

# The Thomist

*...without a doubt*

**St. Thomas Traditional Anglican Church**

*Established December 12, 1992—in Sargentville, Maine.*

373 Bangor Road, P.O. Box 365, Ellsworth, ME 04605-0365

**Trinitytide 2013**

## **TWO NEW PRIESTS!**

### **Ordinations Held in July**

Deacon Ed Kalish and Deacon Ian Dunn were ordained to the Sacred Priesthood at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 6 at Saint Paul's Anglican Church in Portland, Maine. Both were ordained as priests by Bishop Brian Marsh. Many members of St. Thomas attended the ordination in Portland, and several members donated to gifts for both Fr. Dunn and Fr. Kalish. Fr. Logan delivered the opening sermon, and Bishops Williams and Hiles were also present. There was a reception in the parish hall after the ordination.

“We are pleased to have these dedicated men serving parishes in Maine, first as Deacons and soon as priests,” said the Most Rev. Brian Marsh, Bishop. “We welcome these fine men into the ordained priesthood and are pleased that our seminary ranks are expanding along with our parish communities.” Both new priests will continue to serve their current parishes in Maine. As Bishop Marsh noted in his newsletter, “The weather was, to put it mildly, a bit on the tropical side, but the service was conducted with appropriate Anglican dignity.”





Father Dunn celebrated his first Eucharist on July 7, and later in the month the vestry of St. Thomas elected Fr. Ian Dunn as rector, and his election was affirmed by the bishop. His installation will be held early in 2014.

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## PASTORAL LETTER

My Dear friends and family at St. Thomas Anglican Church,



As I prepared my sermon for the 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Trinity I thought “what a year we have come through.” I look at the mercy and grace of God spread through this time I cannot help but rejoice at how He has worked. How He has guided our little congregation into a closer walk with Him. We have been through the valley of darkness, we have been through pain and heartache, and yet through all of this God has been profoundly faithful. Communion was celebrated almost every week, leadership navigated tricky waters, and all our bills are paid. For the most part, the problems of last year seem a distant memory.

For all this and so much more I owe all of you a debt of gratitude. Perhaps for the most basic thing, I am profoundly thankful for your generous gift in celebration of my ordination to the sacred priesthood. Much of this will go to purchasing vestments for the liturgical year that I did not inherit from Fr. Henthorne. They will be worn with joy, knowing the love behind them that enabled me to purchase them.

I also owe you gratitude for the love that was at the root of this generous gift and you have shown me throughout my life with you. I have grown closer to God, I have cried with you and I have laughed with you. I look

forward to many more opportunities to do this. Yet your love showed through, not only with your gift this past summer, but at my ordination, numerous people commented on your love for me, and for Christ, which perhaps in always being with you I have come to take for granted. Others’ ability to see it was a joyous reminder to me of your incredible kindness. My mentor commented that I think you have there the base to make that church grow, and so long as we continue to dwell in that love I believe we will grow. This love also showed through in your kind words at the passing of my grandmother. I appreciate this thoughtfulness more than words could ever express and your prayers at that time, even more so.

All of that is to say- thank-you, so very much for everything that you are. Let us continue to dwell in the grace, love and glory of God.

We have a journey ahead of us, but we know how faithful our God is, may we continue to dwell in the love and glory that is His.

In Christ,

The Rev. Ian Emile Dunn



## Bishop Williams Visits St. Thomas

On August 11, we received our Episcopal visit from Bishop Own Williams, along with his wife, Marilyn. It was Bishop Williams' first visit as bishop, as well as the first bishop's visit to be received by Fr. Dunn. Bishop Williams gave a homily based on Luke 18. Following the service was a reception.

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## Tower Work Completed

The finishing touches to the second floor of our tower—painting, carpet, trim and all—have been done. Thanks to the volunteers who did all the hard work, especially David and Ellen Simmons, James Geary, Leroy Weed, Bill Landmesser, and many others. They painted and installed the windows, arranged to have sheet rocking done, painted the walls, and even weeded outside. The addition of a couch and comfortable chairs are a nice finishing touch.

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## Vestry News

The Vestry has met several times over the last few months, and has decided to set the second Sunday of each month as their regular meeting date. We continue to deal with the maintenance of our physical church, as well as discussing our relationship with our rector and our goals as a community of Christ. Local outreach projects are being considered as well as support of Christians abroad.

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## Coming Events

*Observation of Saints' Days -*

**October 28<sup>th</sup>** (Monday)- St. Simon and St. Jude (9am and 5:30pm Holy Communion)

**November 1** (Friday)- All Saints (9am and 5:30pm Holy Communion)

**November 30** (Saturday)- St. Andrew (9am Holy Communion, 3pm Evening Prayer)

**December 21** (Saturday)- St. Thomas (9am Holy Communion, 3pm Evening Prayer)

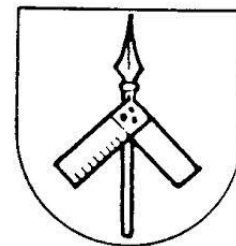
As to why we have begun celebrating these Saints' days:

The Prayer Book dictates that 21 feast days be observed throughout the year in addition to normal Sunday worship. These feasts help us remember the life of Christ, the Apostles and a couple of other major people from the Bible. I thought it important that there be a reminder that these days occur and that we make time to observe them. All are invited and encouraged to attend either of the services, though I understand that it is quite a journey for some people to come all the way to Ellsworth in the middle of the week.

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## Symbol of St. Thomas

You may have noticed this symbol in the upper left hand corner of our weekly bulletin, and even wondered for a moment what it might represent.



This is a **builder's square**, the emblem of St. Thomas. There are several legends that establish his reputation as St. Thomas the builder:

- He built a palace for King Guduphara in India.
- He built the first church in India with his own hands.
- The builder's square is symbolic of his building a strong spiritual foundation as he had complete faith in Christ.
- St. Thomas offered to build a palace for an Indian king that would last forever; the king gave him money, which Thomas promptly gave away to the poor; he explained that the palace he was building was in heaven, not on earth.

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➤ If you wish to receive The Thomist via e-mail, please send your address to Pat Taniashvili at patania@roadrunner.com



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