Prayers, ideas illumine Ecumenical Vespers

Cardinal voices concern about obstacles to unity

by Ted Malone

Fire from a peach-tinted candle lit one small taper, and the light spread from that to another, to yet another, until the gloom in the darkened hall was brightened by their glow. And the rising smoke of incense, billowing high in the air, became a light-reflecting cloud that lit all below it.

Thus began the Lambeth Conference’s Monday night service of light, an Ecumenical Vespers in which leaders of the Anglican Communion introduced a wide variety of representatives from the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Lutheran, Methodist, Reformed and Baptist denominations and from world and regional Christian associations.

Vatican official Edward Cardinal Cassidy addressed the Conference in a homily in which he praised the concept of Christian unity but voiced the concern of the Roman Church that deviations in theological practice among local churches present a grave obstacle to reunion.

He did not specify any particular situations difficult to the Roman Catholic Church, making no mention of the ordination of women as priests and bishops within the Anglican Communion and only a general reference to controversies over questions of human sexuality—issues that for the past two decades have at times thrown a damper over Roman-Anglican dialogue.

An offer from the highly respected Centre for Social Innovation in Global Management (SIGMA) in Ohio was a turning point for the group. The Centre’s co-chair, Dr David Cooperrider, read Bishop Swing’s lofty goals in his local newspaper.

Dr Cooperrider’s group works in 50 countries on global initiatives that will change the next century and called U R “one of the most promising.”

Photo Call: follow the crowd

The Conference photo will be taken today at 4.30pm following the plenary session. Bishops are asked to move from the plenary as quickly as possible and to assemble, in casecocks, behind Rutherford College. Bishops need to bring their casecocks to the plenary with them and go immediately to the appointed area. Promptness is essential because there is no way to determine when all the bishops have arrived. Late-comers cannot be accommodated.
Getting to know you...

Placing faces among the Anglican Primate

1. Archbishop Samuel Sandumukuta of Burundi
2. Archbishop Emmanuel Kolini of Rwanda
3. Archbishop Livingstone Mpalanyi-Nkoyuya of Uganda
4. Archbishop David Hope of York (England)
5. Archbishop George Carey of Canterbury
6. Archbishop Andrew Mya Han of Burma
7. Archbishop Cornelius Wilsom of the Central African Region
8. Bishop Barnabas Manda, Moderator, Church of Bangladesh
9. Bishop Daniel Zindo of Sudan
10. Archbishop Robert Ugone of West Africa
11. Bishoping Frans Grisolde of the United States
12. Archbishop Alyn Rice Jones of Wales
13. Archbishop Walter Makulu of Central Africa
14. Archbishop Matthew Chung of Korea
15. Bishop Peter Kwong of Hong Kong (expected to be primiate of future province)
16. Archbishop Joseph Adetiloye of Nigeria
17. Archbishop Robin Eames of Armagh (Ireland)
18. Archbishop Donald Mtemelev of Tanzania
20. Bishoping John Paterson of Argentina, New Zealand and Polynesia

Daily Quote
"Christianity does not so much mean establishment of full communion, which is an imperfect communion, with the Catholic Church to the full visible unity of all the baptized, which means establishment of full communion," said Professor William Franklin, dean of the Berkeley Divinity School at Yale.

Daily Voices
"One very important point, not to be underestimated, is that these ecumenical participants are here— one human being to another in a struggle toward unity. It is a moment of incarcation," said Cardinal Edward Cassidy, of the Roman Catholic Church.

What fruit do you see in the ecumenical work of the Anglican Communion?

A key benefit of the homily, Dean Franklin said, is that it offers a "useful context" for the discussion of Anglican-Roman Catholic relations by the Section four subgroup chaired by Presiding Bishop Franklin.

The paper for T he LambethD aily is kindly donated by Robert Horne Paper Company Ltd
Australian delegate asserts rights of Aborigines

by R. Island Ashby

A ustralian MP Pauline Hanson recently made world headlines when she said the Australian Government spends too much money on Aboriginal Australians’ welfare. But Aboriginal Australian Lenore Parker, Lambeth Conference delegate and member of the Anglican Consultative Council, insists there is a strong case for special treatment for Aboriginals. “Ever since the white man arrived in Australia 200 years ago the Aborigines have been dispossessed and oppressed. We haven’t had the right to negotiate or had the same opportunities as white Australians. We’ve had to fight for justice, and for our values and beliefs.”

Ms Parker is equally forthright about Australian Prime Minister John Howard’s refusal to apologise formally for the “stolen generations”—Aborigines who were removed from their families as children with the aim of assimilating them into white society. “I can understand why he refused to apologise—he’s afraid it might cost the government money—but he’s looking at it with his head, not his heart, and saying sorry is a matter of the heart.

“Imagine the pain of those mothers and children. My cousins still cannot return to their home town for long periods because their memories of being taken away are too painful.”

Ms Parker is perhaps the first to point out that the National Sorry Day is a farce. “It was an amazing time; there was real recognition that injustices were occurring,” she says. “But the Synod M’s Parker called on Anglicans to “listen to the stories of my people” and “get down on our knees and say to God that we are sorry...so that we can look directly into the face of an Aboriginal person and say I love you, please forgive me.”

The Synod also voted to amend the constitution of the Anglican Church of Australia to provide six positions in Synod for Aboriginal Australians as of right and passed a bill formalising the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council (NATSIAC). “A member of NATSIAC since its inception in 1993, Ms Parker says the Council has been instrumental in changing attitudes to Aboriginal issues and is helping to give her people “more of a sense of belonging to the Church. Last year a Council member became the first female Aboriginal Anglican priest, and another three Aboriginal women will be ordained at the end of this year!”

Ms Parker believes that God first led her to the Anglican Church through the life and witness of an Anglican priest, the Rev Stanley Gaden. “He didn’t speak down to us, and he was tireless in his pursuit of justice, truth and improved living conditions for the people in my town.”

Later, she benefited from the healing ministry of Anglican priest Mark Lawelle, and in more recent times it has been as a member of the ACC that her appreciation of Anglicanism has grown.

“At the ACC’s 1996 Panama meeting I started to get a taste of the rich Anglican flavour, and I realised that I am allowed to be me through the Church’s diversity—Catholic, Evangelical, Charismatic. I saw the fullness of God’s gift to us in this Church.”

Ms Parker says her hope for the future is that we will become a Church which reaches out to “our suffering, broken world” and “is a place for all people to be embraced by the love that was so freely given by God.”

She is called, she believes, to challenge the Church to listen to the voice of its faithful Aboriginal peoples “because we have a depth of spiritual awareness which is thousands of years old.”

This spirituality is attuned to in her prayer: “God of Holy Dreaming,” which has been included in A Prayer Book for Australia:

God of holy dreaming Great Creator Spirit, From the dawn of creation you have given Your children the good things of mother earth You spoke and the gum tree grew In the vast desert and dense forest, in cities at the water’s edge Creation sings your praise Your presence endures as the rock at the heart of our land When Jesus hung on the tree you heard the cries of your people A nd basted it in glorious hope In Jesus we have been reconciled to you, to each other And to all creation Lead us on, O great Holy Spirit, as we gather From the far corners of the earth Enable us to walk together in trust From the hurt and shame of the past Into the full day which has dawned in Jesus Christ Amen.

Be quick to catch the ‘Murder’

by Bob Libby

A special “Lambeth” performance of T.S. Eliot’s “Murder in the Cathedral” will be held in the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral tomorrow at 8pm.

Eileen Carey, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, has interviewed 21 spouses of Anglican bishops from all over the world about what it is like to be married to a bishop. These interviews are published for the first time in a book titled The Bishop and I. The subtitle is: “Taking the lid off the world about what it is like to be married to a bishop.”

Inspired by these meetings Mrs Carey wanted to allow bishops’ spouses to tell their own stories and provide their own insights into the Anglican Church around the world. “The most wonderful aspects of the work is the travel to many of the countries where there are Anglican congregations and to feel immediately at home with them.”

The subtitle of the book is “Taking the lid off the world about what it is like to be married to a bishop.”

Conference dates: Additional copies are now available at the Giles Lane Enquiry Office.

Dr Carey to launch Cathedral Education Centre

The Archbishop of Canterbury will this evening lay the foundation stone of the new Education Centre being built within the Precincts of Canterbury Cathedral. The priories of the Anglican Communion will join Dr Carey for the 8.45pm rites to launch the two phases of construction, the first of which includes an auditorium, classrooms and office, and the second residential accommodation for groups of up to 35 people.

Daily Events Thursday July 23

7.15 am Eucharist (Province: The Scottish Episcopal Church) followed by Bible Study video with Frank Sargeant, Bishop at Lambeth 2 Cor. 3
8.15 - 9.15 am Breakfast
9.30 - 11.00 am Morning Prayer and Bible Studies
11.00 - 11.15 am Coffee
11.30 - 12.30 am Spouses: Workshops
- The Role of the Bishop’s Spouse
- Creative

2.45 - 3.45 pm Regional Meetings
2.45 - 5.15 pm Spouses: Presentation 2 ‘A Healthy World? Strategies for Hope’ Looking at Social Issues
4.00 - 5.30 pm Spouses: Section 3
5.45 pm Prayer Service
8.00 pm Spouses: Dinner/Festive Evening
8.30 pm The Market Place Events: Burrswood: Christian Centre for Healthcare and Ministry in the U.K. Presentation by Dr. Peter Tuckwell and Mr Tim Mills, Grimonde Lecture Theatre
Urban Bishops’ Panel: Discussion with bishops involved in urban ministry. Grimonde Lecture Theatre 1 and seminar rooms
Ecumenical Church Loan Fund: WCC programme providing financial resources for church construction throughout the globe. Presentation by Mr. George Petey, Programme Secretary, Grimonde Lecture Theatre 2
Springboard: Evangelism initiative at Lambeth Palace. Darwin Lecture Theatre 1
Porvorro Bishops’ Reception: Opportunity to meet the bishops of the Lutheran, Scandinavian and Baltic Churches. Junior Common Room (Thurston)

Correction

The Market Place Events: Saturday July 22 8.30pm NIFC (Network for Inter-faith Concerns) An evening of inter-faith story-telling. Eild Junior Common Room (Thursom)
Bishop Swing: "U nited Religions' gains global support"

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important initiatives" SIGMA has seen. The group sent a design team to help U R plan regional conferences and provided international introductions that made it happen, Bishop Swing says.

Mr Dee Hock, who invented theVisa card and its global system for moving money, has helped to design U R's unique organisational model. "We are clear that we have to have the greatest authority in smallest unit."

"There is an emerging sense of urgency at Lambeth for the need of U R," Bishop Swing observes. "Bishop Munawar (Mano) Rumalshah, of Pakistan, observes. "Bishop Munawar of urgency at Lambeth for the design UR's unique organisation-it happen, Bishop Swing says. conferences and provided inter-
team to help UR plan regional seen. The group sent a design

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Religions' gains global support

Mrs Gladys Chiwanga, of Tanzania, who read

WEDNESDAY JULY 22 1998

Emblems of world faiths, from United Religions Initiative.

Cardinal Cassidy: Vatican official keynotes Vespers

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logues, just as they have drawn attention to the problem of collegiality within the Communion itself.

"The theological practice of the local Church must be compatible with the theological practice of the universal Church," he insisted. The question of authority must be addressed; otherwise theological chaos ensues, he added.

"Is not some form of universal authority necessary even while Christians are on the way to universal union?" he asked. "As we go into the third millennium, the risen Lord still calls us to go and make disciples in the nations." But Car-
dinal Cassidy added that divisions within Christianity are a detriment to evangelism.

The Archbishop of Canterbury thanked Cardinal Cassidy for his reflections, commenting: "This is a homily on which we will ponder most carefully."

Songs, hymns and litanies in the services formed the core of Chris-
tian unity and Anglican diversity. Archbishop Patrice N'ojoo, of the Congo, read in French a litany of thanksgiving, and Mrs Gladys Chiwanga, wife of the Bishop of Mwawwa (Tanzania), read Eph-

SECTION THREE

Finding our place in global culture

by Sarah Moore

"M ouldonisation" and "Balkanisation" of cultures and "new tribalism" are terms emerging from Section Three as bishops begin to discuss being a faithful Church in the plural world.

In this time of "fragmenting plurality...we must affirm our local identities and [affirm] that community, indeed, is possible on the other," said section consult-
tant Christopher Durasingh, pres-
byter of the Church of South India and professor at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachus-

"Christianity was born in a plu-
tic."

The themes of globalisation and localisation will thread through most conversations as bishops dis-
cuss the section report, then begin to share experiences and hear one another's stories.

"Christianity was born in a pluralistic society," said the section chair, Bishop Frederick Borsch (Los Ange-
les), and the different gospels "caused untold suffering."

"Christianity does not so much have a culture, but seeks a culture in which it can become a living faith," Bishop Borsch said.