

THE ANGLICAN



Vol 15 No. 3 & 4 Published By The Diocese Of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands

PRICE \$100 DECEMBER 2017

The Mystery of our Humanity

*From the Desk of The Rt. Rev. Howard Gregory
Bishop of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands*

The approach of Christmas is unmistakable, if we just observe the environment around us. The days get shorter, the sorrel begins to ripen, the gungo peas begin to mature, and the poinsettias begin to change colour. If you are like me, you may find more jarring on the nerves the Christmas carols that the radio begins to play from November, and the Christmas decorations that some stores seek to display from just after September. But, whatever it is that captures your attention, most of us experience a sense of anticipation for the coming of Christmas, and nostalgia for Christmas celebrations in the good old days.

In a sense, the countdown to Christmas this year is of a different nature. As a nation, many Jamaicans are looking toward

Christmas from a different perspective. They are looking to see what the murder statistics for this year will be as we approach the end of another year. They know full well that the statistics will exceed the previous year, and tell a story of tragedy, violence and death. One may very well ask the question, how did we come to this?

Mystery of Life Lost

There are many answers which may be offered, but it is evident from a Christian perspective that there is a widespread loss of the sense of the mystery that is human life, as well as, the mystery which transforms human life and which is at the heart of the Christmas story. Human life without a sense of mystery loses its value.

The outstanding theologian Dietrich

Bonhoeffer underscores the value of the mystery of human life when he wrote:

"The lack of mystery in our modern life is our downfall and poverty. A human life is worth as much as the respect it holds for the mystery... Living without mystery means knowing nothing of the mystery in our own life, nothing of the mystery of another person, nothing of the mystery of the world; it means passing over our own hidden qualities and those of others and the world... Living without mystery means

CONTD



IN THIS ISSUE

Diocese Launches Season of Intentional Discipleship

Trinity Wall Street -Partnership Conference

Centerspread - Cathedral Sunday 2017

Youth: Vox Pop about Christmas

New Appointments within the Diocese



not seeing the crucial processes of life at all and even denying them."

So now Christmas is approaching and we would like to celebrate it in the way that we have always done. We exchange gifts and good wishes, there are family gatherings, the singing of carols, the focus on children, the once-a-year charitable acts extended to the poor, elderly and marginalized, with the Christ-Child of Bethlehem somewhere in the background. The abuse of children, crime and violence, and the high level of murder, which have given us the designation of the most "murderous" nation on earth, somehow cause all our positive associations to fade into the background.

Christ Dignifies Human Life

The mystery which is at the heart of the Christmas celebrations provides a new sense of value and hope in human life, and reverses all the negative factors which belittle it. At the centre of Christmas is the reality of God becoming human through the conception and birth of Jesus Christ, so that we may

come to understand what it means to be truly human. God does not seek out the most perfect human being in order to unite with that person. Rather, he takes on human nature as it is. So, not only has God created human beings, but God has also taken on and, thereby, dignified human life and existence. We, in turn, can bestow that same dignity, value and honour for each human life.

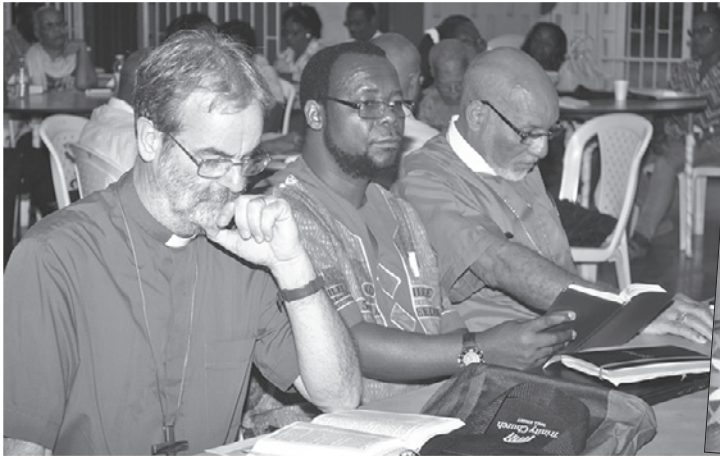
"At the centre of Christmas is the reality of Good becoming human..."

If this Christmas we can once again, as church and nation, honour the mystery and value of each human being, then we would truly have reason to celebrate. In a real sense, we would also have allowed the one who was present in the child Jesus of Bethlehem to be truly present in us, and so become channels for touching and transforming the lives of others.

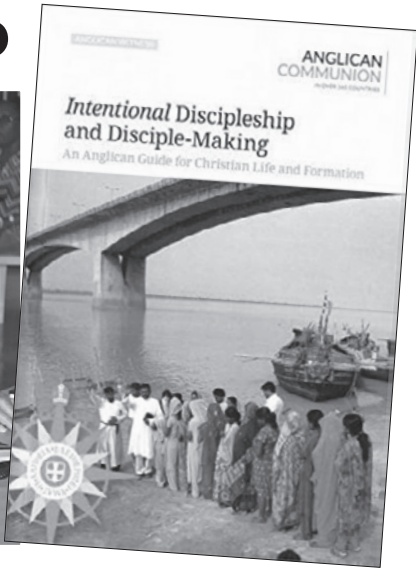
Have a blessed, joyful and Holy Christmas.



Diocese Launches Season of Intentional Discipleship



At the Kingston Workshop from left: Canon Mark Oxbrow, Canon John Kafwanka and Bishop Howard Gregory. At far right: an image of the book co-authored by the Canons.



The Diocese of Jamaica and The Cayman Islands launched a Season of Intentional Discipleship on Sunday, November 12 with a strong call for members to deliberately pattern Jesus in all areas of their life; and, in turn, become disciple-makers.

"We can no longer sit and compare ourselves to other churches. We must take the Jesus-shaped life seriously," Diocesan Bishop, Howard Gregory, told the large congregation at the launch Service at the Church Teachers' College in Mandeville.

"We will be training members at the Regional, Deanery and Church level to help them understand that, as baptized members, they have a role in promoting the gospel

of Jesus Christ which we believe and preach. The growth of our Church is dependent on our engagement of Intentional Discipleship," he asserted.

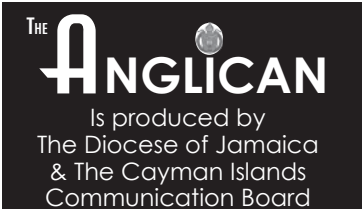
The Service followed two two-day seminars for clergy and laity, in the Kingston and Montego Bay Regions, presented by the Anglican Communion's Director of Mission, the Rev. Canon John Kafwanka, and the Rev. Canon Mark Oxbrow, InternationaThey are also co-authors of a book titled **"Intentional Discipleship and Disciple-Making: An Anglican Guide for Christian Life and Formation."**

Canon Oxbrow, who also preached at the Service, explained that Intentional Discipleship involved a conscious

decision to find where Jesus has trod. "We must follow him everywhere...in our family, in the business world, in the care for the environment, among the abused. It's for our entire life," he said.

This initiative by the Diocese follows a resolution at the last meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council in Lusaka, Zambia in 2016. The resolution urged members of the Anglican Communion worldwide to "produce resources to equip and enable the whole church to be effective in making new disciples of Jesus Christ."

[See images on pg12]



Being with Jesus – Key to Discipleship

Kingston Region Launch

"The gospel can only be transmitted on the basis of 'being' with Jesus."

This was the heart of the message delivered by The

Rt. Rev. Robert Thompson, Suffragan Bishop of Kingston at the launch of the Kingston Region's Period of Intentional Discipleship on Advent Sunday, December 3 at the historic St. George's Church, East Street.

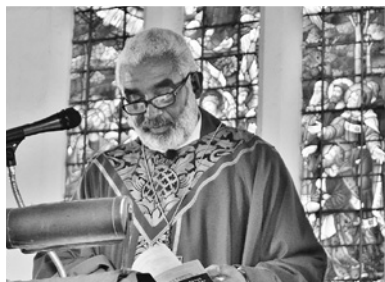
He noted that discipleship was one of the greatest challenges in churches today. Instead, he said, more resources were allocated to fundraising events and activities to promote and maintain existing structures and programmes rather than fostering discipleship, without which Christianity would be an empty shell.

"We are earnest in our belief, but do not go far enough to be committed to change. Many of us come to church Sunday after Sunday, we may be teaching Sunday School or doing some very important ministry, but yet never consider having a personal relationship with Jesus."

"We must follow Jesus, not simply to the ends of the earth, to do his work and echo his service; we follow him so that we can be next to the Father's heart," Bishop Thompson asserted.

He concluded that discipleship was not an intermittent activity but "a state of being" and a relationship that compels one to proclaim and share what is lived as good, positive and beautiful.

It was standing room only as clergy and members of churches in the Region participated in the Service at which it was announced that a special Bible Study was being written for Lent, and that training would be conducted to help members in Deaneries and congregations "to carry the story."



EDITORIAL

Holy Innocents – Let's Break the Silence!

Holy Innocence which is celebrated three days after Christmas serves as a reminder that a child is born at the same time that death-dealing powers dominate our psyche.

Herod tries to co-opt the wise men to betray their commitment to the child, and having failed, sought to destroy not only the child, but with him the dreams of a world liberated from fear and terror. Does this in anyway describe life in Jamaica today? At the precise moment in history when the world gives birth to revolutionary advancements in technology and communication, instruments to facilitate dialogue and peace, communities and households remain terrorized by the raw evil of violence.

At the very time when Jamaica celebrates its supremacy in athletics, we find ourselves overwhelmed by our brutality towards each other. This year, we have witnessed an alarming increase in the number of children

being killed. The image of the two-year-old who was shot in his head at point-blank range by a gunman after his injured father left him at the gate while trying to escape, will no doubt remain a dramatic symbol of society's complicity with the murder of the innocent.

As I celebrate Christmas this year some disturbing words of Jesus in the gospel come to mind. "Better not to be born than to offend against these little ones". The killing of innocent children is, of course, terrible as it robs them of a future, but it also undermines the very foundation of society. What Jesus is saying is that our children are the mirror image of God's kingdom. In other words, their very innocence speaks of the hopes and dreams of a softer, gentler society. That is our real tragedy as a society.

But herein lies the challenge because transforming our social order is not simply a matter for politicians or business moguls. Great changes occur when ideas of a transcendent

nature are given birth and take root in the lives of a people. The good news of Bethlehem is that ordinary life has been suffused with Divine glory. Which means that God is still expecting goodness to become incarnate in our communities and is waiting on us to be the instrument that will make the difference.

Does this answer all our questions? Perhaps not! But I believe it will be enough to start us on a journey of committing ourselves to a future with God. And no! We are not helpless – we who are infused with God's Spirit must figure out how we are going to redeem this tragic situation and make God's dreams come true. The blood of the innocent demands nothing less. And yes, the rest of the Christmas story depends on you and depends on me that we join the coalition of voices to do whatever it takes to demonstrate that "enough is enough" –So let's commit ourselves to breaking our silence!

**Rt. Rev. Robert Thompson,
Chairman, Diocesan
Communication Board.**



Building Capacity in Latin American and Caribbean Churches

Anglican churches in Latin America and the Caribbean are to receive major grant funding to support leadership development, promote financial self-sufficiency and strengthen their ministry in their respective societies.

The grants are being offered by Trinity Wall Street, an Episcopal Church in Manhattan, USA, which has been forging partnerships around the world to strengthen the bonds among Anglicans and improve their ability to carry out their mission.

Project areas covered under leadership development include short-term courses and conferences, as well as, exchange programmes to enhance Anglican formation and church administration. Income generating projects which empower vulnerable members of the community are the targeted areas for financial grants.

In late October, Trinity Wall Street hosted a

one-week conference in Montego Bay, in collaboration with the Diocese of Jamaica and The Cayman Islands. The discussions involved some 80 Bishops, clergy and lay leaders from the Caribbean and Latin America; and were aimed at identifying practical ways to share skills and knowledge, promote best practices and enhance the church's ministry and mission across the Region.

Recent improvements in the Province's communication capabilities were supported by a 2017 grant from Trinity. The project included upgrades to the Provincial website and that of the Diocese of Jamaica and The Cayman Islands. The grant also covered improvements to the Diocese's social media platforms, as

well as, the purchase and installation of digital communication equipment which is allowing persons off-site to participate in meetings held at Church House.

The Diocese is also seeking to deepen relationships with the Diocese of Cuba whose Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Griselda Delgado del Carpio participated in the Montego Bay Conference and preached at the St. Andrew Parish Church on Sunday, October 29.



Breakout groups at the Conference in Montego Bay



Archbishop Holder to Retire in 2018

The Most Rev. Dr. the Hon. John Holder, Archbishop of the West Indies, will be retiring February 2018 having served in that capacity since 2009.



Archbishop Holder, who was consecrated as the 13th Bishop of his native Barbados in 2000, entered the ordained ministry as a Deacon in 1974 and became a priest in 1976. A graduate of the Barbados-based Codrington College, where he earned the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theology and the Diploma in Theological Studies, the Archbishop also holds a Master's Degree in Sacred Theology (STM) from the School of Theology, University of the South. In 1985, he was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy (PHD) from King's College, London.

He has devoted much of his 43 years in ministry to the training of students at Codrington College as a Lecturer in Old Testament Studies; and for this, he was recognized in 1999. Archbishop Holder is also a recipient of the Errol Barrow Award, for his contribution to Theology in Barbados.

Provincial News Rev. Shelley-Ann Tenia - first female Anglican Dean

Anglican Bishop of Trinidad and Tobago, the Rt. Rev. Claude Berkeley, has appointed Very Rev. Shelley-Ann Tenia as Dean and Rector at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Port of Spain, Trinidad. She is the first female to hold this appointment. Formerly Rector of Holy Savior, Curepe, she was ordained a Deacon in 2005 and priest in 2006.

On being a woman to hold both senior positions, she said, "I am no fool. I am aware of the historicity of the moment. I am aware of how many would see this in the context of the church, in the life of women around the region, particularly being in traditional patriarchal spaces, such as administrative and decision-making levels."

Source: Trinidad and Tobago's Newsday of December 4, 2017
www.newsday.co.tt

Bishop Gibson High tops LASCO/MOE Teacher of the Year Award

Mrs. Ingrid Peart-Wilmot, Head of the Department of Business Education at Bishop Gibson High School in Mandeville, is this year's winner of the LASCO/Ministry of Education Teacher of the Year Award which was presented on December 4. Mrs. Peart-Wilmot who has served the teaching profession for 20 years, describes this achievement as the result of collaborative relationships forged with her colleagues, students, and church.



In a telephone interview with The Anglican, Mrs. Peart-Wilmot noted that a career in education offers the greatest opportunity to impact life. "You cannot do it for the money, because that will frustrate you, and when you become frustrated you will have little impact on those you are to inspire," she said. "Teachers are called to unwrap the gifts of each child," she added.

The Principal of Bishop Gibson High, Mrs. Legister Hendricks, describes Mrs. Peart-Wilmot as a committed professional who "always engages creative strategies to pique the interest of her students." These include the Miss Bishop Gibson Talent and Awareness Pageant which she coordinates.

Mrs. Peart Wilmot has been married for the past 18 years to Christopher and has two teenage sons. She is also an Adjunct Lecturer at the Vocational Training Development Institute in Mandeville.

Hermin Price is Provincial MU President



The Mothers' Union (MU) in the Province of the West Indies has a new President. She is Mrs. Hermin Price, MU President for the Diocese of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands. She was unanimously elected at the Provincial Council Meeting held in Barbados from September 4-6.

Her election coincided with the 25th Anniversary Celebrations of the Provincial organisation, which began on Sunday September 3 with a Service of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral Church of St. Michael and All Angels.

Mrs. Price has a long record of leadership and service in the Mothers' Union, starting with the branch at her home Church – St. John the Evangelist at Merrivale, St. Andrew, where she was Enrolling Member from 2007-2011. She has also held office on the St. Andrew Deanery Executive Committee. At the national level, Mrs. Price was Deputy President for the Eastern Jamaica Region from 2006 to 2008 when she assumed responsibility as Regional President. This committed worker was commissioned as Diocesan President in 2012, and she continues to guide the organisation's programmes.

She is supported on the Executive of the Provincial organisation by two Regional Presidents of the Mothers' Union, Jamaica. They are Montego Bay Region President and national Treasurer, Mrs. Opal Beharrie, who was returned as Treasurer for the Province; and Kingston Region President, Mrs. Judith Spencer-Jarrett, who was appointed Public Relations Officer.

BSA Convention November 11, 2017 St. Thomas Ye Vale, Bog Walk



BSA Western Assembly Luncheon and Fundraiser in aid of Clifton Boys' Home. December 2, 2017 Savanna-la-Mar



CATHEDRAL



CATHEDRAL SUNDAY – A GROWING MINISTRY

*"Ketch di riddim of Jesus Christ
Let his love be your constant guide
Sing and shout praise His matchless Name
Christ our King will forever reign"*

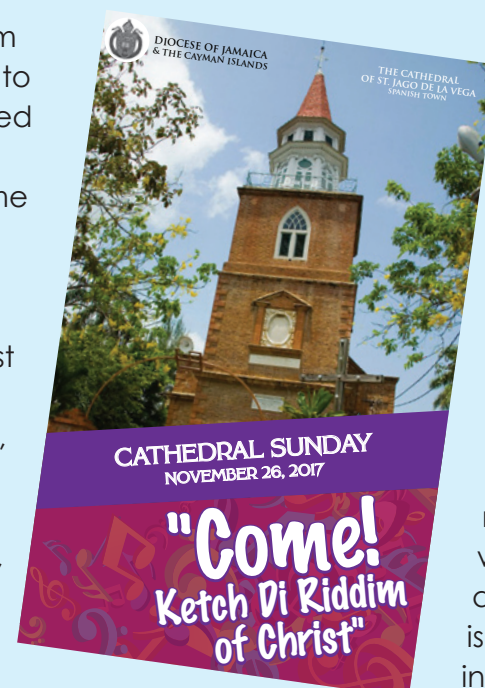
"Come, ketch de riddim of Christ" was the theme of Cathedral Sunday 2017 which was celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Jago de la Vega, Spanish Town on Sunday, November 26 on the Feast of Christ the King. The theme is reflected in the first line of a hymn written specially for the occasion by the Rev. Dwane Blackwood, the Curate at the Cathedral and sung to the popular folk tune 'Linstead Market.'

There was a strong youth presence at the Service with almost 300 students and teachers from 17 Diocesan schools and institutions – chiefly from rural Jamaica. Special guests included representatives of three churches which were celebrating special anniversaries. These were St. Joseph's, the Grove St Andrew, (190); St Thomas-Ye-Vale, Bog Walk (177); and St Jude's Church, Stony Hill (130).

The colourful All Saints Marching Band,

which proceeded from Emancipation Square to the Cathedral, provided a festive start to the afternoon's programme and attracted the attention of residents in the area. This was followed by a Choirfest at the Cenotaph outside the Cathedral, featuring choirs from the St Hilda's Diocesan High School, Black River High School, Ocho Rios High School and the St. Hugh's Singers. Emceed by Miss Monique Castle, the selections were well received by an appreciative audience.

The Festal Evensong was the day's main event, and the St. Jago High School Choir and Band led the singing. The Psalm was rendered by students from St. George's Girls School, while the Lessons were read by a resident from the Clifton Boys' Home; and students from the Black River High



School and Glenmuir High School, respectively.

In keeping with the youth focus, the Sermon was delivered by a young priest, the Rev. Natalie Blake, Assistant Curate, St Mark's Church, Mandeville. In her Sermon, (mounted on the Diocese's web site), she pointed to the Church's responsibility to bring hope to a world in which, based on local and foreign news reports, there is an undeclared war. Tapping into the theme of the Service, she asserted: *"We are the ones given the rhythm of life by Jesus.*

When we signed on as Christians, we were given the mission to go out and to make disciples, and to share the Good News that Jesus taught us."

The attendance and enthusiastic participation by students has made Cathedral Sunday an important vehicle for promoting the values of the Anglican worship experience to young persons.



Celebrating Significant Anniversaries this year



The following Churches celebrated significant anniversaries this year.

St. Joseph's, The Grove, St. Andrew (190)

Originally called the 'Hope Chapel,' this Church

was consecrated and dedicated on December 10, 1827 by Bishop Christopher Lipscomb. The Church, which is situated on a picturesque hillside on the Gordon Town Road, is today, part of the Cure of St. Margaret's, Liguanea.



St. Michael's, Clarks Town, Trelawny (180)

The beginnings of this Church date back to 1837 when a Mission House was erected in the newly-



established free village of Clark's Town, in the heart of the Trelawny sugar belt. The congregation grew rapidly and a new building to accommodate 600 persons was consecrated by Bishop Lipscomb in 1839.

St. Thomas-Ye-Vale, Bog Walk, St. Catherine (177)

This Church has been celebrating 177 years of "free worship" beginning in 1839, because before that period, the enslaved people could not worship freely. The original church was built in the early 1690's, and served as the parish church for the former parish of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale. The building has been destroyed and rebuilt several times, the last being after a fire in 1974.



St. John's, Ocho Rios (170)

This Church began as a mission at "Elizabeth Scott's house" in February 1838. The Church was consecrated on 6th June 1847.

St. Jude's Church, Stony Hill (130)

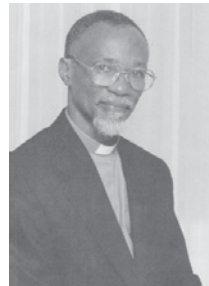
Originally accommodated in a small wooden building, St. Jude's Church was dedicated on October 28, 1887. A new, modern building which was dedicated on October 27 197 has showcased Jamaican religious art forms, and served as a venue for the performance of Jamaican and Caribbean music, as well as, drama and dance productions.



Editor's Note: Will your Church be celebrating a significant anniversary in 2018? If so, we would like to hear from you. If you need historical information about your Church, we can put you in contact with the Honorary Church Archivist.

CONGRATULATIONS

We extend our congratulations to the following persons who have been recognised for outstanding service in their respective fields:



The Rt. Rev. Harold Daniel, retired Suffragan Bishop of Mandeville, who received the national honour of Order of Distinction (Officer) for

his services to religion. Born in Montserrat, Bishop Daniel came to Jamaica in 1960 and served in the Church Army for 18 years and as Director of Youth Work before entering full-time ministry in 1978. He was consecrated Suffragan Bishop of Mandeville in 2000; and on his retirement in 2011, he served as Rector of the Church of the Transfiguration, Meadowbrook Main, until earlier this year when he demitted office.

The Rev. Canon Calvin McIntyre, retired Canon in the Diocese of New York, in the United States of America, who was awarded the national honour of Order of Distinction (Officer) for services to the church and community. Canon McIntyre, whose pastoral ministry positively impacted many persons, was installed in 2000 as the 10th Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd in the Bronx, which experienced significant growth during his tenure.



L-R: Rt Rev Leon Golding, Venerable Justin Nembhard, Rev Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Rev Canon Calvin McIntyre and Rev Ken Wilkin who is married to Rev Rose

(UTech) at the University's graduation ceremony on November 4, 2017. Mrs Justice McCalla was recognised for her "outstanding service to Jamaica's justice system and, in particular, her achievement of being the first woman to rise to the position of Chief Justice".

The Reverend Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons (United Kingdom) and Chaplain to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on receiving the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa* from The University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech) at the University's Graduation Ceremony on November 4, 2017. The Reverend Hudson-Wilkin was recognised for her "signal achievement as a woman of colour." Born in Montego Bay, she is the first woman to be appointed Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The Hon Zaila McCalla, OJ., Chief Justice of Jamaica and Chancellor of the Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands on receiving the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa* from The University of Technology, Jamaica





Diocesan Secretary Denzil Barnes Retires



Ordained as a deacon in 1994, Denzil Claude Barnes would never have imagined that his service to God would be as an administrator. The Reverend Canon Denzil Barnes, Priest-in-Charge at the Church of Saint George, East Street will step down as Diocesan Secretary effective December 31 having served over 16 years.

In that capacity, he functioned as office manager, finance director and company secretary – “an impossible task” as described by Diocesan Accountant, Almerick Cooke. However, Canon Barnes who joined the staff at Church House in 2001, fresh from a senior management position at National Commercial Bank,

accepted his demanding job as part of God's plan for his life.

“I have learned that is important to ‘pray, listen and wait,’” he says as he reflects on his spiritual growth during his tenure.

The Accountant, Mr. Cooke notes that “while Canon Barnes appears to be a tough nut to crack, he is not difficult to deal with.”

Bishop Suffragan, Montego Bay, Leon Golding, in commending the former Diocesan Secretary, observed that Canon Barnes was keen on ensuring that wardens and

treasurers were trained and knowledgeable about their role and functions. “Canon Barnes has aided the Diocese in going green by employing a system administrator, and facilitating online streaming of the accounts,” Bishop Leon explains.

When asked about his future plans, the Canon, who describes his time at Church House as rewarding, replies, “Everything is left in the hands of the Almighty. [God will] use me as he sees fit.” Canon Barnes is married to Beulah, and has two grown children.

New Diocesan Secretary Appointed

Mrs. Jacqueline Mighty, a

highly trained Chartered Accountant with over 30 years' experience in management, accounting and finance culminating as CEO of the City of Kingston Co-operative Credit Union, has been appointed Diocesan Secretary, effective October 1, 2017. She succeeds the Rev. Canon Denzil Barnes.

She is a Lay Magistrate, an active member of St Andrew Parish Church and a Board Member of the Queens' School. She is married with two adult children.



Ms. Claudette Marshall

was appointed General Secretary of the Jamaica Church Missionary Society and Director of Mission and Ministry on November 1, 2017 in succession to **Mrs Carmen Bromley** who retired after serving in the dual capacity for 10 years.

Ms. Marshall brings to the job years of experience in the private and public sectors. An Associate Evangelist of the Church Army, she is an active member of St Luke's Church, Cross Roads and has served since 2012 as a Lay



Representative to Synod. She is also a former member of both the Diocesan Council and the Diocesan Financial Board.

Sister Molly

Sister Molly Walton has been appointed Head of the Church Army effective July 1, 2017. This follows on the passing earlier this year of Sister Phyllis Thomas. After studying at Church Army College, Sister Molly was commissioned to the Church Army Jamaica in 2005. She currently serves at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Marverly.



The Rev. Michael Elliott

has been appointed Acting Secretary of Synod

with effect from October 2, 2017, having served as Asst. Secretary since 2011. He succeeds the Ven. Winston Thomas, who served as Secretary of Synod for 25 years. The Synod is expected to confirm Fr. Elliott's appointment in 2018. He was ordained to the diaconate in 2006 and to the priesthood in 2007. He is currently Rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit, Cumberland.



that big bright smile on their faces. And that is what Christmas means to me."

Sis Charmane Shand

"Christmas is lights, giving and receiving gifts, eating cake and ham, drinking sorrel and making sure I have enough to share with those who don't have."

However, I haven't forgotten the true meaning of Christmas - Christ coming into the world for us. That is the first thing. So the light represents 'The light of the world.' The gifts represent 'The gift of love, sharing and caring.' It is all about Love.



done so throughout the year. That's what Christmas means to me."

Delayanah

"Christmas to me means putting a smile on the faces of those who are less fortunate and needy to let them feel loved at least once per year. It means coming together and bonding with family and friends. Christmas is the season to be jolly so I would like to see

people you value most in life similar to what happened when Jesus was born because everyone then was there for someone they value"

Remona

"The season of Christmas to me is a feeling of joy, peace and togetherness. So it's that time of the year for families to get together and spend some quality time if they haven't

dinner and watching Christmas movies together with family."

Shantoya Forde: "It means happiness because it is spending time with families and helping to preparing Christmas dinner."

Christ Church, Morant Bay

Rory Morgan
"Christmas to me means spending time with the

church regularly at the Mission of the Ascension, Harry Watch. Not surprisingly, therefore, Veledia became an acolyte and member of the Junior and Senior choirs; Secretary of the Anglican Youth Fellowship (AYF); and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer of the Manchester and Upper Trelawny AYF Area Council. She subsequently joined the congregation of the Spanish Town Cathedral where, in addition to the AYF, she was Sunday School Teacher; Instructor/Choreographer of the



Dance Ministry; and member of the Altar Guild. The Young Adult Movement (YAM), the Diocesan Youth Camp and the Chancel Choir were among her many other activities. She now worships at Christ Church, Port Antonio and is Public Relations Officer for the Young Adult Movement. The versatile Veledia, who is a Form Teacher

at Titchfield High School, is a Mathematics Trainer; and she also works with the Girl Guides, the footballers, the choir and folk dancers. Her project as reigning queen is "To form the Boundbrook Community Based Organisation (CBO) Youth Club with a focus on developing the numeracy and literacy levels of students in grades 4, 6 and 11."

Upcoming Events

- **January 6:** Women's Auxiliary Annual Bishop's Day at Church of the Conversion of St. Paul, Greater Portmore. March of Witness: 8.20 a.m.; Eucharist: 9.00 a.m., followed by Business Session
- **January 22:** Founder's Day Celebrations to "kick off" the 100th anniversary of the establishment of DeCarteret College, Mandeville.
- **January 27:** Annual General Meeting & election of 2018 executive - Anglican Youth Fellowship (AYF) at St. Ann's Bay Parish Church, starting at 9.00 a.m.
- **February 25:** Annual General Meeting - Mothers' Union at the auditorium, Wolmer's Boys' School, National Heroes Circle, starting at 9.30 a.m. with a March of Witness. Service follows

What does Christmas mean to you?

From The Queen's School

Gabrielle Coley: "It is a time of sharing, showing kindness, giving and receiving gifts, going to Church with family. Giving God thanks. Also having fun."

Chrisann Brown:

"Spending time with the family. Experiencing the joy of giving gifts to others. Having family

Miss Portland is one of Us!

Veledia Robinson, who hails from the 'cool, cool' parish of Manchester, now lives and works in the lush, eco-tourism parish of Portland, and is the reigning Miss Portland Festival Queen. She is the daughter of Jacob and Vinnett Robinson, both past Principals of the Harry Watch All Age School; and she has two siblings, Natasha and Joynette. An ardent Anglican and a Lay Reader for many years, her father ensured that his family attended

Poinsettia Carol

(A Jamaican Carol composed by Daisy Myrie, 1908-1981)

When Christmas first came on this earth
The story of the Saviour's birth,
Was told in distant lands.

Chorus: Sing Christmas song, poinsettia red,
For in a lowly manger bed
A little babe was born

White Christmas pops perfume the air
A Virgin pure a son did bear,
To save the whole wide world.

Soft Christmas breeze, blow from afar,
Tell us the story that we are
All called to worship him.

Swift hummingbird, pause in your flight
Tell on that wondrous shimmering night
The Angel's Song was heard.

Jerusalem candlesticks shed your light,
Lead all His Loving Children, right
To Bethlehem's Holy Babe

Note: Mrs. Daisy Myrie (formerly Baxter) was a radiologist by profession. Her sisters were prominent Jamaicans in their particular fields of endeavor – law, dance and education. The Carol was sung at her Funeral Service which took place in mid-December, 1981 at St. Matthew's Church, Allman Town, where four of the Baxter sisters were ardent members.

Christmas Jamaican Style

Christmas Services: Churches have candlelight ceremonies, concerts, all-night prayer meetings with the singing of Christmas carols

Tree Lighting Ceremonies: Organised by Parish Councils across the island where there is the official switching on of the Christmas tree lights.

Gift exchanges: The season for giving where gifts are exchanged by families, friends and coworkers (including "pixies"). Gifts are also given to the more vulnerable and children in our institutions.

Must have food: Roasted chicken, ham, curried goat, gungo peas and rice, sorrel Christmas cake/pudding



Traditional Christmas Cake

Ingredients

½ bottle browning
1lb brown sugar
1 lb margarine
8 eggs
1 lb baking flour
1 tsp baking powder
1 tsp. lime rind (grated)
1 tsp mixed spice
1 tsp. cinnamon
3 tsp vanilla
1 tsp ea. flavouring (pineapple, strawberry & lemon)
1 tsp lime juice
½ cup cake wine
¼ cup white overproof rum
1 lb each blended fruits (raising, currants, prunes)

Preparation time 30 minutes/ Baking time 1 hr

Method

1. Put sugar and butter in a bowl and cream until light & fluffy
2. Add beaten eggs to the mixture
3. Fold in sifted flour with nutmeg, cinnamon, & lime rind, alternating with wine and flavouring, ending with flour
4. Add blended fruits to mixture
5. Add browning, ensuring it is evenly mixed
6. Pour batter into greased and lined baking tins (Consistency is ideal when a wooden spoon placed in the middle to stand slowly falls to the side)
7. Bake in a pre-heated oven at 280°F for approximately 1 hour or until skewer inserted comes out clean.

Sorrel – Savoury & Refreshing

Christmas in Jamaica is not the same without a tall glass of the refreshing sorrel drink. The addition of rum gives it a smooth taste and makes the drink uniquely Jamaican. However, the beverage is equally enjoyable without alcohol.

Sorrel is not indigenous to Jamaica and is found all around the world. Officially called the Roselle plant (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*), it is a specie of hibiscus native to the Old World tropics.

It is an annual or perennial herb growing to 2-2.5 metres tall. The flowers are white to pale yellow with a dark red spot at the base of each petal and have a stout fleshy calyx at the base, which enlarges to a fleshy and bright red as the fruit matures. Previously, sorrel was reaped between November and December, but now, it is available all year.

While we love this beverage primarily for its savory taste, it is also used for a host of other purposes, including as a diuretic, mild laxative, and treatment for cardiac, nerve diseases and cancers.

The sorrel drink is usually served along with our Jamaican Christmas cake.

Jamaican Sorrel Drink

Ingredients

1 pound sorrel
1/2 gallon water
Sugar
2-4 oz. ginger
Rum (or wine)
Pimento (allspice)
a few grains

Preparation

1. Wash sorrel thoroughly, drain and place in bowl.
2. Peel and grate ginger and add to sorrel.
3. Add pimento berries.
4. Boil water and pour over sorrel. Allow to stand for at least 4-6 hours.
5. Strain, then sweeten and add rum to taste.
6. Serve chilled.



Have a Blessed Christmas

INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

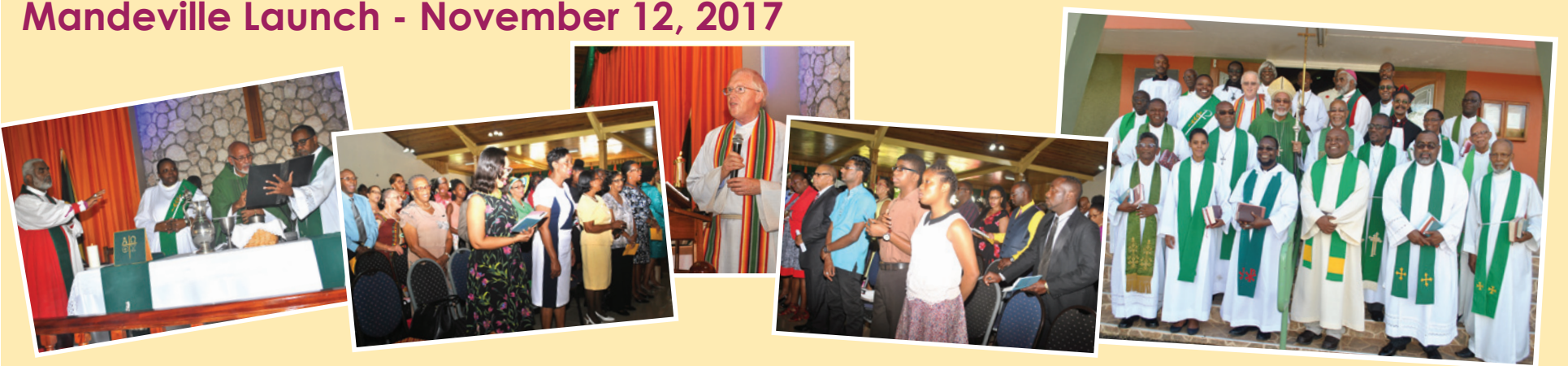
Workshop - Kingston- November 7-8, 2017



Workshop - Montego Bay - November 9-10, 2017



Mandeville Launch - November 12, 2017



Kingston Region Launch - December 3, 2017 - Advent Sunday

