



DIOCESAN DIGEST

for Central Pennsylvania

July 18, 2011

FROM THE DESK OF.....

BISHOP NATHAN BAXTER

Dear Sisters & Brothers;

One of the books I am reading is entitled *The Spiritual Leader's Guide to Self-Care*. The title speaks to me even more than the content: "The Spiritual Leader's..." I think that often we (clergy and laity) sometimes forget that our clergy are foremost spiritual leaders. While there are prescribed tasks—administrative, strategic, and programmatic which obligate clergy, the most important work she or he must engage is "spiritual". Our pastoral work: our liturgical leadership, our preaching and teaching, our intercessions on behalf of the faithful and the world, is empty if there is not a depth of relationship with God, and sufficient physical/emotional health to be a real and evident "spiritual presence".

I am preparing for vacation beginning August 15th through Labor Day. One could say, I'm staggering to the finish line (smiles). Yet, I am aware that neither I nor our clergy can truly be spiritual leaders without being emotionally and spiritually healthy. This health allows us to serve and inspire the spiritual lives of others through our preaching, worship and pastoral duties, as well as in meetings and administrative duties. While all careers have the potential to be discerned as a "godly calling", spiritual leaders are among us in a unique way. Please help me to care for our spiritual leaders...make certain they are getting their DAY-OFF (day off is not a day to prepare sermons or catch up on administrative paperwork); and that they are taking PLANNED vacation time (which requires that vestry and other leaders carry on in their absences).

I hope that in one of the fall vestry meetings of your parish there will be some conversation with your clergy persons about self-care; including their Day-Off and 2011/12 vacation plans (continuing education and sabbaticals should also be discussed). And I hope that at fall clericus meetings, clergy will remind and support each other in their plans for self-care. Talking about and planning for such things will help all the Ministers of the Church - both lay and ordained - to be more supportive and faithful in the care of those who care for us---Our Spiritual Leaders.

Peace & Grace,

+Nathan

PENN STATE CAMPUS MINISTRY

Canon Daniel Selvage, Episcopal Chaplain at Penn State, would like to remind us that PSU does not provide campus ministry groups with the names of incoming or returning students. Accordingly, he is asking that you contact him with the name(s) of any students from your parish who will be attending the main campus of Penn State this fall. Any additional information about the student, including email address; phone number; home or campus address, would be greatly appreciated.

Cn. Selvage may be reached by email at dls87@psu.edu or by telephone at: (814) 867-3397.

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UPCOMING EVENTS...August-October

- Aug 7** Bishop visits Christ Church, Berwick
- Aug 14** Bishop visits St. Gabriel's, Coles Creek
- Aug 15-Sept 4** Bishop on vacation
- Sep 5** Diocesan Office closed for Labor Day
- Sep 10-11** Bishop visits Trinity Pro-Cathedral, Williamsport
- Sep 11** 2pm 9/11 10th Anniversary commemoration service, St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg
- Sep 14-22** Bishop at House of Bishops, Quito, Ecuador
- Sep 22** 10am-2pm Clergy Assoc. Fall Education Day, Trinity, Williamsport
- Sep 25** Bishop visits St. Andrew's, York
- Sep 27** Installation & Celebration of New Ministry of The Rev. Stephen Swift as Missioner at St. Benedict's, New Freedom
- Sep 28** Commission on Ministry and Standing Committee mtgs
- Sep 29** 10am-3pm Working with the Deacon in the Parish workshop, All Saints, Selinsgrove
- Sep 29** 10am Council of Trustees meeting
- Oct 2** Bishop visits St. Andrew's, State College
- Oct 2** Bishop visits of St. Francis, University Park
- Oct 13-14** BACOM
- Oct 16** Bishop visits St. Luke's, Altoona
- Oct 21-22** Clergy Spouses' Retreat at St. Cyril & Methodius, Danville
- Oct 23** Bishop visits St. Paul's, Lock Haven
- Oct 24** LARC Day of Dialogue
- Oct 25-26** Bishop at HOB Pastoral Development Committee meeting, Romulus, Michigan
- Oct 29** Deacons' Day
- Oct 30** Bishop visits St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg

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 or 888-236-5959

Working with the Deacon in the Parish: Opening up the Conversation

A workshop sponsored by The School of Christian Studies

Thursday September 29, 2011, 10am – 3pm

All Saints Church, 120 N. Market St., Selinsgrove

For parishes who would like to engage the ministry of a deacon or who currently have a deacon in their midst

Led by: The Ven. Molly Solbak,

The Rev. Cn. Stephen Casey, The Rev. Cn. Kate Harrigan

The cost for the workshop and lunch is \$10 for first person and \$5 for each additional person attending from a parish

See the flyer attached with this Digest for more information

NEW IRS MILEAGE RATES

The IRS has adjusted its mileage rates for travel expenses incurred after July 1, 2011

Business Travel: 55.5 cents per mile

Medical & Moving Travel: 23.5 cents per mile

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Rayelenn Casey, wife of Canon Stephen Casey, and COM member, was in a car accident and is in stable condition at Hershey Medical Center.

A memorial service for **Tim France**, the late son of Archdeacon Andy and Dottie France, will be held on Sunday, Sept. 4th at 1:00pm at Trinity, Williamsport.

Mrs. Elvira Byrd Pierce, age 97, Bishop Baxter's Aunt, recently broke her leg in a fall, and is undergoing surgery to repair it.

Alice Walker, wife of The Rev. Bill Walker, is recovering from gall bladder surgery

Jeremy Evans, cousin of The Rev. Kim Brooks, was killed in St. Louis, MO. Please remember Fr. Kim and his whole family at this difficult time.

The Rev. Deacon Barbara Hary, continues doctors' care for heart-related issues.

Thomas Kerr, father of The Rev. Lauri Kerr, continues in care for lung cancer.

The Rev. Tom Gregg, father of The Rev. Rowena Gibbons is in the late stages of brain cancer.

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

Bob Rose continues his cancer battle.

2012 CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS

It is time to begin the process leading toward application for 2012 Congregational Development Grants. These grants are for ministries and programs in your parish life that enable development of mission and ministry.

Please let Archdeacon Andy France's office know by September 1st if your congregation plans to submit an application for a grant. After that date he will be in touch with you with more details.

On **Saturday October 15, 10am-2 pm** The Congregational Development Task Group will meet at All Saints, Selingsgrove to distribute applications forms and guide you through the application procedure. **At least two lay representatives from each applying parish must attend the October 15 meeting.** Clergy are invited to attend but their attendance is not required.

Applications will be completed in your home parish and **must be submitted by December 1st.** A Task Group member will be available to meet with you if needed to complete the application.

If you plan to apply for a 2012 Congregational Grant, please email Sherri Hartshaw at trinitychurchpa@comcast.net or call 570-322-0126 by September 1. Please indicate who the contact person will be for your parish and an email address for future correspondence. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Archdeacon France by cell at 570-419-6635 or afrance@diocesecpa.org.



Cape May Retreat

"The Ministry of Presence"

Marquis de Lafayette Hotel
501 Beach Avenue, Cape May, NJ

September 16-18, 2011

Led by The Rev. Cn. Kate Harrigan. Program includes: group sessions, Eucharist on the beach, 8am Sunday service at The Church of the Advent.

Program cost \$20 ~ Registration Deadline August 31st.

To download a registration form, go to:
www.diocesecpa.org, click on "Our Programs" and "Episcopal Church Women"

Hotel reservations should be made directly with Marquis de Lafayette Hotel 1-800-257-0432, ext. 151, speak to Joan Haber and ask for the ECW group rate.

SAVE THE DATE

ATTENTION SPOUSES OF CLERGY

The annual Clergy Spouse Retreat will be held on October 21-22, 2011 at the Villa Sacred Heart in Danville, PA.

The guest speaker will be Professor Frank Stalfa, Professor of Pastoral Theology, Dean of Students, Lancaster Theological Seminary.

More information and registration details will be sent out soon. If you would like to receive this by email and don't think we have your email address yet, please send it to larguedas@diocesecpa.org.

How Can You Help a Wounded Warrior?

Jeannie Zeller, Sacred Stitches

Come to St. Mark's Church, 21 South Main Street, Lewistown from 10am until 2pm on Saturday, November 5th for the Fall meeting of Sacred Stitches!

We hope to collect as many Pocket Prayer Shawls (PPS) as possible for our wounded warriors, our Veterans, who pass through the doors of the Veteran's Hospital in Lebanon, PA. Bishop Baxter will bless our shawls before we send them off just in time for Veterans Day 2011.



This is personal for me as my Dad received loving care at the Veteran's Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, PA until his passing into the Heavenly Kingdom. I will be thinking of him as I knit those PPS. Maybe you have someone you will keep in mind as you knit or crochet your Pocket Prayer Shawls. Instructions for making the PPS can be found on our website, www.diocesecpa.org.

You are invited to join in fellowship with people from all over our diocese and share your own stitching ministries. Bring patterns to share, yarn to trade and come prepared to make some good friendships.

Please bring a bag lunch. Our hosts at St. Mark's will provide beverages and snacks. Questions? Contact Jeannie Zeller at jeanniez@comcast.net.

