



The mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church is to worship God and to bring all into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ

January 2009

Edition 9 - Volume 1

www.stpaulsmboro.org

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

***Come One, Come All
Sunday, January 11, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.***

Yes, this is a little earlier than last year's annual meeting date, but your new Rector and Vestry are eager to get started! So...come to the meeting Sunday morning the 11th at 9:00 a.m. – we will have our usual services at 7:30 and 11:00, with time in between to conduct the meeting.

This format is in keeping with the way we conducted last year's meeting, which received many favorable comments on both the

smoothness of the balloting process and the fact that we didn't have to come out on a cold January night. Please see the accompanying information, page 3, detailing the biographies of our eight excellent candidates who have agreed to stand for the Vestry. We will be electing four to serve three-year terms.

Please be prayerful about the vestry selections. See you there!

PILGRIMAGE 2009

Our faith exploration program for adults, called Pilgrimage, will begin Monday evening, January 12, 2009. It will continue for a total of ten consecutive Monday evenings. Each session will start at 6:30 and end at 8:00; child care is provided as needed.

Pilgrimage offers an environment of trust and shared ideas in small group settings. We will provide to each Pilgrim and Sponsor the book "Simply Christian" by N.T. Wright as the basis for some of our discussions.

Among our topics will be the Christian/Anglican culture, Christian Symbolism, the Old and New Testaments, Grace and Sacramentalism, approaching God with our personality and with our prayers, and how we might respond to God through stewardship and ministry.

Preparation for Confirmation or Reception into the Episcopal Church was the original intent of Pilgrimage. But many have

participated, through the years, just for the experience and the opportunity to explore their faith.

Registration forms are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and on the table in the Narthex. If interested, please fill one out and place it in the Pilgrimage mail box in the Parish Hall, or you may give it to a Greeter at the Welcome Table.

If you participated in the first session this past Fall, we encourage you to continue with this upcoming series. If you did not attend the first session, it's just fine to begin in January. The two sessions are independent of each other, and can be done in either order.

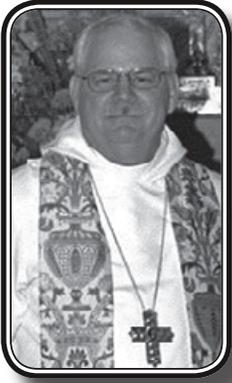
Remember, too, we need a sponsor for each Pilgrim. If you have been through Pilgrimage, please consider this ministry. Sponsors should also fill out a registration form.

With questions, please contact Joyce Adkins, 631-2869, or joyce1010@bellsouth.net

**THE
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A MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHED BY

**ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH,
MURFREESBORO, TN**



From Polk+

The Magi

Possibly no other figure in the Christmas story has brought more speculation and myth than the Magi, a better title than Wise Men or Kings. In all probability there were more than three, and they visited Jesus not at the manger, but in His home when He was already one or two years old (Mt. 2:9, 11). We do know they came from the East and they followed a star (or bright light) that directed them to Bethlehem (Mt. 2:1-2).

These Magi were most likely from the priestly caste of the Medes. They were highly trained in knowledge and wisdom. They were the leading experts in astronomy. Yet they worshiped a hodge-podge form of religion that combined everything from Jewish monotheism to sorcery and astrology. As a matter of fact, our English word "magic" is derived from their title.

It is amazing that God would reveal Himself to these people. It is incredible; Gentiles from a distant land involved in occult activity were called by God to acknowledge the birth of Jesus. They were unlikely characters.

In just a quick reading of this account in Matthew's Gospel, their response to the Christ child is accented. Upon seeing the baby, the Bible declares they instantaneously "fell to

the ground and worshipped Him" (Mt. 2:11; 2:2). Then the Scriptures go on to say after giving their hearts, they gave their possessions (2 Cor. 8:5). They opened "their treasures, (and) presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" (Mt. 2:11).

Most scholars agree that each of these three gifts had added symbolic meaning in God's providence unknown to the Magi. Gold was an acknowledgment of His royalty. Frankincense applied to Old Testament sacrifices and identified Him as an offering — possibly even eluded to His deity. And myrrh commonly used for burial foreshadowed His death.

What we must also remember is the fact that all of these gifts were very valuable. The Magi in an act of worship gave Jesus their hearts and out of pure adoration the very best and possibly the only gifts they had available. In addition was the sacrifice of these men to travel a long distance through the dangers of the desert to see and worship Jesus.

The question is, can we do less?

Polk+

Epiphany Party ~ January 9, 2009

Each year our St. Paul's family gathers together to celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord on the Friday night closest to Epiphany. This year's party will be on January 9, at 6:30p.m. at the home of Ken and Lisa Halliburton.

Ken and Lisa graciously offered many months ago to host our parish family at their home, located in Scotland Acres off Greenland Dr. The address is 1126 Campbell Court. So what do YOU need to do?

Sign up, please, to bring an appetizer or a bottle of wine, and come join your family as we celebrate!! The sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall. Call Kathleen Herzog or Marcie Richmond with questions.

Celebration of New Ministry

The Rev. James K. Polk Van Zandt, Rector

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Saturday, February 21, 2009, 10:00 a.m.

~ More details in next month's Evangel ~

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2009 VESTRY NOMINEES

In preparation for the January 11, 2009 Annual Meeting, we are presenting you with the Vestry Candidates for your consideration. Four candidates will be voted to serve a 3-year term. Please read the biography for each candidate and prayerfully consider your choices for this important position. We hope you will be at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 11th at 9:00 am. See Parish Hall bulletin board for more information on Vestry nominees.

Richard Detmer – Richard and Carol came to St. Paul's more than 10 years ago. He is a past Sr. Warden (2003) here at St. Paul's. Richard sings in the choir and schedules the lay readers and chalice bearers with Carol, as well as serving as one. It is no surprise that he maintains our church web site since he serves as the chairman of MTSU's Computer Science Dept. Richard has been involved in Cursillo and serves as a Pilgrimage sponsor.

Dan Felciano – Dan and Carole came to St. Paul's from northern California in 2005 and wasted no time in getting fully involved in the parish. He is retired from the insurance industry and takes great pride in his work in the local and district-level Rotary Club efforts in northern California. He served on this year's Rector Search Committee. Dan is a lay reader, usher and participates in our Men's Club, Cursillo, and outreach ministries.

Stan Golden – Stan and his wife, Laney, have been parishioners at St. Paul's since 1969. He has previously served as a member of the Vestry, member of the Rector Search Committee, chairman of Christian Education, Sunday School teacher, chairman of the Long-Term Planning Committee, and an usher. Stan is Senior Manager of Talent Management at Nissan America's headquarters where he is responsible for organizational learning, leadership assessment, management development, and training.

Becky Potts – Becky and son, Alex, have been at St. Paul's for seven years, having come here from Nashville, her hometown. She is Co-Director of our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program, after having taught a variety of youth age groups in our program over the years. Last year, she served as an alternate delegate to the diocesan convention. She has also been involved in VBS, food ministry, Pilgrimage and the diocese's women's retreat. She is a self-employed contract payroll administrator with more than 20 years of experience in payroll issues.

Cathy Sniderman – Cathy came to St. Paul's with her husband, Michael, and children more than 25 years ago. She has stayed involved over the years, most notably as a lay reader and chalice bearer. Cathy has completed the EFM program and attended Cursillo. She served on the Vestry in the 1990's. Cathy is a long-time educator and is currently an English teacher at Page High School in Williamson County.

Tom Washer – Tom and his wife, Patti, came to St. Paul's nine years ago. Tom and Patti head up our vital Greeters program that focuses on newcomers each Sunday. The Rochester, NY native is also in charge of the church softball team. You can frequently find him ushering or serving as a lay reader at our services, as well as participating in many of the parish functions. Tom is a salesman in the chemical industry.

Tina Whitfield – Tina is a cradle-Episcopalian who came to St. Paul's 20 years ago with her husband, Don, and two children. She is a former educator in the field of early childhood education, who has served in many roles with us, including choir, lay reader, chalice bearer, VBS, EFM, Pilgrimage, Cursillo, DOK, Hunger Team, ECW, Bible study and the women's retreats. The Huntsville, AL native also serves by taking communion to recipients' homes. She is currently enjoying the Dream Group activity.

Charlotte Young – Charlotte hails from Wytheville, VA. She and her family (husband Phil; children Caroline and Catherine) came to Murfreesboro and St. Paul's six years ago to be close to family. She has had a 14-year career in education, having served as an administrator and teacher. She is currently a fourth grade teacher at Campus School. She has been quite involved in activities at St. Paul's, especially the Parents' Group, VBS, and the Christmas Pageant. Charlotte also served on a Vocational Discernment Committee this year.

Annual Men's Retreat

Coming February 27-28
Dubose Conference Center

After a year's hiatus, the Men's Retreat returns in 2009.

This year we will be gathering at Dubose on Friday evening, February 27, to share fellowship and then to watch the movie, *The Bucket List*.

Mark your calendars now !!!

Rector Declares that Jesus is 0-negative

By Suzanne Cate

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and on earth. —*Ephesians 1:7-10*

Someone recently asked me, “Why do you go to church?” My immediate response was: I go to church to worship God, to encounter the Holy Spirit in the community there, and to prepare myself to carry the Gospel into the world with me in order to serve Christ.

As we traveled together through the seasons of Advent and Christmas, entering into the season of the Epiphany, we have anticipated and encountered Emmanuel, God-with-Us. One of the ways that we’ve met the Incarnate Lord in recent weeks has been through the opportunities to share our earthly goods and to tend the needs of our brothers and sisters. These opportunities seemed to spring up out of nowhere, but I suspect that God intended them to be a sign for us of

His active presence among our parish family. Indeed, you responded so generously and with such love that the cold and dark of the winter days has been lifted for me, and I suspect for many, many others. God bless you!

In a couple of weeks, January 25, to be specific, you will have the chance to bring additional personal offerings in Christ’s name—“Bring Food, Give Blood.” The Red Cross returns with their Blood Mobile, and we’ll be collecting bags of food for Greenhouse Ministries and the Rutherford County Food Bank. Please plan to contribute to these efforts as you are able. Remember that we do these things not to make ourselves worthy, but to glorify God.

Being the Body of Christ means, at least in part, opening his loving hands to share the riches of his grace. You have done that so well these past weeks, and I feel certain that it is according to his good pleasure. Growing into the plan that God has for the fullness of time is an ongoing process that requires faith, discipline and sacrifice. Fortunately for us, the great sacrifice has been made through the precious Blood of our Lord—the Universal Donor.

CURSILLO NEWS

Happy New Year!

**Our 2009 Cursillo Kick-off
will be Sunday, January 25,
after the 11:00 service.**

Bring a friend and your favorite covered dish.

We’ll see you there!

Child care provided.

Ultreya... “A Gathering of Christian Friends”

~ *Back by Popular Demand* ~

Gilda Hurst to lead Five Love Languages Series

Five years ago Gilda Hurst led the Parent Group in a series of classes focusing on the book *The Five Love Languages* by Gary Chapman. It was a huge hit and incredibly interesting. The book educates us on how our loved ones demonstrate love for one another.

Gilda will lead this class again in the chapel during the Adult Education hour for five Sundays beginning January 17. This is a great opportunity; we hope you will join us and invite some of your friends to come, as well.

For more information, contact Collier Smith at scolliera@aol.com.

St. Paul's Women's Retreat

LADIES: Mark your calendars for the 13th Annual Women's Retreat to be held March 13-15th at the Dubose Conference Center in Monteagle, TN. This year's retreat promises to be spiritually enriching and filled with laughter. Whether it is your 1st retreat or 13th-- we want you! This year's speaker is author and speaker Sue Ann Cordell and she will be helping us to get "re-ignited".



Re-ignited, And It Feels So Good!



–Do you ever feel like life is passing you by? That you are going through the motions? Was there a time in your life when you dreamed big dreams? A time when you experienced more laughter? A time when you had more self-confidence? What happened? Through Biblical teaching, Sue Ann Cordell offers ways for you to feel better about yourself, laugh, and live a more balanced life.

Sue Ann is a published author, dynamic speaker and has been conducting women's retreats for the past 25 years. She and her husband live in Nashville where she founded

SHINE WORTHY LIFESTYLES, a ministry supporting women to accept their true worth to God and to equip them to make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of others through biblical lessons that relate to current issues.

If you are new to St. Paul's or would like to get to know more people, the Women's Retreat is a great opportunity. It takes place in a relaxed environment where you can really get to know people. The music is wonderful and the food is great (and you don't have to do the dishes!) You can stay up late playing games with your friends or take a relaxing bath and go to bed early! There is hiking, shopping or good ole' relaxing on Saturday afternoon. Please join us for the wonderful weekend program designed just for you!

Registration forms are available in the Parish Hall. Full and partial scholarships are available through Jerry Redditt. Other questions may be directed to Jan Schneider @ 893-5521



St. Paul's Youth Ski Trip

January 23rd – 25th • Paoli Peaks, IN



Join us for this awesome weekend!!!

We'll be staying in a lodge RIGHT ON THE SLOPES so you can ski right into the lodge if you need to take a break or get hungry!!

First time skiing? No problem! (Professional lessons for beginners are provided for free!)

**Don't want to ski? Go tubing instead! – All-day tubing is the same price as skiing.
Or...do both! (Add a 2-hour tubing session on to your skiing!)**

Want to snowboard instead? Go for it! It's the same price as skiing and free lessons are available for snowboarding too!

Trip Cost: \$195*

**the cost is all-inclusive AND gets cheaper the more people sign-up...so invite all your friends!!*

Up to 20 people = \$195 ~ 20-24 people = \$185 ~ 25-30 people = \$175

Only room for 30 so sign up soon!!!

PLUS...register by Friday, January 9th and receive an extra \$20 off the final price!!!

Go to www.stpaulsyouthonline.com

**Celebration of
New Ministry**

Fr. Matt Greathouse, Rector

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

576 Roscoe Rd., Newnan, Georgia

Sunday, January 18, 2009, 5:00 p.m.

~ All are welcome ~

JANUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>NOTES AND REMINDERS: <i>CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY, Jan. 2nd, & Jan. 19th in observance of Martin Luther King Day January 9th, Epiphany Party at the home of Ken and Lisa Halliburton January 18th, Adult Christian Education will resume.</i></p>						
<p>4 The Second Sunday After Christmas Day 7.30, 8.45 & 11.00 am HE 8.45 am Children's Church NO Adult Christian Education 5 pm Dream Group 5 PM Xperience/Youth 7 pm AA</p>	<p>5 11.30 am Staff Meeting 5.30 pm Alanon 6 pm Girl Scouts 6.30 EIM 7 pm AA</p>	<p>6 1.30 pm Diocesan Voc. Comm Meeting 4 pm RSCM Rehearsal 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm AA</p>	<p>7 7 am & 5.30 pm HE 5.30 pm Healing Service 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight Watchers 6.30 pm D-Groups/Youth 7 pm AA 7.15 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>8 6 pm Men's Club 6 pm Ladies Night Out 6.30 pm Stephen Ministry Training at Holy Cross Murfreesboro 6.30pm Cub Scout Pk108 Com. Meeting 7 pm AA</p>	<p>9 6.30 pm Epiphany Party at Ken & Lisa Halliburton's 6 pm AA Potluck followed by AA Meeting</p> 	<p>10 7 pm AA</p>
<p>11 1st Sunday After the Epiphany 7.30 & 11.00 am HE 9 am ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Children's Christian Ed Following Annual Meeting NO Children's Church NO Adult Christian Education 5 pm Dream Group 5 pm Xperience/Youth 7 pm AA</p>	<p>12 11.30 am Staff Meeting 5.30 pm Alanon 6.30 pm Pilgrimage 6.30 pm EIM 7 pm AA</p> 	<p>13 4 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6 pm Catholic Charities of Nash. 6.15 pm Dreams 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm AA</p>	<p>14 7 am & 5.30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight Watchers 6.30 pm D-Groups/Youth 7 pm AA 7.15 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>15 6.30 pm Stephen Ministry Training at Holy Cross, Murfreesboro 7 pm AA</p>	<p>16 6 pm Parents' Night Out 7 pm AA</p> 	<p>17 9 am DOK Epiphany Brunch 7 pm AA Whole Foods Buying Club</p> 
<p>18 2nd Sunday After the Epiphany 7.30, 8.45 & 11.00 am HE 8.45 am Children's Church 9.55 am Christian Education 5 pm Dream Group, 5 pm Xperience (Youth) 5 pm Fr. Matt's Installation At Newnan, GA 7 pm AA</p>	<p>19 Martin Luther King Day (Church Office Closed) No Staff Meeting 5.30 pm Alanon 6.30 pm Pilgrimage 6.30 pm EIM 7 pm AA</p> 	<p>20 4 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6 pm Vestry Meeting 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm AA</p> 	<p>21 7 am & 5.30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight Watchers 6.30 pm D-Groups/Youth 7 pm AA 7.15 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>22 6.30 pm Stephen Ministry Training at Holy Cross, Murfreesboro 6.30 pm Scout Pk/108 Meeting 7 pm AA</p> 	<p>23 Youth Ski Trip Dioc. Annual Meeting 7 pm AA</p>	<p>24 Youth Ski Trip Dioc. Annual Meeting 7 pm AA</p>
<p>25 3rd Sunday After the Epiphany Youth Sk Trip 7.30, 8.45 & 11.00 am HE 8.45 am Children's Church 9.55 am Christian Education 12 noon Ultraya/Cursillo 5 pm Dream Group</p>	<p>26 11.30 am Staff Meeting 5.30 pm Alanon 6.30 pm Pilgrimage 6.30 pm EIM 7 pm AA</p> 	<p>27 4 pm RSCM Rehearsal 6.15 pm Dreams 7 pm Bible Study 7 pm AA</p>	<p>28 7 am & 5.30 pm HE 9 am Bible Study 5 pm Weight Watchers 6.30 pm D-Groups 7 pm AA 7.15 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>29 6.30 pm Stephen Ministry Training at Holy Cross, Murfreesboro 7 pm AA</p> 	<p>30 5 pm Whitmore Rehearsal 7 pm AA</p>	<p>31 4.30 pm Whitmore Wedding</p>



Lee Tidwell 1/1	Richard (Rick) Michaelson 1/15
Sara (Sally) Wall 1/1	Julie Ennamorato 1/16
Kathleen (Kitty) Stickney 1/1	Cathryn (Cathryn) Hadaway 1/17
Pam Dowd 1/1	Christian Newby 1/17
Carla Anderson 1/1	Dale Brown 1/18
William Irvin 1/1	Abigale Curtze 1/18
Olivia Tretter 1/2	Joshua Courtney 1/18
Reed Tatum 1/2	Cunny (Cunny) Prytula 1/19
Penka Coseo 1/3	Mary Hatcliff 1/19
Ted Esker 1/3	Henry (Henry) Butler 1/20
Casie (Casie) Gossett 1/3	Ralph Jackson 1/20
Barbara Ellington 1/4	Suzanne Cate 1/20
David Watson 1/4	Linda Johnson 1/21
Sydney Boyd 1/5	William (Bill) Payne Jr. 1/21
Daniel (Dan) Cassidy 1/6	William (Bill) Dennler 1/21
Karen Rogers 1/7	Laurie Mann 1/22
Samuel (Sam) Kropog 1/8	Ainsley Gordon 1/22
Robin Newell 1/9	Robert Gordon 1/22
Glenn King 1/10	Jamie Teet 1/23
Virginia (Ginger) Ambrose 1/10	Faith Anderson 1/23
Fant Smith 1/10	Hope Anderson 1/23
Natalie Carpenter 1/10	Jane Smith 1/24
Eva Calder 1/10	Jackson (Jackson) Gibson 1/25
Robert (Bob) Hughes 1/13	Laura Nelson 1/26
Susan Emory 1/13	John Miller 1/28
Leslie Collum 1/13	Susan Castelli 1/29
Rachel (Rachel) Oravetz 1/13	John Dayton 1/29
Dorene Watson 1/14	Benjamin (Ben) Palmer 1/29
Tracey (Michelle) Carpenter 1/14	Brian (Brian) Cash 1/30
Sophie Hutchens 1/14	Donna Jones 1/31

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS UPDATE

If you have moved, changed your home or cell phone numbers, or have had a change in your e-mail address, please contact the church office to update your records.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Announcements for the Sunday bulletin are due in the church office by Wednesday, 12:00 noon, each week.

Articles for the monthly Evangel newsletter are due in the church office by the 15th of each month.

The deadline for the January Evangel is Monday December 15, 2008. Please e-mail all information to evangel@stpaulsmboro.org.

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. James K. Polk Van Zandt, Rector

Chuck Phillips, Sr. Warden

Joshua Courtney, Minister to Youth

Susan Greenall, Office Administrator

Dr. David L. Rowe, Assistant to the Rector

Ralph Smith, Assistant to the Rector

Joyce Adkins, Assistant to the Rector

Angela Tipps, Minister of Music

Morris Hamby, 7:30 a.m. musician

Jacob Courtney, Assistant Minister to Youth

Aimee Spurlock, Choirmaster RSCM

Kathy Warlick, Administrative Assistant

Kathy and Bill Jones, Co-Treasurers

Annie Gracia, Nursery Director

VESTRY

Wardens: Chuck Phillips,

Rodney George, Jeff James, Bill Williams

Kathleen Herzog, Kristi Hay, Barry Huber,
Ron Messier, Robin Newell, Marcie Richmond,

Fant Smith, Jane Smith

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

116 North Academy Street

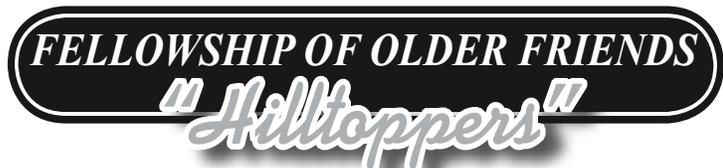
Murfreesboro, TN 37133

Church Office 615.893.3780

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Office E-mail office@stpaulsmboro.org

Website www.stpaulsmboro.org



Older friends help each other when they need:

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- Phone Calls • Help with Errands

We are eager to know of any parishioner who may have these needs OR if you are willing to provide some of these services.

– Call –

Jo Wintker at 907-5725 or Ralph Smith at 556-6414.

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**Annual Diocesan
Convention**

Friday & Saturday, January 23 & 24
Christ Church Cathedral – Nashville

January 2009



“Did you receive the holy spirit when you became believers?”
“No,” they replied, “We have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”
Acts 19:02 The New English Bible

What’s with this Holy Spirit, the Corinthians seemed to be asking. We’re forgiven for posing the same question.

Recently a theologian of some note tackled the Holy Spirit question by suggesting that it was what Jesus left us when He ascended into heaven. It’s still esoteric, no?

Well, yes.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus said he was going to send a helper, an aide to believers. Is this the Holy Spirit? Possibly.

But we laymen need not concern ourselves as to whether Jesus sent a “helper,” or if he turned water in to, (a) wine, or (b) Welch’s grape juice.

These may be niceties for theologians to argue when contemplation of angels dancing on a pinhead becomes tedious.

For those of us in the trenches the Sermon on the Mount and the Golden Rule are all the Truths we need to lead a good, productive, Christian life. Christianity is easy to understand; difficult to accomplish, a contradiction, but a happy one.