



PHOTOS / BOB WILLIAMS



10 ordained as deacons, one as priest in rites on June 8

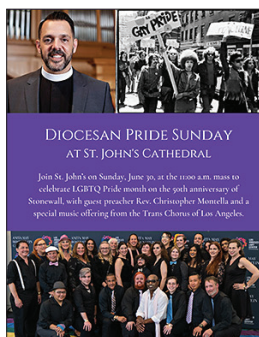
Above left: Bishop Suffragan Diane Jardine Bruce (center front) ordained 10 deacons on June 8 at St. John's Cathedral, Los Angeles. Bishop Franklin Brookhart of Montana (top row left) was the preacher. Bishop John Harvey Taylor is at center back; Canon to the Ordinary Melissa McCarthy is at right back. Ordinands are (from left): Sarah Dammann, William Ralph Knutson, Kristin Claire (KC) Robertson, Brainerd Solomon Dharmaraj, Jonathan William Feuss, Jamelia Cooper Barnett, Shawn Andre Evelyn, Judith Forman Lyons, Brittany Amanda Bjurstrom Frazier and Carlos Enrique Ruvalcaba. *Above right:* Bishop Taylor ordained Otto Vasquez to the priesthood at All Saints Church, Highland Park (Los Angeles) on June 8. Priest-in-charge Clarke Prescott was the preacher.

L.A. to welcome Union of Black Episcopalians for church-wide meeting in July

The church-wide Union of Black Episcopalians will hold its 51st annual Business Meeting and Conference July 22-26 in Los Angeles at the Sheraton Grande Hotel. Conference theme is: "Preparing the way for such a time as this: many people, one Lord!" Speakers will include Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; Archbishop Julio Murray of the Anglican Province of Central America; Bishop-elect Phoebe Roaf of the Diocese of West Tennessee; the Rev. Sandye A. Wilson, long-time leader in the Episcopal Church; and the Rev. Lester Mackenzie, rector of St. Mary's Church, Laguna Beach. For information, including a draft schedule, and to register, visit www.ube.org. †

Pride Sunday at cathedral will mark Stonewall milestone

Join St. John's Cathedral on Sunday, June 30, at the 11 a.m. mass to celebrate LGBTQ Pride month on the 50th anniversary of New York's Stonewall riots. Guest preacher



is the Rev. Christopher Montella, and the Trans Chorus of Los Angeles will sing. Montella has been a member of GLEAM, the Bishop's Commission for LGBTQ+ Ministry in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles since 2011 and currently serves as its chair. He is priest-in-charge of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Santa Clarita. St. John's Cathedral is located at 514 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles 90007. For information, call 213.747.6285 or visit www.stjohnsla.org. †



IRIS observes World Refugee Day

IRIS (Interfaith Refugee & Immigration Service), a ministry of the diocese, as part of the Refugee Forum of Los Angeles and in partnership with the mayor's office and the L.A. Public Library, hosted a World Refugee Day event June 20 at the downtown main library. Highlights were a resource fair, panel discussion including the executive director of Families Belong Together, the International Rescue Committee and a recently arrived asylum seeker. IRIS Executive Director Meghan Taylor, assisted by IRIS staff (pictures here), played a key role in coordinating the event. In addition, Episcopal Migration Ministries materials for churches to use yearly in recognition of World Refugee Day are online at <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org>. †



World Refugee Day



— MONDAY, JUNE 24 —

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Emmaus: Shady Ladies & Other Undercover Agents of God: A Scripture Study**
St. Joseph's Retreat Center
434 South Batavia Street, Orange
Information: bit.ly/Emmaus_ShadyLadies

— TUESDAY, JUNE 25 —

7 p.m. **Taizé Service of Healing & Wholeness**
St. Francis Episcopal Church
2200 Via Rosa, Palos Verdes Estates
Information: 310.375.4617

— SUNDAY, JUNE 30 —

5 p.m. **Jazz Vespers with Billy Childs**
All Saints Episcopal Church
132 N. Euclid Avenue, Pasadena
Information: www.allsaints-pas.org

— THURSDAY, JULY 4 —

10 a.m. **Interdependence Walking Meditation**
Cathedral Center of St. Paul
840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles
Information: media@ladiocese.org

— FRIDAY, JULY 19 —

6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **Seeds of Hope Friday Night Farming**
Edendale Grove Garden
Cathedral Center of St. Paul
840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles
Information: www.seedsofhopela.org

— MONDAY, JULY 22 - FRIDAY, JULY 26 —

Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) Annual Business Meeting and Conference
Sheraton Grande Hotel
711 S Hope Street, Los Angeles 90017
Information: bit.ly/UBE_Conf2019

— TUESDAY - SATURDAY, JULY 23 - 27 —

Kaleidoscope Summer Institute
Cathedral Center of St. Paul
840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles
Information: bit.ly/KscopeSummer2019

More events and program details are at diocesela.org/calendar. Information for future listings may be emailed to news@ladiocese.org.

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'All of you are one'

By Bishop Suffragan Diane Jardine Bruce

I cannot tell you how many times I have quote this piece of scripture — Galatians 3:28. It happens most often when I am on a plane reading a religious text. Inevitably the person next to me will see the book, lean in close to me and ask me: “Are you of the Lord?” Well, of course I am, but I know immediately one thing: the person who asked me the question signals that we don’t read the Bible in the same way.

Inevitably the person will ask me when I was saved. Undoubtedly the person will ask me what I do for a living. Like clockwork the person, learning I am a bishop, will say, “You have no authority to teach men.” Then comes the few pieces of scripture to support their statement, along with the appropriate citations. That’s when the fun part starts for me.

“You say that women can’t teach men. Can you tell me what the greatest moment for we Christians is in the Bible?” I have always received the same response: “The resurrection of our Lord, of course!” Then I ask, “Greatest moment — who did Jesus show himself to first?” They can never answer that. I can: women. Then I note that they’ve quoted scripture to me, and ask I ask them to recite Galatians 3:28. They never can. I do: *There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.* I always add, we women are heirs, hence we can teach. All of us are one. The person always becomes quiet and stares at me. “I’m happy to talk with you more about why women should and do hold positions of power in the church.” That offer falls like a sack of potatoes.

Friends in Christ, while I used one piece of

scripture to counter ones which were offered to me, we as Episcopalians do not read the Bible literally. It is not part of our tradition. Indeed, it isn’t the way the Bible has been read historically over the millennia. We need to understand the context in which it was written, who the intended audience was, what was the sociopolitical situation at the time, and understand and interpret the text, with the help of great translations and the Holy Spirit, as to what the Spirit is indeed saying to the church today.

My prayer these summer months as you may be traveling on vacation on a plane in which you might be reading a religious text (and I can recommend many!), is that if you encounter someone as I seem to always do, you have the words to say to enlighten and enliven the heart of your traveling neighbor! Summer blessings to you! †



New issue of The Episcopal News magazine is online

The Early Summer 2019 issue of The Episcopal News magazine is now online for reading or printing. This issue

includes a column by Bishop Taylor; coming events around the diocese; and stories on thriving youth programs in Fillmore and La Crescenta, a successful housing initiative in Riverside, and a pilgrimage to Manzanar National Monument, site of a World War II internment camp. To download copies, visit diocesela.org/episcopal-news.

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