

The Shepherd's Staff

Newsletter of the Diocese of the Western States Early May 2022

ACW Notes Before DWS Synod

This year we are trying something new to raise money for student support for St. Joseph of Arimathea Seminary summer session. We have some fine students who need a little support, so it is time for all of us to step up to the plate! Christine and Harry Sunderland have very generously donated items that have been blessed by Archbishop Morse, and so are literally priceless, as well as three beautiful, certified copies of ancient Byzantine icons. Attached are pictures and a brief description of the items, and you can get more details on the website: 32auctions.com/ACW-DWS.

You will be asked to register and can then go in and check out the items. Bidding will begin on Friday, May 6 at 6 pm PDT and end at 6 pm PDT on Friday, May 13. Winners will be announced at the Synod Banquet on May 13, and you will be able to see the final bids online. Winners attending the banquet can pick up their prizes there, and others can send their checks, made out to ACW-DWS with notation 'silent auction' to: Gillian Golden. President ACW-DWS, PO Box 558, Selma, OR 97538-0558. Please also include \$8.95 to cover priority mail by USPS. Hopefully we can raise some substantial support!

I hope that all churches have received the flyers for the ACW Drawings, and ticket sales are booming! Money raised for these items goes to the Bishop Morse Youth Camp, another very worthy cause! Camp will be taking place again next year, and we really need to support our young people who are the future of our church. \$2.00 is not much to spend when you might get much more in return! Remember to put the item number on your ticket, as well as your name and church, and give the money and tickets to someone who will be coming to Synod. This seems to be all about money! Don't forget that your Lenten Mite Boxes are due. Give the box to your church treasurer, have them count all the money in the boxes and send a check to me at the above address. This money also goes for student support.

One last request! If you have jams, preserves, chutney, sauces, or anything you can put in a jar, please bring it to Synod and donate it to 'Preserving the Priesthood'. You can also spend your money by buying some of these delicious offerings!

Looking forward to seeing you at Synod!

Gillian Golden
President ACW-DWS

The following items will be auctioned by online silent auction on 32auctions.com/ACW-DWS from 5/6-5/13 You can go to the website and register to view the items and to bid, though bidding will not open until Friday, May 6 at 6pm PDT



St. George. Exact copy of strict Byzantine style by Fr. Perkis. 6.6" long and 5.5" wide



16th Century copy of "The Resurrection' 16th century icon 5.75" high and 4.5" wide





Copy of 'Trinity' by Andrei Rublev from 1425. 6.5" high and 4.5" wide

These icons are exact copies, made by hand in traditional colors on gold sheets, canvas and wood.



Crucifix from Shrine of Our Lady, Lourdes, France and blessed there by Abp. Morse in 1998. They are metal and wood, measuring 7" long by 3.75" wide.



St. Francis San Damiano Cross Paper on wood, blessed in Assisi at the grave of St. Francis by Abp. Morse in 1993 6.5" long by 4" wide.



Millennium Cross from Westminster Cathedral, London blessed there by AbBp. Morse in 2000. 2 are 5" long by 3.25" wide. The third is 4" by 3" wide

These items have been blessed by Archbishop Morse, and so are priceless in value!



Pre-Raphaelite picture of four Archangels from a mosaic. 4.5" by 3", blessed by Archbishop Morse In London in 2000.



to show relative sizes

The Sacred Triduum at Saint Luke's Redding



Rest in Peace

We are sad to announce the January 16th passing over into eternal life of Mr. Ted Judson who served faithfully and loyally on the Saint Joseph of Arimathea Board of Directors. Ted's wisdom and advice helped especially to guide the board after the death of Archbishop Morse. Ted was also a faithful member of Saint Thomas Church. His obituary is at https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sfgate/name/ted-judson-obituary?id=32509135

Consider

Confirmation, the strengthening of the Holy Ghost, which makes us full members of Christ's Mystical Body is one of the overlooked sacraments of the Church. Most children think, "Wow, someday I too can receive the bread and wine just like the adults." But we older shepherds must teach them that if they are to love God and their neighbor as themselves, they must modify that thinking. They must see that bread and wine as the Body and Blood of their Blessed Lord who died for their sins and rose from the dead that they too might have eternal life. And they must come to realize that good shepherds (clerical and lay) receive the Body and Blood of Christ so that they may be strengthened and refreshed in order to serve and protect Christ's flock.

An Easter Sermon

On Easter Day, two of Christ's disciples walked from Jerusalem to Emmaus: about seven miles. They were excitedly talking about the events of the day. From nowhere, a stranger joined them. He asked them why they were upset. When they told him of the rumored resurrection, He answered, "O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken."

Beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he showed them the scriptures that concern God's Messiah. For 2½ hours, the Bible study had to be marvelous. Imagine the first Bible study of who Jesus is and what the prophets had written about Him. He fulfilled hundreds of prophecies. The stranger spoke as one who personally knew these ancient voices...

God told Satan in the garden, "I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel." Gen 3:15 Jesus was that seed. God told Abraham, "In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Gen 12:3 Jesus was the blessing. Jacob said of his son Judah, the scepter of rulership would remain in that tribe. Jesus was of the tribe.

Isaiah had written of a new tree coming from the stump of David's failed line of kings. He was to be born of a virgin and called God with Us, Immanuel. Micah wrote that He would be born in Bethlehem. Daniel gave the very year of His birth. A messenger would prepare His way. He was to be a "priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek." He would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey. He would be sold for thirty silver coins, coins later thrown into the Temple to purchase the potters' field.

Down to the details: it was all there. Even the specifics of His Passion: Lashes, beatings, spitting, piercing His hands and feet, gambling for His clothes while He silently took it. But, the stranger urged the confused disciples, this had to happen. It was why He came. "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?"

The men were astonished. No one had put these verses together this way. It added up. Piece by piece, events fell into place: the sacrifice of Isaac, Jacob's ladder, Joseph's brothers forgiven, the Exodus, the Promised Land, the meaning of Passover, why God kept a remnant of Israel through centuries. It came clear to them.

They arrive at Emmaus. The three sat down to eat. The stranger blessed bread, broke it, and as He held it out to them, they recognized the man with the wonderful Bible class. It was Jesus. Then He vanished. "And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? And they told the Apostles what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread." Luke 24:32-35 The Jewish people had always congratulated themselves for being chosen, but chosen for what? God had real business with them: His Self-revelation came to them, so they might reveal Him to the world.

To the frightened apostles, the two disciples came back. They were surprised to see them again, knowing of their trip to Emmaus. But their story surprised them more, and their own hearts began to burn within them, hearing how Jesus fulfilled the scriptures. "They told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread." Let our hearts burn within us. Let our eyes be opened to see our Savior. Let our lives become the very fruit for which He came and gave so much. Let us find and follow that one slim chance He offers to the people of our time, His unimaginable gift of salvation.

+Peter F. Hansen

From C. S. Lewis – The Screwtape Letters

It is funny how mortals always picture us as putting things into their minds: in reality our best work is done by keeping things out.

If anyone would like to acquire humility...the first step is to realize that one is proud...nothing whatever can be done before it. If you think you are not conceited, it means you are very conceited indeed.