



# DIOCESAN DIGEST

## for Central Pennsylvania

September 27, 2010

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

#### BISHOP NATHAN BAXTER

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ;

I am sad to say that, after 3 ½ years of wonderful ministry and partnership as my Chaplain, Deacon Patrick Strohl will be stepping down. The national travel needed for his growing accounting consulting work has significantly expanded. He will continue his various involvements in the diocese as his schedule allows. I give thanks for Pat's ministry and pray God's richest blessing on all his future endeavors.

I was pleased to welcome The Rev. Canon Ted Babcock, new Canon to the Ordinary, and the Rev. Canon Robyn Szoke, new Canon for Children and Youth Ministries, to the Diocesan Staff this month. They are both eager to get to know you and your congregations, so please do not hesitate to contact them if they can be of help to your parish. Canon Szoke is especially interested in getting to know about the ministries in your local congregation. She is working with members of the Youth Commission and Children's Ministry Commission to visit all our parishes over the next year or so.

We have a full and rich Fall season ahead, with the details of several upcoming events highlighted in this Digest. I look forward to the many opportunities we have to gather to learn, celebrate and fellowship together.

Peace and Grace,

+Nathan

### SAVE THE DATE for

#### HAPPENING # 4

NOVEMBER 12-14, 2010

Happening #4 is a wonderful opportunity for Senior High Youth. It is a renewal retreat weekend held at the Christian Retreat Center, November 12-14, sponsored by the Diocesan Youth Commission.

This event is a program designed by teens for teens and this year Janelle DelSignore is the Happening #4 "rector," who is presently calling together adult and teen staff to prepare for the event.

Questions? We are always delighted to respond, please contact Janelle at 814-574-9197 [jed13@scasd.org](mailto:jed13@scasd.org) or Robyn Szoke at 717-236-5959 or [rszoke@diocesecpa.org](mailto:rszoke@diocesecpa.org). Check out all the information, including registration forms on the children and youth page at [www.diocesecpa.org](http://www.diocesecpa.org).

### UPCOMING EVENTS...Sept-Dec

**Sept 28** Celebration of New Ministry and Installation of The Rev. Mary Kisner, Christ Church, Berwick

**Sept 29** 10am Executive Committee of Council of Trustees

**Sep 30** 10am COM + Standing Comm Ordinand interviews at St. John the Baptist, York

**Oct 3** morning ~ Bishop visits St. Andrew's, State College

**Oct 3** 4pm Episcopal Campus Ministry Advisory Brd mtg

**Oct 3** evening ~ Bishop visits St. Francis, University Park

**Oct 7** 10-1 SCS Board meeting at Diocese

**Oct 7** 2pm Finance Committee meeting at Diocese

**Oct 10** Bishop visits St. Matthew's, Sunbury

**Oct 13-14** BACOM, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville

**Oct 16** 9am-3pm Prayer & Healing Conference at St. Stephen's Cathedral (details p. 2)

**Oct 17** Bishop visits St. Luke's, Altoona

**Oct 23** Bishop to participate in Washington National Cathedral Prayer Center anniversary services

**Oct 24** Bishop visits Christ Memorial, Danville

**Oct 25** LARC Conference (details to follow)

**Oct 26** Celebration of New Ministry and Installation of The Rev. Janis Yskamp, All Saints, Brookland & Christ Church, Coudersport

**Oct 28** Council of Trustees meeting/retreat, Nativity, Newport

**Oct 29-30** Lay Employee Planning for Tomorrow Conference, Harrisburg Hilton

**Oct 31** Bishop visits St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg

**Oct 31** 4pm Ordination of Deacons, St. Stephen's Cathedral

**Nov 3** Southern Convocation Fall Meeting

**Nov 5-6** Bishop at Dioc. of NW PA Centennial

**Nov 7** Bishop visits St. John the Baptist, York

**Nov 7** 4pm Concert for Haiti, St. Stephen's Cathedral, Hbg.

**Nov 9** Lancaster Convocation Fall meeting

**Nov 10** Harrisburg Convocation Fall meeting

**Nov 11-14** Bishop preaching at Diocese of No. CA Centennial

**Nov 16** Altoona Convocation Fall meeting

**Nov 18** Susquehanna Convocation Fall meeting

**Nov 20** Bishop at Good Shepherd, Hawk Run Centennial

**Nov 21** Bishop visits Christ Church, Williamsport

**Nov 21** afternoon West Branch Convocation Fall meeting

**Nov 25-26** Diocesan Office closed for Thanksgiving

**Nov 28** Bishop visits St. Andrew's, York

**Nov 30** Northern Tier Convocation Fall meeting

**Dec 4** Concert #2 for Haiti, St. Andrew's, State College

**Dec 8** Celebration of New Ministry and Installation of The Rev. Paul Towers, St. Luke's, Altoona

**Dec 9** 10am Executive Comm. Of Council of Trustees

**Dec 5** Bishop visits Prince of Peace, Gettysburg

**Dec 12** Bishop visits Nativity, Newport

**Dec 19** Bishop visits St. Paul's, 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 Deacon Pat Strohl at [pstrohl@diocesecpa.org](mailto:pstrohl@diocesecpa.org) or 888-236-5959*

#### 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)

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

**The Rev. Tom Gregg**, father of The Rev. Rowena Gibbons and a retired Episcopal priest, was diagnosed with brain cancer last week.

**Maddie Letsche**, Acolyte at St. Luke's, Altoona, as she undergoes treatment for both thyroid cancer and Image Negative Transverse Myelitis.

**Deacon Kerry Walters**, who continues treatment for heart problems.

**The Rev. Erica Wood**, (Retired) Rector of St. Luke's, Mt. Joy, as she continues chemotherapy.

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

Parish Health Commission Presents

### Prayer and Healing Conference

With Special Speaker

**The Rev. Nigel Mumford**

Director of Christ the King Spiritual Life Center

**October 16, 2010 9:00am - 3:00pm**

St. Stephen's Cathedral, 221 N. Front St., Harrisburg

Workshops include:

Parish Health, Parish Nursing, Pastoral Caregiving, Lay Eucharistic Visitors and Healing, Developing Healing in the Congregation, Wellness

**Fee: \$20.00 per person (includes lunch)**

Send check payable to The Diocese of Central PA With "Prayer & Healing Conference" in memo line by October 4th to:

Diocese of Central PA, Attn: Linda Arguedas  
PO Box 11937, Harrisburg, PA 17108

Suggested reading to prepare for conference:

*The Forgotten Touch*

*Heartfelt Prayers for Healing 31 Day Devotional*

*The Practice of Soaking Prayer*

(all by Father Mumford)

If you have questions, please contact  
The Rev. Robyn Szoke at 717-243-4220

### FALL CONVOCATION MEETINGS

**SOUTHERN** Wed. Nov. 3 All Saints, Hanover

**LANCASTER** Tues. Nov. 9 St. Paul's, Manheim

**HARRISBURG** Wed. Nov. 10 Mt. Calvary, Camp Hill

**ALTOONA** Tues. Nov. 16 St. Luke's, Altoona

**SUSQUEHANNA** Wed. Nov. 17 Christ Church, Danville

**WEST BRANCH** Sun. Nov. 21 Trinity, Williamsport

**NORTHERN TIER** Tues. Nov. 30 St. Paul's, Wellsboro

If you have any questions, please contact Diocesan Events Coordinator Linda Arguedas at 888-236-5959 or [larguedas@diocesecpa.org](mailto:larguedas@diocesecpa.org)

### LAY EMPLOYEE PLANNING FOR TOMORROW CONFERENCE

Lay employees in parishes are strongly encouraged to attend the *Planning for Tomorrow Conference* by the Church Pension Group at the Harrisburg Hilton on **October 29-30** to learn about retirement and life planning and get help starting your own plan.

Information regarding the conference was sent to parish offices last week. Employees and spouse are welcome. At the conference you can **Meet** privately with senior members of the Church Pension Group and others experienced in financial and life planning. **Hear** presentations on pensions, Social Security, Medicare and personal financial concerns. **Consider** the challenges and opportunities of life planning and aging. **Explore** and discuss your specific financial and life situation. **Begin** the process—during the conference—of planning for a healthy and happy tomorrow.

The cost to attend is \$25 for those not staying overnight; \$50 for those staying overnight. Cost includes all food and hotel room.

**Please note, the cutoff date to reserve your room has been extended to October 4th!**

Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn more from the Church Pension Group about retirement opportunities, to start to plan for retirement, or to get advice about the plans you already have in place.

Go to [www.cpg.org](http://www.cpg.org) to register today!

### OPERATION UNDERSTANDING

The Operation Understanding Commission is now accepting applications for the November allocation of grants to parishes which support outreach ministries that feed, shelter, clothe, and provide energy assistance to the needy. Application forms, cover sheets, and guidelines are on the diocesan website.

Please send applications by e-mail *no later than October 31, 2010* to [nforgang@embarqmail.com](mailto:nforgang@embarqmail.com) If you do not have access to e-mail, please send your grant application to: Nancy Forgang; 119 Rhodes Avenue; Gettysburg, PA 17325. If you have questions regarding Operation Understanding grants, you may telephone 717-334-0510

### CLERGY SAVE THE DATE 2010 STATE PASTORS' CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 8-10

Holiday Inn, Harrisburg East  
4751 Lindle Road, Harrisburg

**"Gifts of Gospeling and Generosity"**

To register go to: [www.pachurches.org](http://www.pachurches.org)  
Register by September 30th and save \$25 per person