



# DIOCESAN DIGEST

## for Central Pennsylvania

April 11, 2011

### FROM THE DESK OF.....

#### BISHOP NATHAN BAXTER

Dear Sisters & Brothers;

During Lent I have been addressing some of your questions regarding baptism, full membership, confirmation and other matters of our common life. I will resume these commentaries in Eastertide, including some additional questions you feel would be helpful to have your bishop make note.

As we are approaching Holy Week I wish to encourage you to two areas of special focus:

1. Please keep your clergy in prayer as they gather for the annual renewal of ordination vows. Because our ordination is grounded in our baptismal vows, the presence of laity is greatly encouraged at this service. Many laity find renewal and also we clergy are strengthened as we participate with them in the liturgy. Bishop Jane Holmes Dixon, the second woman to be made a bishop in the Episcopal Church, and retired Bishop Suffragan of Washington, will be our Preacher. She and her husband Dixie are close friends of the Baxters and I know that all who hear her---clergy and lay---will be greatly renewed.
2. Also, please give special remembrance of the needs of the Province of Japan, especially the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Japan (Kita Kanto). Special offerings during Holy Week in each congregation will be sent to Episcopal Relief and Development from our diocese, earmarked for Kita Kanto.

Finally, I thank you for your on-going commitment to the rebuilding of Haiti, one of the oldest Dioceses in the Episcopal Church. The recent Diocesan Evensong at St. Andrew's Church, State College raised \$1,500. I had the privilege of speaking with Bishop Zache of Haiti at the recent House of Bishop's meeting. He was so encouraged by our efforts, as well as the united effort of The Episcopal Church, to rebuild the diocese's churches, schools and Cathedral. He asked that I express to you his deep gratitude. I hope to have him come to our diocese at some time in the future.

May God bless us all to walk with Our Lord Jesus in the week of his Passion. May we be blessed in each liturgy of these high holy days to remember his faithful suffering and his redemptive love for us and the world he calls us to serve in his name.

Peace & Grace,

+Nathan

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
PO Box 11937  
Harrisburg, PA 17108

**DIOCESAN CENTER**  
101 Pine Street  
Harrisburg, PA

**TELEPHONE**  
(717) 236-5959  
**FAX**  
(717) 236-6448

**TOLL FREE IN  
STATE OF PA**  
1-888-236-5959

**WEBSITE**  
[www.diocesecpa.org](http://www.diocesecpa.org)

**EMAIL**  
[officemailbox@diocesecpa.org](mailto:officemailbox@diocesecpa.org)

### UPCOMING EVENTS...April - June

- Apr 14** 9:30 am Commission on Ministry & Standing Committee meetings at St. Andrew's, Lewisburg  
**Apr 17** Palm Sunday - Bishop at Trinity Pro Cathedral, Wport  
**Apr 19** 10am Renewal of Ordination Vows & Clergy & Spouse Lunch, St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg  
**Apr 21—Apr 25** Diocesan Office closed for Easter Break  
**Apr 21** Maundy Thursday Bishop at Christ Church, Williamsport  
**Apr 23** Easter Vigil at St. Stephen's Cathedral. Bp. Baxter celebrating, Cn. Ted Babcock preaching  
**Apr 24** Easter Sunday - Bishop at St. Stephen's Cathedral  
**Apr 29-30** Bishop to Dioc. of W. NY for consecration of Rev. Dr. Bill Franklin as Bishop  
**May 1** Bishop visits St. John's, Carlisle  
**May 3** Lancaster & Southern Convocation 6pm dinner, 7pm meeting, St. John the Baptist, York  
**May 5** West Branch & N. Tier Convocation 6pm dinner, 7pm meeting, Trinity Pro Cathedral, Williamsport  
**May 8** Bishop visits St. Mary's, Waynesboro  
**May 10** Susquehanna & Altoona Convocation 6pm dinner, 7pm meeting, St. Mark's, Lewistown  
**May 12** 7pm Harrisburg Convocation mtg, St. John's, Carlisle  
**May 15** Bishop visits St. John's, Lancaster  
**May 18** 7pm Celebration of New Ministry & Installation of The Rev. Duncan Johnston, Mt. Calvary, Camp Hill  
**May 22** Bishop visits St. Luke's, Mechanicsburg  
**May 29** Bishop visits Trinity, Renovo  
**May 30** Diocesan Office closed for Memorial Day  
**Jun 5** Bishop visits St. Paul's, Columbia  
**Jun 10-11** Diocesan Convention, Bucknell University, Lewisburg  
**Jun 11** 9am-1pm Diocesan Children & Youth Day, Bucknell University, Lewisburg  
**Jun 13** Bishop's Open Golf Tournament, The Links at Gettysburg (see p. 2 for more details)  
**Jun 16** 10am Council of Trustees meeting  
**Jun 19** Bishop visits St. James, Lancaster  
**Jun 19-24** Summer Youth Conference, Camp Mt. Luther  
**Jun 26** Bishop visits All Saints, Selinsgrove  
**Jun 27-Jul 1** Bishop at UBE Annual Conference

*If you have an event of interest to the Diocese that you would like to have listed on the Diocesan website calendar, please contact the Diocese at [officemailbox@diocesecpa.org](mailto:officemailbox@diocesecpa.org) or 888-236-5959*

### SPRING CONVOCATION MEETINGS

- May 3 Lancaster & Southern**  
6pm dinner, 7pm meeting, St. John the Baptist, York  
**May 5 West Branch & N. Tier**  
6pm dinner, 7pm meeting, Trinity, Williamsport  
**May 10 Susquehanna & Altoona**  
6pm dinner, 7pm meeting, St. Mark's, Lewistown  
**May 12 Harrisburg,**  
7pm meeting (light refreshments to be served)  
St. John's, Carlisle

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

**The Rev. Lisa Schoonmaker**, is recovering at home following a recent heart attack.

**Thomas Kerr**, father of The Rev. Lauri Kerr, has recently been diagnosed with advanced lung cancer.

**The Rev. Jack Hoffer, Deacon**, is recovering well from a second knee replacement surgery.

**Sandi Imboden**, as she continues with cancer treatments.

**The Rev. Tom Gregg**, father of The Rev. Rowena Gibbons and a retired Episcopal priest, who has brain cancer.

**Maddie Letsche**, Acolyte at St. Luke's, Altoona, who continues treatment and physical therapy for Image Negative Transverse Myelitis.

**The Rev. Erica Wood**, Retired Rector of St. Luke's, Mt. Joy, as she continues cancer treatment.

**Bob Rose**, who continues his cancer battle.

## HOLY WEEK APPEAL FOR JAPAN

**Bishop Baxter has asked that all parishes consider an appeal during their Holy Week services to support the relief and recovery efforts in Japan.**

The offering collected at the Renewal of Ordination Vows service on Holy Tuesday in Harrisburg has been designated for Japan. Our diocese has had many years of close relationship with Japan, including a companion relationship with the Diocese of Kita Kanto.

Checks should be made out to *The Diocese of Central PA* with the notation "*ERD Japan Earthquake Response Fund*" in the memo line. You may either give your check to your parish, who will send it to the diocese, or you may mail it directly to PO Box 11937, Harrisburg, PA 17108. The diocesan office will forward all amounts received on to ERD.

## LANCASTER CONVOCATION YOUTH EVENTS

### **Maunder Thursday-Good Friday**

St. John's Episcopal Church Parish Hall  
321 West Chestnut Street, Lancaster

**April 21st**

### **Youth Convocation Lock-In**

7:30pm Maunder Thursday Service & Foot-washing

9:00pm Lock-In begins. Includes *agape* feast, a fun, church-style "Minute to Win-it" and a chance to explore your faith in a deeper way. Don't forget your sleeping bag, pillow, toothbrush, toothpaste. And *bring a friend!*

**April 22nd 7:00am**

### **Youth Good Friday Service**

This special service includes dramatic reading and miming to portray the passion narrative

RSVP to Mary Ellen Kilp at [mekilp@yahoo.com](mailto:mekilp@yahoo.com)

## CONVENTION REMINDER

ALL information needed for Convention is available on the diocesan website, [www.diocesecpa.org](http://www.diocesecpa.org) /Our Programs/Convention. All clergy & delegates are asked to review this information before the Spring Convocation meetings in May.

## CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Whether or not you will be attending Convention, please plan to come up to Bucknell University, Lewisburg on Saturday June 11th 8:45am-1:00pm for **Diocesan Children & Youth Day**.

There will be workshops offered for parents and those working with children & youth. The young people wrote the liturgy for the Eucharist service that morning in Rooke Chapel. We invite your teen choirs, children's choirs, praise bands and jazz bands to come and celebrate with us. We will finish the day with a picnic on the lawn outside.

More details will be coming soon, by way of a flyer and at [www.diocesecpa.org](http://www.diocesecpa.org).

If you have questions, contact Cn. Robyn Szoke at [rszoke@diocesecpa.org](mailto:rszoke@diocesecpa.org) or 888-236-5959.

## BISHOP'S OPEN

Mark your calendars for **Monday, June 13, 2011** to participate in the annual Bishop's Open! All golfers, regardless of ability, are encouraged to play. Registration fee is \$80. The tournament will be held at **The Links at Gettysburg** ([www.TheLinksatGettysburg.com](http://www.TheLinksatGettysburg.com)).

Attached with this Digest, and posted on our website, [www.diocesecpa.org](http://www.diocesecpa.org), are a registration sheet for golfers and a sponsor sheet for individuals or organizations who would like to sponsor a tee box sign. Completed forms and fees should be sent to John Stevenson c/o Prince of Peace Church P.O. Box 3005, Gettysburg, PA 17325. For more information, contact tournament Co-Chairs: John M. Stevenson [jmstevenson@pa.net](mailto:jmstevenson@pa.net) or Mark Wivell [mark.wivell@lmco.com](mailto:mark.wivell@lmco.com).



## ATTENTION CLERGY

### **41ST ANNUAL NNECA CONFERENCE**

**JUNE 20-22, 2011**

**Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel, St. Louis**

**\$100 NNECA Members**

**\$100 Spouse/Partner**

**\$280 Non-Members**

### **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**ONLINE AT [www.nneca.org](http://www.nneca.org)**

Make hotel reservations directly with the hotel by May 27th at: [www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/nationalnetworkofepiscopalclergy](http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/nationalnetworkofepiscopalclergy)