

EPISCOPAL CHURCH COURT DISMISSES CHARGES AGAINST BISHOP

An Episcopal Church court dismissed charges against retired Bishop Walter C. Righter. The Court held that neither the doctrine nor the discipline of the Church currently prohibit the ordination of a non-celibate homosexual person living in a committed relationship.

In early 1995 Righter was charged by ten bishops under Church canons for "teaching publicly and advisedly that a practicing homosexual may properly be ordained" in the Episcopal Church and for violating his ordination vows for ordaining Barry L. Stopfel, a candidate from the Diocese of Newark, who was living and continues to live in what is described as a committed relationship with another man.

After the charge, called a "Presentment," was endorsed by the required one-fourth of the Church's bishops, the matter was referred to an ecclesiastical court of nine bishops. Seven of the judges agreed that the ordination did not violate the Church's doctrine or discipline.

Bishop Andrew Fairfield of North Dakota filed a dissenting opinion which adopted the Presenters' argument that the Church's traditional teachings are part of its doctrine and the teaching against ordination of non-celibate homosexual persons is binding on the Church and its bishops. He pointed to evidence in Scripture and the Book of Common Prayer reflected in a 1979 General Convention resolution which he held to be a proscription of ordination of non-celibate homosexual persons.

The majority opinion stated that "The Court is not giving an opinion on the morality of same gender relationships. We are not deciding whether life-long, committed, sexual same gender relationships are or are not a wholesome example with respect to ordination vows. We are not rendering an opinion on whether a bishop and diocese should or should not ordain persons living in same sex relationships. Rather, we are deciding the narrow issue of whether or not under Title IV [the Church's disciplinary canons] a bishop is restrained from ordaining persons living in a committed same gender sexual relationship. The Court also stated, "We remind the Church that this issue will not be resolved and the Church unified in its faith and practice by presentments and trials, nor by unilateral acts of bishops and their dioceses, or through the adoption of proclamations by groups of bishops or others expressing positions on the issues."

The Court drew a distinction between the "Core Doctrine" of the Church found in the New Testament proclamation about Jesus and in the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds, and other doctrinal matters or traditional teachings on a range of issues of faith, belief, practice, and morals which have gradually changed over the centuries.

CHURCH SETTLES SUITS AGAINST FORMER TREASURER WHO ADMITTED TO EMBEZZLEMENT

Presiding Bishop Edmond Browning announced that the Episcopal Church has reached an agreement to settle the church's civil suits against former treasurer Ellen Cooke and her husband, Nicholas.

In January 1995 the church discovered financial irregularities and confronted Mrs. Cooke, who had resigned earlier as treasurer at the request of the presiding bishop. A subsequent audit contended that she had embezzled \$2.2 million. She pleaded guilty in a federal court hearing in Newark.

Browning released an announcement agreed to by both parties and contained in the settlement itself:

"The church has reached an agreement with Ellen F. Cook to resolve all claims the church has against Mrs. Cooke. The agreement settles all claims between the church and Mrs. Cooke, and related claims asserted against her husband, Nicholas T. Cooke, III."

The agreement includes transfer by Mr. and Mrs. Cooke to the church of substantially all of their liquid assets valued at approximately \$100,000 and delivery to the church of tangible personal property of the church of which Mrs. Cooke had been in possession.

The terms of the agreement will not be further publicized, but the church is satisfied that the settlement is in the church's best interest under all the circumstances of this case."

Browning told the House of Bishops at its recent meeting in Kanuga that he is convinced that "we are near the end of this long and painful experience."

The church's insurance company paid a claim of \$1 million and the Cookes turned over to the church two "valuable pieces of real estate," Browning said.

The church is pursuing "additional lines of potential recovery" that do not involve the Cookes, according to Browning, and he said that he would report on the results to the bishops at their fall meeting.

HAWAIIAN CHURCH CHRONICLE

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BISHOP'S SEARCH COMMITTEE SUBMITS NAMES OF FIVE NOMINEES TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR PRESENTATION AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF CONVENTION ON JUNE 28/29

NOMINEES FOR PRESIDING BISHOP TO BE ANNOUNCED IN APRIL, 1977

The Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of a Presiding Bishop announced that it hopes to be able to present a final list of nominees by mid-April 1997. The next presiding bishop will be elected at the General Convention meeting in Philadelphia in July 1997. Co-chair Katherine Tyler Scott of Indianapolis said the committee has developed a time-line that ensures that the selection process will have "integrity and depth to it." Of 38 names submitted for consideration, the committee report states, 26 people were considered eligible according to the criteria of age and tenure set by the committee. Those criteria require that nominees were born on or after July 1, 1935, and consecrated as bishops on or before January 1, 1993. Church canons set a mandatory retirement age of 70 (the presiding bishop must resign at the General Convention "nearest to the date of attaining" that age). In a separate development, the House of Bishops received a letter signed by 133 clergy and lay people urging any bishops who might be considered for the post but who know they have engaged in "physical violence, sexual abuse [or] sexual exploitation" to withdraw their names from consideration.

After two days of prayerful deliberation and discussion, the members of the Bishop's Search Committee brought forward the names of five nominees for presentation to the Standing Committee.

After discussing the names with the Co-Chairs of the Search Committee - The Rev. Donor Macneice and Mrs. Bettye Jo Harris, the members of the Standing Committee voted unanimously to accept the names for presentation to the Special Meeting of the Convention to be held on June 28th & 29th to elect a Bishop. The names accepted were: The Rev. Cannon Richard Chang, The Rev. Canon Brian Grieves, The Rev. Dr. James Koder, and The Right Rev. Benoni Y. Ogwal-Abwang.

All five Nominees will be visiting the Diocese for a week, from May 29th - June 5th. During that time they will visit Ohau, the Big Island of Hawaii, Kauai and Maui. On the Sunday during that week, two of the Nominees will preach on Ohau, and one each on Kauai, Maui and the Big Island. During their visit, members of the different Deaneries will have opportunities to talk with each of the Nominees, and also ask them questions.

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ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
CELEBRATES 50 YEARS IN WAHIAWA

[The following item was written by Shirley Renard of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.]

A grand day has arrived in the history of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We are celebrating our 50th Anniversary on June 16, 1996. We invite you to be part of this joyous occasion. Our church service will begin at 10:00 A.M. followed by a luncheon and fellowship.

At the church's humble beginning in Wahiawa, services were held in a surplus wooden mess hall obtained from the military and rebuilt on the property. This Chapel was dedicated on June 16, 1946 and was known as St. Stephen's-in-the-fields. The church building that stands today was dedicated on December 9, 1951.

If you have a story about St. Stephen's you would like you share, we welcome you to sent it to St. Stephen's Church, 1679 California Avenue, Wahiawa, HI 96786, Attention: 50th Anniversary Committee.

We look forward to happy reunions with you on this special day. Commemorative etched ornaments from the church's original altar glass windows will be available for purchase. For more information, please call 621-8662.

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Circulation Manager & Assistant to the Editors: Marie Elesarke.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN
MEETING OF THE NATIONAL BOARD
OF THE JESUIT CENTER
FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

The United Thanks Offering Committee met at the same time as the National Board of the Episcopal Church Women. Some activities as well as the closing Eucharist, celebrated by the Rev. Virginia Sheay, were shared.

The two groups travelled together in vans to the Convention Center in Philadelphia to tour the facilities where the General Convention and Triennial Meeting will take place in July 16-25, 1997.

The manual for the presentation of *Women of Vision* was revised at the meeting.

The Rt. Rev. Geralyn Wolf, Bishop of Rhode Island will be the speaker at the opening ceremony in Philadelphia at 2:00 P.M., Wednesday, July 16, 1997.

The Women to Women Committee presented a grant request from the women in the Diocese of Cubs. The grant for \$2,500 was voted upon and approved by the Board.

The next meeting of the full board will be September 5-12, 1996 in Cody, Wyoming at St. Thomas the Apostle Center.

Subscriber: Episcopal News Service (END, New York City), Episcopal Life (EL, New York City), Anglican Communion News: The Compassrose (C, London); Anglican Communion News Service (ADNS, London); Anglican Observer at the UN (AOUN, New York City).

Stories and articles submitted should be written legibly in ink and double-spaced, or typed and double-spaced, on one side of the paper. Please include the writer's name, address, and phone number(s) to facilitate confirmation and checking.

Photographs submitted may be either black & white, or in color. A glossy finish is preferred. Every effort will be made to return photographs, as requested.

Deadlines:(text & photographs): The 15th (or next weekday) of the month previous to the month of issue. For double issues: Jan. 15, Apr. 15, Jul. 15, and Nov. 15.

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The Rev. Canon Richard Sui On Chang serves as Assistant to the Presiding Bishop and has served in the Office of the Presiding Bishop since 1986 as chief administrator. He also works with the Chief Operations Officer of the Episcopal Church. In these dual roles he has administrative responsibility for both staff and budgets. As Assistant to the Presiding Bishop, he is a member of the Senior Executive Group and participates in decision making, policy development, and implementation of programs and budgets.

In 1995, Canon Chang served as Chaplain-in-Residence at Seabury-Western Theological Seminary and as spiritual director for the pre-graduation retreat of the Class of 1996. He has been keynote presenter for a number of organizations, including the House of Bishops, the Conference of Diocesan Executives (CODE), and the Bishop's Executive Secretaries Together (BEST). He has conducted numerous parochial, diocesan and national conferences on stewardship, congregational development, long-range planning, and Christian Education. In recognition for his ministry among the American churches in Europe, he was made an Honorary Canon of the American Cathedral in Paris in 1993. Prior to his ministry at the National Episcopal Church Center, Canon Chang served in the Diocese of Hawaii, where he continues to be canonically resident. He served the diocese from 1979-1985, as Executive Officer, under Bishop Edmond L. Browning, responsible for clergy deployment, mission congregations, selected diocesan programs and liaison to local, diocesan, and national organizations. He served as Rector of All Saints' Church, Kapaa, Kauai, from 1970-1978. He served as Archdeacon of Kauai by appointment of Bishop E. Lani Hanchett. He also served as Priest-in-Charge for Christ Memorial Church, Kilauea, and St. Thomas' Church, Hanalei.

Ordained in 1966, Canon Chang's first cure in Hawaii was at the Church of the Holy Nativity, where he served as Headmaster and Chaplain of the Day School from 1966-1970, and concurrently as Assistant Rector for Youth and Education.

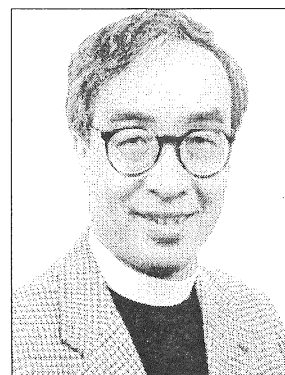


The Rev. Canon Brian J. Grieves currently serves as the Presiding Bishop's Director of Peace and Justice Ministries in New York. Prior to his appointment to the national staff of the Episcopal Church in 1986, he was on the staff of the Diocese of Hawaii for ten years. During his tenure in the diocese he oversaw a fund raising project of \$3.2 million to rebuild the diocesan camp and conference center. Canon Grieves also served as a parish priest at Holy Nativity, Honolulu, from 1973-1977 and was an assistant priest at St. Andrew's Cathedral in 1977-1978 and assisting deacon at St. Stephen's, Wahiawa and Holy Cross, Kahuku, in 1972.

Canon Grieves was born in London, England on April 2, 1946 and lived his childhood in South Africa, New York, Los Angeles, New Orleans and San Francisco. In 1960, his family moved to Honolulu where he was graduated from Iolani School in 1964. He received a B.A. from the University of Hawaii in 1968 and a Master of Divinity from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in 1972.

In 1964, he was named Young Churchman of the year, and sponsored by Holy Nativity in 1969 to be a postulant for Holy Orders. He was ordained a deacon in 1972 and priest in 1973 by The Right Reverend Edwin Lani Hanchett. In 1993, Canon Grieves was elected a lifetime Honorary Canon of St. George's Cathedral, diocese of Nambia, in recognition of his long-time work against apartheid. His current duties take him to many parts of the Anglican Communion to build partner relationships with other Anglican Provinces. He also related to the U.S. and foreign governments on behalf of the Presiding Bishop and has participated in peace negotiation in the Philippines, Central America, the Middle East and Northern Ireland. He accepted President Clinton's invitation to travel with the presidential party to Belfast and Dublin in November, 1995.

Canon Grieves is currently working on partner relations with the Anglican Province of Burma and the Nippon Sei Ko Kai (NSKK). He will travel to Okinawa in June at the invitation of the NSKK to participate in a pilgrimage to the church in Okinawa in the wake of recent tensions on the island.



The Rev. Dr. James T. Koderá is Professor of Religion and Chairman of the Department of Religious Studies at Wellesley College. He was graduated with a doctorate degree in Comparative Religion from Columbia University in 1976.

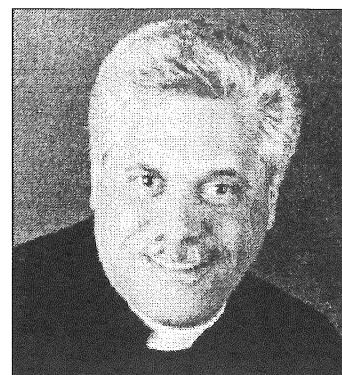
He obtained a masters degree from the same institution in 1972. Father Koderá completed undergraduate work at Carleton College and was graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1969. Father Koderá's theology studies were completed at Yale Divinity School (1970).

Father Koderá was ordained a Deacon in 1985 and Priest in 1986.

His ministry has focused on the intergration of education, administrative and pastoral roles in the university, seminary, or parish with cultural and ethnic diversity.

He is currently Priest Associate at St. Elizabeth, Sudbury, Mass., and commissioner and president of the Episcopal Asiamerica Ministry. In 1993 he began a special ministry with the Coalition for Social Witness and Justice and serves on the multi-ethnic commission of the National Church Center. He served as Associate Rector of All Saints, Brookline, Mass., 1985-1989.

Father Koderá spend the first twenty years of his life in Japan where he was born in 1945.



The Rev. Alexander James Nakapa'ahu MacKenzie was born in Anchorage, Alaska, on December 18, 1946, and reared in Hawaii. He is the eldest of three children.

He studied at the University of Montana in Missoula, and was graduated with a BSBA in 1969. Following active duty in the U.S. Army (Armor Branch) and combat duty in Vietnam as a First Lieutenant and helicopter pilot, he worked in the banking industry. His last position was as Senior Vice- President with Pacific First Bank. He studied at the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia's School of Theology and graduated from that program in 1982. He began his ordained ministry in Tacoma, Washington as Deacon in 1988. He served at St. Andrew's and as Chaplain for Tobey Jones, a health-care and retirement center, and later matriculated at Nashotah House Episcopal Seminary in Wisconsin. While at Nashotah House, he served for two years as Assistant at St. Philip the Apostle in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Completing all graduation requirements early, he was called as Rector of the Church of the Redeemer in Pendleton, Oregon in August of 1991, where he was ordained priest. He was graduated from Nashotah House with a Master of Divinity degree in May of 1992. Father MacKenzie is presently serving a second term as President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Eastern Oregon and served as Deputation Chair at the General Convention of 1994. He has served as Spiritual Advisor for the Cursillo movement in Eastern Oregon.

PREACHING SCHEDULE OF THE FIVE NOMINEES FOR BISHOP OF HAWAII

Sunday, June 2, 1996

HONOLULU

The Church of The Epiphany
9:00 A.M.

The Rev. Dr. James Koderá

KAILUA

St. Christopher's Church
9:15 A.M.
The Rt. Rev. Benoni Ogwal-Abwang

HILO

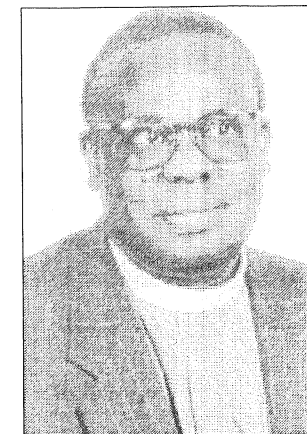
The Church of the Holy Apostles'
10:00 A.M.
The Rev. Canon Richard Chang

MAUI

The Church of the Good Shepherd
8:30 A.M.
The Rev. Canon Brian Grieves

KAUAI

The Church of St. Michael and All Angels
9:30 A.M.
The Rev. James MacKenzie



The Rt. Rev. Benoni Y. Ogwal-Abwang has served as the rector of St. Paul Episcopal Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania since 1989. He was born on October 9, 1942 in Adilang, Uganda, East Africa. In 1975, he received an Honorary D.D. from Huron College, University of Western Ontario, and was graduated from Huron College in 1974 with a Bachelor of Ministry of degree. He had received a University Diploma in Theology, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, in 1968.

From 1974 to 1989, he was Bishop of the Diocese of Northern Uganda, including two periods in exile under threat from the government leaders of Ida Amin (1977-1980) and Yoweri Museveni. He was Bishop-in-Residence, assisting Bishop Heath Light, Diocese of Southwestern Virginia; Vicar, St. Paul's Church, Martinsville; and Association Rector R. E. Lee Memorial Church, Lexington, Virginia, 1987- 1989.

He was Associate Rector, St. Michael's Church, Toronto, Canada, 1978-1980. In 1970-1972, Father Ogwal-Abwang was Executive Secretary, Church of Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Boga-Zaire for Training Programs and Refugees. He is the translator of the Holy Bible into the Acholi and Lango languages (1963-1965). He has served in the Episcopal Service Ministry to Appalachian Peoples, board member of the Board of Missions, Diocese of Central Pennsylvania; and was active in the Commission on Racism, Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. He attended the Lambeth Conference in 1978 and 1988 and was a member of the Anglican Consultative Council, 1984-1987.

SUBSCRIPTION REQUESTED TO COVER COSTS OF HAWAIIAN CHURCH CHRONICLE

The cost of printing, mailing and postage have increased over the past months. This additional expense has severely strained a very limited budget allocated for the publication of our church newsletter. The format has been changed and an effort is being made to present more local news. The mailing list are being updated from material submitted by each parish of the state. These changes and improvements necessitate a request for a yearly subscription donation of \$10. Please mail donation to Hawaiian Church Chronicle, St. Andrew's Cathedral, 229 Queen Emma Square, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813.



STILL GOING STRONG

"*Christ gives me the strength to face anything*" [Phillipians 4:13] is Rose Chee's motto. Rose, a widow, has been a member of the Diocesan Altar Guild for over 20 years, knowing Bishop Kennedy, Bishop Hanchett and Bishop Browning.

Faithfully, every Tuesday morning, with her cane in hand, she take TheBus to do her sewing for the Lord, and returns home by bus later in the day, never complaining that the step of the bus is too high or that it is too crowded.

Rose is a sot-spoken, quiet and happy woman who sits in her usual place every week very patiently and cheerfully sewing. Sometimes she says she cannot see very well and has to have help threading her needle. How she hates to miss a session when she is not feeling well.

She is generous of her time and knowledge and is very supportive of the Diocesan Altar Guild. Rose loves what she is doing and invited others to follow her by sewing for the church. It does keep one mentally and spiritually strong.

A member of St. Elizabeth's since 1950, Rose has participated in many projects there. She has two sons, a daughter, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. When asked to help in any way, Rose never says "No!" She truly is a beautiful person and an inspiration to all.

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

[The following item was submitted by The Rev. Mike Ferguson.]

Have you ever wanted to deepen your understanding of our Christian heritage and tradition? Have you wanted to explore opportunities or Christian Ministry in an atmosphere of sharing and prayer. If so, the School of Theology o the University of the South (Sewanee) offers three programs for you to choose from.

Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry (EFM) is the best known of these programs. EFM is a four-year program (commitments are made one year at a time) which includes study of the Hebrew Scriptures, Christian Testament, biblical exegesis, systematic theology, church history, ethics, liturgies, and theological issues of the 20th century.

EFM groups include 6-10 people who meet weekly with trained mentors who guide them through study, theological reflection, worship, prayer, and sharing. Current individual coast per year is \$295.

Disciples of Christ in Community

Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC) provides an opportunity to experience the Christian Gospel in the context of the 20th century. It is excellent preparation for lay ministry and provides, through biblical teachings, a basic understanding of what it means to be a disciple.

A DOCC group meets weekly for about two hours for about 21 weeks of the year. The size of these groups is flexible and can be as large as 20 or 30, which make it ideal for parish use.

The larger group forms small groups for part of each session. Trained facilitators lead education sessions and mentor small groups. Individual cost per year is \$40.

Practical Christian

Practical Christian is a guided process for practical Christian prayer, action, and reflection. It is specifically tailored for small groups, which are self-mentored.

A 36-chapter workbook is provided to guide the group which usually meets monthly to study and reflect on the actions taken by group members as they live out their baptismal promises. Individual cost per year is \$60.

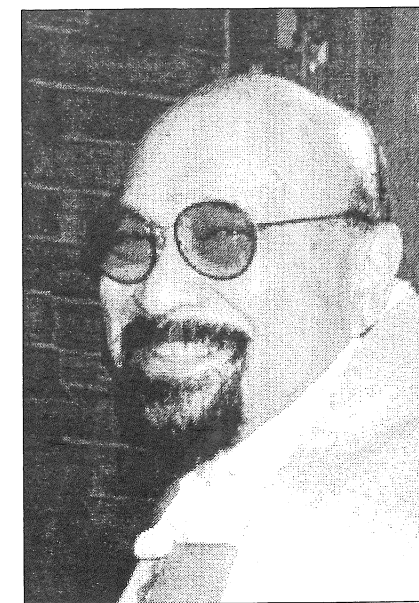
For more information about any of these programs, please contact the Diocesan EFM Coordinator, The Rev. Mike Ferguson at 625-5504. Additionally, The Rev. Lee Kiefer at Epiphany Church is a trained DOCC facilitator and can provide information on that program.

ST MARK'S CHURCH CELEBRATES NEW MINISTRIES

The Installation of The Rev. Darrow Kakanui Aiona as Rector of St. Mark's Church, Kapahulu, and The Rev. Gregory Johnson as Association Rector, by The Rt. Rev. George Hunt, Interim Bishop of Hawaii was held at St. Mark's Church on the Third Sunday of Easter.

Father Aiona is a graduate of Iolani School (1953) and the University of Hawaii. He received a masters in divinity from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and served as a Fullbright Fellow. He has served as curate, Holy Trinity Church, Fitzroy, New Plymouth, New Zealand (Diocese of Waikato), and Associate Priest, St. Paul's Church, Auckland. Father Aiona has also held the position of curate, St. Augustine's Chapel, Lower East Side, New York; vicar, St. John's- By-the-Sea, and vicar of Waikiki Episcopal chapel. For 28 years he served as Professor of Sociology and Religion at Leeward Community College. Since 1966 he has been a member of the Hawaii State Board of Education and has served on the Boards of Directors of various organizations, including child and service, Health and Community Services Council, and the American Civil Liberties Union. He is presently the chaplain of the Iolani Guild of St. Andrew's Cathedral and a board member, Catholic Immigrant Services of Catholic Charities.

Father Johnson is a graduate of the University of Hawaii (1973), Episcopal School of Theology, University of the South (1976), USAF Chaplain's School (1981), and Academic Instructor School (1983). He was ordained on March 21, 1981 in the Disciples of Christ and ordained Episcopal Priest on September 14, 1993. He served as a US Air Force Chaplain (1981-1986), and has been an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies since 1986 at Hawaii Loa College, Hawaii Pacific University. He has been a lecturer in the Department of Religion, University of Hawaii since 1986. Father Johnson was Associate Pastor, St. George's Episcopal Church (1986-1996), Interim Rector, St. Clement's Parish (1994-1995).



The Rev. Darrow Kakanui Aiona
Rector
St. Mark's Parish



The Rev. Gregory Johnson
Associate Rector
St. Mark's Parish