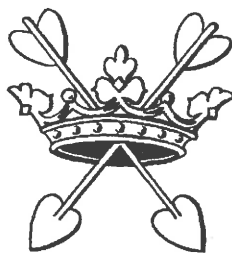


The Parish of St. Edmund, King and Martyr

(Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, and Guelph)



The Anglican Catholic Church of Canada

UPDATE

August 20, 2000 - St. Bernard of Clairvaux

September Schedule

September 3	Sunday	-	Trinity XI
September 10	Sunday	-	Trinity XII
September 17	Sunday	-	Trinity XIII
September 21	Thursday	-	St. Matthew the Apostle
September 24	Sunday	-	Trinity XIV
September 29	Friday	-	St. Michael and All Angels

Service Times and Location

- (1) All Services are held in the Chapel at Luther Village on the Park - 139 Father David Bauer Drive in Waterloo.
- (2) On Sundays, Matins is said at 10:00 a.m. (The Litany on the first Sunday of the month), and the Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 10:30 a.m.
- (3) On weekdays - Holy Days and Days of Obligation (Red Letter Days in the Prayer Book Calendar) - the Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 7:00 p.m., 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays - when the Chapel is available!

Notes

Just a reminder - lunch in the restaurant at Luther Village, right after Mass on Sunday, August 27.

Best wishes to the Mears - Alec, Neill, Peggy, and William - who have moved to Florida. We will continue to inflict UPDATE upon you!

The Bishop's Bit

ONLY GOD CAN MAKE A TREE

Poems are made by fools like me, only God can make a tree.

Each country has its good points and its bad. What I dislike about Canada, apart of course from its winters, is telemarketers, those wretched people who summon you to the phone in a hurry in order to sell you carpet cleaner, or subscriptions to liberal newspapers of which you disapprove. They phone during meals, they phone late at night, they phone over the week end.

I also dislike those who print and distribute junk mail. Lurid papers, picture - full of carpet cleaner, of pet food, of bloody steaks, litter the streets of Canada. During spring rain, summer rain, fall rain and the wet snow of winter, the papers metamorphose into mush, guaranteed to kill off prize front lawns. Under dry snow the papers pile higher and higher, waiting to be discovered during spring thaw and run off. What an ignoble end to majestic trees, to end up as junk mail! Environmentalists might have a go at improving Canada's ecosystem by banishing junk mail from our country?

There can be something distinctly numinous, awe inspiring, almost holy, about some trees, whether in clumps or alone. A dainty copse of maples in a bonsai bowl, a grove of white pine, an English beech standing solitary on its hill, make you catch your breath. It's not surprising, therefore, that in animist religions people think that trees have souls, or that trees are the shrines of spirits, or that the worship of ancestors must take place beneath trees.

Trees clean the polluted air of our cities, provide shade, lift our jaded psyches in times of depression, provide wood. Some trees are medicinal: quinine that cures malaria comes from the bark of a tree; scurvy can be treated with birch beer or spruce tea. Other trees provide fruits and nuts. The adventurer lost in the great outback of Australia can find life saving water hidden inside the traveller's palm. Trees are friend to man and beast alike.

I suspect that our reaction to trees is a pointer to Calvary. While trees are not in themselves divine, their function is to direct our attention to Jesus. Trees were used to make crucifixes. Jewish law ruled that the corpse of anybody hanged or crucified was cursed, "His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, for he that is hanged is cursed of God" (*Deuteronomy* 21, 22 - 23). In *Galatians* 3, 13 St Paul quotes this law to show how deep was Jesus' degradation on our behalf. And some of our Passion hymns sing of the cross like this, "O tree of beauty, tree of light, O tree with royal purple bright, O tree our one reliance hail, So may thy power with us avail, To give new virtue to the saint, And pardon to the penitent". And again, "None in foliage, none in blossom, none in fruit thy peer may be" (blue 128 and 129, green 94, 95 and 96).

Trees are also to direct our attention to the resurrection. Trees grow in gardens, "Now in the place where Jesus was crucified there was a garden" (*John* 19, 41). In eternity we shall enjoy the tree of life

which cancels out the tree in Eden of the knowledge of evil, "On this side of the river and on that was the tree of life, bearing twelve fruits, yielding the fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations" (*Revelation 22*, 1 - 2).

+Robert Mercer CR

By the Bishop Ordinary - The Anglican Catholic Church of Canada

From here and there

- Denying the incarnation, the resurrection, the atonement and other core doctrines leaves a toothless Christianity little different from the Lions Club or Rotary Club. Archbishop Akinola (Canterbury Anglican Primate of Nigeria) speaking about the state of the Episcopal Church (Canterbury Anglicans in the USA).
- They're betting on culture. We're betting on Scripture.
- Isn't it funny how simple it is for people to trash God and then wonder why the world's going to hell.
- What to say if you get caught sleeping at your desk:
 - Someone must have put decaf in the wrong pot.
 - I wasn't sleeping. I was meditating on the mission statement and envisioning a new paradigm.
 - They told me at the blood bank this might happen.
 - This is just a 15 minute power-nap like they raved about in that management course you sent me to.
 - Whew! Guess I left the top off the Whiteout. You probably got here just in time.
- The very recent Concordat between ECUSA (Canterbury Anglicans in the USA) and ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) has been variously described as 'a marriage of two institutions suffering from necrophilia', and 'the linking of the Lusitania to the Titanic'.
- The Traditional Anglican Communion [of which The Anglican Catholic Church of Canada is a member] operates in 14 countries and is growing slowly and steadily, and sometimes in 'large lumps'. Notably the Torres Strait Islands with about 10,000 active souls, complete with clergy and church buildings. India with approximately 80,000 and from South Africa we have finalized an agreement with a separate group of about 15 to 20 thousand, again complete with clergy and buildings (bishops for them will be consecrated next year). From a posting by +Robert C. Crawley on TTMB0, a forum operated by our Charles W. Moore in Nova Scotia.

The Power of the Mass

THAT CAUSED HIS GLORIOUS ARM TO GO AT THE RIGHT HAND OF MOSES (Isaiah 63.12).

There is a story in the exceedingly dull pages of the Koran (vi. 75) which relates how Abraham was shown a vision of the heavens and the earth "in order that he might be of those that are sure". When night came on he saw a star, and said, "This is my lord", but when it set he cried, "I love not those that set". When he saw the moon rising he said, "This is my lord", but when darkness fell he said, "Unless my lord guide me I shall err and fall". When the sun began to rise he cried, "This is my lord, the greatest of all", but when it set he said, "I will turn my face from created things to Him who made the heavens and the earth".

That parable illustrates the search for power and the disappointment of the seeker with the failure to attain it. There is something not dissimilar to this in religious experience. It comes to the surface in times of emergency. There is a feeling of disappointment with religion: it seems to effect so little. Prayer seems so useless. Church attendance may bring consolation but it is rather by way of an 'escape mechanism'. Many worshipers who attend the Sunday Eucharist never dream of being present at a weekday Mass. If asked why the daily Mass meant nothing to them, they would not easily be able to express themselves, but what they are really thinking is that it is irrelevant. The Church in England has to some extent regained belief in the Real Presence and in the Eucharistic Sacrifice. The Parish Eucharist has begun to restore the ideal of fellowship, but something is lacking. English Churchmen scarcely believe that the offering of the Mass affects events. We must therefore recall the four 'ends' of sacrifice and apply the principle to the offering of the Mass. Canon Coles, in the concluding verse of the hymn "We pray Thee, Heavenly Father", which he added for the *English Hymnal*, expressed it thus:

"For praise, and thanks and worship,
For mercy and for aid,
The Catholic oblation
Of Jesus Christ is made"

(E.H. 334)

The Holy Communion is offered for 'thanks and praise' (*eucharistic*), worship (*latreutic*), mercy (*propitiatory*), aid (*impetratory*).

We have seen that the belief in the eucharistic aspect of the Mass has been revived, as has the recognition that it is the highest act of worship. It is also, though less generally realized, to be the application of the sacrifice of Calvary. But it is the fourth purpose 'for aid' that is not so firmly grasped. What does the Mass really effect? All theologians would agree that it affects the worshiper, but does it affect the world? It brings added grace to the communicant and helps him to conform his will to the will of God, but does it affect 'the course of this world'? If I go to Mass does it make any difference to any one else, except to my own spiritual state?

It has always been the teaching of the Church that the offering of the Holy Sacrifice is a great work, in which the worshipers actively assist. They come to do something, and not merely to be edified. The Council of Trent (sess. xxii.) says, "No other work can be performed by the faithful so holy and divine as this tremendous mystery". It is the teaching of the Church that prayers at Mass are the most efficacious of all prayers. S. Chrysostom says that the angels pray with us then, for the time of Mass is the time of mercy. The Council of Trent sums up the generally accepted belief as to the effect of

Mass on the worshiper. "This sacrifice is truly propitiatory, and if we draw nigh to God, contrite and penitent, He will be appeased by the offering thereof and granting the gift of grace and penitence, forgive even heinous offences" (sess. xxii.). And this sacrifice can be offered on behalf of others, e.g. the faithful departed. It can avail even for hardened sinners. It has been laid down by great theologians that even a man whose prayer cannot be heard can benefit by a Mass offered for him, for God will accept the gift of the sacrifice of His Son even though the petition of the sinner could not avail.

But does the Holy Mass affect the course of this world? Could it alter, e.g., the issues of war? We believe in the power of intercession. As Canon Newbolt quaintly says, "Heads for intercession and requests for prayer are multiplied. But the arrows are but little use without the hand of the giant, or in the hand of the children of Judah, who have not yet learnt the use of the bow" (*Sacrament of the Altar*, p. 771). The bow is the Mass, the prayers the petitions proffered at it. We can speed our intercessions most effectually by linking them on to the Mass.

The belief that we can send out a current of power which can affect the course of this world depends on the sort of idea we entertain of God's providence. A modern writer points out that every house we pass on a walk is the embodiment of a thought. No less true is it that when we leave the town and go into the country, the trees, the sky and the mountains, are equally embodiments of thought no longer man's but God's thought. "All is quivering with energy . . . matter is indestructible, motion is continuous, force is persistent . . . All the myriad phenomena of the universe . . . are manifestations of a single animating principle that is both infinite and eternal" (*The Eternal Religion*, p. 237).

An 'animating' principle is one which still works in things and events. We believe that "God is working His purpose out". "My Father worketh and I work" (John v. 17). God's work is going on: He is still weaving the pattern of 'free future events'. Our prayers can influence the design. Suppose a yacht was moving towards a dangerous sandbank. God can see its probable course and its danger of destruction. But He can also see that a breeze is coming up from a quarter which will change the vessel's course and carry it clear of the threatened peril. That breeze is like the prayers of the faithful at Mass.

The Mass, then, gives wings to our prayers. "The acts of Jesus Christ, in the Mass as, everywhere, partake of the infinite worthiness of the Person who performs them . . . there is nothing in the realm of grace which the Mass is not more than equal to" (Hedley, *The Holy Eucharist*, p. 240). We can direct those waves of power which flow from the Mass and so we should have a special 'intention' each time we come, and should ask the celebrant to remember our intention. Thus we may pray for the departed, or for peace, or for any cause which we believe to be in accordance with God's will, and our prayers are not simply intercessions at Mass, but the offering of the sacrifice for a particular intention.

There must be on our part: (a) preparation. The worshiper must be in a state of grace; (b) co-operation. He must consciously identify himself with the offering of the Mass. Isaiah (lxiii. 12) speaks of the glorious arm of God going at the right hand of Moses. That is a graphic way of conveying that God's infinite power augments man's efforts, but there must be man's co-operation. We must not be fatalists, but believe that there is nothing inevitable except the triumph of God.

From a book by The Rev. Marcus Donovan entitled *Positive Teaching (or What the Catholic Religion Offers Us)* and published by The Faith Press in 1947.

Definitions

Gravity: Not just a good idea, it's the law!

Gross ignorance: 144 times worse than normal ignorance.

Clock: A small mechanical device to wake up people without children.

Karaoke: A Japanese word meaning "tone deaf".

Opera: Where a guy gets stabbed in the back and sings about it.

Normal: A setting on a washing machine.

Health: The slowest possible rate of dying.

Poverty: Having too much month left at the end of the money.

Boy: A noise with dirt on it.

Sleep: That fleeting moment just before the alarm goes off.

Cynic: Someone who smells the flowers and looks for the casket.

Answer: What everybody is still looking for.

Witlag: The delay between delivery and comprehension of a joke.

Skier: Someone who pays an arm and a leg to break them.

Thanks to Bob Allan

From the Deacon's Desk

FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD

"About a week later, Peter and James with his brother John went with Jesus alone to a high mountain and he was transfigured in their sight. His face shone like the sun and his clothes were whiter than any bleach could ever make them."

This story of the Transfiguration started me thinking of the number of times in the Holy Scriptures in which this sort of thing happened in which a human has had a "Vision of God". St. Augustine of Hippo whose feast we celebrate on the 28th of this month has a lot to say on this subject in his letters, especially those to the lady Italica and to Paulina.

He shows that there is no contradiction between Matt 5: 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God" or 1 John 3: 2 "And we shall see Him as He is" and John 1: 18 "no man hath seen God at any time." with 1 Tim. 6: 16 "Whom no man hath seen or can see".

St. Augustine explains this by differentiating between the eyes of the mind and the eyes of the body but also with a warning, the objects of faith are those which are neither seen by the eyes of the body, nor by those of the mind. He says it is in the nature of God to be invisible, yet He manifests himself to whom He will ... He can be revealed through Christ to the human mind. A manifestation of Him can be given, but His essential nature cannot be seen. When it is said that the pure in heart shall see God, the meaning is that inward preparation qualifies men to be the recipients of Divine manifestations and enables them to realise God's presence.

Thus it is true that no man hath seen God at any time: that is to say, as He is in His essential being. On the other hand, John 14: 9 "...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father" because Christ is the revelation of the Father.

Submitted by The Reverend Mervyn Edward Bowles

Worth thinking about

- ⊗ Angels are pure spirit, created by God to adore and reflect the infinite divine beauty. They were also created according to the Book of Hebrews to be "sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Heb. 1:14).

As ministering spirits, the angels throughout the history of creation have intervened in the affairs of man to reveal the will of God. Since the fall of man, angels have served as warriors in spiritual warfare protecting the "heirs of salvation" from the attacks of the devil. Each Christian at his baptism is yoked to a guardian angel who serves as his advocate, protector and intercessor throughout his earthly life. From Word magazine.

- ⊗ The essence of Christian *orthodoxy* is that there is no *legitimate* "alternative" position. There is nothing to be added to God's revelation. C. Moore

Consider the Lilies of the Field

"EVEN SOLOMON IN ALL HIS GLORY WAS NOT ARRAYED LIKE ONE OF THESE "

What kind of lilies were these that were growing in the Middle East at that time? In Canada surely they would have been the delicate-coloured Day Lilies which grow so plentifully from coast to coast - even on stony ground, or when choked by thorns or weeds. They even survive the encroachment of man who builds subdivisions and industrial parks.

On my daily walk I often pass a small garden which has a bush of mauve roses. From the sidewalk it is striking, but I know that I would be disappointed with a closer examination. These beautiful, modern roses do not have the scent associated with the name Rose. In the process of hybridization, specializing to produce exotic colours and shapes, the scent has been sacrificed.

The rose garden of the Botanical Gardens near Hamilton has a large bed devoted to old-time roses, with plaques telling of their history. The blooms are not overly spectacular, but the smell is unbelievable. My favourite is the bush that was introduced to Europe by returning Crusaders. My imagination pictures a young, Red Cross Knight taking time out from weary battle to "smell the roses". So powerful was the scent that, before returning home he dug up some of the bushes - perhaps to give as a present to his 'lady-in-waiting' whose kerchief was safely folded in a pocket beneath his armour.

Do you have floral scenes that are stored within your memory? Can you picture a field of golden wheat ripe and ready for the scythe, with the occasional scarlet Poppy adding a splash of colour? Or how about a spread of heavenly-blue Chicory growing by the roadside intermingled with a vapour of Queen Anne's Lace? There's the rippling brook in springtime with a clump of thick-stemmed, succulent Marsh marigolds dragging their roots in the water, the blossoms so rich that King Midas of Greek Mythology could have filled his coffers with the blooms. Later, that same brook would be bordered by Yellow Flags or Irises, looking down at the large, blue-eyed Water Forgetmenots. Have you ever walked through a field of Buttercups, Browning's "Little Children's Flowers" to find yourself wearing shoes gilded with pollen? Or, after diligent searching, found a Bee Orchid which resembles in both shape and colour the rear of a bumble bee entering the flower in search of nectar?

So many poems and quotes have been written about these gifts to mankind that I have added a few to

this dissertation:

"Flowers always make people better, happier and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine to the soul." Luther Burbank

"He who plants a garden, plants happiness." Chinese Proverb

"Flowers are the sweetest things God ever made and forgot to put a soul into." Henry Ward Beecher

"If a man finds himself with bread in both hands, he should exchange one loaf for some flowers of the narcissus, because the loaf feeds the body, but the flowers feed the soul." Muhammad

And who could not eulogize with the artist, Claude Monet, over a still pond with a coverlet of the waxy blooms of white, Water Lilies floating with their circular pads. Monet wrote:

"More than anything I must have flowers, always, always."

Shakespeare often introduces flowers both wild and cultivated into his plays.

And lastly, the second verse of this very well-known hymn:

"Each little flower that opens...
He made their glowing colours,"

By Helen E. Glover of our Parish.

Whatever Happened to Courage?

ON HIM THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD RESTS...A SPIRIT OF COUNSEL AND FORTITUDE (Isaiah 11.2)

The Hebrew word translated as 'fortitude' in the Vulgate is elsewhere translated 'valour' or 'courage'. The Holy Spirit of God bestows the virtue of courage. Sadly, this gift is lacking among modern Christians - especially our leaders. We are now fed a milk toast, panty waist, sissified 'gospel'. But it certainly isn't the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (see Galatians 1.8.).

Jesus called people snakes, vipers, hypocrites, and wolves. He repeatedly asked them how they thought they could "escape the damnation of hell". (Matthew 23.13-39). John the Baptist publicly rebuked Herod. St. Steven called the Jews "stiff-necked" and "murderers". (Acts 7.51-54). But no longer do we see public rebuke and denunciation of sin and wicked people. No, today we get 'sloppy agape' toleration and coexistence with evil and evil-doers in the name of 'love'.

Early Christians were slaughtered by the thousands and it wasn't because they just 'loved' everybody and went around 'dialoguing'! According to the most ancient Roman accounts the emperors accused the Christians of two "crimes": 1. Cannibalism. The Romans were repulsed by the Christians' claim to consume literal flesh and blood, i.e. Christ in the Eucharist; and 2. "Hatred of mankind". This is what filled the emperors with rage.

The Christians asserted that the Romans were evil, that their 'gods' were demons, and their immorality was repugnant to a holy God. Because the Christians mocked the Roman 'gods' and rebuked their

'alternate lifestyles', the Romans accused them of "hatred". Sound familiar? In fact, the reason Christians have been persecuted throughout history is not because they 'loved' everyone, it was because they spoke the truth! The reason most American Christians are never persecuted is because they are not true Christians (if to be a Christian means to be 'like Christ'). Christ wasn't some effeminate coward tip-toeing through the tulips saying, "Can't we all just get along?".

And what of our Catholic bishops? Their denunciation of abortion while coddling its advocates is a scandal to the faithful. Mother Theresa, filled with the spirit of counsel and fortitude, rebuked the antichrist reprobate Bill Clinton to his face. Meanwhile, sycophantic bishops not only refuse to confront Clinton, they endorse him politically! Why the late Cardinal Bernardin even received a special prize from Clinton for being such a nice guy!

Our bishops say abortion is murder and that partial birth abortion is infanticide, yet they refuse to publicly condemn the wicked who perpetrate and protect it. Our bishop (a vocal opponent of abortion), recently was on the cover of our local Catholic paper posing with his Methodist and Episcopal counterparts announcing their latest call for increased socialism - A Future of Crisis or Hope for the Children of Mississippi.

While filled mostly with the flowery language and platitudinous nonsense that characterizes most religious communication these days, this particular missive contains both inaccurate and strained parallels; Jesus was born "homeless" and was a "lost and forsaken child", as well as something more sinister. It appears that great pains were taken to specify that the bishops are only interested in helping those children lucky enough to escape the birth canal. "We call on all people to view every child born today as sent by God...". "We call all people to value every child born today as much as Jesus valued the children of His day."

Why not just "every child" or better yet "every child conceived today"? Why, in the entire document, is no mention made of the thousands of Mississippi innocents murdered in the womb each year? Answer: because both the Methodist and Episcopal bishops are pro-abortion! They support child slaughter!

What signal does it send to faithful Catholics when our bishop calls abortion murder and then poses with pro-aborts to "help the children". It's a slap in the face to pro-life Catholics who've worked tirelessly for 25 years to save the unborn. It is a bigger slap in the face to the 35 million dead babies. It's a stumbling block to unbelievers as well. These two apostates should have been soundly rebuked to their face! How can one say abortion is murder and then play golf, socialize, and enter into community projects with advocates and defenders of the killing? To overlook their support of child killing is like saying that Adolf was an okay guy except for that thing with the Jews.

What a disgrace! Apostates like these publicly rant and rave about Paul Hill, but have no public words of rebuke for Bill Clinton. Whose side are they on anyway? Where is fortitude? We used to have Thomas More. Now we have Teddy Kennedy. We used to have St. Ambrose. Now we have Rembert Weakland. We used to have John Wesley and C.H. Spurgeon. Now we have Bishop Spong and Tony Campolo.

The age of courage has been supplanted by the age of moral cowards and apostates. Abandoning their prophetic office our leaders have allowed a whole generation to slide into hell. This isn't love. It is a cowardly attempt to avoid confrontation and appease the enemies of Christ. I think many bishops should raise a white flag over their chanceries.

A Protestant minister in the Midwest was having great success bringing people out of homosexuality, adultery, and fornication. Many notorious sinners were converted. A fellow pastor asked him the secret of his 'counselling technique'. He replied, "I tell them, STOP IT!".

Similarly, one pro-lifer I know confronts acquaintances who claim to be pro-choice with pictures of the poor aborted babies and tells them that if they can look at this, and still be pro-choice, then they are not decent human beings, and are certainly no friend of his. And he refuses to interact with them! Guess what happens? Most of them abandon their pro-choice position, all because one person refuses to equivocate.

Where are our Catholic leaders today who are willing to say "STOP IT!"? Where are our leaders willing to say "I refuse to associate with you because your views are an offense to God and decent humanity"?

I am fed up with a Christianity devoid of courage and a clergy devoid of, dare I say it, manhood. No wonder the homosexuals have been able to infiltrate the Catholic Church. They fit right in with the other sissies. And while there are still some priests who haven't yet succumbed, anyone with eyes to see can tell that the American Church is quickly going the way of the already lost Canadian apostates.

May the Peace of our God the Lord Jesus Christ and the prayers of Our Dear Blessed Mother Mary be with you always.

By Jack Keene of Ridgeland, Mississippi - the Editor of the Southern Papist Perspective

Amish in the Mall

An Amish boy and his father were visiting a mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but, especially by two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and, then, slide back together again.

The boy asked, "What is this, Father?"

The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, "Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life, I don't know what it is."

While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat old lady in a wheel chair rolled up to the moving walls and pressed a button. The walls opened and the lady rolled between them into a small room. The walls closed and the boy and his father watched the small circular numbers above the walls light up sequentially. They continued to watch until it reached the last number and, then, began to light in the reverse order.

Finally, the walls opened up again and a gorgeous, voluptuous 24-year-old blonde woman stepped out.

The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman, said quietly to his son ... "Go get your mother."

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