

THE MAGDALENE



**From the Desk of
Fr. Neil...**

NEWS FROM THE SYNOD FOR THE DIOCESE OF THE HOLY TRINITY (DHT)

First, I am pleased to report that the DHT is healthy and happy. What a far cry this is from ten years ago when conservative traditional Anglicans struggled to help their Episcopalian brothers during their breakup. The Anglican Catholic Church (ACC) has never faced the pain involved in a Provincial leadership change. I am pleased to say that, most likely, we never will.

Since 2017 when the ACC, the Anglican Church in America (ACA), the Anglican Province in America (APA), and the Diocese of the Holy Cross (DHC) agreed to the establishment of full communion and pledged to “pursue full, institutional, and organic union with each other, our Diocesan Synods have become a Joint endeavor between the ACC and the ACA.

At our recent 2019 Joint Synod, all churches and missions were represented by both clergy and laity. Bishop Scarlett opened our great assembly with Morning Prayer. He was not alone. Bishop Williams from a sister communion, the Anglican Church in America (ACA) Diocese of the West (DOW) and all his church representatives joined with us in prayer. In fact, the DOW held their Synod at the same time the DHT did. We met separately but we came together for meals and fellowship. This is the 2nd Annual Joint Synod that we have had.

In terms of unification, the Bishops have pledged to work together as a living healthy expression our Anglican faith. Bishop Scarlett, DHT, ACC and Bishop Williams, DOW, ACA signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding and Joint Mission Agreement with the goal of unifying their organizations at some level. Both Bishops pledged to spend the next year assessing areas in common where they may benefit from unifying. A resultant fair and balanced Joint Mission Board was charged with effectively combining pertinent and selected operational areas by forming unified, active working Commissions and Committees.

Both Bishops agreed to a “Standard of Quality” to be met in order to achieve their goal successfully which included the creation of policies that are balanced ethically and legally to conform to the laws of our nation, its states, and the Joint Canons. Practices and procedures resulting from these policies will be stated such that they can be implementable for all churches within the two Dioceses, regardless of size and location, and allowing for flexibility to accommodate growth without degrading the “standard of quality” established by the set of policies enacted by vote or canon.



DIOCESAN OVERSEAS MISSION PROGRAM, "A GREAT SUCCESS"

The first full year of the Diocese of the Holy Trinity (DHT) Overseas Mission Program was a great success. Fr. Neil, chairman of the DHT Overseas Mission Program, gave a presentation concerning its first recipients, Fr. Alphonse Ndutiye, Bishop of Cameroon and Fr. Mushtaq Andrew, Bishop of Pakistan at the 2019 Joint Diocesan Synod. (see announcement on pg. 3) Both men received \$5,000 for the year to fund their long term goals with respect to evangelism and development of their local community. The committee is made up of representatives from all the churches. Performance goals were established by each Missionary and submitted to the committee for concurrence. At the end of the year are pleased to announce that both recipients achieved their goals. Please join Fr. Neil on July 28th to hear more.

Acquiring Truth

" What is meant by the statement in the Apostles' Creed that Christ 'descended into hell?'"

Historically there have been about three significant interpretations of this clause in the Apostles' Creed. Aquinas, for example, argues for a literal descent into hell or hades. He argues that Christ would "shoulder the full punishment of sin, expiate all of its guilt," and totally triumph over Satan.¹ He states, "Someone perfectly triumphs over another when they not only conquer them in the open field, but also snatch them from the heart of their own kingdom and home."²

¹ Thomas Aquinas, *The Sermon-Conferences of St. Thomas Aquinas on the Apostles' Creed*, trans. Nicholas Ayo (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1988), 79.

² Ibid., 81.

Others hold that the descent into hell refers to Jesus suffering the curse of God on the cross. Their arguments include Jesus' statements on the cross such as "It is finished," "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit," and telling the thief on the cross "today you will be with me in Paradise" (John 19, Luke 23). For Calvin, it was necessary that Christ's soul suffer punishment as well as his body. Calvin notes that the cry of Jesus "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" was "unquestionably drawn from him by intensity of sorrow. And certainly this was his chief conflict, and harder than all the other tortures."³

Finally, there is a view that the words "he descended into hell" simply mean the same thing as dead or buried. J.N.D. Kelly points out, "If it secured admittance first in a Syrian speaking locality, it was no doubt regarded initially as no more than a colorful equivalent of dead and buried."⁴ In some instances the Greek word *hades* can be interpreted as the grave. Rufinus, who compared the Old Roman Creed to the Aquileian Creed in 404, understood the clause to mean simply that Christ was buried.⁵

**St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church
205 So. Glassell Street
Old Town Orange, CA 92866
www.stmarymagdaleneacc.org
Rev. Fr. Neil Edlin, Rector**

**Sunday Services:
8am Mass
10am Choral Mass &
Children's Sunday School**

**Wednesday Service &
Anointing of the Sick: 9am**

³ Jean Calvin, *Commentary on the Harmony of the Gospels in Calvin's Commentaries* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 1999), 111.

⁴ J.N.D. Kelly, *Early Christian Creeds* (New York: D. McKay Co., 1972), 383.

⁵ Philip Schaff, *The Creeds of Christendom* (New York: Harper, 1977), 21.

CURRENT EVENTS

MICHAEL LEVAN ANNOUNCES CD RELEASE PARTY

In the back left corner of the church is St. Mary Magdalene's organist of more than 20 years, Michael LeVan. You see him every Sunday but do you really know him? He began his lifetime pursuit of music at nine years old. Classically trained, he studied with master teacher Earl Voorhies, himself a pupil of Alexander Siloti, one of Liszt's favorite students. As a jazz pianist, he studied with Buddy Motsinger, accompanist for Billie Holiday. His most notable influences include Bill Evans, Keith Jarrett, Sonny Clark, McCoy Tyner and Herbie Hancock. Michael has performed extensively in both classical and jazz venues but his real love is jazz. He has worked with artists such as Barbara Morrison, David Enos, John Ferraro, Putter Smith, Kevin Tullius, Ramon Banda, Tim Pleasant, Jeff Littleton, Peter Buck, Chuck Manning, Bruce Lett, Luther Hughes, Kendall Kaye, Dustin Haner, Jotty Johnson, and Isla Eckinjer. Michael has played in almost every jazz club in southern California. His Trio's latest album, "**A Different Shade of Blue**", has been applauded by music critics with original compositions played by KKJZ 88.1 Radio.

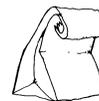
Some of us know of the long-time musical relationship Michael has had with Elena Gilliam, **Living Legend of Jazz** honoree. Elena Gilliam is an astonishing jazz vocalist with a rare depth of natural talent. Her performance is widely recognized alongside jazz greats such as Lena Horne, Ella Fitzgerald, Dinah Washington and the like. She has uniquely rich, eloquent tones and brilliant phrasing that charms you with her musical versatility.

It only makes sense that Elena Gilliam and the Michael LeVan Trio would record an album together. Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 30th from 5pm – 8pm at Campus JAX in

Newport Beach to hear this tremendous pairing of Jazz entertainers as they play songs from their new CD, "**Then Another Turns**".

FR. NEIL LECTURES AT THE JULY BROWN BAG LUNCHEON

[This is a schedule change from last month]



Fr. Neil will be providing us with an overhead presentation of the Diocesan Overseas Mission Program and its recipients on **July 28th at 11:30am** in the Parish Hall. Come hear about the great things we are doing in Cameroon and Pakistan. A brown bag lunch may be pre-ordered for only **\$5.00** which includes a sandwich, chips, cookies and fruit. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

CRAFT GUILD PROPOSES A PROVINCIAL PROJECT

The Craft Guild will be meeting to discuss the possibility of making a "Not your Grandmothers Cook Book" to sell at the Provincial Synod. If you are interested in hearing more or contributing a recipe to this project, please come to Craft Guild on **June 21st after mass**. The proceeds will go to our Missions program.

THE WOMEN'S TEA & LUNCHEON IS SOON!



The Women's Guild International Tea and Luncheon is **Saturday, August 10th from 11:30am-1:30pm**. **Anyone who is interested in hosting a tea table must sign up with Sharon after 10:00am Mass on Sunday June 30th**. The Tea hostess will be serving at her own tea table set especially for her six guests with a special table setting she has selected for this year's "International" theme and brought from home.

Due to the room and table space, no accommodations can be made for drop-ins. Tickets go on sale in July.

Special baskets for our opportunity drawing will include wonderful items for our ladies to have or give as a gift. All proceeds will go to our Outreach Program.

NEWS

CHILI COOK-OFF WINNERS!

14th Annual Men's Outdoor Chili Cook-Off Winners:

1st Prize - Patric's Epistle Packing Manna Chili by Cook Patric Taylor.

2nd Place – Hillbilly Chili by Cook Steve Priest.



ASCENSION DAY MASS AND DINNER CELEBRATION

Our special thanks to Niki Strate and all the women who contributed to our Ascension dinner. The decor and food were fabulous. It was a perfect way to conclude our mass celebration on the ascension of our Lord.

BIOLA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS VISIT FR. NEIL

On Sunday 10am mass, a group of students from the School of Theology at BIOLA University came to hear Fr. Neil preach and have mass with us. These students were from all over the country and represented many different denominations. It was great fellowship. All of us enjoyed their robust conversation and were grateful to have them. In fact, we will most likely see them again next year.

SAVE THE DATE

MEN & CIGARS A GREAT COMBINATION

Fr. Neil's casual Men's get-togethers on the 2nd Sunday of the month are a great way to meet your parish brothers. Join him after the 2nd service.

DR. DAVID FREEMAN SPEAKS ON CHURCHILL IN AUGUST

Dr. David Freeman from the International Churchill Society (ICS) will speak at our August Brown Bag lecture series. The ICS, founded in 1968 shortly after Churchill's death, is the world's preeminent member organization dedicated to preserving the historic legacy of Sir Winston Churchill. *[This is a schedule change from last month]*



Mark your calendar for **August 25th at 11:30am** in the Parish Hall. A Salad Lunch buffet will be served at **\$8.00 per person**.