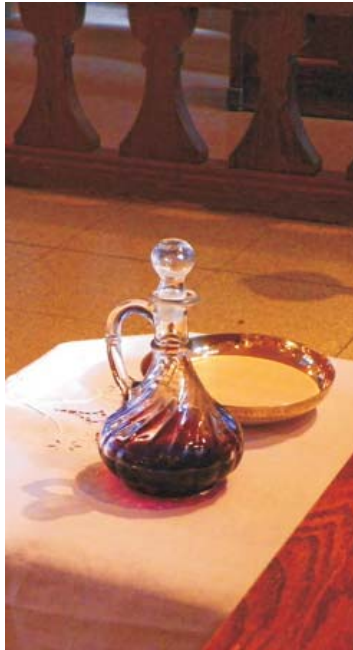


# HE SERVANT



**#227**  
*Eastertide 2013*

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## *Publications from the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory*

Publication	Description	Cost	Qty	Total
<i>Music of BSG</i>	Simplified Anglican Chants; full setting for Noonday including Psalmody with Gregorian tones for every day of the week; Compline, settings of <i>Phos</i> , <i>Magnificat</i> , and <i>Nunc</i> ; and music for Communion. 36 page booklet.	\$ 3.00		\$
<i>In Love and Service Bound</i>	<i>The First Forty Years of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory</i> . 182 pp illustrated history of the founding and development of the Brotherhood. By Karekin Madteos Yarian BSG	\$15.00		
<i>The State of the Religious Life</i>	... in the Episcopal Church and elsewhere, including history, possibilities for renewal, and challenges. 64 page booklet. <b>Now available on-line for free download!</b>			
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<i>The Servant</i>	This newsletter, published four times a year. <b>Available on-line in a full archive!</b>	\$ 8.00 per year		\$
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## *The Servant*

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## **EASTER'S CENTRALITY**

Christmas and Easter are the two big events in the church's calendar. One centers around what everyone feels he or she knows about it—a little baby—a reality with which many have first-hand experience. The second centers around what everyone feels uncertain about and inexperienced about—an empty tomb. Many homes have babies, but an empty tomb is outside not only the experience but the imagination of many.

Most people would put Christmas first and Easter second in the sequence of events to be remembered. Yet, in fact, it is only because there was a resurrection, only because we celebrate at Easter, that we know there was a Christmas. The church was born around the conviction of the disciples that Jesus Christ rose from the dead and that he lived and lives. So first the resurrection, and then the birth.

It is well and good to have vaguely "religious" thoughts about Christmas, but the beginning of our journey of faith must in fact be Easter morning. That faith begins with belief about our Lord's resurrection. The real issue on Easter Day is not our immortality but the victory of Christ. Without Easter, Good Friday would have been unendurable. What could we say of God if ultimately the world's best man met only the world's worst fate?

Easter has meaning only against the background of Good Friday. Only against such death and darkness does the resurrection shine forth as a real Gospel, Good News, of salvation and hope. God in Christ has identified himself with sinful humanity that we may share with him the ultimate victory.

The mystery of Easter remains a mystery. It is better to be concerned with the inner meaning of the resurrection than to be curious about the manner of its happening. But the victory is a fact. If he lives in us, we do not have to be afraid. The experience of the church through the centuries is that all the darkness of Good Friday, all the failures of history and human despair cannot put out the great light. "The Lord is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*RTB*

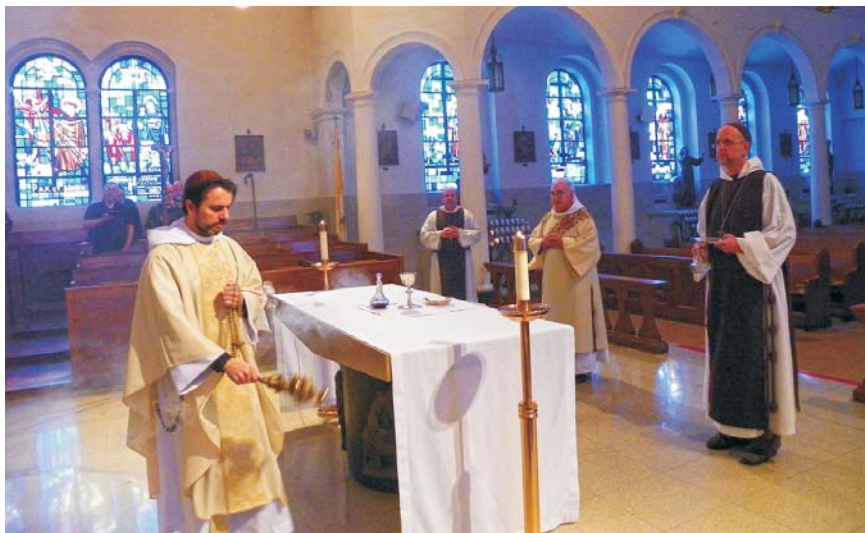
## **A SPECIAL NOTE TO OUR READERS**

Due to wider availability of internet access and the concomitant upgrade of the BSG website ([www.gregorians.org](http://www.gregorians.org)) we are undertaking a cutback in the printed edition of *The Servant* beginning with the next issue. Print copies will still be sent to anyone interested in receiving the print edition; just let us know at the address on the inner front cover. All issues, including an archive of all back issues, are available at the BSG website. **Please let us know of your interest in receiving the print version at your earliest convenience!**

*Here and there with the brothers...*

## COMMUNITY NOTES

*Winter Convocation 2013*



*Richard Edward Helmer censes the altar as Ronald Augustine Fox, Thomas Mark Liotta and Joseph Basil Gauss look on.*

Our annual winter gathering took place at Mount Alvernia Retreat Center in Wappingers Falls, New York, from January 14 to 19. Gregorian Friars traveled from

across the USA to participate in this time of retreat which included refreshment, education, self-study, worship and prayer. The Brotherhood's Education Committee provided a selection of retreat sessions during the week, covering a variety of topics: a workshop on the Psalms presented by Thomas Bushnell; an exploration and discussion of living our Rule entitled "Community Life" as offered by Francis Jonathan Bullock; a workshop led by Millard Cook on "The Photographer as Servant;" and an Emmaus Walk that coupled two or three brothers together in conversation as they strolled the grounds of the friary—and the weather did cooperate!

Longtime friend, Sr Laura Katherine CSJB presented the keynote program, a three-session exploration on the Enneagram, a model of human personality types that is helpful toward both



*Sister Laura Katherine CSJB*



*In the refectory...*



*Gordon John Stanley*

self-understanding and community relationship development. We were delighted to have Sr Laura Katherine with us and hope that each Gregorian Friar found benefit in the spiritual exercises she offered us.

The daily retreat sessions were set within each day's round of prayer as formed by the Daily Office and the Holy Eucharist. The masses were celebrated by Mark Andrew Jones, Blane Frederik van Pletzen-Rands and novice Richard Edward Helmer with deacons Edward Munro, Charles Edward LeClerc, Gordon John Stanley and Thomas Mark Liotta, ably assisted by other members of the community. As always, fine preaching highlighted each day's mass, as presented this week by Ronald Augustine Fox, Gordon John, Karekin Madteos Yarian, Thomas and Millard.

As with all Brotherhood convocations and retreats, the sound of laughter is gently mixed in our memories with the prayerful solemnity of the Holy Eucharist and our



*...and at recreation*

times spent in intercession and reflection in chapel together. While the flu bug and all-too-many incidents of violence raged across the countryside, Gregorian Friars gave heartfelt thanks for our time apart, as we nourished our community spiritually and gathered strength to go out and represent the caring hands and the heart of our Lord Jesus Christ among his creation. To God alone the glory!

### *Also of Interest*

In the bi-annual journal *Anglican Religious Life: A Year Book* the following prayer appears with introduction, and we commend it for your use:

### **A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE RELIGIOUS LIFE**

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Setting a particular Sunday each year as a Day of Prayer for Vocation to the Religious Life was begun in 1992. This is currently the Fourth Sunday after Easter. All are also invited to pray each Friday for the life and work of the religious communities in the church, using the following prayer, written by a Little Brother of Francis, originally for communities in Australia and New Zealand.

Lord Jesus Christ

in your great love you draw all people to yourself:

and in your wisdom you call us to your service.

We pray at this time you will kindle in the hearts of men and women the desire to follow you in the Religious life.

Give to those whom you call, grace to accept their vocation readily and thankfully, to make the whole-hearted surrender

which you ask of them, and for love of you, to persevere to the end.

This we ask in your name. Amen.

### *Province 1*

On Saturday, January 5th, the Rt Rev A Robert Hirschfeld was instituted as Bishop of New Hampshire at Saint Paul's Church, Concord. Charles Edward LeClerc served as Chaplain to Bishop Hirschfeld, while three of his colleagues served as deacons for Bishop of Maine Stephen T Lane, who presided at the liturgy as President of Province One, together with retiring Bishop V Gene Robinson of New Hampshire and Bishop Douglas E Theuner, Bishop Robinson's predecessor. The Brotherhood has had a long history of warm relationship with Bishops Lane, Robinson and Theuner, and we sincerely hope to continue that tradition with Bishop Hirschfeld!

### *Province 2*

James Mahoney and William Francis Jones spent three days at the Convent of St John Baptist, Mendham, New Jersey, in a Workshop/Retreat for Anglican Religious and led by Fr Terry Moran, a Roman Catholic Redemptorist priest. The theme was Entering the Transforming Future. Also present for the event were three friars from SSF, one brother from OHC, four sisters of Transfiguration, one member each from SSJE and SSM, two each from Anamchara Fellowship and the Carmelites, three Sisters of the Church from Toronto, and 10 of the CSJB sisters. Chris Haw of New Monasticism also joined the group.

On December 2, 2012 Bishop Andrew D Smith made a visitation to Saint John's Church, South Salem, New York where he presided and preached. Eight members of the congregation were confirmed or received into the church. Bishop Smith, retired Bishop of Connecticut, has been serving as an Assistant Bishop for the Diocese of New York since 2010. Saint John's stands very close to the NY/CT border, which



*Richard John Lorino, Bishop Smith, and Fr Joseph J Campo, Rector of Saint John's/Saint Paul's*

made Bishop Smith happily remark from the pulpit... "I feel very much at home here...I can almost see Connecticut!"

Special congratulations to the Brotherhood's first chaplain, the Rev Dr Thomas F Pike, who presided at our initial service of foundation at the chapel of the Visitation Monastery in Riverdale, New York on Holy Cross Day, September 14, 1969. Dr Pike celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood on Friday morning, December 21, 2012 at Saint Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, New York City, where he serves as

an assisting priest. Stephen Storen was on hand to represent all of the Gregorian Friars and to bring him our greetings and best wishes.

Two landmark events commemorating transition in the Diocese of New York, the Brotherhood's foundational diocese, took place early in the new year. First, on January 5th at the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine, a happy crowd turned out for the celebration of Bishop Mark S Sisk's episcopate on a brightly sunlit winter's morning. Amid all the pomp and ceremony that the New York cathedral is famous for, Bishop Sisk's tenure was celebrated by the attendance of a dozen bishops, including Bishop Frank T Griswold, XXV Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, and Bishop Catherine S Roskam, the beloved retired bishop suffragan, together with ecumenical guests, clergy and seminarians from across the diocese, and members of the Sisters of Saint Margaret, the Community of the Holy Spirit and the Brotherhood of



*James Teets chats with Sisters of the Holy Spirit prior to the Sisk celebration.*



*Brothers gather together prior to the procession for the Institution of Bishop Dietsche.*

Saint Gregory. James Teets, Tobias Stanislas Haller, Thomas Mark Liotta, James Mahoney and Millard Cook represented our community in the procession, and a reception in Synod Hall completed the festivities.

In his remarks, Bishop Sisk reminisced about his years leading this huge and diverse diocese, and two special friends—both Artists in Residence at the cathedral—contributed to the music-filled event. Noted saxophonist Paul Winter provided part of



*Francis Jonathan Bullock indulges in an avocation during some down time between Convocation workshop sessions.*

the Offertory and also added joy to the cathedral following the liturgy, and acclaimed vocalist Judy Collins spoke of her long connection to the cathedral and her personal relationship and respect for Mark and Karen Sisk—and she sang two songs for the gathering—her beautiful voice, as strong as ever in her career, climbing to the vaulted ceilings and filling that great space—closing with “Amazing Grace” as she led the congregation in a unique rendition of that classic hymn.



On February 2nd came the Institution of the Rt Rev Andrew ML Dietsche as XVI Bishop of New York, with equal pomp and ceremony as only the cathedral can muster! Thousands attended this celebration, filling the entire length and width of the cathedral from the choir to the west doors. Beginning with the formal “knocking on the door” by Bishop Dietsche and his admission to the narthex far below the state trumpets, numerous great processions of bishops, diocesan and visiting clergy, religious communities, ecumenical guests and candidates for ordination, preceding the diocesan and assisting bishops, deacons of honor, and the outgoing and incoming Bishops of New York merged into a festive train. The Brotherhood was well–represented by James Teets, William Francis Jones, Tobias Stanislas Haller, Christopher Stephen Jenks, Thomas Mark Liotta, James Mahoney and Millard Cook, and in addition to the communities that attended the celebration of Bishop Sisk’s episcopacy were members of the Community of Saint John Baptist, the Order of the Holy Cross and the Society of Saint Francis. Over the course of three hours God was praised in word and song—from Bishop Dietsche’s inspiring sermon to Paul Winter’s soprano saxophone to the massed choirs assembled from throughout the diocese to an exciting steel band to two Chinese lions and a dragon, to mention but a few of the many high points! Congratulations, Bishop Andy: may you serve your diocese long and well!

Tobias Stanislas has had a busy first quarter of the year and it will likely get busier shortly. The Presiding Bishop and President of the House of Deputies have appointed him to the 12-member Task Force on Marriage called for in Resolution A050 of the 2012 General Convention. Bishop Dietsche has also asked him to serve as a diocesan Examining Chaplain. On the first weekend of Lent he led a retreat for Columbia University students on the topic of forgiveness, identity and repentance.



*Tobias Stanislas Haller with the students from Columbia, Barnard, and Union, as Bishop Potter looks on!*

## Province 4

Three years ago Ælred Bernard Dean began a new ministry involving parishioners at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in Atlanta, to purchase new shoes for their homeless neighbors in the church's vicinity. Epiphany gathers these gifts on the Feast of Saint Nicholas, in honor of the vital and important role shoes play in the narrative of that famous bishop. At Epiphany, parishioners take off their shoes and line them up in the back of the nave as the rector tells the story of Saint Nicholas and involves the children in helping him to vest as that holy bishop. During this time helpers (elves) are placing gold foiled chocolate coins in the shoes of parishioners as they listen to the legend of Saint Nicholas. Then "Saint Nicholas" himself invites all to bring their gifts of shoes up from around the sanctuary for a blessing. When people return to get their shoes, they find the chocolate coins in them. This year the parish collected 192 pairs of shoes to be given to The Open Door Community, a place of hospitality and welcome to the homeless, which will distribute them to those in need.

Ælred Bernard led the contemplative part of the pre-ordination retreat in the Diocese of Atlanta. He spoke to the ordinands about *lectio divina*, using Matthew 20:1-16, which gives readers the insight to the kingdom of heaven as a place where the owner determines the wage, and is generous even to the latecomers. This Gospel passage was used at the ordination of transitional deacons on Saturday, December 14, 2012 at the Cathedral of Saint Philip, at which the new Bishop of Atlanta, the Rt Rev Robert C Wright, presided.



*Ælred Bernard with new transitional deacons (l to r) Marcus George Halley, Robert Frederick Folwer III, Jody Lynn Greenwood, and Arlette Dierdre Benoit*



Ash Wednesday was commemorated in downtown Tulsa, Oklahoma with an ecumenical and public imposition of ashes. Here shown together with James Patrick Hall and postulant Ray Chance are representatives of local United Methodist, First Baptist and Disciples of Christ congregations, as well as the Phillips Theological Seminary.

### *Province 8*

Karekin Madteos Yarian served as Curator for the 2013 Lenten online exhibition, “Holy Women, Holy Men” for the Episcopal Church Visual Arts website. We send him our congratulations and we invite everyone to visit ECVA at [www.ecva.org](http://www.ecva.org).



*Convocation always provides time for quiet conversation. Here Will Harpest and Edward Munro take the chance to touch base and catch up.*

# INTERCESSIONS

For the Brotherhood		Novices	Sat	For the Departed
Episcopal Visitors	Sun	Richard Edward Helmer		Benefactors, Friends & Associates:
Rodney R Michel		Eric Shelley		Charlotte Morgan, Arsene &
<i>Horace WB Donegan d 11.11.91</i>		Larry Walter Reich		Louise Lemarier, Norman Hall,
<i>Paul Moore, jr d 5.1.03</i>		Postulants		George Koerner, Henry Fukui,
<i>Walter D Dennis d 3.30.03</i>		David J Kasievich		J Steward Slocum, James
Professed		Andrew Kellner		Gundrum, Cecil Berges, Marion
Richard Thomas Biernacki		Raymond A Chance		Pierce, Helen Marie Joyce,
<i>John Nidecker d 6.20.88</i>		William VanDoren		Kenneth Staples, Elizabeth
James Teets		For Religious Communities		Holton, Richard A Belanger,
Luke Anthony Nowicki		Sacramentine & Visitandine Nuns		Brendan W Nugent, Sarah
<i>John Peter Clark d 2.25.94</i>	Mon	Society of the Atonement		Elizabeth Wells SSG, Sue
William Francis Jones		Order of Friars Minor		Bradley, Jack Merryman; Paul
Stephen Storen		Community of the Paraclete		Power, William Russell, Mark
<i>Thomas Joseph Ross d 12.18.01</i>		Companions of Saint Luke~		Domoguen; Elizabeth Mary
Tobias Stanislas Haller		Benedictine		Burke SSG
<i>William Bunting d 10.12.88</i>		Community of Celebration		Deborah Griffin Bly
Edward Munro		Little Sisters of Saint Clare		Tony Sanford
<i>Charles Kramer d 10.23.06</i>		Anamchara Fellowship		Derek Munro
<i>Bernard Fessenden d 8.10.93</i>		Anglican Order of Preachers		Jane Holmes Dixon
Donovan Aidan Bowley	Tue	Rivendell Community		Michael Schofield
<i>Edward Riley d 9.15.05</i>		Sisters of Saint Gregory		Louise Hall
Christopher Stephen Jenks		Third Order SSF		Angelina Sahakian
Ciarán Anthony DellaFera		Worker Sisters & Brothers of the		Quentin Lane
<i>Damian-Curtis Kellum d 10.9.07</i>		Holy Spirit		Roger Gentile
Richard John Lorino		Camaldolese Benedictines		Ethel Nodine
Ronald Augustine Fox		Society of Saint John the		Ann Shaffer
Maurice John Grove		Evangelist		Michael Nappo, OFM
Charles Edward LeClerc		Anglican Oblates of Saint		Richard DeThomas
Virgilio Fortuna	Wed	Benedict		Donald P Sullivan
Gordon John Stanley		Community of the Transfiguration		Emil Denworth, FMS
Karekin Madteos Yarian		Order of Julian of Norwich		
William David Everett		Order of the Holy Cross		
Thomas Bushnell		Order of Saint Helena		
Thomas Mark Liotta		Community of Saint John Baptist		
James Mahoney		Society of Saint Francis		
<i>Patrick Ignatius Dickson d 7.20.05</i>		For Ministries		
Robert James McLaughlin		Joseph Richey House		
Peter Budde		Fessenden Recovery Ministries		
John Henry Ernestine	Thu	Baltimore Int'l Seafarers' Center		
Francis Sebastian Medina		Saint Paul's Grayson St, San		
Ælred Bernard Dean		Antonio		
Joseph Basil Gauss		Aldersgate UMC Dobbs Ferry		
Mark Andrew Jones		Saint Christopher's, Kileen TX		
Richard Matthias		Saint James, Austin		
William Henry Benefield		White Plains Hospital		
Nathanael Deward Rahm		The Community Kitchen		
Thomas Lawrence Greer		Cathedral of St John, Providence		
Enoch John Valentine	Fri			
Ron Fender				
<i>Michael Elliott d 2.8.12</i>				
David Luke Henton				
David John Battrick				
Will Harpest				
Bo Alexander Armstrong				
Francis Jonathan Bullock				
Blane Frederik van Pletzen-Rands				
James Patrick Hall				
Millard Cook				