

The Bishop of New York
The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore Jr.
1047 Amsterdam Avenue New York N.Y. 10025

November 17, 1980

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Father Gallagher:

Just a note to say that I was deeply impressed by your paper on urban ministry. It is the most thorough and realistic article on the subject that I've seen in many, many years. Thank you so much and God bless you.

Sincerely,



Bishop of New York

PM:tp

THE BOARD FOR THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

20 July 1981

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
1601 Mifflin
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob/Robert (I do not know which you prefer!),

This is a brief and belated "fan letter" in response to your Forward Movement publication "Stay in the City." Charlie Long referred it to me last year. I read it then and have since included it in the course materials for an introductory course in pastoral theology which I taught this last academic year with Jim Fenhagen at General Seminary.

I like it!! You, I believe, have an uncommon ability to nail critical challenges in the vernacular and to encourage active response at the same time. Your "what it takes" section is full of theological and practical wisdom. There is more I could say, yet please accept general enthusiasm for that which remains unsaid.

Should you even have plans to be in New York City, please do let me know as I would, at our joint leisure, relish the opportunity to talk with you about the issues this pamphlet explicitly and implicitly raises for theological education.

My best to Alice as well, we met years ago (3 at least) on the Conference circuit, I believe at the College of Preachers.

This comes with all good wishes to you and yours.

Faithfully,



Fredrica Harris Thompsett
Executive Director

replied
7-23-81



ST. MARK'S CHURCH

1625 LOCUST STREET + PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19103

June 9, 1980

The Rev. Robert Gallagher
St. Elizabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19145

Dear Bob:

I have just finished reading for the first time your splendid paper about urban mission. Even if here and there I have some small trouble with some of your statements, on the whole, I certainly couldn't agree with you more and hope that this can be gotten out to lots of people and made "required reading" for members of the diocesan staff and various committees. As I told Alice, I will contribute \$50 towards such a distribution and we will begin also by addressing envelopes to the Southwark Deanery parishes. Perhaps the deacons of the other urban areas will distribute copies to their clergy.

Under the heading of things the diocese might do, I would hope they will stop using busy parish clergy as ad-hoc staffers. As you say, there has to be specific staffing geared to city mission. We are much too much trying to operate via an endless number of committees and commissions, and these appear to be without any over-all direction or unity of purpose. Example: we have four groups all supposedly concerned with renewal and there is no cross communication between them. In fact, there seems to be a resentment between them as if they might have their own turf invaded by a rival gang. I personally think that the Bishop cannot go it with a reduced diocesan staff wearing about six hats each and countless meetings of committees of largely untrained and inadequate people which go on year after year accomplishing little if anything specific. I think we are deluded that way into thinking we are doing something.

I particularly like what you have to say about not attempting to solve urban problems or ministering to "them" as if people were clients. This seems to be the present philosophy of urban mission. Younger clergy - and candidates for orders - do not know what "evangelism" really means, but seem to see themselves as ordained social workers. I have yet to get an answer from any of them when I ask what they mean by "the gospel". The general motivation seems to be "I want to help people" - clients.

Bless you for all the trouble and prayer you must have put into this! Now, it must not be wasted.

Yours in Christ,

Telephone (215) 735 - 5195

Michael

THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS

ASHMONT

DORCHESTER

BOSTON

October 6, 1980

The Revd Robert A. Gallagher,
St. Elizabeth's Church,
1606 Mifflin St.,
Philadelphia 19145

Dear Father Gallagher,

A friend in your Diocese has sent me a copy of your superb booklet entitled STAY IN THE CITY. It says it all, with precision, economy and point. I want fifty copies for distribution to many in our Diocese, including the members of the Urban Mission Committee. Please choose one of three alternatives: 1) Send the booklets with a bill; 2) Tell me the amount you need and I'll send it along before you send the booklets; 3) Give me permission to have the booklet reprinted here (not to sell, but to give away). For this I would need one fresh copy, since mine is now much marked up.

Thank you for your attention to this request,
and even more for the booklet! In Christ, John R. Purnell, Rector.

209 Ashmont Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts 02124

(617) 436-6370

St Margaret's House
Jordan Road
New Hartford, N.Y. 13413
March 13, 1981

Dear Father Gallagher,

The enclosed "Litany for Urban Mission" draws heavily - in fact - is based upon your pamphlet "Stay in the City." It is so much a part of your work that it probably needs to have an acknowledgement on the order of "This litany is based upon (or draws heavily upon) Robert A. Gallagher's Stay in the City, with the author's permission." I am sorry that time did not permit clearing it with you prior to our meeting tomorrow, but I will wait to hear from you before making any general distribution. There will only be ten people or so at our Central New York organizing meeting. (Bishop Cole among them.)

Your pamphlet is excellent - plausible prophecy that challenges, rebukes, and encourages while being extremely practical. Some thirty copies are now in use in this area. Thank you for this gift to the urban church.

Sincerely,
Arden Margaret, S.S.M.



THE SISTERS OF ST MARGARET
IN CORN HILL/UTICA
308 South Street, Utica NY 13501

315-735-8393

April 8, 1981

The Rev Robert A Gallagher
St Elisabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Father Gallagher:

STAY IN THE CITY is definitely useful. Not only is Bishop Cole ordering fifty copies for our June Diocesan Council, I sent a copy to Robert Ellson, the Executive Presbyter of Utica. He is enthusiastic and has ordered a batch for his clergy to study. It is a powerful concoction of practicality and hope.

I am forwarding your March 25 letter to Bishop Cole. I suspect strongly that the Diocese of Central New York would indeed be interested in such a conference, and I will be glad to have more information later. (on urban parishes)

The Litany on Urban Mission has been picked up by many of the churches here. If I reprint it and use an explanatory paragraph about its genesis there will at least be a reference to your booklet, as I think the two go together - and some of the petitions are direct quotations because you had already stated the points so beautifully that it would have been silly to sit around and figure out how to restate the same idea.

Sincerely,

Sister Arlen, S.S.M.

Arlen Margaret, S.S.M.



St. Peter's Church

third and pine streets • philadelphia

founded 1761

parish office:
313 pine street
philadelphia, pa. 19106
walnut 5-5968

June 18, 1980

The Rev. Robert Gallagher
St. Elizabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob:

I read your paper "Stay in the City" with great interest and I think it is a valuable document for our diocese to study. Frankly, I feel that urban mission is an "odds and ends" department in the diocese and we need to be brought together.

While at Virginia Seminary I gave a copy to Henry Mitchell, urban man on the staff of the Diocese of Michigan, who thinks it excellent. I also left a copy with Lloyd Casson, Chairman of the Church and City Conference and the Episcopal Urban Caucus.

The program committee of the Church and City Conference would like you to be on our agenda at our meeting in Washington from January 13-15, 1981. Our thought now is to have the paper discussed in the afternoon and evening of the 14th. My question is, would you be available?

I have been trying to reach you by phone, but no luck. Will you give me a call?

Sincerely,

F. Lee Richards

FLR/jhk

the diocese of maryland



105 WEST MONUMENT STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

THE RIGHT REVEREND DAVID K. LEIGHTON, SR.
BISHOP OF MARYLAND

February 4, 1981

The Reverend Robert Gallagher
St. Elizabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19145

Dear Father Gallagher:

We are very impressed with your monograph
"Stay in the City" and would like to have two or three
more copies for our use if that is possible. We would
appreciate it greatly.

Many thanks.

Faithfully,

Pat Eylar

(Mrs.) Patricia Eylar
Administrative Secretary
to the Bishop

- D-
2-6-81



St. Peter's Episcopal Church

143 CHURCH STREET
PHOENIXVILLE, PA., 19460

Sept. 11, 1980

Dear Bob

I just read your paper "Stay in the City".
Rums - it (is) the most worth while
reading I've seen come out of the Dioc.
I'm skeptical about chances of implementation
but live in hope. With all the writing
that is now being done on Evangelism it has
occured to me that nothing has been said
about the Episcopate in it. Evangelism was
the primary activity of the Apostles. It in
writing on the Episcopate and writing on Evangelism
was a word is mentioned of Bishops. I
assume this bespeaks of how far removed from
such activities most all bishops have removed
themselves.

Hope you and Alice had a rewarding

summer.

We did.

In Christ

Jim Evans T

ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH
CLAREMONT ROAD
BERNARDSVILLE, NEW JERSEY 07924

THE REV. JAMES H. PURDY, RECTOR
THE REV. NORMAN C. FARNLOF, ASSOCIATE

September 30th, 1980

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19145

Dear Bob:

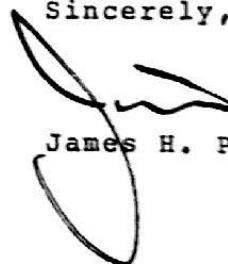
Just a line or two to tell you of my disappointment at not joining you at this morning's meeting of the Urban Clergy group of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey in St. Matthias' Church, Trenton.

A series of pastoral crises in the area precluded my participation in that important gathering. I have enjoyed reading through your Stay in the City, a paper which collects, collates, and articulates many of the significant themes extremely useful in the Church's ministries to urban areas. I found the specific recommendations and commitments useful and in line with many of the conclusions reached by the Episcopal Urban Caucus - hopeful signs for the present and future!

Although Bernardsville-Basking Ridge-New Vernon-Far Hills is not exactly an "urban situation", I am drawn to the support of urban ministries through the recognition that we're all in this together. I hope that you found the Urban Clergy group to be a sympathetic ear and a conscientiously-striving cadre of the committed and caring.

Know that this conveys my best wishes to you and my thoughts and prayers for your continuing ministry.

Sincerely,



James H. Purdy, Rector



the alban
institute

September 23, 1980

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
1606 Mifflin
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob:

I just read "Stay in the City". It is a stimulating piece of writing, full of your usual passion and good sense.

What is happening to it? Has the Diocese taken any note of it? Is it for Urban Bishops Coalition? Have you had response from others?

By the way, I always want to be in touch with what you are thinking. Put me on that list to which you mail things when you write them. I don't know exactly where I got hold of this copy of the paper, but I would hate to have missed it. I would like to keep in touch with what happens as a result of it.

Thanks for continuing your creative thinking and working for the churches.

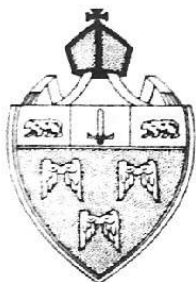
Sincerely yours,

Loren B. Mead

Msgr Mead
9-26-80

LBM/kc

Sent out to copy - okay
reprint - pushed around
Plan
Sent out by PRE
office to all clergy
& wardens. = ph. etc.
- No to its urban
clergy -
- several segments
for speaking



the episcopal church in
the diocese of los angeles

mail· BOX 2164, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90051

(213) 482-2040

December 15, 1980

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
St. Elisabeth's Church
Philadelphia, PA

Dear Fr. Gallagher,

Your paper, "Stay in the City," is excellent!

A report is being written here, to recommend specifics for a training program in urban ministry. As part of the research for that report, I will be making a tour of East Coast urban ministry training sites. You mention the need for such a program, and refer briefly to a Lutheran seminary intern training of some kind. (Coincidentally, we are in conversation with Lutherans here, who have already begun a program.)

Would you please send me information on that Lutheran plan and on any training opportunities developing in our own or other churches in the Philadelphia area? Perhaps I could visit around the time of the Urban Caucus assembly (in Louisville).

Regardless of training opportunities, I hope we can begin a dialogue. I am enclosing a brief policy paper developed by one of our Deaneries (a group of about ten local churches). The last two pages of this paper are an appendix, addressed to a funding source in this Diocese.

Merry Christmas!

Dave

(The Rev.) David Duncan, urban missionary

THE RIGHT REVEREND ROBERT CLAFLIN RUSACK, S.T.D., D.D., BISHOP



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
Lancaster and Montrose Avenues, Rosemont, Pennsylvania 19010
(215) LA 5-7070

Sept 15, 1980

Dear Fr. Gallagher -

I have just read your pamphlet "Stay in the City," and find it outstanding. It confirms everything I ever felt about the challenge of the city during my 4 years at All Saints, Astemont, in Boston. (By the way, the scene of church closings there is just as bleak as Phila - not better!)

You have my prayers & support in your vision (though I haven't seen my way to "his or her" priests!). I hope your concepts make a dent at church house. You have a high standard - and you throw down a challenge to prevailing notions of urban "mission". God bless you.

Sincerely,
Andrew C. Mead

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

22 EAST CHESTNUT HILL AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19118

THE REV. JAMES R. MOODEY, RECTOR

June 20, 1980

The Rev. Robert Gallagher
St. Elisabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob:

Your extended paper entitled "Stay in the City" is superb: stimulating, fresh, comprehensive, thought provoking. I look forward to sharing it with others. At a meeting of the program committee of the Church and City Conference last Friday, we decided to use it in our annual conference next January. If you know of other ways in which I can help in making it the basis for discussion of urban ministry needs in Philadelphia, please be in touch.

Best wishes to you and Alice.

Sincerely,


James R. Moodey

JRM:crm

THE REV'D DANIEL KILMER SULLIVAN
GOOD SAMARITAN RECTORY
212 WEST LANCASTER AVENUE
PAOLI, PENNSYLVANIA 19301

Dear Bob:

"Stay in the City" is superb!
I believe it is correct and
complete in every detail. It
makes the Urban Caucus
Statements pale. It couldn't
be better for our purposes and
I think it should be our
manifesto. You have done
a beautiful work.

Love to all of you.

Dan

16 August 1980



the episcopal church in
the diocese of los angeles

mail: BOX 2164, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90051

(213) 482-2040

February 12, 1981

The Rev.. Robert Gallagher
St. Elisabeth's Church
Philadelphia, PA

Dear Bob,

In my brief time with you and Alice, I learned a great deal. Thank you for all your help and for taking the whole day from your busy schedule.

On the other stops of my "grand tour," I found that there is general but as yet rather vague interest in centering urban ministry in the life of the parish. Your paper, "Stay in the City," was mentioned often and approvingly at Louisville. There is, I believe, a growing convergence of evangelical and social concerns. In short, you seem to be right on target.

The Louisville assembly struggled with the future of the Caucus. Debate was not given over explicitly to this question, but the issue was there. As I see it, two competing visions were presented: i) an informal "movement" or caucus for social justice, in which issues can be raised and opinions heard; ii) an organization, perhaps like the S.P.G., which could live with (rather than confront) the national Church while "doing its thing." The movement vision won.

Bp. Wamsley seems to be an effective "bridge" between urban (i.e. social) and evangelical perspectives. If you have a chance to work with him, give it a try. He seems (don't repeat me) a little naif, and he loves being a bishop. But he does seem to "fit" on both sides, or in this new middle position.

I will keep in touch, and would be glad to think further about a conference.

Peace

Dave

THE RIGHT REVEREND ROBERT CLAFIN RUSACK, S.T.D., D.D., BISHOP



THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

2 RIVERSIDE STREET, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14613

PHONE: (716) 458-5423

ALBERT L. MAHAN, RECTOR

17 July 81

received
by FI

Dear Bob,

I met you twice but doubt that you'd remember. I want to thank you for your essay "Stay in the City" which Jim Pritchard, Rochester's canon for urban ministry, sent to diocesan clergy. Your thoughts helped me get off the button and come to a decision about my own ministry in the city.

At first I was frightened by your paragraph: "Urban parish ministry must be presented as a vocation which is long-term, even lifelong in nature; a vocation requiring competence and sacrifice; a vocation requiring the complete program of college and seminary studies normal for our Church, plus additional specialized training." After 5½ years in a parish described as city/residential (although the building is only one block from the industrial complex known as Kodak Park), I'd agree with each element in your thesis.

After long soul-searching and having participated in our own urban hearings (after Joe Pelham's To Hear and to Heed), I came to my senses and realized that urban ministry is indeed a specialized ministry requiring particular gifts from the clergy, particular training, and -in your word- sacrifice. You suggest a minimum tenure of 7 years. But having digested the implications of my experience and the challenge set down by clergy who have a better perspective on urban strategy for the church, it seemed to me the best thing I could do for the parish and for myself was to resign. During my tenure the parish moved from a deficit budget to financial strength, minimal shared leadership to an active commission method, old PB to new, the welcome presence of women in the priesthood and on the staff, from a good "tenants' ministry" but no involvement with neighborhood associations to active participation with a slight increase in active recruitment for worship and fellowship. But these advances do not really stand up before the element of sacrifice.

The local city high school (same old complaint) is a battlefield. My wife and I prefer to live in the city but we just could not subject our oldest child to an environment for which he was totally unprepared. So we chose to live just over the city line in a suburb. Mistake #1. A city priest has to live near the church building and experience whatever the church families in the neighborhood experience. Many of the priests and ministers here in Rochester do what we have done; others send their kids to parochial schools or private schools, as did my predecessor. A few (two I can think of) send their kids to the local public schools but usually only through grade school.



THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

2 RIVERSIDE STREET, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14613 PHONE: (716) 458-5423

ALBERT L. MAHAN, RECTOR

-2

By refusing to share the problems of the local school directly, I effectively cut-off participation in a vital area of the church's immediate community life. In my opinion, a big chunk of city ministry is simply being available: to call a social service agency, goose some city bureaucrat, to listen to problems, gossip about the lousy snow removal, etc.

Mistake #2. A lot of our newer families came to us from pentecostal or fundamentalist Baptist backgrounds. I supposed that they and many of the hourly workers at Kodak might resent the three women we have had on the staff at different times. They didn't. (The interim will be The Rev. Miriam Owens.) What they did resent was my lack of enthusiasm for charismatic prayer meetings, a lack shared by the 7 seminarians through here in the past 5 years and 3 ordained persons. I could not muster the necessary give or flexibility to work within their own experience to open for them our own ^{own} understandings, ways and gifts. Consequently, many left regretting the loss of fellowship occasions but determined to find more compatible (authoritarian!) non-liturgorship. How I hoped to find a charismatic seminarian who could minister to this group!

For what it's worth in any curriculum for city ministry, I observe that the more severe the economic or psychological deprivation, the more the religious experience tends toward magic and Jesuology. How to deal with this?

Mistake #3. I thought I could go it alone - for about 3 years. There are districts within the diocese here but until this past year they have been ineffective. The bishop holds an annual clergy conference plus 3 or 4 clergy days per year. But, in my opinion, there is no mutual~~axity~~ or support structure except as may be created by like-minded individuals. There is too much of the old parochial competition with rectors fearful of sharing problems or joys! So I started a breakfast group which was helpful and last year called a Steering Committee together to form the Rochester Episcopal Clergy Association, which meets monthly. Response has been good (20-25 clergy per meeting). But these groups are nothing like the support structure you describe in your essay - an integral part of urban ministry. (Best support I found was *neighborhood clergy ecumenical group.*)

*Bob Spears -
terrific guy!*

Mistake #4. You talk about the priest's own spiritual life. In any parish but perhaps especially city parishes where instead of calling a lawyer or doctor or cop a person will call the church, I observe in myself and others the first expendable item on the day's agenda is prayer or Scripture study or meditation. You're right on in not~~ing~~ that this is the least expendable item - the most important part of time stewardship. Otherwise, in the city, we become nothing *other* than poorly trained social workers.



THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

2 RIVERSIDE STREET, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14613 PHONE: (716) 458-5423

ALBERT L. MAHAN, RECTOR

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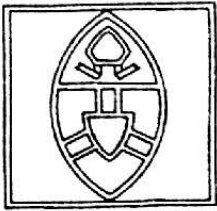
Mistake #5 - My wife is a therapist in the city's mental health center so with two incomes we make a good wage. My salary alone about equals or is a little less than 5 or 6 year line-workers at Kodak. Our total income, however, exceeds the income of most of my parishioners by far. We can afford to do things (and do!) many friends in the parish can't. Guilt. We both have graduate degrees and come from middle class backgrounds with corresponding prejudices in values, taste, life-style, etc. Bennet and Cobb's remarkable study - HIDDEN INJURIES OF CLASS - just about says it all in the kind of problems, subtle stuff, which arise unconsciously from economic, social or educational differences. In any training for urban ministry, seminary graduates could be greatly helped by reading Hidden, etc. and consciously reviewing what very basic assumptions may be different.

Sorry for this too long letter. But I needed to share with someone what I have learned these years past. I am leaving the parish ministry for the time being and hope to find employment in industry. But I wish you well, Bob, and know that the Church will fulfill her mission so long as you stay in the City!

Sincerely,

Bert Mahan

SEP 3 1981



the
diocese
of
CHICAGO

September 2, 1981

The Rt. Rev. Arthur E. Walmsley
Bishop of Connecticut
1335 Asylum Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06105

Dear Arthur:

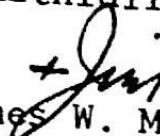
I have just received your letter of August thirty-first and have not had time to read the enclosures. I thought I ought to dash a note off to you, however, to remind you that I have not been chairman of the Joint Commission on the Church in Metropolitan Areas since January, 1980. Michael Kendall is the present chairman, so I'm glad you have sent a copy of your letter to him.

I know that I will find John Booty's address as well as yours extremely interesting. I think Robert Gallagher's paper on "Stay in the City" is a masterpiece.

I have some questions also about the whole rationale of the "Jubilee Fund" and as a matter of fact, I was not present at the meeting at which that was discussed and the present report put together. I don't mean this to be critical of the concept, but I do want to explain that I had nothing to do with formulating it.

I'll look forward to seeing you in San Diego.
All best wishes

Faithfully yours,


James W. Montgomery
Bishop of Chicago

JWM:jh

DIOCESE OF CONNECTICUT

THE RT. REV. ARTHUR E. WALMSLEY, *Bishop Coadjutor*

1335 ASYLUM AVENUE
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06105

TELEPHONE: CODE 203 233-4481

August 31, 1981

The Rt. Rev. James Montgomery
Bishop of Chicago
65 East Huron
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Jim:

I have just had a chance to read the second draft of the report of the Joint Commission on the Church in Metropolitan Areas. As a historical survey, it covers the ground well. Beyond that, I have some problems with the paper, and also the temerity to raise them with you as the Commission's Chairman. I have been nervous ever since "To Have and To Heed" was published, that we have not produced an adequate theological rationale for individual Christians and local gatherings of people to be involved in the task of evangelization, by which I mean both the building up of Christian community and the service of those in need. My commitment to the Episcopal Urban Caucus is undiminished even as I confess that I believe that it has failed to produce a coherent rationale for our witness.

The enclosed address of John Booty, given at the Notre Dame Conference on the Diaconate, comes close. What worries me about the report is that it leaps from a discussion of history and then a rationale in the service of the poor to one more national fund. Having invested a whole decade of my life at the National Church level, I remain convinced that there is a role for national leadership and national resources. But the "Jubilee Fund" as the kingpin of an urban strategy is not going to persuade the large middle segment of our Church who are suspicious of top-down funding in the first place.

We have just taken on our staff the Reverend Robert Gallagher. Perhaps you are familiar with his paper "Stay in the City" published by Forward Movement as a tract. It may be too late to make any changes in the paper, but I would hope that it might include an honest-to-goodness stab at a fresh theological perspective, on the order of Booty, and a rationale for diocesan and metropolitan area strategy, on the order of Gallagher.

Finally I have the temerity of sharing a paper on Urban Evangelization which I gave in the Diocese of Los Angeles last April. It's awfully discursive, but I hope it serves to reinforce the point that I am trying to make. I have great respect for the Commission membership, but I earnestly hope we will not put all our eggs in the basket of a request for funding which promises so much.

The Rt. Rev. James Montgomery
August 31, 1981
Page 2

Perhaps there would be a chance to talk about these things in San Diego.

With my warm regards.

As Always,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Walmsley", with a small cross or plus sign to the left of the first letter.

Arthur E. Walmsley

AEW/ram

Enclosures - Booty Address
Urban Evangelization Address

cc: The Rev. Michael Kendall
The Rev. Canon Lloyd Casson

Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church
Christian Street & Delaware Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19147

The Rev. David B. Rivers
Rector

10 July, 1980

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
St. Elizabeth's Church
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob -

I may well be presumptuous in assuming that you are interested in response to STAY IN THE CITY. My own desire would be to hope for response and reaction; nothing is worse than encountering nothing! Therefore, some thoughts...

The beginning seems to be an appropriate place to begin. I was aware, but a bit surprised, at the numbers of parishes that have gone from the city. Sixty is a lot! And I think you are quite right in saying that this process is, de facto, 'the operating policy of the Diocese'.

But I am a bit ill at ease with the failure to examine with some care exactly what did happen. Somehow I get an impression of a circumstance in which the Diocese, for lack of vision or for other mysterious reasons, deliberately withdrew from sixty different situations. My own guess would be that these places closed because of changes within the nature of the city itself coupled with the nature of the Episcopal Church: we have tended to deal with a certain type of clientele, and that type departed from the city in large numbers. It would be interesting to look with some care at what did happen: surely there are some patterns when we speak of that large a number of congregations. My own impression is that most of these closings were actually a coup de grace, not coup de main.

Such an examination, I suspect, would bring us into contact with a basic reality largely ignored by the paper: the polity of the Episcopal Church. For a number of years, my father was the president of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Bethlehem. He was also a good friend of Bishop Warnecke. From the two of them, I picked up a strong awareness of the limitations placed upon the office of the bishop by our polity. A parish is a parish. A mission is a mission. With the latter, the bishop can act. With the former, he has little more than 'moral influence', and we both know of circumstances in which the wrong person is in the wrong place, and there is damned little the bishop can do about it. Of the sixty parishes mentioned above, how many were done in by our polity? And that polity has not changed: GLORIA DEI's vestry can still ignore the bishop, which it did when I was called here! I think this is an area that merits consideration, even though I have no idea what the solution can be. Whatever the solution, places like St. Peter's and Christ Church must be involved, but no stick is available to force an involvement.

the city parishes that have the most problems are the ones paying the lowest salaries? But that reflects our culture and our church. Is there anything that can be done about that? Should anything else be done about that? Should the clergyman in the slum receive a salary wildly higher than that of his average parishioner? I don't know the answer to that one. But I always liked the policy of the Canadian Church with its missionaries: they were paid at the local level, even when that meant that they had to raise chickens in order to feed the family; but a portion of income was retained in Canada for 're-entry' expenses.

I guess that behind some questioning on these specifics, I have general doubts about the money/number assumption that lies behind so much of the paper. The problem is the lack of money and numbers, and that's why things closed. If we get money and numbers, things will grow. And somewhere in there, we'll know that we're doing our job rightly. I think that's all terribly American and not necessarily very Biblical. By that standard, Jesus was a failure. But that overstates. I think that many good, effective ministries have been carried out by faithful priests without any major money/numbers growth - especially so within the cities, where changing circumstances have made growth extremely unlikely. Conversely, certainly there have been congregations with great growth due to situation, and little else.

My own interest lies in our understandings about missionary work. In my ramblings thus far (and I missed your wife's last round for some unremembered but good reason, of course), I have found almost none of them that speak of going to the people where they are. Almost all of them focus on doing something that will cause those people to come to the church. I am convinced that the church, when people come to it, must have something worth coming to and worth coming for; but I wonder about our passivity when it comes to the going part.

Chaos reigns at the rectory this summer. Otherwise, I'd send a more formal invitation for a gathering here, over a beer, for the sake of more rumination. When fall comes, order should return...

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dave". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned at the bottom right of the page.

Response to D. Durr,

8-14-80

Thank you for your response. That is part of my purpose - to stimulate discussion.

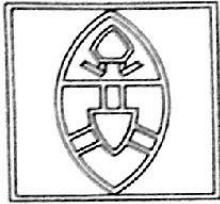
Clarification

"The problem is the lack of many numbers." ~~is not the problem~~ The problem is more complex than that; "Stay in the City" suggests an approach that attempts to deal with that complexity.

Your guess about why so many closing happen is largely correct. - its related to the false assumptions some hold about the class & racial make up of the Epis Ch. However its also related to ~~the~~ lack of ~~vision & will~~ vision & will related to our sin against the catholic nature of the Church.

In fact the same problem is not policy but policy. Our policy would allow us to do ~~the~~ everything suggested in Stay in the City. The Bishops are already ~~doing~~ ^{successfully} doing much more than offering "moral influence".

Durr, I'd love to see you write up a paper (or book) on your thoughts for urban mission strategy. Not a response to what I've said but your own thoughts on a comprehensive approach to the city ministry.



the
diocese
of
CHICAGO

Feb. 10, 1981

The Rev. Robert Gallagher
St. Elizabeth Church
1606 Mifflin
Philadelphia, R.A. 19145

Dear Robert:

I got back to the office yesterday from the Urban Caucus "do" in L'ville to find the copy of LEIBOWITZ you so generously sent me. I've heard of this and will attempt to get into it during my winter break coming up. It was nice of you to think of me and my current state of mind.

You didn't miss much by being absent from the Caucus sessions. I don't think I'm so much of a "nattering nabob of negativism," but the only good I found in the time down there was meeting and being with old friends. The rest --it seems to me I hasten to say--is the need for 1960s liberals to mouth off, anoint their appointed black leaders and act out their terminal hipness on the Church. This outfit has a painful lack of interest in the Church, its mission in the cities of the U.S. or the people of God. Their sad problem is they haven't got a clearly defined cause to push as in the 60s...but Ronnie may well provide that for them.


If I sound cynical I don't mean to be; I simply think we're called to and capable of better religion than this.

In any case you were quoted often and in constantly glowing terms. I can't begin to tell

you how much your contribution with STAY IN THE CITY has meant to me personally and to many of us working in this Province. So don't let the fat bulls of Bashan get to you...

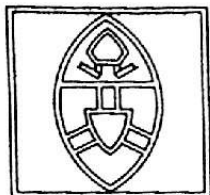
Thanks again for the book and do keep in touch. I continue to look forward to seeing and talking with you again.

Faithfully,



Sanford

P.S. One person from your Diocese had the temerity to say your book had "holes" in its arguments. I've arranged to have them rubbed out.



the
diocese
of
CHICAGO

October 3, 1980

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
Vicar, St. Elizabeth Church
1606 Mifflin
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19145

Dear Father Gallagher:

The Urban Task Force of the Fifth Province, in a recent meeting in Milwaukee, has had the opportunity to read and study your paper, entitled "Stay in the City!" I write to express the gratitude and excitement we all shared in reading your document. You have given great thought and concern for issues that face all of us in the Church who care about, and work in the city. Indeed, it is something we've all thought, and now you've articulated our thoughts on paper. We are most grateful and will begin to take serious steps at executing some of your ideas. It's a welcome relief from some of the other stuff that's been coming at us recently.

Thank you again for your efforts.

Faithfully

The Rev. Canon Sanford D. Smith
CANON TO THE ORDINARY/METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

P.S. Fr. Peter Golden sends his best to you.



The Diocese of Pennsylvania

CHURCH HOUSE

Suite 2616, 1700 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

LOcust 7-6650

THE RT. REV. LYMAN C. OGILBY

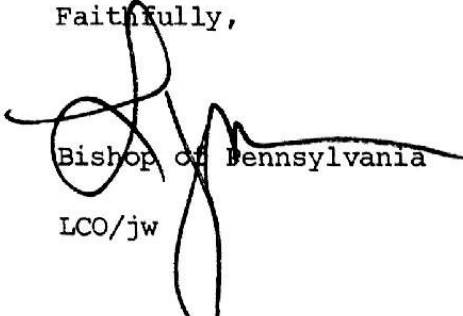
June 6, 1980

The Rev. Robert Gallagher
St. Elisabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob:

Just a note to let you know that I have received and read your paper, "Stay In The City", which you recently sent to me. At this time, I will not comment save say I thank you for your significant review of urban ministry here in the Diocese of Pennsylvania. I, indeed, may have more to say later.

Faithfully,



Bishop of Pennsylvania

LCO/jw



Forward Movement Publications

412 Sycamore Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 U. S. A., Telephone 513/721-6659

November 26, 1980

The Reverend Robert A. Gallagher
St. Elisabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob:

Sorry to be slow in thanking you for your list of advance orders for STAY IN THE CITY. Today we sent the corrected proofs back to the printer and hope to have it off the press in a couple of weeks. It looks as though it will sell for about 85 cents a copy, with an as yet undetermined discount for orders of larger quantities.

Many thanks indeed for your help in arranging this advance promotion. We will send the indicated amount to the addresses you have given us as soon as it is off the press, although the availability of the book will not be advertized generally to the clergy until after January 15.

All good wishes

Sincerely,

The Reverend Charles H. Long
Director and Editor

CHL:mb

additional note about Paul Moore also rec'd!



Forward Movement Publications

412 Sycamore Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 U. S. A., Telephone 513/721-6659

January 20, 1981

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
St. Elisabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob:

The delays in getting this into print have driven me wild, but I hope that you are pleased with the final result. The list price, at least for the initial printing, will have to be \$1.00, but you are entitled to a 50% discount on any number you wish to order now and a 25% off any subsequent orders. We have sent out copies to all who submitted prepublication orders thanks to your good efforts, including also for them a substantial discount.

Enclosed is also a check for \$200.00 representing \$150.00 honorarium to you and \$50.00 for Alice in appreciation for her art work.

You remember from our days together at P.D.S. how much I share your concern about this issue. I am sure that many will join me in gratitude for this clear, challenging and constructive paper.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Charles H. Long
Director and Editor

CHL:aga

Encs.



Forward Movement Publications

412 Sycamore Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 U. S. A., Telephone 513/721-6659

February 25, 1981

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
St. Elisabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Dear Bob:

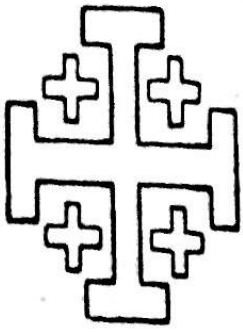
Sorry about the errors "about the author." As I remember I got them from reading (or misreading) the Episcopal Clerical Directory. We'll make corrections on a second printing. There were 10,000 in this run and the initial rate of sales looks promising.

We will be looking forward to your next offering later this spring. My warm regards also to Alice.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Charles H. Long
Director and Editor

CHL:mb



St. Elisabeth's Church

1606 Mifflin Street - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19145 - DE 4-1905

The Reverend Robert A. Gallagher, Vicar

January 6, 1981

The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore, Jr.
The Bishop of New York
1047 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10025

Dear Bishop Moore:

Thank you for your kind remarks on "Stay in the City".

I have been impressed by the news reports of your comments to the House of Bishops. Do you have a copy of the full text available? Would you send me a copy? May I share it with others?

Yours in Christ,

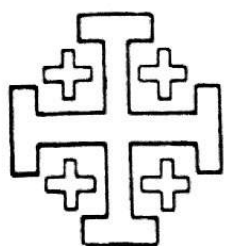
The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher

RAG/bat

To Bob Gallagher

St. Elisabeth's Church

1606 Mifflin Street - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19145 - DE 4-1905



The Reverend Robert A. Gallagher, V

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
JUN 2 1980

Thank you, Bob, for a fine statement of your convictions, our shameful history, our calling for the future.

May 29, 1980

The Right Reverend Brooke Mosley
Suite 2616
1700 Market Street
Philadelphia, Penna. 19103

There is strong meat there to chew on & I believe we will. You & Alice are

Dear Brooke:

The enclosed is my offering to our thinking about urban mission. As you will see it is a more in depth treatment of many of the concerns you and I have shared.

I will not be at the COAC meeting this month. I hope the discussion on partnerships can hold until the fall.

In Christ,

Bob +

The Rev. Robert Gallagher

doing PA. a splendid service in pressing for decision, for

enc.

firm commitment, for proper structure to do faithful ministry. We will not all agree with all the points you make, which is OK - & will provide ingredients for good discussion. Main thing - you are moving us forward. Keep the needle in. Faithfully, Brooke

Bishop's Corner

STAY IN THE CITY

by the Rt. Rev. J. Brooke Mosley

The vicar of St. Elisabeth's Church in South Philadelphia is the Rev. Robert A. Gallagher. He has revitalized St. Elisabeth's in his short ministry there.

He has recently written a strong monograph on the ministry of the Episcopal Church in the City of Philadelphia. It is a 19 page prophetic call for renewal of our Christian urban mission. Like all sound prophecy, it is controversial, with much to think about and act upon. I think it is required reading for those who care. Here is an excerpt from its introduction:

"Since 1940 we have seen the death of almost one congregation per year in the city of Philadelphia. Between 1900 and 1940 we averaged one closing or merger every other year. Sixty parishes in 80 years.

"Each case had its reasons. At the time, I'm sure most of the reasons appeared sound, practical and sensible. Taken as a whole, however, it all appears shortsighted, irresponsible, and faithless. While the population of the city increased, we closed and moved. When the population of the city began to decrease in number, but increase in color and poverty, we fled and reduced. Even as we bemoaned the desertion of the city on the part of business and industry, we deserted neighborhood after neighborhood.

"In one statement after another we have declared our concern for the city, our love for its people, and our commitment to a creative and faithful response to the urban

crisis. As our statements are released with one hand, we keep closing city parishes with the other hand.

"The painful truth is that it is the operating policy of this Diocese to leave the city. It's not our stated intention, it's not the desire of our leaders, it's not the result of any conspiracy or plan, but it is our behavior. It is our betrayal of the city—a betrayal of the working class and poor, of black, Asian, white, and Hispanic.

"There are many reasons. Some are shameful, some are well-intended. Regardless of the reasons, the effect is clear. We have slept in the midst of agony and fled in the face of the Cross.

". . . The Church in Philadelphia has declined at more than two times the national rate. The parishes in the relatively urban deaneries of the Dioceses have lost members at almost three times the rate we see in the relatively suburban deaneries. We have not even attempted to open a new parish in the city for over 40 years. . . .

"As always there is one proper response—repentance. It is time to turn around. It is time to stop closing and to start building. We must say it. Without excuses, without exceptions, without 'maybe's, we must say clearly, publicly and forcefully—'We are staying. We will share the pain and joy of the city. We will serve the city and its people. We will increase the number of parishes. We will strive to bring more and more people to Christ and His Church. We are staying.' "

will give us a new understanding of certain obscure words and expressions in the Old Testament.

Wright's volume contains an introduction by Fr. Mitchell Dahood, who has gained fame for his explanations of texts from Ugarit, ancient Canaanite, for the same purpose. It contains a considerable list of words. Some are entirely new, but most will probably be accepted, and it must be said, are of great significance.

The importance of Ebla, for example in the Bible, as for everyone else, is that it suddenly throws light on a hitherto dark portion of the ancient oriental world, the world out of which the Bible

had seemed a relatively small part of that world, a mere fringe which the armies of the Assyrians, Egyptians, and others had reached. Now it is revealed as the former great world power, an empire extending from the Euphrates to the Mediterranean, with a unique language of its own.

These books are the first extended, detailed accounts of these discoveries, the chief archaeologist of the project, Pettinato, deals with the purely archaeological aspects of the project; Pettinato's epigrapher (i.e., translator) dismissed. His book is free of marks of the controversy. It is a sober, scientifically accurate account of the contents of the tablets and their significance for the civilization.

Not a popular work, but archaeologists who are not daunted by a knowledge of technical details, will find it a book, at least, exciting and illuminating.

(The Rev.) ROBERT C. DENTAN
Emeritus of Old Testament
General Theological Seminary

Thriving Book

DR. RANDOLLPH AND THE HOLY TERROR. By Charles Merriam. P. Putnam's Sons. Pp. 236.

reading. The Methodist author, who also wrote the widely acclaimed satire, *How to Become a Bishop Without Being Religious*, presents an interesting mystery, while at the same time offering humorous insights into parochial life. *Reverend Randollph and the Holy Terror* is the fourth in a series of mysteries starring the fictional Dr. Randollph.

(The Rev.) CHARLES G. ACKERSON
St. George's Church
Pennsville, N.J.

Thriving, as Well as Surviving

STAY IN THE CITY. By Robert A. Gallagher. Forward Movement. Pp. 36. \$1.10 paper.

This minibook is the best 36 page bargain for anyone looking for how to do it material on urban mission and evangelism. The perspective is contemporary catholic, with a strong evangelical overtone.

The author has had an excellent track record in an inner city church and is now on the staff of the Bishop of Connecticut for congregational development. Questions of a church not only surviving, but thriving with multi-ethnic population, and multi-social concerns are addressed with specific suggestions.

I highly recommend this little booklet.

(The Rev.) J. ROBERT ZIMMERMAN
Chairman, Evangelism and Church
Growth Advisory Committee
Diocese of Pennsylvania

Old-Fashioned Christmas

THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS: The Guidepost Family Christmas Book. Guideposts, Carmel, N.Y. Pages not numbered. Part of a three-part package consisting of a calendar, a book, and a record. \$9.95 for the package.

This unusual soft cover book is a delight to have in hand, especially at this time of year. The book is clearly divided into three parts.

The first, "The Gift of Anticipation: A Family Advent Program," consists of poems and stories appropriate to this season of the year. The second, "The



the
Episcopal Diocese
of Connecticut

March 1, 1982

The Rev. Franklin E. Vilas, Jr., D. Min.
Director of Program

The Rev. Douglas T. Cooke
Asst. Director of Program

The Rev. Kyle M. McGee
Urban Mission Officer

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
Congregational Development
Officer

The Rev. Charles Long
Forward Movement Publications
412 Sycamore Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Charles:

Around May I expect to send you a paper I'd like you to consider for publication. It's on the process and pattern of parish development and renewal. The paper is based on a model I and others have used for several years. The model is rooted in our tradition and is very practical.

It has occurred to me that while I have received some very kind letters in response to "Stay in the City" that you may not always hear what others make of the various tracts. I've enclosed some of the comments.

Finally, I know that you carry materials from the Bible Reading Fellowship. Do you happen to have copies of "What on earth is the Church?" If not, could you tell me how I might get it directly from them?

Forward Movement's contribution to the Church's ministry has increased in recent years. I'm making good use of several tracts in our parish development efforts.

I'll be in touch toward the Spring.

In Christ,

Bob +

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher

RAG/dh

July 29, 1981

The Rev. Albert L. Mahan
The Church of the Ascension
2 Riverside Street
Rochester, NY 14613

Dear Bett,

Thank you for sharing your responses to "Stay in the City" and your experience. In a very concrete manner you have focused some of the most difficult issues for city clergy and their families. I certainly don't know the answers to these problems. I do know that the Church must work at finding solutions. To do otherwise is to leave clergy, their families, and the parishes in an unnecessary bind.

I realize there may be more to your decision to leave the parish ministry than what you've shared; but given what you accomplished in this diocese and what you describe of your work at Ascension, it strikes me that you have something very special to offer in the leadership of a parish.

I do hope your employment in industry proves to be a rewarding work and ministry. Thanks again.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher

RAG/ka

July 27, 1981

Ms. Fredrica Harris Thompsett
The Board for Theological Education
815 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Dear Fredrica,

Thank you for your kind words on "Stay in the City". I was sitting at my desk this morning not quite able to get myself organized and moving. Your letter was just the thing needed to reenergize me.

I should be in New York City several times over the next couple of years. Alice's sister, Mary Anne, will be starting GTS in the Fall. We will be making it a point to visit. Mary Anne is a member of St. Elisabeth's, a trained parish development consultant, and was a participant in the thinking leading up to the booklet. So you might want to talk with her about your interest. Perhaps we could arrange a time for all of us to get together and have an informal discussion about urban parish ministry and theological education.

Alice and I will be moving to the Diocese of Connecticut in early October. I will be working on Bishop Walmsley's staff as the Congregational Development Officer. Alice is looking for a parish.

Thanks again for your letter.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher

RAG/ka

cc: Mary Anne Mann

March 25, 1981

Sister Arlen Margaret, S.S.M.
St. Margaret's House
Jordan Road
New Hartford, N.Y., 13413

Dear Sister:

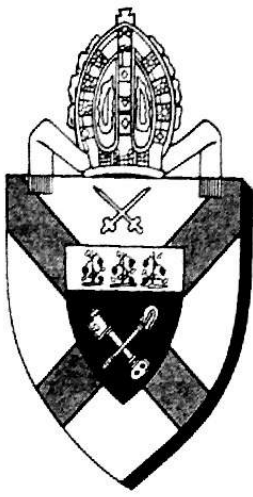
Thank you for your kind words about "Stay in the City".
I'm glad others have found it useful.

Do what you think best in regard to the Litany. Use
an acknowledgement along the lines you have suggested if
you want, though it is really not necessary.

A conference on "the urban parish" is being planned
for May or June of 1982. City clergy from Chicago, Boston,
Baltimore, Gary, Trenton, Los Angeles, etc. have already
joined in the initial thinking. Would there be interest
in your diocese? I'll send more information later.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher



the
Episcopal Diocese
of Connecticut

January 29, 1982

The Rev. Franklin E. Vilas, Jr., D. Min.
Director of Program

The Rev. Douglas T. Cooke
Asst. Director of Program

The Rev. Kyle M. McGee
Urban Mission Officer

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher
Congregational Development
Officer

The Rev. John Rawlinson
St. James' Episcopal Church
1540 12th Avenue
Oakland, California 94606

Dear Fr. Rawlinson:

I'm sorry to be so long in answering your letter of December 17. As you can see I've moved so it took awhile for your letter to catch up to me and I've been away for part of January.

Thank you for your kind words on "Stay in the City". Given the response it's received it does seem as though a number of people are thinking along the same lines.

The situation you describe is common in the Church. Some areas do seem to be looking for new ways to approach urban ministry. It seems to be a very slow process.

I suggest you get in touch with Fr. Dave Duncan who is on the staff of the Diocese of Los Angeles. Dave has made contact with people doing urban ministry in various parts of the country. I think he may be able to suggest resources that get at your concerns.

You may find the list of readings at the end of the enclosed paper on principles useful. I usually find myself making use of the standard resources available for parishes. I try to re-work them to fit the situation.

I'm also enclosing materials I used in Philadelphia.

I can only suggest that urban parish clergy start talking with each other on a regular basis. A group gathering to reflect, pray, study, develop strategies and identify resources is the best way I know to begin.

We may get further by, 1) doing what we can with what we have and 2) offering specific proposals to our dioceses, than by waiting for someone else to organize it for us. Urban clergy can serve their bishops by taking responsibility to develop programs and strategies. Share them with

The Rev. John Rawlinson - page 2

the appropriate diocesan authorities and invite them to collaborate in revising what you're suggesting. There's a great deal we can do with what we already know and have. I think the place to start is by meeting with clergy from other city parishes.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robert A. Gallagher

RAG/dh
enc.

Saint James Episcopal Church

1540 - 12th Ave., Oakland, CA. 94606

(415) 533-2136

December 17, 1981

The Reverend Robert A. Gallagher
St. Elizabeth's Church
1606 Mifflin
Philadelphia, PA. 19145

Dear Fr. Gallagher,

I have just finished reading your proposed policies for urban ministry in your own Diocese, as published by Forward Movement Publications. It is refreshing, challenging, and a delight to read; in numerous places it was as though I was reading my own language.

In late 1979 I approached our then-Bishop-elect to inquire as to available training, information, and support for those of us in urban congregations. I traced our own parochial situation for him. Though this was our first meeting, and he had no knowledge of our situation other than that I presented to him, he glibly assured me that we are doing the best possible work and should "hang in there." In short, he offered no encouragement or resources. In subsequent conversations he has made it quite clear that he neither knows available resources nor is interested in searching for them. My letter of inquiry has brought no useful responses from other people and places throughout the Church. For example, my inquiry to Absalom Jones Theological Institute went unanswered.

Evangelism programs of existing known varieties seem inappropriate in our situation. Several years ago, having looked at the nationally produced guidebook on evangelism, I told our Provincial Coordinator that the underlying assumptions seemed to be drawn to the white middle class suburban church of the 1950's; he agreed. His stated hope was that several urban parishes in need could cooperate, pay his fee for conducting a seminar which he did not believe would be useful, then informal follow-up sessions pool information and tell him how evangelism should properly be conducted in the urban area. That did not seem a useful approach, and there was no interest on the part of parishes in this area.

By now you must have reviewed some responses from throughout the country. Likely others are in the same relatively isolated situation in which this parish and I struggle. As a result I pose the following questions and possibilities:

1. Is a national network of urban parishes a reasonable possibility?

ightly

d:

anase the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit.

The possible values and activities of such a network are manifold. It would be easily possible to develop a long "laundry list" of activities and functions for such a network.

2. Where are the models for small, multi-ethnic and multi-national inner city congregations for evangelism?
3. Given limited resources, and needing and wanting to remain "in the trenches" what educational materials are available for increasing skills for inner city ministry? Is a self-taught training and educational program possible? (Being quite close to The Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and having had a succession of field education students, as well as having approached particular faculty members, I am keenly aware that at least our local seminary is ill-equipped to prepare people for urban ministry. There is, of course, a significant difference between people living in the city and those same people being prepared in a conscious fashion for urban ministry.)

Your policy proposals represent principles. We need also to share practices. We need to tell the stories of good experiences and bad. We need to identify and share resources. Our questions need to be abroad so that we may benefit from the suggestions of others who are trying to live out the Gospel in similar inner city circumstances. If a network is possible, I want to be a part of it.

I hope to have a response from you very soon.

Faithfully,

John Rawlinson

(The Rev.) John Rawlinson
Co-Pastor

JR/om

"STAY IN THE CITY" - Responses to be recalled
when you wonder about the usefulness
of what you're doing.

"I was deeply impressed by your paper on urban ministry. It is the most thorough and realistic article on the subject that I've seen in many, many years."

- Paul Moore

"I write to express the gratitude and excitement we all shared in reading your document. . . . We are most grateful and will begin to take serious steps at executing some of your ideas."

- Sanford Smith

"an uncommon ability to nail critical challenges in the vernacular and to encourage active response. . . full of theological and practical wisdom."

- Fredrica Harris Thompsett

"splendid paper . . . particularly like what you have to say about not attempting to solve urban problems or ministering to "them" as if people were clients."

- Michael Becker

"...says it all, with precision, economy and point."

- John Purnell

"a masterpiece"

- James W. Montgomery

"a stimulating piece of writing."

- Loren Mead

"required reading for those who care"

- J. Brooke Mosely

"excellent"

- David Duncan

"...superb! ...correct and complete in every detail
...a beautiful work."

- Daniel T. Sullivan

"superb! stimulating, fresh, comprehensive,
thought provoking."

- James R. Moodey

"outstanding"

- Andrew C. Mead