

The Sceptre

VOLUME 52, No. 6

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT OF CHRIST THE KING

AUGUST 2012

An inclusive parish of The Episcopal Church in the Anglo-Catholic tradition

FROM THE RECTOR

It's summer – that time of the year when we all want to kick back and relax and perhaps enjoy a slower pace of life. It is a time for reflection and for looking ahead to new challenges and opportunities.



You will see in another part of this edition of the Sceptre a report of the 77th General Convention and from that see that the Episcopal Church has embraced the future and is looking ahead to new ways of making mission a reality. That has to be the goal of our reflection during this season of rest and reflection. How do we, Church of the Advent of Christ the King, bring our mission of proclaiming the Good News through worship, outreach to the poor, and music, to the people of Hayes Valley and the rest of the Bay Area in this new day?

We have already begun: reconfiguring our worship patterns, making them more accessible to people of the area and to those not cradle Anglo-Catholics, creating a user-friendly bulletin to help with Sunday and Feast-day Masses. We have begun to engage with the many arts organizations around us through our Third Sunday Series of concerts and various collaborations for Interfaith worship around Arts events. This has had the added benefit of creating relationships with those of other Churches and Faiths in our neighborhood. Now we must reflect on how we can build on those relationships we have created and both as a community and as individuals begin the mission work of bringing the Good News of Jesus to our new friends and partners.

None of this will be easy and will take us all well outside our comfort zone, but it is the work that God calls us to do, and we are given this brief respite to prepare our community for the work that lies ahead of us. Have a good and restful summer and use it to be refreshed and invigorated for a new season of proclaiming God to the world.

Father Paul



Bishop Marc and delegates at General Convention 2012

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BROTHER RICHARD JONATHAN SSF (PRIEST) 1951 - 2012

Richard Cardarelli was born on Aug. 25, 1951, to Emilio and Virginia Cardarelli and grew up in Cromwell, CT. He went to college at St. Michael's College in Vermont, where he graduated valedictorian. He obtained a master's degree in divinity from Maryknoll School of Theology in Ossining, N.Y. He wanted to be a priest from the time he was a child, and throughout his life he often found himself in conflict with authorities as he attempted to enact Christian ethics: feed the hungry, promote peace, support the marginalized. Eventually he joined the Capuchin Franciscans and became a Roman Catholic priest. In 1975, he organized a Connecticut chapter of DignityUSA, the organization of gay Catholics, and became their chaplain. Eventually the Archbishop stripped him of his priestly functions and excommunicated him.



In 2000, he joined the Episcopal Church, and in 2003, he entered the Society of St. Francis. In 2009 he was ordained as an Episcopal priest at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco.

Brother Richard Jonathan was a familiar and much-loved face here at Church of the Advent. Those who had the privilege of knowing him appreciated his intelligence and wit, his unflinching courage and conviction, his pioneer spirit and insightful sermons. One of the two Requiem Masses in his honor took place at Church of the Advent on July 21.

Memories of Brother Richard Jonathan by Michael Fullam

Brother Richard Jonathan, SSF, was born in Connecticut a couple of years before me. Years later, after reading an article about this "disobedient priest," I tried to contact him. Almost immediately we became friends, although it was a long-distance relationship for many years. Later he became a member of an internet group I founded for LGBT Anglicans.

Once he became a friar in the Society of St. Francis and was living in San Francisco, I spent a lot of time with him. We attended Dignity events, marched in Pride parades, and participated in vigils for AIDS victims and those who had been killed in hate crimes. We stood together at rallies for marriage equality. (An internet search for marriage equality photos will always return one of Brother Richard Jonathan with a sign "Franciscans for Same-Sex Marriage").

When he took his life vows as a Franciscan at Church of the Advent, I was delighted to look down and see the smile on the face of his mother Ginger, as I read the epistle. Another happy memory for me was when I served as MC for his first mass as an Episcopal priest at Church of the Advent.

As long-winded as his sermons often were, you never found yourself checking your watch. Instead you usually wanted to hear more. When his vocation took him to Little Portion Friary on Long Island we were again separated by geography but thanks to the internet (especially facebook) we were able to stay connected.



I will always be glad that Ricky Cardarelli came my way. One Christmas I received a card from him with a quote from Meister Eckhart: *"We are all meant to be mothers of God. What good is it to me if this eternal birth of the Divine Son takes place unceasingly but does not take place within myself? And what good is it to me if Mary is full of grace, but I am not also full of grace? What good is it to me for the Creator to give birth to his Son if I do not also give birth to him in my time and my culture? This, then, is the fullness of time: When the Son of Man is begotten in us."*



Feast of the Assumption

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2012

6:30 P.M.

PROCESSION & HIGH MASS

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

261 Fell St. between Gough & Franklin
San Francisco 94102

Civic Center BART, Van Ness MUNI, easy street parking



SCHOLA ADVENTUS Directed by Paul M. Ellison

*Prelude Ave Maria**Setting Missa Assumpta est Maria**Introit Rejoice we all**Gradual I beheld her beautiful as a dove**Anthem Hymn for the Dormition of the Mother of God**Motet Agnus Dei**Postlude Magnificat du 3e et 4e Ton, Fuga doppia**Franz Liszt**G. P. da Palestrina**Healey Willan**Willan**John Tavener**Palestrina**Michel Corrette**2012 Third Sunday Series Concerts – Fall Season*

September 16 Concert in honor of SF JAZZ facility opening

October 21 SCHOLA ADVENTUS **Major Fundraiser!**

November 18 Solstice Female Vocal Ensemble

December 16 Kevin Baum and Jennifer Ashworth

All concerts begin at 4 PM. Admission is by donation.

Post-concert receptions in Lathrop Hall & Hardcastle Garden.

Postponed to January
2013*Music This Month**Sharing God's gift of music
with the wider community*

SCHOLA ADVENTUS is on hiatus over the summer, except for Wednesday August 15, when they will return for the feast of the Assumption.

All the other Sundays during July and August will be served by one of our volunteer chant choirs (Schola Cantorum and Schola Femina) singing the Latin propers.

Dr Paul Ellison, *Director of Music*

Photo: Marshal Cousins

THE 77TH GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, which was held this summer in Indianapolis, will probably be one of the most significant ever held. And that is not so much because we are the first mainstream Church to authorize same gender blessings, but because of the theological and evangelical motives that led to that decision. That vote came well into the major debates that had been taking place before the Convention gathered and into our time together. Many resolutions were filed by the bodies that meet between Conventions, CCAB's, as well as by Diocese, Bishops and individual Deputies amounting to an almost insurmountable volume of material to be read and digested.



Diocese of California deputies, with Bishop Marc Andrus and House of Deputies President Bonnie Anderson (front row, 2nd from rt). L to R: David Ota, Warren Wong, Carolyn Gaines, Michael Barlowe, Sarah Lawton, Kay Bishop, Scott Pomerenk, Richard Edward Helmer, Bishop Marc Andrus, Alan Aw, Vanessa Glass, and Rod Dugliss. Not pictured: Vicki Gray, Paul Frombera Stacev Grossman. Patricia Smith. Silvia Vásquez

By far the largest group of these resolutions concerned reorganizing the structure of the governing bodies of the Church including General Convention. It is hard to get the people who are part of an organization to seriously look at changing their structure but the Structure Committee of this Convention not only did that but were ready to put everything on the table. It was on this committee that Fr. Michael served and came up with the phrase 're-imagine' that was incorporated into the resolution that was unanimously adopted. Basically the Episcopal Church is committed to a process of engaging with new ideas about how best to organize for mission including looking at structures (i.e. diocese and parishes) and hierarchy (i.e. Bishops, stipendiary clergy, bi-vocational and lay leaders) ready to propose new structures in 2015. This will be a momentous task, and one that the Executive Council of the Church, which Fr. Michael was elected to, will be monitoring and implementing. This engagement with reimagining comes together with an embracing of some major changes in the



way in which society is organized. First came the passing of a canonical change to make sure that transgendered people cannot be excluded from the ordination process solely on the grounds of their gender identity, and for the first time the Convention has taken a stand on recognizing the need for a Palestinian State. The Budget was extensively reworked to ensure that its goal was mission and ministry, not administration and preservation. This was an exciting and Spirit filled Convention with little of the rancor and meanness of past Conventions. We said a sad farewell to Bonnie Anderson, who has been the exemplary President of the House of Deputies over the past six years and elected the Reverend Gay Jennings, one of the most articulate and forward looking leaders in the Church today, as her successor. These two women will have a place of honor in the history of this era in our Church, if I am not mistaken, for they will have led us into the next great expansion of the Episcopal Church into the new age.

I came away from the Convention profoundly grateful that I am part of this Church and proud of the deliberative and theological debate that supported every decision that was made.

Fr. Paul



a legislative committee in session

Schola Adventus

A Ministry in Music

*Sharing God's gift of music
with the wider community*

GALA CONCERT AND RECEPTION OCTOBER 21 !
Palestrina for Eight Voices with Schola Adventus
*is available from iTunes, Amazon.com, cdBaby,
or contact Paul Ellison.*

Church of the Advent of Christ the King is a small, historic inner city parish. On any given Sunday, the people in our pews reflect the diversity around us – young and old, rich and poor, successful and struggling. Some of our most active and involved parishioners are people who in other contexts might be classed as challenged. Here they have found a welcoming spiritual home. But why here ?

There are lots of churches in downtown San Francisco, representing a variety of denominations and traditions. Many offer services to marginalized populations. What is unique about this place that makes it able to provide a kind of spiritual nourishment that sustains those who are the most vulnerable among us ?

One of the principal features of Church of the Advent is our music ministry. It is a rare experience to hear the great choral works of the Renaissance – a *sanctus* by



Palestrina, or something from Byrd's *Mass for Five Voices* – as part of a typical service. And yet this is precisely what is typical at Church of the Advent. The sound of gorgeous polyphony, or pristinely executed Gregorian chant, soars above the pews with reliable certainty every Sunday and feast day. That sublime sound is made by Schola Adventus, an ensemble of only four

professional singers, augmented by a fifth gifted volunteer. The choir may grow to as many as eight voices for special events and performances, but at its heart it is this core group, directed by its founder, Paul M. Ellison.

It is not a coincidence that many who might not be able to articulate their reasons are drawn to Church of the Advent and continue to attend. One does not need to be a music scholar or even an educated listener to appreciate the exquisite prayerful experience provided by Schola Adventus, freely offered to all who care to enter.

The singers hail from different backgrounds and pursue different musical specialties. Lauren Carley, alto, has the longest tenure; she has sung with the ensemble since 1997. Originally from Wisconsin, she ended up in the bay area after years of studying and



working in New York. Jim Monios, bass, and Jennifer Ashworth, soprano, are both from southern California. Kevin Baum, the newest member, joined the ensemble in 2004. David Alban is a native of Baltimore, and has been singing at the church since 2000.

All of the singers pursue many other professional engagements, as the life of a musician requires. They are soloists, teachers, chorus members, and choral directors. But they are unanimous in their devotion to the unique meld that they have achieved in Schola Adventus, a musical texture that is as smoothly blended as a piece of fine cloth. Without exception they attribute this achievement to the skillful nurturing of Paul Ellison.

Less than two hours before High Mass begins, the choir rehearses the service music for the first and only time – an anthem, a motet, an Anglican chant psalm, and the Gregorian chant propers for the introit, offertory, alleluia and communion antiphons. All of the singers read music in the way that the rest of us read a book we have never seen before, smoothly and fluently, even when seeing it for the first time. Rehearsals are about shaping and refining the performance, not about learning the notes. It is this level of skill that makes possible the reliable production of such music with only one short rehearsal before each service.

According to Ellison, a graduate of London's Royal Academy and Queen's College, Cambridge among other institutions, singers who can sight read at this level are few and far between. Over time he has selected singers who can sing to a high professional standard, have an aptitude for sight reading, and are capable of achieving the blend that is the hallmark of Schola Adventus.

The music presented by Schola Adventus offers a spiritual path for both singers and listeners. Says Jim Monios, the ensemble's bass, "We sing this music from our gut. We



are not separate from it. We know that we are a key part of what the people in the pews experience during a service." This music ministry is accessible to everyone. We are all stewards of this unique and precious gift.

Jude Morton

LATIN MASS ♦ Saturday, August 4, 5:00pm**HIGH MASS / SUNG MASS
SUNDAYS 11:00 AM****10th Sunday after Pentecost, August 5**

Celebrant: Rod Thompson

Preacher: Paul Burrows

11th Sunday after Pentecost, August 12

Celebrant: Louis Newton

Preacher: Rod Thompson

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
August 15, 6:30 PM**

Celebrant: Rod Thompson

Preacher: Alex Martin

12th Sunday after Pentecost, August 19

Celebrant: : Rod Thompson

Preacher: Paul Burrows

13th Sunday after Pentecost, August 26

Celebrant: Paul Burrows

Preacher: Jude Hill

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

1 August...Ricardo Avila (birthday)

1 August...Patrick Russell (birthday)

1 August...Johannes Stahl (baptism)

3 August...Christopher Fredricks (birthday)

5 August...Leah Hall (birthday)

5 August...Stephen Rucker (birthday)

8 August...Sam Cantin (birthday)

10 August...Jennifer Usher (baptism)

12 August...Bonnie Barberini (birthday)

12 August...Robby Combs (baptism)

14 August...Susan Hendrickson (baptism)

14 August...Jean Wright (baptism)

16 August...Adrienne Radkoff (birthday)

18 August...Rick Adamson (birthday)

18 August...Don Fisher + (reception)

20 August...Fred Hansen (birthday)

20 August...Bob Kelliher (birthday)

22 August...Robert Schwartz (birthday)

25 August...Richard Jonathan SSF + (birthday)

28 August... Kevin Beaugard (birthday)

28 August... William Bonnell (birthday)

- A Note from the Rector on the Weekday Schedule -

Starting in June we have revised our weekday schedule again. Mass will be as before except for Mondays. One area where we continue to struggle is the Daily Office. Many of you, I know, read the Office at home as part of your daily discipline of prayer, and while it has been good to feel in communion with those saying the Office in Church there are now only two people willing to do that on a regular basis.

In June, July and August we will not have public Evening Prayer while we consult with many of you about how we might offer public Office and if there are untapped resources to make this happen. Please continue to pray about how you might be a part of spiritual renewal and what talents you have to offer.

WEEKDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE

DAILY MASS Monday 10:00am, Tuesday 6:30pm, Wednesday 7:30 am, Thursday 6:30pm, Friday 10:00am, and Saturday (and Federal holidays) 9:00am.

Library Memorial – Ewing Cobb

Ewing Cobb was a longtime member of Church of the Advent. He was married to his wife Margaret here in 1950, and his funeral was held here in 2009. A sizable percentage of the books in the Pittman Library originated with him.

Therefore it is fitting to consider a memorial donation in honor of Ewing Cobb for the refurbishment of our library, and specifically for the purchase of two custom-size bookcases which are needed to complete the shelving of the books.

Once the shelves are in place, an appropriate plaque in memory of Ewing Cobb will be placed in the library.


Donations in any amount will be gratefully accepted. You can donate using the PayPal link on the church website, via check in the alms basin (specify "library memorial" in the memo line), or speak to any member of the vestry.

**Father Geoffrey Glaser
and
Jeff Commings**

are getting married
at Church of the Advent
on 3 November 2012.

They would like to extend an invitation
to all members of Advent to attend
and help celebrate this joyful occasion.

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AND NOW FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE ABIDE, THESE
 THREE; AND THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.
 I CORINTHIANS 13:13