

# The Orthodox Anglican Church

July 30, A.D. 2015

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

Greetings in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

At the end June I was able to visit Rev. Jamil Willis and family in the Chicago area. Rev. Willis is a native of Chicago and met his wife Christy while attending college there. Having first been involved in a Oneness group, and then a Word of Faith Church, his journey to theological orthodoxy has been aided by the careful study of Scripture, sitting at the feet of the Ante-Nicene Fathers, and mentoring by our own Missionary Bishop to Mexico, Bishop Thomas Shank. Rev. Willis has been leading public worship using a traditional liturgy for a number of years. Christ Church mission is temporarily meeting in the Willis home while asbestos abatement is completed in their public space. During my time with the Willis family



Rev. & Mrs Willis

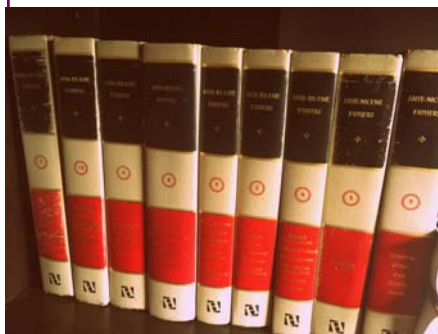
I enjoyed delicious meals at their kitchen table, and great conversation during family time in the living room. On the Third Sunday after Trinity I preached and celebrated Holy Communion from the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, with Ante Communion being led by Rev. Willis, and his son Junior as Altar server. The scripture text for my homily that day was 1 Corinthians 11:28, and focused on the worthy participation in the Eucharist, and our unity in Christ.



The Willis Family, Lansing Illinois

*But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. -1 Corinthians xi. 28.*

It is my hope that before the end of AD 2015 Rev. Willis will be ordained to Holy Orders, and Christ Church mission will officially be a parish of the Orthodox Anglican Church, Missionary Diocese of the Most Holy Trinity. Please add the Willis family to your daily prayers.



Rev. Willis' well read set of the Ante-Nicene Fathers

May God bless you,  
✠ **Thomas E. Gordon**

# No Lone Rangers



Aaron & Hur fortify Moses  
on the day of battle

In recent days Archbishop Gordon has been busy finalizing his schedule for the rest of the Church year. These are exciting times in the Orthodox Anglican Church, and the Orthodox Anglican Communion. There are new deacons to ordain, new priests to ordain, and new missions being organized. Overseas the Orthodox Anglican Communion is growing and this has necessitated a visit to Africa. Lord willing, Archbishop Gordon will travel to East Africa this Fall, and then travel on to Jerusalem to meet with bishops from around the world.

Using Exodus 17 as the text for the homily at his enthronement, Archbishop Gordon encouraged Orthodox Anglicans to support the leadership of the church. The most important way you can support the leadership of the Orthodox Anglican Church is by being faithful to pray for them. Please remember your bishops in prayer:

“ALMIGHTY God, Who by Thy Son Jesus Christ didst give to Thy holy Apostles many excellent gifts, and didst charge them to feed Thy flock; give grace, we beseech Thee, to all Bishops, the pastors of Thy Church, especially the Bishops of the Orthodox Anglican Communion, that they may diligently preach Thy word, and duly administer Thy Holy Sacraments; and grant to the people, that they may obediently follow the same; that all may receive the crown of everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”



## Archdeacon Rusty Marts retires as Rector of St. Augustine's

On Sunday (7/26) Archdeacon Rusty Marts preached and celebrated the Holy Eucharist for the last time as the Rector of St. Augustine's Anglican Church in Bryson City, North Carolina. Years ago when the people of St. Augustine's needed someone to step forward and lead them Archdeacon Marts answered the call. He is a model of faithfulness and the Orthodox Anglican Church is blessed to have had him leading one of our parishes for so many years. It is a difficult task to serve faithfully, but even when this is accomplished people often fail to develop the future leaders of the church. To his great credit Archdeacon Marts has retired as Rector leaving the parish in good hands. *'Well done, good and faithful servant!'* Archdeacon Marts will continue to serve the Orthodox Anglican church on the staff of the Presiding Bishop.

## Address Change:

**The Orthodox Anglican Church  
Attn. Archbishop Thomas Gordon  
529 Breezewood Drive  
Charlotte, NC 28262**

**All correspondence, including parish assessments, and contributions to the Archbishop's fund should be sent to this address.**

## Men's Retreat



Men of the Orthodox Anglican Church (18 years old and over), please reserve **October 16-18** on your calendar so that you can attend a working retreat in Maybeury, West Virginia.