

100 Years Ago at St. Paul's – April 1914

The following excerpts were taken from the monthly newsletter of the parish for April, 1914. Much has changed and much has stayed the same. For your enjoyment and inspiration from your sacristan, Alice Van Buren.

The Rector's Lenten Letter

My dear friends,

A few days only of this Lent remain. You and I may never see another. Have we made the most of this? It is God's call to each of you. That is what Holy Week means. Christ would bend and win you now. That is the measure of His love. Have you surrendered in love to Christ, will you in truth be His, follow Him, obey Him, find your all and all in Him? With love, faithfully and sincerely yours, George Y. Bliss

Easter Mite Boxes

All the children of the parish come Easter afternoon. They assemble in the big hall together and all march into the church. Sunday school teachers will arrange gathering in the mite boxes. Several of the boys already have as much as \$2 in their boxes and one class has very nearly \$12.

The Boy Scouts

There are now about ninety boys enrolled. The Scout Battalion will march out to Rock Point in the early spring to be reviewed by Bishop Hall. We beg for the more hearty cooperation of parents in this work. We should remember that the boys are Fathers of Men and have a duty to the church in this matter.

Guild of the Holy Spirit

The guild was organized by the priest in charge, Rev. C. C. Wilson, on March 13, 1914. This guild is intended to cover all the work done by the women on the altar, the Sunday school, the sick and strangers, the social life and missions.

Letter from Shanghai, China – Baptism of a man with 2 wives and starting a Boy Scout Troop.

Dear Dr. Bliss,

Nanking is really quite remarkable to see the way it has recovered from looting which took place last September.

We have two clergymen stationed in Nanking: the Rev. John M.B. Gill, who has completed his first five years and is going home on furlough.

Mr. Gill told me one very interesting case of his. A man had two wives and the second one came to church and then brought him. He wanted to be baptized and came regularly for three years. After a while arrangements were made so that the second wife could be sent to become a bible-woman and he could be baptized. He wanted particularly to be baptized on his birthday and he wanted his new birth to come on the same day.

Dr. Pott has asked me to take charge of a troop of boy scouts which he wished to get started. I expect to try it, but am rather doubtful of success. If it can be worked, I think it will be a mighty good thing, but a Chinese boy is brought up under such different

conditions that he will probably not take kindly to the idea of doing some things for himself. He might want to take a coolie along to camp to build fires.

Did you get my letter sent you by way of Siberia? I will try and write more regularly that I have done.

Very sincerely, J. Randall Norton

18 Baptisms

There were 5 baptisms on March 14, another 5 on March 21, and 8 on March 29, for a total of 18.

Offering Envelopes

Will the one who has an old 1913 bunch of offering envelopes and changes the dates and number, please communicate with the treasurer.