

The Anglican Tradition

A Journal of Theology and Devotion

"The eye has not seen the like, the ear has not heard the like, the heart of man cannot conceive the treasures and pleasures of his kingdom, which is now at hand, to such as repent, that is, to such as are sorry for their sins, believe in God's mercy through Christ, and earnestly purpose to lead a new life. The God of mercy, through Christ his Son, grant us his Holy Spirit, and work in our hearts this sorrow, faith, and new life, which through his grace I have spoken of, both now and for ever. Amen." John Bradford (1515-1555)

Our Lenten Issue

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Why Should We Fast and Weep?

Sermon by The Rev. Dr. S. Randall Toms

The Holy Season of Lent

Sermon Excerpt by the Rt. Rev. William Ingraham Kip, 1874

Daily Bible Readings For Lent

Lenten Prayers

Some Hints for Lent

Pamphlet by the Rt. Rev. A.C.A. Hall

Good Friday Meditations

Book Excerpt by the Rev. George H. Houghton, 1880

Thoughts on Lent for Busy People

E.F. Pemberton

A Guide to Self-Examination

The Rev. Dr. S. Randall Toms

A ministry of St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ii **From our Vicar – Welcome to our Journal**
The Rev. Dr. S. Randall Toms
- 1 **For What Shall We Fast & Weep**
The Rev. Dr. S. Randall Toms - Sermon
- 5 **The Holy Season of Lent**
The Rt. Rev. Wm. Ingraham Kip – Sermon, 1874
- 10 **Daily Bible Readings for Lent**
- 11 **Lenten Prayers**
- 15 **Some Hints for Lent**
The Rt. Rev. A.C.A. Hall - Pamphlet
- 19 **Good Friday Meditations**
The Rev. George H. Houghton – Book Excerpt, 1880
- 23 **Thoughts on Lent for Busy People**
E.F. Pemberton
- 25 **A Guide for Self-Examination**
The Rev. Dr. S. Randall Toms

OUR VISION

The vision of 'The Anglican Tradition' is to revive an interest in true churchmanship, promote the historic Anglican faith, its biblical heritage, traditions, and long-forgotten, out of print, literature.

The Anglican Tradition

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TO ORDER, go to page 21.

Special Thanks/Credits

- Thanks to *Project Canterbury* for its kind encouragement to copy the articles by William Ingraham Kip, A. C. A. Hall, George Hendric Houghton, and E. F. Pemberton from their website. Please visit Project Canterbury at www.anglicanhistory.org for more fine articles by famous Anglican writers.
- Thanks to the vestry, families and individuals at St. Paul's REC church, who have joyously and enthusiastically supported this ministry, participated in its growth, and contributed with talents and gifts to its creation.
- Pictures – Front Cover: Ely Cathedral, Ely, Norfolk, England. Back cover: Ruins of St. John's, from the Grosvenor Park, Chester, Cheshire, England.

Our Publisher



St. Paul's Church



St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church in Baton Rouge, LA is a member of the Reformed Episcopal Church in the United States. Amid growing concerns that the Protestant Episcopal Church was departing from some of the foundational principles of the English Reformation, a group led by The Rt. Rev'd George David Cummins, D.D., a duly consecrated bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, formed this new denomination (though not a new church) in New York City on December 2, 1873. The Reformed Episcopal Church has maintained a continuous existence for over 130 years during which it has maintained Biblical orthodoxy while upholding both Evangelical Truth and Apostolic Order. For more information concerning the history and mission of the REC, visit www.recus.org.

The mission of St. Paul's Church is to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, to reverently worship God and to love others as God loved us. We do this through Scriptural preaching and Sacramental worship in the tradition of the English Reformation and the use of the 1928 Book of Common Prayer.

St. Paul's strives to balance the beauty of a high, liturgical reverential worship with expository preaching and a vibrant congregational life. Our other ministries include weekly Holy Communion services, men's fellowships and Bible studies, altar and acolyte ministries, women's fellowship, fellowships for our children, Morning Prayer, congregational breakfasts, book publishing and pastoral services. If you are in the Baton Rouge area, come visit us. Please visit our website at stpaulsbr@aol.com.

www.stpaulsbr.org

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Welcome to Our Journal



Welcome to the first issue of *The Anglican Tradition*. This journal is devoted to advancing a distinctively Episcopal approach to the study of Scripture, Church history, theology, worship, and cultural issues. The editors of this journal are committed to a conservative, Anglican

interpretation of Scripture and approach to Church teaching as summarized in the Thirty-Nine Articles, the Apostles Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. We especially hope to emphasize the importance and necessity of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

One of the primary goals of this journal will be to revive an interest in true churchmanship.

Since there were several articles and excerpts with a Lenten theme available from *Project Canterbury* (www.anglicanhistory.org), with the kind encouragement of Mr. Richard Mammana, we decided that in this first issue we would make some of that information available in this hard copy format for ease of reading and meditation purposes. We hope this edition will help you to observe a Holy Lent, and that you find good resources within our journal.

As you think about the observation of Lent, remember the words of the Prayer Book on page li that Lent is one of those times classified as

“OTHER DAYS OF FASTING, ON WHICH THE CHURCH REQUIRES SUCH A MEASURE OF ABSTINENCE AS IS MORE ESPECIALLY SUITED TO EXTRAORDINARY ACTS AND EXERCISES OF DEVOTION.”

It is important to realize that throughout the Church year, throughout our very lives, we are called upon to exercise abstinence. The Christian is to abstain from every appearance of evil. The Christian is called upon daily to deny himself, take up the cross and follow Christ. Lent is not the only time that we deny ourselves. The very mark of the disciple of Jesus Christ is that he denies himself.

But during Lent, we practice *extraordinary* acts and exercises of devotion. Our typical acts of devotion seem a little trifling when we think of the word “extraordinary.” We give up something like chocolate or soft drinks, and while such sacrifices may be extraordinary acts of devotion for some of us, I doubt that form of self-denial is what our forefathers had in mind for this season of the year. All of the Christian life is to be characterized by self-denial, but during Lent, we make the extra effort to go above and beyond the call of duty.

The kind of Christianity that we live now is a stranger to *extraordinary* acts and exercises of devotion, because our lives are not characterized by even *ordinary* acts of abstinence and devotion. Maybe during this Lent, we should spend the 40 days repenting of our lack of the normal, every day discipline of the Christian life. This year, when you make a minor sacrifice in order that you might focus your mind on repentance and the sufferings of Jesus Christ, remember, that these actions are just a small token of the total, self-denying discipline required of the disciple of Jesus Christ.

It is our prayer that this journal may help you in that quest for a disciplined Christian life.

Father Toms
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The Rev. Dr. S. Randall Toms is the Vicar of St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church. With over 30 years of pastoral experience, he has served several congregations in Louisiana. He holds a B. A. from Louisiana Tech University, a Master of Divinity from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in English from Louisiana State University. His doctoral dissertation, *Ambivalent Idylls*, compared the novels of Ellen Glasgow, William Faulkner, and Thomas Hardy. He and his wife, Bettyna, have one daughter, Rebekah, and two grandchildren, Rachel and Bobby.