

The Lion

July 2006 Vol. CXXXI, No. 7

*An Unofficial Newsletter for Members Only of
Saint Mark's Parish, Denver, Colorado*

Prayers for the First Day of the Week

FROM THE GREEK DEVOTIONS OF
BISHOP LANCELOT ANDREWES

Translated by John Henry Newman

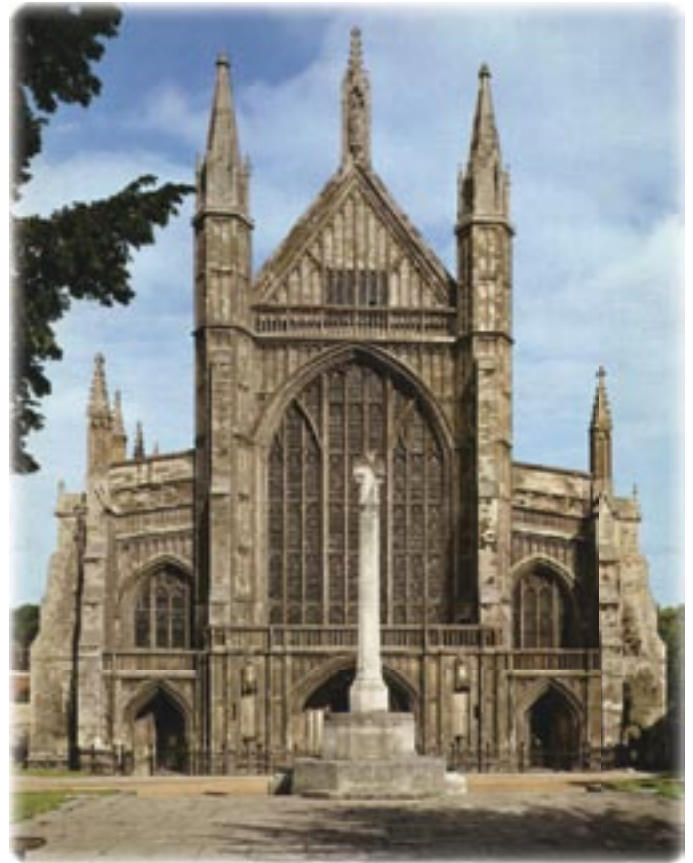


INTRODUCTION

THROUGH the tender mercies of our God, the day-spring from on high hath visited us. Glory be to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee. Creator of the light, and Enlightener of the world,—of the visible light, the Sun's ray, a flame of fire, day and night, evening and morning,—of the light invisible, the revelation of God, writings of the Law, oracles of Prophets, music of Psalms, instruction of Proverbs, experience of Histories,—light which never sets. God is the Lord who hath shewed us light; bind the sacrifice with cords, yea, even unto the horns of the altar.

O by Thy Resurrection raise us up into newness of life, supplying to us frames of repentance. The God of peace, who did bring again from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, our Lord Jesus Christ, perfect us in every good work, to do His will, working in us what is acceptable before Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever.

Thou who didst send down on Thy disciples on this day Thy Thrice-holy Spirit, withdraw not Thou the gift, O Lord, from us, but renew it in us, day by day, who ask Thee for it.



CONFESSION

MERCIFUL and pitiful Lord, long-suffering & full of pity, I have sinned, Lord, I have sinned against Thee; O me, wretched that I am, I have sinned, Lord, against Thee, much and grievously, in attending on vanities and lies. I conceal nothing: I make no excuses. I give Thee glory, O Lord, this day, I denounce against myself my sins; truly I have sinned before the Lord, and thus and thus have I done. I have sinned and perverted that which was right, and it profiteth me not.

And what shall I now say? or with what shall I open my mouth? What shall I answer, seeing I have done it? Without plea, without defence, self-condemned, am I. I have destroyed myself. Unto Thee, O Lord, belongeth righteousness, but unto me confusion of face, because Thou art just in all that has come upon me; for Thou hast done right, but I have done wickedly.

And now, Lord, what is my hope? Truly my hope is even in Thee, if hope of salvation remain to me, if Thy lovingkindness cover the multitude of my iniquities. O remember, what my substance is, the work of Thine hands, the likeness of Thy countenance, the cost of Thy blood, a name from Thy name, a sheep of Thy pasture, a son of



the covenant. Despise not Thou the work of Thine own hands. Hast Thou made for nought Thine own image and likeness? for nought, if Thou destroy it. And what profit is there in my blood? Thine enemies will rejoice; may they never rejoice, O Lord! Grant not to them my destruction.

Look upon the face of Thine Anointed, and in the Blood of Thy covenant, the propitiation for the sins of the whole world, Lord, be propitious unto me, a sinner; even unto me, O Lord, of sinners chief, chiefest and greatest. For Thy Name's sake be merciful unto my sin, for it is great: it exceeds. For Thy Name's sake, that Name, beside which, none other under heaven is given among men, whereby we must be saved, the Spirit Himself helping our infirmities, & making intercession for us, with plaints unutterable.

For the tender yearnings of the Father, the bloody wounds of the Son, the unutterable plaints of the Spirit, give ear, O Lord, have mercy, O Lord, O Lord, hearken & do; defer not, for Thine own sake, O my God. For me, I forget not my sins, they are ever before me; I remember them in the bitterness of my soul; I am anxious about them; I turn away and groan, I have indignation and revenge and wrath against myself. I despise and bruise my own self, that my penitence, Lord, O Lord, is not deeper, is not fuller; help Thou mine impenitence.

And more, and still more, pierce Thou, rend, crush my heart; and remit, forgive, pardon what things are grief to me, & offence of heart. Cleanse Thou me from secret faults, and keep Thy servant also from presumptuous sins. Magnify Thy mercies towards the wretched sinner; and in season, Lord, say to me, Be of good cheer; thy sins are forgiven thee; my grace is sufficient for thee. Say unto my soul, I am thy salvation. Why art thou so heavy, O my soul? and why are thou so disquieted within thee? Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord hath rewarded thee.

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine indignation, neither chasten me in Thy displeasure. I said, I will confess my sins unto the Lord, and so Thou forgavest the wickedness of my sin. Lord, Thou knowest all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. Have mercy upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness, according to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences.

Thou shalt arise, and have mercy on me, O Lord, for it is time that Thou have mercy upon me, yea, the time is come. If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? Enter not into judgment with Thy servant, O Lord, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.



PRAYER FOR GRACE

MY hands will I lift up unto Thy commandments which I have loved. Open Thou mine eyes that I may see, incline my heart that I may desire, order my steps that I may follow, the way of Thy commandments. O Lord God, be Thou to me a God, and beside Thee none else, none else, nought else with Thee. Vouchsafe to me, to worship Thee and serve Thee in truth of spirit, in reverence of body, in blessing of lips, in private and in public; to pay honour to them that have the rule over me, by obedience and submission; to shew affection to my own, by carefulness and providence; to overcome evil with good; to possess my vessel in sanctification and honour; to have my converse without covetousness, content with what I have; to speak the truth in love; to be desirous not to lust, not to lust passionately, not to go after lusts.



PROFESSION

BE BELIEVE, O Lord, in Thee, Father, Word, Spirit, One God; that by Thy fatherly love and power all things were created;—that by Thy good-


ness and love to man all things have begun anew in Thy Word,—who for us men and for our salvation was made flesh, was conceived & born, suffered and was crucified, died and was buried, descended and rose again, ascended and sat down, will return & will repay;—that by the shining-forth and working of Thy Holy Spirit, hath been called out of the whole world a peculiar people into a polity, in belief of the truth and sanctity of living:—that in it we are partakers of the communion of saints and forgiveness of sins in this world,—that in it we are waiting for resurrection of the flesh and life everlasting in the world to come.

This most holy faith which was once delivered to the saints I believe, O Lord; help Thou mine unbelief, and vouchsafe to me to love the Father for His fatherly love, to reverence the Almighty for His power, as a faithful Creator, to commit my soul to Him in well doing; vouchsafe to me to partake from Jesus of salvation, from Christ of anointing, from the Only-begotten of adoption; to worship the Lord for His conception in faith, for His birth in humility, for His sufferings in patience and hatred of sin; for His cross to crucify beginnings, for His death to mortify the flesh, for His burial to bury evil thoughts in good works, for His descent to meditate upon hell, for His resurrection upon newness of life, for His ascension, to mind things above, for His sitting on high, to mind the good things on His right, for His return, to fear His second appearance, for judgment, to judge myself ere I be judged.

From the Spirit vouchsafe to me the breath of salutary grace. In the Holy Catholic Church to have my own calling, and holiness, & portion, and a fellowship of her sacred rites, and prayers, fastings and groans, vigils, tears, and sufferings, for assurance of remission of sins, for hope of resurrection and translation to eternal life.



INTERCESSION

 HOPE of all the ends of the earth, and of them that remain in the broad sea; O Thou on whom our fathers hoped, and Thou didst deliver them; on whom they waited, and were not confounded; O my Hope from my youth, from my mother's breasts; on whom I have been cast from the womb, be Thou my hope now and evermore, and my portion in the land of the living: in Thy nature, in Thy Names, in Thy types, in word and in deed, my Hope, O let me not be disappointed of my hope. O the Hope of all the ends of the earth, remember Thy whole creation for good, visit the world in Thy compassion; O guardian of men, O loving Lord, remember all our race.

Thou who hast shut up all in unbelief, on all have pity, O Lord. O Thou who didst die and rise again, to be Lord both of the dead and living, live we or die we, Thou art our Lord; Lord, have pity on living and dead. O helper of the helpless, seasonable aid in affliction, remember all who are in necessity, & need Thy succour. O God of grace and truth, establish all who stand in truth and grace, restore all who are sick with heresies & sins. O wholesome defence of Thine anointed, remember Thy congregation which Thou hast purchased and redeemed of old.

O grant to all believers one heart & one soul. Thou that walkest amid the golden candlesticks, remove not our candlestick out of its place. Amend what are wanting, establish what remain, which Thou art ready to cast away, which are ready to die. O Lord of the harvest, send forth labourers, made sufficient by Thee, into Thy harvest. O portion of those who wait in Thy temple, grant to our clergy, rightly to divide the word of truth, rightly to walk in it; grant to Thy Christian people to obey and submit to them.

O King of nations, unto the ends of the earth; strengthen all the states of the inhabited world, as being Thy ordinance, though a creation of man. Scatter the nations that delight in war, make wars to cease in all the earth. O expectation of the isles and their hope, Lord, save this island, and all the country in which we sojourn, from all affliction, peril, and need.

Lord of lords, Ruler of rulers, remember all rulers to whom Thou hast given rule in the earth, and O remember especially our divinely-guarded king, & work with him more and more, and prosper his way in all things. Speak good things unto his heart, for Thy Church and all Thy people, grant to him profound and perpetual peace, that in his tranquillity we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

O Thou by whom are ordained the powers that be, grant to those who are chief in court, to be chief in virtue and Thy fear; grant to the Parliament Thy holy wisdom; to our great men, to do nothing against but for the truth; to the courts of law, Thy judgments, to judge in all things concerning all without preference, without partiality. O God of armies, give a prosperous course & strength to all the Christian army, against the enemies of our most holy faith. Grant to our population to be subject unto the higher powers, not only for wrath, but also for conscience' sake. Grant to farmers and graziers good seasons; to the fleet and fishers, fair weather; to tradesmen, not to overreach one another; to mechanics, to pursue their business lawfully, down to the meanest workmen, down to the poor.

O God, not of us only but of our seed, bless our children among us, to advance in wisdom as in stature, and in favour with Thee & with men. Thou who wouldst have us provide for our own, and hatest the unnatural, remember, Lord, my relations according to the flesh; grant me to speak peace concerning them and to seek their good. Thou who willest us to make return to our benefactors, remember, Lord, for good, all from whom I have received good; keep them alive that they may be blessed upon earth, & deliver them not into the will of their enemies.

Thou who hast noted the man who neglects his own, as worse than an infidel, remember in Thy good pleasure all those in my household. Peace be to my house, the Son of peace upon all in it. Thou who wouldst that our righteousness exceed the righteousness of sinners, grant me, Lord, to love those who love me, my own friend, and my father's friend, and my friend's children, never to forsake.

Thou who wouldst that we overcome evil with good, and pray for those who persecute us, have pity on mine enemies, Lord, as on myself; and lead them together with me to Thy heavenly kingdom. Thou who grantest the prayers of Thy servants for one another, remember, Lord, for good and pity all those who remember me in their prayers, or whom I have promised to remember in mine. Thou who acceptest diligence in every good work, remember, Lord, as if they prayed to Thee, those who for any good reason give not time to prayer.

Arise, and have mercy on those who are in the last necessity, for it is time that Thou hast mercy upon them, yea, the time is come. Have mercy on them, O Lord, as on me also, when in extremities. Remember, Lord, infants, children, the grown, the young, the middle aged, the old, hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, prisoners, foreigners, friendless, unburied, all in extreme age & weakness, possessed with devils, and tempted to suicide, troubled by unclean spirits; the hopeless, the sick in soul or body, the weak-hearted, all in prison and chains, all under sentence of death; orphans, widows, foreigners, travellers, voyagers, women with child, women who give suck, all in bitter servitude, or mines, or galleys, or in loneliness.

Thou, Lord, shalt save both man and beast, how excellent is Thy mercy, O God! And the children of men shall put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings. The Lord bless us, and keep us, and shew the light of His countenance upon us, and be merciful unto us, the Lord lift up His countenance upon us, and give us peace! I commend to Thee, O Lord, my soul, and my body, my mind, and my thoughts, my prayers, and my vows, my senses, and my limbs, my words, and my works, my life, and my death; my brothers, and my

sisters, and their children; my friends, my benefactors, my well-wishers, those who have a claim on me; my kindred, & my neighbours, my country, and all Christendom.

I commend to Thee, Lord, my impulses, and my startings, my intentions, and my attempts, my going out, and my coming in, my sitting down, and my rising up.



PRAISE

UP with our hearts; we lift them unto the Lord. O how very meet, and right, and fitting, and due, in all, & for all, at all times, places, manners, in every season, every spot, everywhere, always, altogether, to remember Thee, to worship Thee, to confess to Thee, to praise Thee, to bless Thee, to hymn Thee, to give thanks to Thee, maker, nourisher, guardian, governor, preserver, worker, perfecter of all, Lord and Father, King and God, fountain of life and immortality, treasure of everlasting goods. Whom the heavens hymn, & the heaven of heavens, the Angels and all the heavenly powers, one to another crying continually,—and we the while, weak and unworthy, under their feet,—Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord the God of Hosts; full is the whole heaven, & the whole earth, of the majesty of Thy glory. Blessed be the glory of the Lord out of His place, for His Godhead, His mysteriousness, His height, His sovereignty, His almightiness, His eternity, His providence. The Lord is my strength, my stony rock, and my defence, my deliverer, my succour, my buckler, the horn also of my salvation and my refuge. §



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“Of this Reverend Prelate, I may say, *vita ejus vita orationis*, his life was a life of prayer ... He spent all his time in prayer; and his prayer-book, when he was private was seldom seen out of his hands; and in the time of his fever and last sickness, besides the often prayers which were read to him, in which he repeated all the parts of the Confession and other petitions with an audible voice, as long as his strength endured, he did – as was well observed by certain tokens in him – continually pray to himself, though he seemed otherwise to rest or slumber; and when he could pray no longer *voce*, ‘with his voice,’ yet *oculis et manibus*, ‘by lifting up his eyes and hands’ he prayed still; and when *nec manus nec vox officium faciunt*, ‘both voice, and eyes, and hands failed in their office,’ then *corde*, ‘with his heart,’ he still prayed, until it pleased God to receive his blessed soul to Himself.” – FROM THE FUNERAL SERMON OF BISHOP BUCKERIDGE (1626)

“Had you seen the Original Manuscript, happy in the glorious deformity thereof, being slubbered [stained] with His Pious hands, and watered with His penitential tears, you would have been forced to confess That Book belonged to no other than pure and Primitive Devotion.” – RICHARD DRAKE, IN THE FIRST PRINTED EDITION (1684)



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The Joys of Oblation

Dom James Deschene, OSB

IT was a great joy for me, on my recent visit to Saint Mark's, to receive formally as oblate-novices three parishioners: Brother David, Brother Benedict, and Sister Sophia. These made their formal act of monastic oblation on the Vigil of the Ascension. Their written formulas of oblation were then placed on the altar and remained there during the Mass on the Ascension Day feast. These will then be placed permanently on the altar at Christminster Monastery in Rhode Island.

The symbolism of all this is very clear: the altar is where the perfect offering (in Latin, *oblatio*, whence "oblates") is made to God in the holy Sacrifice of the Mass. It is in union with this perfect offering that we make our poorer offerings of ourselves, our hearts and minds, to God, promising to serve him according to the holy Rule of Saint Benedict, the father of Western Orthodox monasticism.

In the Latin Vulgate, in Isaiah's prophetic foreshadowing of the Suffering Servant, we read the verse (translated quite differently in the King James version) "*He was offered because he himself willed it*" (Is. 53:7). Our Saviour freely, under no compulsion whatsoever, but moved by infinite love, offered himself for our salvation from sin and death. If we are to express any gratitude to him for this, it can only take the form of a similar oblation.

In any final assessment you and I have nothing we can give to God that does not already come from him and belong to him. The only thing we have that is ours to give freely to him is our will. It is the one thing he will not compel or wrest from us. It must be offered to him freely – offered because we ourselves will it. In the final reckoning

we either offer ourselves to God or we keep ourselves for ourselves.

On this hangs our eternal destiny – a destiny we work out moment by moment in the choices we make each day. Each of our actions, however small, involves either an offering and surrender to God or a decision for self. Every act, one way or the other, molds and confirms us either in oblation and obedience to God or in a commitment to self and self-will. At the end of our earthly pilgrimage, our character will have been formed and molded by such daily choices – for God or for self, for heaven or for hell.

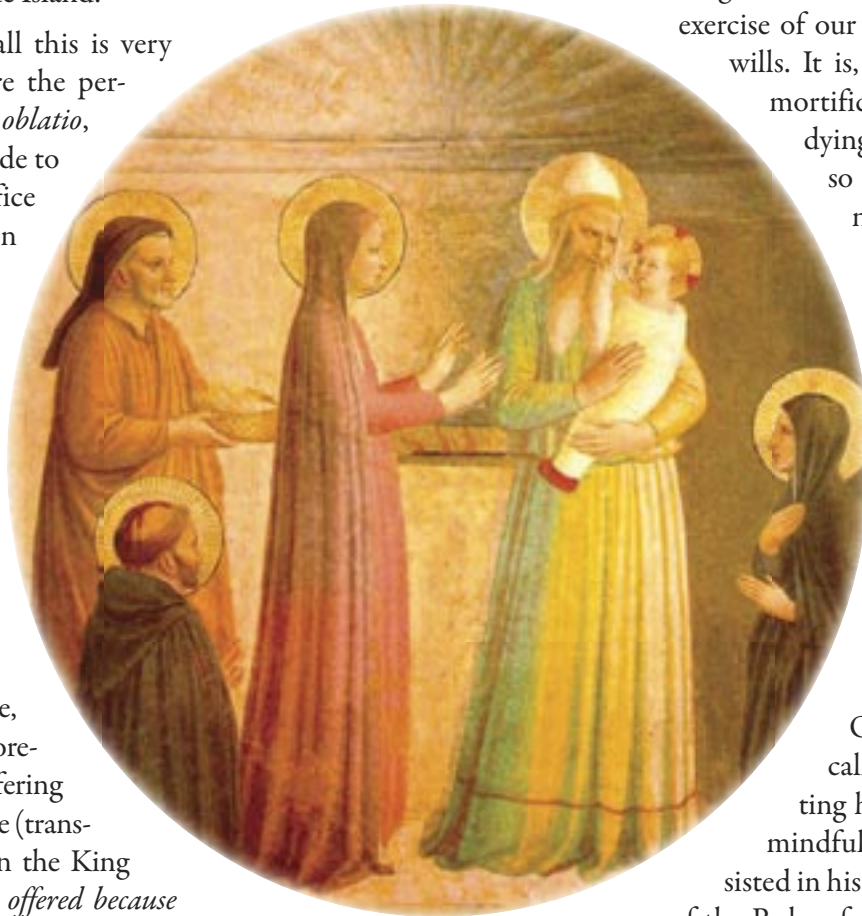
Thus the daily life of an oblate is a preparation for this final offering, by mindfully making each action of each day an offering in obedience, rather than a mere

exercise of our selfish and autonomous wills. It is, in the strictest sense, a mortification – an experience of dying – for the old sinful self so that the new man, the new self, can be born in the gratitude of a heart fully open to God's will. This daily dying, done in love, with a grateful heart, is a wholesome preparation for a holy death.

This is not a task laid only upon oblates – it is the task to which every observant Orthodox Christian is called. The oblate, committing himself to a greater daily mindfulness and discipline, is assisted in his task by the wise counsels of the Rule, of monastics and of his fellow oblates, and is supported by the daily cycle of the Church's prayer in which he joins according to his freely willed and chosen way of obedience.

As it was our Saviour's joy to offer and give himself utterly for us, so we find in our own offering to him the joy of self-giving and oblation. §

Dom James Deschene is the Abbot of Christ the Saviour (Christminster) Monastery, Rhode Island, a Western Rite, Benedictine community within the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia.



JULY MMVI

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		LOOKING AHEAD – The annual Saint Mark’s Parish Picnic will be on Sunday, August 20, up at the beautiful Mahan ranch in Bailey, Colorado, at 12:30. Family and friends are welcome!				1 THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD Matins – 8:30 AM Latin Mass – 9 AM Class – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM
2 VISITATION OF OUR LADY Matins – 7:30 AM Early Mass – 8 AM School – 9:10 AM High Mass – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM	3 Within Octave of Ss. Peter & Paul	4 Within Octave of Ss. Peter & Paul	5 Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Apostles to the Slavs Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	6 OCTAVE DAY OF SS. PETER & PAUL Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	7 <i>Feria</i> Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	8 <i>Feria (Saturday of Our Lady)</i> Matins – 8:30 AM Latin Mass – 9 AM Class – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM
9 TRINITY III Matins – 7:30 AM Early Mass – 8 AM School – 9:10 AM High Mass – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM	10 <i>Seven Holy Brothers; Ss. Rufina & Secunda</i>	11 SOLEMNITY OF SAINT BENEDICT Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM	12 <i>In the Octave of S. Benedict</i> Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	13 <i>In the Octave of S. Benedict</i> Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	14 <i>In the Octave of S. Benedict</i> Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	15 S. Vladimir of Kiev, K.C. Matins – 8:30 AM Latin Mass – 9 AM Class – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM
16 TRINITY IV Matins – 7:30 AM Early Mass – 8 AM School – 9:10 AM High Mass – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM	17 <i>In the Octave of S. Benedict</i>	18 OCTAVE DAY OF S. BENEDICT	19 <i>Feria</i> Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	20 S. Margaret of Antioch, V.M. Matins – 7 AM Evensong – 4 PM	21 S. Praxedes, V.M. Matins – 7 AM Evensong – 4 PM	22 S. Mary Magdalene, Penitent Matins – 9 AM Class – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM
23 TRINITY V Matins – 7:30 AM Early Mass – 8 AM School – 9:10 AM High Mass – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM	24 <i>Vigil of S. James</i>	25 S. JAMES THE GREATER, APOSTLE	26 S. ANNE, MOTHER OF OUR LADY Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	27 S. Pantaleon, M. Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	28 Ss. Nazarius, Celsus, Victor & Innocent Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	29 S. Martha, V. Matins – 8:30 AM Latin Mass – 9 AM Class – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM
30 TRINITY VI Matins – 7:30 AM Early Mass – 8 AM School – 9:10 AM High Mass – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM	31 <i>Feria</i>	1 SAINT PETER’S CHAINS	2 S. Stephen of Rome, B.M.	3 Invention of S. Stephen, Protomartyr	4 <i>Feria</i> Matins – 7 AM Mass – 7:30 AM Evensong – 4 PM	5 OUR LADY OF SNOWS Matins – 8:30 AM Latin Mass – 9 AM Class – 10 AM Evensong – 4 PM
		<i>Western Rite Conference, Fort Worth, Texas</i>				



The Very Reverend Father Donald David Lloyd, D.D. returned to Saint Mark's after nearly 15 years to serve the Liturgy and meet old friends and make new friends. He did very well with the Denver altitude and spent six days with us. Everyone hopes he will find a way to return soon and stay longer.

Our thanks to Dn Vladimir and Mat. Elizabeth for their faithful service. The McDonalds gifted both Saint Mark's and Saint George's Cathedral with relics of Saint Elizabeth the New Martyr. Also, Dn Vladimir has been appointed, along with four others deacons, to serve on the Council of Deacons for our Diocese.



BELOW – Some of our pious Delegates to the Parish Life Conference at El Paso, TX in June and our Bible Bowl Team which came in Fourth amongst all the competing parishes. Good work and a basis for a renewed effort next year at the PLC in Topeka, Kansas.



Thanks to Matushka Deborah and everyone for a wonderful reception for Fr Lloyd at the Church.



Manda Christine Baker has graduated from Metropolitan State College with a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. She often sings in the Saint Mark's Choir and come from a large family of devout parishioners. Her mother, Laurie Baker is treasurer of the Altar Guild.



Katie Huft graduated May 27th from Elizabeth High School in Elizabeth, Colorado. She was a member of the National Honor Society. Katie is currently attending Pike's Peak Community College in Colorado Springs to earn her Certified Nurse's Assistant Degree. She will attend Regis University here in Denver this fall as a nursing major. At Saint Mark's, she is involved in the SOYO Youth Group, is a member of the Altar Guild, and is a nursery attendant. Katie attended her fourth Parish Life Conference this June in El Paso. She loves to spend time with her family and friends, play the piano, and ride dirt bikes.



THE LION

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Address correction requested

The Very Rev'd John Charles Connely, *Editor*;
Matushka Deborah Connely, *staff photographer and bookstore manager*; Benjamin J. Andersen, *Design*