

St. Philip's Episcopal Church
106 East Crawford
Palestine, Texas 75801



CHURCH INFORMATION

St. Philip's Staff

Rector: The Rev. Ted Welty

Vestry Members (2017)

Administrator: Cecil (Tom) Prater
Treasurer: Melissa F. Cox
Sexton: Chris Rogers
Organist/Choirmaster: Clarissa Delany

Cad Williams, Sparky Kolstad, (**Sr. Warden**),
Alex Nemer, Phillip Morton, Paul Morris,
Melissa Cox, Kathy Thomas, Norwood Brenneke,
Pat Redding, Rich Lavinski, Becky Myers,
David Brown (**Jr. Warden**)

Parish Office Hours

Monday –Friday 8:30am - 12:30pm
Closed Federal Holidays

Church Office Email's:

Phone: (903) 729-4214
Fax: (903) 729-8691
Father Ted: (903) 714-7052

Rector: twelty4235@aol.com
Admin: stphilispalestine@embarqmail.com
Website: www.stphilipsepiscopalpalestine.org
Curate: stphilispalestine@embarqmail.com



THE CURATE



Rector's Corner

CHARLOTTESVILLE AND AMERICA'S ORIGINAL SIN

By Bishop Robert Barron



September 2017

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I vividly remember my first visit to Charlottesville, Virginia. It was about twenty years ago, and I was on vacation with a good friend, who shared with me a passion for American history and for Thomas Jefferson in particular. We had toured a number of Civil War battlefields in Maryland and Virginia and then had made our way to Jefferson's University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Finally, we ventured outside the city to the little hilltop home that the great founder had designed and built for himself, Monticello. It was a glorious summer day, and the elegant manse shone in all of its Palladian splendor. We took in its classical lines, its distinctive red and white coloration, the understated beauty of its dome, its overall symmetry, balance, and harmony. On the inside, we saw all of Jefferson's quirky genius on display: scientific instruments, inventions, books galore. Just outside the house was the simple, unpretentious grave of Jefferson, the tombstone naming him as the author of the Declaration of Independence. There was no question that the very best of the American spirit was on display in that place.

But then we noticed something else. Below the sight-lines of Monticello, literally underground, were the quarters of Jefferson's slaves. These were hovels, really little more than caves, with bare earth floors and flimsy roofs, not even a hint of the elegance, comfort, and beauty of the great house. Jefferson had brought some of his slaves to France with him when he was the American ambassador to that country, and he had taught them the fine art of French cuisine. When he entertained at Monticello, these servants, dressed in the finery of

courtiers at Versailles, would serve the savory meals that they had prepared. Afterwards, they would return for the night to their underground hovels. A woman, who had been invited to stay for a time at Monticello, recorded in her diary that she woke up one morning to the sounds of horrific screaming. When she looked with alarm and concern out her window, she saw the author of the Declaration of Independence savagely beating one of his slaves.

Jefferson the morally upright sage; Jefferson the merciless slave-owner. Splendid Monticello; its sordid slave-quarters underground. One could literally see at this great American house the divide, the original sin, that has bedeviled our nation from its inception to the present day. The framers of the Constitution fought over slavery and race; the issue preoccupied the politics of America for the first half of the nineteenth century and finally drove the country to a disastrous and murderous civil conflict; it perdured in somewhat mitigated form in the segregation, both sanctioned and unofficial, that reigned in America in the decades following the Civil War; it came to a head during the great civil rights struggle of the mid-twentieth century, culminating in landmark legislation and in the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.; it continued to assert itself in the Detroit riots of 1967, the Watts uprising, the unrest after the beating of Rodney King, the street violence in Ferguson, Missouri, and in many other events.

For me, it was weirdly fitting that its most recent manifestation would be in Charlottesville, Virginia, where, twenty years ago, I had so vividly seen the moral contradiction at the heart of American history. Thomas Jefferson's principle that "all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights" came face to face, on the streets of Charlottesville, with representatives of the most nefarious ideology of hatred and racial superiority. God knows that, since Jefferson's time, many, many battles have been won in this struggle, but the events of last week proved that the war is not yet over, that the original sin of America has not been thoroughly expunged.

I have been using the term "original sin" very much on purpose, for it is my conviction that both the problem and its solution are best articulated in theological categories. Finally, our awful tendency, up and down the ages and in every culture, to divide ourselves into opposing camps, to demonize the other, to scapegoat, to take away fundamental human rights is a function of the denial that all people are made in the image and likeness of God. It is, first and last, a sin. And finally, the answer cannot be a matter of political machination but only of grace. No one saw this more clearly than St. Paul, who was dealing with the very

same issue within the cultural framework of the first century: Jews and non-Jews were at odds, Romans dominated and everyone else obeyed, slavery obtained throughout the ancient Mediterranean world, etc.

Paul came to understand that, strangely enough, a crucified victim of the tyrannical Roman authorities provided a way out: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave or free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." It would require a lengthy theological tome fully to unpack the meaning of that phrase. Suffice it to say that the crucifixion of the Son of God disclosed the entire range and universality of human dysfunction: stupidity, violence, injustice, cruelty, victimizing, etc.: "We have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." And the resurrection of Jesus revealed the entire range and universality of the divine mercy: "Where sin abounds, grace abounds the more." In a word, we are all sinners upon whom an amazing grace has been poured out. So let us stop playing games of domination, us against them, racial superiority, masters and slaves. In Christ, all of that has been exposed as fraudulent and swept away.

This is the saving word that the Christian churches can and should bring to this age-old and still festering wound in the body politic of our nation.

The Bishop's Visit:

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle, Bishop of Texas will visit St. Philip's for confirmations on Sunday, September 10 at 5:30 in the evening. That 5:30 service will be the primary service on September 10. There will be no Sunday School or 10:00 service that day. There will be a 7:30 service on September 10. Following the confirmation service the St. Mary's Guild will serve a spaghetti dinner which is their annual fund raiser. Bishop Doyle will meet with the St. Philip's vestry at 4:30 in the Children's Chapel and with the confirmands in the parlor at 5:00. I am hoping for a big turnout to greet Bishop Doyle and our new members.

Blessings in Christ,
Ted+



ECW
Caron Fraser



The next scheduled meeting will be September 12th at 10am

St. Mary's Guild

Marian Raney

Will meet Monday September 18th at 6pm.

DOK

Deborah Morton

Next DOK will be in September 3rd at 11am

Altar Flowers

To give **Altar Flowers** please call the Church Office at 903-729-4214 or contact Beverly Beck at 903-729-5342 or cell 903-724-8802.

Treasurer's Report

Melissa Cox

	July 2017	Year-to-Date
Beginning Balance	106,760	102,662
Total Income	19,456	144,127
Total Expenses	17,656	138228
Ending Balance	108,561	108,561

September Ushers: Frank Polasek, Leo Mizell

Altar Guild:

Sept 2 – Sept 8 Team 2: Becky Myers: Julie Law, Deborah Morton,
Cathy Summers, Linens: Deborah Morton

Sept 9 – Sept 15 Team 3: Kathryn Fagalde: Alex Nemer, Shirlee Padgett,
Linens: Kathryn Fagalde

Sept 16 – Sept 22 Team 4: Sara Minton: Jeanette George, Barbara Kolstad,
Linens: Nancy Waggoner

Sept 23 – Sept 29 Team 1: Francis Williams: Bev Beck, Carla Cubstead,
Cathy Faust, Linens: Joanne Evans

Sept 2017	Reader	Chalice I/Server	Chalice II
Sun 3 7:30	I Chris Kolstad		
10	II Bob Beck	Barbara Kolstad	Scott Nicholson
Wed 6 5:30	II David Brown		
Sun 10 7:30	I Bob Blackwell		
Bishop 5:30	II Katherin Prater	Jerry Fagalde	Sparky Kolstad
Wed 13 5:30	II Chris Kolstad		
Sun 17 7:30	I Chris Kolstad		
10	II Sparky Kolstad	David Brown	Barbara Kolstad
Wed 20 5:30	II Phillip Morton		
Sun 24 7:30	I Bob Blackwell		
10	II Bob Beck	Phillip Morton	Katherin Prater
Wed 27 5:30	II David Brown		

Vestry – Sept 2017

3 Alex Nemer
10 Kathy Thomas
17 Pat Redding
24 Phillip Morton
27 Norwood Brenneke

Birthdays

5 Sara Minton	13 David Sullivan	25 Inez Smith
5 Francis Hamilton	14 Madeline Gierkey	28 Bart Norton
10 Rollin Smith	23 Joy Rhodes	30 Miranda Knippers
10 Carmen Blackwell	23 Clarissa Delany	

Anniversaries

12 David & Linda Brown

September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <u>8am Men's Cursillo</u>	2
3 7:30am Rite I Euch 8:45am Bible Study 10am Rite II Euch <u>DOK 11am</u>	4	5	6 5:30 Rite II Healing	7	8 <u>8am Men's Cursillo</u>	9
10 7:30am Rite I Euch no Bible Study 5:30pm Rite II Euch Bishop's Visit Dinner Confirmation <u>Bishop's Visit</u>	11	12 <u>ECW 10am</u> <u>Vestry Meeting 6pm</u>	13 5:30 Rite II Healing	14	15 <u>8am Men's Cursillo</u>	16
17 7:30am Rite I Euch 8:45am Bible Study 10am Rite II Euch	18 <u>St. Mary's 6pm</u>	19	20 5:30 Rite II Healing	21	22 <u>8am Men's Cursillo</u>	23
24 7:30am Rite I Euch 8:45am Bible Study 10am Rite II Euch	25	26	27 5:30 Rite II Healing	28	29 <u>8am Men's Cursillo</u>	30
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday