



# The Sword

The Official Newsletter of the Anglican Diocese of the South

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Dec. 2010

## Annual Synod-- Great Beginnings

By Betty Shanks & The Rev. Canon Steven Saul

The first Saturday in November each year is the time that the Anglican Diocese of the South (ADOTS) will gather for worship, discipleship, fellowship and the necessary business of the diocese. Our first Diocesan Synod held November 6 was hosted by Christ Church Atlanta. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley Beach, clergy, and parish delegates along with members and friends of our 25 parishes gathered for our opening Eucharist where two priests were received into the diocese and five were ordained as clergy in ADOTS.

Those received were The Rev. Keith Lewis and The Rev. David Monroe. Those ordained to the deaconate included The Rev. Deacon Lee Adams, The Rev. Deacon William Arnold, The Rev. Deacon Austin Goggans, and The Rev. Deacon Gene Prince. The Rev. Dr. Chima Kingston Ekeke was ordained to the presbyterate.

This was a great opening for our Synod, and the ordinations were a reflection of the Lord's call for our *Great Commission* work to take root in the South. Everyone ordained understands the importance of church plants in the new millennium. Each priest is called to reach the lost for Jesus Christ and knows that our growth will come through the call and determination to plant orthodox Anglican churches in the South.

### A Look at Growth for the Future of ADOTS

Current efforts and vision for promoting and facilitating growth in the diocese will give our diocese (churches, plants and membership) the opportunity



Priests received into ADOTS: Fr. David Monroe, Trinity, Douglasville, GA (left) and Fr. Keith Lewis, Jasper, AL (right).



New ordinands from left: Deacon Bill Arnold; Fr. Chima Ekeke; Deacon Lee Adams; Bishop Foley; Deacon Gene Prince; and Deacon Austin Goggans.

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## Meet the ADOTS Canons

### Canon Pastor

Fr. Phil Ashey  
American Anglican  
Council & Holy Cross  
Loganville, GA



### Duties & Responsibilities

The Canon Pastor serves at the Bishop's pleasure as a Pastor to the clergy and congregations of the Diocese. As Canon Pastor, I will help nurture the spiritual growth of the clergy and congregations of the Anglican Diocese of the South. I will help provide pastoral care to the clergy and congregations of the Diocese as needed, and as directed, by the Bishop. I will assist the Bishop in proclaiming the vision and mission of the Diocese, encouraging congregations and clergy to engage in both. Furthermore, I will help clergy and congregations focus on how God is working out his purposes in and through our Diocese.

### Future Hopes & Plans

I will be focusing on pastoral care and encouragement of the clergy through the AAC Clergy Leadership Training Institute (CLTI) in February 2011, with clergy support groups (for ongoing discipleship, prayer and encouragement) to follow. Nurturing the spiritual growth of congregations through the Sure Foundation project and on-site consultations will be another area of focus, as well as visitation of congregations within the Diocese on behalf of and as directed by the Bishop for specific pastoral needs and ongoing encouragement.

### Duties & Responsibilities

My responsibility is to oversee and give direction to the churches of the diocese assisting them in beginning, building, and enhancing their ministries to students. This will entail for some churches beginning student ministries that are built on solid foundations and other churches enhancing the ministries that they already have. I want to be a resource to all of the priests and youth ministers (paid & volunteer) helping them think through the plans and dreams for the students in their churches and communities.

### Future Hopes & Plans

I plan on visiting all of the churches to discussing the future of student ministries at their church in the next year. I hope we will have a vital diocesan retreat schedule for all of the churches to participate in every year with middle school and high school retreats. I would, also, like to have youth minister gatherings to train and encourage everyone in this important ministry. I see the diocese having diocesan summer mission trips in the future as well.

### Canon for Student Ministries

Fr. David Charney  
All Saints Church  
Atlanta, GA



## Duties & Responsibilities

The Canon to the ordinary, in short, is the Bishop's right hand man. He does whatever the Bishop (or "ordinary") needs him to do. One of the key areas that I will be working on for the diocese in the coming months is ministry formation—the equipping of those called to ordained ministry. After candidates for ordination have discerned *a call*, the process will begin on the diocesan level when their parish priest contacts the diocese on their behalf. A resource booklet developed by ADOTS is available to clergy and aspirants called the *Customary for Ordinations*.

## Future Hopes & Plans

It is important to mention that every candidate for ordination and all clergy in the diocese receive training that supports healthy and safe practices for our churches. The Canon to the Ordinary will be hosting a required sexual misconduct prevention training for all Candidates and newly ordained clergy. The *Avoiding the Millstone* training will be hosted at Trinity Anglican Church in Douglasville, GA on Saturday, January 22 from 8:30a.m. - 12:30p.m. Clergy and vestry members in the diocese and those who have not had this essential training are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to Canon Saul at 678/983-2822.

## Duties & Responsibilities

I am responsible for helping shepherd new church plants from inception to full membership in the Diocese. At some point, as we grow, I will be supported by a small group whose work will be to provide assistance to the church plants in the areas of sacramental support, if needed, and general evaluation of progress. I will also be helping each congregation to develop a missional basis for their growth by providing resource information. The areas of church planting and foreign missions are my particular areas of training, having an advanced degree in Evangelism (church growth) and Global Missions and spent several years as field missionaries in Central America. In the area of foreign missions, I am available for support and resource to all the congregations in the Diocese.

## Future Hopes & Plans

I hope to see many new church plants in the Diocese. The needs are there and we hope to identify them all and provide the support necessary for them to grow to full membership in the Diocese. As the churches grow, we hope to see them begin to send short term or long term missionaries to partner Dioceses throughout the Anglican Communion. This is but a part of becoming the missional Diocese envisioned by our Bishop. Look for future articles about Diocesan missions in upcoming issues of *The Sword* and on [adots.org](http://adots.org).

## Canon to the Ordinary

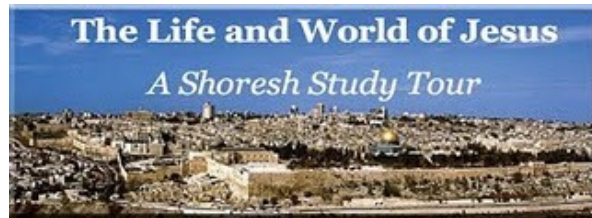
Fr. Steven Saul  
Trinity Church  
Douglasville, GA



## Canon Missioner

Fr. Jim Blanton  
Holy Cross  
Loganville, GA





Join Bishop Foley & his wife Allison for an unforgettable trip of a lifetime!!

**June 5-17, 2011**

Trace the life of Jesus from His home in Galilee to Jerusalem, giving particular attention to the influence of Jewish thought and culture of the period on the origins of Christianity. Obtain a better understanding of Jesus' ministry, His place among the Jewish people, and the application of His teachings for us today.

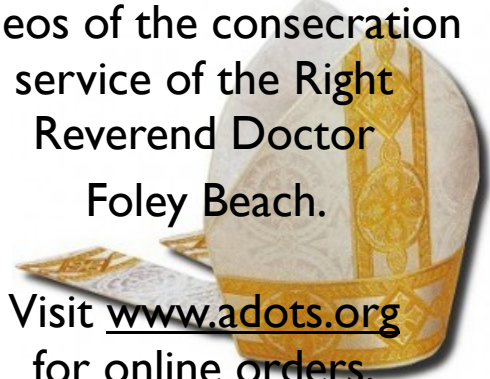
Visit [www.hcanglican.org](http://www.hcanglican.org) for more information.

## THE CONSECRATION OF A BISHOP

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\$12 (includes shipping) for videos of the consecration service of the Right Reverend Doctor Foley Beach.

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## What is a Standing Committee?

By The Rev. Michael Fry, ADOTS Standing Committee President and Rector of All Saints Anglican Church, Peachtree City, Georgia.



The simple answer is that the Standing Committee of the Diocese functions like the Vestry in the Parish. We carry out the work of the Diocese in-between annual synods but under the direction of the synod and within the confines of the Constitution and Canons (*See article VIII of the Constitution*).

There are twelve members of the committee—half lay and half clergy. Each year a Chairman is elected and that office alternates between clergy and lay.

Important duties of the Standing Committee include serving as the board of directors of the Diocesan Corporation (*Article XIV*) and setting the agenda for the annual synod (*Title I, Canon 8*).

The Standing Committee also appoints the Chancellor, Secretary and Treasurer of the Diocese (*Title I, Canons 9-11*), and may offer consent to any *ad hoc* committees the Bishop chooses to appoint in order to help conduct the business of the

The Standing Committee conducted its first meeting during lunch at the ADOTS Synod in November.



Diocese (*Article IX*). If the synod elects not to establish a separate Finance Committee, the Standing Committee performs their duties as well (*Title 1, Canon 14*).

As part of its job, the Standing Committee will receive an annual report from the congregations of the diocese during February of each year (*Title 2, Canon 8, Section 4*).

One of the most important duties of the Standing Committee (and one we do not wish to exercise for many years) is to serve as the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese in the absence of the Bishop (*Article VI*).

Please pray for your Standing Committee that we execute our duties faithfully and in accordance with the Lord's will in all things.

## Parishes Welcome Their New Bishop



Rev. David Charney and the Rev. Alfred Sawyer welcomed Bishop Foley on his annual visitation to Christ Church of Atlanta.



Bishop Foley gathers with parishioners and Mother's Union members following the installation service for their Rector, the Rev. Dr. Chima Ekeke, at All Saints Anglican Church of Atlanta.

*Annual Synod continued from front page...*

to work together and work smarter – building with intentionality and an effective plan of action! The Rev. Canon Phil Ashley facilitated a teaching on *Sure Foundations* which is an AAC and *Acts 29* church growth ministry that will equip clergy, leaders, and members for building strong and fortified churches – being strengthened by efforts to build on a sure and proven foundation.

The business of the Synod was addressed with the members of the Standing Committee, Ecclesiastical Court and delegates for Provincial Synod being elected to serve as leaders and servants for the new diocese. Members elected to the Standing Committee include: The Rev. Michael Fry, The Rev. Alfred Sawyer, The Rev. Bill Midgett, The Rev. John Tomlinson, The Rev. George Ivey, The Rev. Chima Ekeke, Regis Nicoll, Kent McVay, Brian Nash, John Whelchel, Chuck Lewis, and Onyedima Mogbo.

Members of the Ecclesiastical Court include: The Rev. Jeff Williams, The Rev. Phil Ashley, The Rev. Rob Hartley, The Rev. Deacon Karen Mahler, The Rev. Bill Midgett, John Whelchel, Brian Nash, Regis Nicoll, Alexander Whitaker.

Delegates to the Provincial Council included: The Rev. Canon Steven Saul as the Clergy

Delegate, The Rev. Michael Fry as the Alternate Clergy Delegate, Mrs. Susan Burkhart as a Lay Delegate, Mr. Kent McVay as a Lay Delegate, Mr. John Whelchel as a Lay Delegate, and Mr. Brian Nash as the Alternate Lay delegate.

Other appointees included: The Rev Dennis R. Turner as the Secretary of the Standing Committee; The Rev, John Tomlinson, Esq. as the Chancellor; Mr. Calvin Edwards as the Treasurer; Mr. Chuck Lewis as the Assistant Treasurer. Following the closing of the Synod, Bishop Beach gave each parish anointing oils for ministry in the diocese. Parishes also received two wonderful resources for equipping the saints: American Heritage Series, and the Crown Ministry series, "God Provides."

Also, no one left the Synod hungry – Our thanks to The Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Sawyer and The Rev. David Charney of Christ Church along with their great team of ministers who provided wonderful food and hospitality for this important gathering in the life of the church. A special thanks to everyone for setting this time aside for this continued time of formation and development of the new diocese. It is encouraging to see the hand of the Lord in all we do and the blessing of so many who are called to be a part of this important work.

The Anglican Diocese of the South is part of the Anglican Church in North America ~ ACNA. Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, we are comprised of Anglican parishes and missions in Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

## Meet Betty Shanks, Diocesan Administrator



If you've called or emailed ADOTS, you've been in contact with Betty Shanks, the Diocesan Administrator. Tirelessly working to assist Bishop Foley in making our new diocese run smoothly, Betty does it all with dedication and JOY!

A new Georgia-based chapter of *The Company of Jesus Third-Order Benedictine & Franciscan Community* has formed. The Benedictine Priory of St. Anselm exists to build up the kingdom of God through promulgating Benedictine spirituality and in equipping men and women to "walk Christ" into people's lives.

Membership is open to men and women, married or single, regardless of Christian denomination, who have taken on the vows of a third-order "oblate" or "professed" in either the Benedictine or Franciscan charism. Members are located throughout the continental United States and in Spain.

Read about the Priory of St. Anselm and the Company of Jesus at: [companyofjesus.org](http://companyofjesus.org) or by visiting the soon to be posted Priory of St. Anselm website. Contact Fr. Darren Simpson, CJ, Director of Benedictine Vocations, at [frdarren@priest.com](mailto:frdarren@priest.com) for more information.

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### Mission Statement

ADOTS exists to equip clergy and congregations to fulfill the Great Commandment (Mark 12:29-31) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) by leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ through personal discipleship, evangelism, and the nurturing and planting of congregations.

### ADOTS Member & Partner Parishes

#### Members:

##### Alabama

Christ Anglican Fellowship, Birmingham

##### Georgia

All Saints, Atlanta

All Saints, Peachtree City

Church of the Trinity, Hiram

Christ Church, Atlanta

Christ Church, Marietta

Holy Cross, Loganville

Holy Trinity, Flowery Branch

Light of Christ, Marietta

Resurrection, Riverdale

St. Andrews, Rome

Trinity, Douglasville

##### South Carolina

Holy Trinity, N. Augusta

##### Tennessee

Redeemer, Chattanooga

Christ the King, Winchester

Hamilton Angl. Fellowship, Chattanooga

Holy Family, Hendersonville

#### Partners:

##### Alabama

St. Joseph's, Trussville

St. Michael's Parish of Coventry, Helena

##### Georgia

Church of the Advent, Atlanta

New Life Anglican Fellowship, Newnan

St. Peter's, Roswell

##### North Carolina

Christ Anglican, Highlands

##### Tennessee

Apostles Anglican, Knoxville

St. Patrick's, Smyrna