

Church of St. Francis

12 WEST SCHOOL ST. VILLA PARK, IL 60181

Presiding Bishop and Vicar General Visit St. Francis

The Most Rev. Graham S. Wale, Presiding Bishop of The Liberal Catholic Church, and the Right Rev. Christian R. Schoch, Episcopal Vicar General of the Church visited the United States at the kind invitation of the Right Rev. William S. Downey, Regional Bishop, Province of the U.S.A. From June 19 to July 7, they visited churches at Ojai (CA), Rio Rancho (NM), and Chicago (IL), as well as attending various meetings with the Bishops of the Province of the U.S.A., the clergy, and the congregations of the Church.

Their visit to St. Francis coincided with the Fourth of July celebrations of the U.S.A. There were opportunities for the clergy and congregation of St. Francis to personally spend time with the Bishops, during scheduled discussions and meals.

On Saturday, July 5, Bishop Christian Schoch was the celebrant for the 10 am Holy Eucharist. He did the service in French, with the congregation replying in English.

We congratulate those who received following the sacraments:

First Communion:

Saul Berrum

Confirmations:

Tiffany Jones, Georgia Metz, Ali and Vicki Fitzmaurice, Saul, Laura, and Tomas



From left to right, Rev. T. Metz, Deaconess Julie Hamilton, Organist Rebecca Collin, Rev. Jeffrey Forth, Bishop Christian Schoch, Crosier bearer Tiffany Jones, Bishop Graham S. Wale, Crosier bearer Kiefer Provost, Rev. Stephen Arndt, of St. Gabriel's and Daniel J. Provost. Continuing from left to right are Rev. Thomas Miller, Ann Bosold and Ed Parkinson, from St. Gabriel and All Angels, in Fairfield, Iowa. Four front altar boys are from St. Francis and St. Gabriel and All Angels.

Berrum, Josafat Alcalá.

Minor Ordination:

Daniel J. Provost to Exorcist and Acolyte.

After a light meal, "Bishop's Hour" was held so that the congregation could meet, ask questions and hold discussions with our honored guests.

On Saturday evening, we were delighted by a demonstration by the **Sanctissima Circle of Sophia** from St. Gabriel and All Angels, Fairfield, Iowa. Their 8 pm service invoked the wisdom of the Divine Feminine and brought a peaceful end to a busy day.

At the Sunday, July 6, 10 am Holy Eucharist, **Daniel J. Provost** was ordained by the celebrant, Bishop Graham Wale, to the level of **Subdeacon**. A reception and dinner in the church basement followed.

We thank Bishops Wale and Schoch for traveling so far to give their blessing to the church of St. Francis. Their presence gave the clergy and congregation the chance to come together and participate in something that is larger than the individual self.

It is through these gatherings that individuals transform

themselves into members at a higher turn of the spiral. We become aware of ourselves as a group and experience a sense of belonging, evoking a deep yearning that calls to us and beckons for our return to our spiritual home. These times are golden opportunities to experience communion with fellow travelers on the path of life, the rhythm of stately ritual and service to humanity. Participants come away with lightness of being, deeper compassion, kindness rather than a tendency to criticism, and a clearer vision of the eternal truths that underlie our daily living.

The Most Rev. Graham Wale



Bishop Graham was elected to the Office of Presiding Bishop by the members of the General Episcopal Synod in December of 2005 and is the 10th elected Presiding Bishop in direct line from the Church's 1st Presiding Bishop, James Ingall Wedgwood. Born at London in December of 1945, Bishop Graham spent many years working in South Africa. He was appointed as Secretary to the then Regionary Bishop of South Africa in 1992 and Secretary/Chaplain to the 8th Presiding Bishop, Bishop van Alphen, in 1993. In 1996 he attended the 11th General Episcopal Synod held at Sydney, Australia and was appointed Ad Hoc Secretary to the General Episcopal Synod at that Synod. In 1997 he returned to the UK to be with



Bishop Graham Wale ordains Daniel Provost to the order of Subdeacon.

his ageing parents. He was elected to the Episcopacy and consecrated in 2000 as Auxiliary Bishop for Gt. Britain & Ireland. He was elected, the same year, as a Member of the Interim Committee of the Church (which manages the Church's

international affairs between Plenary Sessions of the General Episcopal Synod). He was responsible for the organising of 12th General Episcopal Synod of the Church, held at London Colney, England at which the Bishops of the Church attended from all over the world. In 2002 he was elected as Regionary Bishop of Gt. Britain & Ireland, an Office which he still holds. He was again responsible for the organising of the 13th General Episcopal Synod which took place at Camberley, England in December of 2002. In 2007 he chaired the 14th General Episcopal Synod of the Church held near Orleans, France. His wife, Kylann accompanied him on his first visit to the U.S.A. as Presiding Bishop of the Church.

The Rt. Rev. Christian Schoch



Bishop Christian was born at Strasbourg, Eastern France, in 1951. He was appointed as Episcopal Vicar General of the Church in 2006 by the Presiding Bishop. Bishop Christian was elected to the

Episcopacy and consecrated at Paris, France in 1983. In 1990, Bishop Christian was elected as Regionary Bishop of France, Suisse-Romande and North Africa. In 2002, he was elected as Regionary Bishop of France, Suisse-Romande and Francophone Africa. He served for many years, and continues to serve, as a Member of the Interim Committee of the Church. He has also visited Africa on numerous occasions, devoting much of his time to assist the development of the Church and her Clergy in the French-speaking countries of Africa. He was responsible for organising the 14th General

Episcopal Synod of the Church in 2007, which was held in France. He has also travelled to Sweden and Finland with the Presiding Bishop. Bishop Schoch's role does not refer to France, but rather to the worldwide church, and this was his first visit to the U.S.A. as Vicar General. He was accompanied by his wife, Monique.

In November of 2007, both Bishops visited the Cameroon in Central Africa to consecrate a Bishop for Central Africa. They shall both visit the Congo later this year to conduct two consecrations to the Episcopacy.



The crozier is the symbol of the governing office of the Bishop and conferred upon him at his ordination to the episcopacy, the group of bishops that rule the church. A bishop uses a crozier when conferring sacraments and presiding at liturgies, usually holding his crozier with his left hand, leaving his right hand free to bestow blessings.

The crozier can also be carried by an altar server known as the "crozier bearer". The crozier bearer wears a silk veil (called a *vimpa*) around his shoulders and covering his hands when touching the crozier, which is necessary to protect that person from feeling the full force of the crozier, which is only reserved for those who have been consecrated as a bishop and are able to withstand its strong spiritual energies. The crozier bearer holds it with the crook facing towards them (when handing it to the Bishop).

Bishop Charles W. Leadbeater, in his book *The Science of the Sacraments*, writes: "Many crozier designs were tried in the early centuries, and . . . there are still three different forms of the crook, as seen in Dia-



Bishop Wale blesses the congregation at the Sunday service.

gram 18. In the Liberal Catholic Church we use any of these three forms, with a preference for that on the right of the diagram, as having better balance in the flow of the spiritual force.

"Regarded from the point of view of its inner effect, the crozier is an instrument of the greatest value. The insertion of seven magnetized jewels in the knob makes it equivalent to a portable Altar-stone, and in addition to that it is provided with a unique arrangement for the application of spiritual force to the different principles or divisions of man. The curves of the spiral are used for this purpose and they divide themselves into three parts, as shown in Diagram 18.

"The knob in which the gems are set is the focus and source of activity. The **first partition** or filter is arranged to arrest etheric matter, so that only the astral, mental and still higher manifestation of the force can pass through it. The curve of the spiral makes it easier for us to direct it. Between the first and second partitions the astral expression of the force is at its farthest and it is from this curve of the staff that it stimulates devotion, both arousing and controlling the emotions of the people.

"The **second partition** throws back all astral matter, so beyond that it is the mental aspect of the energy which is most in evidence, with its tendency is to encourage high and clear thinking. The **third partition** strains away lower mental matter, so that only the higher mental matter . . . can pass through into the central

ornament which terminates at the spiral.

"For still higher levels no special part of the crozier is reserved. The whole staff is permeated with the influence of the intuitional world, for that can penetrate all principles at any level if people will only let it.

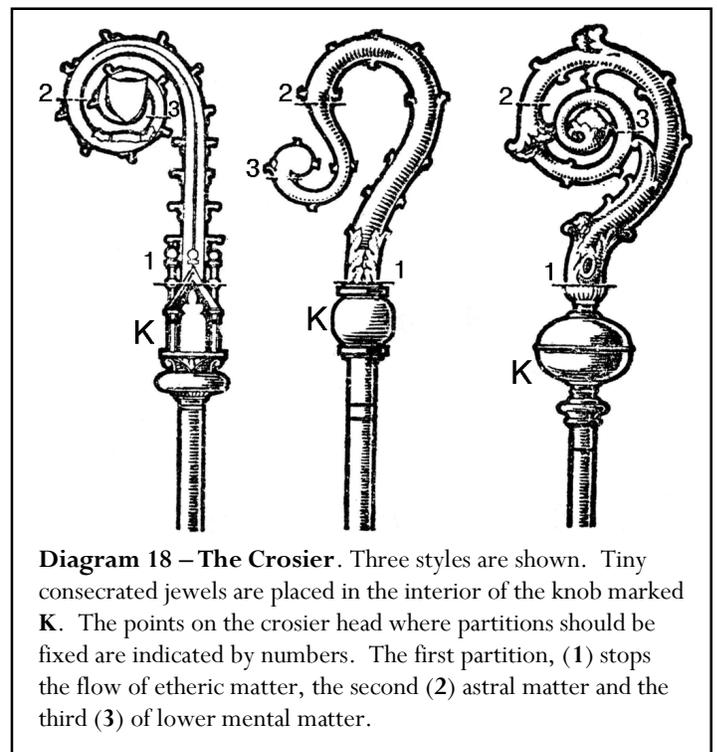
"The practical action of the crozier during the various Services of the Church is exceed-



Bishop Graham Wale confirms Tomas Berrum at the Saturday Holy Eucharist.

ingly powerful. It works simultaneously in several directions. It acts upon the Bishop, it receives from him, and it rays out power upon the congregation. At some points of the Service the Bishop has to hold it, so that its form may mingle with his; at others it is sufficient that it be held beside him or carried in front of him. When he administers confirmation, for example it is held beside while he accepts the candidate in Christ's Name, but he takes it in his hand when he utters the words of power: 'Receive the Holy Ghost.' He holds it when giving absolution and benediction, and from the vision of one who is clairvoyant, it is wonderful to see how its ever-present glow swells into a blinding light as the words are uttered."

Taken from *The Science of the Sacraments* by Bishop Charles W. Leadbeater, pages 514 and 527-533. Photos by Rev. T. Metz.





Church of St. Francis
12 West School St.
Villa Park, IL 60681

TheosoFest

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When: Sept. 6, 2008
Saturday, 11am to 6pm

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For more info go to <http://www.theosophical.org/> or call 630-668-1571 Ext. 300.

Church of St. Francis

THE LIBERAL CATHOLIC CHURCH,
PROVINCE OF THE USA

12 W. School St. Villa Park, IL 60181

Holy Eucharist Sunday 10am

*Communion offered to all. Baptisms, Marriages,
Healing services performed upon request.*

www.liberalcatholic.com

www.stfrancisvillapark.org

News & Announcements

The LCC Spring Retreat was hosted by St. Gabriel and All Angels, Fairfield, Iowa and held at the Shalom Retreat Center in Dubuque, Iowa on May 16-18, 2008. Julie Hamilton, Lorijo Metz, Carolyn Smith, Rabeca Collin, Laura Berrum and Fr. Jeffrey Forth, from St. Francis, attended.

Kitchen renovation in the basement of St. Francis began in May, 2008. The contents of the kitchen cabinets were removed and placed on tables

in the basement, temporarily limiting any large social functions. Improvements include: freshly painted cabinets and drawers with new handles, new countertops and range. The old portable dish washer was replaced with a new, installed model. The coffee/tea area was reorganized.

A special thanks goes to all those who participated in the renovation: Julie Hamilton, Carolyn Smith, Dawn Regnier, James Ascarreggi and John Ricci.

Autumn Adult Ed Sundays at 11:45 am

Special Guest speaker Ruben Cabigting will lead a presentation on the scientific aspects of theosophy and the constitution of humanity.

September 7: The Origin and Transformation of Humanity

Charles and Ann Bermingham will do a series of classes/lectures on how humanity views the universe, past and present, and how those views affect our spiritual evolution.

Humanity's Challenge: Moving from Unknowing to the State of Knowing

September 28:

Thunderbolts: Zeus, Moses and Indra

October 26: The Conscious Universe: Periodic Planetary Extinctions

November 23: Marshall McLuhan and The Age of Aquarius

As a planetary whole, how do we find the way to becoming an advanced civilization?