

eNewsletter of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada

Issue # 29

June 10, 2009

EPHREM OF EDESSA

Ephrem of Edessa was a teacher, poet, orator, and defender of the faith - a voice of Aramaic Christianity.

Ephrem was born in Mesopotamia. At eighteen he was baptized by James, Bishop of Nisibis where he lived until 363 when the Persians captured the city and drove out the Christians. Ephrem retired to a cave in the hills above the city of Edessa where he wrote most of his spiritual works. During the great famine in 372-373, he distributed food and money to the poor and organized sort of an ambulance service for the sick. Of the Passion he wrote, "No one has seen or shall see the things which you have seen. The Lord himself has become the altar, priest, and bread, and the chalice of salvation. He alone suffices for all, yet none suffices for him. He is Altar and Lamb, victim and sacrifice, priest as well as food."

Pour out on us, O Lord, that same Spirit by which your deacon Ephrem rejoiced to proclaim in sacred song the mysteries of faith; and so gladden our hearts that we, like him, may be devoted to you alone; through Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God for ever and ever.
Amen

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Calendar of Events

If you would like to see your event listed here, please email [Clelia](#). If you would like to see your event listed in the [diocesan calendar](#), please email [Barbara](#).

SAVE THE DATES

Jun 13, TRINITY CHURCH, RENO WELCOMES YOU TO "SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY OF THE EUCHARIST AND ITS PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS: A Roving Workshop" presented by Bishop Dan. Coffee and tea will be provided (donations appreciated!). Luncheon options include: Bring your own (we will provide water and lemonade); Eat out within walking distance (names and addresses of eateries provided); Order out from a local deli (pay when you order on Saturday morning). There is really no fast food or grocery store within walking distance; they are about 10 minutes away by car. No need for reservations; but, if you have questions please call Holly at the Church Office (775) 329-4279.

Jun 13, PARISH FAMILY YARD SALE, ALL SAINTS', LAS VEGAS, 7:00 AM to....Find Treasures, or clear your garage. You are responsible for getting your items to the Church, marking, and selling. We ask that you make a 10% tithe of your proceeds to the parish.

Jun 13, AN ULTREYA TO PLAN FOR RENEWAL OF CURSILLOS FOR SOUTHERN NEVADA, Christ Church, Las Vegas, 10AM, presented by The Rev. Michael Annis. For information call Father Mike at 702-558-4454.

Jun 14, DANGEROUS CURVES, A TRIO OF FABULOUS WOMEN, 7:00 PM, Grace in the Desert, Las Vegas.

Jun 21, ROCK INTO SUMMER, ALL AGES ROCK CONCERT, CO-PRODUCED BY AILLOVE RECORDS, 7:00 PM, Grace in the Desert, Las Vegas

Jun 21-25, THE UNION OF BLACK EPISCOPALIANS (UBE), 41st Annual Meeting and Conference, Hilton Hotel, Silver Spring, Washington, D.C. [Online registration](#)

Jun 27, VICTORIA RILEY'S ORDINATION, 7:00 PM, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Carson City.

Jun 27, CHURCH GARAGE SALE, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM, St. Stephen's, Reno.

Jun 18-22, 2009 ASIAMERICAN MINISTRIES CONSULTATION, DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center, Florida. [For More Information](#)


Jul 14, A TOUR OF STAINED GLASS WINDOWS, HOSTED BY KATHLEEN HALLAMORE, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM, Trinity Episcopal Church, Church on the River, Reno. For information about this event and others that will be sponsored by the church during July's Artown events, call Meg Tarble (775) 827-2516

Jun 28, PHIL FLOWERS, VEGAS TOP MALE R&B ARTIST, 7:00 PM, Grace in the Desert, Las Vegas

Jul 26, CHURCH PICNIC AT WHITAKER PARK following the 9:30 AM service, St. Stephen's, Reno.

Oct 3, SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY OF THE EUCHARIST AND ITS PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS: A Roving Workshop by Bishop Dan, St. Paul's Church, Elko. No Charge. [For Additional Information](#)

Oct 22 - 25, DIOCESAN CONVENTION: I Love To Tell The Story; Keynote Speaker: Fr. Jake aka Fr. Terry Martin. Harvey's Resort & Casino, Lake Tahoe Area. [For Reservations](#)

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Episcorific



Episcorific is a web 'zine' created for and by Young Adults of the Episcopal Church as a conversation about the place of faith in our modern society and our individual lives. It is a site for the building of relationships, the challenging of ideas, and the formulation of a new and thinking "Episcopalian."

<http://www.episcorific.org>

SPIRITUS SANCTI *by Amanda Chan*

Sometimes I don't know what to do with the Holy Spirit:
I know God does all those epic God things,
and I know Jesus hung out with punks,
but the Holy Spirit never seems to get too many stories.
And even though I bless myself in the name of the Trinity all the same:

in nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti
the Holy Spirit is still that Ghost that haunts my theology.

She descends from heaven,
redeems the Tower of Babel,
and everyone hears everyone.

Not even God can help us listen like that.

So I'll chant 'Forgive me for I cannot always hear'
like a mantra to the ears of the Holy Spirit.
So I'm no longer deaf to a person's heart when they ask for spare change.
So I'm no longer deaf to love when speaking with strangers.

And I'll know she's heard,
when I'm spitting fire with my words.
But not the kind that burns:
the kind that brings light to those who can't see
everyone as everyone.

News Briefs



Bishop Dan's Blog - "Why are readers from Hong Kong, Canada, California, and Virginia commenting on Bishop Dan's blog? Check it out. <http://www.bishopdansblog.blogspot.com>

EPISCOPAL RECOVERY MINISTRIES IN NEVADA is in formation and will have its first meeting at Diocesan Convention in October. If you would like to participate in this ministry, or have questions, please contact Kathie Knutson Meier at knutenote@cox.net (702-684-6444 or 253-250-9531), or have a look at the home page <http://www.episcopalrecoveryministries.org>

DIOCESAN CONVENTION, Harvey's, South Lake Tahoe - Thursday, Oct. 22 - Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009.
Theme: I Love to Tell the Story. Keynote Speaker: Fr. Jake, aka Fr. Terry Martin. When you book your room online there is NO FEE. [Online Booking](#)



A Bus Trip to Lake Tahoe for the Diocesan Convention in October will be sponsored by St. Matthew's, Las Vegas. For information, or to make a reservation, contact Thelma Northrup at (702)-889-3929; or email stmatts@embarqmail.com

St. Christopher's, Boulder City needs a new bell to announce services--- Please spread the word. If anyone has access to a new or gently used bell, please call Patty Jacobson at 702-293-7454.

St. Stephen's, Reno seeks an energetic part-time priest to provide oversight for parish development and mission outreach. For more details, or to send an application: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 2400 West 7th St., Reno, NV 89503 - (775) 747-7727 (fax).

Episcopal Church Leaders give Webcast Preview of General Convention - [View the Webcast](#)

A Benedictine Experience - July 5-12, 2009 - Experience the quiet, discipline, and community of a contemplative retreat sponsored by the Friends of St. Benedict and the Episcopal Diocese of California. The retreat will take place at Bishop's Ranch in Healdsburg, California, Sunday July 5-Sunday, July 12. For detailed information on registration call 202-363-8061, or 415-381-3235

The Bishop Wes Frensdorff School of Christian Formation: A new Education Venture of the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada. The school's mission is *To bring together all Nevada Episcopalians for Christian formation, empowering each other to live deeply into our Baptismal Covenant in our relationships, service in daily life, and witness to the world.* To learn more [Contact](#).

"Hot Summerlin Nights" - A fundraiser for Artists and the Discretionary Fund. 7:00 PM, Sunday June 7, 14, 21, & 28. Grace in the Desert, Las Vegas.

The Beauty of God's Holiness: A Liturgical Art Exhibit at General Convention, Presented by the National Altar Guild. [For Further Information](#)

Please submit your news briefs to [Clelia](#)

Ministry Quick Links

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Contact Information

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775.253.5579 (cell phone: no solicitors, please)

About Us

The Episcopal Diocese of Nevada embraces 6,000 members from communities throughout Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona in 34 congregations and 2 new faith communities. Our electronic newsletter service and print journal, The Desert Spirit, are provided to parishes and members free of charge.

Persons interested in the ministry of communications may contact [Barbara](#), [Hallie](#), or [Karl](#) to get involved.

Persons wishing to opt-out and not receive the electronic newsletter can simply unsubscribe by selecting the link at the end of this newsletter.

Changes to snail mail addresses for The Desert Spirit must be sent to the [Editor](#).

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