

SEWANEE AND VANDERBILT IN JOINT DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM

On March 1, 1974, the School of Theology, the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, and the Divinity School, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, formed the Sewanee - Vanderbilt Theological Coalition. The late Urban T. Holmes III, Dean of the School of Theology, was deeply committed to theological education in an ecumenical context. The Joint Doctor of Ministry Program has been the major endeavor of the Coalition.

This Program is one of the few in the United States which operates solely during the summer months. This means that clergy can participate without a major interruption in their parochial responsibilities. It also affords an opportunity for study in an Episcopal seminary as well as in a non-denominational seminary in an urban setting.

The purpose of the Program is to enable participants to attain excellence in the practice of ministry by improving their skills in pastoral functions, by reflecting with other clergy on their ministries, by studying the current religious context in which they minister, and by deepening their knowledge of the Christian tradition. The courses of study are designed to provide persons actively engaged in some form of professional ministry the opportunity to develop further the attitudes, skills and knowledge which are essential to their ministries. The Program stresses the relationship between the practice of ministry and biblical, historical and theological knowledge.

The Joint D. Min. Program consists of 30 semester hours, the majority of which must be taken at Vanderbilt and the University of the South. The major required course is the Ministry Seminar which focuses on the integration of academic and professional concerns, the development of an understanding of the profession and one's place in it, reflection on the various styles of ministry and congregational life, evaluation of one's own professional competencies, the encouragement of independence in and responsibility for one's continuing education future, and the enhancement of a sense of collegiality among the students themselves, which could carry over into one's professional practice as a model for education and evaluation. Also required of each participant is a project which is a study of some dimension of one's ministry or the ministry of the church. To date several projects have been published. The Program usually takes about three or four summers to complete.

The courses offered at the School of Theology and the Vanderbilt Divinity School are planned and designed carefully by the joint Doctor of Ministry Committee. The courses at Vanderbilt run for two or three weeks and those at Sewanee for five weeks. A note about the courses offered for the summer of 1982 will show the nature of D. Min. study.

Vanderbilt:

Ministry Seminar (described above).

Twelve Psalm Meditations, taught by Walter Harrelson, Distinguished Professor of Old Testament, focusing on the value of the Psalms for preaching and the spiritual life.

Death and Grief in Christian Perspective, taught by Liston Mills, concentrating on ministry to the dying patient and the family as well as the ethical issues involved in the care of the dying. School of Theology: (four courses each summer)

The Church in the United States Since 1960, taught by Donald S. Armentrout, with focus on the major theological and religious movements on the current American scene, in order to understand the present context of ministry.

Christian Initiation and the Development of the Church Year, taught by Marion J. Hatchett, with stress on the development of the rites of Christian Initiation and the recent revisions of various denominations.

Readings in Spiritual Theology, taught by Robert D. Hughes, who will focus on the exploration of the writings of Christian spiritual teachers and the relationship of spiritual theology to parish ministry.

New Testament and Contemporary Christology, taught by Reginald H. Fuller, focusing on this central Christian issue.

Inquiries about the joint Doctor of Ministry Program may be addressed to:

The Associate Dean
The Divinity School
Vanderbilt University
Nashville TN 37240

The Director's Office
Joint D. Min. Program
School of Theology
Sewanee TN 37375

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WHAT IS LEFT AFTER EASTER?

The first new possession we ought to have from Easter morning is new assurance of life everlasting. From the beginning of the Hebrew faith belief in life after death was present. "He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob" is a frequent expression in the Old Testament. This reference means that these individuals were thought of as still being alive.

Following the Resurrection, the early Christians had a new and glorious conviction that they were living in communion and communication with the risen Christ Jesus lived in their own experience to their tremendous surprise. This was the most precious possession the first Christians had.

After Easter, the Church should possess a sense of fullness through the living presence of Christ in it. After Easter, every follower of Christ should have this conviction and inspiration in personal life: that Christ is present always to lead and redeem.

After Easter, the Church and its people should come to fruition in witness for Christ. This began to happen to the disciples when they were visited by Jesus on the evening of the day of the Resurrection. They were then huddled together in fear because of what the world might do to them because they were followers of Jesus. Coming to awareness that Christ was with them, they began to move in confidence and bravery and witness to Christ.

The Church of today huddles too often and too long in fear of what the world will think and do if the Church completely follows Christ. After Easter, we should be vigorously engaged in seeking to bring to be on earth those things which God in Christ wills for earth. -- Richard Thomas, BSG Superior

From a homily on the Gospel for Easter Day (John chap. 20) by St. Gregory the Great

The Evangelist saith that Mary Magdalene came to the sepulchre early, when it was still dark. By these words, according to the historical interpretation, is known the time of her visit. But according to a mystical interpretation, there is also set forth the state of mind of her who thus came, and sought the sepulchre, namely in these words: "it was yet dark." For Mary was seeking after the very Author of life; but she was seeking him as though he were lifeless, even as she had seen him in bodily fashion. And as Mary could not on this wise find him, she thought that his body had been stolen. Therefore, truly she was as yet in darkness.

Mary Magdalene, through love of the truth, washed away by her tears the befoulment of her sin; and thereby the word of truth was fulfilled which he spake: her sins, which are many, are forgiven: for she loved much. She that remained cold while she sinned, became burning when she loved. And so after that she had been to the sepulchre and had not found there the body of the Lord, she went out and told his disciples; and they came and saw, and thought it was even as she had said. So it was written: then the disciples went away again unto their own home. But of her it is said: Mary stood without, at the sepulchre, weeping. AMEN.

(This timely and appropriate selection from the writings of Holy Father Gregory was submitted by Br. Kevin James, BSG, who is Novice Master of the Order, and serves at St. Mark's Church in Portland, Oregon.)

COMMUNITY NOTES

Rockville MD : Br. John continues his work with the Campus Ministry at Montgomery College, and his missionary voyages to parishes far and wide, where he preaches and assists at the Eucharist.

New York NY : Brs. Anthony Francis and Stephen are continuing their studies at the Institute of Theology. . . . Br. Tobias Stanislas sang with the choirs of the Church of Saint Luke-in-the-Fields at a benefit concert for the church's rebuilding fund, at Grace Church, Manhattan.

Tuckahoe NY : Br. Anthony Francis is conducting a course in pastoral counseling at Saint John's Church.

Cincinnati OH : Br. Thomas Joseph was elected as delegate to Convention from his parish, and is on the organizing team for Cursillo #11.

Boston MA : Br. Roy is continuing his new work at St. Stephen's Parish, acting as Parish Council Clerk, teaching in the Sunday School, and serving on the Worship Committee.

North Easton MA ; Br. Luke Anthony conducted a quiet day for his Episcopal Young Church People group, and coordinated a series of retreat weekends for the Province I Brothers.



Companions' Corner

Since our last update on the Companions of the Brotherhood, we have admitted several new members to this branch of the Order's outreach. These new Companions come from all over the country, and one is a resident of Colombia, South America. They are: Joseph Cammorato, Victor Manuel Cruz-Blanco, Donald Ray Drummonds, James Hamilton, Charles F. Kramer III and Ronald Yeater. We ask your prayers for these and our other Companions as they bear witness to the Christian life as embodied in the Rule which they follow.

Here are a few excerpts from a letter that one of our new Companions wrote after taking part in the Advent Quiet Day directed by the Rev' d Frank L. Knight, Provincial Chaplain of Province II, at the Church of the Mediator, Bronx, New York:

"The Quiet Day was indeed a most beautiful experience. After a welcome cup of hot coffee or tea after that cold subway ride and the even colder walk to the church and a short period of fellowship, the formal program began. Praying the Daily Office is not new to me, but praying it in choir is. Fr. Knight's meditations were well throughout and well presented; they provided plenty of food for prayer and thought. . . . Father was available to hear the confessions of those who felt so inclined; the Blessed Sacrament was reserved in a small chapel; and the church has an attractive Way of the Cross, which I find a most helpful and excellent devotion at any time, not only in Lent.

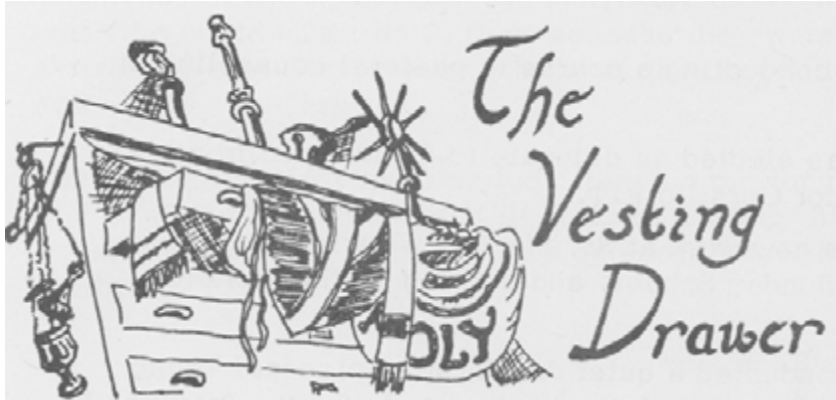
"The Silence which we observed had spiritual benefits. By it we Could shut out for a time the cares and the bustle of the frenzied world outside and open ourselves to the voice of the Holy Spirit, whose presence I felt.

". . . , a splendid, beautiful, and most edifying day. . . . "

Yours in Christ, Charles F. Kramer III

Anyone desiring information on the Companions should write to Br. Anthony Francis, BSG, Director of Companions, 122 Windsor Terrace, Yonkers NY 10701.

Correction; In the December 1981 issue of The Servant the Rev'd Lee Taster's name was misspelled. Our sincere apologies.



The Vestment Exchange has been so busy sending out vestments that the cupboard is approaching bareness for the first time in some years. We appeal to you for any old or unneeded vestments or furnishings capable of repair, for distribution to parishes and missions in need. Please help us by sending any unneeded vestments to:

The Brotherhood Vestment Exchange,
25 Allen Street,
Manchester NH 03102.

We gratefully acknowledge receipt of contributions from the Diocesan Altar Guilds of Maine and Connecticut.

INTERCESSIONS

For the ill:

Nellie Pennifold Judy Hicks Sylvia Etkin Helen Hanzlick

For the departed:

Thelma Paul George Harrison

For the Clergy, especially:

The Most Rev'd Robert A. K. Runcie

The Rt. Rev'd Horace W. B. Donegan Visitor
Emeritus

The Rt. Rev'd John M. Allin

The Rt. Rev'd Paul Moore, Jr. Visitor and
Protector

and for the Clergy of Provinces III, IV, V and VIII, and our Brothers serving there:

The Rt. Rev'd Matthew P. Bigliardi

The Rt. Rev'd Dean T. Stevenson

The Rt. Rev'd William G. Black

The Rt. Rev'd John T. Walker

The Rt. Rev'd James Daniel Warner

The Rev'd Henry N. Fukui, Provincial Chaplain

The Rev'd Thomas F. Ryan, Jr.

The Rev'd Elwyn D. Brown

The Rev'd Robert J. Vanderau, Jr.

The Rev'd Stuart K. Frane

The Rev'd William H. Wagner, Jr.

The Rev'd Wayland E. Melton

The Rev'd Frank S. Walinski

Brothers John, Kevin James, Nicholas, Thomas Joseph, Thaddeus David and Augustine James.

For the Religious Orders, especially:

The Sacramentine Nuns

The Sisters of Our Lady of Charity

The Community of the Way of the Cross

The Visitation Nuns

The Ecumenical Oblates

The Community of the Resurrection (Mirfield)

Special intentions for:

The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Norfolk, England

The Companions and Friends of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory

The people of El Salvador

Linda and Thyron

Ed Munro

Terry Wasmer

Goduwa Abdullah

Jerry Moize

Br. Martin, SCK

Thanksgivings for:

The anniversary of the Profession of Br. Matthew Joseph

The birthdays of Brs. Thaddeus David and Augustine James

The Life Profession of Br. James Robert Hagler, OHC

The ordination of Br. Brian James Hastings, OSB, to the Sacred Priesthood

The recovery of Br. Gordon Peter, SSF