the things that make us feel so despicable, tired, and unworthy of God's love? Confession is absolutely one of the best things you can do for your soul.

Don't be afraid your priest will think less of you because of your sins. Trust me, he will love and respect you all the more, and become your advocate and guide, as you kick sin and the devil out of your life. Furthermore, the clergy are bound by a promise to keep silence on what you have said, so it remains confidential. Some priests say they don't

remember confessions, which I find to be true myself, mostly because confessions aren't usually that memorable to start with. They are a little scary for those who bear the sin, but not as memorable for those who "prescribe the medicine." We are here to help you, not to catalogue your faults. That's the Devil's job as "the accuser," and he wants your list to be full. Don't let him prevail!

For the last six months, I've been writing a doctoral thesis on confession. I have spoken with clergy, laypeople, and youth from around the diocese to get their feel for what's going on with confession, and what could make it better. What I found might be quite helpful as we journey through Lent.

Many laypeople in our Diocese have made a first confession, found it to be exceedingly helpful, and have made many more to follow. Lay people need to hear these voices. What a marvelous gift it is to encourage another to come closer to God, and to make a serious step toward being a better disciple!

Here are a few key quotes from a survey of laypeople in our diocese:

"Making my confession makes it feel like the sun has come up on the inside. I'm very grateful for it."

"In any parish, you're going to follow the Priest. If the Priest is good, then the people will follow. He has to be one step above the people. If the Priest is not embracing confession, then the people won't either."

"It was a kind of spiritual direction that I could never have come to on my own."

"I think it's a lot better than the General Confession because it kind of focuses on the accountability that you have to your faith, and

The Reconciliation of a Penitent,

or Confession, begins on page 447 of the 1979 *Book of Common Prayer*. Two forms are offered.

To prepare for your confession, you may wish to use one of the two instructive sheets found on the diocesan Web site at fwepiscopal.org/inserts.

helps you follow through on it, more so than confessing on your own, or among a group of people in the Church.

"I don't think most people realize that it's not a blood-letting."

In this diocese, most clergy hear confessions "by appointment only," primarily because they've found that "sitting" for confessions has left them alone most of the time. If you were in their shoes, you might also start saying, "Just let me know when you want to make a confession, and I'll be there." But when asked, very few people said they would ever make an appointment to make a confession, because that would be, in some sense, admitting that they had a serious problem! It's a true Catch-22 situation for a priest.

Consequently, practices vary. In a handful of churches within our diocese, confessions are heard weekly. In others, they are heard during Advent or Lent, for a 4-6 week period only. In some places, they aren't heard at all. So, how do we help people get rid of their sin, when they don't come to the confessional hours, but feel too guilty to make an appointment; or when the clergy aren't offering them the opportunity and teaching that this could help their souls?

The best answer may simply be to become more comfortable with the idea of making a confession. Why look at it as a shameful practice? You should be quite pleased to know that making a good confession is probably the BEST thing you can do for your soul, second only to giving your life to Jesus. Some people have said, "I'm afraid of who will see me walking out of the confessional." But WHY?! You've just done something AMAZINGLY HOLY! You have freed your soul of sin, and come significantly closer to living in the true image of God.

Within the Anglican tradition, particularly since the Reformation, there has been much debate over whether private confession is necessary. Since the fourth Lateran Council in 1215 A.D., the Roman Catholic Church has made confession a prerequisite for communion, or for a Christian burial. Other more protestant strains say, "The General Confession is good enough." I fall somewhere in between.

The contrition you show towards God and the confession you make for your sin are sufficient for forgiveness; however, I think making a confession to a priest is a great idea because ideally it should:

1. Bring you to come to grips with your specific sin, admitting it first of all to yourself, and then to God, and seeking guidance on a better way to live;
2. Give you a sense of true forgiveness, having been "loosed" from your sins (John 20:22-23) by someone in authority who can assure you that you've made a good confession, or guide you toward making yours better; and
3. Result in spiritual direction and encouragement from the priest to conquer your sin, and help you put it out of your life by offering remedies, just as a physician prescribes medicine for a sickness.

I like this quote from Lutheran pastor Deitrich Bonhoeffer, who was killed in a Nazi Prison camps:

Ps. 32:1-2

"Why isn't confession to God sufficient? ... [because] confession to another person breaks the arrogance of pride as nothing else can. Since this humiliation is so painful, we would rather bypass it and think it is enough to confess to God. But in our degradation we find our portion in the disgrace of Christ, who was not ashamed to stand [in our place] before the world condemned as a sinner. Confession before another person is an act of discipleship to the Cross."

– *Spiritual Care*, pp.62-63

Confession can be immensely helpful, but only if you prepare for it, and are brave enough to say, "Bless me, for I have sinned." You know it. God knows it. Why not bridge the gap? Get rid of the only thing keeping you apart: SIN!

The rector of Christ the King, Fort Worth. Fr. Jon Jenkins is completing his thesis on "The Modern Confessional" for Nashotah House Seminary this spring and hopes to be awarded his Doctor of Ministry Degree at commencement in May.

Around the Diocese

Early birds get the bargains

Early bird pricing on Summer Camp is available through March 15. Go to camprucis.org to see the full summer schedule and sign up for your discount. A deposit holds your camper's spot, and the balance is due at check-in.

-- SAVE THE DATE --

Friday, June 7



The Bishop Iker Challenge Golf Tournament 2013

Benefiting Camp Crucis

Mass of Collegiality

On the March 26, the Tuesday in Holy Week, diocesan clergy will gather for a service of Holy Eucharist and renewal of their ordination vows. Everyone is welcome at the service, which begins at 10:30 a.m. at St. Vincent's Cathedral in Bedford.

Following centuries of tradition, each rector and vicar will take a large "priest host" back to his congregation, to be used on Maundy Thursday. In addition, Bishop Iker will bless bottles of holy oil to be distributed to the clergy for use in preparing new members for baptism, for hospital visits, and other pastoral ministrations.

Lenten Quiet Days

"A Journey through the Nicene Creed" is the theme of a program on Saturday, March 9, at St. Matthias Church in Dallas. The Quiet Day begins at 9 a.m. The picture book "The Nicene Creed" will be on sale; proceeds benefit a mission program feeding orphans in Africa.

Fr. Bill Estes will celebrate Holy Eucharist and

lead meditations on Saturday, March 23, at St. Luke's in Mineral Wells, beginning at 10 a.m. The theme is "Healing and Anointing." Mail your registration to Sue Seibert, P.O. Box 61, Mineral Wells 76068.

IN MEMORIAM

THE REV. J. RONALD BAKER

OCTOBER 15, 1941 – DECEMBER 13, 2012



THE REV. JAMES U. NORWOOD

MARCH 17, 1924 – FEBRUARY 10, 2013

En Las Manos de Dios/In the Hands of God

A retreat designed to equip leaders to make disciples through the gift of the Holy Spirit will take place Friday through Sunday, March 8-10, at Camp Crucis. Offered in both Spanish and English, the retreat starts with dinner on Friday and features 10 speakers over three days, including Dr. Glen Petta and Gary Werley. The cost for two nights and all meals is \$120 per person. Contact Amy Sanchez at 817-682-3810.

Clergy changes

Deacon Gloria Whitson was ordained by Bishop Iker in November and has been assigned to St. Francis Church in Willow Park. **Fr. DeWayne Adams** was called as rector of St. Andrew's, Breckenridge, and will be installed during the Bishop's visitation on March 10. **Fr. Nelson Koscheski** has retired as rector of St. John's, Brownwood; **Fr. Robert Young** is serving as interim. And **Fr. Scott Wilson** has set April 30 as his retirement date.

Fr. Blewett reaches rare milestone

The Rev. Dr. William Edison Blewett celebrated 60 years in the ordained ministry on Sunday, Feb. 3, at his longtime home parish, St. Laurence in Southlake. Born and ordained in Michigan, Fr. Blewett served parishes there, in Idaho, and Pennsylvania before relocating to North Texas. He holds an earned Ph.D. and has made 25 mission trips to Africa, where he trained clergy and catechists to spread the Gospel. He and his beloved Margot were married 38 years and raised four children. At 85 he continues to live in the house they built together and to serve weekly at the altar.



Do you have a student in College Station?

AnglicanAggies.us

Around the Diocese



The Good News from La Gran Familia

La Gran Familia (LGF), the children's home we support in Northern Mexico, continues to grow and thrive in the village of Cuauhtémoc. The home is full. Currently 20 boys and 10 girls live there in a nurturing Christian environment. Thanks to many of you, as well as other donors, each child has the advantage of growing up in a loving home.

Goretti Lerma, the director of LGF, strives to provide avenues for individual success. For instance, a highly intelligent youngster is directed toward a college prep curriculum. (Several of the home's "graduates" are now in college!) Boys and girls who excel in art, sports, or dance are encouraged. If a child has learning differences, tutoring is arranged. Each youngster can excel and experience self-worth, which is so important for a future as responsible, productive citizens.

There are several ways to help LGF:

- Pray!
- Sponsor a child through the St. Paul's Ministry Program. Find the details by going to www.fwworldmission.org; click on Diocesan Relationships.
- Participate in the Mother's Day Ingathering by making a donation in honor or in memory of a special woman in your life. This program kicks off in April. Your gift supports LGF and pairs well with flowers, jewelry, brunch, or a hand-drawn picture. Be on the lookout for information in your parish. Mother's Day is May 12!
- Pay them a visit! A small team is planning a trip during the first week in July.

Goretti will be at St. Vincent's Cathedral in Bedford on Saturday, April 13. Please join members of the World Mission Committee for a light lunch and an opportunity to visit with her. You may RSVP to Barbara Hautanen, the chair of the Northern Mexico sub-committee, at bhautanen@sves.org.



*The Order of St. Luke the Physician
presents its
2013 North American Conference*

JOURNEY INTO HEALING

Wednesday through Saturday, June 5 - 8
at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort
Worth

The conference is open to everyone interested in healing or in being healed.

Four keynote addresses will be delivered by Judith McNutt, who is co-founder, with her husband Francis McNutt, of Christian Healing Ministries. The Rev. Dr. Jack Sheffield, North American director of OSL, will host the event.

Early registration (\$160 plus meals) ends March 15. Registration closes May 22. Cost includes workshops and other opportunities.

OSL2013.org • 214.708.4408

(Prayer requests may be submitted online.)

Public Lecture, Friday, June 7, at 6:30 p.m.

**A CELEBRATION OF HEALING:
ONE FLOCK, ONE SHEPHERD**
(Concerning the Messianic Jewish movement)

Guest speaker: Wayne Wilks, Jr., Ph.D.
International Director of the Messianic Jewish
Bible Institute

Non-conference participants may reserve a seat by e-mailing registration@OSL2013.org.

Equipping the Saints

Convention theme was music to an evangelist's ear

The theme Bishop Iker selected for our 30th Annual Diocesan Convention was "Lift High the Cross," the refrain from the stirring hymn by George William Kitchin.

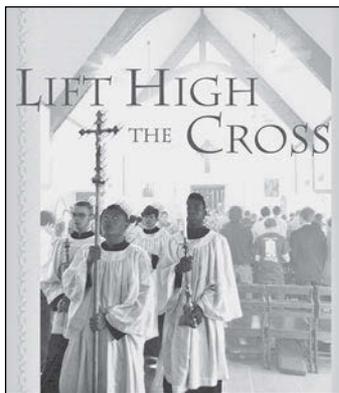
The following remarks were delivered at that gathering by Fr. Scott Wilson, chair of the diocesan Evangelism Commission, in his appeal to the assembled delegates and clergy.

Right Reverend Sir, ladies and gentlemen of convention:

Our theme today is

Lift High the Cross,
the love of Christ proclaim
until all the world
adore His sacred name.

Why do we lift it high? So that everybody can see it. And how long will we hold the cross up? Until all the world adore His sacred name.



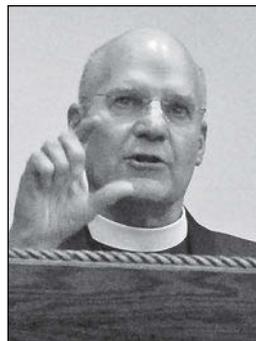
The work of evangelism is very much a part of who we are, and we always want to remember that. I sometimes struggle when I'm here at convention, because there are so many things internal to our [diocesan] life that are so important, and yet if we spend all of our time in thinking about and talking about internal matters, we lose sight of our mission.

The church is not a membership. It is a mission. It is not a place, it is always on the go.

Where is your mission? You know where it is. I won't take a lot of time standing here in front of you, but we are always wanting to go out. We are always needing to minister to the people who live next door, down the street, around town, wherever you go. On the bus, on the plane, at your vacation spot, always lifting high the cross.

And how do you do that? Our job as your Evangelism Commission is to accept your invitation.

We will come into your parish, your mission. We



Fr. Wilson

will come on a Saturday and be with you all day from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. We will train you how to turn conversations around to Christian subjects. We will tell you how to tell your own personal testimony of your experience with Christ.

We will teach you how to express the Christian faith in a nutshell and invite a person to accept the Christian faith and find salvation.

This lay evangelism training is called TELET. We will use role plays, we will use videos, we will use booklets and materials and speakers and have a really fun time. You'll have breakfast and lunch and you will go home knowing this much more about how to share your Christian faith, to lift high the cross, and keep the mission of the church in front of us. And that keeps us all alive.

What we need from you is a phone call. We will set a date, and then you begin to work at getting the people to come, and we will come and do everything else. The price is very low, the experience very good, the significance out of this world.

+++

To host a TELET training, your church or ministry needs to provide meeting space and food for participants. The program leaders provide all materials. The training is ideal for a "working retreat" of your vestry, outreach team, youth group, etc. The cost is \$15 per person. For more, see <http://www.fwepiscopal.org/telet.html>.

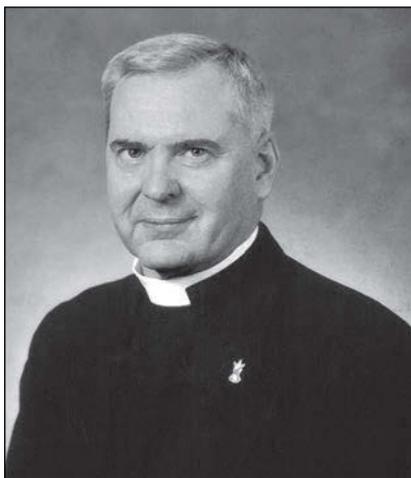
Return to civilian ministry

Deployment in Middle East and Africa caps 39 years of chaplaincy service



In 2008, after 13 years as a rector in the diocese, Fr. Robert Young was recalled to active duty as a military chaplain. His first assignment was as Regimental Chaplain of the First Naval Construction Regiment in Iraq, supervising unit chaplains serving Navy Seabees, Marines, and Army Engineers at Al-Asad, Ramadi, Fallujah, and other locations in Al-Anbar Province. A year later his regiment deployed to Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. As the ranking chaplain on Kandahar NATO base, Fr. Young shared responsibility for providing Anglican services along with British, Canadian, and Australian priests.

His next assignment was as the Force Chaplain and Director of Religious Affairs for the Combined Joint Task Force, Horn of Africa, in the Republic of Djibouti. He thus became the only



armed forces chaplain of his rank be assigned to all three theaters of the Global War on Terrorism. CJTF-HOA is made up of military personnel

from all branches of the U.S. armed forces and a wide variety of European and African countries.

On this assignment, Fr. Young was responsible for military-to-military and key-leader engagements as well as the pastoral care of U.S. and allied personnel in an 18-country region. Under his leadership, the Religious Affairs Directorate worked with U.S. and foreign ambassadors, religious, mili-

tary, and civic leaders to institute initiatives for religious leader peace conferences, international chaplains' conferences, and the creation of chaplain corps among the armed forces of African countries. As a result of the overwhelming response to its outreach to the Muslim population to counter extremist terrorist groups in the region, the Directorate was cited by the U.S. Ambassador to Djibouti as "a huge catalyst for peace" in East Africa in a cable to the Secretary of State. Fr. Young received the Legion of Merit medal for his service with the Task Force.

With the completion of his tour of duty and his return to the U.S., Fr. Young retired from the Navy after almost 39 years as a commissioned officer in the active and reserve Army and Navy. At his retirement ceremony, the Very Rev. William Crary (also a former naval officer) gave the invocation and benediction, and Rear Admiral Jim Eckelberger acted as the senior officer. Fr. Young was presented with congratulatory letters from President Obama, President George W. Bush, and Governor Perry. He recently became a Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans.

Last fall Fr. Young returned to the diocese, in time to be welcomed back at the November diocesan convention. He and his wife, Liz, live in Grand Prairie, and he commutes to the University of Texas at Arlington for graduate courses. Bishop Iker has assigned him as interim rector of St. John's, Brownwood. In addition, he has been named as an assisting priest at St. Laurence Church in Southlake.

Military chaplains deserve a special place in our prayers. Presently three other priests of this diocese serve in this capacity: Fr. William Cantrell and Fr. Jeffrey Logan are Naval chaplains; Fr. Michael Baumann serves in the Army. All are currently stationed in the U.S.

DIOCESAN CALENDAR - LENT 2013

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

<i>January</i>	3/3	ST. MARY'S, Hamilton, and ST. MATTHEW'S, Comanche
<i>February</i>	3/8-10	"In the Hands of God" conference, <i>Camp Crucis</i>
<i>March</i>	3/9	9 a.m. Eastern Deanery Lenten Quiet Day, <i>St. Matthias, Dallas</i>
<i>April</i>	3/9-10	Daylight Saving Time begins
<i>May</i>	3/10	ST. ANDREW'S, Breckenridge , including Institution and Installation of the Rev. Dr. DeWayne Adams as Rector of the parish
<i>June</i>	3/17	ALL SAINTS', Weatherford
<i>July</i>	3/23	10 a.m. Western Deanery Lenten Quiet Day at St. Luke's, Mineral Wells
<i>August</i>	3/24	Palm Sunday ST. BARNABAS, Fort Worth
<i>September</i>	3/26	10:30 a.m. Mass of Collegiality
<i>October</i>	3/29 - 4/1	<i>Diocesan offices closed</i>
<i>November</i>	3/29	Good Friday
<i>December</i>	3/31	Easter Day

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