



Members of St. Thomas Church, Hanalei, with Her Highness The Princess Alia Ali Khan (second from left).

Mediation Between Episcopal Homes of Hawaii and The Episcopal Church in Hawaii Ends

After three and one-half months the mediation between The Episcopal Church in Hawaii and six parties in the matter of the Episcopal Homes of Hawaii has not produced an agreement and has come to an end. The Special Committee of the Dioscean Council is exploring further options.

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A Royal Visit



Her Highness The Princess Alia Ali Khan (center) is shown with Mrs. Helen Mitsui (left) and The Rev. Donor Macneice (right) at a reception in Christ memorial Church Parish Hall.



Mr. Agustin Padua (left) and Miss Alice Arakawa (right) escorted Her Highness (center) during the official visit to St. Francis Medical Center, Honolulu.

A member of the British royal circle, Her Highness The Princess Alia Ali Khan, recently paid an official visit to Hawaii.

The Princess who lives in London, is also Director of a British film company, and was in Hawaii in connection with a film she is planning to make of the life of Her Late Majesty Queen Lili'uokani, with Leo Anderson Akana playing the part of the Queen.

During her stay in Honolulu The Princess visited Washington Place, and met with Lt. Governor Masie Hirano.

She also toured the Honolulu film studios, and had talks with Miss Judy Deemer of the Hawaii State Film Bureau.

The Princess paid an official visit to St. Francis Medical Center, where she was accompanied on her tour by Agustin Padua and Miss Alice Arakawa, both from the Siemens Dialysis Center at St. Francis.

During her stay in Honolulu The Princess was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Harris.

A former parishioner of The Rev. Donor Macneice when he was Rector of St. Barnabas Church in Kensington, London, Princess Alia attended the dedication of the new organ in Christ Memorial Church, Kilauea; and met with members of St. Thomas' Church in Hanalei. Following her visit to Hawaii, The Princess was the guest of honor at a dinner given by the Mayor of San Francisco.

Episcopal Church Affirms Gay Rights

[The following is a statement sent by Bishop Hunt to the Honolulu Advertiser following an editorial in that paper supporting gay rights.]

The on-going discussions about same sex marriage/domestic partnerships, the proposal by Governor Cayetano, and the recent op ed piece by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Hawaii, all prompt me to take this opportunity to state the position of the Episcopal Church in the United States. In resolutions dating back to 1976, and most recently reaffirmed in 1991, we have consistently called for equal protection under the law for gay persons.

While emphatically stating our support for these rights, as listed in the resolution below, we have also reaffirmed the unique place of the religious aspects of heterosexual marriage, as belonging in and to the church and not the state.

The official position of the Episcopal Church, as put forth by our General Convention, is as follows:

Resolved ... that (this) 71st General Convention reaffirms our 1976 resolution that homosexual persons are entitled to equal protection under the law with all other citizens; and be it further

Resolved ... that the Government Relations Office of the Episcopal Church be directed to work on behalf of pending and future legislation to assure that such protection is provided in actuality; and be it further

Resolved ... that (this) 71st General Convention call upon municipal councils, state legislatures and the United States Congress to approve measures giving gay and lesbian couples protection such as: bereavement and family leave policies, health benefits, pension benefits, real estate transfer tax benefits, and commitments to mutual support enjoyed by non-gay married couples.

Therefore I want to acknowledge my support for the editorial position of the Advertiser that the legislature recognize domestic partnership *"as a civil rights issue and cease the denial of legal and social benefits of this relationship strictly on the basis of gender."*

The Rt. Rev. George N. Hunt
Interim Bishop of Hawaii (Episcopal)

Diocese of Newark says suicide may be morally acceptable for the terminally ill

Committing suicide or helping someone else commit suicide may be morally acceptable for Christians under some circumstances, the Diocese of Newark stated in a resolution approved at the annual diocesan convention January 27.

The resolution, the result of a year-long study by a diocesan task force, calls suicide by a terminally ill patient acceptable when *"pain is persistent and/or progressive; when all other reasonable means of amelioration of pain and suffering have been exhausted; and when the decision to hasten death is a truly informed and voluntary choice free from external coercion."*

The final wording of the resolution, hammered out during a long debate at the convention, was approved overwhelmingly by an estimated two-thirds of the 600 delegates.

"Assisted suicide is going on all the time," said Bishop John F. Spong of Newark. *"What we are doing is bringing the issue out in the open for discussion in the context of our faith tradition."*

Opposition to the resolution came primarily from those who argue that the issue needed further study.

Other resolutions approved by the convention call for a year of continued education in all congregations of the diocese, with a report prepared for next year's convention.

The convention's action puts the diocese at odds with the position taken to date by the national Episcopal Church. A resolution approved by the national General Convention in 1991 states that *"it is morally wrong and unacceptable to take a human life in order to relieve the suffering caused by incurable illness."*

The same resolution continues, however, to note that *"there is no moral obligation to prolong the act of dying by extraordinary means and at all costs if such dying person is ill and has no reasonable expectation of recovery."*

Big Island Ecumenical Events show that churches can get together

By The Rev. John J. Morrett
Vicar of Kohala Episcopal Mission
Kapaau, Hawaii

It is a well known fact that the Christian Church has been divided for centuries. Dialogue between leaders of the various denominations and even the great branches of Christendom have occurred. Still Christianity is badly divided between Protestant, Catholics, Greek Orthodox and hundreds of small independent bodies. Over many centuries the divisions have been serious even to the point of persecution. But at the grass roots level, interesting things sometimes happen.

As an example, in 1990 in a somewhat isolated area known as North Kohala on the Big Island of Hawaii, Father Bob Boudeur proposed that an ecumenical event be held in Father Damien Hall in the back of his church. His Bishop expressed some doubts about it and some local Protestant congregations did not want to become involved with the Catholics.

Yet, six churches agreed to hold an ecumenical event two weeks before Christmas. Each church would have fifteen minutes to present some sort of Christmas program, skit or choir presentation. Clergy were invited. Each year, one church would be responsible for the setting up of tables and chairs and decorating the hall, a large prefab building belonging to Sacred Hearts Church. Food was to be potluck and since the makeup of the community involved Hawaiian, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Okinawan, Portuguese, Filipino and Caucasian, many interesting dishes were available. Because the Catholic Bishop from Honolulu had some concern about this mixture of demoninations, he accepted an invitation to

attend but stayed very much in the background.

What happened was amazing. The large hall quickly filled with people expressing warm friendly greetings. Joyful music penetrated the air. Large amounts of food of various ethnic backgrounds appeared and the even progressed with joy. Father Bob and Pastor Ilima Moiha joked with one another and the Gospel of Salvation choir heightened the enthusiasm with lively Pentecostal music.

The Episcopalians provided traditional Christmas carols and the Seventh Day Adventists came up with a live baby for the Nativity scene.

The sense of unity among the 600-700 Christians present was obvious. For weeks after people who had been relatively strangers now spoke to one another in the post offices and stores and on the streets.

For the last six years the Christmas Ecumenical Event has been held by St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Sacred Heart Church, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Kalahikiola Congregational Church, Gospel of Salvation Church, Kohala Assembly of God Church.

In 1994 the Kohala Hope Chapel and the Kohala Baptist Church joined the others. Biblical interpretations, styles of worship and different theologies may have divided these many Christians, but celebration of the birth of Jesus brought them joyfully together on this holy night of the year.

**Carol Mary Arney
Ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests**

On Friday, February 2, Carol Mary Arney was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests in the Episcopal Church at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Lihue, Kauai. The Rt. Rev. George N. Hunt, Interim Bishop of Hawaii presided at the service.

Carol Arney has been a member of the Diocese of Hawaii since 1963, when her family moved to Hawaii from Minnesota. During her years at the University of Hawaii from 1963 to 1969 she was an active member of the Canterbury House fellowship under the chaplaincy of The Rev. John Engelcke. She then attended St. Clement's Church until she moved to California in 1972. When She returned to Hawaii in 1984, she became a member of St. Andrew's Cathedral where she was a lay reader, and worked with the youth group, the Sunday School, and the Program and Education Committee. She was also a member of the Diocesan Committee on Campus Ministry. In 1988 she moved to Kauai where she joined St. Michael and All Angels Church in Lihue. While there she was a member of the Bishop's Committee and a lay reader.

The Rev. Arney left Kauai in the summer of 1992 to attend the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. The School of Theology is one of eleven Episcopal seminaries in the United States. While in seminary, The Rev. Arney returned to Hawaii to do her Clinical Pastoral Education at the State Hospital in Kaneohe, and to do field work at Holy Nativity, St. Michael's, and St. John's, Kula. On May 14, 1995, she was graduated with a Masters of Divinity Degree, with honors. The Rev. Arney was ordained a deacon at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Honolulu on June 24, 1995.

The ordination service was a celebration of the ministry of the congregation of St. Michael and All Angels, which sent The Rev. Arney to seminary in

the fall of 1992 and helped to support her education, even as they recovered from Hurricane Iniki. Participants in the service included The Rev. Jan Rudinoff and The Rev. Malcolm Miner, presenters and assisting priests; Lay presenters, Patrick Pang, Colette Buis, and Margee Faunce, The Rev. Linda Sutherland, Deacon; lay readers Brenda Wiley, Linda Burnz and Lindsey Kamm. The soloist for the psalm was Dottie Bekeart.

The Rev. Arney began her ministry as Curate at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Lihue on the first of July, 1995. Her work consists of developing congregational education programs and a singles ministry on the island of Kauai, as well as assisting in worship and pastoral care for St. Michael's congregation. The Rev. Arney also works part time at Kauai Hospice as an administrative assistant.

**Hawaii Episcopal Clergy Association
sponsors "Gathering for Vision"**

Clergy of the diocese gathered at the cathedral on Maundy Thursday to reflect together on the future of mission and ministry in the diocese. The "Gathering for Vision" was sponsored by the Hawaii Episcopal Clergy Association.

Discussion focused on the question of how clergy may best work together to empower a new bishop to oversee and direct the mission of the church in the diocese as a whole.

**United Thank Offering
Received on May 12**

The Episcopal Church Women of Hawaii sponsored the United Thank Offering's Spring Ingathering on May 12.

The offering, given in love and gratitude for our Lord's blessings, is sent to the National United Thank Offering office. A committee, which receives grant requests from dioceses in our country and other countries, evaluates the requests and decides how best to share the offering to help meet the most urgent appeals.

Easter is God's Yes

By Edmond Browning
Presiding Bishop and Primate

Easter is God's Yes. In sending this Easter message to you, my beloved sisters and brother, I ask first: What is the message of Easter? What has God told us in the death and glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ?

Imagine yourself the possessor of this great news. You are standing on a mountain top, holding only a few semaphore flags in your hands, wanting desperately to share the message of Easter. What could you possibly say that would encompass the joy, the promise, the love and the hope in the message you bear?

I say it is Yes! The message of Easter is a resounding yes that we would echo from your mountain top out into the world, as it has echoed down through the centuries, breaking out of the silence of the empty tomb: Yes!

Jesus knew death, the darkness and paid for the sins of the world. And still, said yes to life. The Incarnation was a living of : Yes, I am here among you as one of you, to grope with you in the darkness and feel your pain and redeem you from your sins. Jesus said a liberating yes, and thus how can our response be other? We return the message and echo back yes. Yes to life, and to all that it brings, our little crosses, our fearful dark nights, and the pain that comes our way.

Yes, we pray. Yes to you, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit and the life in you. Your triumph is ours as well. Imagine yourself back again upon a mountain top. You do not have to imagine that you are the possessor of this great news: you are! This is your news to proclaim, the message of Easter: Our Lord said yes to life, and to death, and we, for whom he lives and died and was born into eternal life so we might live and die and be born into eternal life respond Yes!

**Nominations for ECW Specials
Due June 1st**

Requests for financial assistance (ECW Specials) for 1996-1997 are due June 1. Grace Iwami, Chair of the ECW Christian Social Relations Committee announced.

Requests should be by letter, including the following information:

- ♦Name of organization, including a brief description of background and services.
- ♦Specific amount of financial assistance requested with a financial statement for the past year.
- ♦Other available funding already received.
- ♦Plans if request is not selected by committee for this year.

"All requests will be prayerfully considered and presented to the ECW Board at their Annual Meeting in the fall," Iwami noted.

The letter, with the information requested, should be sent to Grace Iwami, ECW Chair, Diocesan Office, Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.

**Burmese Nobel laureate
vows to continue
struggle for democracy**

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi called for the support and prayers of Christian churches both in Burma and throughout the world as her troubled country struggles to achieve "peace with justice."

Sun Kyi, released last July after six years of house arrest for her pro-democracy efforts in Burma, met with Presiding Bishop Edmond Browning and his party, and Archbishop Andrew Mya Han of the Anglican Church of the Province of Burma along with two members of his staff at her lakeside home in Yangon.

Browning and his wife, Patti, spent five days in Burma in a pastoral visit to learn how the American church might assist the church there.

A Buddhist, Auu Kyi expressed "great admiration" for Christian values and several time in the hour-long meeting used biblical references to illustrate her points.