

The Rev. Gregory Brewer elected

4th Bishop of the Diocese of Central Florida

The Rev. Gregory O. Brewer, rector of Calvary-St. George's Church in New York City, was elected Nov. 19 as the fourth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida, pending the required consents from a majority of bishops with jurisdiction and standing committees of the Episcopal Church.

Fr. Brewer was elected on the 4th ballot out of a field of seven nominees. He received 141 votes of 241 cast in the lay order and 110 of 192 cast in the clergy order. An election on that ballot required 125 in the lay order and 95 in the clergy order.

The election was held during the diocese's special convention at Trinity Preparatory School, Winter Park. Pending a successful consent process, Fr. Brewer will succeed the Rt. Rev. John W. Howe, who is retiring.

Under canons of the Episcopal Church, a majority of bishops exercising jurisdiction and diocesan standing committees must consent to the bishop-elect's ordination as bishop within 120 days of receiving notice of the election.

Calvary-St. George's Church is a 500-member, multi-cultural and multiracial, "program-size" parish with landmarked historic buildings in downtown Manhattan.

Before serving there, Fr. Brewer was rector of Church of the Good Samaritan, Paoli, Pa., which had 1,800 members. Good Samaritan is a 150-year-old corporate-size and in an affluent suburban area known as the "Main Line." Because of its commitment to Biblical orthodoxy and discipleship the congregation was drawn from a large geographic area.

Consecration of Fr. Brewer as the fourth bishop of Central Florida is scheduled for March 24 at First Baptist Church of Orlando, followed by the Retirement of Bishop John W. Howe.

Fr. Brewer was not in Winter Park for the Central Florida election because his diocese, New York, also was electing its next bishop.

"I'm just very excited to return to Central Florida and will pray for God's blessings on our work together there," he said by phone after the election.

Fr. Brewer is married to the former Laura Lee Williams of Orlando. Children are Charles, James, Todd, Lee and Mark.

He received his B.A. degree from Lynchburg College, where he received the Hugh M. Burleigh Award for Outstanding Ministerial Student in 1973. He received his M.Div. from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1976. He also is close to completing his doctorate at Fuller Theological Seminary and Trinity School for Ministry.

He was ordained a deacon at St. John's Episcopal Church, Lynchburg Va., with Bishop Henry Marmion presiding. He was ordained priest at All Saints' Episcopal Church, Winter Park, with Bishop William Folwell presiding.

He has published articles in The Anglican Digest: articles appearing regularly 1985-2007. Bible Reading Fellowship: Journey Through the Word Series. The Coming of the Lord, Second Corinthians, the Pastoral Epistles. First Thessalonians.

Fr. Brewer is an Eagle Scout who also says he loves the beach, sailing, hospitality, friendship, cooking and having people over for dinner.

He enjoys theater, British mystery shows, reading, classical and jazz music, contemporary Christian worship, travel, and current events. He considers himself endlessly curious, learning about other cultures, and committed to being a lifelong learner.

The Diocese of Central Florida has 31,000 baptized members at 88 parishes and missions in 15 counties.