

Church Life

ACC opens church shop in cradle of Anglicanism

A five-minute walk from Canterbury Cathedral will bring the pedestrian to the **Canterbury Church Shop**, the Diocese of the United Kingdom's latest move to raise the ACC's profile in the cradle of Anglicanism.

The shop, located at 13 Orange St., opened for business Sept. 1 with a blessing and dedication by the Rt. Rev. Damien Mead, Bishop of the United Kingdom.

Earlier in the day, Bishop Mead commissioned the manager, Richard Mulholland, during a noon Mass at St. Augustine's, the ACC parish in Canterbury just around the corner from the shop in Best Lane. Afterwards, led by the Bishop, the congregation processed to the shop for the short act of blessing and dedicating. Participants were then treated to a glass of Bucks Fizz and a slice of specially prepared cake.

The shop will normally be open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and plans to launch, in good time for Christmas, an online shop at www.canterburychurchshop.co.uk.

Bishop Mead said the shop has been established to the Glory of God and to fulfil three main aims:

- To celebrate Canterbury's Christian heritage in an increasingly secular and liberal age,
- To serve the wider Christian community, and
- To promote the Anglican Catholic Church.

The founders and directors of the new company are Bishop Mead, Roy Hipkiss and Gregory Nicholls.



Books, CDs, religious art and vestments are among the items for sale at the Canterbury Church Shop (above).

At right, Bishop Damien Mead blesses the shop prior to its grand opening.



Birthday Bags brighten day for seniors

Thanks to **St. John's, Menomonee Falls, Wis.**, about 65 homebound seniors are getting something extra on their birthdays.

As an ongoing outreach to the community, the parish has signed on to do the Birthday Bags project sponsored by the Community Senior Meals Program. The bags are delivered to recipients along with their meal on their special day, throughout the year.

St. John's was asked to design a bag that would have a special look and fill it with practical and/or enjoyable gifts that either a man or a woman could use, said parishioner Jill Kirkpatrick.

"We chose to decorate a medium-white shopping bag with an outlined black oval shape and rainbow-colored 'Happy Birthday' letters glued on front that were cut from a wrapping-paper pattern," she said, noting also that bright-toned tissue paper lines the bag, with 10 individual items placed inside."

Members of St. John's donate contents, with most being purchased at The Dollar Store. One recent collection of bags included body wash, a deck of cards, a small angel figure, a packet of puffs, lip balm, a red pen, a pack of 10 all-occasion greeting cards, a puzzle book, post-it notes and a small picture frame. The



Members of St. John's display the parish's Birthday Bags. Pictured are Christine Dicks, Ann Butler, Father Timothy Wirth, Clare Dicks, Jill Kirkpatrick, Jackie Schauss and Jeremy Brown.

enclosed birthday card reads: "Happy Birthday from St. John's Anglican Church."

The bags are assembled about three times a year to keep up with the calendar, Ms. Kirkpatrick said.

"For a small parish such as ours, the number of bags needed is just about what we can support and easily handle," she said. "It is especially rewarding for us to receive thank-you cards from some of the

recipients who seek us out and express appreciation for the thoughtfulness we put into the 'Birthday Bags'."

The program was established through the Waukesha County Senior Resources Center. St. John's is the designated provider for Menomonee Falls and anticipates continuing this outreach for the foreseeable future.

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