



Sarawak & Brunei Diocesan News

Message from the Bishop

Dear Friends,

I write this message on 15th June, the day we commemorate, in thanksgiving, for the institution of the Holy Eucharist, also known as the Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper and Corpus Christi. It is observed every year on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday.

The Service of Holy Communion is central in the worship of the Church, the Body of Christ. It is the time when we gather together as a community of believers in Jesus Christ, in thanksgiving for what He did on the Cross, for our salvation. For us in the Diocese, receiving the Holy Communion is not just an optional thing but something very important. The Dean of the Cathedral has made it a weekly announcement in the pew bulletin, "Begin your day with Holy Communion". Everyone is encouraged to attend the daily Holy Eucharist in the Cathedral, or in other Parishes where the Service is celebrated. Obviously, it is not enough just to attend and receive the Holy Communion once a week, or once a month, or in some cases a few times a year.

Many Parishes in the Diocese also celebrate and commemorate the institution of the Holy Eucharist on Maundy Thursday in Holy Week. However, the preoccupation of our minds with the Passion or Suffering of Christ in Holy Week made it necessary for a separate day to be appointed especially for the commemoration and thanksgiving for the Holy Eucharist.

We believe that when we receive the Bread and the Wine, we receive the Body and Blood of Christ thereby receive His very gift of Himself, His Life:

Jesus said to them "I am telling you the truth: if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in yourselves. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him to life on the last day. For my flesh is the real food; my blood is the real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me, and I live in him" (John 6: 53-56) TEV. How else can we interpret these words of our Lord, except to take them as He meant them to be. We cannot interpret them otherwise, or in another way. And furthermore, we are to treat it seriously and St. Paul gave us the following warning: "It follows that if anyone eats the Lord's bread or drinks from his cup in a way that dishonors him, he is guilty of sin against the Lord's body and blood (1 Corinthians 11: 27) TEV. St. Paul tells us that we must prepare and examine ourselves properly before we receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

How is this preparation to be done? In the Service of the Liturgy, we are provided with two forms of prayers, the preparation and the confession. We are to say these prayers with sincere heart, with full confession of our sins. Be sorry and repent for what we have done wrong against one another, and against God. In other words, we are to come to the Holy Eucharist with a clean heart and a pure mind, for we come into the presence of the Almighty God, to receive His gift of mercy and grace.

Do remember then that the next time you come to receive the Holy Communion, you are really and truly receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. Come with faith and confidence and full assurance of the forgiveness of your sins.

May you have the Joy of receiving Him into your life.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+ Made Katibing

Rt. Revd. Datuk Made Katibing

Appeal for Donations for St. Mary's School York Block Rehabilitation Project

The YORK BLOCK is an old and dilapidated partly wooden two-storey building which has stood as a very significant landmark in St Mary's School for over five decades. There are thousands of Marians out there who have very fond memories of the York Block, for it has served its function in the lives and the education of girls in the State since its construction in 1952.

Repair and maintenance work on the York Block has been a perpetual agenda in St Mary's for the last twenty years or so. There are many Marian Principals who have retired from St Mary's with records to show of the various very urgent and despairing maintenance work each had to do, in order to continue the use of the York Block for teaching and learning purposes. There have been incidences involving collapsed floors or ceiling above the science labs, termite infestations in the Text Books store, leaking roofs at the library and rotting beams/rafters.

A structural inspection of the York Block was conducted by the Public Works Department in 2003, at the request of the School Board of Management. The report from their inspection was dismayingly discouraging. The building was deemed unsafe for occupation. For the safety of the present girls in St Mary's, the three classrooms on the upper floor of the York Block had to be closed. The York Block also housed the two old-fashioned science laboratories, the cookery room and the needlework room. The library beside the classroom on the upper floor has been moved to its new location in the Jubilee Hall attic while the ground floor of the same hall has been modified to house three temporary classrooms.

Plans have been drawn up for a new block which will replace the present YORK BLOCK on the same site. The estimated cost for the building project is RM1,200,000. Architecturally, the elevation and set-up of the new building will follow the present one. It was decided that initially only half the block be built at an estimated cost of RM600,000.00 - to provide nine classrooms with another six classrooms to be built in the next phase. The Board of Management has agreed



The York Block (1952)

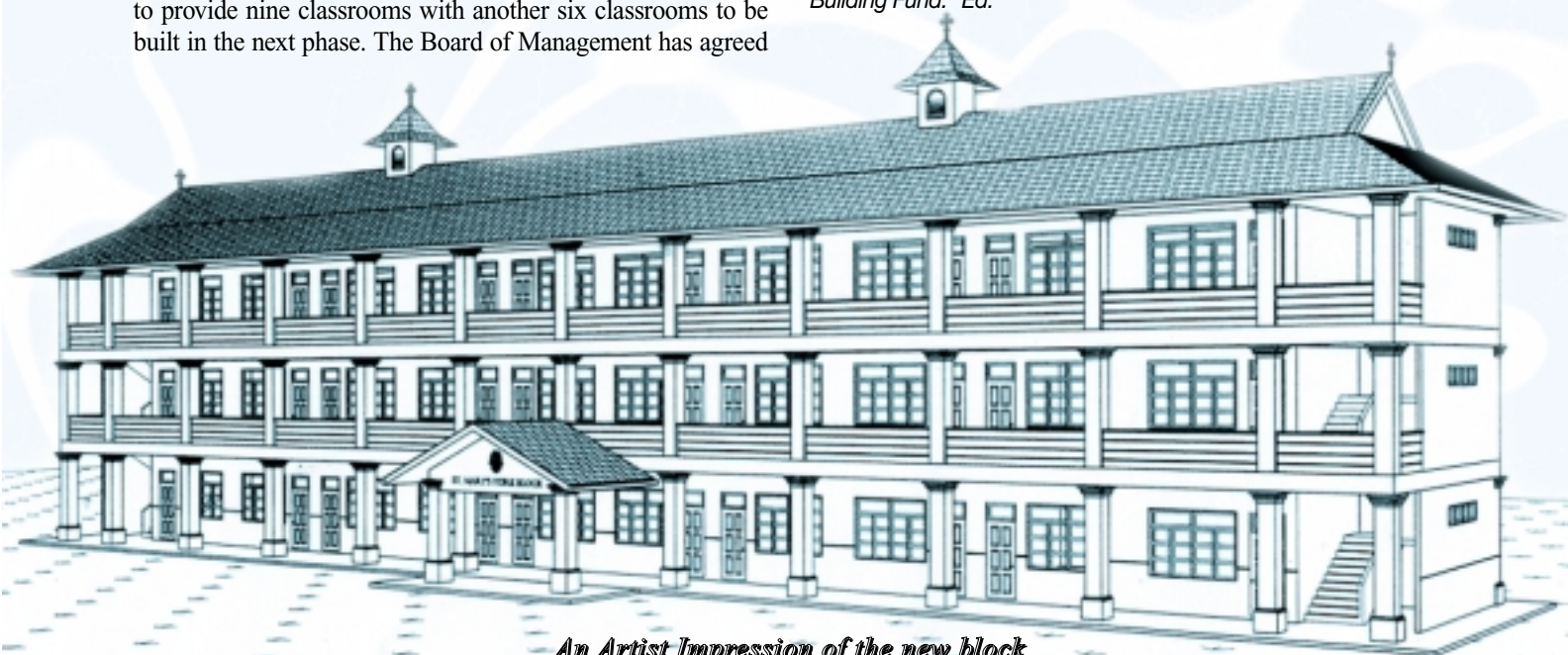
to this approach as it will make fund-raising less arduous whilst at the same time the exercise will not take up too much land.

The school desperately needs the additional classrooms and the science laboratories that the new block will provide.

Funds are difficult to come by and the School has to raise its own funds for all development works. Proceeds from the past couple of years of fund-raising activities and donations from Old Marians, parents of present students and other concerned individuals have barely reached a quarter of the targeted sum. Hence the appeal for more funds. The school needs the best facilities to continue to provide quality education for the future leaders of the country. †

*Contributed by Ms. Prisca Chambers,
Principal, St. Mary's Secondary School*

*Please forward your donations to St Mary's Secondary School,
McDougall Road, 93000, Kuching, Sarawak, in the form of
Crossed Cheques made payable to "St Mary's Secondary School
Building Fund." Ed.*



An Artist Impression of the new block

From the Parish of St. John, Sibü

Destiny Anglican Centre

Destiny Anglican Centre, which is situated in a rented premise at Jalan Pahlawan was declared open by the Bishop of Kuching, the Rt. Revd. Datuk Made Katib, with a Thanksgiving and Commissioning Service, held on 30 October, 2005 at 3 p.m. The Vicar of St. John's Church, Revd. Matthew Ubun was also present.

Weekly Services are held at 8 a.m. every Sunday at the Centre with an average attendance of between 20 - 30 members of Chinese, Iban and Bidayuh origins. Services are in Bahasa Malaysia and English. Holy Communion Services at present are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. Sunday School is held for the children during the Service on the second floor. †

*Ms. Christine Lim, Chairperson
Destiny Anglican Centre*



Symbolic opening of DAC, Sibü



Members of DAC with Church leaders



DAC filled to the brim on the occasion

Highlights from the Cathedral Passing of Lily Unchau (Mrs. Lily Bolly)

Stop Press

Many members of the congregation, relatives, friends and office colleagues attended the funeral and Requiem Mass for the late Madam Lily Unchau, wife of the Rt. Revd. Bolly Lapok on the morning of Monday, 29th May at the Cathedral.

The late Mdm. Lily, 47, was called to be with the Lord early Saturday, 27th May following an illness.

The funeral wake was held at the Cathedral Parish Hall on the evening of Sunday, 28th May where many attended, some stayed until the wee hours the next morning. She was buried at the Anglican Batu Kitang Cemetery.

Messages of condolence and sympathy were extended to Bishop Bolly and his three children. †



Bishop Bolly and his children, Nathanael, Fiona and Nigel paying their last respects.

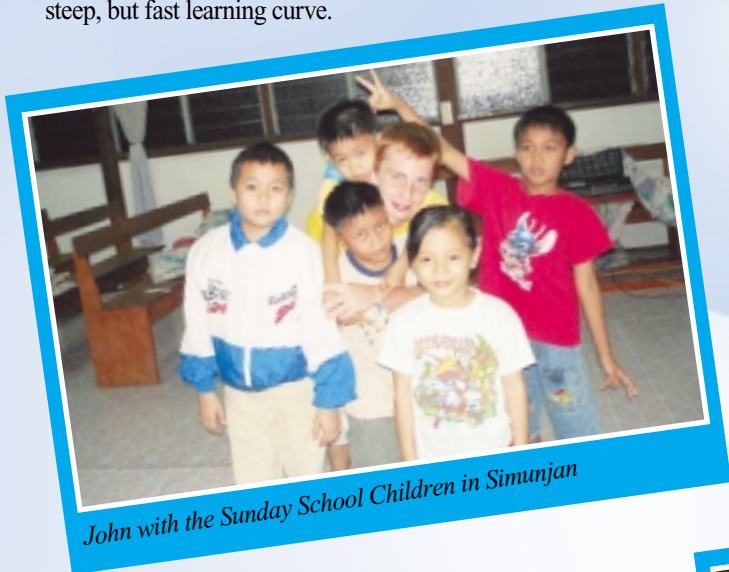
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A Volunteer from St. Chad's Trust Fund

The last few months I've been living and volunteering at the Anglican Communications Centre (ACC). With schools' ministry at the heart of its mission, the majority of my exposure has been with young people. While in England, most of my free time was spent around children and youth. But during my stay here, not sharing the same first language and having a completely different approach to learning has pushed me into a steep, but fast learning curve.

I now spend the majority of my evenings at schools or some sort of Bible study. When at schools I will follow Revd. Alex Baker. The programme usually involves an ice-breaking game, followed by 'Praise & Worship' and then a time of sharing. Schools visited so far include SMK Lundu, Padawan, Tae, Penrissen, Muara Tuang and St. Mary. In all the schools it was fantastic to see so many children who want to hear about our Lord, and who enjoy studying God's word. This is one of the reasons why I was longing to visit Malaysia for longer, because I wanted to see how it is that the youth here are so much more active. Even though I've seen so many amazing things, there is still no room for anyone to 'sit back'; youth and children's ministry is still so important if God's message is to last to the next generation. This is why the work of the ACC is so important; it is helping to equip young Christians with the whole armour of God.

Other than this I am thankful to St. Faith's and St. James's, Kuap for letting me be involved with some of their programmes, some of which I am preparing for at the moment. I am also very pleased to be able to be involved with The Boys' Brigade of St. Thomas's Cathedral, where I have begun to teach a class of brass players.



John with the Sunday School Children in Simunjan

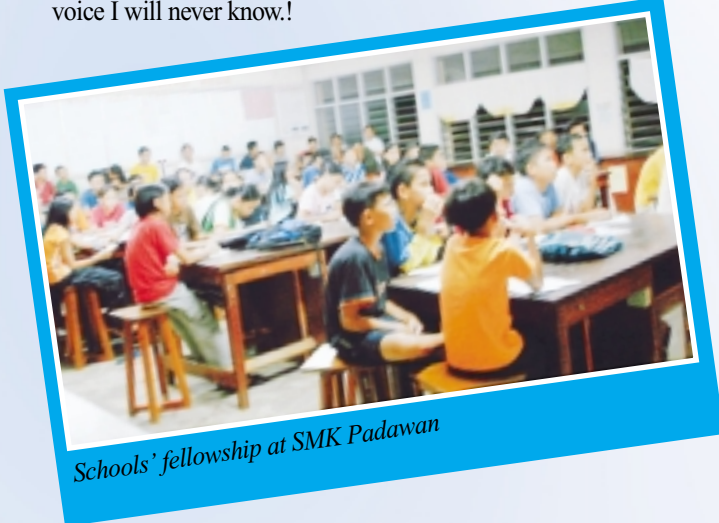
I have travelled to Saratok, Sri Aman and even Sibul, Bintulu and Miri. In Miri, Sibul and Bintulu I was able to share a little about my concern for youths in England. I joined the 'ACC band' to take part in Bintulu's Gawai Celebration, a great chance to join with a lot of youth to praise the Lord with one voice. I have also walked for as long as 4 to 5 hours to Kpg. Rejoi, where I spent two days meeting the people and having fellowship with the children. This was my first visit to the interior in Sarawak, and, even though the Uncle who I went with managed to get some very embarrassing video of me trembling my way across my first-ever bamboo bridge, it was still a time that I will treasure and not forget for the rest of my life. I practised paper folding with the children and taught each other some songs. I actually managed to learn my first song in Bahasa Malaysia, 'Segala Puji Syukur' (All Praises and Thanksgiving). How around 50 people in one little chapel had such a strong voice I will never know!



Ice breaking at SMK Lundu

I sometimes find myself wondering why I am so privileged to spend just over half a year of my life in such an amazing place. But then I've got no chance of realising why God let things happen as they do, so I just carry on with whatever I'm doing. Slowly I'm realising that I'm coming to see some fantastic things which I think will come to influence my life in many ways.

Having an experience like this at a young age is a real blessing. It has made me realise that the church world-wide is still standing firm in the Faith. Thank you for giving me the chance to share in the life of the church and youth ministry here, and see that by God's grace, the message of our Saviour can be carried out to the ends of the earth. †



Schools' fellowship at SMK Padawan

*Contributed by Mr. John Sheard
Diocese of Lichfield*

(Mr. John Sheard and another volunteer, Mr. Joseph Willits (attached to Miri Parish), both from our companion Diocese of Lichfield, have been in the Diocese since Jan. 2006, for a 6 month experience. Ed.)

From The Parish of St. Philip, Lubok Antu

150th Anniversary of our Diocese Cum Christmas Celebration Dinner

The Parish organised on 3rd December 2005 a dinner at the Mini Sport Complex, Lubok Antu to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of our Diocese cum Christmas celebration. It was a very joyous occasion with the Rt. Revd. Bolly Lapok also being present.

There were many programmes that had been prepared for the celebration, such as singing by the Celebration committee, the Anglican Women's Fellowship (AWF) and the Parish Youth Fellowship (PYF) and other entertainment by the other parishioners. Over 600 people attended this celebration from various longhouses and chapels within and outside the Parish. The Patron of the celebration was YB En. Dublin Unting anak Ingkot - Assistant Minister of Agriculture and Sport.

YB En. Dublin Unting spoke briefly at the celebration and so did Bishop Bolly. The Chairman of the organising committee, Tr. Cr. Albert Klingsing Manau also addressed the gathering. The other guests included Lubok Antu District Officer En. Masir Kujat, ASP George Merejok and the Revd. Canon Chimbie Bunsie.

Pastoral Visit and Confirmation

On the evening of the 3rd December, Bishop Bolly conducted the Confirmation Service at St. Philip's Church. He confirmed



YB En. Dublin Unting seated second from left in the Vicarage

165 candidates and celebrated the Service. Bishop Bolly addressed the confirmation candidates about "How to be a good Christian after being confirmed". It was a very encouraging sermon not only to the confirmation candidates but also to all the witnesses who attended the Service.

On the morning 4th December, he celebrated the Sunday Mass and also addressed the worshippers with another good sermon. In the evening, he confirmed another 48 candidates at Rh. Manggat, Menyang Taih, Batang Ai. He was welcomed on arrival with traditional Iban dance and other entertainment by the longhouse community. Bishop Bolly stayed overnight at the longhouse. At this weekend, 213 candidates were confirmed.

We have confirmed not less than 200 candidates every year starting from 2001 until 2005, but we are not looking for numbers except to try our best to teach them to be true and good Christians in the future.

Christmas Visit

The Assistant Minister of Agriculture and Sport of Sarawak YB En. Dublin Unting ak. Ingkot made a visit on second day of Christmas, 26th December 2005. The members of PCC and members of AWF received him in the vicarage.

His visit made them proud and it gave such an encouragement to the Clergy. He was Chairman of the new St. Philip's Church Building Committee starting from 2005 and he advised us to work more and harder in looking for funds for the new Church building. He promised that he will help them in looking for it until the new church is completely built.

On behalf of all the Church members, the Vicar thanked him for his Christmas visit, for his words of encouragement and for his support to the Church. †

Contributed by: *The Revd. Jeckson Tay*
Assistant Priest

From the Parish of St. Margaret, Seria

Seminar

The Parish organised a seminar on Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday, (the 14th to 16th April 2006). The Rt. Revd. Bolly Lapok was the speaker at the seminar, with the theme "Moving Forward with the True Vine." (John 15 verse 1 reads: "I am the true vine and my Father is the gardener.").

It was quite well attended. Parishioners from St. James's Church were also at the seminar.

We would like to thank Bishop Bolly for the very inspiring and encouraging messages not only at the seminar but also at the church Services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday, 30th April, 2006 after the church Service. A total of 49 members

were present at the meeting, which was the first time the Parish had such a big number for the AGM. (The average attendance at the church Service on Sunday is between 120 to 130 members, with about 60 to 70 children in the Sunday School).

At the AGM, the Priest-in-charge presented his pastoral report which was followed by the Financial Report. An election for the new PCC members for 2006/2007 was also held. We welcome the newly elected members of the PCC. Towards the end of the meeting, we also discussed some issues which were submitted for the meeting.

We thank our church members for their growing interest in our church activities. Above all, we thank God for the success of the seminar and the AGM. †

Reported by: *The Revd. Nelson Ugas Bulang,*
Priest-in-charge

From the Parish of St. Thomas, Bintulu

GAWAI DAYAK CELEBRATION

This year the Gawai Celebration was held in conjunction with a Christian Music Concert also known as “Bands of the Lord in Concert II”, on the evening of 20th May together with the Parish Sale. The Gawai Dayak Service & Celebration was held on Sunday, 21st May.

We put up the celebration theme: “Glorifying Him In One Voice”, with the hope of bringing people from various churches to come together and glorify God in one voice. Initially, the Concert gave the organising committee a lot of worries. First, the response from churches that we have invited to participate was poor. We sent out invitations to four parishes, and with only about three weeks to go, only the Parish Youth Fellowship (PYF) of St. Columba’s Church, Miri confirmed their participation with two bands. Shalom Baptist Church, Bintulu initially promised to participate but could not get all the band members together on that date. The other three parishes sent in their apologies. Our Parish PYF registered three bands - Hevance, Revolution and Jazziz, while the Men’s Fellowship registered one - The Evangelists. We even included our Sunday School band to make up the number.

Even though we had doubts that the concert could proceed as envisaged, we went ahead with our plan. I invited the Revd. Alex Baker to come and preach at our Gawai Service and asked him to bring in a band from Kuching. Mr. Johnson Lee also invited his grand-uncle, Mr. William C.L. Lee to bring his group over. Both answered positively. We also put out publicity banner at the church’s entrance even though it was rather late.

Then news came in that PYF of Good Shepherd’s Church, Lutong would send a band - Youths United and SIB Church in Bintulu would send 3 bands. Just a little more than one week before the concert, news came in that the Roman Catholic Church, Bintulu would be sending their “Jubilee Choir”. Then the Calvary Baptist pastor in Bintulu also promised to send a solo singer to sing two songs. The last band to join in was from Bandar Jaya, Bintulu but they were only allowed to perform two numbers. Several more requests from SIB Churches in Bintulu had to be turned down.

From a worry about not having enough bands to perform, we were now faced with the difficulty in trying to fit all the bands into the 6-hour event, with each band scheduled to perform 5 songs.

The response to the concert that evening was beyond expectation, nearly 400 people crowded the church car-park. The young ones were swaying to the beats of the music, which were presented in various forms including ballads, reggae (ska), rock, sentimental, Hillsong-style, etc. The elderly ones watched in silence and yet with admiration at the talents and creativity of these young people. The performance by the Jubilee Choir was very good. Some groups exceeded the half-hour time limit. By the time the Men’s Fellowship band - the Evangelists came on stage, it was already past 11.30 p.m. and many in the crowd had left. Nevertheless, the band gave a good performance. Some who stayed behind came near the stage to perform the ‘poco-poco’ dance.

Mr. William Lee and his group decided to give way to the young ones and did not perform that evening. But they did on Sunday. They made a wonderful presentation at the end of the Sunday Service leading the choir to sing “Just a Closer Walk With



The Parish Sale



Children in traditional dresses leading the procession

Thee” and “Amazing Grace”. It was the first time I ever heard congregation applauding loudly at the end of a Post-Communion hymn. They continued to perform for the crowd after the Service, entertaining the crowd with their “Shadows” and “Hawaian-style” music.

The Service on Sunday morning went well. It started with a procession of representatives of the various church committees, children, youths and women in traditional attires, choir, servers, sub-deacons and priests. Leading the procession was a young boy performing the “Ngajat”. The order of service followed the Provincial order of Contemporary Worship, starting with songs of ‘praise and worship’ in various languages and tambourine dances. It was followed by opening prayers, notices and scripture readings. The theme of the sermon was “Thanksgiving”. The intercession was read out according to the traditional “Sampi Iban”. The offertory included the offering of fruits of harvest carried by boys and girls in traditional costumes. More than 600 people attended the Service that morning.

It must be also mentioned that a few days before the concert and sale, we were faced with bad weather. It was not just the rain but strong wind as well, all over Bintulu and throughout that whole week. We prayed hard and are thankful that God granted us good weather during the two-day celebration. Our prayers were answered, and on Saturday 20th May the night sky was clear and full of stars. It only started to drizzle after the concert

please see bottom next page

80th Anniversary of the Diocese of Waikato, New Zealand

Our Bishop, the Rt. Revd. Datuk Made Katib and the Dean of Kuching, the Very Revd. Aeries S. Jingan attended the 80th Anniversary celebration at Hamilton, the Diocese of Waikato NZ, representing our Diocese. The link between our Diocese and the Diocese of Waikato is about ten years now and exchange visits had taken place over the years.

They arrived in Auckland on 9 March after a 10-hr flight from KL and were welcomed by Bishop David Moxon, Ms. Melanie Jones-Leaning and Dr. Bob and Ms. Rosemary Allbrook. They were then driven to Hamilton which took about 90 minutes and had lunch along the way at Rangiriri, a historic site where a big battle was fought between the Maori natives and the European settlers. Bishop Made stayed with Mr. John and Ms. Helen Selliman while the Dean stayed with the Allbrooks. That evening they had dinner at the Selliman's residence together with Bishop Moxon and his wife, Ms. Tureti.

The next day, Bishop Moxon brought them to a Maori meeting house (Marae) at Kirikiriroa and later to the Franciscan Friary & Anglican Action at the Social Services Village (Te Ara Hou) just outside Hamilton. A reunion 'eat as much as you can' dinner with those who have visited Kuching was held that evening at Valentine with 120 dishes to choose from.

As a part of their Anniversary celebration, their Diocese had also invited Archbishop Robin Eames of Ireland to give a talk on the Windsor Report on Saturday, 10 March at Ngaruawahia Holy Trinity Church which they attended. Later they joined the participants for lunch at the Camp site nearby.

The main celebration was on Sunday, 11 March. It began with an early morning boat trip (under drizzling rain) down the Waikato River, tracing the journeys of the early missionaries. They landed a few miles downstream near the Waikato Diocesan School for Girls. The Anniversary Service at the School Assembly Hall at 11.00 a.m. was attended by a large congregation comprising the three Cultural Streams (Tikanga) of the Church there - the Maori (Aotearoa), the Pakeha (New Zealand) and the Pasefika (Polynesia). Archbishop Eames preached while Bishop Moxon and Bishop Philip Richardson concelebrated. The Dean read the intercession in Iban and Bishop Made

gave the blessing in Biatah and Iban. It was a very moving Service with beautiful and vibrant singing in all the languages. They later joined the congregation for lunch and attended a Bible study in the afternoon. That evening they



The welcoming party with Bishop Moxon at Rangiriri

attended a BBQ at Mr. Gerald and Ms. Jenny Bailey's residence.

The period from 13 to 17 March was reserved for sightseeing. Ms. Melanie was their competent chauffeur and guide. The Dean took the opportunity to fish at Tauranga off Mt. Maunganui with Mr. John Selliman on 13 March while the Bishop went sightseeing around Rotorua. That evening they joined up in Rotorua and were treated to a Maori Cultural show cum dinner at Heritage Hotel.

Next day they were driven back to Tauranga and visited the Tauranga Mission site and other places of interest. They went back to Hamilton that evening and were treated to a dinner at a Chinese restaurant by Mr & Mrs Colin Tiong (originally from Bintulu) who drove down from Auckland.

On 15 March, they were on the road south again and this time they visited the Buried Village by Lake Tarawera. It was during the early hours on 10 June, 1886 that Mt Tarawera violently and unexpectedly erupted and for four terrifying hours, rock, ash and mud bombarded the peaceful village of Te Wairoa, killing 150 inhabitants and burying the village under two metres of volcanic material. Next they visited the Waitomo caves famous for its glowing worms, and had a short stop at the Kiwi House at Otorohanga. Back in Hamilton Fr. Aeries had tea with the Dean of Hamilton, Very Revd Ian Harper at 4.30 p.m. That evening the dinner was at the Selliman's residence - enjoying the coral fish they had caught a few days earlier.

They left Hamilton on 16 March with Ms. Melanie and the Allbrooks accompanying them to Auckland. Along the way they visited a Maori Church at Mangere and were given a conducted tour of the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Auckland. They were treated to a lunch by Canon Noel Derbyshire. That evening they stayed at Vaughan Park (Anglican Retreat Centre) at Long Bay, north of Auckland and their host was the Director of the Centre, Revd John Fairbrother (the former Dean of Hamilton). They flew from Auckland the next day at 2 p.m. and arrived in Kuching at 11 p.m. on the same day. †

*Adapted from information contributed by:
The Very Revd. Aeries S. Jingan*



At the Franciscan Friary at Te Ara Hou

ended. We also had a brief spell of rain on Sunday afternoon but that did not dampen the spirit of celebration.

At the time of writing, we have not had any committee meeting to assess the success or shortcomings of the celebration because of the Gawai break. However, some of the

Music Ministry Committee members are already talking among themselves about organising a similar or even bigger event next year. May God's Name be praised. †

*By Revd. James Juhari
Vicar, St. Thomas's Church, Bintulu*

From The Parish of St. Andrew, BSB

Renovation work will begin soon for the 56-year old church building, which is now unsafe for use. It will take about 6 months to have it completed. God in His time will make all things beautiful.



Present building



Artist impression after renovation

The 'varied' Congregations of the Parish

The nationalities and races present on every Sunday worship is very overwhelming. They are literally from the five continents. The first two Services were in English, followed by Services in Chinese, Iban and Indian, especially in Tamil and in Malayalam.

Women's World Day of Prayer – 3 March

The WWDP was held on 3rd March 2006 at 6.00p.m. in the Church. Over 200 participants came from 6 churches including Seria and Kuala Belait. The theme this year was "Signs of the Times" and the order of Service was prepared by



the Christians of South Africa. The Service ended with a fellowship dinner.

Lent and Easter

It has always been a practice for some years now that in Lent – starting with Ash Wednesday, there's an evening midweek Holy Communion and address on a theme.

This year's theme was 'Nomads and Pilgrims'.

The image of a pilgrimage has often been used as a metaphor for the Christian life and with good reason. As Christians, we recognise that we are on a journey, that this world is not our true home, and that we should never get too comfortable in this present world.

Easter Day Celebration

There were two Services to celebrate the 'Queen of the Festivals' in the Church Calendar: The Easter-eve Vigil and the Easter Day Celebration, which was well attended with over 600 communicants. Two new banners were made for the Celebration.



In the past, the Easter Day Service was in all the different languages of the congregation. This year it was only in English but with other Services in their respective groups. †

*Contributed by: Ms. Dawn Lee
Administrator SAC*

MANNA

"The Israelites ate manna forty years, until they came to a land that was settled; they ate manna until they reached the border of Canaan." (Exodus 16: 35).

The refugees who had run away from Egypt did not know what manna was. What ever it was, it was good for making bread and sustained them for forty years in the desert. "It was white like coriander seed and tasted like wafers made with honey." (Exodus 16 v 31).

Do we living in the present generation know why that stuff on which they survived for forty years in the desert was called manna?

(Manna is a Hebrew word which only means : "what is it?", the question they asked among themselves!)

Servers' Guild Goodwill Visit



In front of St. Peter's Church, Saratok with some of the Parish Youths

The St. Thomas's Cathedral Servers' Guild made a Goodwill visit to St. Peter's Parish in Saratok from 29th April to 1st May on an Inter-Parish Good-will Visit.

The group comprised 24 servers from the Cathedral and St. Basil's Church, Batu Kawa.

They were accompanied by Mr. Giles Bunchau, the Cathedral's Verger. While in Saratok, the Servers had telematch and games with the youths of St. Peter's and a visit to Rumah Uju Senyawan, an Iban longhouse where they were accorded a warm reception. They went on a walking tour of Saratok town on the third day and did some shopping before returning to Kuching.

Mr. Rayner Radin, the Secretary reported that the Servers' Guild made trips to different parishes annually. This year's trip was the most memorable one and for that, the Servers would like to thank Fr. Winston Sokim, Canon Chimbie and the youths of St. Peter's for making it so. The Guild also thanked the Dean, the P.C.C. and the Guild Advisors for their financial support, prayers and encouragement.

Church Activities

More and more members of the Cathedral, both young and old are visibly taking part physically and spiritually in the various activities organised and carried out in most sectors of the Church, and at the scheduled Services on Sundays and Festival Days.

For instance at the Station of the Cross on Good Friday this year, many braved the blazing noon sun to walk all the 14 stations in the Cathedral's compound and Bishop's House compound. On the day before Palm Sunday, many gave a helping hand in making the palm crosses for distribution on Palm Sunday Services. Remember the song "God is watching".....so, don't stay away, but stay tuned. Many thanks go to those who went to the mosquito-infested swamps to collect the palm fronds for making the palm crosses. Thank you to all! †

*Adapted from the Cathedral's Unity Magazine by
Mr. Edmund Ang*

Christian Teachers' Conference in Singapore

On 1-4 December 2005, three Sunday School teachers (English Section) from the Cathedral attended the Christian Teachers' Conference, carrying the theme 'Joy in the Journey'. It was held at The Girls' Brigade Headquarters, Singapore. They joined 160 other teachers from the Philippines, Singapore and Malaysia in this four-day conference.

There were thirteen speakers and workshop facilitators from Singapore, Australia and Malaysia who were all experienced teachers and they testified on how God is with them in the classrooms and workplace.

The following are a few of the topics discussed:

- (i) How do I possess Joy in the Journey?
- (ii) How I recover Joy in the Journey?
- (iii) Embarking on the new journey?

"... for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purposes. Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe" *Philippians 2.13*

Our Lord Jesus is the greatest teacher. We are all entrusted to be teachers in our life here on earth. A teacher is ranked one of the highest in God's 'list of profession'. Even if we are not

teachers in our profession, we are teachers one way or another to those around us. We can make a difference in their life.

We thank God for the great opportunity to attend the Conference. And we have learned that for a teacher, the challenge is to spread the joy of the Lord and be a spreader of Joy! †



Participants of the conference with our members Ms. Jasmine, Ms. Natalie and Ms. Rosiana, 4th onwards from the left

Adapted from an article by Ms. Natalie Kong published in Cathedral's Unity Magazine-February Issue

A Pocket Guide to the Anglican Church

By: Ronald H. Lloyd

(First published 1980 under the title **After Confirmation**, now revised and published in paper back 1984
by A. R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd, Saint Thomas House Becket Street, Oxford, OX1 1SJ)

Maundy Thursday

On the evening before he was crucified, Jesus instituted the service of the Holy Communion in the Upper Room in Jerusalem. Afterwards, according to John, Jesus said to his disciples, 'I give you a new commandment: love one another; as I have loved you, so you are to love one another. If there is this love among you, then all will know that you are my disciples'. (St. John 13.34)

The Latin for a new commandment is *mandatum novum*, and it has been suggested that the word 'Maundy' comes from the Latin *mandatum*.

Good Friday

The day on which Jesus was crucified.

'They brought him to the place called Golgotha, which means 'Place of a skull'. He was offered drugged wine, but he would not take it. Then they fastened him to the cross....At midday a darkness fell over the whole land; which lasted till three in the afternoon; and at three Jesus cried aloud, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?', which means, 'My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?' Some of the bystanders on hearing this said, 'Hark, he is calling Elijah.' A man ran and soaked a sponge in sour wine and held it to his lips on the end of a cane. 'Let us see', he said, 'if Elijah will come to take him down'. Then Jesus gave a loud cry and died. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. And when the centurion who was standing opposite him saw how he died, he said, 'Truly this man was a son of God'. (St. Mark 15. 22-24, 33-39)

Easter Day

The feast of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

'Early on the Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the entrance, and ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. "They have taken the Lord out of his tomb", she cried "and we do not know where they have laid him". So Peter and the other set out and made their way to the tomb. They were running side by side, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He peered in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but did not enter. Then Simon Peter came up, following him, and he went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying, and the napkin which had been over his head, not lying with the wrappings but rolled together in a place by itself. Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first went in too, and he saw and believed; until then they had not understood the

scriptures, which showed that he must rise from the dead'. (St. John 20.1-9)

Since Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week, Christians have made this their holy day. Sunday is a weekly commemoration of the Resurrection.

According to the Venerable Bede the name Easter comes from the name of the Anglo-Saxon Spring Goddess *Eostre*.

The custom of exchanging Easter eggs is very ancient, and is regarded by some as a symbol of the Resurrection. Just as a chick emerges from the tomb of the egg, so Jesus emerged from his tomb.

Ascension Day

This day occurs forty days after the Resurrection. During these forty days Jesus showed himself on many occasions to his followers:

He showed himself to these men after his death, and gave ample proof that he was alive: over a period of forty days he appeared to them and taught them about the kingdom of God'. (Acts 1.3)

Ascension Day brought these appearances to a close. Jesus took his disciples on to the Mount of Olives and 'as they watched, he was lifted up, and a cloud removed him from their sight.' (Acts 1.9)

Whit Sunday (Pentecost)

Ten days after the ascension of Jesus into heaven the disciples were gathered together in a room in Jerusalem when the Holy Spirit came upon them. St. Luke describes the occasion for us:

'While the day of Pentecost was running its course they were altogether in one place, when suddenly there came from the sky a noise like that of a strong driving wind, which filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues like flames of fire, dispersed among them and resting on each one. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them power of utterance'. (Acts 2. 1-4)

Trinity Sunday

The teaching of this day focuses our attention on the central teaching of the Christian faith, that the one God whom we worship exists in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Trinity (or Sundays after Pentecost)

The season of Trinity covers almost a half of the Church's calendar, during which time the general teaching of the Christian faith is systematically covered.

(Permission for reprinting in the Diocesan News is granted by the Continuum International Publishing Group Ltd, London. Ed.)

QUIZ NO. 24

KNOW YOUR BIBLE:

TEST YOURSELF and LEARN

- 1 The (P) were the Jewish aristocracy who rather enjoyed the artistic and political advantages that came from being allied to the Roman Empire. During our Lord's period they controlled the high Jewish council, called the Sanhedrin, but they were haughty and pompous and generally disliked by the common people.

Select the group who are known as P

- A Pharisees B Saducees C High Priests
D Tax Collector E Galatians

- 2 The Book of Hebrews: The author makes extensive use of Old Testament quotations and images to show that Lord Jesus is the supreme revelation of God and the all-sufficient Mediator between God and man. Because of its literary style and the careful way it develops its argument, the Book, though titled a Letter, has the form of a Sermon.

Who was the author of the Book of Hebrews?

- A Paul B Luke C Barnabas
D Pricilla E Not certain

The verses in Qns 3,4,5,6 and 7 are from NT. Complete the verses by selecting from A,B,C,D and E which follow:

- 3 () without holiness no one will see the Lord.
- 4 () because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son."
- 5 () not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain.
- 6 He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, ()
- 7 But just as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, ()

- A Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless
- B so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.
- C Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy
- D in complete earnestness and in your love for us - see that you also excel in this grace of giving.
- E My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you

Answer questions 8,9,10,11 and 12 by selecting from P,Q,R,S and T which follow:

- 8 Which King cleansed Jerusalem by burning the bones of false priests on their altars? ()
- 9 What sea creatures were unclean and so forbidden as food? ()

- 10 According to the Psalms what plant is used for cleansing a person? ()
- 11 During the OT times, some persons were required to shout out UNCLEAN, UNCLEAN as they walked around. Who were these people? ()

- 12 What prophet was commissioned by the Lord to teach the priests of Israel the difference between clean and unclean? ()

P anything with fins Q Josiah R Ezekiel
S Lepers T Hyssop

- 13 But let (S) roll on like a river, (P) like a never-failing stream! "Did you bring me sacrifices and offerings forty years in the desert, O house of Israel? You have lifted up the shrine of your, (Q) the pedestal of, (R) the star of your god- which you made for yourselves. Therefore I will send you into exile (T), " says the LORD, whose name is God Almighty.

The missing words are :

(1) Justice (2) Righteousness, (3) king, (4) idols, (5) Damascus

Which one of the following (A,B,C,D,E) gives the missing words in the order (1,2,3,4 and 5)?

- A (P,Q,R,S,T) B (Q,P,R,T,S) C (S,P,Q,R,T)
D (S,P,Q,T,R) E (R,T,Q,P,S)

- 14 Though (P) tree does not bud and there are (T) on the vines, though the (Q) crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no (R) in the pen and no (S) in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior. The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights.

The missing words are:

(1) Fig, (2) grapes, (3) olive, (4) cattle, (5) sheep

Which one of the following (A,B,C,D,E) gives the missing words in the order (1,2,3,4 and 5)?

- A (R,Q,R,S,T) B (P,Q,T,R,S) C (P,Q,S,T,R)
D (P,T,R,S,Q) E (P,T,Q,R,S)

- 15 I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip - he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Name the writer of this well known Psalm

- A Solomon B David C Asaph
D Sons of Korah E unknown

NOTICES

A PRAYER OF A YOUNG PERSON

O God, give me in my life the fruit of joy. Help me always to be happy and cheerful. Help me still to smile even when things go wrong. Help me always to look on the bright side of things, and always to remember that, even when things are at their worst, there is still something to be thankful for. Don't let me grumble and complain; don't let me be a pessimist and a wet blanket. And help me to find my happiness, not in doing what I want, but in doing what you want, and not in thinking of myself, but in thinking of others, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

(Prayers For Young People, p.50, by William Barclay)

James 2: 1 – 4 (NIV)

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favouritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

NOTICE

The next issue of the Diocesan News is due end of September 2006. All Vicars/Priests-in-charge/Parish officials are kindly requested to ensure that they are not left out! We need your articles – not necessarily only in English – and quality photographs of events, please.

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Closing date: 20th August, 2006

Ordination

07.05.2006

Deacon Howell Najod was ordained to the Priesthood at St. James's Church, Quop.



Quiz 23

Answers: All quotations are from NIV (unless otherwise mentioned)

No	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Ans.	B	E	C	E	A	B	D	Q	P	T	S	R	C	E	E
Ref			Heb · 12:14	Heb · 12:5-6	Titus · 1:7	Titus · 1:9	2Cor · 8:7	2Chro · nicles 34:15	Levit · iticus 11:12	Psalm · 51:7	Levit · iticus 13:54	Ezekiel · 44:23	Amos · 5:27	Hab · 1:9	Psalm · 121:4

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