

# ACA DEUS AMONG US

*A NEWSLETTER FOR ANGLICANS*

Vol. 6

Edited by Carolyn Kerouac

December 17, 2013

## FROM THE BISHOP



### Advent Preparing for the BIRTH of THE CHRIST CHILD

#### The Symbolism of the Advent Wreath

During the time of Advent, many people have an Advent wreath in their homes. While these decorations are certainly festive and add to the holiday spirit, there is also much symbolism in the wreath that people may not recognize.

First, the wreath is always in the form of a circle. Since a circle has no beginning and no end, it is a symbol for God, Who is eternal and without beginning or end.

The Advent wreath is always made from evergreens. These branches, as the name indicates, are "ever green" -- ever alive. They are symbolic of Christ, Who died, but Who is alive, never to die again. The evergreen branches also symbolize our soul's immortality. Christ came into the world to give us never-ending life. Entwined around the circle of evergreens are red holly berries. They look like large red drops of blood, and symbolize the blood shed by Christ for mankind. They remind us that Christ came into this world to die for us and redeem us. It is through the shedding of His blood that we have eternal life.

The wreath has four candles, three violet ones and one rose colored candle. These symbolize the four weeks of the Advent season, our time of preparation for Christmas. Each day, the Liturgy tells us of the Hebrew expectation of the Messiah in the Old Testament reading, and the Gospels begin to introduce us to the characters of the Christmas story. At the beginning of Advent a single candle is lit, but each week another candle is lit. As the light from the wreath increases each week as more candles are lit, the wreath reminds us that the birth of the Light of the World is coming closer. So may our souls grow brighter in their love for, and anticipation of, the Christ Child as this season of grace continues.

The color of the four candles also has significance. The violet candles have a penitential appearance, much as

we find violet in the church during the penitential season of Lent. The violet is to remind us that Advent is a season of preparation in which we should be spiritually preparing our souls to receive Christ on Christmas. The single rose-colored candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent, which is called "Gaudete" Sunday. "Gaudete" is the Latin word for "rejoice", and symbolizes an element of rejoicing in the midst of our penitential preparation, for the joy of Christmas is almost here.

The rose color is made by mixing violet with white. It is almost as if the joy we celebrate at Christmas (symbolized by bright white) cannot contain itself during this penitential season (violet) and burst forth a bit into the Advent season. On Christmas, the four candles are replaced with white ones -- our time of preparation is over and we enter a time of great joy.

At the base of each candle, or in the wreath itself, there should be a blue bowl. This blue is to remind us of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, who bore Him in her womb and brought Him forth into our world on Christmas.

The Advent wreath should be placed in a prominent place in our church. Many families have a smaller Advent wreath in their homes. This both reminds families of the wreath in their church and serves as a reminder of their link to the parish church. The candles are lit at the main meal of the day, with the new candle lit preferably at the main meal on Sunday, the first day of the new week.

Joining around the table for a meal should remind the family of the table of the Lord around which they gather each week to celebrate the Eucharist -- the meal of the Lord that nourishes our soul.

So, the next time you see or display an Advent wreath, don't just think of it as a nice decoration. Remember all the symbolism it has for us as it reminds us of the need for spiritual preparation to fully share in the great joy of the birth of Christ, the Son of God Who gave His life for us so that we might have eternal life.

I hope you enjoyed this educational article, shared by Father John Jacobs. I send my personal Blessing to each and every one of you during this Christmas Season, and may you be well in the New Year!

With much love,

**Bishop John Vaughan +**

**ORDINATIONS AMONG US**

On January 25th, God willing, David Munn will be ordained to the Priesthood at St. Barnabas Anglican Church in Picayune, MS. Please pray for David, his family, and his church as they prepare for this event. Details will go to each Priest via invitation right after Christmas.

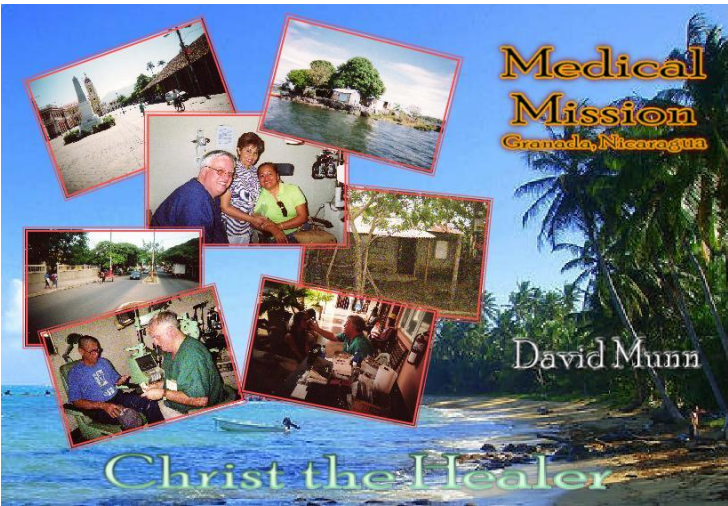
**Deacon's Corner**

Fr. Guy's classes have been postponed due to an illness, he is recovering from a medical error, and I am sure that classes will begin anew in January!

**AMONG US**

**FROM THE CLERGY WIVES...**

If you need an updated listing of Clergy Wives of the ACA DEUS, please contact [carolyn.kerouac@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.kerouac@gmail.com)



Claudia Munn, wife of Deacon David Munn, has been involved with her husband and Mission Trips with Christ the Healer for 10 years, traveling to Nicaragua on weeklong health missions, their focus on the eye exams and reading glasses for many do handwork. It is with great pleasure that I can highlight the work of a Clergy Wife alongside her Deacon husband, soon to be ordained into the Priesthood. Their ministry is unfailing. Claudia will be on the trip in April of 2014, and Deacon Munn will travel for the January and April 2014 trips to Granada, Nicaragua.

The dates for the missions next year is January 11-18, 2014, April 26-May 3, 2014 and August 2-9, 2014.

They are very active members at St. Barnabas in Picayune, MS! Imagine the slide shows in the church hall when they return from their trips! I hope they will consider sharing some at our next Synod taking place in Georgia this May, more info later in this newsletter!

The website is [www.archnomo.org](http://www.archnomo.org) under Christ the Healer with a lot of background info. There is a great video at [http://mmvp.smugmug.com/Other/David-Munn-Video/29984561\\_982Tn2](http://mmvp.smugmug.com/Other/David-Munn-Video/29984561_982Tn2) the password is Eyes.

According to Deacon David, we are currently seeking dentists, dental assistants, nurses (especially nurse practitioner's) ob/gyn's, eye docs (especially August trip), general physicians--internal medicine-pediatricians. Please share this with your parishes and mission minded friends.



This is the 50th anniversary picture of the Jesuit retreat at Manressa. 8 members of our group had not missed a retreat since the first one in February 1963 ! Deacon David Munn was allowed to participate with the other deacons of the Roman Diocese's of New Orleans and Baton Rouge at the High Mass.

From [Bonnie Turner](#), ACA webmaster

Dear Fellow Anglicans,  
The ACA has a new home at <http://anglicanchurchinamerica.org/>.  
Please change your bookmarks.

Thanks to Bonnie, each of our parishes has their own web presence thru the ACA site, and we are so grateful to her... there are some that still need to change up the content, but all of us can now be found online, which is necessary these days.



ACA DEUS ~ Serving Alabama, Delaware, The District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.  
*The Right Reverend John Vaughan,  
Bishop Ordinary*

**MAP OF OUR DIOCESE WITH CHURCH LOCATIONS:**

<https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=206281082708119464064.0004e11a905fd0b539aab&msa=0&ll=34.379713,-80.200195&spn=16.035424,28.256836>





**Poppy Sunday, or Armistice Day,celebrated, the Poppy's are on the altar, while Fr. Guy blesses the children at the rail.**

**✠ACA DEUS PRAYER LIST**  
**✠**

**TRAVEL:** Bishop Vaughan ✠, Bishop Marsh ✠ All Clergy

**RECOVERY:** Fr Guy✠, Rhae✠

**ALL of those ON ACTIVE SERVICE and ALL Clergy**

**DAILY PRAYERS:** ALL CLERGY, POSTULANTS, THEIR WIVES AND FAMILIES WHO SUPPORT THEM

**✠ DEUS Among Us ✠**  
11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093  
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776

**FUNDRAISING AMONG US**

**THE 2013 COOKIE WALK** was again a huge success in Maryland, with a lot of hard work and fun times preparing the Hall, creating fresh green wreaths, swags, and of course jellies, peanut brittle, and cookies, lots and lots of cookies! I have never seen more cookies in one room! I hope that all of you in your own parishes will attempt something like this one day... a great time with my church family!

**AMONG US**

If you need an updated listing of Clergy Wives of the ACA DEUS, please contact [carolyn.kerouac@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.kerouac@gmail.com).

Thanks to the work of the ACA webmaster, Bonnie Turner, all parishes have a web presence, but we need to update with pictures and events as often as possible, please send your pictures to me at [carolyn.kerouac@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.kerouac@gmail.com) !!

**CLERGY WIVES...Buy key rings**



Maureen Waller has dozens of ACA key rings, churches can buy them a give them away, or sell them at events. Please contact her at [waller2722@charter.net](mailto:waller2722@charter.net) to place your order by the dozen...



Website: [www.stpetersanglican.com](http://www.stpetersanglican.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stpetersanglicaneastpalatkaflorida](https://www.facebook.com/stpetersanglicaneastpalatkaflorida)  
Youtube: [www.youtube.com/user/stpeteranglicanfl](https://www.youtube.com/user/stpeteranglicanfl)



I am  
amazed at how much God  
has blessed us in the  
three short years of our  
existence. We began with  
nothing and now we are  
on the verge of having our  
own property and buildings almost fully paid for.  
On so many occasions the  
words of the Doxology  
constantly flow through my  
mind and onto my lips.  
God bless and keep you  
ALL,  
Fr. John

## CAMP AMONG US

Yes, Summer Camp is in the works to be held near Myrtle Beach, SC. Initial meetings took place, the location is reserved, and the team is so excited!!! Here is an informal overview...

Deacon Michael Belt is leading the charge, looking for help from our seasoned camp guy, Fr. Mark Seigel and his wife, Vicki...and other clergy who might be interested.

Katherine Novicki will be a camp counselor, daughter of Deacon John Novicki at St. Stephen's, as well as Remi Kerouac, son of Archdeacon Michael Kerouac, also of St. Stephen's, God Willing.

The fees per camper are being established, but it is now the time to begin fundraisers for scholarships for each parish to participate in this wonderful ministry for our Anglican Youth. I know the cost is North of \$500 for the week, plus transportation to be coordinated among the parishes.

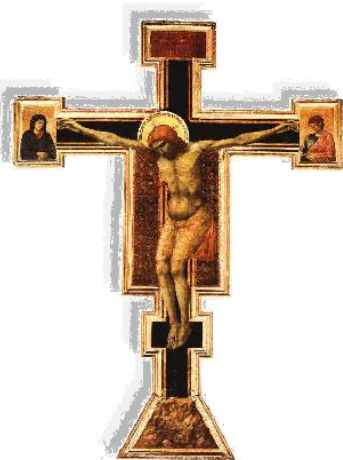
Rumor says it will be held the last week of July from the 21-25 plus travel time, but please do not quote me on this!



Beautiful decorations...



Lovely company and fellowship...



**St. Stephen's Anglican Church  
Timonium, MD**



## **Harvest Dinner with the Bishop**



"Happy" participants...



A full house of Deacons and parishioners...





And Sub Deacons and friends...



And more Deacons with adorable families...



Canon Rhae Kelley's Leaving Party...at St. Steve's



And to SC Fr. Rhae & Molly go...



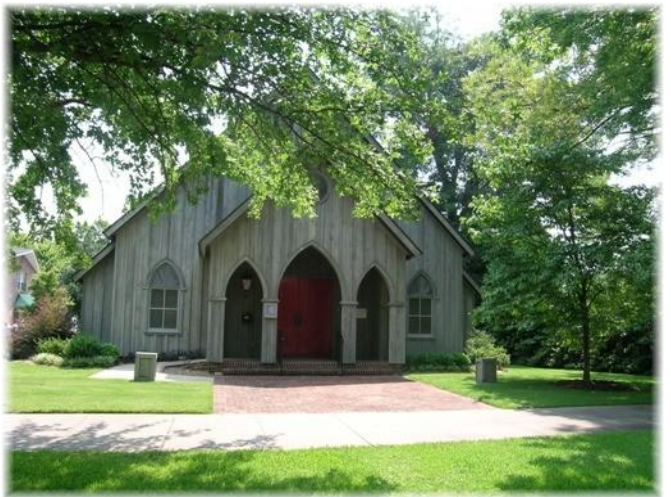
# St. Luke's Anglican Church

Services held Sunday at 11:00 am  
Bloch Memorial Chapel  
1209 Fairview Avenue  
Bowling Green, KY

Entertains the Dean of DEUS...



And blesses weddings...



In a beautiful church...



422 Broadway Street

Columbus, GA 31901      (706) 322-3010

Father Terrence Keller, ASF

Rector

While at St. George's, Father Terry



Records events...

## SYNOD AMONG US

**St. George's, Columbus, GA  
will host the 2014 DEUS Synod  
SAVE THE DATE**

Synod dates are May 7-9 2014. Lodging will be at the Columbus Marriott, which is in the historic district and about 5 blocks from the church. This is the same host hotel that we have used in the past and rates are to be \$125.00 per night. We will use the parish hall for the Synod meeting. Banquet is set for Friday, May 9 at the Columbus River Club. More details will be mailed after the first of the year.



**Barnabas  
Saint**  Anglican  
Church  
Picayune, MS

201 Norwood Street - Picayune, MS 39466  
Correspondence to: Rectory - 612 Sixth Avenue





# We deliver Christmas boxes...95 to Christian Childrens Ministries

“This a wonderful expression of service to others, not only at Christmas time, but throughout the year,” said Canon Jon Filkins, Rector of St. Barnabas. “Kathryn Parker’s largess is a true example for all of us to follow, in service to humankind.”



And help the Police Dept. win BBQ rib contests...

## Welcome to the Blues Q & Brew

**4:45 Opening** Mayor Ed Pinero **Welcome Guest & Introduce of**  
**National Anthem** by Jessica Nicole Smith  
**Prayer** by Father Filkins  
**Master of Ceremonies** Johnny Baker

**5:00- 6:45** Johnny Pappa & the Butter Funk Band  
**7:00 - 9:00** Wardell Williams & the Blues Band  
**9:00- 11:00** Claudette "the Bluz Queen" King

<b>Platinum</b>		Coca Cola of Hattiesburg	
City of Picayune			
<b>Gold</b>		Southern Chor Steakhouse	
Advanced Eye Care	Fireman's Fund Credit Union	Southern Eye Physician Centes, LLC	Southern Lacti Specialist, LLC
Highland Community Hospital	Sheriff David Allison		WRLJW 1320 AM
<b>Silver</b>		Mickey's Quick Stop	
Bank Plus	McDonald & Patis, PLLC	Walgreens	Moore Chiropractic Clinic
Wal Mart	Mississippi Power Company	First National Bank of Picayune	Children's International Medical Group
Helmick's Schreck, DDS	Woody of Picayune	McDonald Federal Home	
<b>Bronze</b>		Boorman & Company, PLLC	
Bone's Place Antiques	Pain Free's Carpet & Dry	Robinson Electric	Billy Walley Attorney At Law
BO's Quick Stop	Samuels Western Auto	Valente Realty	Greater Picayune Arts Council
G. Gerald Crutcher, RN	Whitfield Rentals, LLC	Woody Spiers	Whitfield and Company PC
Leonard Animal Hospital	Nationwide Insurance Brian Thigpen		

**Special Thanks To** Sound & Stage by Aaron Lee RP Percussions Holiday Inn Express Nostalgia

And we pray...



And keep the Grinch away...

Merry Christmas to DAV