

Diocese of the Central States News

Volume III, Issue 1: Advent 2013



News from Christ the King, Dayton, OH

By Amanda McGill, Parish Administrator

Over the summer, Christ the King developed our back lot into a multi-space court as part of the "Neighborhood Healthy Habits Initiative"—an effort to educate and encourage fitness and nutrition among the neighborhood refugee children. On October 1st, the new afterschool program for the Neighborhood Healthy Habits Initiative began. Around 25 children showed up! The children and student volunteers from Christ the King and Dominion Academy had a great time of playing games on our back lot, learning about how to exercise a healthy heart, and eating a snack of pita, hummus, tomato, and cucumber. This program fulfilled part of the expectations we set in our grant application funded by the Physicians' Charitable of the Miami Valley. We are hopeful that this program will continue to build relationships in our neighborhood as we extend the love of Christ through practical teaching about health.

On October 6th, Sandy McNamara and Senior Dominion student David Baugham led an Art Talk. David spoke about the theology of art in the church and put forward his plans for his Eagle Scout Project. David wants to create a "Celebration Wall" in our church's gallery. This wall would display works of art, colors in the Christian calendar, and 3-D images from artists in the church, as well as our children's artistic creations. The theme of the wall would change out according to the season being celebrated. Some ideas for calendar celebrations to feature are Advent, St. Francis' Feast Day, Candlemas, Lent, etc. We are trying to create a visual connection for all of us with art in a designated space and get our children participating by displaying their art works.



Fr. Wayne and Sandy McNamara, Fr. Dorino and senior warden Connie Cozzini, and treasurer Nathan Clark attended Synod this year.

Our feast day Christ the King Sunday will be in conjunction with our Episcopal visit from Bp. Morse. We are anticipating his visit and plan a dessert reception on Saturday evening as well as our traditional feast on Christ the King Sunday.

Visit the parish website at <http://www.ckrec.org>

Diocese of the Central States

The Rt. Rev. Daniel R. Morse,
Bishop Ordinary

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Send submissions for the next issue by 21 Feb 2014 to Dss. Teresa Johnson at newsletter@recdss.org.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Parish/Mission	Date
Church of the Redeemer, Wilson, NC	12/01/13
St. Jude's, Richmond, VA	12/08/13
Christ Our Hope, Dayton, OH	12/15/13
Epiphany, Cleveland, OH	12/22/13
St. Nicholas, Owensboro, KY	12/29/13
St. John's of Mt Laurel, B'ham, AL	01/05/14
All Saints, Lynchburg, VA	01/12/14
Covenant, Roanoke, VA	01/19/14
St. Andrews, Appomattox, VA	01/26/14
St. Andrew's, Asheboro, TN	02/02/14
Christ Our Hope, Westpoint, TN	02/09/14
Trinity, Mason, OH	02/16/14
All Saints, Raleigh, NC	02/23/14
Resurrection, Shalimar, FL	03/02/14
Christ the King, Dayton, OH	03/09/14

News from Trinity Reformed Episcopal Church Mason, OH

On Saturday, December 7, 2013, 10:30 am, our Rector, Father Peter Manto, will be consecrated as a Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church. Due to space concerns, the service and the day's events will be held at Mason United Methodist Church, 6315 South Montgomery Rd., Mason, OH. A luncheon follows the service at the church.



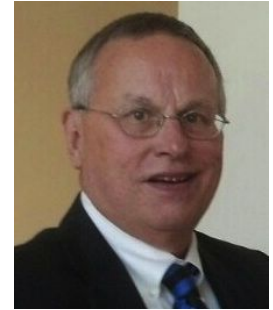
***Bishop-Elect
Peter Manto***

On Sunday, December 8, 2013, at 10:30 am, the Right Reverend Daniel R. Morse will ordain the Reverend Deacon David Truax and the Reverend Deacon Matthew Colvin to the order of Presbyter in the Reformed Episcopal Church. Reverend Truax is a founding member of the Trinity Parish and has served as deacon in the parish since 2008. Reverend Colvin is a member of the parish and is currently serving as a missionary in the Philippines along with his wife Sora, who serves as a missionary midwife.



***Deacon Matt Colvin
and Deacon David
Truax with Bishop
Morse at Deacon
Colvin's ordination
to the diaconate***

Also at the service on December 8, the ordination of William H. (Bill) Smith (*pictured at right*) will be regularized. He is transferring into the REC from Mississippi Valley Presbytery of the PCA.



Trinity recently completed Phase I of a project to remodel the chancel. A new area was created from space that had included storage rooms and an unused baptistry. The expanded and brightened area includes a stone chancel floor and is a daily reminder of the church's dedication to worship and the sacraments as the central focus of the congregation's ministry to the community.



Trinity Sanctuary Before Remodel



Trinity Sanctuary Remodel Phase 1

Visit the parish website at <http://trinityrec.org>

A Testimony of Healing

By Fr. Paul Edgerton, Church of the Redeemer, Wilson, NC

At our Diocesan Synod in October several of my colleagues asked about my health, remembering that at one point I was very, very ill and that treatment had been largely unsuccessful. While I was thankful for my brothers' concern for me, I realized that I had made a grave mistake. I had not been vocal enough within the diocese about an incredible testimony of God's love and care.

In 2009 I crashed. I had experienced troubling symptoms for some time before, but hit bottom soon after our son Isaac was born. First there was the fatigue – not tiredness but halting, debilitating fatigue – that stopped me in my tracks most days by early evening. There were the joint aches and lower back pain; often I walked the halls of the school at which I teach bent over because I could not straighten. Some days my left foot could not bear my weight. I was experiencing vertigo, lightheadedness, difficulty keeping balance. I suddenly lost a good bit of my hearing and experienced loud ringing in both ears. My immune system was terribly ineffective so that I was enduring nearly constant sinus infections. I caught every virus and cold in circulation. By late fall of 2009 I was experiencing, in addition to all of this, mental fog and confusion. I could not understand most of what I read. I could not write my papers for my degree program. I would try to drive places only to arrive other places and not remember how I got there. My strength was rapidly failing, and I was frightened.

My doctors ranged in their opinions. I was diagnosed with chronic Lyme disease. I was told chronic Lyme didn't exist. I was told I had an autoimmune syndrome. I was told I had an inflammatory disorder. I was sent from specialist to specialist to receive nothing but shrugged shoulders. I was told I needed a psychiatrist. Some treatments seemed to help some things, but I was a chronic wreck and was watching everything suffer from my marriage to my job to my church to my studies. Eventually I learned how to cope with a balance of supplements, regular naps, and a determination to push myself forward regardless of pain or weakness. My church continued to pray. And the intercessors told me, each one of them, that they felt strongly that the Lord would heal me. In one of our Sunday services I even handed the oil to the laity and asked them to pray earnestly with faith for my healing. These were intercessors who had stood with me



through my daughter's miraculous birth and sustenance. We all knew the healing power of God and believed in sustained intercession and faith. Months passed with no change.

Then in June of 2012, as I was in the shower one morning, I heard the Lord speak within my heart very clearly. "If you will do what I say, I will heal you." That was all. I felt nothing different, had not even really felt the presence of the Lord. Certainly no heavenly rays of light or angelic choruses. He simply told me that if I would do what He said, He would heal me. And I believed Him. But I kept it to myself.

Nothing I was led to do from that point seemed to have much to do with my physical ailments. A particular deep breathing exercise in the mornings. Commitment toward or away from certain ministry obligations. The cessation of most of my doctor-prescribed supplements. Leadings in how I was to pray for this or that. I simply noted these "nudgings" from the Lord and tried to be faithful.

A month later my friend Tyler, whom many of you have met at synods as he represents our parish, asked me what was happening to me. I asked what he meant. "You seem to have more energy lately, and you're not grouchy." He was right. I didn't need afternoon naps anymore. I had more energy, seldom felt fatigued. I seemed to be getting better. I told him what the Lord had promised me.

It was another month before I told my wife. She had noted that I sang and whistled around the house again like I used to before my health got so bad. I hadn't had a sinus or throat infection or cold or even been to a doctor in two months. I told her what the Lord had said and that I was getting well, bit by bit.

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Another month later I told the congregation what the Lord had promised and was doing. With the exception of my hearing loss and the ringing in my ears, every symptom had vanished. I felt better and had more energy than I had as a teenager. My illness, it seems, had been with me most of my life. I did not know until I was well what it even meant to feel well.

Now, writing this in the Fall of 2013 I can attest to the faithfulness of God to his promises. I have not had an infection or serious illness in well over a year. No back pain. No fatigue in months. No mental fog and confusion. I finished my doctoral studies on time. My family has a happy husband and father who doesn't need to spend his evenings on the couch comatose. My church now has a pastor who does

not limp into services and who laughs with them, even if it's past 5:30!

I do not have a very clear theology of healing or of prayer for healing. We all look forward to the resurrection of the dead by the power of the Spirit at the Last Day. Sometimes, though, a preemptive glimpse of resurrection comes to us. Just as we partake in the marriage supper each week as a foretaste of its ultimate fulfillment in heaven, so we receive with anointing and in the prayer of faith a foretaste of our rising from death. I can't seem to tease out a theology or practice that answers all of my lingering questions about healing beyond these basic assertions. What I do have developing in my heart and mind quite clearly, though, is a desire to hear the voice of the Lord and a will to obey Him.

News from Matt and Sora Colvin

By The Rev. Deacon Matt Colvin

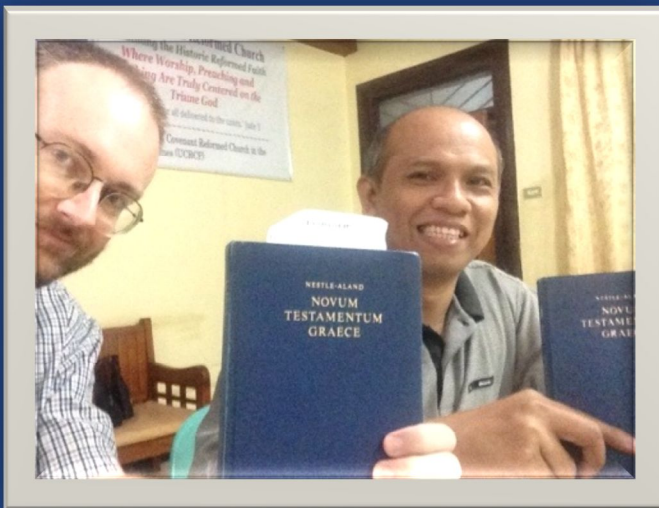
The Colvin family was untouched by Typhoon Haiyan, which missed southern Mindanao entirely, but caused terrible destruction in the central islands of the Philippines.

Matt will shortly begin teaching Greek to a class of 6 Filipino church leaders, along with his weekly 3-hour class on the Jewish background of the New Testament. He will return to Cincinnati for Fr. Peter

Manto's consecration on the 7th of December, where he hopes to see many of you!

Sora is busy supervising and training midwives at the birth center. She recently presented a health teaching for the patients at the clinic, speaking entirely in Cebuano! Thank you for allowing us to represent your parishes and the Diocese here in the Philippines.

Keep up with news from the Colvins at <http://receivewithmeekness.wordpress.com>



Pastor Vic and Matt with their Greek New Testaments



Praying with the patients at the pre-natal clinic

Ordination: Deacon Rob Sexton

By Fr. David Straw, Trinity Anglican, Evansville, IN; St. Nicholas Anglican, Owensboro, KY

Rob Sexton was ordained into the Sacred Order of Deacons on Sunday, November 10th by the Rt. Rev. Daniel Morse at St. Nicholas Anglican Church in Owensboro, KY. Rob is a graduate of the University of Virginia, the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the University Of Louisville School Of Law. He has a law office in Hawesville, Kentucky, and is also an occasional

part-time instructor at Brescia University School of Business. Rob has worshiped as an Anglican for many years and was confirmed in the Episcopal Church at age thirteen. Rob is married to Nancy Sexton, and they are the parents of Ben and Rena. They live in Owensboro. Deacon Rob has been primarily responsible for the organization of St. Nicholas Anglican Church in Owensboro, KY.



*Trinity Anglican Church
Congratulates
Rob Sexton
On His Ordination To
The Sacred Order Of Deacons*

