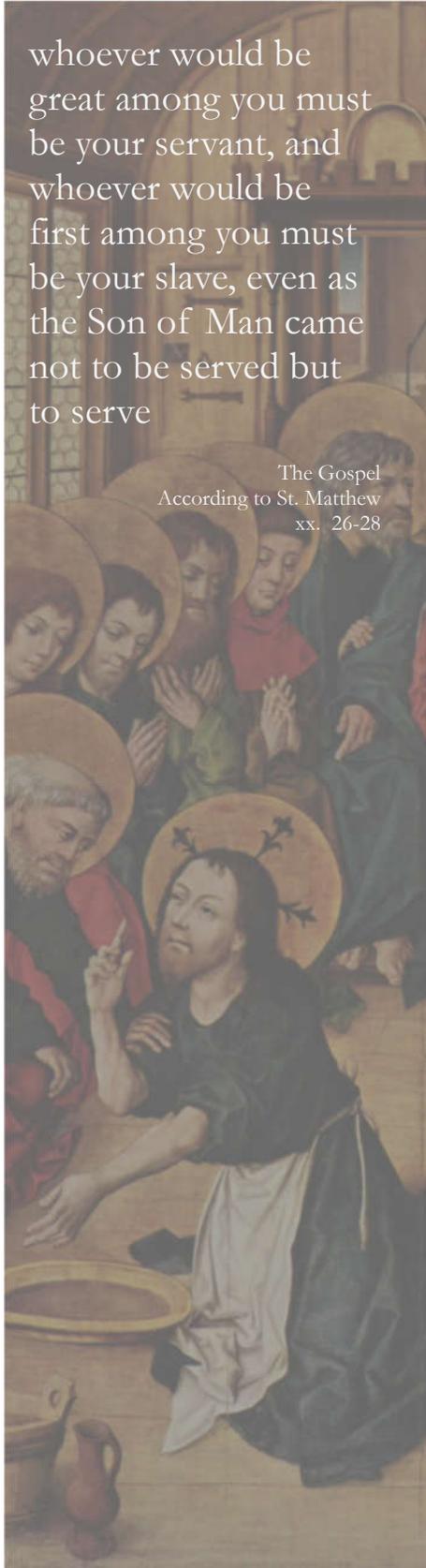


# THE ORTHODOX ANGLICAN CHURCH

whoever would be  
great among you must  
be your servant, and  
whoever would be  
first among you must  
be your slave, even as  
the Son of Man came  
not to be served but  
to serve

The Gospel  
According to St. Matthew  
xx. 26-28



## THE HOLY PRIESTHOOD

As I write this it is the feast of Saint Alban, and the anniversary of the day I was ordained to the priesthood (6/22). I can't begin to convey how much my priesthood means to me. Of all the certificates and diplomas I have earned over the years, the only one that hangs by my desk is my priestly ordination certificate.

The feast of Saint Alban is a perfect day for a man to be ordained to the priesthood, and a goodly number of the priests in this jurisdiction have been ordained on this day. England has given the church catholic many martyrs, but Alban was the first. How did Alban become the first Christian martyr in England? He became a martyr protecting the life of a priest. How important is the work of a priest? It is worth dying for.

It isn't too hard for me to understand that there are people in the world who do not appreciate the importance of the priest, but when I run across postulants and even men who are in Holy Orders with such misconceptions I am very often angered.

Postulants and Deacons betray how little they think of the office of a priest when they are unwilling to do the work, study, and ministry that the church requires of them and then still expect to be ordained. Priests betray how little they think of their office when they think they must needs be consecrated a bishop. To my mind, a man who thinks so little of his priesthood that he thinks he must be consecrated a bishop is unworthy of even serving as a priest. I have also seen a bishop who betrayed an impoverished view of the priesthood by the poor way he treated priests. No man is fit to be a bishop if he does not understand that a priest is worth dying for.

At the hands of the priest we are blessed and fed the Body and Blood of Christ. From the mouth of the priest we hear the preached Word of God and are authoritatively assured that our sins are forgiven. When we are weak, it is the priest who is commanded to anoint us with oil and lay healing hands on us with prayer. Who is worthy of such things? God's servant the priest is a man worth dying for, and priests should **serve** like they know it.

May God bless you,

† Thomas E. Gordon



RECENT PICTURES FROM THE ARCHBISHOP'S TRAVELS



L&R:  
St. Augustine's  
Anglican  
Church cele-  
brates the opening of their new  
downtown location (Bryson  
City, NC)



Below: Ordination of Mr. Mike Creek & Dr. Eric Pierce (2/17)



L: Archbishop Emeritus Jones is awarded a D.D. (H.C., O.A.C.)

R: The Confirmation of Mr. Van Crisp



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The Orthodox Anglican Church, Office of the Presiding Bishop, 529 Breezewood Dr. Charlotte, NC 28262 USA



**Fall Clericus Weekend 2019** of the Orthodox Anglican Church will begin October the 4th and conclude with the Ordination of Priests and Holy Communion on October the 6th AD 2018. It will be held in Waxahachie, Texas. This Clericus will be different in that **we are encouraging laity, and clergy wives to attend.** The Clericus proper will end at 1 pm on the 5th. All attending are encouraged to stay and fellowship, and then attend the Sunday service on the 6th. Additional information will be forthcoming.

## THE ORTHODOX ANGLICAN CHURCH Important Dates in 2019

August 2-4, 2019 Liturgical Seminar for Deacons, St Phil's, Charlotte, NC

August 9-11, 2019 Liturgical Seminar for Priests, St Phil's, Charlotte, NC

**Oct 4-5, 2019 Fall Clericus, St. Athanasius Anglican Church, Waxahachie, TX**

**Oct 6, 2019 Ordination & Holy Communion, St. Athanasius A. C., Waxahachie, TX**

November 1-3, 2019 Liturgical Seminar TBD

[THE AD 2019 CALENDAR OF THE ORTHODOX ANGLICAN CHURCH](https://www.orthodoxanglican.us/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2019-Calendar.pdf)

<https://www.orthodoxanglican.us/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2019-Calendar.pdf>

St John Chrysostom:

**"Did you commit sin?**

**Enter the Church and repent for your sin;**

**for here is the physician, not the judge;**

**here one is not investigated,**

**one receives remission of sins."**

### Prayer Book Vocabulary

**Propitiation:** means for removing guilt/sin

**Succour:** help

**Transitory:** will pass away

**Hearty:** sincere

**Laden:** burdened

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