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The Diocese of Egypt  
with North Africa and the Horn of Africa

A Diocese of the Worldwide Anglican Communion

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# Diocesan Newsletter

Spring 2015

Dear Friends,

In the Middle East, Africa, and much of the non-Western world, extending honour is among the chief virtues. Our Anglican Communion is blessed to have a leader who embodies not only this cultural value, but also its Biblical roots.

“Without doubt, the lesser person is blessed by the greater,” writes the author of Hebrews. “Honour one another above yourselves,” writes Paul in Romans. On April 20, our diocese of Egypt was blessed by the visit of Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury. He came to offer condolences over the [martyrdom of 21 Christians killed by ISIS in Libya](#). But in humility, as a man of the West visiting the East, he proved the reality of these verses in his life and leadership.

In attendance were Coptic Orthodox Bishop Angaelos and Coptic Catholic Bishop Antonius Aziz, themselves men of humble service there to honour his visit. Aware the representatives of these churches could not share in an Anglican Eucharist, the archbishop desired to demonstrate his appreciation for their churches in a land whose children produced such a testimony of faith.

Archbishop Welby left the communion table, [knelt before the two bishops](#), and asked them to pray a blessing for him. Immediately moved in spirit, they knelt as well, and asked the same of him. He then returned and offered body and blood to God's holy church. Both privately expressed how they were touched by his gesture.

"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant," said Jesus to his disciples. "Those who honour me," said God in I Samuel, "I will honour." Following communion, Archbishop Welby joined me in demonstrating this call and promise of God.

For the past seven years, Rev. Drew Schmotzer has worked tirelessly not only as my personal assistant, but also in assuming vacant pastoral positions in Maadi, Menouf, and at All Saints Cathedral. He is now leaving the diocese to return to the United States. Archbishop Welby's visit was Rev. Drew's last day in Egypt. During the service, we were able to honour Rev. Drew's humble service to the Diocese of Egypt. I presented him with the shield of the diocese in gratitude for his ministry.

"God is not unjust," it is written in Hebrews, "he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people." The virtue of honour is one the Eastern Church can share with the Western. Our Anglican Communion is blessed to have so many from all cultures who, in humility, exhibit it already.

May the Lord bless you.

**+Mouneer**



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**Good Bye to Rev. Drew Schmotzer**



On the 19th of April, during the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury, we said goodbye to Rev. Drew Schmotzer. It was not easy to see him leave after seven years of being part of the diocesan family. During this time Rev. Drew helped me as my chaplain. He was a God-sent helper at a time when I needed support in my office. He was a real servant not only to me but

to everyone in the diocese. He helped as an interim rector of St. John the Baptist, Maadi, and Priest-in-charge of the English-speaking congregation of All Saints Cathedral. However, the time came for Rev. Drew to move on to continue his ministry in another place. I am so grateful to Rev. Drew whom I consider as my son.

### **Bishop Bill Musk Early Retirement**



It was a sad and difficult moment for me when I announced at Synod that Bishop Bill Musk will retire in October this year. It was a great joy and privilege to work with Bishop Bill and Hilary Musk. They are wonderful encouragements to me and all my colleagues in the Diocese. Bill taught me the real meaning of grace and humility. It is difficult to forget the times when he prayed for me over the phone, especially at the time when I felt

very lonely. Bill is a very gifted leader and bishop for the church in North Africa. He build a wonderful team and cared well for every member of it. I believe that Bishop Bill Musk is one of the leading experts on Islam and we in the Anglican Communion can learn a lot from Him. Bill and Hilary will be greatly missed by all of us in the Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa.

### **Pray for 2015 Summer Conferences**

This summer, we will hold one evangelistic conference, and will invite young people who are unchurched. Some of those young people have lost interest in church.

There will be two other conferences, one for the university students and one for the teenagers, from the 2-6 of July at the North coast near Alexandria. Arabic speaking young people from Tunisia and Algeria will join. We expect a total of 200 young people to attend. Please pray that these conferences would be a real blessing and transformative!

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## Latest News

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### Egypt

- [CARAVAN: Art as a Path to Grassroots Peace](#)
- [The Visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury to Egypt](#)
- [The Archbishop of Canterbury in Cairo: Offering Condolence, Bearing Witness](#)
- [Mozart's Requiem at All Saints Cathedral](#)
- [The Visit of the Anglican Alliance](#)

### North Africa

- [Bishop Bill Joins March for Bardo](#)
- [Letter from Bishop Bill and Hilary](#)

### Horn of Africa

- [Conversions, Coke Bottles and Breakneck Speed](#)
  - [Response to the Murder of Ethiopian Christians](#)
  - [Condolences to Bishop Grant](#)
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