



# DIOCESAN DIGEST

## for Central Pennsylvania



December 20, 2010

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

#### BISHOP NATHAN BAXTER

Dear Sisters & Brothers;

Like our parish priests, I am currently working on my Christmas Eve sermon and, as with many of you, looking for inspiration. Here is a taste of where I think the Spirit is leading me:

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king  
 "Do you know what I know?  
 In your palace warm, mighty king  
 Do you know what I know?  
 A Child, a Child shivers in the cold  
 Let us bring him silver and gold  
 Let us bring him silver and gold."

Said the king to the people everywhere  
 "Listen to what I say  
 Pray for peace, people, everywhere  
 Listen to what I say  
 The Child, the Child sleeping in the night  
 He will bring us goodness and light  
 He will bring us goodness and light."

I will be sending out a copy of my sermon no later than Thursday of this week. I will be preaching at St. Stephen's Cathedral at their 11:00pm service. We will be recording parts of that service to post on the diocesan website for Christmas.

May God grant you every blessing as we joyously celebrate our Savior's birth...Merry Christmas!  
 +Nathan

From All Of us At The Diocesan Center  
 To our Diocesan Family & Friends

May you have a  
 Joyous and  
 Blessed Christmas



And a  
 Happy New  
 Year.

+Nathan, Ted+, Robyn+, MaryAnn, Carolyn,  
 Linda, Bill, Debbie, Pam, & Kate+,

### UPCOMING EVENTS...

#### December - March

- Dec 24** Diocesan office closed for Christmas
- Dec 31** Diocesan office closed for New Year's Day
- Jan 2** Bishop visits St. John, Marietta
- Jan 9** Bishop visits All Saints, Hershey
- Jan 10** 5:30pm HIV/AIDS Commission mtg., Nativity, Newport
- Jan 11-12** Bishop attends mtg of PA bishops at State College
- Jan 16** Bishop visits St. Mark's, Lewistown
- Jan 17** Diocesan Office closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan 22** Council of Trustees meeting (*budget presentations*), All Saints, Selinsgrove (snow date Jan 29th)
- Jan 23** Bishop visits St. Andrew's, Harrisburg
- Jan 26** 7pm Evensong to celebrate new Diocesan Staff Cansons at St. Stephen's Cathedral
- Jan 27** COM meeting - Postulancy interviews
- Jan 30** Bishop visits St. James, Muncy & St. James, Exchange
- Feb 4-5** Bishop to Florida to speak at Statewide Interfaith Symposium
- Feb 7-9** Winter Clergy Conference
- Feb 13** Bishop visits Mt. Calvary, Camp Hill
- Feb 20** Bishop visits St. John's, Bellefonte
- Feb 23** Bishop to preach at Lancaster Seminary Chapel
- Feb 25-27** Winter Conference X-Teen, Camp Mt. Luther
- Feb 27** Bishop visits Hope Church, Mt. Hope
- Mar 6** Bishop visits St. Mark's, Northumberland and Christ Church, Milton
- Mar 13** Bishop visits St. Andrew's, Shippensburg
- Mar 20** Bishop visits Good Shepherd, Hawk Run & St. Paul's, Hollidaysburg
- Mar 24-31** Bishop to attend House of Bishops

*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*

### CLERGY SAVE THE DATE FEB 7-9, 2011 WINTER CLERGY CONFERENCE

The Winter Clergy Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn East, Harrisburg again this year. Registration material will be sent to you over the next few days. Special guests at this year's conference are The Rt. Rev. Mark Lawrence, Diocese of S. Carolina (Monday evening session) and Dr. Richard Hughes of Messiah College (Tuesday sessions).

Please note that Special Events Coordinator Linda Arguedas has been working very hard negotiating with the hotel so that we will not be increasing your registration this year, despite increased costs.

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## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

**Mr. Peter Van Deusen**, brother of The Rev. Bob Van Deusen, passed away peacefully at home on December 9th. His funeral was held on December 16th in Florida.

**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, continues treatment for both thyroid cancer and 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.

## 2011 STANDARD MILEAGE RATES

- 51¢ per mile for business miles driven
- 19¢ per mile for medical or moving purposes
- 14¢ per mile in the service of charitable organizations

## CHRISTMAS GREETING FROM THE EPISCOPAL HOME

*Christmas is often the time of year we  
think of those who touch our lives  
throughout the year.*

*The residents and staff of  
The Episcopal Home  
would like to wish each of you  
a Happy Holiday Season,  
and thank you for your support  
through prayers and gifts.*

*We hope that you will be blessed  
with a safe and healthy New Year.*

## ST. STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL SEEKS CATHEDRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Attached with this Digest is a posting from St. Stephen's Cathedral for a Cathedral Office Administrator. This is a full time position (40 hours a week).

For more information, and to download an application, go to [www.ststep.org](http://www.ststep.org) and click on "Contact Us". Completed applications can be sent to St. Stephen's by email at [hrststephens@gmail.com](mailto:hrststephens@gmail.com) or by mail at 221 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101.

The deadline for applications is January 15, 2011. If you have any questions, please call the church office directly at 717-236-4059.

## DIOCESE GETS MENTION AT EPISCOPAL LIFE ONLINE

Go to [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org), or cut & paste [http://www.episcopalchurch.org/80263\\_126251\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/80263_126251_ENG_HTML.htm) to see the story about Bishop Baxter offering the invocation at the Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting Service earlier this month. It's always great when our diocese's good news can be shared with the wider church.

If you have a story that you think might be worth sharing, contact Linda Arguedas at 888-236-5959 or [larguedas@diocesecpa.org](mailto:larguedas@diocesecpa.org)

## YOUTH EVENT NOTICES

### *E.Y.E. Episcopal Youth Event*

### **Registration Dates: January 2 - 12, 2011**

EYE will take place June 22-26, 2011 at Bethel University in St. Paul, Minnesota, and will be followed by three days of mission. It is open to young people who have completed grades 9, 10, 11, or 12 by Spring 2011, but have not already attended college. The cost for EYE is \$275, plus travel costs and meals, and \$20 for the 3 Days of Mission. For more information and registration applications go to the website at [www.diocesecpa.org](http://www.diocesecpa.org), click on "our programs" and then "children & youth". A link to the EYE information is found there. If you have questions, contact Canon Robyn Szoke at 888-236-5959 or [rszoke@diocesecpa.org](mailto:rszoke@diocesecpa.org)

### **WINTER CONFERENCE X-TEEN**

**February 25-27, 2011**

### **Focus Theme: C.S. Lewis The Voyager**

This event for 9th - 12th Graders, will be held at Camp Mt. Luther. There will be an emphasis on spirituality and mission. Mission opportunities will be a part of this winter conference and will become an integral part of our ministry with teens.

More details will follow, but if you have any questions, please contact The Rev. Cn. Robyn Szoke at 888-236-5959 or [rszoke@diocesecpa.org](mailto:rszoke@diocesecpa.org).

## **Applications Available for Episcopal Church's Young Adults Service Corps**

Applications for one-year assignments throughout the Anglican Communion are being accepted from young adults aged 21-30, who are "looking for a challenging and transformational experience and to be part of what God is doing in the world."

Known internationally as "YASCers", the young adults provide service while learning about a new culture and work on vocation while providing spiritual commitment.

The application deadline is January 6, 2011. Applications are at [www.episcopalchurch.org/yasc](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/yasc). For more information contact Michelle Jobson at [mjobson@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:mjobson@episcopalchurch.org) or 212-716-6124.