

ANIC Newsletter 31 October 2010

Handle with prayer

News - ANIC and AEN

Synod only days away

Registration – With synod starting in a couple days, you need to get your registration in quickly if you wish to attend.

Transportation – If you've already registered and would like to request transportation to and/or from the airport or train station, you can make your wishes known by <u>completing a short online</u> form. A team of volunteers in Ottawa will try to meet your requests.

Prayer – There will be people praying on-site, upholding ANiC and the synod before the Throne of Grace. We encourage parishes to also spend time during synod praying – preferably in a corporate fashion – for our diocese and the meeting. Thank you!

Video/webcasting – We had bad news this week. Kevin Kallsen of AnglicanTV has had to cancel – due to family needs – and now will not be able to come to synod. We are looking into alternatives, but webcasting of synod is now highly unlikely – for which we sincerely apologize.

Keynote speaker – Lauding ANiC synod's keynote speaker, Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, for his courageous engagement with culture and politics, prominent British columnist Melanie Philips wrote in *The Spectator*, "Such remarks illustrate once again why Nazir-Ali is the lost leader of the Church of England. At this critical juncture for the west, with its bedrock ethical values under such threat from both within and without, Nazir-Ali would have made a fitting Archbishop of Canterbury. Instead, he was effectively hounded out of Britain by the craven liberal Church establishment."

Report from Kenya – the ARDFC malaria reduction project is moving forward! We received an interim report on the malaria reduction project from the <u>Diocese of Maseno West</u>. The initial training of 120 community health volunteers – out of a planned total of 200 – is now complete and the implementation will soon start. You can see some photos and read the report.

How best to select bishops?

That is what people were discussing in <u>this AEC blog post</u>. Interestingly, many of the commenters seem to favour the way ANiC selected our bishops in 2008/9 – rather than the more common democratic election process. What do you think? Join the <u>discussions on the AEC blog!</u>

Evangelist Marney Patterson honoured; *Invitation to Live Ministries* winding down After 44 years of ministry under the banner of *Invitation to Live Ministries* (ITL), the Rev Dr Marney Patterson and his wife Joan announced at their annual Thanksgiving Luncheon that ITL will wind down at the end of this year. Bishop Charlie Masters, who represented ANiC at the celebration, reports that, in a stirring testimony, Marney spoke of the Lord's plans and ways and gave glory to God as he reflected on his decades of evangelism ministry throughout Canada and around the world. He made it clear that, while ITL – an organization Marney founded and led – is closing down, as long as he has breath, he always wants to preach the gospel and lead people to Christ. Then after the October 30th luncheon in Burlington, ON, Marney did just that – he preached and invited people to respond.

Bishop Charlie delivered and read a number of letters of greeting. In his letter, Bishop Don Harvey reminisces that it was only one year ago that Marney moved from under the direct jurisdiction of Archbishop Venables of the Southern Cone to ANiC. Archbishop Bob Duncan's congratulatory

note stated, "Marney... You are the most senior active priest of the Anglican Network in Canada... you have proclaimed the Gospel to more people around the globe than any other Canadian Anglican in history."

The Anglican Gathering of Ottawa has a new website

The <u>Anglican Gathering of Ottawa</u>, a fellowship of biblically-faithful Anglicans in the Ottawa area, has a new website.

2011 Liturgical calendar posted

The Rev Tom Carman (St Aidan's, Windsor, ON) has kindly prepared a 2011 Liturgical Calendar which is now available on the ANiC website.

Now hiring...

Please remember these needs in prayer:

- The Asian Mission in Canada, under Bishop Stephen Leung, is hiring a Ministry Assistant, for a five-month project from December 1 to 30 April 2011. See details on the ANiC website down and look under News).
- Anglican Network Church of the Good Shepherd (Vancouver, BC) is seeking an associate priest to work with Bishop Leung.
- St Andrew's (Tsawwassen, BC) is seeking a priest who is also a church planter.

Parish news

Christ The King (Toronto) launched <u>a new website</u> just in time for their commissioning service on October 24 – attended by over 100. They also <u>announced their new rector</u>! The Rev Ray David Glenn will assume the role in addition to his current pastoral responsibilities for St George's (Burlington). With Christ The King (Toronto) holding Sunday evening services, the Rev Glenn will be able to serve both, much like a two-point parish.

If your parish has news that would be of interest to others in ANiC, please <u>email Marilyn</u> or call 1-866-351-2642 extension 4020.

Calendar of upcoming events – for your interest and prayer support

Nov 3 – Clergy day, Ottawa, ON

Nov 4-6 - ANIC synod with featured speaker Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali, Ottawa, ON

Nov 14 – <u>International day of prayer</u> for the persecuted church

Nov 12-17 - +Charlie speaks at information meetings around New Brunswick

Nov 21, 3pm - Four to be ordained priests, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Richmond, BC.

Jan 25-27 – ACNA 2011 church planting summit in Plano, TX with speaker Tim Keller

Jan 25-31 – Anglican Communion Primates Meeting (Dublin, Ireland)

March 29-31 – ANiC's 2011 pastors' retreat near Abbotsford, BC

News shorts – Anglican Church in North America (ACNA)

Archbishop Duncan's address to the Lausanne Congress on World EvangelizationSpeaking recently at the Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization in Cape Town South Africa, our Primate, Archbishop Bob Duncan <u>focused</u> on the spiritual value of suffering for the Gospel and the role of the Global South in supporting those in developed nations who are marginalized for their Biblically-faithful convictions. He said:

The ecclesiastical ruthlessness of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada - removing bishops, clergy and even lay leaders who stood in opposition, coupled with civil legal proceedings confiscating congregational and diocesan properties - might well have succeeded in crushing every one who dared to stand in opposition, but for one thing: the intervention of orthodox Anglicans from the Global South... The colonial ecclesiastical power structure was being turned upside-down. The crisis in America - and the willingness of peoples formerly subjugated by the West to "rescue" Westerners - is one of the principal factors in explaining what is happening in world-wide Anglicanism today. This "godly rescue," together with the

willingness of many North Americans to stand no matter what the cost, is why the Anglican Church in North America, of which I am Archbishop and Primate, now exists, and why it is experiencing extraordinary growth despite all that has come against us from the old hierarchies and the wayward culture.

Archbishop Duncan also noted that, "The average Anglican is now a woman, an African, a mother, and under the age of 20. We are not the Church of England anymore." And later he added "For us in the Anglican Church in North America we believe God has set us to planting 1000 new churches in our first five years of life. 1 or 2 potential church-planters contacts our office every day! 500 will gather at our Anglican 1000 Summit in January. What is equally astounding is what I call "Anglican fever" on university and seminary campuses. Five weeks ago, Dean Timothy George of Beeson School of Theology in Birmingham, Alabama, a school of Baptist foundation, informed me that "the fastest growing group of students are the Anglicans.""

Reminder... Anglican 1000 Church Planting Summit, January 25-27
Registration is now open for the annual *Anglican 1000 Church Planting Summit* featuring leavests appared and Pieben Todd Hunter, both of whom are leading abused all

keynote speakers Tim Keller and Bishop Todd Hunter – both of whom are leading church planting networks, one on the east coast and one on the west. <u>Summit 2011</u> is January 25-27, 2011 in Plano, Texas. Special rates are available for active church planter and seminary students; just email <u>staff@anglican1000.org</u> for more information. Early bird rates last only through October.

Website – a church planting tool

Hoping to attract disaffected Anglicans and Christians interested in helping launch ACNA churches in the San Francisco area, Father Ed McNeill has launched www.sanfrancisco.org.

Anglican Relief & Development Fund (US) achieves accreditation for stewardship
The US-based Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) has issued accreditation to
the Anglican Relief and Development Fund (ARDF). The ARDF is the US-based relief and
development arm of the ACNA and the counterpart to Canada's ARDF-Canada (or ARDFC).
ARDF was founded in 2007; ARDFC was launched in 2010. The ECFA's accreditation is based
on the ECFA Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship™, including financial accountability,
transparency, sound board governance and ethical fund-raising.

Litigation update

In the **San Joaquin case**, the panel of judges hearing the appeal were reported by the Fresno Bee to be confused by the issues and uncertain whether the court had authority to rule on church matters. While TEC argues that it is a hierarchical organization from which dioceses may not secede, the Diocese of San Joaquin, which is now in the ACNA, argues that TEC is an association of dioceses. The Anglican Curmudgeon provides more detail on the case.

In **Fort Worth, Texas,** TEC has filed a fourth law suit, this time against Bishop Jack Iker personally. All four suits are based on "much the same grounds" <u>according to the Diocese of Fort Worth's statement</u> which notes:

"There can no longer be any doubt that this litigation is intended to harass, intimidate, bankrupt, and divert the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth, its Corporation, and its leadership – particularly Bishop Iker – from carrying out the mission of the Church... Clearly, this suit is but the latest attempt to demonize Bishop Iker and ignore the decision by an overwhelming majority of delegates to two diocesan conventions – where the Bishop himself has no vote – to separate from TEC. Over and over, the complaint speaks of the Diocese, its Web site, parishes, assessment income – even the worship services themselves – as if they belong to Bishop Iker personally. The fact is that the TEC-led minority lost, but it has not been gracious. Its leadership is embittered. The suit's claims of "unfair competition" and "public confusion and harm" are frivolous and would be laughable if not for the fact that litigation and personal animosity damage the cause of the Gospel. It is time for this wasteful mockery of Christian

doctrine and of the civil court system to stop. However, if the minority continues to bring trumped-up charges, we will continue to defend ourselves.

Speaking at a Forward in Faith gathering in Britain, Bishop Iker <u>summarized and explained</u> the lawsuits. While he did so in a humourous way, he concluded:

"...the Diocese of Fort Worth, up until this recent lawsuit... has spent over one million dollars in attorney's fees defending ourselves... It's expected that whatever happens... will get appealed... So our attorneys... have estimated that we'll probably, before this is over, spend between three and a half to four and a half million dollars in litigation. So pray for us that we don't get consumed by all that and we can remain focused... on the mission of the Church -- building up the Body of Christ, reaching out to the world, to the unchurched...

"The last thing I'll say is that the (Anglican) Ordinariate option is very much on hold for us because all the property in the Diocese is involved in this litigation. So there is no way we can talk about releasing a congregation with assets and building property and go into the Ordinariate until the final decision of the courts in Texas about who actually owns the property... [However] a total number of five of our young priests, some of our brightest, most gifted, who since the Ordinariate concept was announced, have decided they can't remain. They're going to go individually, with their families, into the Roman (Catholic) Church."

More ACNA news

Daily American [Somerset, PA] – Oct 19 2010 – <u>Two local churches slated to get new homes...</u> Murrysville Star – October 28 2010 – <u>Anglican churches participate in effort to read 100 Bible passages</u> [in ACNA Diocese of Pittsburgh]

News shorts - Canada

Conference on "changing landscape of Church & Mission, November 16-18, Toronto The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada is inviting pastors and ministry leaders to the <u>Hinge</u> Conference on how to respond to the changing landscape in Canada.

Parliament begins to debate Coercive Abortion Bill

<u>LifeSiteNews reports</u> that "Roxanne's Law", a private members bill designed to criminalize the coercion of pregnant women into having abortions is up for debate on November 1. The bill is nicknamed after a young pregnant Canadian who was murdered by her boyfriend in 2007 when she refused to have an abortion. Earlier, the Prime Minister's office denounced the bill, saying it was an attempt to reopen the abortion debate.

Diocese of Toronto quietly ordains priest in same sex marriage

<u>VirtueOnline reports</u> that "The Bishop of Toronto, Colin Johnson, recently ordained as priest a woman who is married to another female priest in the Diocese of Toronto. Now you should know that Bishop Johnson sits on the International Theological Commission of the Anglican Communion. So the question is: how objective can he be about same sex marriages or openly gay priests?" Photos of the event are posted to Holy Trinity Toronto's website.

Anglican Church of Canada (ACoC) House of Bishops meet

Based on the reports from the ACoC House of Bishops meeting, we learn that:

- Archbishop Fred Hiltz recognizes there is "a lot of tension within the group" of global Anglican
 Primates scheduled to meet in January and "some Primates seem unwilling to come to the
 table with everyone present." <u>According to the Anglican Journal</u>, he suggested to the gathered
 bishops that the Archbishop of Canterbury may accommodate this concern by arranging
 separate prior meetings of the two factions.
- In <u>their statement</u>, the bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada indicated they are getting weary of talking about sexuality and being lobbying by special interest groups. They also confirmed they will strictly limit media and public access to their meetings.

- The <u>Journal reports</u> that "The joint meeting included 42 Anglican bishops and six bishops in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada."
- Members of the laity <u>also seem</u> to be tiring of the ongoing dialogue on sexuality with few responding to the most recent attempt an effort to elicit responses to the Pastoral Statement issued by the June 2010 general synod. However, the Primate seems to agree with the view that this statement, "bought us some time".

The Diocese of Montreal looks at shared episcopal ministry

The Anglican Journal reports that "Parishes and priests not on board with the openness of the diocese of Montreal and its bishop to the blessing of same-sex unions may get access in the new year to spiritual guidance from a bishop more in tune with their views." Bishop Barry Clarke said he would reveal the details in a formal presentation to the diocesan council in January – however he emphasized that the oversight both be shared between himself and the alternative bishop. Suggesting that the move was designed to stem the hemorrhaging of people from the diocese, he said recent decisions had "...pushed people to leave our church..." However, the Church of England Newspaper notes, "Past programmes for alternative episcopal oversight in Canada have foundered, however, with liberal bishops and their traditionalist congregations unable to agree on the bishops providing the oversight and their powers."

Other Canadian news

Church of England Newspaper – Oct 27 2010 – <u>Igloo Cathedral fundraising campaign half way...</u>
Anglican Journal – October 26 2010 – <u>Lutheran and Anglican bishops brainstorm solutions...</u>
Anglican Journal – October 21 2010 – <u>Partnerships department closed in... restructuring</u>

News shorts - US

First TEC church joins Roman Catholic Church as an "Anglican-use" parish
A small Baltimore Episcopal Church (TEC) congregation has voted to accept the Pope's offer of
October 2009 and join the Roman Catholic Church while retaining aspects of Anglican worship.
The Baltimore Sun article suggests, "...the process is not easy and the members will have to
negotiate with the Episcopal Diocese to keep its building. Under Episcopal canons, the property is
held in trust for the diocese and national church. However, the deed of the property is held in the
name of the parish."

The Presiding Bishop talks about leadership

In <u>a video interview</u> with the Washington Post, Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori talks about leadership. The comments are interesting in light of her actions. While she actively pursues "scorched earth" litigation, she talks of her grand vision as a leader of "a world where people live together in justice and at peace and where the broken things are healed". She continues that "my challenges in the next few years are going to be about governance and management. We have a very complex governance structure that involves a great many people that' not agile or nimble. It's not ready and really capable of adapting to rapid change... we have to be more nimble... it's very hard for people who are deeply invested in their piece of the power structure or their piece of tradition that they believe should be unchanging." And so she acts unilaterally in defiance of established church canons.

<u>Speaking later at a women's conference</u>, the Presiding Bishop said courage was key to her leadership.

The growing campaign to derail orthodox Bishop-elect Dan Martins

Immediately after the Diocese of Springfield elected orthodox priest, formerly of the Diocese of San Joaquin, the Rev Dan Martins, liberals in the church have been working feverishly to thwart his installation. In TEC, other bishops and diocesan standing committees must consent to the election of a new bishop. The Episcopal Church's <u>Episcopal Café reports</u> that a letter has now been sent to the dioceses and bishops, "…before the consent process is in full swing, so that those Bishops and

Standing Committees receiving the letter will have a chance to review pertinent information about Daniel Martins and his involvement in the attempted separation of the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin from the Episcopal Church."

A group of California newspapers <u>has published a rather biased story</u> which includes quotes from the Rev Martins in which he explains that he worked behind the scenes to prevent the (now ACNA) Diocese of San Joaquin from leaving the Episcopal Church despite his overt support for the realignment and his orthodox beliefs.

More TEC dioceses sound alarm regarding power grab by Presiding Bishop

The <u>Living Church reports</u> that the dioceses of Dallas and Western Louisiana have joined the Diocese of South Carolina in expressing their alarm and concern about changes due to be implemented next summer to TEC's Title IV canons regarding clergy discipline. Bishop James Stanton (Dallas) is quoted saying, "The more we looked at Title IV, we began to realize what we have here is a constitutional crisis. Much of our concern has to do with due process for clergy and protections for clergy... I think it's important for every diocese and clergy especially, to look very carefully at this."

Legal costs create financial strain in the Episcopal Church

Although the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church (TEC) suggests legal costs are declining for her Church, others who have examined the numbers find the statement incredulous. A <u>Church of England article</u> states, "...according to an analysis performed by canon lawyer Allan Haley, the national church and its dioceses have dedicated over \$21,650,000 to lawsuits and disciplinary actions against the clergy." Despite the church's refusal to provide a detailed accounting of litigation expenses, Mr Haley, who is known for his blog the Anglican Curmudgeon, has undertaken extensive analysis of various church reports and financial statements.

In a recent blog, Mr Haley reports that TEC's executive council has approved taking out a loan of up to \$60 million dollars and mortgaging its headquarters building. Meanwhile the executive council refuse to address the Presiding Bishop's unfettered spending on "dozens and dozens of lawsuits" across the country directed against former Episcopalians. Haley concludes that, "The Church is in a deadly, downward spiral of declining membership, declining revenues and greatly increased debt."

The Episcopal Church and the "havoc that is likely to ensue"

The <u>Church of England Newspaper offers</u> an excellent insight into the state of affairs in the Episcopal Church, shown through the courageous resistance by the Diocese of South Carolina to the surreptitious but rapid expansion of the Presiding Bishop's powers.

Other US news

Anglican Curmudgeon - October 28 2010 - Bishop Lawrence: How to do it right

News shorts - International

Lausanne – South Africa

Global Anglican leaders played a leading role in the recent <u>Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization</u> in South Africa – an historic, evangelical, inter-denominational gathering. Archbishop Henry Luke Orombi (Uganda) served as honourary chair of the event and a panel of Anglican archbishops, including ACNA's Archbishop Bob Duncan, addressed the Congress.

Some Anglican speakers of particular note included:

- Archbishop Benjamin Kwashi (Jos. Nigeria) World Faiths: Bearing Witness to Christ's Love
- Os Guinness Why Truth Matters
- Os Guinness Globalization: The Challenge

While in South Africa, five Communion leaders – Archbishops John Chew (S E Asia), Henry Orombi (Uganda), Robert Duncan (ACNA) and Mouneer Anis (Middle East) and Assisting Bishop Glenn Davies (Sydney, Australia) – spoke to a special Lausanne Congress meeting on issues

facing Anglicans. <u>VirtueOnline reports</u> that Archbishop Orombi told the meeting that "the Anglican Communion is torn at the deepest level with no hope of ever being repaired. A realignment is now well under way and will conclude with the birth of a new [Anglican] baby. It will be difficult, but all in good time." He said while the "Global North" debated sexuality, the church in the Global South was busy evangelizing and growing.

Archbishop Venables (Southern Cone) and the official Communion structures In an excellent AnglicanTV interview, well worth 17 minutes of your time, Archbishop Greg Venables candidly discusses the shift in power in the Communion's official structures. He says, "It's just so obvious that there is a growing... unconstitutional move to take hold of authority and to steer things but... it hasn't been discussed and it hasn't been approved..." Then he adds that if the official Communion structures listened to the majority in the Communion, orthodox Christianity would hold sway. "Sadly, a small minority have got hold of... the control of things so there is a complete division between that small little group who are calling the shots and the vast majority who can stand up and say that Jesus Christ is Lord..."

Speaking of the now infamous Indaba thrust within the Communion, he indicated that the dialogue process is weighted on the liberal side and is used to infiltrate faithful provinces and dioceses.

On the recent sanctions applied by Canon Kenneth Kearon, Secretary General of the Communion, Archbishop Venables said, "we are flummoxed... we are just rather amazed". Contrary to Canon Kearon's statement, Archbishop Venables says he had spoken with the Archbishop of Canterbury and had twice had telephone discussions with Canon Kearon on the charges levied against the Southern Cone of cross-border interventions in North America. In those calls, Archbishop Greg had said it would be necessary for the Southern Cones' House of Bishops and central committee to meet in order to formulate an official reply as it was those bodies which made the original decision to provide sanctuary to North Americans. Canon Kearon's statement levying sanctions against the Southern Cone came just two weeks before those bodies were to meet.

Commenting on this interview, a <u>Church of England article</u> notes, "The fracas over Canon Kearon's June letter is not the first breakdown in communications between the ACC and the Southern Cone, as Bishop Venables told AnglicanTV he never received a copy of the revised Anglican Consultative Council constitution that was to have been distributed to the provinces before it was adopted this summer. One senior Global South leader told CEN he was troubled by the implication that Canon Kearon could make demands upon the primates and the provinces. The ACC secretary general has "no authority" to dictate to the communion, he observed."

Canon Phil Ashey of the American Anglican Council wrote in the AAC's October 29th, newsletter that, "The House of Bishops of the Anglican province of the Southern Cone will be meeting this weekend to discuss a variety of matters. Among them will be the unprecedented action by the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion, purportedly on behalf of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Communion, asking Bishop Tito Zavala of Chile [Church of the Southern Cone] to withdraw from the Inter Anglican Standing Commission on Unity Faith and Order (IASCUFO)."

Canon Ashey provides a thorough review of the facts leading up to this and concludes that "...there is no rational, doctrinal or disciplinary ground to administer the same sanctions to Bishop Zavala as were given to the representatives of TEC... the Southern Cone is in firm compliance with Lambeth Resolution 1.10 and upholds it as among the reasons for its cross-provincial intervention in North America to protect Anglicans distressed by the innovations of TEC and ACoC."

Please pray for Archbishop Greg Venables and the leaders of the Southern Cone.

Archbishop Orombi interview: Growth in Uganda; No more games in Communion In a <u>VirtueOnline interview</u>, Archbishop Henry Orombi, Primate of the Anglican Church of Uganda, commented on the spiritual vitality of the Church in Uganda. He said, "We have more than 10 million practicing Anglicans. We have a vibrancy in our churches and that is reflected in our

presence in the country. Both our president and the head of the military are practicing Anglicans. We are growing so fast we are creating three more dioceses in the next three years."

When asked about the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop Orombi was very candid, saying, "Sadly he plays the diplomacy game but we won't buy into it anymore. He talks to one group and agrees with them and then he talks to Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori and Archbishop Fred Hiltz (Canada) and agrees with them. We will no longer play that game. It is over. We want to know definitively if he shares the theology of Mrs. Jefferts Schori... Those who understood knew he was hiding something. He double dealt. We never knew where he stood with the other group. He constantly played hide and seek. No more. We won't play that game anymore with him. He avoided any finality in discussions with him. He avoids a final scenario all the time."

On the Primates Meeting called by the Archbishop of Canterbury for January in Ireland, He said, "No orthodox primate will go to Ireland. Unless Rowan Williams uninvites the US and Canadian Primates, you can count us out."

Archbishop of Canterbury: "Despite challenges, Anglican Communion life is strong" While visiting in India, Dr Rowan Williams told The Hindu newspaper that:

"The decision of the American Church to go forward, as it has, with the ordination of a lesbian bishop has, I think, set us back. At the moment I'm not certain how we will approach the next primates' meeting, but regrettably some of the progress that I believe we had made has not remained steady. Alongside that, and I think this is important, while the institutions of the Communion struggle, in many ways the mutual life of the Communion, the life of exchange and co-operation between different parts of our Anglican family, is quite strong and perhaps getting stronger. It's a paradox. We are working more closely together on issues of development than we did before... We have also had quite a successful programme on the standards and criteria for theological education across the Communion. So, a very mixed picture...

"I feel that we may yet have to face the possibility of deeper divisions. I don't at all like, or want to encourage, the idea of a multi-tier organisation. But that would, in my mind, be preferable to complete chaos and fragmentation... to the extent that the Communion has not fractured beyond repair and the Church of England is still engaged in shared discussion of these things, I don't think I have yet failed completely! But time will tell."

News in brief from around the world and around the Communion

Iraq – The <u>BBC reports</u> that a Roman Catholic Church was attacked by al-Qaeda and about 100 gathered for evening mass were held hostage. After Iraqi security forces stormed the church, a reported 37 died, included about 25 hostages.

England – Church wardens of St Peter's, Folkestone, a parish in Canterbury <u>have written</u> their diocesan bishop, the Archbishop of Canterbury, requesting a meeting to discuss joining the Anglican Ordinariate being established by the Roman Catholic Church. Meanwhile, Dr Williams <u>has suggested</u> a joint Roman Catholic – Church of England working group to oversee conversions to the Roman Catholic Church. Earlier Bishop John Broadhurst (Fulham) <u>announced</u> he intends to convert and at least two other bishops are rumoured to be considering the move. Others in the Church of England <u>are attempting</u> to insulate their members from the anticipated consecration of female bishops by creating a Religious Society for conservative evangelicals.

South Africa – Following the recent Lausanne Congress in Cape Town, the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans, which grew out of the GAFCon movement, <u>held a second national meeting</u> in that country from October 27-29. Anglican Mainstream reports that two ACNA bishops played prominent roles along side bishops from South Africa and elsewhere in the Global South.

Pakistan – <u>CatholicCulture.org reports</u> that "Violence against Christian girls is "unfortunately common" in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan." The article recounts case after case of young girls raped, abused and murdered – and their Christian families so terrified of reprisals they do not press

charges. The article concludes by quoting one source saying, "Episodes of violence and abuse of Christian girls are part of daily life. Those that make the news are just the tip of the iceberg."

<u>Compass Direct News reports</u> that Christians in Pakistan are being coerced into slavery, and are tortured if they refuse – then the police charge and jail the victims.

Uganda – the <u>Church of England Newspaper reports</u> that 82,000 Ugandans participated in a two-day interdenominational Christian rally in Kampala that united more than 1000 churches – including many from the Anglican Church of Uganda. The rally was led by evangelist Andrew Palau.

Sudan – <u>VirtueOnline reports</u> that the secretary general of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) – which represents 128 national evangelical alliances in seven regions with some 420 million people – has pledged action to ensure that the January 9 referendum on Southern Sudan's future is a success. To achieve this, "the WEA will mobilize its entire global community to pray for a free, fair and safe referendum; ask its National alliances to lobby their respective governments to support the timeline of the referendum; send international observers to the Sudan for the referendum; launch a Peace for Sudan Fund, support holistic development and call upon all governments to play their part in ensuring that the Khartoum government protects the human rights and religious freedom of all people." The fear is that the Muslim government in Khartoum will attempt to thwart a free and fair referendum since the South is likely to vote for independence. The specter of a civil war is very real.

Other international news

Church of England Newspaper – Oct 22 2010 – Sydney synod backs lay presidency of... Eucharist

Soul food

Just for laughs

The minister gave his Sunday morning service, as usual, but this particular Sunday, it was considerably longer than normal.

Later, at the door, shaking hands with parishioners as they moved out, one man said, "Your sermon, Pastor, was simply wonderful -so invigorating and inspiring and refreshing."

The minister of course, broke out in a big smile, only to hear the man add, "I felt like a new man when I woke up!"

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Thought

A man without mirth is like a wagon without springs. He is jolted disagreeably by every pebble in the road. ~ Henry Ward Beecher

October 31 – Reformation Day

Writing on the blog Between Two Worlds, Justin Taylor reminds us that "This Sunday is Halloween. But more importantly, it's Reformation Day—when the church celebrates and commemorates October 31, 1517. It was on this day (a Saturday) that a 33-year-old theology professor at Wittenberg University walked over to the Castle Church in Wittenberg and nailed a paper of 95 theses to the door, hoping to spark an academic discussion about their contents. In God's providence and unbeknownst to anyone else that day, it would become a key event in igniting the Reformation."

Please pray...

For **ANiC's 2010 synod** in Ottawa, November 4-6. For safety in travel. For a stirring of the Holy Spirit. For unity in mind and Spirit.

For our **bishops and clergy** and their families – especially those battling illness.

For **ANIC projects**, **church plants** and **parishes**, and for their proclamation of Good News to those in their communities who desperately need new life in Christ.

For the three BC Court of Appeal judges considering their decision regarding the use and beneficial ownership of four ANiC parish properties and a bequest, as well as the awarding of court costs.

For the other legal challenges faced by ANiC parishes, including:

- The mediation process involving **St George's & St Alban's (Ottawa)** and their former Anglican Church of Canada diocese.
- The ongoing litigation involving **St Aidan's (Windsor**) and the ANiC parishes in the Niagara Diocese region, resulting in mounting expenses

For all the **congregations** involved in court proceedings and disputes. Pray for a continued focus on, and blessing upon, their ministry in the midst of this turmoil. Pray for peace for the **wardens and trustees** who are on the front lines and bear the burden of risk and responsibility.

For the **leaders and parishioners of the dioceses** pursuing eviction of and legal damages against ANiC congregations and wardens.

For much needed donations to the legal cases and disputes involving ANiC congregations:

For funding of the **ARDFC's** malaria prevention project in Kenya.

For **persecuted Christians**, especially in Muslim lands.

For a fair and peaceful referendum in the **Sudan** in January.

For repentance and revival in **our hearts and in our nation** – as well as a hunger for God and a thirst for His Word.

For Archbishop Greg Venables and the leaders of the Southern Cone as they are now being persecuted by Anglican Communion leaders for assisting us in North America.

For all those in positions of leadership and influence in the **Anglican Communion**, that they would seek to honour and obey God above all else.

And now a word from our sponsor

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:1-13 ESV