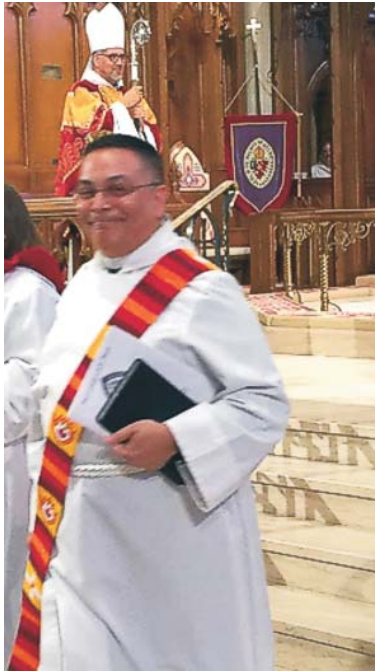


HE SERVANT



*A happy new
deacon, off to
begin his
ministry*

#238

Epiphany 2016

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. Available on-line for free download!			
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The Servant

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STARBRIGHT SON-LIGHT

Wise men (and women) still search the sky for understanding of the universe. What they seek now, however, is not where a star will appear, but where a star has disappeared, imploding in a burst of incredible brilliance that becomes darkness so absolute it swallows all light. Lately there seems to more and more of that darkness around us. The medieval mind saw in the heavens an image of God's order; the modern mind may see in the skies an image of their disorder. In some ways a black hole is an inversion of Bethlehem's star. A black hole results when a star loses balance between inward and outward forces as it begins to radiate less energy; it becomes self-centered, turning to and on itself, pulling in tighter and tighter until it collapses under its own gravity. A black hole destroys not only its own light and life, but that of anything near it. The star that signaled the birth of Christ may also have been a dying star, but its light was not overcome by darkness, not even the darkness of death. In an outpouring of himself, the "Love that moves the sun and the other stars" comes into our heavy hearts and shadowed spirits to enlighten and enliven. Christ breaks our deadening focus on ourselves and frees us to return to a life-giving balance in which we draw energy from God and pass it on to others. Balanced thus, in peace we become instruments of his peace. We do not have to turn away, to depart as those magi did, to take up life apart from him, for we know surely that in him is life. God set in the sky a rainbow of promise that he would never again destroy the sinful earth; he sets in our hearts a star of hope for the world illumined by its radiance: "Behold, I make all things new." The wise still adore him. Come, starbright Son-light, come.

RTB



COMMUNITY NOTES

Province 2

On September 30 the Bishop of New York held his annual luncheon meeting with leaders of the religious orders and communities serving in the diocese, together with the Episcopal Visitors of those communities. It is always a welcome occasion to share table fellowship with the bishops and colleagues from other orders; we only regret that our own Visitor Bishop Rodney Michel was unable to attend this year. Represented were the Community of Saint John Baptist, the Society of Saint Margaret, the Order of the Holy Cross, the Community of the Holy Spirit, and the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory. The accompanying photo captures the breadth and the warmth of this gathering at Donegan Hall on the close of the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine in Manhattan.



(l to r) front row: John Henry Ernestine BSG; Claire Joy CHS; Richard Thomas Biernacki BSG; Promise SSM and Deborah Frances CSJB; back row: Carol Bernice CHS; Scott Borden OHC; Bishop Prince Singh of Rochester, Episcopal Visitor to the Community of Saint John Baptist; Robert Sevensky OHC and Bishop Andrew Dietsche of New York, Episcopal Visitor to the Order of the Holy Cross and host of this annual gathering



(l to r) Dr David Henritz, the Rev Ramon Torres, Diocesan Hispanic/Latino Regional Missioner, the Rev Joan Mason, Rector of Christ Church, and Richard Thomas

On Saturday, December 12th, the Minister General joined the Rev Dr David G Henritz at Christ Church, Toms River NJ. The occasion was the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the church has a very active and growing Hispanic Ministry. The Bible and Common Prayer Book Society, of which Dr Henritz is the Director, provided Spanish editions of the BCP, Spanish Hymnal, and Bibles. The Hispanic congregation sponsored a Mass in celebration of the Feast Day, a Fiesta and the formal Dedication of the Spanish Resources. Following the Mass, the congregation proceeded to the entrance area of the church, where a permanent altar was blessed and dedicated to the Virgin of Guadalupe.

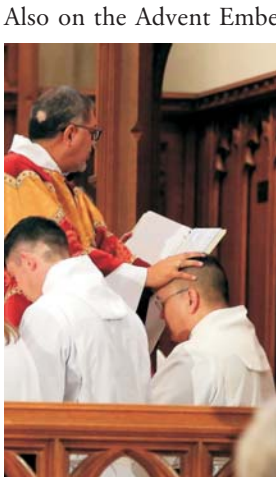
Tobias Stanislas Haller ended sixteen years of ministry at Saint James Church, Fordham, in the Bronx on All Saints Day, which coincided with the 150th anniversary of the dedication of the church building. Minister Provincial John Henry Ernestine and Dean Steigauf were present for worship and fellowship. The day before, the parish held a wonderful farewell luncheon and prepared to send Tobias Stanislas off to retirement in style. A number of Northwest Bronx clergy and lay leaders attended, and the Brotherhood was represented by James Teets (whose time at Saint James also ends as he and Tobias Stanislas move to Baltimore), William Francis Jones, and Christopher Stephen Jenks.

Province 3

On Ember Wednesday Minister Provincial Edward Munro led an expedition to Harrisburg, as James, Tobias Stanislas and he visited Luke Anthony Nowicki in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, for a time of fellowship, food, and prayer. As the selfie photo shows, all four brothers enjoyed their time together immensely!



Province 4



The Bishop ordains Ælred Bernard to the transitional diaconate.

Also on the Advent Ember Day, Ron Fender, David Luke Henton, Bo Armstrong and Larry Reich traveled to the Cathedral of Saint Phillip in Atlanta for the ordination of Ælred Bernard Dean to the Sacred Order of Deacons. Family and friends from near and far also attended including Ælred’s mother Betty, his spouse Jim Elledge, and close friends Lynn Armstrong and Phillip Fuller from Chattanooga. BSG brothers participated in the opening procession with other religious and

clergy. Assistant Bishop of Atlanta Keith Whitmore delivered an inspiring sermon which focused on the practice of obedience in one’s vocation. Bishop of Atlanta Robert C Wright was the celebrant, assisted at the altar by the five newly ordained deacons.



Ælred Bernard processes forth, along with fellow deacon Gretechen Ratterree.

Province 5



Ferlo with cello

Brothers met for retreat in Chicago in early October, with three different churches as their venues, beginning with Friday Evening Prayer at Church of the Atonement. Saint Paul and the Redeemer—in Chicago’s Hyde Park neighborhood (where President Obama has his Chicago home) was the Saturday site, and Church of Our Saviour, Elmhurst, a Chicago suburb, the Sunday location. The Rev Dr Roger Ferlo, President of Bexley Seabury Seminary Federation (and Ronald Augustine Fox’s boss) was the facilitator on Saturday. He led a fascinating discussion focused on hands, with many references to scripture and how hands play such an important part in the Brotherhood’s rites. He brought along his cello as a visual aid and demonstrated the importance of hands while playing. Valois Cafeteria, where the awning proclaims “See your food,” was the location for lunch. A

good time, and good food, was enjoyed by all. Eucharist was at Saint Paul and the Redeemer, with Dr Ferlo as celebrant and Gordon John Stanley as deacon. Joseph Basil Gauss hosted a Saturday evening gathering of Evening Prayer and dinner at his home. On Sunday, Joseph Basil, Gordon John, Francis Jonathan Bullock and postulant Michael Piper traveled to Church of our Saviour for Minister Provincial Nathanael Deward Rahm’s first Sunday as the parish’s new organist. Ronald Augustine was busy serving as MC at Atonement, and postulant David Hedges had Sunday priestly duties at Saint Peter’s, his parish in Sycamore, Illinois. Joseph Basil and Ronald Augustine also participated in the first of many to come Thursday Choral Evensongs at Church of the Atonement on October 15th. Joseph Basil sang in the Saint Cecilia Choir, and Ronald Augustine was the precentor. Nathanael Deward was on hand to lend his musical expertise, also known as “reviewer.”

In mid-December Francis Jonathan Bullock visited Saint Gregory’s Abbey in Michigan for a three-day Advent retreat.

Province 7

William Henry Benefield and James Patrick Hall attended the Society of Catholic Priests Annual Meeting at Saint John’s Cathedral in Denver, Colorado in October. Novice Scott Michael Pomerenk joined them for the Solemn Pontifical Mass celebrated by the Bishop of Colorado where William Henry, although a founding member, was officially inducted into the Society.



William Henry and James Patrick enjoy a coffee break in the course of the SCP meeting.

Province 8

On October 11, a new contemporary community of religious work and witness came into being in San Francisco. The Companions of Dorothy the Worker, named in honor of Dorothy Day, is an ecumenical Christian community that will engage in urban ministry devoted to the most marginalized in the LGBT population, including homeless youth, transgender individuals, sex workers, and others disenfranchised by the wider community. Deacon Diana Wheeler TSSF, in consultation with Karekin Madteos Yarian, founded the community after having devoted herself to street ministry in San Francisco's Castro for a number of years. The presence of many clergy, religious, and community members representing the LGBT population enlivened the foundation ceremony. Rather than sharing a common rule, members profess to follow a set of principles and disciplines that unite them in common ministry and outlook with the community they serve, in the fashion of the Beguines who inspired this model of urban ministry. Unlike many communities, the Companions accept members

from other orders who discern that the Dorothean principles don't conflict with their existing vows. In addition, as an order devoted to queer people, they will partner in ministry with other members of the LGBT population under the banner of the Companions to offer their work, skill, and intention with the goal of empowering the marginalized in common purpose. This effectively opens the possibility for people to explore engaging in religious witness as long as they are members in good standing of their own Christian denomination—with Oblate status being offered as a possibility for those who cannot belong to a church without fear of persecution. The foundation ceremony saw the life profession of Diana as Mother Diana Jacoba TSSF/cdw and her



Diana (l) and Karekin Madteos ®)



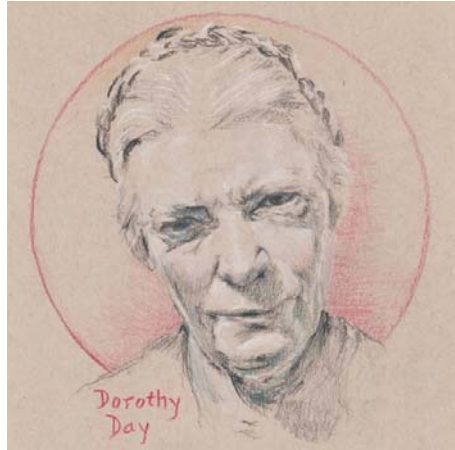
The making of covenants

commissioning as Magistra—the titular head of the community; and the simple professions of two Companions, Father Alan Robert CDW and Sister Marie-Noelle SPI/cdw. Also received was the first Oblate Companion, Brother Tikhon Pethoud CoS/cdw. Karekin Madteos has agreed to act as Protector for them as they seek to grow in religious witness. Since he has acted as an advisor during the five years of their discern-

ment, and due to his leadership in the Brotherhood, they believe his experience will be of great benefit to them.

The enthusiastic gathering included representation from the Society of Saint Francis, presenting Diana to make profession; the Third Order of Saint Francis; the Anamchara Fellowship; the Order of Saint John Cassian (Benedictine); and the Community of Solitude. Also in attendance were several local clergy, the Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of California, members of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and the local drag community, and representatives from the San Francisco Zen Center and the Metropolitan Community Church. Evening Prayer was officiated by the Rev Richard Leslie Smith who was once arrested with Dorothy Day, and Karekin Madteos officiated the Rites of the Companions. The Companions have adopted a community collect, which they share and urge all to join in praying:

God our Creator, we have taken up the name and works of Dorothy Day, confessor of the catholic faith, worker of mercy, witness to justice, and proclaimer of the peace of the Gospel of Christ. Grant us inspiration in her good works and godly example, so that we may see Christ's face in those who are marginalized and raise our voices for justice for those who are oppressed.



Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord and the intercessions of Dorothy the Worker and Servant of the Poor, that her saintly life may one day be so named by the church, and that we may so honor her for the sake of building up the Kingdom in love. *Amen.*

The icon of Dorothy Day was written by Tobias Stanislas.

INTERCESSIONS

For the Brotherhood

Episcopal Visitors *Sun*
 Rodney R Michel
Horace WB Donegan d 11.11.91
Paul Moore, jr d 5.1.03
Walter D Dennis d 3.30.03

Professed

Richard Thomas Biernacki
John Nidecker d 6.20.88
 James Teets
 Luke Anthony Nowicki
John Peter Clark d 2.25.94

William Francis Jones *Mon*
Thomas Joseph Ross d 12.18.01
 Tobias Stanislas Haller
William Bunting d 10.12.88
 Edward Munro
Charles Kramer d 10.23.06
Bernard Fessenden d 8.10.93
 Donovan Aidan Bowley
Edward Riley d 9.15.05

Christopher Stephen Jenks *Tue*
 Ciarán Anthony DellaFera
Damian-Curtis Kellum d 10.9.07
 Richard John Lorino
 Ronald Augustine Fox
 Maurice John Grove
 Virgilio Fortuna
 Gordon John Stanley

Karekin Madteos Yarian *Wed*
 William David Everett
 Thomas Bushnell
Patrick Ignatius Dickson d 7.20.05
 Robert James McLaughlin
 Peter Budde
 John Henry Ernestine
 Francis Sebastian Medina
 Elred Bernard Dean

Joseph Basil Gauss *Thu*
 Mark Andrew Jones
 Richard Matthias
 William Henry Benefield
 Nathanael Deward Rahm
 Thomas Lawrence Greer
 Enoch John Valentine
 Ron Fender
Michael Elliott d 2.8.12

David Luke Henton *Fri*
 David John Battrick
 Bo Alexander Armstrong
 Francis Jonathan Bullock
 James Patrick Hall
 Richard Edward Helmer
 Eric Shelley
 Larry Walter Reich

Novices *Sat*
 Donald Sutton
 Max Steele
 Scott Michael Pomerenk

Postulants

Michael J Piper
 Angel M Roque
 David Hedges

For Religious Communities

Sacramentine & Visitandine Nuns
 Society of the Atonement
 Order of Friars Minor
 Community of the Paraclete
 Companions of Saint Luke~ Benedictine
 Community of Celebration
 Little Sisters of Saint Clare
 Anamchara Fellowship
 Anglican Order of Preachers
 Rivendell Community
 Sisters of Saint Gregory
 Third Order SSF
 Worker Sisters & Brothers of the Holy Spirit
 Camaldolese Benedictines
 Society of Saint John the Evangelist
 Anglican Oblates of Saint Benedict
 Community of the Gospel
 Community of the Transfiguration
 Oratory of the Good Shepherd
 Community of Solitude
 Companions of Dorothy the Worker
 Oratory of Saint Mary and Saint John
 Order of Julian of Norwich
 Order of the Holy Cross
 Order of Saint Helena
 Community of Saint John Baptist
 Society of Saint Francis

For Ministries

Joseph Richey House
 Fessenden Recovery Ministries
 Baltimore Int'l Seafarers' Center
 Saint Paul's Grayson St, San Antonio
 Aldersgate UMC Dobbs Ferry
 Saint Christopher's, Killeen TX
 Saint James, Austin
 White Plains Hospital
 Saint James Church Fordham
 The Community Kitchen

For the Departed

Benefactors, Friends & Associates: Charlotte Morgan, Arsene & Louise Lemarier, Norman Hall, George Koerner, Henry Fukui, J Steward Slocum, James Gundrum, Cecil Berges, Marion Pierce, Helen Marie Joyce, Kenneth Staples, Elizabeth Holton, Richard A Belanger, Brendan W Nugent, Sarah Elizabeth Wells SSG, Sue Bradley, Jack Merryman; Paul Power, William Russell, Mark Domoguen; Elizabeth Mary Burke SSG

Angelo
 Bob Bishop
 Mary Christabel CHS
 Bill Colbert
 Hugh Craig
 Joseph Curdgel
 Jeffrey Dessousa
 William Ellenwood
 Peg Everhard
 Edward Flaherty
 Derek Ford SSF
 Frank
 Richard Ellis Gary
 Luda Lee
 Monna Mayeda
 Molly P McGreevy
 May McKeown SCC
 Armando Pardo
 Mary Lou Passage
 Rodney Reinhart
 Robert Rentzell
 Joe Sanderson
 Erica Strandt

Thanksgiving

For the birth of Annabel
 Charlotte Joan Battrick
 For the ordination of Elred
 Bernard Dean to the diaconate

Where there's a will

You can assist and further the ministries of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory by remembering the community in your will. If you choose to do so, the following form of wording is appropriate:

I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to The Brotherhood of Saint Gregory, Inc., a New York State not-for-profit corporation and its successors for ever \$_____ and / or _____ percent of my estate to be used in such a manner as determined by its Directors.