

News from the Diocese of San Clemente with the Southwest, Northwest, Hawaii and American Territories of the Pacific



charismatic evangelicals sacramental together

Current News

- International: Report from Iraq, Interview with a Lady
- Diocesan: Diocesan Retreat
- Local Churches: St. Michael's Update, Holy Trinity Cross
- Words: Questionable First Witness, Show Up

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“WOW, This is Great!” • Fr. Victor Conkle • St. Michael's, San Clemente, CA

Communication and parish involvement are some of the great strides forward being made at Saint Michael's Cathedral under Bishop Kessler. The efforts of our new bishop are being received with appreciation and participation on the part of our members.

There is a real excitement about the resurrection life God has given our parish. Not the least of which is our worship band. We are very appreciative of Chris Boyle for his years of music ministry in our church, and the anointed talent of Kim Scoggins during our transition. However, the worship band God raised-up from within our parish

under the direction of Ronnie Mudd has been like one of the Godiva Easter eggs. Though some look good they're just hollow inside.

Others are like our new worship band. You bite into it and are surprised to find a nutty-cream filling that puts a smile on your face and causes you to say, “WOW, This is great!”

Another development is in the area of our new Parish Council, which began meeting last November.



Dcn. David Anderson, Bp. Doug Kessler (Fr. Lewis Powell in the background)

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Report from the Front Line in Iraq • Fr. Jay Cayangyang • St. Michael's, San Clemente, CA



Fr. Jay Cayangyang

Our young men and women: Marines, Sailors, Soldiers, and Airman are doing great things out here. I am proud to be one

of their Chaplains. You can visit www.mnfwest.usmc.mil to get news from the front lines of Multi National Force - West, Iraq. The stories will encourage you and make you proud.

Continue to keep us in your prayers. Despite successes and a significant decrease in the violence, The Al Anbar Province is still a dangerous place and Al Qaeda terrorist, local insurgents, and other extremists still want to see us defeated. Being here gives you a whole different perspective on our own country and helps you realize how good we have it.

In doing my preparation for sermons I came across some information that suggest that

ancient Iraq is the second most mentioned place in the Bible right after Israel.

*The garden of Eden was possibly in Iraq. The two identifiable rivers from Genesis are the Tigris and Euphrates.

*Mesopotamia, which is now Iraq, was the cradle of civilization

*The Tower of Babel was in Iraq.

*Abraham was from Ur.

*Daniel was in the lion's den in Iraq

*The three Hebrew children were in the fire in Iraq

*The wise men were probably from Iraq.

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Letter from the Editor • Joann Maciejewski



The Maciejewskis celebrated our 20th anniversary in March!

Christ is Risen! *He is Risen, indeed!*

I hope that all of you had a great Easter, and we look forward to what Easter and the season of Pentecost will bring.

We experienced a little pre Pentecost healing in my family. Some of you may know my husband, Fr. Rich Maciejewski. He has had a bulging disk in his back which has been causing severe compression in the spinal cord. All of which to say that he has been in great pain. And nerve pain doesn't respond to painkillers well.

Anyway, he was going to have surgery after Easter. The prayer warriors of our church have been lifting him up. At some point, he told me that he was

feeling better. Then, when we went to the neurosurgeon, the neurosurgeon also declared that he is great improved and surgery is not recommended at this time. He is indeed being healed.

Thanks be to God!

Fr. Hubby and I also celebrated 20 great years of marriage last month. Boy, they sure did give us a lot of flak when we got married at the age of five.

OK, OK, we *did* graduate from elementary school before we were married—but we were indeed real live high school sweethearts.

Well, on to the *Current*. This month's *Current* is an optimistic one. St. Michael's gives us an

update on their positive happenings. Fr. Jay Cayangyang updates us on Iraq and the happenings there.

Carrie Younce has written about her visit with Mrs. Patriarch. Bp. David Epps has a piece on what you can do for your church. And Fr. Mark Miller has a great piece as well.

We had a lot of good response to the Parade of Churches last month, with pictures of many of our parishes. Already we have an update—Holy Trinity in Idaho debuts a beautiful new crucifix.

Blessings to all,
Joann ■

Clergy Retreat

Our annual Spring Clergy Retreat will be held at St. Michael's April 10 - 12. This retreat (for all priests and deacons of the diocese, along with their wives) allows the gathering of the House of Bishops in Orlando, Florida and

will include the Consecration of the Chrism.

The retreat will follow the same basic format we've had in the past, beginning Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. at St. Michael's.

Please pray for your priests and deacons and their wives as we gather together.

We are very happy to have our new Patriarch attending this retreat, and are excited to see what the Lord will do! ■

Ministries from San Clemente, Southwest, Northwest, Hawaii, and American Pacific

Church/Ministry	Location	Rector	Telephone / Website
Cathedral Church of Saint Michael	San Clemente, CA	Bp. Douglas Kessler	949/366-9480 / saintmichaelsanclemente.wordpress.com
All Saints	Santa Clarita, CA	Fr. Rich Maciejewski	661/916-1991 / allsaints-cec.org
Christ Church	Palm Springs, CA	Fr. Vincent McMorrow-Purcell	760/318-9631
Christ the Victor	Puyallup, WA	Fr. Joe Ramos	253/548-2305 / ctvceec.org
Church of the Advent	Oceanside, CA	Canon Gary Heniser	760/431-8485 / adventceec.com
Church of the Resurrection	Hemet, CA	Fr. Mark Miller	951/487-2992 / http://mysite.verizon.net/res7fgz9/resurrectionceec/
Church of the Risen Lord	Honolulu, HI	Fr. Bill Xenos	808/671-5222 / cechawaii.org
Fr. David Conroy	Pendleton, OR	Fr. David Conroy	
Holy Cross Community Church	Cornelius, OR	Fr. Jim Wright	503/336-1804 / holycrosscommunitychurch.com
Holy Trinity Church	Meridian, ID	Fr. Mark Finley	208/288-2146 / holytrinityceec.com
St. Francis	Victorville, CA	Fr. Robert Reed	415/457-6556 / Stfrancis-cec.org
St. James	Williams, AZ	Fr. Bruce LaPier	928/635-6754
St. John's	Yucca Valley, CA	Fr. Aaron Appleby	760/369-0074
St. Martin of Tours	Las Vegas, NV	Fr. Charles Coleman	702/896-3900
St. Paul's	Henderson, NV	Fr. David Hoff	702/260-0126 / stpaulceec.org
St. Peter's	Palos Verdes, CA	Fr. Wayne Coombs	310/833-8899

“WOW, This is great!” • continued

(Continued from page 1)

This council is open to those heading up our various ministries, those who assist them, and anyone wanting to get involved or having a burden for the formation of a new ministry to the parish. It's a place where the needs of each ministry and how we can improve is discussed. It's also a place where information from the Rector's Council is disseminated and input for the Rector's Council can be noted.

Still yet another advance is our quarterly meeting with the men of the St. Michael's. It has proven to be an indispensable venue for communication and relationship building. As the priest of their home, the men are given a report on the finances of

the church, needed building repairs and ministry projects. Additionally there is a give-and-take discussion with information from Bishop Kessler and his Rector's council for the men to discuss with their families. Though some meetings are followed by a workday like our first meeting in December, our March meeting concluded with the consumption of 2 tons of donuts and a tanker truck of coffee. Your right, I exaggerated, but you get the idea. Kidding aside, food is part of our ministry to the men. Every Thursday morning at 6:30 (yes that's A.M. ladies) there is a men's Eucharist where the soul gets feed. This is followed by a trip to a local restaurant for relationship and body building.

Though it is not new, the home group remains a vital place for ministry, developing relationships, discussion and staying informed. You guessed it! It usually takes place around a potluck meal. It is also the place where a single women can obtain from their home group leader the same information husbands related to their wives from the men's meeting. If one wants to stay informed, just attend your home group meeting and participate in the discussion.

Now hold on to your seat because this step of progress is one you'll have to see to believe. Saint Michael's Cathedral has a web site!!! I know it's hard to believe but it's really true. Take a look for yourself at <http://saintmichaelsanclemente.wordpress.com/>.

“Saint Michael's Cathedral has a web site! Take a look for yourself at <http://saintmichaelsanclemente.wordpress.com/>.”

saintmichaelsanclemente.wordpress.com/.

At Saint Michael's Cathedral it's a new day, with new life, and renewed excitement. Thanks be to God, for “Great is His Faithfulness!” ■

First Witness a Questionable Choice • Fr. Mark Miller • Resurrection, San Jacinto, CA

Would many in today's Christian churches have approved the Lord's choice for the first witness of His resurrection? I am sure they would pick someone who has a spiritual elite persona, signified by a three-foot bible, prayer ropes, Christian T-shirts or vestments, or the proverbial cry in the voice prayer. They would, of course, be pseudo-humbly religious and Monastic or a slick King-Jimmy touting, smiling dynamo with the energy of an Amway salesman. Whatever our preference, the outward appearance would be considered spiritual, except possibly by God, for He looks on the heart I am told.

The Lord picked Mary Magdalene, a former prostitute. She was on her way to anoint the dead body of Jesus. Mary, who had moved ahead of

her companions, noticed that the stone had been rolled to one side, leaving the entrance wide open. She rushed back and told Peter and John that the Lord's body had been moved. Peter and John ran to the tomb to conclude that the body of Jesus was missing, but their faith did not yet connect the dots (Jn. 20: 9).

The Lord began His first of 11 after-crucifixion appearances between the Resurrection and Ascension to Mary Magdalen. In tears by the grave, a stranger noticed her crying and bid her to stop. She replied, “They have carried away my Lord, and I cannot tell where they have taken Him,” Jn 20:14. Jesus, the Risen Christ, a short time later called out her name, “Mary.” She immediately recognized her Savior who had touched her life of sin and made her pure. As Bishop Fulton

Sheen once wrote, “Only a repentant sinner, who had herself risen from the grave of sin to the newness of life could understand the full victory of the Cross and Resurrection over sin and death.”

The Lord's choice today is the same. He still likes to identify with repentant sinners; save them; give them dignity, a new beginning, and everlasting life, even to the chagrin of the spiritual elite, those who are so close yet still so far can themselves, through repentance, be products of Christ's unquestionable mercy.

In the Love of the Risen Christ,
Fr. Mark ■



Fr. Mark Miller

An Interview With A Lady • Carrie Younce • Advent, Oceanside, CA



Cathy Bates on her recent trip to Africa with the Patriarch

*In the Spring of 2003, I was asked to write an article for the (former) **Sursum Corda** in which I interviewed the available wives of bishops who were attending that House of Bishops' meeting in San Clemente. Among those I had the pleasure of getting to know was our new Patriarch's wife, Cathy Bates. Due to space, the full interview had to be edited down so that all of the wives could be featured. However, I saved the original, pre-edited version, from which the following was excerpted.*

When she walked into the room, I got the impression that Cathy Bates, wife of (Arch) Bishop Craig Bates, Long Island, New York was a very happy woman. When I finished with her interview, I knew that

she was someone whom I would treasure as a mentor, and be blessed to have for a friend. It made me wish for a miniscule moment that I could live in New York – in spite of the weather.

Cathy was born into the Roman Catholic faith. Though she married now (Arch) Bishop Bates in 1971, they didn't start on the clergy road together until he entered seminary in 1977 while both were members of PECUSA (Protestant Episcopal Church – USA). She was received into the CEC in 1998.

One of the hardest things for Cathy is the fact that her husband is away a lot. However, she declares that it is a good thing, too, because it forces her to learn to live one day at a time and to cherish the time that she does have with him by her side.

Cathy acknowledged that everything she does is related in some way to ministry and working with God's people. She has the greatest love for seeing young women grow in the knowledge and the grace of God, as well as how our Lord works in the midst of family life. She has been a leader/member of a Mother's Group for (more than) eighteen years. One of the lessons that she believes is important for Christian wives (especially clergy wives) to learn is not to "uncover" their husbands. "As women, we somehow think we have to talk everything out – hashing and rehashing everything verbally. All women do it." She made clear that there is a big difference between asking for prayerful help and "husband bashing".

About her own husband (our Patriarch), with a sparkle in her eyes, Cathy said: "My husband is a gentle giant. He has more mercy and compassion than anyone else I know. He never gives up on (you). He calls out the best in the people he loves."

Cathy spends her spare time that isn't devoted strictly to ministry taking walks and photos. She particularly loves taking photographs of children.

Cathy has discovered that she needs to live one day at a time and not major in the minors of life. She has a real heart for the Lord, a thing she shares with all of the other bishops' wives. "We all have the same heart," she said. "We all love God, we all struggle."

When I asked the question, "If Jesus were writing a letter home to His mother, and He mentioned your name, what do you think He might say?" Cathy paused and then smiled. "I think He would tell her all about me and then end with, '...but, above all else, she means well.'"

[Author's note: In spite of the fact that this interview was done at least 5 years ago, I believe the fundamentals still apply. And – might I add— we as a Communion are indeed blessed to have her.] ■

Front Line • continued

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*and numerous other references. God has done great things in this land before. The recent readings from Ezekiel 37 during the 5th Sunday of lent really put this into perspective when describing the Valley of the Dry

Bones. Ezekiel conducted his prophetic ministry not too far from here. I also have a new perspective on Suffrage A from The Office of Morning and Evening Prayer. V: "Lord, keep THIS nation under thy care." During the Office, I am praying these words through lenses I never had before. I ask

that you pray not only for the troops, but for the good people of Iraq. God's Grace and Peace, Father Jay
Chaplain Jerome R. Cayangyang
1st RADBN/ 1st INTEL/ 9th COMM (FWD)
Camp Fallujah, Iraq ■

Editor's note: Please pray for Fr. Jay and email him at jerome.cayangyang@cf.mnf-wiraq.usmc.mil

What a Difference a Month Makes • Dcn. Dick Henning • Holy Trinity, Meridian, ID



That was then,



This is now.



The crucifix was handcrafted by Demetz Manufacturing in Italy. It has been on order for 4 months. The four foot corpus is on an 8 foot cross.



charismaticevangelicalsacramental
together

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www.iccec.org/dnews

The Charismatic Episcopal Church exists to make visible the Kingdom of God to the nations of the world; to bring the rich sacramental and liturgical life of the early church to searching evangelicals and charismatics; to carry the power of Pentecost to our brothers and sisters in the historic churches; and finally, to provide a home for all Christians seeking a liturgical-sacramental, evangelical, charismatic church and a foundation for their lives and gifts of ministry.

For more information on the Charismatic Episcopal Church, please see our website, www.iccec.org.

Show Up • Bp. David Epps

"What can we, as the men of the church, do to make your life easier?" The question came from one of the men attending a Men's Prayer Breakfast at our church where I had just concluded some remarks and had opened the floor to questions. In over 35 years of ministry, it was the first time I had been asked that question. Oh, people have said, "How can I help?" or "What do you need?" but not "What can we do to make your life easier?"

I didn't even have to think about the answer. Actually, for the most part, pastors don't ask all that much of their congregations but the answer I gave was very serious and from the heart: "Show up," I said. "Show up."

The writer of Hebrews admonishes, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing..." (Heb. 10:25 NASB). Even in the early church, some Christians were developing a habit of absenteeism and received the rebuke of the writer of Hebrews.

Sometimes, victory is achieved just by showing up! Our church league softball team

went 0-39 before winning the first game. Shortly thereafter, the team went 9-0 and won the league championship for their division. But of the nine wins, two were forfeits, that is, the other team failed to field enough players to have a game. So, we won two games, and thus the trophy, by all our team members simply showing up and the other two teams lost because of the failure of someone on their side to be in their appointed place.

There is also the matter of momentum. No one gave John McCain a ghost of a chance to win the Republican nomination for president early in the '08 campaign. But then the momentum changed and now he is the presumptive nominee. Similarly, Hillary Clinton was thought to be the inevitable winner of the Democratic nomination but—momentum changed. Now, there is the very real possibility that Barack Obama, who has won 11 primaries in a row, may be the Democratic nominee. What is momentum? Really, the first step to momentum is people simply showing up.

When Michael Vick was unable

to play in the 2007 NFL season, momentum crashed and the Atlanta Falcons never recovered. On the other hand, regardless of whether the team is winning or losing, the Green Bay Packers have sold out every game at home since 1960. Fans have been known to leave season tickets in their wills and newborn infants have been placed on the season ticket waiting list. The very presence of these faithful and loyal fans who have consistently shown up in the worst weather imaginable contributes much to the legendary success of this great football team. If the stands were half-empty, would the Packers still win? Doubtful.

When people come to a church and the church is full, a positive momentum is present—even visitors pick up on it. There is an excitement, an energy present. When the church is half-full, momentum begins to tank and, again, even the visitors pick up on it. It is hard to stop positive momentum (just ask Hillary Clinton) and it is difficult to recover from a negative momentum. But it can be done.

The answer? Just show up. While illness, vacations, and work schedules may interfere with church attendance, there really is no other excuse for not showing up. Besides, Hebrews goes on to state that it is in the church meeting together that "we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds..." and that we may "encourage one another" (Heb.10:24-25 NASB). Christians were never built to be isolated individuals or families. There is no such concept in scriptures as, "It's just me, my Bible, and Jesus." And, no, one can't be "just as good a Christian" and not be part of a worshiping community. Rather, one of the secrets of a successful Christian life is "showing up" to worship, work, and fellowship with other believers.

Nearly everything positive in the Christ-like life begins with "showing up." What can you do for me to make my life easier or the life of your own pastor easier? Show up. You will eventually have a better life and that makes our lives easier. ■