

**The One Hundred Thirty-second Council  
of the  
Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic  
Report of the Bishop Ordinary  
November 1, 2012**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The following report is submitted as a summary of my principal activities as Bishop Ordinary, since my report to the One Hundred Thirty-first Council of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic through September 30, 2012.

**I. Regular Episcopal Visits** (33 confirmations, 1 baptism)

Trinity XX, November 6, 2011 – **Church of the Messiah**, Philadelphia.

No confirmations.

Trinity XXI, November 13, 2011 – **Church of the Redeemer**, Jersey City.

5 confirmations.

Sunday before Advent, November 20, 2011 – **Faith Church**, Baltimore.

No confirmations.

Advent II, December 4, 2011 – **Emmanuel**, Somerville.

No confirmations.

Epiphany II, January 15, 2012 – **St. Timothy's**, Mt. Laurel.

No confirmations.

Quinquagesima, February 5, 2012 – **St. Michael's**, Enola.

No confirmations.

Lent II, March 4, 2012 – **St. Stephen's**, Queens.

No confirmations.

Lent III, March 11, 2012 – **St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman**, Philadelphia.

No confirmations.

Lent IV, March 18, 2012 – **St. Peter's**, Chesapeake City.

1 confirmation.

Lent V, March 25, 2012 – **Grace**, Havre de Grace.

No confirmations.

Palm Sunday, April 1, 2012 – **St. Mark's**, Rydal.

No confirmations.

Easter Sunday, April 8, 2012 - **St. Matthew's**, Havertown.

No confirmations.

Easter I, April 15, 2012 – **Holy Trinity**, Bronx.

1 confirmation.

Easter II, April 22, 2012 – **Jesus, Good Shepherd**, Brooklyn.

1 confirmation.

Sunday after Ascension, May 20, 2012 – **St. Mary's**, Bronx.

16 confirmations.

Pentecost/Whitsunday, May 27, 2012 – **St. Stephen's**, Eldersburg.

3 confirmations.

Trinity Sunday, June 3, 2012 – **First Church**, New York.

No confirmations. 1 baptism.  
Trinity VI, July 15, 2012 – **Grace Church**, Scranton.  
5 confirmations.  
Trinity XIV, September 9, 2012 – **Grace Church**, Collingdale.  
1 confirmation.  
Trinity XV, September 16, 2012 – **St. George's**, Hamilton.  
No confirmations.  
Trinity XVI, September 23, 2012 – **Christ the King**, Pasadena.  
No confirmations.  
Trinity XVII, September 30, 2012 – **St. Michael's**, Enola.  
No confirmations.

## **II. The Bishop's Book of Appreciation**

*The Bishop's Book of Appreciation* includes the names of laypeople, nominated by their rector, who are recognized for at least twenty years of distinguished service and support for the Reformed Episcopal Church. The following names have been added between November 2011 and September 2012:

**Paul Hahn** – Faith Church, Baltimore.  
**Arthur Jensen** – Emmanuel Church, Somerville.  
**Gordon Tiner** – Emmanuel Church, Somerville.  
**Virginia Colburn** – Grace Church, Havre de Grace.  
**Ethelyn Watson** – Providence Chapel/St. Timothy's, Mt. Laurel.  
**Dawn Mitchell** – St. Mark's, Rydal  
**Matthew Mitchell** – St. Mark's, Rydal.  
**Barbara Bingham** – St. Matthew's, Havertown.  
**Edgar Murphy** – St. Matthew's, Havertown.  
**William Moores** – St. Stephen's, Eldersburg.  
**Betty Moores** – St. Stephen's, Eldersburg.  
**Jeane Mehne** – Grace, Scranton.  
**Frederick Ganjon** – Bishop Cummins, Catonsville  
**George Kuehnl** – Bishop Cummins, Catonsville

## **III. Special Services and Events**

**A. Funeral Service for Lenroy Brown.** On Friday, December 23, 2011, I assisted the Very Rev. Belgrave Pelle with the funeral service for Mr. Lenroy Brown, husband of Deaconess Olivene Brown. The service was held at St. Mary's Church, Bronx, New York.

**B. Funeral Service for Anna "Nance" Hussar.** On Saturday, January 14, 2012, I attended the funeral service for Mrs. Anna "Nance" Hussar. The service was held at Church of the Atonement, Philadelphia, where Nance was a member for over eighty years. Nance was faithful and dedicated member of Atonement Church and regularly supported many Diocesan events.

**C. Clergy Retreat.** My wife and I attended the annual clergy retreat, on Saturday, January 28, 2012. The retreat was held at Eden Resort Inn, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. I delivered a homily on Psalm 1 and presided at the service of Holy Communion.

**D. Funeral Service for Shareen Clark.** On Friday, February 10, 2012, I presided over the funeral service for Shareen Clark, wife of the Rev. Jack Clark, vicar of St. Peter's, Chesapeake City. The service was well attended, and a number of clergy and seminarians attended the service in sympathy and support for Jack. I was assisted by the Very Rev. William A. Jenkins, Sr.

**E. Alexander Wilson School, Philadelphia.** At the request of Mr. Larry Spears, postulant at St. Timothy's, Mt. Laurel, I represented St. Timothy's and St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman Churches at a classroom event held at Alexander Wilson School in Philadelphia. St. Timothy's and St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman donated funds to the special needs class at the school for life skills education.

**F. Diocesan Home Mission Event.** On Tuesday, July 10, 2012, I visited Bishop Cummins Church, Catonsville, during the mission week held there. At the evening service, the Rev. Matthew Colvin spoke about his intended mission work in the Philippines. Matt and his wife are being sponsored by the Reformed Episcopal Board of Foreign Missions.

**G. Diocesan Youth Camp.** On Thursday, July 26, 2012, I visited the summer youth camp, held at Rock Mountain Bible Camp. I spent the larger portion of the day with the campers and participated in some of the common activities.

**H. The Consecration of the Rev. Canon R. Charles Gillin.** On Saturday, September 29, 2012, at Church of the Atonement, Philadelphia, the Rev. Canon R. Charles Gillin was consecrated to be the Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. The participants are listed below.

**Chief Consecrators**

The Most Reverend Leonard W. Riches, Presiding Bishop, Reformed Episcopal Church  
The Right Reverend Royal U. Grote, Jr., Bishop Ordinary, Diocese of Mid-America, REC  
The Right Reverend David L. Hicks, Bishop Ordinary, Diocese of the Northeast & Mid-Atlantic, REC

**Presenters of the Bishop-elect**

The Right Reverend David L. Hicks, Bishop Ordinary, Diocese of the Northeast & Mid-Atlantic, REC  
The Right Reverend Daniel R. Morse, Bishop Ordinary, Diocese of the Central States, REC

**Bishop**

The Right Reverend Richard W. Lipka, Suffragan Bishop, ACNA Missionary Diocese of All Saints

**Master of Ceremonies**

The Reverend Richard W. Workowski, Vicar Designate - Covenant Church, Roanoke, VA

**Old Testament Lector**

The Reverend Gerald S. McLynn, Rector, Emmanuel Church, Somerville, NJ

**Reading the Psalter**

The Very Reverend Belgrave Pelle, Dean, Convocation of New York; Rector, St. Mary's Church, Bronx, NY

**Epistoler**

The Very Reverend William A. Jenkins, Sr., Dean, Convocation of Maryland & Delaware Rector, Faith Church, Baltimore, MD

**Gospeler**

The Reverend Jason A. Holloway, Deacon, Church of the Atonement, Philadelphia

**Litanist**

The Reverend Dr. Wayne A. Headman, Retired President, Reformed Episcopal Seminary

**Homilist**

The Right Reverend Royal U. Grote, Jr., Bishop Ordinary, Diocese of Mid-America, REC

**Presenters of Testimonials**

The Venerable Dr. Jon W. Abboud, Archdeacon, Diocese of the Northeast  
Rector, St. Matthew's, Havertown, PA

The Reverend Gregory J. Miller, Member of the General Committee  
Rector, Covenant Chapel, Basking Ridge, NJ

**Chaplain to the Presiding Bishop**

The Very Rev. Walter L. Hawkins, Dean, Convocation of Pennsylvania  
Rector, Atonement Church, Philadelphia, PA

**Chaplain to the Bishop-elect**

The Reverend Michael D. Fitzpatrick, Rector, Grace and Christ Memorial, Collingdale, PA

**Assisting at the Offertory**

The Reverend Canon William Jerdan, Executive Secretary, Reformed Episcopal Mission  
Board

The Reverend Dcn. Carl Wegner, Deacon, Atonement Church, Philadelphia, PA

**Participating Presbyters**

The Venerable Dr. Jon W. Abboud, Archdeacon, Diocese of the Northeast  
Rector, St. Matthew's Church, Havertown, PA

The Reverend Ronald D. Bretherick, Rector, St. John's By-the-Sea, Ventnor, NJ

The Reverend Barton L. Craig, Stated Supply, St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman,  
Philadelphia, PA

The Reverend Dr. David A. Crum, Rector, Bishop Cummins Church, Catonsville, MD

The Reverend Dr. Wayne A. Headman, Retired President, Reformed Episcopal Seminary

The Reverend Paul S. Howden, Rector, Grace Church, Scranton, PA

The Reverend Eric W. Jorgensen, Rector, St. Stephen's Church, Eldersburg, MD

The Reverend Donald L. March, Rector, St. Michael & All Angels, Harrisburg, PA

The Reverend Gerald S. McLynn, Rector, Emmanuel Church, Somerville, NJ

The Reverend John Milligan, Rector, Redeemer Church, Jersey City, NJ

The Very Rev. Belgrave Pelle, Dean, Convocation of New York  
Rector, St. Mary's Church, Bronx, NY

The Rev. Richard W. Workowski, Vicar Designate - Covenant Church, Roanoke, VA

**Organist**

Virginia Nagel Bridgman

**Trumpeter**

The Reverend Dcn. Jason A. Holloway, Deacon, Church of the Atonement, Philadelphia

**Crucifer**

Mr. Jack Ross, St. Timothy's Mission, Medford, NJ

**Torch Bearers & Acolytes**

The Reverend Dcn. Carl Wegner

Mr. Josiah Wegner

Church of the Atonement, Philadelphia, PA

**Ushers**

Samuel Braithwaite; Kwadwo Burgee; Brian Davis; Millage Holloway III

Church of the Atonement, Philadelphia, PA

I am deeply grateful to Bishop Gillin for his long tenure of service to the Diocese in various capacities, but I am especially thankful for his gifts of leadership now that he is assisting me in episcopal oversight of our parishes.

#### **IV. Reformed Episcopal Seminary**

I continue to serve as President and Chancellor of the seminary and Associate Professor of Biblical Languages and Literature. I continue to teach Greek Elements (now assisted by the Rev. Justin Forsberg), New Testament Exegesis, Hermeneutics, Acts & Paul. During the Easter Quarter, 2012, I taught an elective course on St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, and this year I will teach General Epistles for the first time.

The seminary has hosted two special guests this academic year. On February 7, 2012, the Rev. Tit Hieng, a presbyter in the Anglican Church of Cambodia spoke to the faculty and students; and on May 8, 2012, the Rt. Rev. A. B. Lamido, Bishop of Wusasa, Nigeria, addressed the seminary community.

The annual commencement service was held on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at St. Paul's Church, Oreland. The commencement speaker was the Rt. Rev. Dr. John Rodgers, former dean and president of Trinity School for Ministry, Ambridge, Pennsylvania and a retired bishop in the Anglican Mission in America. Honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees were awarded to the Rev. Canon Daryl Fenton and Bishop Rodgers.

Beginning July 2012, the Rev. Dr. Jonathan Riches assumed the position of Academic Dean of the seminary. The Ven. Dr. John Abboud continues to serve as Provost of the seminary. I am thankful for the years of dedicated service given by Dr. Abboud to the academic program and am confident that Dr. Riches will build well on that previous work.

The new academic year, 2012-13, was marked by the annual convocation service held in the seminary chapel on Tuesday, August 28, 2012. The preacher at the service was the Rev. John Medvick, rector of St. Paul's, Oreland.

The seminary continues the process of accreditation with the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). Currently, we are working on those areas of weakness identified by the self-study, which was conducted last year. ATS will make a site visit to the campus in the spring of 2013.

#### **V. Parochial Matters**

**A. St. Paul's, Oreland, Pennsylvania.** The parish has called the Rev. John Medvick to serve as rector, beginning May 6, 2012. The Rev. Mr. Medvick transferred from the Diocese of Mid-America. I conducted a service of installation on Sunday, July 29, 2012 at the 10 am service.

**B. St. Luke's & Bishop Hoffman Church, Philadelphia, and St. Timothy's Church, Mt. Laurel.** I continue to meet with the combined vestry of these two mission parishes. Bishop Gillin has been providing pastoral care for St. Timothy's, and services and pastoral care at St. Luke's and Bishop Hoffman Church are being provided by the Rev. Barton Craig, the Rev. Richard Baird and the Rev. Frank Spadafora.

**C. St. George's, Hamilton, Ontario.** The Very Rev. John Smith has tendered his resignation as rector of St. George's Church, Hamilton, Ontario. He continues to serve as Archdeacon of the Diocese of Central & Eastern Canada and as Dean for the Canadian Convocation of the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. The Rev. Dr. John Ferns has been called to serve as rector of the parish and was installed as such on Sunday, September 16, 2012.

**D. Holy Trinity, Bronx.** On Sunday, October 30, 2011, I visited Holy Trinity Church, Bronx, New York. This has been an independent Anglican parish, comprised

primarily of immigrants from Ghana. The Rev. John Ofori-Mensah is the pastor of the parish. I was invited to speak about the Reformed Episcopal Church to the congregation, and subsequently the parish voted to request reception into the Diocese of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. The parish has adopted the model by-laws, and the Standing Committee received the parish on April 4, 2012.

#### **VI. Postulants for Holy Orders**

Robert Appleton (Grace Church, Havre-de-Grace)  
M. Russell Buchanan (St. Paul's Oreland)  
Timothy Craig (St. Stephen's, Eldersburg)  
Lawrence Spears (St. Timothy's, Mt. Laurel)  
James J. Tyne (Covenant Chapel, Basking Ridge)

#### **VII. Ordinations/Receptions/Transfers**

- A. John Ofori-Mensah.** On Wednesday, February 1, 2012, I examined the Rev. John Ofori-Mensah for reception as a presbyter, transferring from the Anglican Church of Ghana. I was assisted by the Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick and the Very Rev. Dr. Jonathan S. Riches. The examination was sustained. He was received as presbyter on March 9, 2012.
- B. Jack Clark.** On Wednesday, May 9, 2012, the Rev. Jack Clark was examined for ordination to the presbyterate. The Rev. Mr. Clark serves as vicar of St. Peter's Church, Chesapeake City, Maryland. Assisting in the examination were the Rev. Cedric R. Benner, the Rev. Michael D. Fitzpatrick and the Very Rev. Dr. Jonathan S. Riches. On Saturday, June 16, 2012, I ordained the Rev. Jack Clark to the presbyterate. The ordinand was presented by the Very Rev. Dr. Jonathan S. Riches, who also read the Litany, the Rev. Mark Specht was the preacher and the Very Rev. William Jenkins read the Gospel and assisted with the service of Holy Communion.
- C. John Medvick.** The Rev. John Medvick transferred as presbyter from the Diocese of Mid-America on May 6, 2012. As mentioned above, the service of installation was held on July 29, 2012.
- D. John S. ("Jack") Simpson.** The Rev. Jack Simpson, a deacon at Good Shepherd, Brockton, was examined for ordination to the presbyterate on June 1, 2012. I was assisted by the Very Rev. Walter L. Hawkins and the Very Rev. Dr. Jonathan S. Riches. The examination was sustained. He was ordained on Saturday, June 23, 2012 at Good Shepherd REC, East Bridgewater, Massachusetts. The ordinand was presented by the Very Rev. Eduardo Andrade, the Gospel was read by the Rev. Thomas Schmuck, and the preacher was the Very Rev. John Bacon of the Orthodox Church in America. The Rt. Rev. William Murdoch, Bishop Ordinary of the ACNA Diocese of New England, also participated in the service.
- E. Carl Wegner.** Carl Wegner was examined for the diaconate on Tuesday, June 12, 2012. Assisting in the examination were the Very Rev. Walter L. Hawkins and the Rev. Cedric R. Benner. The examination was sustained. On Saturday, July 21, 2012, I ordained him to the diaconate at a service held at Church of the Atonement, Philadelphia. The ordinand was presented by the rector of the

parish, the Very Rev. Walter L. Hawkins, the Rev. Jason Holloway read the Epistle, the Rev. Dr. Michael Tavella (North American Lutheran Church) read the Litany, and the preacher was the Rev. Canon Mark Rudolph.

- F. Justin Forsberg.** On Wednesday, July 25, 2012, the Rev. Justin Forsberg was examined for ordination to the presbyterate. I was assisted by the Very Rev. Walter Hawkins and the Very Rev. Dr. Jonathan S. Riches. The examination was sustained. Justin was ordained to the presbyterate at St. Matthew's Church, Havertown, on Saturday, September 8, 2012. The ordinand was presented by the Very Rev. Walter L. Hawkins, the Ven. Dr. Jon W. Abboud preached the sermon, the Rev. Herbert E. Anderson read the Epistle, the Rev. Roderick S. Lee read the Gospel and the Litany was read by the Very Rev. Gregory J. Miller.
- G. Paul Luth.** On Thursday, July 30, 2012, Paul Luth was examined for ordination to the diaconate. I was assisted by the Very Rev. John Smith, the Rev. Dr. John Ferns, and the Rev. Canon Robert Harrold. The examination was sustained. On Saturday, September 15, 2012 he was ordained to the diaconate at St. George's Church, Hamilton, Ontario. The ordinand was presented by the Rev. John Smith, the Rev. James McNamara read the Litany, the Rev. Canon Robert Harrold read the Epistle, the Rev. Dr. John Ferns assisted with the service of Holy Communion and I delivered the sermon.
- H. Robert Lyon.** On Tuesday, June 12, 2012, the Rev. Robert Lyon was examined for ordination to the presbyterate. I was assisted by the Very Rev. John Smith, the Rev. Dr. John Ferns and the Rev. Canon Robert Harrold. The examination was sustained. On Sunday, September 16, 2012, he was ordained to the presbyterate at St. George's Church, Hamilton, Ontario. The ordinand was presented by the Very Rev. John Smith, who also read the Epistle, the Gospel was read by the Rev. James McNamara, the Rev. Canon Robert Harrold read the Litany, the Rev. Dr. John Ferns assisted with Holy Communion, and I delivered the sermon.

### **VIII. Canonical Reports**

In conformity with the requirements of Title I, Canon 1, Section 2 of the Canons of the Diocese, the following presbyters, not retired by reason of age or disability, and not in charge of a parish, or otherwise engaged in the ministry of a parish or mission, or in service to the diocese, have reported to me and are listed as "in Good Standing":

*George J. Bundt, Raymond E. Feeck, Gary C. Hajek, William J. Holiman, Jr., James P. Raun, Wayne E. West, Rodney A. Whitacre.*

### **IX. General Council Activities**

**A. Operations Process Improvement Program Committee.** I serve on this General Council Committee and have attended several meetings over the past year. The OPI committee is charged with exploring ways in which the business operation of the General Council may be improved.

**B. General Council Committees; Conference of Bishops.** I attended the semi-annual meetings of the various General Council Committees in Summerville, South Carolina, on April 24-27, 2012 and October 8-13, 2012.

## **X. Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).**

**A. Prayer Book Task Force.** I also continue to serve as member of the ACNA Prayer Book Task Force. I attended a meeting, held February 28-29, 2012, at Church of the Apostles, Columbia, South Carolina, and at Nashotah House Seminary on October 22-25, 2012.

**B. College of Bishops, Provincial Council, Provincial Assembly.** I attended the sessions of the ACNA College of Bishops, Provincial Council and Provincial Assembly on June 5-7, 2012, at the Ridgecrest Conference Center in Ridgecrest, North Carolina. Our Diocese also was represented by Bishop R. Charles Gillin, Mrs. Diana Lopez and Mrs. Barbara Riches.

**C. Theological Task Force on Holy Orders.** I recently have accepted an appointment by Archbishop Robert Duncan to serve as the chair of a newly organized committee which will guide the College of Bishops in a study on Holy Orders.

## **XI. Other Diocesan Matters**

**A. Youth Advisory Committee.** The committee is working a program of assistance to strengthen local parishes in promoting the spiritual growth and development of young people. The committee is currently working with St. Mark's, Rydal, to assist in developing its youth program. On Saturday, May 12, 2012, a special workshop for youth catechesis was held at St. Mark's. A select number of parishes were invited to attend this trial session, in anticipation of a Diocesan-wide event to be held on May 4, 2012. The committee is providing a special discussion forum during the sessions of this Council.

**B. Diocesan Leadership Meeting.** On Friday, August 24, 2012, a meeting with the Diocesan leadership (canon, archdeacon and deans) was held at Reformed Episcopal Seminary. This was the second such meeting held over the past year. The meeting provides opportunity for communication and information to be shared, as well as a means for discussing ways in which the life of the Diocese may be improved and strengthened.

## **XII. Recommendations**

- 1. That the offering of the service of Holy Communion on the first day of Council be Designated alms for the Anglican Relief and Development Fund.*
- 2. That the offering of the service of Morning Prayer on the second day of Council be assigned to the Reformed Episcopal Board of Foreign Missions to assist Matt and Sora Colvin with their work in the Philippines, in connection with the Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders.*

Respectfully submitted,

The Rt. Rev. David L. Hicks