Community Communications

October 2006

A communication tool for the Deacon community of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing

On-Going Formation

The third year Candidates will be learning about the liturgical roles of the deacon from now until next May. All deacons are welcome to attend these sessions as a way to brush up on their liturgical skills. See the schedule on page thirteen for topics, dates and locations.

The sessions include lunch and are free of charge but registration, through the Office of Deacons (awoelfel@dioceseoflansing.org), is required in order that we have an accurate count for lunch.

These sessions are a great way to fulfill on going formation contact hours and at the same time get to know the Candidates and their wives.

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Quotable

Submitted By Fr. Jude Siciliano, O.P

To choose life involves rejecting every form of violence: the violence of poverty and hunger, which afflicts so many human beings; the violence of armed conflict; the violence of criminal trafficking in drugs and arms; the violence of mindless damage to the natural environment. In every circumstance, the right to life must be promoted and safeguarded with appropriate legal and political guarantees, for no offense against the right to life, against the dignity of any single person, is ever unimportant. Rather, we must recognize Christ in the poorest and the most marginalized, those whom the Eucharist— which is communion in the body and blood of Christ given up for us— commits us to serve. As the parable of the rich man, who will remain forever without a name, and the poor man called Lazarus clearly shows, "in the stark contrast between the insensitive rich man and the poor in need of everything, God is on the latter's side." We too must be on his side.

—John Paul II, in his address for the 1999 World Peace Day.

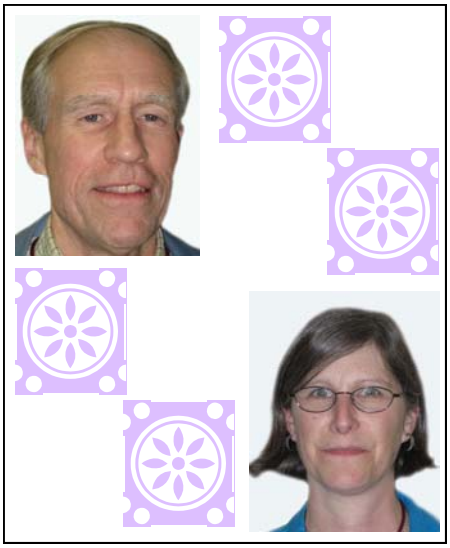
Quoted by John F. Kavanaugh, S.J.

Preach: Enlivening the Pastoral Art, September/October, 2006, page17.

Candidate Profiles

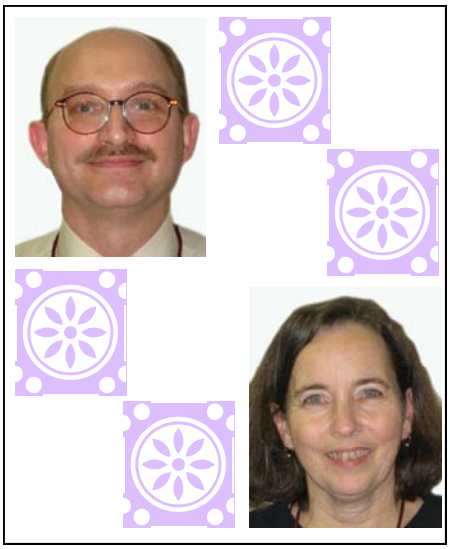
Once again Community Communications will be providing profiles and pictures of the First Year Candidates and their wives, as a way of introducing these newest members of our community. There are three profiles presented this month.

Mea Culpa
September's Community Communications incorrectly stated that first year Candidate wife, Susan Randolph of Christ the King in Ann Arbor, had learned American Sign Language. Actually, Terri Flanagan, another first year Candidate wife and also from Christ the King is the one proficient in sign language. Hope Sue hasn't had too many calls to be an interpreter. Interpreters for the hearing impaired are in high demand. *(see below)*



Members of Christ the King Parish in Ann Arbor, **Jack and Terri Flanagan** have been married for over 30 years. They have four sons and two daughters with the ages ranging from 17 to 29. Jack chairs the Education Commission at Christ the King, serves on their Pentecost Weekend committee, and puts in about 25 hours a week in prison and jail ministry. He is part of a faith-based initiative at the Milan Federal Correctional Institute and the RCIA team at the Washtenaw County Jail. Terri learned American Sign Language in order to help a hearing impaired person in RCIA and does volunteer work with the hearing impaired.
Terri and Jack met in a charismatic community setting in Erie, Pennsylvania where they both were teaching in a Christian school.
Jack says that in his past life he has had three motorcycles. Before they were married, he had a 350 CC Honda. He offered to buy her a comfortable side-car and a sturdy umbrella. She refused his offer and they ended up with a traditional small station wagon. With that, Jack says his long domestication process began. He credits Terri with being very patient with him.

Don and Karen Michael have been married 18 years and live in Quincy, down near Hillsdale. They are members of St. Anthony Parish, the only Catholic parish in all of Hillsdale County (pretty, rural county!). They have a boy, nine, and a girl, seven, who keep them quite busy.
Don is an Occupational Therapist and also a US Army Reserve Captain in the Army Medical Specialist Corps. Karen is a high school English teacher. They have taught 9th grade religious education and currently help with youth ministry programs. Don is a Eucharistic minister and member of the Knights of Columbus.
Born in Coldwater, Karen has lived all her life in the Hillsdale area. She has a BA in English and a MA in American Literature Studies. Don was born in Flint. He holds a BA in Journalism and a BS in Occupational Therapy and currently is working on a Masters in Pastoral Studies in the LIMEX program.
As time permits, Don enjoys family time, hunting and fishing and BBQ grilling. Karen likes to read, family time and is involved with the local library.



Tom and Barbara Rea have been at St. Mary's in Pinckney for fifteen years. They met at a prayer conference at Notre Dame in 1978. They have been married for twenty seven years and have six children and three grandchildren. Over the course of their life together they have been members of parishes in Denver, Colorado; Charlottesville, Virginia; Kalamazoo, Michigan and at their current home at St. Mary in Pinckney.

Tom has served in a variety of ministries at these locations including leading Bible studies, lector, Eucharistic minister, minister training and formation, homeless shelters, RCIA catechist and sponsor, teacher for basic Catholic teaching sessions for those preparing for marriage, spiritual direction, finance and administration teams, and parish and diocesan worship and liturgical teams.

Barb has served as lector, Eucharistic minister, worship team leader and catechist. She also home schooled all of their children. Additionally, she and Tom have served together in marriage preparation, youth ministry, family life ministry, and as leaders/ facilitators for various parish renewal programs.

Tom works in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, has founded two companies, and is currently conducting research related to the human genome project.

Carol and Greg Middleton are members of the St. Mary Parish in Durand. Both grew up in Flint, and met at Holy Redeemer, Burton, in the seventh grade. They dated in high school and married in 1973. Initially, they were members of St. John Vianney Parish, where Greg was a member of the adult choir and a bingo caller. The pastor hearing Greg's number calling asked him why he was not a lector for the church. He was soon on a training schedule to be a new lector. They have three adult children of which two are married.

Greg worked at St. Joseph Hospital in Flint for 11 years, going thru an apprenticeship in refrigeration and heating. He later changed jobs to go to General Motors in Flint. With this new job, they built a home in the Durand area in1989, joining the St. Mary Parish.

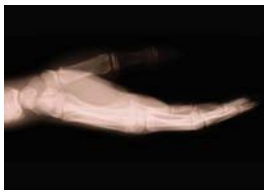
Carol has worked at Arcade Florist Flint, doing silk and fresh flower arrangements. When they moved to Durand, she tried her hand in sewing clothing for cabbage patch dolls. This turned into clothing for premature babies. Today, Carol works for the Wire Horse Store in Lennon, sewing riding clothing and horse tack.

They are both active at St. Mary's, Carol repairing Vestments and altar cloths and helping bake for funeral luncheons. Come the holidays, she helps Fr. Munley with the flower arrangements around the altar and church. Greg is head sacristan, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Choir member, trainer for the ushers and altar servers, religious education teacher and a Befriender.

I Want To Pray

by: Tom Franklin

Lord, I want to pray, but the words remain locked in my heart. I want living waters to flow out from within me, yet not so much as a drop of dew is to be found in my desiccated soul. At least the dry powdery leaves of Autumn give rise to the rich humus of the forest floor, but the dead brittle bones of my spirit lay silent on the plain – I cannot stir them to life, nor wish them to decay.



Lord, that your prophet might speak, that the sinews would return and pull my bones together again, and that I might walk once more amongst the land of the prayerful. Send forth your Spirit, to give voice to my groaning soul. O Consoler, In hopeful silence I await you.

Breakfast With Paul

[SERVANT LEADERSHIP]

By: Marv Robertson

My good friend Paul and I have a weekly breakfast discussion at a local restaurant where we frequently discuss topics of Church, society and politics. As Paul is a retired hospital CEO and current instructor in business entrepreneurship, I highly value his insight. A recurring topic of conversation is our mutual concern about the overall decline in the number of seminarians and priests. I think that Paul was on to something when he opined that this is due in great part to the decline of the model of servant leadership. He views the secular model of aggressive competition, clawing one's way to the top to get the payoff of perks and prestige, as displacing that of the servant leader.

Two years ago, Paul borrowed material from my home library to help write a paper for his master's degree. His paper was entitled Servant Leadership and the Laity. He copiously quoted reflections on servant leadership from both lay and religious sources. I have culled out a few of my favorite quotes from Paul's paper that were not from my library sources.

> *Mission is everything for the servant leader. The mission that God or someone in authority entrusts to the leader is the focus of every decision and action. True servant leadership begins when the leader humbles himself to carry out the mission entrusted to him rather than his personal agenda. The service to the mission creates the passion that is essential for a leader's effectiveness.*
>
> *A servant leader is also a servant to those on mission with him. While serving the mission, servant leaders actively recruit and build up others to join him when he provides adequate vision, direction, correction, and resources to carry out the mission entrusted to the group. The leader serves when he equips others and 'teams' with them to reach the goal of mission together. Leadership begins when a God-revealed mission captures a person. This person turns lead as he becomes servant to the mission.*
>
> C. G. Wilkes, "Jesus on Leadership" LifeWay Press (1998).
>
> *Serving others . . . is the primary motivation for the servant leader. A servant leader is therefore a moral leader.*
>
> J. Dubrin, "Leadership" Houghten Mifflin Co (2004)

Dubrin explains key aspects of servant leadership as:

1. Placing service above self-interest.
2. First listening to others and then expressing confidence in them.
3. Inspiring trust by being trustworthy
4. Focusing on what is feasible to accomplish
5. Lending a hand
6. Providing tools

Perhaps if people like Paul hold out the model of the servant leader for young men in their discernment of their true vocation, some might consider the seminary. Who knows? And if deacons are effective models of servant leadership in their parish and community . . . Who knows?

Community Prayer Line

For the sick:

Judy Barrett
Mike Barrett
Jim Brown
Santos Ceballos
Bob Chadwick
Currie Cormier
Donna Cormier
Terry Fleming
Bill Fudge
Warren Hecht
Cathy Lynch
Tony Mammina
Jerry O'Toole
Jesse Pizana
Grandson of Ray & Grace
Dave Scharf
John Sundwick
Thomas Timms
Father of Donna Cormier
Helga Vivio
Mother of Linda Charlton

For those who have died:

James Brennan
Son of Fr. Thomas Brennan
Sr. Bernice Kruczek
Aunt of Stan Kukla
Floyd Guoan
Father of Fr. Paul Guoan
Roy Kindred
Stepfather of Fr. Tom Butler
Patricia Pletcher
Sister of Fr. Bob Pienta

Necrology

November

13 Lucille Miller 1993

Cluster Meetings

Genesee/Owosso Cluster

Place:
Date: January 6, 2007
Time: TBD
Contact: Gary Gallagher
Other Details:

Jackson/Lenawee/Hillsdale Cluster

Place: Nicholson's Home
Date: November 18, 2006
Time: 9:00 am
Contact: *Carol or Linda Franssen*
Other Details:

Lansing Cluster

Place: Most Holy Trinity—Fowler
Date: February 16, 2007
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Contact: *T. Fogle, T. Heutsche*
Other Details: Jail ministry presentation (O. Washington)

Livingston Cluster

Place: St. Joseph— Howell
Date: November 18, 2006
Time: TBD
Contact: *D. Piggot or E. Doran*
Other Details:

Washtenaw Cluster

Place: TBD
Date: TBD
Time: TBD
Contact: *W. Hecht or T. Franklin*
Other Details:

Newsletter Deadline November 1st *(Submit items earlier if possible)*

The Mass as Sacrifice

Scriptural Basis of the Mass as Sacrifice

Zenit News Service

Father Edward McNamara, professor of liturgy at the Regina Apostolorum University.

Q: Where are we commanded to have a sacrifice in our formal worship of God? Protestants, for the most part, worship with singing, some collective prayers and long sermons. Where in the Bible does it say that proper worship contains a sacrifice? Also a review of where in the Bible the Mass parts come from and why we include them in Mass would be useful. Again, it will come down to convincing a "sola scriptura" believer that Scripture says we must do it. Any help would be appreciated. -- J.C., Leavenworth, Kansas

A: A full answer to this question exceeds the possibilities of this column. There are, however, many worthy resources available online. Web sites such as Catholic Answers contain, among other elements, Father Mitch Pacwa's "Is the Mass a Sacrifice?"

The Old Testament contains many divine commands to perform sacrifices. All of the complex liturgical rituals described in Leviticus, for example, are ostensibly commanded by God through Moses.

Perhaps the most important sacrifices commanded by God in the Old Testament were those in which the Almighty sealed a covenant. This includes the one with Noah after the flood, the pact made with Abraham, and above all the sacrifice of the paschal lamb in Egypt, a covenant that was completed 50 days later with another sacrifice at Sinai.

It was this covenant that was renewed each year at the Passover by means of a sacrificial ritual that was a "memorial" ("zikkaron" in Hebrew). It was not a mere recalling but rather one that ritually made present and ratified and renewed the saving events that had occurred so many years before.

For Catholics, the central divine command to worship, using a sacrifice, came from the lips of Christ when he told the apostles at the Last Supper, "Do this as in memory of me."

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In doing so, he specifically recalled the Jewish Passover as a memorial and applied it to himself and his upcoming sacrifice on the cross, with a totally new and definitive meaning.

In this context Our Lord's words "This is my body, which is given for you" (Luke 22:19) correspond to those of Exodus 12:27: " [This ritual] is the sacrifice of the Passover in honor of Yahweh" when he freed Israel from slavery in Egypt.

The words "For this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:28) echo those of Exodus 24:8 when Moses says: "This… is the blood of the covenant that Yahweh has made with you."

We are thus before a unique sacrifice, the memorial sacrament of Christ's paschal sacrifice. Through it he has brought salvation to all mankind and sealed a new and eternal covenant in his blood.

Although the apostles probably did not immediately grasp the full meaning of Christ's gesture in the cenacle, their reflection on his words and actions and their familiarity with the Passover as a memorial quickly led them to understand that Our Lord had commanded them to repeat the ritual that he had established.

They understood that this ritual was the definitive paschal sacrifice which made present Christ's unique sacrifice on Calvary and in doing so ratified and renewed the new and eternal covenant.

Therefore, God has commanded us to worship with a sacrifice, his own unique sacrifice.

All other forms of ritual sacrifice have fallen by the wayside as Christ's sacrifice has an infinite worth that absorbs all the values and intentions expressed in the ancient sacrifices.

*(See **"Mass"** page 7)*

Mass *(Continued from page 6)*

The Mass is a sacrifice insofar as it is the memorial that ritually renews and makes present to us, in time, Christ's once-and-for-all sacrifice on the cross.

The personal prayers and sacrifices of Christians reach their fulfillment when they are united to Christ's sacrifice through full, devout and active participation at Mass.

As to where in the Bible the various parts of the Mass are found, the answer is less clear. In a way it is everywhere and nowhere.

Everywhere, because the entire Mass is animated by Scripture. Almost all of the prayers and texts have a scriptural background and the entire rite is developed as a fruit of Christ's command to continue his actions.

Nowhere, in the sense that we will not find explicit commands to say, "Sing the Sanctus after the preface." Rather, the ritual has developed over time as a response to the scriptural exhortation to pray, to repeat the sacrifice, etc.

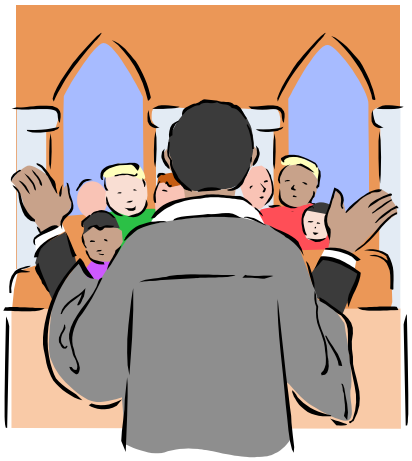
In this case even a Protestant would have to accept that the details of his worship (songs, psalms and long sermons, etc.) are found in the Bible only in very general terms.

Preaching Quotable

Submitted By Fr. Jude Siciliano, O.P

The congregation is entitled to a homily that contains something memorable, something that illumines the Gospel and our lives, something that accentuates the spirit of the Gospel and offers possible personal application, something that can serve as a touchstone for further rumination…

The homily is nothing more than a statement of faith by a faithful person to other persons of faith. The homiletic art consists in drawing hearers more deeply into the presence of Christ as manifest in the readings. As one authority puts it, "The homily is not so much on the Scriptures as from and through them." (Fulfilled in Your Hearing [N.C.C.B., 1982]). This can be done very effectively through simple examples, simple words. But it presupposes that the homilist is captivated by the power of the word of God, and has the charism to transform insight into effective preaching. The homilist is to be a medium, a vehicle, through whom the presence of Christ may shine…



Since Christianity is a deeply practical wisdom, a means of spiritual discernment and a path toward ever-deeper union with God, the homily should serve these ends. The homilist will be a skilled interpreter of the word of God only if intimacy with God underlies the speaker's entire life and therefore informs the reading and interpretation of Scripture. Within this balance the preacher can, on the one hand, exhort us to repentance without inducing false guilt, and on the other, reassure us of the love of God without reducing this to psychobabble.

It would be hard to overstate the need for good preaching. The preparation of effective homilies takes considerable time, but all the time in the world does not necessarily produce one. Nor does mastering good rhetorical style or practice in public speaking. In the end, preaching is a charism bestowed by the Holy Spirit, and it serves the word of God and builds up the life of the church when it flows from this charism.

Catherine Mowry La Cugna,

America March 19, 1994.

Diaconate Formation Calendars

First Year Candidates

November 4, 2006 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. John - Fenton**

Catholic Social Teaching and the Deacon - Chris Root
7 Principles of Catholic Social Teaching
Economic Justice
Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Catholic Relief Services

December 9, 2006 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Mary - Pinckney**

You as a Minister in the Church - Rev. Karl Pung

January 6, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Mary Magdalen - Brighton**

Hospital & Nursing Home Ministry - Dcn. Wayne Charlton
Ministering to the Dying and Bereaved

February 3, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Thomas - East Lansing**

Marriage & Family -Tom Fogle
Restorative Justice - Tim Metts
Persons with Disabilities - Joann Davis, Rose Smith

March 3, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Andrew - Saline**

Hispanic and Migrant Ministry - Dcn. Ray & Grace Pizanna
Ministering to Youth and Young Adults - John Bishner
Bishop's Council on Alcohol & Other Drugs - Bob LaPrad

March 31, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Casimir - Lansing**

Ministry Skills - Judy Scharf & Doug Reynolds

April 28, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **Diocesan Center**

Homiletics - Dave Borzenski

May 12, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **Diocesan Center**

First Homilies

Directory Update

Betty Endebrock
email: bettyendebrock@comcast.net
Jim Nicholson
email: nicholp@frontiernet.net
Frank Wines
email: dcnfwines@comcast.net

Rogelio Alfaro
cell: 517-214-2864
email: ralfaro@lcc.edu

Third Year Candidates

November 4, 2006 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. John - Fenton**
Using the Sacramentary and the Lectionary
Communion Service
Sunday Celebration of Liturgy in the Absence of a Priest
-Rev. David Harvey

December 9, 2006 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Mary - Pinckney**
Benediction; Blessings; Other Devotions - Rev. Ken Coughlin
Leading the Community In Prayer

January 6, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Mary Magdalen - Brighton**
Baptism - Rev. Dave Howell
Baptism Homily

February 3, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Thomas - East Lansing**
Prayers over the Deceased; Visit with the Family; Vigil Service - Dcn. Ed Schneider
Vigil Service Homily

March 3, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Andrew - Saline**
Funeral; Committal Service; Memorial Service - Rev. Will Stevenson
Ordination Planning - Rita Thiron

March 31, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Casimir - Lansing**
Wedding, Rehearsal - Rev. Bill Lugger
Wedding Homily

April 28, 2007 **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** **St. Mary Cathedral- Crypt**
Assisting at Mass, Assisting the Bishop at Mass, Incensing
-Msgr. George Michalek and Dcn. Tom Fogle

May 19, 2007 **10:00 a.m.** **St. Mary Cathedral**
Ordination

Mrs. Goodnest

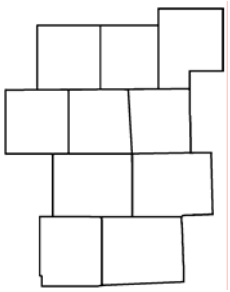
A mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe.
So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor, Mrs. Goodnest, if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.
Mrs. Goodnest said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.
The next school day, Mrs. Goodnest and her little girl, Marcy, set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor boy he knew. She did this for the whole week.
As the boys walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally he said to Timmy, "Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?"
Timmy nonchalantly replied, "Yeah, I know who she is".
The friend said, "Well, who is she"?
"That's just Shirley Goodnest", Timmy replied, "and her daughter Marcy".
"Shirley Goodnest? Who the heck is she and why is she following us"?
"Well", Timmy explained, "every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it"!

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace." *Numbers 6:22-26*
May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today, and always.

Diocese of Lansing
Office of Deacons

300 West Ottawa St.
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Submit newsletter articles to the Office of Deacons
(bsirl@dioceseoflansing.org or awoelf@dioceseoflansing.org)



Postcards and Prayers

Submitted By: Wayne Charlton

Inmates on death row are the most forgotten people in the prison system. Fr. Jude Siciliano, O.P. posts these names along with his "First Impressions" weekly scripture reflections. You are invited to write a postcard to one or more of these inmates to let them know that: we have not forgotten them; are praying for them and their families; or, whatever personal encouragement you might like to give them. If you like, tell them you heard about them through North Carolina's, **"People of Faith Against the Death Penalty"**

Please write to:

William Bowie	#0039569	(On death row since 2/5/93)
Rayford L. Burke	#0057308	(4/1/93)
John Burr	#0058316	(4/21/93)
Carl Moseley	#0294214	(10/1/92)
John L. Conaway	#0084604	(10/19/92)
Nathan Bowie	#0039561	(2/5/93)
Michael M. Reeves	#0339314	(5/14/92)
Eddie C. Robinson	#0347839	(5/19/92)
Ernest P. Mc Carver	#0264009	(9/23/92)

Central Prison 1300 Western Blvd. Raleigh, NC 27606

Pray for Peace