

## St Paul's Anglican Church, Prescott, AZ

Late in 1981, a group of fifty members of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Prescott Arizona met at one of the local campgrounds to consider forming a traditional Episcopal parish in the city. The focal point of discontent was the replacement of the 1928 Prayer Book and the continuing theological revolution in ECUSA. They voted to form a mission within the Anglican Catholic Church's Diocese of the Southwest, and shortly afterwards called the Rev. Sydney Body to be priest in charge. After the parish was incorporated in 1982 he was called as the first Rector. Two members of the founding vestry, Chuck Bagby and John Lincoln are still members of the parish.

For a couple of years St Paul's met in various locations around Prescott before buying a small building on Lincoln Avenue. The building had been a Montessori School, and the parishioners set about converting it to church use opening for public worship in the Fall of 1984. In those days the communion rails were even closer to the altar than they are today, and coffee was served through a hatch at the back of the nave, but only after the altar was curtained off. By this time the parish had about fifty members and it was soon felt that the building was too small. A protracted search began for a suitable new location. This search lasted until 1994 when 4.5 acres were purchased on Eastwood Drive opposite Acker Park. During this protracted search the parish had added a 900 square foot hall at the rear of the church.

Once the new site was purchased, plans were made for a two story church complex on the site. However, these plans fell through in 1998 when a congregation split led to the formation of a second Anglican parish in Prescott. Following the split, the then Rector was dismissed, and the Rev Jim Gere who had been Rector 1991 to 1996 returned as priest-in-charge. Over the next three years he stabilized the parish so that by the time of his third retirement in 2002 it was possible to make a smooth transition to a new Minister.

The Rev. Peter D. Robinson came to St. Paul's November 1st 2002, and was appointed as the sixth Rector of the parish in March 2003. The last two and a half years have seen significant growth at St Paul's, and the introduction of several new programs. The renewed emphasis on Bible based preaching and Christian Education has helped membership grow from fifty-two to seventy-three, and average Sunday attendance from forty to fifty-five. Mr. Robinson is assisted by the Rev Carl Knapp and Dr Gere

The parish has now outgrown the Lincoln Avenue site and is working with Daniel Cook Associates to design a new church and parish centre for the Eastwood Drive site. Phase I of this project will provide an eighty seat sanctuary, fifty seat hall, office and classroom at a cost of \$750,000. This building is designed to be readily extended to provide a 120 seat sanctuary, 1200 sq. foot hall, and additional offices and classrooms. If St. Paul's is successful in financing its new building the parish can look forward to a successful and growing ministry in the Prescott Tri-City area.

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## Bishops Itinerary - Diocese Special Functions - Meetings etc.

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St Mark's Portland OR - Aug 13th  
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The Diocese of the West held the First Annual Missions Retreat at Saint Mary's Retreat House, Santa Barbara, California, 16 to 18 May 2005 and was Hosted and Lead by the Reverend Canon William Bower, SSC. The Missions Retreat was a great success with 12 people in attendance representing 3 parishes and 3 missions. Canon and Mrs. Bower designed a hand-out binder that provided a take away package for the participants. This binder contained all the notes with all the information that was covered throughout the Retreat. It also contained a letter to each participant from Bishop James Stewart, welcoming each to the retreat and thanking them for their service. The retreat began Monday evening with Evening Prayer, continuing with Mass Tuesday morning, Evening Prayer Tuesday Evening and Mass Wednesday Morning, concluding with a tour of the Santa Barbara Mission.

Canon Bower set the theme of the retreat with his opening remarks; "That missions do not have to be in far off lands, but are needful right here in our own local communities, to bring the message of Christ's death and resurrection for each of us sinners." Expanding on that theme throughout the retreat was the focus of all classes and discussions.

Classes and discussion ranged from the "Discovering the Identity of the Traditional Anglo-Catholic Mission" to practical classes on the legal regulations, both canonical and governmental, on establishing a Mission, outreach and media relations, and spiritual development of the clergy. Sharing the instructional duties with Canon Bower were; Fr. Scott Kingsbury who taught a class on training Acolytes, Lay-Readers, and Altar Servers, Deacon Angus Bower taught a class on diaconal duties and Reader Tim Blunck taught a class on vestry formation. Lively discussion by all participants was also part of the Retreat. All of this generated new ideas and vigor into building new missions and strengthening the current missions.

Many thanks to Sisters of the Convent of the Holy Nativity for their prayerful support and wonderful hospitality significantly contributed to the resounding success of this Retreat.

Plans are underway for next year's Mission & Evangelism Retreat. If you would like more information please contact Canon Bower by phone at (661)723-5111 or by email at [frwilliam@desertanglican.org](mailto:frwilliam@desertanglican.org)

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### Father Peter Robinson, Indeed A Tie That Binds

The Very Rev. Peter D. Robinson was born in Scunthorpe, England, and grew up in the nearby ancient town of Barton-upon-Humber. He was baptized at St Mary's, Barton, and confirmed there when he was 17. He attended the College of Ripon and York St. John, graduating with a B.A. Honors degree in History and Theology and was involved both with the Anglican Fellowship and the Christian Union. After graduation he took a parish placement at St. Barnabas, Dulwich organized through the Church Pastoral Aid Society. These placements were intended to help men with a vocation to the ministry try their wings in a parish setting. After Dulwich, Peter sought approval for training and ordination in the Diocese of Lincoln, but because of his preference for the traditional Book of Common Prayer and the "Reformed Catholicism" of the Thirty-nine Articles, he was repeatedly turned down by the Diocesan Director of Ordinands - an Affirming Catholic married to a Canadian Priestess. Perhaps being an active member of the Church Society, the Prayer Book Society and the Protestant Reformation Society was not the best way of appeasing a liberal diocese! Along the Way, he became a member of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Martin (FSSM) which exists to promote traditional Catholic Anglicanism

In 1992, the Church of England voted to ordain women. Peter joined the Anglican Catholic Church in 1993 and trained for the ministry at Holyrood Seminary, Liberty, NY. Peter was ordained deacon in July 1994, and priest in December 1995. The extreme views of the ACC bishop in England led to Fr Peter transferring to the Reformed Episcopal Church and later to the Church of Ireland (Traditional Rite) which is a Province of the Traditional Anglican Communion. During this period he served as Vicar of St Aidan's Mission, Barton-upon Humber 1995 - 1999, and worked as a Postman for the Royal Mail.

In 1999, Fr Peter married Denise Krogh and moved to the U.S.A. He served as Interim Rector of St. Andrew Independent Episcopal Church, Los Alamitos, CA during 2000 and 2001. While there initiated the process which made that congregation a parish of the ACC. In 2002, he was appointed priest-in-charge of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Prescott, AZ, and elected Rector in March 2003. Bishop Stewart appointed Fr. Peter was appointed Area Dean of Arizona in October 2003. Dean Robinson is also an Examining Chaplain and Chairman of the Diocesan Standing Committee. Dean Robinson's interests and hobbies include British History, classical and Celtic music, model railroading, and church architecture.

Denise Robinson was born in Santa Clara, CA, and lived in Idaho for 17 years. Following her return to CA Denise served as a Peace Office for almost sixteen years,

taking early retirement in 2002 so that she and Fr. Peter could move to Prescott. Denise identifies strongly with her Scottish heritage and plays the Great Highland Bagpipes. She also knits and is the editor of the parish monthly magazine. The Robinson family includes two West Highland White Terriers named Shandy and Agatha.

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## The Heart

"Tomorrow morning," the surgeon began, "I'll open up your heart..." "You'll find Jesus there," the boy interrupted.

The surgeon looked up, annoyed "I'll cut your heart open," he continued, to see how much damage has been done..." "But when you open up my heart, you'll find Jesus in there," said the boy.

The surgeon looked to the parents, who sat quietly. "When I see how much damage has been done, I'll sew your heart and chest back up and I'll plan what to do next." "But you'll find Jesus in my heart. The Bible says He lives there. The hymns all say He lives there. You'll find Him in my heart."

The surgeon had had enough. I'll tell you what I'll find in your heart. I will find damaged muscle, low blood supply and weakened vessels. And I'll find out if I can make you well." "You'll find Jesus there too. He lives there."

The surgeon left and sat in his office, recording his notes from the surgery, "...damaged aorta, damaged pulmonary vein and widespread muscle degeneration. No hope for transplant, no hope for cure. Therapy: painkillers and bed rest. Prognosis: here he paused, "death within one year."

He stopped the recorder, but there was more to be said. "Why?" he asked aloud. "Why did you do this? You have put him here; you have put him in this pain; and you have cursed him to an early death. Why?"

The Lord answered and said, "The boy, my lamb, was not meant for your flock for long, for he is a part of my flock and will forever be. Here, in my flock, he will feel no pain and will be comforted as you cannot imagine. His parents will one day join him here and they will know peace and my flock will continue to grow."

The surgeon's tears were hot, but his anger was hotter. "You created that boy and you created that heart. He will be dead in months. Why?"

The Lord answered, "The boy, my lamb, shall return to my flock, for He has done his duty: I did not put my lamb with your flock to lose him, but to retrieve another lost lamb." The surgeon wept...

The surgeon sat beside the boy's bed; the boy's parents sat across from him. The boy awoke and whispered, "Did you cut open my heart?" "Yes," said the surgeon.

"What did you find?" asked the boy. "I found Jesus there," said the surgeon.

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### Cowboy Advice from Wyoming

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.  
Keep skunks and bankers and lawyers at a distance.  
Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.  
A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.  
Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.  
Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.  
Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.  
Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.  
It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.  
You cannot unsay a cruel word.  
Every path has a few puddles.  
When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.  
The best sermons are lived, not preached.  
Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.  
Don't judge folks by their relatives.  
Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.  
Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.  
Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.  
Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.  
If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.  
Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.  
The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with watches you from the mirror every mornin'.  
Always drink upstream from the herd.  
Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment  
Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.  
If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.  
Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

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### The Bishop Says

If you going to be in the Valley of the Sun (Phoenix Area) please be aware that there are 6 parishes there ready to welcome you.

The three Anglican Church in America Parishes are:

- Epiphany @ 8433 N 12th Street, Phoenix

- St. Albans @ 23259 N 86th Ave, Peoria
- St. Johns 9248 E Riggs Road, Sun Lakes

You are also welcome at the 3 Anglican Province of Christ the King parishes.

- Christ Church 35500 N. Cave Creek Road, Carefree
- Church of the Atonement 11002 N. Saguaro & Kingtree Blvd . Fountain Hills
- St Nicholas 6789 E. Cactus Rd. Scottsdale

With many choices available please take an hour on Sunday to worship when you are in Phoenix.

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Our newest Mission is All Saints located in Tubac, Arizona on Highway 19 about 35 miles south of Tucson. Father Haynes from Holy Cross in Tucson and retired Bishop Hudson from Green Valley, Arizona conduct the services.

Services are held on Sundays at 9 a.m.

Visitors in southern Arizona will be very welcome at All Saints.

We have 5 men studying for Holy Orders

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We have 15 men studying to become Sub deacons and usually half of those completing that program go on to become priests and we have received two new priests from other jurisdictions.

We have the strong possibility of opening a new mission in Reno Nevada. The Diocese of the West is Alive.

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The 4 copies of “The Tie” we sent in April was an arbitrary number. Parishes may request additional copies of the next issue by emailing me at [johnwallen@wallens.com](mailto:johnwallen@wallens.com). Also, I am trying to assemble a diocese wide email address book. Please will the Clergy and other involved persons send me an email message to the same address.

The Editor