

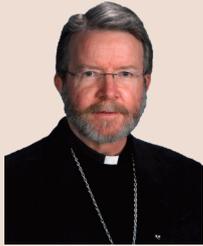


THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

December 14, 2014

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Thoughts Along the Way

Bishop Liam Cary

Shaken by Christmas

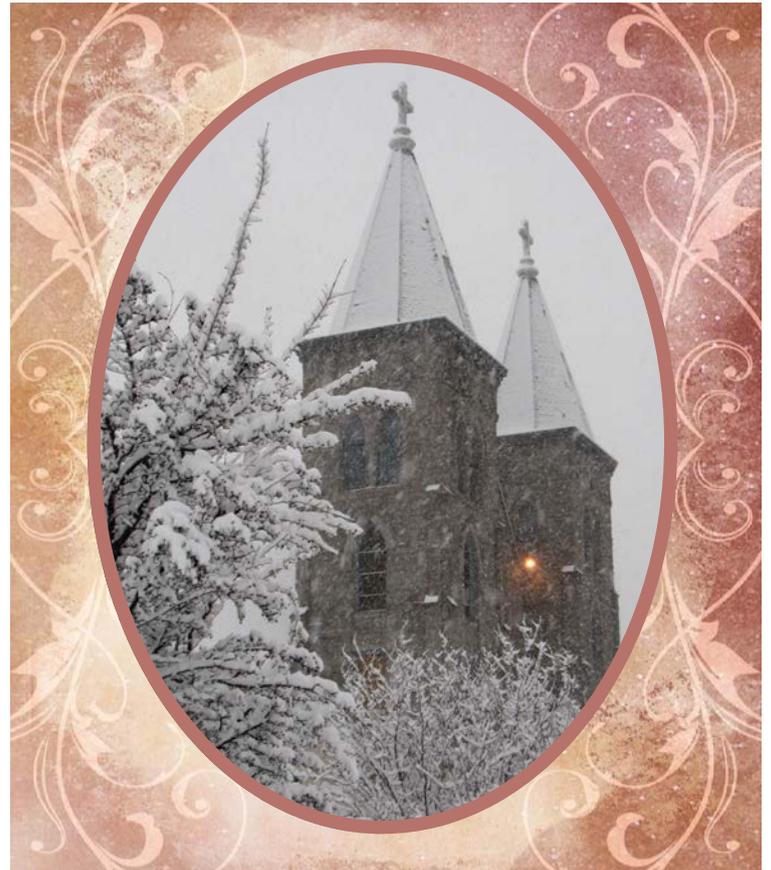
“Perhaps what we modern people need most is to be genuinely shaken,” wrote Father Alfred Delp when Adolph Hitler ruled Nazi Germany. “Perhaps that is . . . why God has sent us into this time, . . . why he holds us in such a state of chaos . . . and why there is no end in sight. . . . He does it to teach us one thing again: how to be moved in spirit . . . [and gain] a clear view of things as they really are.”

In the heart of Advent 2014 we too find ourselves in a world “shaken” by events: the bloody expansion of ISIS, the blatant aggression of Russia, the incalculable threat of Ebola. None of these assailants is a respecter of borders. What if they were to cross over ours?

A timely question in this season when the Prophets call us to make ready for the greatest border crossing of all. At Christmas the Eternal Son of the Father crosses the ancient border of human hostility to God in order to break down the borders of suspicion and hatred that keep us humans apart. For the Son of Mary is born to be brother to all and neighbor to all. He has come to re-draw the boundaries of human acceptance. To those who accept *him*, the Gospel proclaims on Christmas day, he gives “power to become children of God”—that is, power to extend to others the acceptance we first receive from him.

“What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race” It still is. Two thousand years later the “darkness has not overcome it”—neither the darkness of World War I a century ago, nor the even wider and deeper darkness that engulfed Father Delp in World War II. We continue to celebrate Christmas because “the light shines in the darkness” still. The Son of Mary, born to cross over the border of death, has come back with the bright victory of life in his hands for the sharing. “From his fullness we have all received” what Father Delp sought: “a clear view of things as they are.”

For us as for Father Delp, “there is no end in sight” to the gathering chaos of this time into which “God has sent us.” But He has sent his Son into our time as well, the Son “who is the *beginning*,” St. Paul says. Christmas reminds us that we need not see through to the end of our darkness. We need only walk toward it with faith in him who never ceases to invite us to begin our journey to God anew, and who promises to be with us every step of the way.



Pensamientos Del Camino

Obispo Liam Cary

Zarandeados por Navidad

“Tal vez lo que más necesita la gente moderna es ser realmente zarandeados”, escribió el padre Alfredo Delp, cuando Adolfo Hitler gobernaba la Alemania nazi. “Tal vez esto es. . . . Por eso Dios nos ha dado este tiempo, . . . porque nos mantiene en un estado de caos. . . . y por qué no vemos el final. . . . Lo hace para enseñarnos otra vez algo: cómo moverse en el espíritu. . . . [Y otra vez] una visión clara de las cosas como realmente son “.

En el corazón del Adviento de 2014 también nos encontramos en un mundo “zarandeado” por los acontecimientos: la sangrienta expansión de ISIS, la evidente agresión de Rusia, la amenaza incalculable del Ébola. Ninguno de estos agresores respeta fronteras. ¿Que si ellos cruzan la nuestra?

Una pregunta oportuna en esta temporada cuando los profetas nos invitan a estar listos para el gran cruce fronterizo de todos. En Navidad el Hijo eterno del Padre cruza la antigua frontera de la hostilidad humana a Dios

con el fin de romper las fronteras de la desconfianza y el odio que nos mantienen a nosotros los humanos separados. Porque el Hijo de María ha nacido para ser hermano de todos y prójimo de todos. Él ha venido para volver a remarcar los límites de la aceptación humana. Para los que lo aceptan, el día de Navidad el Evangelio anuncia, Él da “poder para ser hijos de Dios”, ese, poder es para dar a otros la aceptación que primero hemos recibido de Él.

“Lo que vino a ser a través de Él fue la vida, y esa vida fue la luz de la raza humana. . . . “Y es todavía. Dos mil años después las “tinieblas no la han vencido” - tampoco la oscuridad de la primera Guerra Mundial de hace un siglo, ni la oscuridad aún más amplia y más profunda que envolvió al Padre Delp en la Segunda Guerra Mundial. Seguimos celebrando la Navidad porque todavía “la luz brilla en las tinieblas”. El Hijo de María, nacido para cruzar la frontera de la muerte, ha regresado con la victoria brillante de la vida en sus manos para compartirla. “De su plenitud todos hemos recibido” lo que el Padre Delp buscó: “la visión clara de cómo son las cosas.”

Para nosotros, como para el padre Delp, “no vemos el final” del caos de esta época al que “Dios nos ha mandado.” Pero Él ha enviado a su Hijo a nuestro tiempo también, así, el Hijo, “que es el comienzo”, dice San Pablo. La Navidad nos recuerda que no tenemos que ver el final de nuestra oscuridad. Sólo tenemos que caminar hacia el fin con fe en Él, que nunca deja de invitarnos a iniciar nuestro viaje a Dios nuevamente, y que promete estar con nosotros cada paso del camino.

Bishop Cary's Schedule

Dec. 15 Penance Service at St. Patrick in Madras
Dec. 16-17 Installation of Bishop Christensen in Boise
Dec. 19 Penance Service at St. Thomas in Redmond
Dec. 23-25 St. Francis de Sales Cathedral in Baker City

December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

Our week begins with “Gaudete Sunday.” *Gaudete* means “rejoice” in Latin. It comes from the first word of the Entrance antiphon on Sunday. The spirit of joy that begins this week comes from the words of Paul, “The Lord is near.” This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle of our Advent wreath, which is rose colored, and the rose colored vestments often used at the Eucharist. The change in color provides us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation—especially prayer and fasting—for Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, focus particularly on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord.

Saints and Feasts: St. John of the Cross

Born in 1542 in Fontiveros, Spain, Juan de Yepes y Álvarez knew poverty and hardship early in life. His father, who had been disowned by his family for marrying beneath him, died soon after John's birth, leaving his family with little means of support.



John entered a school for poor children, usually orphans, receiving a basic education, mainly in Christian doctrine, as well as some food, clothing and lodging. While studying there, he was chosen to serve as acolyte at a nearby monastery of Augustinian nuns. Growing up, John worked at a hospital and studied the humanities at a Jesuit school from 1559 to 1563. His empathy for the poor and compassion for the sick later moved him to become a Carmelite.

John was ordained a priest in 1567 at the age 25, and met Teresa of Avila. Like her, he vowed himself to the primitive Rule of the Carmelites. Teresa asked John to help reform the Carmelite Order. He took the name John of the Cross and moved with another friar into a house near Avila. The Order was known as the Discalced (shoeless) Carmelites, because the men walked about barefoot to symbolize their dedication to poverty.

John engaged in the work of reform, and many Carmelite brothers felt threatened by it—taking drastic measures to stop it. John was arrested and removed to another monastery, where he was locked in a narrow cell without windows. Although he was beaten regularly, John refused to renounce his new Order. Instead, he passed the long hours writing mystical poetry. During his imprisonment he came to know the cross acutely—to experience the dying of Jesus—as he sat month after month in his dark, damp, narrow cell with only his God! After nine months, John miraculously escaped. He continued to suffer injustice from others, but always, until his death at the age of 49, he believed his suffering brought him closer to God.

John is a saint because his life was a heroic effort to live up to his name: “of the Cross.” The folly of the cross came to full realization in time. “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me” (Mark 8:34b) is the story of John's life. The Paschal Mystery—through death to life—strongly marks John as reformer, mystic-poet and theologian-priest.

His Feast Day is today, December 14th. He is the Patron Saint of Mystics and is one of the 35 Doctors of the Church.

Thomas Merton said of John: “Just as we can never separate asceticism from mysticism, so in St. John of the Cross we find darkness and light, suffering and joy, sacrifice and love united together so closely that they seem at times to be identified.”

In John's words: “Never was found so clear, undimmed and bright; From it alone, I know proceeds all light although 'tis night.”

Excerpts from American Catholic.org and Ordinary People Extraordinary Lives

Parish News: Holy Family, Burns

Save the date! Composer, singer, author, and consummate performer David Haas is returning to the Baker Diocese in Burns on April 17-18, 2015. David will present a concert of his original prayerful and scriptural songs the evening of Friday, April 17 at the church of the Nazarene. On Saturday, April 18, David will facilitate a retreat for volunteer ministers of all faiths. Costs and times will be determined by February. For more information contact Teri Cain at tmncain@hotmail.com.

Did you know that Oregon offers a Political Tax Credit?

The Political Tax Credit is a no-cost way to support the political cause of your choice, allowing you to direct a portion of your tax dollars in a way that YOU choose. **It is a credit, not a deduction.**

You can give up to \$100 for joint filers or \$50 for individuals to an Oregon political organization, such as Oregon Right to Life, and that amount will be credited back to you on tax day - dollar for dollar.

Contributions must be received no later than December 31st, 2014, to receive the credit on your 2014 Oregon tax return. **One note:** As of the 2014 tax year, the tax credit is only available to single adults with an Adjusted Growth Income (AGI) under \$100,000 and joint filers with an AGI under \$200,000. Contact your tax preparer for more information.

Music Ministry News:

There is a group of pastoral musicians within our diocese exploring the possibility of forming a diocesan chapter for the National Pastoral Musicians. If you are an active cantor, choir member, or musician in the Diocese and would like more information regarding a new NPM chapter in the Diocese of Baker, please contact Nick Wavers of Holy Redeemer parish in La Pine at bakerchapter@gmail.com.

The National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) is an organization for anyone who recognizes and supports the value of musical liturgy. They are choir directors, organists, guitarists, pianists, instrumentalists of all kinds, priests, cantors, and pastoral liturgists. You can find more information by visiting their web page at www.npm.org.



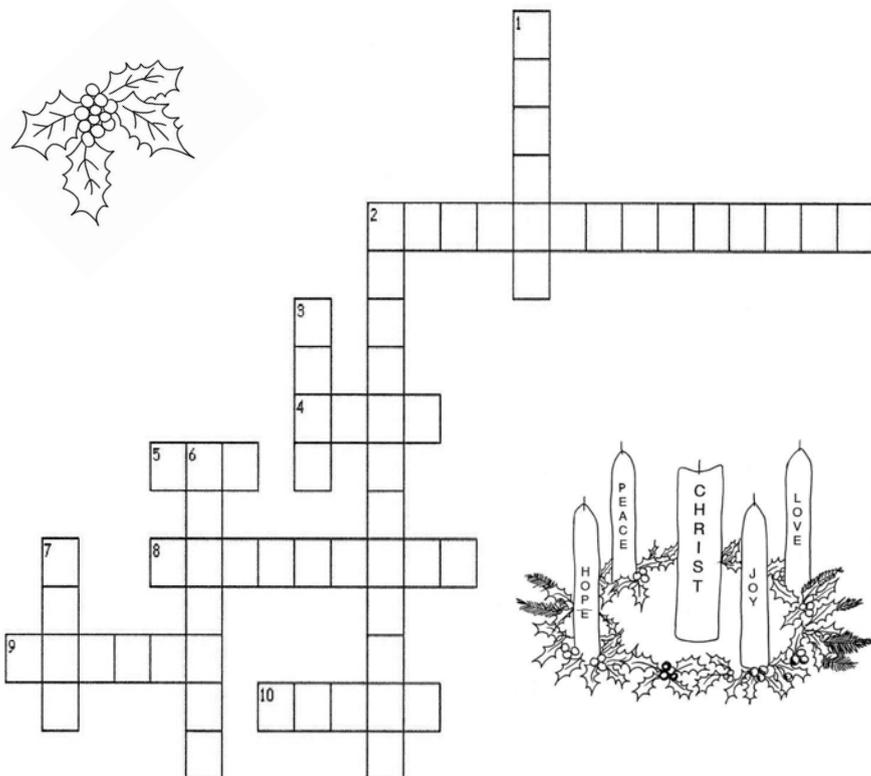
Bishop's Annual Appeal Online Giving



Donations to the Bishop's Annual Appeal *Forward in Faith* can be made online at the diocesan website.

Just click the Bishop's Annual Appeal icon on the home page to read about the ministries that your Appeal dollars are supporting, review suggested gift plans, and make your donation online. We appreciate your generosity. www.dioceseofbaker.org

Children's Corner: Advent Crossword



Across

2. Counts down the days
4. Third candle lighted
5. Third candle symbolizes
8. A tree decorated with symbols representing the stories of people in Jesus' family tree
9. The primary Sanctuary color of Advent
10. Lighted Christmas Eve or day

Down

1. What Advent means
2. Symbol of Advent
3. First candle symbolizes
6. Each candle represents this
7. Number of outer candles on Advent Wreath

- Down**
1. Coming
 2. Advent Wreath
 3. Hope
 4. Pink
 5. Joy
 6. One Week
 7. Four
 8. Jesse Tree
 9. Purple
 10. White

Answers:

The Traditional Latin Mass in Bend



The Extraordinary Form of the Mass (“The Latin Mass”) will be celebrated today and every other week at 1:00 PM at St. Francis of Assisi Historic Church. Regular Celebrants for this Mass will be Father Andrew Szymakowski of this Diocese and Father John Boyle from the Archdiocese of Portland. For more information contact John C. Driscoll at johncdriscoll1068@gmail.com or Stephanie Swee at swee0574@gmail.com.

We also invite anyone who is interested in singing Gregorian chant to contact Stephanie Swee.

Please note that there will not be an EF Mass for January 4, 2015.

All are Invited to a

Christmas Family Celebration



*O Come All Ye Faithful!
Happy Holydays! Celebrate!*

Diocese of Baker ~ Mother Mary's Daughters

January 4th, Epiphany Sunday, 3:00-6:00 PM
at the Diocesan Retreat Center

Benediction ~ International Rosary for Peace ~
Christmas Scriptural reading in St. Mary's Chapel,

Christmas Hymns and Festive Songs,
Trimming of the Christmas Tree & Nativity Scene,
Story of St. Nicholas ~ The Magi
Bring Family & Friends ~ Pot Luck Dinner

- *Music provided by LeRoy and Friend.
- *(Free-will donations requested at the event to help pay for the cost of the facility.)

MAKING A MESS DAY OF THE SPIRIT

PRAYER - SACRAMENTS
FELLOWSHIP - SERVICE