



The Antioch Community Voice

A newsletter published by the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch
2017-2019

The New Zealand CCOA, currently a mission of CCOA-USA, was created upon the ordination of Cian Ker-risk and Roel van Leeuwen to the priesthood. Shown here: Fr. Graham Michael Wills who assisted Bp Mark, Fr. Cian, Bp. Mark and Fr. Roel.

Photo credit, NZ-CCOA



CCOA-USA's newest bishop, Bp. Michael Talbot, is shown to the left.

Monsignor Anthony Carrillo, on the right, who graduated from Sophia Divinity School came home when he incardinated into CCOA.



With good friend Rev. Linda to his left, Fr. Ron Catherson was ordained to the priesthood. CCOA's PB Mark and Bp. Linda are to Fr. Ron's left. *Photo credit St. John's CCOA.*



Bro. Jeremiah just incardinated as CCOA's newest priest. *Photo credit, Bro. Jeremiah.*

New Zealand - CCOA, a mission of CCOA - USA

CCOA Presiding Bishop, Mark Elliott Newman OC



January 26, 2019 saw the international presence of the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch grow when Presiding Bishop Mark Newman OC ordained Cian Kerrisk and Roel van Leeuwen to the sacred order of the priesthood in the historic Titirangi Soldiers Memorial Chapel in Auckland New Zealand. The ordination of the new priests culminated a period of almost two years of discernment concerning the establishment of the Church in New Zealand. For the present, the New Zealand Church will function as a mission of the US Church, with the eventual goal of complete

autocephaly. In his address to the community present at the ordinations, Bishop Mark expressed his hope that the New Zealand Church will develop a sensibility that reflects the unique cultural and spiritual heritage of New Zealand. Bishop Mark charged Fr. Cian with overseeing this development and in recognition of Fr. Cian's acceptance of the charge, Bishop Mark elevated Fr. Cian to the dignity of archpriest. Much work lies ahead of the New Zealand Church and Bishop Mark assured them of the continued support and assistance of Church Central. Please remember our New Zealand brothers and sisters in your prayers.



Convocation:

a time of gathering, sharing, learning, and celebrating the holy in our lives.

Convocation, 2017 is long past, but fondly remembered. We were graced to learn of our Eastern Roots, to experience the Orthodox Rituals, and to enjoy fellowship with one another.



Convocation 2018 provided additional learning of our roots, with the theme: *"Exploring Our Old Catholic Roots"*. Bishop Francis Krebs, Presiding Bishop of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion, and Bishop Rose Mary Ananis, of The Old Catholic Church, Province of the United States, helped the CCOA family understand more about Old Catholicism. They also assisted in some of our liturgies.



Bp. Francis and Bp. Rose Mary are shown to the left of Bp. Mark, surrounded by many of the CCOA family members.



Convocation 2018 was also highlighted by the ordination of CCOA's newest bishop,

Bp. Michael Talbot is pictured with Presiding Bishop Mark.

Words from the New Bishop

The Most Rev. Michael Talbot

Surrounded by the inspiring beauty of the southwestern desert, I decided to pray the Office of Readings outdoors so that I could witness the wonderment of a new day dawning. The recitation of the Liturgy of the Hours is a great comfort to me and in the words of St. Benedict marking the hours of each day and sanctifying the day with prayer is the Opus Dei or "Work of God."

On this particular morning the September 16th, the 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time and the day of my ordination the Second Reading was from a sermon by Saint Augustine on "Pastors" the leader's accountability. In Augustine's words, he said, "You have often learned that all our hope is in Christ and that he is our true glory and our salvation. You are members of the flock of the Good Shepherd, who watches over Israel and nourishes his people. Yet there are shepherds who want to have the title of shepherd without wanting to fulfil a pastor's duties; let us then recall what God says to his shepherds through the prophet. You must listen attentively; I must listen with fear and trembling. *The word of the Lord came to me and said: Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel and speak to the shepherds of Israel (Ezekiel 34.2). ... The Lord will help me to speak the truth if I do not speak on my own authority. For if I speak on my own authority, I will be a shepherd nourishing myself and not the sheep. However, if my words are the Lord's, then he is nourishing you no matter who speaks. Thus says the Lord God: Shepherds of Israel, who have been nourishing only themselves! Should not the shepherds nourish the sheep?* In other words, true shepherds take care of their sheep, not themselves. This is the principle reason why God

reason why God condemns those shepherds: they took care of themselves rather than their sheep. Who are they who nourish themselves? They are the shepherds the Apostle described when he said: *They all seek what is theirs and not what is Christ's (Phil 2.21).*" Could Augustine not be more clear about the role servant leadership we all share in the Christian community?

Reading those words called me to the heart and center of the Church's Ordination Rite as a celebration of Christ's saving love in the community of Believers. The strength and grace that was brought forth from our communion as the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch was humbling and moving. (my pockets were bulging with tissues). When asked: "What was the most powerful moments for you?" My first response was- ALL OF IT but upon deeper reflection I have to say there were three: the litany of saints, the laying on hands and the distribution of the Eucharist. The prayerful intention of calling the whole church together the living and the saints reaffirms our joy in Christ's saving action in what was, what is and what is to come. The laying on of hands by Bishop Mark, Bishop Linda and Bishop Gene brought to mind for me the communion that we all share as pastors that does not belong exclusively to one, but to the whole apostolic catholic Church. Lastly, the distribution of the Eucharist profoundly speaks of our desire as ministers of Word and Sacrament to nourish the People of God. Our guests at the Ordination Ceremony repeatedly said how welcomed they felt by our Antiochian Community. Their encounters with each of you was memorable.

As I begin my service as a bishop in the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch I ask for your continued prayer and guidance. Under the mentorship of Bishop Mark and Bishop Linda I pray that I fulfil my duties faithfully and take to heart the words Bishop Mark shared in his homily along with the words of St. Augustine. As I continue in my ministry I am guided by the words of Luke that were printed on the ordination invitation: "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching

and fellowship to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Acts 2:42. May God Bless each and every one of you.



Report on the 2018 Parliament of the World's Religions

Bp. Mark Elliott Newman, OC

What do more than 7,500 people from more than 200+ different world religions and spiritual traditions have in common? At first glance, it would seem not very much but a closer look would reveal quite the opposite. That closer look was afforded those 7,500 people who attended the 7th Parliament of the World's Religions in Toronto ON, November 1st through November 7th.

The Parliament of the World's Religions is the oldest, largest, most diverse and inclusive global interfaith event in the world. It was created to cultivate harmony among the world's religious and spiritual communities and foster engagement with the world and its guiding institutions to achieve a just, peaceful, and sustainable world. Each Parliament is built around a central theme, with this year's theme being "The Promise of Inclusion, The Power of Love: Pursuing Global Understanding, Reconciliation and Change. This theme was explored in more than 250 daily sessions, assemblies, plenary sessions, and worship experiences. An extensive exhibit area afforded attendees an opportunity to learn about the different religions or spiritual traditions in a more personal, one-on-one setting, as well to purchase the latest books, CDs, or other items from the different groups.

This year, the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch was represented by Presiding Bishop Mark Newman OC, Bishop Linda Rounds-Nichols OSM, Bishop Michael Talbot, and Father Jeff Genung. Fr. Jeff, co-founder and President of ContemplativeLife.org, was one of the presenters in the session, "The Here and Wow! Practice and Community in the Digital Age", which addressed how technology is being used to enable large numbers of people to find practices of interest and build just and compassionate communities. Bishop Michael and I attended the presentation and left impressed and inspired by the work Fr. Jeff is doing.

The work of the Parliament is not limited to the world-wide gatherings. The Parliament is involved in a number of programs that continue on an ongoing basis, addressing such issues as interfaith climate action, women's dignity, countering war, hate, and violence, advancing justice, just to name a few. The Parliament works to find common ground in all the world's religions so that a strong, unified voice from

people of faith can be raised to address these pressing issues.

Over the years, the Parliament has issued numerous declarations, reports, and publications, one of the better known of which is “Towards a Global Ethic”, also known as the Global Ethic. As stated on the Parliament’s website,

It expresses a shared set of core values found in the teachings of the world’s religious, spiritual, and ethical traditions. The Global Ethic, mostly drafted by Professor Hans Küng in consultation with several hundred leaders and scholars, became an official declaration of the Parliament of the World’s Religions in 1993. For the first time in history, representatives of all the world’s religions agreed that there are common ethical commitments foundational to each of their traditions:

- *Human beings should be treated humanely*
- *The Golden Rule of Reciprocity*
- *A commitment to peace and justice*

These commitments can be affirmed by all persons with ethical convictions, whether they are people of faith or not. While this ethic provides no direct solution for all the problems of the world, it does supply the moral foundation for a better individual and global order.

The original document of 1993 contained four Irrevocable Directives:

- **Commitment to a culture of non-violence and respect for life**
- **Commitment to a culture of solidarity and a just economic order**
- **Commitment to a culture of tolerance and a life of truthfulness**
- **Commitment to a culture of equal rights and partnership between men and women**

In the face of the growing climate crisis on our planet and humanity’s seeming reluctance to respond to that crisis in any meaningful, coordinated way, the Parliament recently added a fifth Directive:

- **Commitment to a Culture of Sustainability and Care for the Earth.**

I encourage all clergy and seminarians to familiarize yourselves with the Parliament in general and the Global Ethic declaration in particular. The values outlined in the document align nicely with the core values of the Christian tradition and I believe help focus Jesus' teachings for action in our time and place. I feel strongly that if Jesus were physically alive today, these are the values that he would promote. Once you've read the document, if you feel moved to support it publically there is an opportunity on the Parliament's website for individuals to sign it. One's signature is a statement of individual support, and is not an institutional endorsement. Both Father Jeff and I have signed the declaration. If you feel called to do so, I encourage you to do so as well.

The time and place of the next Parliament of the World's Religions has not been announced yet. Once it is, I will share that information with the Church. Personally, I have found attendance at the Parliament to be a deeply rewarding and spiritually uplifting experience; I am confident you would too. I encourage as many as possible to attend, as time and circumstance permit.

<note: The Parliament's website is: <https://parliamentofreligions.org/>

Editor's Note: Mary+ and Ron+ have also experienced the Parliament, attending when it was held in Salt Lake city a couple of years ago. They can also answer your questions should you be interested in learning more about the events.



Between sessions at the World Parliament, the CCOA Bishops met to take care of some business. Work can be fun when the bishops meet!

Here I Am, With You OnThe Way

Rev. Father Scott Allan Carter

Visitors to the 2018 Convocation in Carefree, Arizona described the Pilgrim Chapel of Contemplative Conscience and other ministries of the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch as “ministries of availability.” When I shared this with my own spiritual director, she said, “Yes, but I'd say, a ministry of presence, too—a ministry of availability and presence.” As the founding Spiritual Director and only priest of the Oregon ministry, I pray this is always true.

Legally, the Pilgrim Chapel of Contemplative Conscience is an Ashland, Oregon-based, nonprofit corporation-sole, a chartered ministry of the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch. Its stated mission is to “practice, promote, and support Independent Catholic spirituality, especially the traditions of pilgrimage, contemplation, and the Divine gift of individual conscience.”

The Chapel is a church—a pilgrim church, without walls. As a priest without a building or permanent home, I go where people are. I look for anyone in spiritual need, but I focus on those discernment and prayer lead me to believe I can best serve: spiritual seekers who feel called to the Christian Way; anyone who feels spiritually exiled, alienated, or excluded; those drawn to the contemplative, mystical traditions within Christianity; and those with issues of conscience, because the individual conscience is a Divine gift and the interior place where we each meet God.

As a church, the Pilgrim Chapel makes available the traditional Sacraments of Catholic tradition. This year we celebrated our first “Communion at the Vineyard,” bringing the inclusive, contemplative Pilgrim Chapel eucharistic liturgy to a diverse but intimate group of worshippers on the outdoor deck of an Ashland winery and tasting room. The event was well-received, and planning is

underway for similar Communion events. I'm also offering support to anyone interested in hosting "Home Communions." Early Christians, after all, met not in dedicated church buildings, but in private homes. Communion is also made available to patients in the Ashland Community Hospital some Saturdays. Plans are underway, too, to offer trailside Sunday Eucharists.

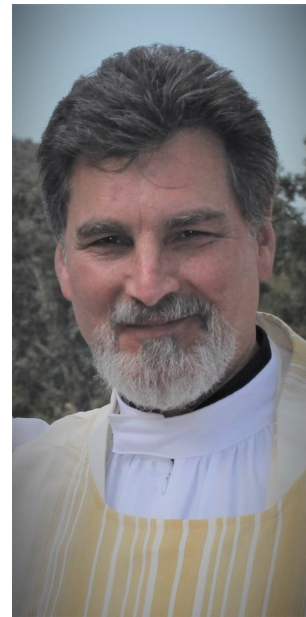
In the course of the Chapel's outreach to travelers on the Pacific Crest Trail, I was contacted by two PCT hikers and officiated their wedding at Callahan's Lodge on Mount Ashland, just off the trail. (The happy couple has stayed in touch and is currently traveling in India.) The Chapel has been blessed to help other couples searching for inclusive, spiritually meaningful wedding services in Ashland, including the ministry's first same-sex couple. People are grateful, and donations after wedding services help keep the Chapel operating. Our wedding services are also introducing many people to the Pilgrim Chapel, the larger Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch, and the Independent Catholic movement generally.

Although the Chapel makes available the Sacrament of Reconciliation, also known as Confession, I'm not usually asked about the possibility of coming for formal Confession. Instead, people come to me regularly for informal sharing and advice on spiritual topics. This kind of "showing up" for people as a representative of Christ has proven to be a significant part of the Pilgrim Chapel's ministry. It would be easy to dismiss the benefits of just being there, with people, to listen and offer spiritual advice. I've learned that doing so would be a serious mistake. It doesn't take many people telling you, with tears of gratitude in their eyes, how much your presence means to them before you understand that what you're doing is God's work. Being available to people matters; being fully present to people helps them feel the Presence that always and ultimately makes a difference.

The Pilgrim Chapel of Contemplative Conscience's mission involves being available to seekers interested in learning about and practicing

the contemplative traditions of Christianity. One of the places I do this regularly is the Ashland Community Hospital. Inside the hospital is a tiny chapel, and the hospital's chaplain asked me to spend an hour there every Saturday teaching and leading contemplative prayer. Some days, several people come and practice "Prayer of the Cloud," the fourteenth century inspiration for what later became Centering Prayer. Some days, someone comes to talk about her troubles or her spiritual needs. Other days, I'm there praying alone. Even on days when no one comes, I feel a profound peace. I know I've shown up for others. I also know that once the hour is over, I'll walk down the hall, talk with the nurses, and make myself available to patients. I hold the hands of those in pain, and I sit those who've received a prognosis. I pray.

Before Christians were called Christians, they were sometimes known as followers of The Way. Although much more could be said about the Pilgrim Chapel of Contemplative Conscience's past work and future plans, I believe the most important thing to communicate is this: this ministry *is* about availability and presence. I am here, a priest of Christ, traveling with you on The Way.



Editor's Note: Fr. Scott was recently appointed to the position of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs Officers for CCOA, and was, at the same time elevated to the level of Arch-Priest. Congratulations, Fr. Scott!

"Whether our work be that of teaching a lesson, preaching a sermon, rendering a musical composition, or lending a helping hand, it must always represent the highest and best which can be given by that person at that moment."

COA Founder, Herman Adrian Spruit

Incardinations



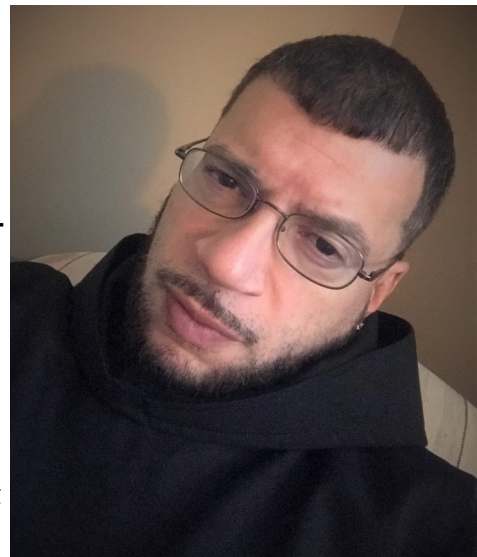
Msgr. Anthony Carrillo, aka Msgr. Tony, or Fr. Tony, successfully completed the Sophia Divinity School seminary program and received his M.Div in 2004. He was ordained as a priest in the National Catholic Church of America, where he later became a Monsignor. He returned home to the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch in October, 2017.

Fr. Tony is currently serving as a chaplain in a nursing home in Arizona, where he provides pastoral care and support to residents and their family members, as well as the Eucharist and other sacraments.

Before creating his own ministry, Fr. Tony was active in a combined ministry of the NCCOA, and CCOA. His presiding bishop, the late +Bill Wettingfeld and CCOA's +Mark joined together to offer Sunday services for a number of years. Not only was Tony+ involved in these services, his wife, Bobbi was as well, often providing goodies for a post-service fellowship time!

Bro, Jeremiah is the newest CCOA priest, incardinating on May 18, 2019. Bro. Jeremiah was ordained by the Roman Catholic Church in 1991. While with the Roman Catholic Church, he served in parish ministry. He is currently doing pastoral care and compassionate ministry, working with the poor and addicted, providing companionship, and serving as a care giver.

Bro Jeremiah is a novice in the Ecumenical Order of Charity and hopes to take his first vows in June. He refers to himself as a Charist Monk in the World.



Is There A Chapel?

Father Ron Catherson

Shortly after my ordination to the priesthood on August 5, 2017 a group of us went on a cruise to the Colorful Northeast on the Serenade of the Seas. As a priest, I prepared a few supplies to celebrate Mass abroad ship for the group. As we checked in, my wife asked the staff if there was a chapel on the ship. The clerk responded that there was no priest on board. My wife looked at her, then at me, and said, "There is now." The clerk said there was no chapel but she would have the Cruise Director contact me.



The Cruise Director found a place that would be vacant for about an hour. It was the Vortex Nightclub on the 13th deck. The Cruise Director was willing to promote the Mass in their daily newsletter called The Compass. I was not expecting this, so I did not bring a lot of supplies, just what was needed for the group I was cruising with. However, I did agree that if someone contacted her, she would call me and then I could let her know if the size of their party was ok. This happened twice! The party sizes were small enough that I could stretch the supplies. The Cruise Director made additional copies of the order of the Mass to accommodate the larger group.

The Vortex Nightclub was a beautiful place. The view as we exited the elevator was reminiscences of a galaxy within the universe! Worship God with an image of one of the galaxies? A good start! Also, the word "vortex" means a mass of wind that draws things to the center. Umm, a Mass, wind (Spirit), drawing things (us) to the center (God). We just had to forget about the Nightclub part. That is until



we entered the Nightclub.

We had to determine where to set up a makeshift altar and arrange the chairs to be facing the altar. There was a bar that was the right height and had an open area to rearrange the chairs for those participating in the Mass. About 15 to 20 of us celebrated the Mass. I had a wonderful view through the windows of the vastness of the ocean while the others had a view of me and the Body and Blood of Christ.

After the Mass, while I was still dressed in clerics, some of the passengers came to me and asked if there was to be a Mass. I told them that the Mass had already occurred. The point is, that people do celebrate Mass even on a cruise ship. When we travel, and there is allotted time, there is a way to celebrate Mass with many cruisers even if there is no chapel. What a blessing to learn this. I will be ready next time for a larger group at Mass on ship.

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### Dean for a Decade 2008—2018

Bp. Linda Rounds-Nichols OSM served as associate dean of Sophia Divinity School just a short time before assuming the role of dean in May, 2008. In fact, she became the dean a few months before she became a bishop. The role is changing, but during +Linda's tenure, and that of those who preceded her, the dean was responsible for most of the overall workings of the seminary, and all of the daily tasks. As other deans might agree, serving as dean is a work of love! +Linda retired as dean December 31, 2018. She is continuing as a member of the Sophia Divinity School's Board of Directors, in an advisory role.



Sophia Divinity School went on recess for a bit in order to reorganized. Recess is over and the seminary's home site is now in Arizona, with classes to be held at convocation. CCOA is pleased to be one of the longest running small independent sacramental academic seminaries in the country.

Sophia Divinity School, founded in 1958, is a non-accredited seminary that prepares individuals for sacramental ministry in the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch and other jurisdictions in the Independent Catholic/Orthodox movement. An important mission of the Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch is to provide the traditional Catholic sacraments, without restrictions, to all who desire them. The seminarian's preparation includes courses related to the public celebration of the sacraments as well as a broad look at perennial religious issues. If you feel called to the ministry, please review the information found on the website concerning both the seminary and the church.



## Congratulations!!

Kelly Sean Noble and +Michael Andrew Talbot  
were united in the sacrament of marriage on  
January 20, 2019



Mark Elliott Newman,  
CCOA Presiding Bishop  
© photo by Phil Nichols

## Save the date!

Convocation, 2019 ~ October 11-14

*“May YHWH bless you and keep you!  
May YHWH's face shine upon you, and  
be gracious to you!  
May YHWH look kindly upon you, and  
give you peace!”*

*Numbers 6:24-26, The Inclusive Bible*

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**The Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch**  
is an independent jurisdiction within the sacramental tradition.  
[website: www.churchofantioch.org](http://www.churchofantioch.org)

*This newsletter is brought to you by the CCOA Communications Program, +Linda Rounds-Nichols, editor. We thank those who submitted materials for this issue, and invite all CCOA clergy and seminarians to submit materials for the next issue. Send your items to [lroundsnichols@gmail.com](mailto:lroundsnichols@gmail.com). Thanks! Thanks also to proof-reader, photographer, and all-round helper, Phil Nichols. The thoughts and opinions herein are not meant to be official statements held by the CCOA, but rather are the opinions of the individual writers. Photo credits herein, unless otherwise credited: LRN/PBN ©*