would call it liturgical depth. But, let me tell the story and we can flesh that out a bit.

A couple of years ago, Dr. Christopher Simpson, Professor of Philosophical Theology at Lincoln Christian University (LCU) in Lincoln, came to Trinity with his family. The Simpsons quickly became active in parish life; Chris is on Vestry, his wife Kaysha leads our children’s Sunday School effort and Chris and/or his son David can be found serving at the altar most Sundays. Sometime later, Jonathan Totty came to LCU to complete a Master in Theology degree. Jon was already intrigued by the liturgy because he had attended noonday liturgies at the Cathedral at the invitation of a Methodist minister he knew. Jon and his family began worshipping at Trinity the first weekend they moved to town; currently, they are at Nashotah House preparing for ordination. Chris and Jon were open about where they worshipped and thus a number of like-minded students and recent graduates have found their way to Trinity.

As I stand in the pulpit of Trinity Episcopal Church, Lincoln, I see something different than I did the first years of my ministry here – heads of dark hair. Not just a few here and there but whole pews of it. On a recent Sunday morning I counted 13 people under the age of 30 and that did not include children. For our larger churches that may not seem noteworthy but when your average attendance hovers in the low 40’s, you notice.

Our story of how that came to be is mostly a confluence of specific things that hold only for Trinity, Lincoln but I believe there are ideas that can be applied to most Episcopal churches too. If I must pick a theme that attracts and holds these young people I
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+ Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins, Bishop

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FROM THE BISHOP

LIFE TOGETHER

I hope that blessed Dietrich Bonhoeffer might forgive me for borrowing the title of one of his important books. It’s just so apt for what I want to share with you briefly.

You have no doubt heard me talk (or write about) the three core spiritual practices that support our life in Christ: Sunday Eucharist, daily office, and personal meditation. These are laid out compellingly by the late English priest Martin Thornton in his classic Christian Proficiency. At the risk of seeming presumptuous, I would like to add a fourth such pillar: Christian community.

The strong emphasis that our culture places on individuality leads us, I fear, to look at our relationships within the Body of Christ, those with whom we regularly worship, as an optional extra, an add-on, something in the “would be nice” category, but not absolutely necessary.

I beg to differ. Part of Christian discipleship is to allow ourselves to be formed, shaped, over the course of a lifetime, into the likeness of Jesus, to not even have to stop to ask, “What would Jesus do?” because our instinctive response to anything would naturally be what Jesus would do. The distilled wisdom of two thousand years of Christian experience is that this process of formation happens mainly in community. It happens as we pray together, eat together, laugh and cry together, work and serve together, and study together. Through all these things, we—almost literally—“rub off” on one another.

Christian community is an appealing concept to most Christians. It is when we try to put it seriously into practice that we run into problems! The church is made up of sinful human beings. Christians behave badly around one another. We hurt one another. It has even been so. When this happens, it is always tempting to retreat into a “me and God” shell. But, the way God has designed things, whether we like it or not, the way we relate to God is by relating to others who are relating to God. Darn. (Or so I often myself feel.)

Think of the one person in your congregation who annoys you the most, the one you would just as soon not have to exchange the Peace with. That person is essential to you, to your growth in holiness—ultimately, to your eternal destiny. You might not feel much love toward that person today, but if you cannot at least summon the desire to love that person, then you cannot love God, because God loves that person. And until we learn to love God, we cannot live in God’s eternal presence. It’s that simple.

So my pastoral challenge to your for 2019 is: keep it real. Understand that Christian community is not some hypothetical ideal. It happens with the actual flawed human beings who, with you, have been sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism and marked as Christ’s own forever. Start with them. Pray for them. Eat with them. Talk with them. Work and serve with them. Study and learn with them. They are vital to your spiritual health and welfare.

+Daniel
LESS GREY IN THE PEWS

Continued from Cover

Our young newcomers appreciate these aspects of the Episcopal Church demonstrated at Trinity:

• A greater sense of transcendence and of the holy; God is other than us, not just our buddy
• Worship includes the learning and tradition of the early Church and the best of what followed
• The whole of Scripture is revealed; four lessons each Sunday using the three-year Lectionary
• The Church Year, emphasis on Holy Communion and the depth of hymnody are appreciated
• Sermons have theological heft (they are also shorter!)
• The Gospel, Scripture, liturgy and the Sacraments are key, politics is left at the door

These comments are not exhaustive but they give the flavor of what is attractive for these young people.

So, how can this be replicated in other churches in the diocese? Relationships. Obviously, having ambassadors like Chris and Jon was key! But, I have audited a class, attended seminary worship periodically, and guest lectured in some classes. Thus when Chris and Jon invited students to come to Trinity, we were not totally unknown. We are more than Sunday morning. We have a Morning Prayer/Eucharist on Tuesday mornings and Evening Prayer, a Healing Eucharist and Bible Study on Thursday evenings. We try to offer a full expression of Anglican worship and these services are increasingly popular.

Education.

In summary, there is a hunger among some young people for a deeper expression in worship that our tradition supplies, they just don't know we have it. Philip said to Nathaniel “Come and see”; if we can be like Philip and do likewise, we and they will be blessed.

Fr. Mark Evans is the Rector of Trinity Church in Lincoln

AROUND THE DIOCESE

READINGS FROM REVELATION: THE EDUCATION OF A PRIEST

Dale Coleman

I am finally ready to speak about the book I have authored, because I have finished the content, and I am now getting the Preface, footnotes, bibliography, Table of Contents, and Index together. This is the book I have been working on for over two years about growing up in the Salvation Army, and my disillusionment with the Bible and Christianity, and then while attending my last two years of college at the University of Wisconsin, encountering the Episcopal Church at Grace Church, Madison, and especially Trinity Church in Janesville, Wisconsin. My memoir is not only autobiographical, but an apologetic (defense) of the Christian Faith as I learned totally anew in the Episcopal Church. I learned how the Church Catholic had read and interpreted the Bible for nearly two thousand years, and my lifelong question: “Where did the Bible come from” got answered. I especially found out about the Christian faith in the Episcopal Church from influential people in my life: Fr. Wayne Smith, Fr. Robert Hargrove, faculty members at Nashotah House, and above all Archbishop Michael Ramsey.

This has been for me a labor of love, and something I have worked on in dribs and drabs, whenever I have caught some time in the late evenings, weekends, and vacation time. It is chiefly concerned with faith in Christ, and love for His Church.

This story takes me from childhood to my ordination as an Episcopal priest at Grace Church in Madison, in 1980, with Archbishop Ramsey preaching the sermon.

The book will be published in 2019 by Wipf and Stock, a Christian publishing house, which has recently published a memoir by Quantum Physicist and Anglican priest John Polkinghorne, and some rather weird
books by and about Bishop James Pike, the celebrity Episcopal Bishop of California in the late 1950s to the mid 1960s. I am grateful to an Episcopal priest and scholar and friend Randall Balmer for arranging this opportunity. Others are reading this book, including United Methodist theologian Stanley Hauerwas. My longtime friend and classmate at Nashotah, now Bishop George Wayne Smith (who is in the book at Nashotah) has encouraged me, and is now retiring as Bishop of Missouri.

For the next three weeks, at the Adult Forum, I will offer some readings and comments from this book at the Adult Forum. I will ask for your critical comments, which will assist me with the final editing of the book. I am eager for you to say what you think, and you may be as critical as you would like.

The Rev. Dale Coleman is the Rector of St. George’s in Belleville

ICON

Kathryn Jeffrey

The Christmas cards that St. Andrew’s parishioners in Carbondale are making for Veterans’ Hospital patients this year are extra special. They will feature copies of a beautiful Madonna and Child icon created by the parish’s Senior Warden, Michael Onken. Entitled “Theotokos of Tenderness,” the original icon hangs in St. Andrew’s chapel. Michael is a retired art professor at Southern Illinois University.

Icons, as every computer user knows, are symbols that allow us to access new worlds. In the case of religious icons, the prayerfully-made art opens the viewer to consider the transcendent dimensions of God.

“Michael’s icon of St. James is perhaps my favorite,” says St. Andrew’s rector, Kathryn Jeffrey. It conveys a powerful sense of presence and connection.”

St. Andrew’s parishioner Martha Angel describes Michael’s art as “awesome,” in that it “opens doors to deeper understandings of the Bible.” An EFM and FCD mentor, Martha has explored his work through theological reflections in her study groups.

Mother Jeffrey is also partial to Michael’s modern interpretations of the devotion to “Mary, Undoer of Knots,” a painting originally from the eighteenth century. “Michael’s painting of a very young Mary presides over the church secretary’s desk, and seems to emanate order amidst the often chaotic busyness of the office,” said Mother Jeffrey.

The original artist, Johann Schmidtner, was inspired by St. Irenaeus, who wrote, “Eve, by her disobedience, tied the know of disgrace for the human race, whereas Mary, by her obedience, undid it.” Pope Francis is among the many faithful who appeal to the Undoer for intercession in simplifying their lives and in resolving knotty problems.

St. Andrew’s church happily provides other venues for Michael’s work in the nursery and even in the beautiful materials crafted for the church’s Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. Pictured here are “Moses in the Bullrushes,” and the figures used to teach the parable of ten bridesmaids.

“St. Stephen’s, Gloucester Road, in London had poet T. S. Eliot for a warden, and St. Andrew’s is blessed in Michael’s many gifts as artist and warden,” concludes Mother Jeffrey. “It’s amazing that his faith finds expression in such diverse and beautiful channels, and we are so very grateful.

The Current thanks Professor Onken for his gracious permission to print his artwork.

The Very Rev. Kathryn G. Jeffrey is the Rector of St. Andrew’s Church in Carbondale
EXPRESSIN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY (ECC)

Ann Prisland, Lorraine Crumley, Kay Mulhall, Joyce Wright

Part of the mission of ECC is “to enhance our experience of Christian community by getting to know each other well while working together and with others to do good in the world”. In 2018, ECC members supported a variety of local social justice organizations and efforts.

The Chapel of St. John The Divine co-sponsored Racial Taboo, a local event featuring a film by the same name followed by small-group discussion groups. Participants shared experiences as well as feelings about race and racial justice. Several ECC members helped organize the event, and also participated in ongoing discussion groups. Later in the year, ECC members and others joined together in the Chapel’s discussion group, using the book Anxious to Talk About It.

Several of our members participate in Ripple Effect, a local effort to send cards to local citizens who are incarcerated. Each month, Ripple participants meet at the Central Illinois Mosque and Islamic Center to share card-writing time with others. Ripple Effect’s goal is to reach into prisons with purpose and love, to send messages of caring to those inside.

ECC members support several local organizations: Eastern Illinois Food Bank, Book 2 Prisoners, the University YMCA’S New American Welcome Center and the community-wide Welcoming Week, and Three Spinners, a local group providing support to immigrants and refugees.

STANDING COMMITTEE

Following the adjournment of the 141st Diocesan Synod, the Very Rev. Richard A. Swan was elected President of the Standing Committee and the Very Rev. Mark E. Evans was elected Secretary of the Standing Committee. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

On All Hallows Eve, we convened a “Cyber Zoom” meeting, at 11:00 am, with 6 of our 8 members present to interview Mr. Shane Spellmeyer, a Postulant and Senior Seminarian. After interviewing him we deliberated and voted to recommend him to Bishop Martins as a Candidate for Holy Orders.

MINISTRY & COMMITTEE NEWS

(The Very Rev.) Richard A. Swan
President

UTO FALL INGATHERING 2018

Eighteen Churches of the Diocese of Springfield participated in the Fall Ingathering. A total of $5,470.59 was raised for this great ministry to the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion.

Many thanks to everyone for your generous offerings.

UTO OFFERING GRANT

The 2019 United Offering Grant will focus on “Go- crossing boundaries created by race, culture, and economics to create communities that listen deeply and learn to live like Jesus”.

Grant information is available on the UTO webpage-www.episcopalchurch.org/uto.

The deadline for submission of a complete application (and required documents) is 5:00pm (EST) on Friday March 1, 2019.

Contact Joyce Wright for additional information at jcwright117@gmail.com.

Joyce C. Wright
UTO Coordinator

Around the Diocese

Experience Christian Community (ECC)

Ann Prisland, Lorraine Crumley, Kay Mulhall, Joyce Wright

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Joyce C. Wright
UTO Coordinator
HALE DEANERY

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
Cairo, IL

• In July, we had the Bishop’s visitation where we had three (3) candidates for confirmation and three (3) candidates for reception into the Episcopal Church.

• In July we had 2 kids attending the Episcopal Church Camp in Hudson ILLINOIS.

• Martial Arts continues at the church of the Redeemer and we have seen great progress in this program. In September all the school kids showed improved school grades, the teachers have come to testify that the kids’ attitude has improved tremendously. That’s all we want to hear that this program is making a difference in the lives of those who are part of this program.

• In August we had a high ranking delegation from Martial Arts Knights Karate from various parts of the country to come and see what we do and perform extra training and challenging those that are enrolled. They spent three days with us and some of the participants were promoted to Green Belts.

• Fr. James continues to visit the nursing home in Cairo and also the senior citizen lunch place on Wednesday and sharing and preaching to them.

ST. ANDREW’S
Carbondale, IL

The first quarter of our 2018-2019 program year is off to a great start at both St. Andrew’s Church and St. James Chapel in Marion. Our Canterbury Club reinvented itself as “Christ on Campus,” with Bible study and good conversation over dinner on alternate Wednesday evenings. We were blessed to bless three Saluki dogs when their owners brought the elegant SIU mascots to our St. Francis Day Mass. Our special service of Taize worship has become a popular tradition in Carbondale. Now in its fourth year, we sang a full requiem Mass on All Souls’ Eve. Despite the rainy weather on a week night, attendance was great and proceeds from the offering were donated to the town’s Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Members of SIU’s Campus Ministerial Association were so moved by the Taize music that weekly ecumenical services of Taize worship are now in the planning stages for launching early in 2019.

We bid a sorrowful good bye to Gail White, who graciously had donated his superb talents at the organ console for nearly five years. Our new choir director, Roger Petrich, is also an accomplished organist and composer. It was fun to discover that organ professor Marianne Webb had purchased some of Roger’s compositions for use at St. Andrew’s years ago. We will officially thank Gail and welcome Roger at a festive dinner in December. Also on a sorrowful note, we lost two long-time parishioners at St. Andrew’s, Jack Crelling and Sue Casebeer. They are dearly missed.

Over in Marion, we continue to discern community needs and work to meet them. An unfortunate petty theft at the chapel clued us in to a deep concern within the immediate neighborhood about recurring crime and disturbances. With the guidance of Marion’s police department, we are forming a Neighborhood Crime Watch. This, more than any previous endeavor, has raised the chapel’s profile in the community. We have begun an adult education class to orient inquirers attracted through the Neighborhood Watch.

Perhaps most exciting of all, we anticipate the installation of solar panels at St. Andrew’s early in December.

The Very Rev. Kathryn Jeffrey
DEANERY REPORTS

St Mark’s Church
West Frankfort, IL

St Mark’s began this quarter with the excitement of a new project: being able to help feed hungry kids at the local Denning (5-2) School on the weekends. We thought we could do 25-30 snack bags each week... until an anonymous donor provided enough funds to feed up to 100 kids per week, and have money left over for other needs! God surely multiplied our few loaves and fish! We began the week after Labor Day, and the process is going well. We are glad that the food gets to the neediest children.

Then, on September 30th, we blessed and launched our Blessing Box (mini food pantry for the community). As the sign above it says, “Take what you need, Leave what you can, Above all be BLESSED.” We stock it with nonperishables and miscellaneous items, and it is getting a lot of use. We are still figuring out how best to manage this project, but believe that it our responsibility is to give freely; the rest is up to God. God is a God of abundance and we can’t out give God!

Our monthly study group is slowly making our way through Max Lucado’s workbook, “Ten Women of the Bible.” This quarter we studied Rahab, Abigail, and Esther. We have a variety of voices from across our Southern Illinois communities joining our discussions, and they are rich, funny, inspiring, and rewarding!

With the leadership of our Mission Warden, Rachel Stewart, our church building and hall have had some minor foundation and roof repairs, clean up, and landscaping work – it looks great!

And we had our annual visit from Bishop Daniel Martins on October 14th, followed by a delicious potluck brunch. It was nice to gather together and share with one another.

On Sunday, October 28th, we invited our children to come in costume, and Mother Sherry prayed a blessing on the costumes and those wearing them. We had about 10 children, and it was a boisterous service to be sure. All the kids participated in a pumpkin project and decorated and took them home.

The Rev. Sherry Black

St Stephen’s
Harrisburg, IL

We held a Saturday morning silent day of prayer for our ECW women. Said a Mass for one of members who died after a lengthy illness, a real gentleman he was. Said good bye to another of our members who is heading to Philadelphia to receive help with a health issue. What a wonderful God we have. He sent us two new souls replacing the two that we have just lost. We will begin to preparing them for Baptism at a later date. As 2018 comes to a close we give thanks to God for allowing all of us at Saint Stephens another year to service him and others and look forward to 2019.

Fr Tim Goodman
The Chapel of Saint John the Divine
Champaign, IL

These past few months have been a lively and grace-filled time in the life of the Chapel of Saint John the Divine.

The Parish continues to thrive and we have added lots of programmatic opportunities for participation this fall:

• We held a Labor Day parish wide gathering

• We held a Quad Day outreach to the returning university of Illinois students. We gave away 1200 cookies and copious amounts of information about the Chapel.

• We held the Blessing of the Animals service on the feast of Francis of Assisi.

• We have continued with the program called, “Dinners for Eight” or “Foyers”. Parishioners are now working through the second cycle of this program.

• We held a newcomer gathering

• Our Canterbury Student Gathering dressed up for Halloween and celebrated the office for All Hallows’ Eve from the Book of Occasional Services.

Our music programs continue to thrive. The Chapel continues to be an outpost for the Royal School of Church Music program. Two choristers programs are being held to train children in music, and our Canterbury Choir continues to be one of the highlights of our life together.

Canterbury Choir attended an RSCM retreat/festival in North Carolina in the late summer. Others attended such an event in Rhode Island.

This fall, we have raised funds for a scholarship through an organization called, “Three Spinners.” It is a local organization dedicated to welcoming refugees and immigrants and providing immediate support for basic needs. This initiative provides international students from local high schools who are often ineligible for other financial support with the opportunity to pursue a degree at Parkland College. The Chapel raised $3000 in support of this scholarship.

The Chapel of Saint John the Divine is alive and well and we invite all from the diocese to stop by any time you find yourself in the area.

The Very Reverend Sean Ferrell

Emmanuel Memorial
Champaign, IL

Apart from our regular offering of Sunday Masses and weekday Daily Offices to God, some of the highlights of a rather busy fall at Emmanuel have been as follows:

• A free seminar on planning for end-of-life issues, wills, and medical decisions with a panel featuring parishioners (member Dorothy Bell, attorney Lott Thomas, physician Abraham Kocheril) and a local funeral home

• The debut of a ministry in the immediate neighborhood called “Common Table,” a weekly supper gathering for young families and young adults at a member home to which guests are welcome.
DEANERY REPORTS

Conversation and Compline are on the agenda.

• Continued Sunday lectio divina on one of the weekly readings in between the services

• A return to weekly youth group meetings, including monthly film nights for families

• The beginning of Phase One construction on our rectory as we deal with damage and structural issues before turning to interior work

• The debut of a men’s fellowship once a month for a Saturday breakfast and Bible study

• Our curate attended and reported to the vestry on the “Ancient Order: Radical Vocation” conference in Dallas

• “Pipescreams,” a child-friendly Halloween variety show put on by the American Guild of Organists and including local performers from the Orpheum Children’s Museum, the Central Illinois Children’s Chorus, The Conservatory of Central Illinois and more.

• Designed to encourage children’s interest in music and the pipe organ in particular, this is a national initiative that has not been offered in the area before.

• Blessing of the Pets, which we moved to the park next door this year; the location and signage brought participants new to the experience

• The first 1662 Choral Evensong of the season on All Saints Sunday; as usual, this service was attended by mostly non-parishioners

• A month-long focus on gratitude during which parishioners created an ongoing art installation on personal themes of giving thanks; it concluded by making financial pledges and sending out thank-you cards.

The Reverend Beth Maynard

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY
Danville, IL

The following information reflects activities at the Church of the Holy Trinity:

• Coordinated parish strategic plan with parish Mission Strategy

• Determined success of sack lunch distribution for needy and will begin again in March 2019

• Restructured food/grocery distribution for outreach

• Honored Our Lady of Walsingham with Evening Prayer and Procession

• Examining possibility of assisting the Dwelling Place, a new agency for the homeless

• A new air-conditioning system installed in nave and Sanctuary as a gift from parishioner

• New weekly study group discussed The Holy Catholic Church, The Canon of the Mass, Grace, and The Incarnation

The Rev. Richard Lewis

TRINITY
Mattoon, IL

Trinity enjoyed the company of Bishop Martins on November 4th when he confirmed Lloyd and Lisa Jenkins and received Ryan Hill into the Episcopal Church. Trinity’s choir offered several hymns and a reception was held after the service.

With the financial aid of an anonymous donor, the undercroft was wired with speakers. This will help during meetings and will allow anyone in the undercroft during the Mass to hear the service.

Trinity will celebrate the 101st Anniversary of its Reuter Pipe Organ with an organ recital on November 18 at 3:00 pm. The recital will be held on Sunday, November 18 at 3:00 p.m. with Linda Buzard at the organ. Linda is the Organist/Choirmaster at the Episcopal Chapel of St. John the Divine in Champaign, IL. This organ was the first instrument to be built by the Reuter Organ Company. It was first heard at Trinity Church on Sunday, November 18, 1917. The factory was located in Trenton, IL and the organ was delivered by train. A reception will follow in the Undercroft of the church.

The Rev. Jeff Kozuszek
### DIOCESAN CALENDAR

#### JANUARY 2019

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<td>06</td>
<td>EPIPHANY, Bishop at Trinity, Jacksonville</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Springfield</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Christ Church, Springfield</td>
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<td>Bishop w/ Trinity, Lincoln</td>
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#### FEBRUARY 2019

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<td>Finance Department, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)</td>
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<td>Diocesan Council, Diocesan Center, Springfield (10 a.m.)</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Thomas’, Glen Carbon</td>
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<td>Bishop w/ St. George’s, Belleville</td>
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<td>25-27</td>
<td>Clergy Pre-Lenten Retreat, King’s House, Belleville</td>
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#### MARCH 2019

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<td>10</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Chapel of St. John the Divine, Champaign</td>
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<td>22-24</td>
<td>ECW Annual Lenten Retreat, Toddhall, Columbia</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Bishop w/ St. Thomas’, Salem</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Bishop w/ Emmanuel Memorial, Champaign</td>
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**This calendar was correct at the time of printing, but is subject to change without notice.**

For the most recent Diocesan Calendar and the full prayer cycle calendar, please visit [www.episcopalspringfield.org](http://www.episcopalspringfield.org).

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### CONTRIBUTE

For more information about contributing to The Springfield Current, please see the message from Bishop Daniels inside the front cover.

Contributors will be acknowledged in a future issue.

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Springfield, Illinois 62704

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<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>PARISH</th>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>ZIP</th>
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<tbody>
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