

## Here are this week's announcements:

If you are interested in having your membership transferred to Holy Cross, or joining our parish family,  
please contact the church office at 963-4609. [http://](http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net/)  
[www.holycrossvallecrucis.net/](http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net/)

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Choristers, please take note: Choir rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. All returning choir members and summer residents are invited to sing with us.

Holy Cross Church welcomes visiting clergy, The Rev. Tom Niehaus, today and July 20th while Fr. John is on vacation.

Fr. John Zellner will be on vacation from July 7th through August 7th.

**Don't Forget to Purchase Lowe's Foods Cards!** Lowe's Foods donates a portion of all cards sold at Holy Cross to the ECW for the Scholarship Fund. These cards are available from Sally Prosch or Francile Shelley. Cards may also be purchased in the office from Kathy Williams. Easy to buy! Easy to use! Easy to help make a

difference!

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**Lectors, Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Ushers and  
Oblation Bearers**

**July 20, 2008**

**8:30 Service:** Mary Hansley (L) Susan Duke (C/P) Edie Tugman (C)

**St. John's 9:45 Service:** Erin Kirby (L) Becky McDonough (C)

**11:00 Service:** Ed Shelley (L) John Goodrich (C) David Barnhill (C/P)

**Greeter and Oblation Bearers:** Reid & Barbara

**Armstrong Ushers:** Dale & Ernestine Glover

**Crucifer:** Justin Martin **Gospel Bearer:** Hunter Martin

<http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net/>

[Layread Greet Oblation Sched.html](http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net/Layread_Greet_Oblation_Sched.html)

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**Upcoming July Birthdays**

7-16 Margaret Pritchard

7-17 Gabrielle Harmeyer

7-18 Carolyn Travis

7-21 Patsy Townsend

7-22 John Cooper, Alex Craig

7-24 Denise Ringler

7-26 Bob Darst

7-27 Sam Yates

7-28 Joyce Forsythe

7-30 Ann Gerber

7-31 Pat Underwood

### July Anniversaries

7-24 Bill and Christine Powell

7-26 Jan and Harriat Smith & Howard and Pat Underwood

7-31 Jim and Muriel Moore

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## Mission and Outreach

### ECW NEWS

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**Villager Initiative:** One evening a month volunteers play and care for foster children while their foster parents have two hours of respite. Additional persons are needed to help provide this important ministry. Contact Alicia Toomey at 297-7586 or [MtnToomeys@aol.com](mailto:MtnToomeys@aol.com)

to volunteer for service or for more information.

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Diocese of Western North Carolina  
Bishop's Weekly Reflection

Note: the Bishop is keeping a Blog while at Lambeth, to read more reflections - the address is:

<http://lambeth2008.blogspot.com/>

Thursday, July 17, 2008

The bishops went to Canterbury Cathedral today for the beginning of a retreat with the Archbishop of Canterbury. He gave two meditations; both were wonderful and moving.

He spoke about the spiritual dimensions of being a bishop, but his comments are applicable to all baptized Christians. He reminded us that everyone is a place where the Son of God is revealed; everyone.

Therefore, part of the bishop's ministry is to call the Church to recognize the holiness of all God's children and to call ourselves into judgement for not living up to God's vision of the whole Body of Christ. He also reminded us that we are called to be thankful at all times.

The afternoon talk was very powerful. He talked about how Christ calls us into a new humanity where we bear one another's burdens. When we do that, our boundaries are opened---for everyone. He said that Christians are "deeply unreliable allies" because we are always going for a truth that is deeper than any one cause or one position. We don't belong to an organization; we belong to Christ and He is the one always making everyone and everything new.

The phrase that touched me so was he said that holiness is not having habits of otherworldliness but of being "taken hold of by Christ" (Philippians 3:22).

I felt as if I were being called to broaden my own perspective. Instead of preparing to defend any one position, we are called to be held once more by the living Christ and to hold on to Him with all our might. That must be our calling above all else or we will worship something that is less than Christ.

To put this into context, today we had seven interpreters. Being here reminds us that Jesus is not an American but the Lord of

Lords; the Alpha and the Omega. We are called to have a glimpse of his kingdom which is always bigger than our agendas.

Peace,  
+Porter

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Respectfully submitted,  
Erin Kirby