



FORWARD *in* MISSION

The Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth
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Month	Date	Event
January	3/13-15	Healing Conference, St. Timothy's, Fort Worth
February	3/15	ST. PATRICK'S, Bowie, and TRINITY, Henrietta
March	3/17	1:30 p.m. Standing Committee
March	3/22	ST. BARNABAS, Fort Worth
April	3/29	CROSS OF CHRIST, Glen Rose
May	4/5	Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, Willow Park
June	4/7	10:30 a.m. Mass of Collegiality, St. Vincent's Cathedral, Bedford
July	4/12	Easter Day Discretion
August	4/19	CHRIST CHURCH, Waco
September	4/21	10 a.m. Board of Trustees
October	4/21	1:30 p.m. Standing Committee
November	4/24-26	New Beginnings Weekend for grades 7-9, Camp Crucis
December	4/26	ST. LAURENCE, Southlake
December	5/1-3	Priests' Wives Retreat, Camp Crucis

Boldface type indicates the Bishop's visitations † Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are held at the Diocesan Center

DIOCESAN CALENDAR - LENT 2020



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A publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth

Lent 2020

The Fourth Bishop

Bishop Reed appoints new staff members to carry out diocesan ministry

Elected on June 1, 2019, and consecrated on Sept. 21, 2019, the Rt. Rev. Ryan S. Reed assumed leadership of the Diocese as the year 2020 began. Along with Bishop Iker and Assisting Bishop William Wantland, staff members Susan Steele and Jane Parrott retired at the end of 2019.

Bishop Reed has called several new members to his staff to assist in supporting his ministry to the people and churches of the Diocese. He has



appointed **the Rt. Rev. Keith Ackerman** to be Assisting Bishop. In addition to serving as vicar of St. Timothy's, Fort Worth, Bishop Ackerman will make several visitations each year and represent Bishop Reed at provincial meetings

from time to time.



The Rev. Canon H. Jay Atwood, who was Rector of St. Francis, Willow Park, for 25 years, is now Canon to the Ordinary, carrying out a variety of administrative and pastoral tasks. As he assumed the duties of his new position, Canon

Atwood also resigned as a member of the diocesan Standing Committee. Fr. Timothy Matkin was elected to complete his term and to replace him as President.



The Rev. Kerwin Wade, who served as Deacon of St. Vincent's Cathedral throughout Bishop Reed's tenure there as Dean, now works closely with clergy as they prepare

to receive the Bishop for his annual visitation. As Bishop's chaplain, helps structure services and prepare for the sacraments administered during the visit.



Dale Ward, who joined the staff as a member of the diocesan business office team in 2016, was selected by Bishop Reed to become his secretary. Dale also serves as Registrar of the Diocese.



Kristi Heffron, a leader of the World Mission Committee, is now financial director and works directly with the Finance and Risk Management Committees.

Dillon Craig, youth director at St. Barnabas, Fort Worth, has been appointed Director of Youth Ministry, with responsibility for planning diocesan events for youth in grades 6 through 12.



An additional position, Director of Young Adult Ministry, has been created to serve those between the ages of 18 and 25. **Catherine Marshall**, a ministry leader at St. Laurence, Southlake, was selected for this role.



Contact information for each member of the staff can be found on the diocesan Web site at fwepiscopal.org/bishop/staff.



From the Shepherd

Amid many blessings, we are people of prayer

by the Rt. Rev. Ryan S. Reed, Bishop of Fort Worth

I send my grateful greetings to all members of the Diocese as you receive this first newsletter at the beginning of my Episcopate. I have truly enjoyed the Sunday visits and getting to know the people of this Diocese. There is a real spirit of hope and excitement for what God is doing in our congregations, and that brings me great joy. I have been trying to spend time with the clergy during the week to hear their hopes and dreams and will continue doing so in the coming months.

I have a number of updates to share with you from the Bishop's desk. The first is a request for prayers and support for our Northern Malawi Anniversary Team that will be traveling this June. [See page 3]

Second, a number of our parishes are in the process of calling Rectors. Please pray for

- † St. Peter & St. Paul, Arlington
- † St. Alban's, Arlington
- † St. Francis, Willow Park
- † St. Vincent's Cathedral, Bedford
- † All Saints, Monroe

as they discern who God is calling to be their next spiritual father. I am pleased to announce that we instituted Fr. John Cruikshank on February 1 to be Rector of St. Mark's, Arlington. Fr. John and his wife, Mary Beth, join us from Uniontown, Penn.

Third, we have entered a prayer partnership with the Diocese of Mandalay and Bishop David Nyi Nyi Naing. Mandalay is part of the Province of Myanmar under our friend Archbishop Stephan Than Myint Oo.

Bishop David and I will be prayer partners at the Bishops' Leadership Summit this October in Colorado. They are asking our prayers as they work to plant a new diocese in Myanmar in 2021, and they are praying for us to come to a conclusion in the lawsuit that The Episcopal Church brought against the Diocese.

Finally, in legal news, oral arguments were heard before the Supreme Court this past December 5. Our legal team represented us with excellence. We expect a ruling before June in our case, and I ask your prayers for God's protection and provision for congregations and for our diocesan leadership. If we receive what looks to be a final ruling this Spring, I will be asking that every one of our parishes and missions gather on the first Saturday after the ruling and participate in a worship service of repentance and penitence which will then move to celebration of the mission and work that God has before us. I will provide the clergy with resources this spring to help lead this day of prayer and thanksgiving regardless of the results.

I do look forward to the many blessings God has in store for us a diocesan family, and I am daily praying for wisdom from God to help lead our clergy and congregations in the Great Commission work that God has before us.

The Third Bishop of Fort Worth

A parting reflection from Bishop Iker

In August 2018 Bishop Iker announced plans for his retirement and the election of his successor. Almost immediately, he was diagnosed with cancer and received treatment as the search for the next bishop continued.

Finally cancer-free, he celebrated his retirement at a dinner during the Diocesan Convention in November 2019. At the conclusion of his 2019 Christmas Eve homily at St. Vincent's Cathedral, Bishop Iker made these closing remarks:

This is my last mass as Diocesan Bishop, after 27 years of service. At this time last year, I was unable to be here on Christmas Eve due to my struggles with Stage IV cancer. But God intervened – the Divine entered into the mundane – just as He did at Christmas. By God's grace and mercy, I have been healed.

Since May, I have been cancer-free, thanks to your prayers and the treatment I received at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Hospital in Houston. I thank God every day – many times a day – for how His heavenly power entered into my frail human illness. I am a living miracle.

The second miracle I celebrate tonight is how a farm boy from southern Ohio could become Bishop of the greatest Diocese in the Church, and how God's grace has sustained me and worked through me all these years.

How blessed I have been – though unworthy as I am – that these frail, human

hands have baptized hundreds of children and adults, giving them new life in Christ through the waters of Holy Baptism. How many hundreds I have confirmed, imparting to them the strengthening gifts of the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands with prayer.

How many marriages I have blessed – how many sinners I have absolved – how many sick and dying Christians have I anointed with holy oil for healing and peace! How many young men have I had the joy to ordain to the sacred ministry (54 to be exact!). And how many countless times have I celebrated the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ at the many altars of this Diocese and then administered to our parishioners the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation.



I have been honored and privileged and blessed to serve in these ways as your Bishop, but none of it has been because of my worthiness or gifts, my merits or my talents. It has all been a marvelous gift of grace – of the miracle of God at work in the common, ordinary events of the life He has given us in His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Thank you, and God bless you with a very merry Christmas. May He fill you with joy, peace and love.

Around the Diocese

St. Alban's Sew-a-thon

Members of St. Alban's, Arlington, met on Feb. 1 for a "sew-a-thon" for the benefit of breast cancer patients being treated at Baylor All Saints Hospital. Colorful pillows were made in two sizes – larger cheery heart-shaped ones, and smaller ones



to cushion the port inserted for chemotherapy infusions. It was the ladies' fourth such gathering, and when they were done, they delivered about 270 finished pillows to the cancer center, bringing their grand total to roughly 1,500!

Weekend retreats planned for youth

Two formation weekends will be held in the season after Easter at Camp Crucis. New Beginnings, for those in grades 6-9, is coming up April 24-26, while Happening, for grades 10-12, is set for May 15-17. The cost is \$50 per person. For forms and more details, see anglicanyouthministries.com.

Priests' Wives' retreat weekend

The annual spring retreat weekend for wives of priests is scheduled for May 1-3 at Camp Crucis. Kathy Reed looks forward to welcoming as many of the wives as are able to attend. Congregations are encouraged to offer child care to clergy families who may need it.

The Mass of Collegiality

The clergy of the Diocese will gather with Bishop Reed at St. Vincent's Cathedral



Jan. 5: Bishop Iker passed the diocesan crozier, the symbol of leadership, to Bishop Reed.



Feb. 15: Bishop Reed ordained Eddie Fitzhugh (below, left front) and Matthew Rogers (right front) to the transitional diaconate. Both are Seniors at Nashotah House Seminary.



Around the Diocese

on the Tuesday in Holy Week for the annual Mass of Collegiality. This once-a-year liturgy includes a renewal of clergy vows, blessing of sacramental oils each priest will use in the coming year, and the consecration of a priest host to be used at the Maundy Thursday service in each parish – a sign of the Bishop’s connection to each church in the Diocese. The service begins at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 7, and is open to all.

Healing Conference set for March 13-15

A conference with the theme “By His Stripes We Are Healed” will be presented at St. Timothy’s, Fort Worth, by the Order of St. Luke the Physician and the diocesan Healing Ministry. A special Eucharist to give thanks for Bishop Iker’s healing from cancer will be held Friday, March 13, at 5



p.m. and is open to all. A dinner follows in the parish hall. (Reservations required.) The conference presentations begin at 9 a.m. on Saturday. For details and reservations, see the diocesan Web site, fwepiscopal.org.

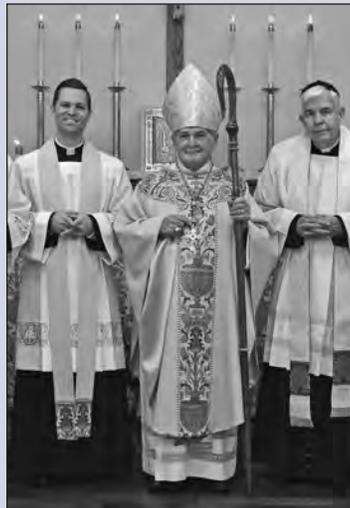
March for Life

Bishop Reed joined about two dozen clergy and lay people – including many children – on January 18 for Holy Eucharist and lunch at St. Francis Church in Dallas and a short trip downtown to represent the Diocese in the annual March and Rally for Life.



Nov. 24: During the morning service on the last Sunday in Pentecost, Bishop Reed instituted Fr. Donald Sackett as Rector of St. Andrew’s, Breckenridge. The Sacketts moved from the Diocese of Quincy to accept the call.

Nov. 24: Bishop Iker instituted Fr. Andrew Petta as first Rector of St. Barnabas, Fort Worth. Dean Emeritus William Cray also participated in the service.

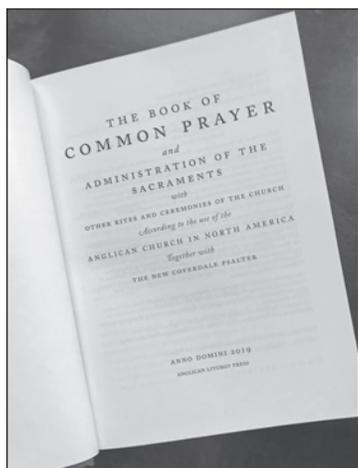


Feb. 1: Fr. John Cruikshank was instituted as Rector of St. Mark’s, Arlington, by Bishop Reed. Also present was Assisting Bishop Keith Ackerman, a former Rector of the parish.

ACNA publishes texts for worship and instruction

New Book of Common Prayer and revised catechism released

After years of study and development by a task force appointed under Archbishop Robert



Duncan, a Book of Common Prayer for the Anglican Church in North America has been approved by the College of Bishops and blessed at the ACNA Assembly last June. Written in contemporary language and intended as a companion to the English Standard Version Bible, the 2019 Prayer Book includes an expanded lectionary and a translation of the Psalms

dubbed the “New Coverdale,” in a nod to one of the great translators of the Reformation era.

While the task force set out to correct certain innovations in the 1979 BCP, members did not simply want to turn back the clock to 1549, when the first Anglican Prayer Book was issued by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer. Rites for use in Holy Week and for confession, developed over generations, are included in the 2019 BCP.

Over 60 men and women contributed in some way; Bishop Reed was asked to write a portion of the liturgy for Holy Matrimony, while Bishop Ackerman provided overall scholarship and guidance as a member of the task force’s Central Committee. In all 16 rites – including prayers for the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday – are collected in its 802 pages, along with the psalter, lectionaries, ecclesiastical calendars, and foundational Anglican documents. It is suitable for both private and corporate worship.

A traditional-language edition of the BCP is

also being prepared for publication by the ACNA later this year; sections are available for download now at anglicanchurch.net/resources. This edition tracks page-for-page with the contemporary-language book, but it uses “thee” and “thou” constructions of earlier centuries. Quotations from Scripture are taken from the King James Bible, and the Psalter is the classic 1535 Coverdale as updated in 1928.

Credit for the rapid development of the traditional-language edition goes to Jacob Hootman, an 18-year-old member of St. Laurence Church in Southlake. Starting in 2017 with the trial contemporary text, Jacob worked on his own and came to the attention of the task force when he published his traditional-language draft online.

Bishop Reed has used the 2019 liturgy and “strongly encourages” congregations using the 1979 BCP to shift to the new Prayer Book. Rite I users will probably prefer the traditional edition, while those using Rite II will be comfortable with the contemporary-language edition. At the same time, the Bishop acknowledges that lessons in the 2019 lectionary are significantly longer than the 1979 lectionary, and he is not requiring a change of lectionary at this time.

In addition, revisions to the first version of *To Be a Christian: An Anglican Catechism* were published in January. More books to support instruction and worship are on their way: An alternative to *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* is in development for 2021, as is a book of occasional services.

The Prayer Book and Catechism can be purchased from anglicanliturgypress.com.

Anglican Diocese of Northern Malawi

Diocesan team to attend anniversary celebration

Bishop Reed and a team from the Diocese of Fort Worth are preparing to travel to Northern Malawi in June to celebrate with our sister diocese the 25th anniversary of their founding. The team will be in country June 15 – 23 and celebrate with the Malawi diocese in Mzuzu on Sunday, June 21.

We ask your prayers for Fr. Stuart Smith, Mr. Bill Parrott, Deacon John Heffron, Fr. Andrew Petta and Bishop Reed as they begin preparing for this trip. Along with your prayers, if you would like to support the team financially, checks can be sent to the Diocese marked “Malawi travel.”

We also encourage all members of the Diocese to send letters of encouragement and thanksgiving to Bishop Fanuel Magangani and his people. We can hand-carry these letters if they are sent to the Diocesan Center for Ministry by May 15.

Our partnership with Northern Malawi has been such an important blessing in the life of the Diocese of Fort Worth. For that, we give thanks to God and ask for his blessing as the team prepares for this celebration.



Living out our faith at work

Faith is finding support in corporate America.

Fr. Greg McBrayer, who assists at St. Barnabas in Fort Worth on Sundays, has a weekday career as Senior Chaplain at DFW International Airport and Chief Flight Dispatcher for American Airlines.

“Faith is the foundation of who we are,” Fr. McBrayer says, adding that it only makes sense to exercise our beliefs in everyday settings, especially the workplace.

In his role at American, he adds, “I have helped plant and develop 25 Employee Business Resource Groups, in hub airports, reservation centers, and corporate offices throughout American’s worldwide system. The EBRG chapters hold Bible study, plan community activities, and build teams. We currently have more than 3,000 employees actively involved.”

The non-profit Religious Freedom and Business Foundation believes in the positive power faith has on business and the economy and encourages corporations to take a four-point pledge to support religious diversity and inclusion. In February Fr. McBrayer accepted the foundation’s award on behalf of American.

“As a bivocational priest, I am blessed to be associated with American Airlines, which was honored as one of the top five corporations advancing faith-based Employee Business Resource Groups.”

For more about Fr. McBrayer’s program at American, see www.ourfaithatwork.com.



Fr. Greg McBrayer accepts the Religious Equity, Diversity & Inclusion award from Brian Grim, President of the Religious Freedom and Business Foundation.