



Otey Notes



From the Rector—On Marriage

"How to Officiate Your First Wedding (and Why You'd Want To)," reads the headline of a recent article in the *The New York Times*. This was an article directed not at new clergy, but at the general public about how to participate in a growing trend. About a quarter of couples last year were married not by a clergy member, judge, or justice of the peace, but by a friend or family member who obtained ordination online. Indeed, the article calls getting ordained "the easy part!" We live in a community where scores of seminarians work hard every year in a lengthy process to become ordained. While I would not want to lose America's cherished religious freedom, that very freedom makes it possible to receive an ordination certificate for a few dollars and a few clicks on a website.

The trend toward online-ordained wedding officiants reflects the decline in religious affiliation among Americans, particularly among young adults. "[Couples] want someone officiating who understands who they are, and who has a past and future with [them]," said the communications director of one online ordination website. A bride whose brother was ordained online to marry her and her husband put it this way, "Since he is family, the details of his 'homily' matched perfectly with our personalities and values."¹

With full respect toward all couples, however they are married, let me share some reflections on marriage in the Episcopal Church, which is now available to same-sex as well as opposite-sex couples. Officiating clergy come to understand couples through the required process of thorough premarital counseling, including special care when one or both parties are divorced. Certainly we want to have a past and future with couples whose marriages we solemnize, as all sacramental rites of the church have their fullest meaning in the context of the ongoing life of the community of faith. After-care through the ongoing pastoral relationship is one of the benefits of church membership, and provides essential support to many marriages.

I do not seek to match a wedding homily perfectly with the personalities of the couple, because marriage is a transformation. In Episcopal weddings, couples do not write their own vows, but make the church's vows, participating in something larger than their particular relationship. Marriage needs a solid foundation, like that of Christian faith, to weather the challenges and changes of human life over decades.

It is a symptom of deeply-ingrained consumerism in our society to expect things always to be easy, convenient, and (preferably) cheap. Marriage in the real world is none of these. Whom should couples without religious affiliation seek to be married by? It's not my place to say. But it is my place to say that in the church, marriage is part of a package that encompasses the whole of life in Christian love, from the cradle, through joys and sorrows, through the highest achievements and the inevitable pain of brokenness, all the way to the grave.

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/12/smarter-living/how-to-officiate-your-first-wedding-and-why-you-d-want-to.html>

TAKE NOTE

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

SUNDAYS, 9:45 AM

Lectionary class is cancelled until further notice.

Godly Play for ages 3-11

Adult Forum—9:45

- ✓ Jan. 6 Rector's Forum
- ✓ Jan. 13 "Initiatory Rites in the Life of the Church"—James Turrell
- ✓ Jan. 20 Youth Citizenship and the Churches in Uganda" - Amy Patterson

- ✓ Jan. 27 Bishop Otey Sunday

MONTHLY EVENTS

- ✓ Jan. 16 Otey Notes submissions due, 3:00 pm
- ✓ Jan. 17 Vestry Meeting, 5:30 pm
Adult Education

SPECIAL EVENTS

- ✓ Jan. 6 Epiphany Luncheon

OFFICE CLOSURES

- ✓ Jan. 21 Martin Luther King Day



Many thanks to all those who participated in making our Christmas services so joyful and beautiful: the Altar Guild, those who helped decorate the church, the musicians and all who assisted with the services, and everyone in attendance!

Bishop Otey Society News

On Sunday, January 27, we will celebrate the Rt. Rev. James Hervey Otey, first Episcopal Bishop of Tennessee, with a special sermon at both services remembering him, and with a festive reception after the 11am service sponsored by the Bishop Otey Society. That Sunday's Forum will be "Bishop Otey--A Deeper Look," by Howard Lotti. The Bishop Otey Society encourages planned giving to Otey Memorial Parish

Anne Griffin



I love Otey and all of our Otey family and I give gifts to the people I love. In my will I will make final gifts to my family and others I care about...therefore I have already made a final gift to Otey. Besides giving I am also

trying to pay back just a little to the church that has given me so much. It is that simple.

Leah Rhys



My planned gift is not large but is a larger gift than I could make now. Serving four independent schools makes clear to me why planned giving is an essential source of support - to make certain the institutions we value,

our churches and schools, can continue to offer the grounding essential to our society.

Doug and Ann Seiters



Ann and I have been members of Otey Parish for over 40 years. During that time, the Otey community has nourished and supported our family, our faith, and our well-being. Out of thankfulness, one way we can show our appreciation is by supporting

Otey through our annual giving and by including Otey in our wills.

Brown Patterson



Otey Memorial Parish seems to me to be a community of people who are seeking to proclaim the Gospel and to further the common good, both in Sewanee and in the surrounding area. Remembering Otey Parish through

a bequest in one's will is an appropriate and effective way to further these objectives well into the future.

Jay and Laurie Fisher



As we considered our estate planning, after first making provisions for our family, we also made provisions for those institutions which have made a difference in our lives and whose mission reflect our personal val-

ues. As our parish church, serving God within the Sewanee community and beyond, Otey Parish is included as a beneficiary in our wills. We hope to leave our own legacy to a place which has meant so much to our family and our community and which, after we die, will continue to reflect God's love for us all.

Tim and Janet Graham



We believe in the mission and ministry of Otey Memorial Parish in Sewanee and beyond. The spiritual nurturing and education that takes place at Otey for all people, members and non-members alike, is vital to the fabric of our community.

We have benefited from the planning and foresight of those who have included the church in their estate planning and we want to join in helping to "pay forward" for the future of the parish.

Robert and Amy Lamborn



"There are no U-Hauls behind hearses," is another way of expressing the truth, "You can't take it with you." As we seek to steward the resources God has blessed us with during

life, so we have sought to steward them after death by making provision for the people and entities most important to us in our will, including Otey. It is deeply satisfying to know we are supporting the continuation of God's work in this parish.



Vestry Highlights

Singing Deeply

Vestry Highlights

At its December regular meeting, the Vestry:

- --Adopted the proposed budget for 2019.
- --Received a report from the Buildings and Grounds committee recommending a proposal from Sumpter Solutions for extensive repairs to the bell tower.
- --Elected Dorothy Gates, Phebe Hethcock, Susan Holmes as delegates, and Jeannie Babb as alternate, to diocesan convention (to be held January 25-26 at Trinity Church, Clarksville).
- --Voted to change the name of the adult education room in Claiborne Parish House. It will be known as the Hethcock Room.

Youth Ministry Transition

Neil Patterson resigned as Youth Minister effective the end of last year after five years of service in that position. We will be taking time this semester to review and reflect on the past, and envision the future, of youth ministry at Otey, including input from inside and outside of the parish. During that time, Jeannie Babb will serve as Acting Youth Minister in addition to Director of Christian Formation. If you have suggestions or thoughts about our youth ministry, please contact Jeannie Babb or Rob Lamborn.

Inclement Weather Policy



It will be Otey Parish's policy to follow the Franklin County School systems' closures and delays for inclement weather. If Franklin County schools are closed, Otey Parish will be closed. The Community Action Committee will also be going by this policy. The Sewanee Children's Center will decide and announce its own cancellations.

Any of you who know me well know of my great love of choral singing. I have been a part of singing with a group, until recently, all of my life. During that time I have had the great privilege of singing with some of the best choral directors in the world. One of my great experiences was singing with Robert Shaw and taking workshops with Alice Parker. So you can imagine my thrill when I opened the December messenger to see Ms Parker would be honored at this Easter term Convocation. I know of few others more deserving of honor.

I did two summer workshops with Alice Parker. One was in composition and the other was in teaching choral music. Ms. Parker wrote extensively for the great Robert Shaw Chorale. In fact, she met and married her husband, Thomas Pyle, during those years. He was an acclaimed baritone. Unfortunately he died at an early age, leaving her to raise five children. She moved to Massachusetts and started the Melodious Accord. It is a non-profit group which does concerts, sponsors workshops and does all possible to promote choral music. She is unparalleled in her vision to keep America singing as she had all of her life.

Robert Shaw said Alice possessed a rare and creative musical intelligence --and he was so right. There are many recordings of the Shaw Chorale. The *Mass In B Minor* recording from 1964 is particularly outstanding. Then there are the more than 500 pieces of music she has written and most have been recorded by different groups numerous times. Her music sings to the root of your soul. Anyone who has sung her music will tell you it evokes emotions within you and awakens your inner voice to sing the very best. Alice always said, "Never make an ugly sound in your soul." Her deep faith runs through even her secular pieces. She believes singing music was given to brighten the happy and kindle the loving.

On January 18th I will not miss convocation. I want to see one of my greatest personal inspirations one last time. If you haven't heard any of Alice Parker's music, give yourself a gift for the new year and listen to some of her music by an accomplished choir. It will bless your heart as it always has mine.

*Kathleen Sturgis,
Music Director*

Children's Pageant

The children of Otey Parish presented a very sweet pageant on Sunday, December 16. Diana Rung, Christiana Taylor, and Elizabeth Taylor served as narrators and the congregation joined in for hymns as the young children acted out the Christmas story. One highlight of the pageant was when Mary (Nora Jane Elrod) sang the Magnificat. While the script had only called for it to be read, Nora Jane was moved to sing it as the scripture says Mary did. Other highlights were less planned, but no less endearing.

A hearty thanks to Kathy Sturgis for playing piano and organ, and to Parish Life for providing lemonade and cookies afterward. I'm also grateful to Diane Fielding and Lauryl Tucker for fitting each child with a costume, and to Mark Hopwood and Meghan Roberts for putting the costumes away after the pageant. All the parents pitched in to help run the rehearsal and the pizza party afterward. We're very blessed to have such enthusiastic young children and parents in this congregation.



Special thanks to Cameron Adams for making these (and many more) beautiful photographs during the rehearsal of the Christmas Pageant.



The Creche

A crèche /kreSH/ is a scene depicting the birth of Christ. The idea of building these scenes is attributed to St. Francis. The first crèche service was held at an outdoor Midnight Mass, where according to St. Bonaventure, Francis set an actual manger and brought in an ox and a donkey.

At Otey, the Christmas Eve service includes a nativity scene built by children as the congregation sings Christmas songs. Otey's creche is a beautiful and traditional set – yet not easily breakable – including the Holy Family with their donkey, an ox for the stable, and a number of shepherds. One is a shepherdess. They arrive with their sheep, following an angel that one child must place, very carefully, at the top of the stable.

The magi come last, and they do not quite arrive on Christmas. They are still traveling. You'll notice them on a pedestal near the sacristy until Epiphany. A big thanks to Robin and Julia Bates, who graciously help each child place the pieces where they belong. We are also grateful to Abby Bates and Mary Ming Lynch for their beautiful storytelling at this service.



Jeannie Babb, Director Christian Formation

Community Action Committee News

The old year has passed and the new year is full of promise and uncertainty. For CAC 2018 was a very good year.....fund raisers were successful, donors were generous, volunteers kept everthinng running smoothly and thousands of pounds of distributed food kept this community from hunger.

Well that was then so what will happen in 2019? Will changes in the tax laws mean fewer donations? What about volunteers? What about fund raisers? Those are the unknowns and the uncertain. However we are the church and our faith is in the assurance that God's work knows no uncertainty.....volunteers will show up, our congregation will be generous and the work of CAC will continue to be an outward and visable sign of living out the gospel message. We are not a stand-alone but part of a vibrant church striving to answer God's call. We can ask the question...

What will be my part to make sure, the hungry are fed, the needs of the poor are met and God's work is glorified. 2019 will be a very good year and of this we can be certain!

AllVoices Choir

If you happen to pass through St. Mark's Hall on a Thursday morning around 10:30 you may have noticed that choir practice was going on....not just any choir but a very special one. The adults from Exceptional Enterprise make the weekly trip over from Grundy County to make a joyful noise as members of the newly formed AllVoices Choir and we have the t-shirts to prove it! The name was chosen because the choir is all -inclusive and anyone who enjoys singing is invited to sing along. Ann Seiters plays the piano accompanied by Elizabeth Koella on guitar. Gary Sturgis directs and many members of the Se-wanee community join in. Our Christmas surprise was the presentation of T-shirts, a gift from the rector, making us official. Although not quite ready for prime-time, we hope to sing in the church some day. But in the meantime, if you have an hour on a Thursday morning come and sing! It is a proven scientific fact....singing improves mental health.



**Betty Carpenter,
CAC Director**

Otey Memorial Parish

The Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt

Bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee

**The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn, D. Min.
Rector**

oteyparishrector@gmail.com

**The Rev. Elizabeth Carpenter, Deacon
CAC Director**

(931) 598-5927

cacoteyparish@gmail.com

**Frieda Hawkins Gipson
Parish Administrator, Newsletter Editor,
Webmaster, Calendar Coordinator**

oteyparish@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Telephone and Fax

(931) 598-5926, (931) 598-9537 (F)

Website

www.oteyparish.org

Diane Fielding, Financial Adm. Assistant

oteyfinance@gmail.com , (931) 598-5926

**Diane's office hours—Wednesdays 1:30p—2:30p
and by appt.**

**Jeannie Babb, Christian Formation Director, Acting
Director Fire on the Mountain**

oteyformation@gmail.com,

(931)598-5926

Kathy Sturgis, Organist musicotey@gmail.com

(931) 598-5997

Brandy Garner—Custodian

VESTRY

David Burnett, '20

Timothy Graham '19

Susan Holmes, '21

Lisa Howick, '20

Karen Meridith, '21

Sue Moseley, '21

Claudia Porter, '19

Gary Sturgis, '19

Lee Stapleton, '20

Kathy Solomon, Treasurer

Julie Elrod, Clerk

PRAYER LIST

Pamela Byerly, Henry Capel, Matthew Collins, Joyce Crouse, Jackie Faircloth, Nate Garner, Peter Hutton, Patrick Irwin, Sandy King, Amy Lamborn, David Langley, Erika Lewis, Jacob Lollis, Flaget Nally, Meta Shackelford, Kathy Sturgis, Liz Workman, Jane

Don't Forget!
 The deadline for submissions for the February 2019 issue of *Otey Notes* is:
3pm Wednesday, January 16.
 Email submissions to: oteyparish@gmail.com

The Joy of Giving

A tree was placed in All Saints Chapel to make sure that the children of CAC had gifts under the tree for Christmas. The hope was to collect 50 gifts and the reality was 300 gifts were given! It was an overwhelming show of generosity and support from students, faculty, and staff, of the university. The gifts were placed on the high altar and blessed by Chaplain Tom Macfie at the last service before the winter break. CAC, in partnership with Project Noel and help from Anna at the post office, all gifts found their way under the trees. Hopefully there were happy children on Christmas morning. We live in a caring and generous community



Otey's Office and the Community Action Committee will be closed on January 21 for Martin Luther King Day.

January



Jan	2	Zoe Grammer	Jan	17	Noel Workman
Jan	2	Christopher Van de Ven	Jan	19	Cullen Thompson
Jan	4	John Bratton	Jan	22	Myers Gorrell
Jan	4	Carey Wofford	Jan	23	Aubrey Black
Jan	5	Lexi Phares	Jan	25	Kathy Sturgis
Jan	6	Evan Howard	Jan	25	Alice Cammack
Jan	7	Karen Keele	Jan	27	Anna Evatt
Jan	8	Eleanor Dallas	Jan	27	Margaret Wilson
Jan	9	Lisa Howick	Jan	27	Katie Finn Hurst
Jan	9	Joe Porter	Jan	28	Louise Irwin
Jan	13	Waring McCrady	Jan	28	Conrad Fielding
Jan	13	Glen Smalley	Jan	29	Luciana Mollica
Jan	16	Jany Priestley	Jan	31	Cabell Thompson

OTEY MEMORIAL CHURCH
Lay Ministry Schedule January 2019

Position	January 6 The Epiphany	January 13 Epiphany 1, The Baptism of our Lord	January 20 Epiphany 2	January 27 Epiphany 3
	8:30	8:30	8:30	8:30
Vestry of the Day	David Burnett	Gary Sturgis	Tim Graham	Claudia Porter
Crucifer/Server	Louise Irwin	Louise Irwin	Louise Irwin	Robin Bates
Torchbearers		Sophia Hartman		
Reader	Anne Griffin	Alec Moseley	Anne Griffin	Diane Jones
Lesson 1	Isaiah 60:1-6	Isaiah 43:1-7	Isaiah 62:1-5	8::1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Reader	Dorothy Gates	Sue Moseley	Tim Graham	Louise Irwin
Lesson 2	Ephesians 3:1-12	Acts 8:14-17	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Intercessor	David Burnett	Rebecca Van de Ven	John Solomon	Robin Bates
Oblationers				
Chalice Bearers	Karen Keele Louise Irwin	Alec Moseley Sue Moseley	Bill Mauzy Louise Irwin	Louise Irwin Julia Bates
Ushers	David Burnett Dorothy Gates	Bruce Baird Larry Prince	Tim Graham John Solomon	Freddie Tucker Larry Prince
	11:00	11:00	11:00	11:00
Crucifer/Server	Beth Wiley	Sophia Patterson	Karen Meridith	Betty Barton Blythe
Torchbearers		Alex Thurman		Mary Ming Lynch
Reader	Beth Wiley	Amy Patterson	Adam Tucker	Betty Barton Blythe
Lesson 1	Isaiah 60:1-6	Isaiah 43:1-7	Isaiah 62:1-5	8::1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Reader	David Burnett	Jay Fisher	Phebe Hethcock	Lee Stapleton
Lesson 2	Ephesians 3:1-12	Acts 8:14-17	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Intercessor	Liz Camp	Neil Patterson	Lauryl Tucker	Rachel Lynch
Oblationers				
Chalice Bearers	Beth Wiley Susan Holmes	Rachel Suarez Jay Fisher	Karen Meridith Gary Sturgis	Lee Stapleton Betty Barton Blythe
Ushers	Ann Seiters Doug Seiters	Lynn Stubblefield Gary Sturgis	Lauryl Tucker Alex Tucker	Jimmy Blythe Tom Howick
Godly Play	Barbara Prunty Mark Hopwood	Rebecca Van de Ven Julia Bates	Scott Lee Andrea Vancil	Barbara Prunty Julia Bates
Altar Guild	George Dick	George Dick	George Dick	George Dick
Flowers		Marilyn Phelps	Marilyn Phelps	Tippi Anderson
Bread Baker	Amy Neubauer	Amy Neubauer		
Coffee Hour	Epiphany Luncheon	Lynn Stubblefield	The Pattersons	Bishop Otey Society
Tellers	David Burnett Barbara Prunty	Gary Sturgis Rachel Suarez	Tim Graham Phebe Hethcock	Claudia Porter Steve Blount

** Schedule subject to change per Rector's discretion

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7:30 a.m., Mon-Fri, Morning Prayer (Church) 4:30 p.m., Mon-Fri, Evening Prayer (Church)		1 CAC closed Otey Office closed 7:30P / AA	2 9-11 CAC Open 3:30P / Staff Meeting	3 9-11 CAC Open 1:30P / F@H Support Group Clabourne	4 9-11 CAC Open	5 7:30P / AA
6 8:50 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ CAC Pantry Sunday 10:00A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectionary Class – Adult Ed. • Godly Play – Clabourne • Adult Forum – Rector’s Forum • Youth Ministry – Brooks Hall 12:00P / Epiphany Luncheon	7 9-11 CAC Open 4:00P / Christian Formation – Adult Ed. 5:00P / Women’s Support Group - Brooks 7:00P / Centering Prayer St. Paul’s Chapel of Clabourne Parish House	8 9-11 CAC Open 7:30P / AA	9 9-11 CAC Open 9:30A / Parish Life meeting	10 9-11 CAC Open 1:30P / F@H Support Group Clabourne	11 9-11 CAC Open	12 7:30P / AA
13 8:50 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectionary Class – Adult Ed. • Godly Play – Clabourne • Youth Ministry – Brooks • Adult Forum – “Initiatory Rites in the Life of the Church” – James Turrell 	14 9-11 CAC Open 5:00P / Women’s Support Group- Brooks 7:00P / Centering Prayer- St. Paul’s Chapel of Clabourne Parish House -	15 9-11 CAC Open 7:30P / AA	16 Otey Notes due by 3pm 9-11 CAC Open 3:30P / Staff Meeting	17 9-11 CAC Open 9:00A / CAC Board 1:30P / F@H Support Group Clabourne 5:30P / Vestry Meeting –Adult Ed	18 The Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle 9-11 CAC Open	19 7:30P / AA
20 8:50 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectionary Class – Adult Ed. • Godly Play – Clabourne • Youth Ministry Adult forum – “Youth Citizenship and the Churches in Uganda” – Amy Patterson	21 MLK Day Otey’s Office and Community Action Committee Closed 5:00P / Women’s Support Group- Brooks 7:00P / Centering Prayer- St. Paul’s Chapel of Clabourne Parish House	22 9-11 CAC Open 7:30P / AA	23 9-11 CAC Open	24 9-11 CAC Open 1:30P / F@H Support Group Clabourne	25 The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle 9-11 CAC Open	26 7:30P / AA
27 8:50 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist Bishop Otey Sunday 10:00A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectionary Class – Adult Ed. • Godly Play – Clabourne • Youth Ministry • Adult forum - Bishop Otey Sunday 	28 CAC Open 5:00P / Women’s AA Clabourne 7:00P / Centering Prayer – St. Paul’s Chapel of Clabourne Parish House	29 9-11 CAC Open 7:30P / AA	30 9-11 CAC Open	31 9-11 CAC Open 1:30P / F@H Support Group Clabourne	SCC – Sewanee Children’s Center FOM – Fire on the Mountain ECW – Episcopal Church Women EfM – Education for Ministry CAC – Community Action Committee	