

# HE SERVANT



**# 189**

*Summer 2003*



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***The Servant***

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## ABOUT OUR VISITOR(S)

*Editor's note: the loss of two dear friends and supporters in the space of just over one month deserves the special attention devoted to them in this issue of The Servant. As a tribute to Bishops Dennis and Moore, we will reserve other community news until our fall/winter issue. Both of these giants in the church had that hard to quantify "ministry of presence"—and it is hard now to bear the reality of their absence. They shall not soon be forgotten. —TSH*



*Bishop Dennis in 1981, just two years after his consecration*

“Plus Walter” spent quality times with the community at convocations, giving us his wonderfully direct and informed opinions on the state of the church, his usually spot-on predictions of what would come at the next General Convention. (What will General Convention be without his pugnacious yet always gracious presence?) In his prognostications, he was almost always right on the mark. We often had wonderful “fireside conversations with Fa-

It is hard to say anything other than that they were giants in the church, visionaries and prophets who spoke up for all in all situations. Bishop Dennis was more than a visitor to the Brotherhood. He was a friend to me and a supporter in difficult times. The Canon on Religious Communities is in place in large part because Walter Dennis, when he heard it might not pass because of objections over the word *Order*, jumped into the fray, met with the chair of the legislative committee and helped move things forward from an impasse. His keen sense of canon law helped not only the Brotherhood but the House of Bishops and indeed, the whole Episcopal Church.



*James and Bishop Dennis in 1981*

ther”—and he was one of us, and one *with* us. Speaking personally, Walter was a “father” to me, and taught me the importance of directness, honesty, and full disclosure in times of difficulty and decision; he often knew what we needed before we did. He shared himself totally with us and was always there for the community.

His predecessor as visitor, Bishop Paul Moore jr, came to us in a very unusual way, in that we assumed he would simply succeed Bishop Donegan, who had been our first visitor, upon his taking up the reins of the Diocese of New York. So it was with great surprise that I learned that Bishop Moore knew nothing about it, and was not automatically ready to become our visitor!

That being said, my initial encounter with him in that capacity resulted in an almost seventeen-year stint with what he came to call (with humor and affection) “the Flexible Friars.” Although he was not able to be quite as generous with his time as Bishop Dennis, he was always there when we needed his help and advice.

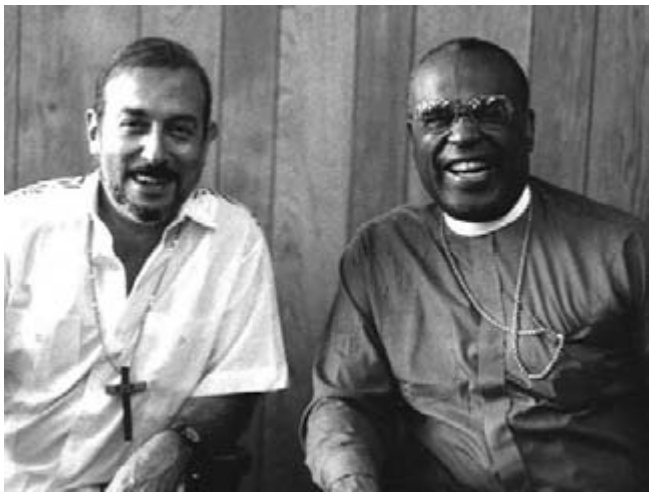
I think the most significant fact for both of these incredible servants of the Lord is this: when they entered your proximity, you were changed; you were moved and you knew they were there. I had the joy of serving as registrar at the ordination of the Bishop of the Virgin Islands not so long ago, and Bishop Dennis was the chief consecrator. To hear that unmistakable voice cry out: “Let the testimonials be read!”—that was powerful. I was with him last in January at the ordination of Gayle Harris as Bishop Suffragan of Massachusetts, and before that



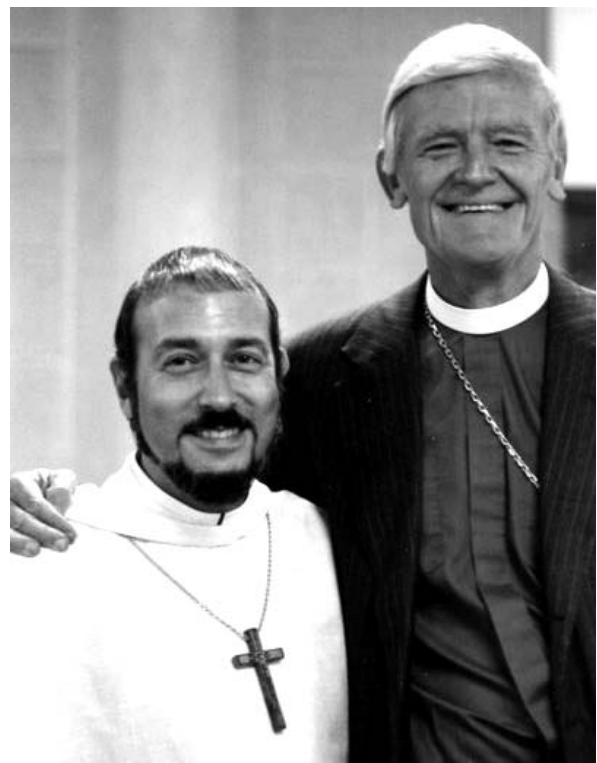
*Bishop Dennis was never shy of sharing his views on the state of the church.*



*Tobias Stanislas, John Peter, Richard Thomas, and Bishop Dennis, at a “fireside chat”*



*Richard Thomas and "Plus Walter" shared many good times with good humor.*



*"Tall Paul" with the founder of the "Flexible Friars"*

in West Virginia for the ordination of Carol Gallagher as Suffragan there. Both times his first question, as always, was "How are things with the Order!" I miss him, but I will always hear those words. And he can see that things are well with the Order!

Paul Moore was a giant in more than height! To see that tall figure come down the center aisle at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, with that wonderful Norman miter, was to know without mistake that this was the Bishop of New York. But in that role, as big and important and as busy as it was, he never forgot the little people. I sat



*Bishop Paul Moore jr*

in Saint James' Chapel for a bit before the Mass of the Resurrection with the Rev Rachelle Birnbaum. We both in the same sentence said, "We've lost a giant in the church and a very good friend." I was privileged to be at her ordination (with several of the brothers) to both diaconate and presbyterate. Paul presided, and it was powerful to be in his presence; you could feel the spiritual energy. Rachelle and I have so often recounted those times, and it was very fitting that we spend a few moments in that space before his casket; a last "Thank you, Paul," for all you were for us and so many others. I have a copy of Bishop Moore's book, *Take a Bishop Like Me*. In the cover he wrote, "Take a Brother like Richard." That says it all. He was great and powerful and always thinking of others.

May Paul and Walter rest in peace and rise in glory.

RTB





*Bishop Moore and James as MC on liturgical directions*



*Bishop Moore receives the vows of Phillip Francis Book, assisted by the Rev Susan Schaeffer and Tobias Stanislas*





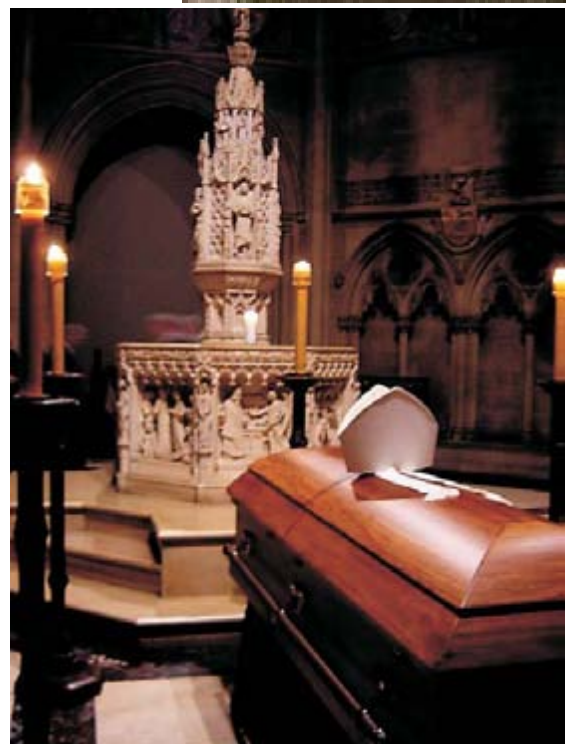
*Bishop Moore with Earl and Edward Ramón*



*Richard Thomas, Paul, and Edward*



*(left) Bishop Moore censing Phillip Francis Book on his profession of vows as a solitary pilgrim.*



*(right) Bishop Dennis' last station in the Cathedral Church he loved and served in for so long*

# INTERCESSIONS

<u>The Brotherhood</u>		Postulants	Ruth, Jay, Bobbie & Rick
Episcopal Visitor	Sun	William Benefield	Johanna DellaFera
Rodney R Michel		Deward Rahm	<b>Departed</b>
Episcopal Visitors Emeriti		Thomas M Greer	Charlotte B Morgan
<i>Horace WB Donegan d 11.11.91</i>		Postulants Prospective	Arsene and Louise Lemarier
<i>Paul Moore, jr d 5.1.03</i>		Kevin Harrop Valentine, Ron	J Norman Hall
<i>Walter D Dennis d 3.30.03</i>		Fender	George T Koerner
Life and Annual Professed		and the Associates and Friends of	Henry N Fukui
Richard Thomas Biernacki		the Brotherhood	J Steward Slocum
<i>John Nidecker d 6.20.88</i>		<b>Religious Communities</b>	James R Gundrum
James Teets		The Sisters of Saint Gregory	Paul Moore jr
<u>Luke Anthony Nowicki</u>		Sacramentine & Visitandine Nuns	Walter D Dennis
<i>John Peter Clark d 2.25.94</i>	Mon	Society of the Atonement	Alex Foo
William Francis Jones		Order of Agapé & Reconciliation	Kevin Pennyfold
Stephen Storen		Camaldolese Benedictines	William Albert Hogg
<i>Thomas Joseph Ross d 12.18.01</i>		Society of Saint John the	Elizabeth Onsted
Tobias Stanislas Haller		Evangelist	Barbara Ann Lacerre
<i>William Bunting d 10.12.88</i>		Community of the Paraclete	Maggie
<u>Edward Munro</u>		Congregation of the Anglican	Victims of the midwest tornadoes
Charles Kramer	Tue	Oblates of Saint Benedict	Connie Gorby
<i>Bernard Fessenden d 8.10.93</i>		Community of the	Robert Hall
Donovan Aidan Bowley		Transfiguration	Helen & Ralph
Michael David Elvestrøm		The Order of Julian of Norwich	John Downes
Edward Ramón Riley		<b>For healing</b>	Jane King
Christopher Stephen Jenks		Luke Anthony, Charles,	Anthony Saville
<u>Ciarán Anthony DellaFera</u>		Damian-Curtis, William	<b>Intentions</b>
William Edward Orce	Wed	Edward, Edward Ramón, Patrick	Joseph Richey House
Damian-Curtis Kellum		Ignatius, Gabriel Liam, James	Fessenden Recovery Ministries
Richard John Lorino		Dunstan	Dove House
Ronald Augustine Fox		For all who live with HIV/AIDS	Baltimore International
Maurice John Grove		Ian Frazier	Seafarers' Center
<u>Charles Edward LeClerc</u>		Jane Bowley	Saint James' Fordham; Trinity,
Andrew Fortuna	Thu	Mary Haller	Stoughton MA; Saint Paul's, San
Gordon John Stanley		David G Henritzy, OSL	Antonio; Saint John's, Brooklyn;
Karekin Madteos Yarian		Kay Benefield	Saint Peter's, Chicago
Alban Patrick Thompson		Thomas Gumprecht, SA	Karekin Madteos, Gabriel Liam,
Gabriel Liam Everett		Joseph DiMauro, SA, a/BSG	Thomas, Bill Benefield, Tobias
Thomas Bushnell		Robert G Tharp	Stanislas
Thomas Mark Liotta		Randy	Our Lady of the Rosary, Yonkers;
<u>James Dunstan Mahoney</u>		Lillian-Marie DiMicco, SSG	Aldersgate UMC Dobbs Ferry
Patrick Ignatius Dickson	Fri	Rodney R Michel	Charles, Anne
Robert James McLaughlin		Patricia Mordecai	Joe, Kara, Glanville, Fereti & Joni
Peter Budde		Teresa, Dorothy and Cheryl	Moses, Aida & Ruth
John Henry Ernestine		Tim, Manny, Luis, Jesse, Ali,	Castro Health Center
Francis Sebastian Medina		Sam, Frank, Harry, Tyrone,	Anthony & Alan, Christina
<u>Aelred Bernard Dean</u>		Michael	Eva, Colton & Travis
Novices	Sat	Gloria Holt	Fred & Julie
Joseph Basil Gauss		Dean Rice	Margaret, Regina
Mark Andrew Jones		Jimmy, Richard, Tony	Gayla & Andrew
Emmanuel Williamson		Dora Greer	Tony, Bill, Karen & Terry
Richard Matthias		John Klenert	<b>Thanksgiving</b>
		Stephen	Ordination of Barbara Marie
		Joe, Jerry, Mark, Aaron	Stewart to the priesthood
		Muriel Lof	