

Evolution of an Online Publication: The Revised Common Lectionary

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Introduction

Last month there were several news stories about the five year anniversary of the creation of YouTube. The news announcers marveled at how it changed things, saying it is hard to imagine now what things were like before this ubiquitous tool for uploading videos was created. Harder yet is to stretch back to remember what life was like on the Internet before the creation of the world wide web (WWW) and Internet browsers. By the early 90's e-mail had become a routine tool for many of us. Listservs (such as ATLANTIS) were active communities for various library topics. I recall a very brief and quickly superseded move at Vanderbilt to use '[gopher](#)' to mount findable resources on the network – but before we had gotten very far with that, it became clear that this new 'world wide web' and browsers were the next big thing.

The development of the www protocol came out of [CERN](#) (European Organization for Nuclear Research). The first web-based client-server communication over the Internet was in December 1990. The first web server outside of Europe was established at Stanford University in December 1992, and the first version of the Mosaic web browser (for X-Windows) was released in March 1993. Marc Andreessen left the [NCSA](#) (National Center for Supercomputing Applications) and establishes Mosaic Communications Corp in 1994.¹

The Initial Vision and First Version 1995-1997

The concept of creating an online version of the lectionary readings was the vision of Anne Richardson Womack (now Anne Richardson). Lacking any written texts of those first conversations, I believe this began percolating after the 1995 ATLA conference in Nashville, amid discussions about the emerging concepts of a 'scholar's workstation' that utilized the emerging world of networked resources.

I am locally notorious in the library at the Vanderbilt library for the depth of my email archives. While the migration through a variety of email clients over the years complicates the excavation process, my earliest email record documenting the Lectionary concept dates from November 1995, when Anne shared the first draft of the look and feel for the site.²

... In addition to the full text, images of religious art are provided for each lectionary week. Unique backgrounds have been created for each lection reading.

The purpose of this project is twofold; to provide reference and resource access over the Internet, and to provide an opportunity for spiritual reflection.

¹ "How It all Started" Presentation Materials from the W3C 10th Anniversary Celebration", <http://www.w3.org/2004/Talks/w3c10-HowItAllStarted/?n=15>

² personal email archive, excerpt of posting by Anne Womack to ATLANTIS listserv, 16 November 1995

Anne developed the initial web instance with the assistance of one of our graduate student workers, Heather Wibbels. It was clear to us early on that the resource Anne envisioned was not going to be possible with the expertise and tools available to us at the time. Her vision was to create a web page that incorporated art, color and presentation to evoke reflection and contemplation of the texts. The use of religious art along with the text of the weekly lections was integral to Anne's vision to make this a tool for 'spiritual reflection' and more than just a utilitarian translation of a published text into a new web interface. It was that component that proved the most difficult to implement.

In 1995 the technological context for the early web presence was a UNIX based server, relying on an FTP connection to upload files. HTML had to be coded by hand, and debugged only after it had been uploaded to the server and errors were visible. The initial announcement about the project was posted to the ATLANTIS listserv in mid-November 1995. It took the rest of that academic year to populate the full calendar for Year A, then it was announced "to various web indexing sites" in April, 1996³

Slide Insert 1: RCL home page – version 1.0

Slide Insert 2: Original text Index page (click on Christmas Eve, then on Isaiah 9:2-7)

Here is what the initial Lectionary site looked like. In searching for our archival copy of the 'original' web version, I discovered that we had replaced the 'text only' version of the site early on with one that used tables to represent the seasonal readings page. At that time, the variation in how browsers responded to html was often dramatic. Version 1.1 superseded the original version so early on that I had difficulty locating examples of the original 'text only' version.

Integral to these earliest versions was the warning page, giving a 'heads up' to users that some browsers had difficulty displaying tables or some backgrounds. This was an early lesson in the perils of web development in one environment (video resolution and default browsers) when users had a host of different browsers and wide variations in internet connections.

Slide Insert 3: Version 1.1 – table index format

Almost immediately after announcing the site in April, we began to receive a steady stream of e-mail responses, overwhelmingly represented by two basic themes: praise for the resource but also a steady stream of *error correction* notices, sometimes both in the same message.

----- Forwarded Message Follows -----

Date: Sun, 18 May 1997 23:22:48 -0400
From: [...name deleted...]
To: w2omack@library.vanderbilt.edu
Subject: Correction in the readings page for May 25th

The page listing the readings for Trinity Sunday lists it as June 1st instead of May 25th.
[...name deleted...]
PS – kudos once again for the excellent work that y'all do.

³ personal email archive, extracted from the April 1996 monthly report to Library Directors.

Users also began suggesting enhancements:

From: "Anne Womack" <LIBRARY1/WOMACKA>
To: XX
Date: Thu, 25 Sep 1997 07:44:22 CST
Subject: Re: Comments on the lectionary
CC: hook

Mr. XXXXXXXX,

Thanks for your comments. We would like to add a scripture index to this project, but we do not have the staff to do so. Many other users have asked us for this very same enhancement. But we still appreciate your comments, because they let us know what is needed if we can continue work on the project in the future.

Soon after we announced the site in April 1996, we were debating alternatives that would make easier the development and revision of the thousands of files in the lectionary folder.⁴ The UNIX platform and FTP connection made uploading and testing files tedious. In December 1996, we began internal discussions with the Divinity School about purchasing a Windows NT server that would be run by the Divinity Library, using Microsoft's IIS as the web server platform rather than UNIX. This would enable the library to provide several new services to the Divinity School, as well dramatically simplifying access to the web server for Anne and her student assistants. Running NT server allowed us to use FrontPage (a WYSWYG web editor) to develop and maintain the Divinity Library and School web pages, as well as the lectionary pages.

The transition from the UNIX server to the NT server began with testing in the spring of 1997, with migration of the production web site starting in June 1997. Log files indicate that in June 1997 over 1,800 files were moved from the UNIX server to our NT server.⁵

There are no unalloyed blessings in technology, and the learning curve for dealing with running our own server led to a rocky summer. Learning how to insure browser compatibility in development (FrontPage was a Microsoft product and naturally it worked well with Internet Explorer, but somewhat less well with rival Netscape browser). IP address conflicts, server patches, version control issues, all resulted in a variety of instances when public accessibility was compromised. Embarrassing as it was, it also increased our awareness of just how many users were regularly using this resource, as complaints were quick notifications when the site was down, yet again.

Institutional Commitment vs. Individual web pages

In the early days of the web, many of the pages available had been posted and maintained by individuals, using resources provided by their host institution. But if the individual moved, or job responsibilities changed, links became outdated and/or non-functional. As we contemplated mounting this 'destination' resource we explicitly chose to make this a publication of the Divinity Library, supported by the Library not by an individual. While there has never been a formal

⁴ 1,886 individual files in the archive folder for version 1.1

⁵ personal email archive, 24 June 1997 Subject: Netfix feedback request

budget for the Lectionary, the vast majority of creative and coding effort came from Anne Richardson, from the beginning we recruited graduate student workers and technology support from the university library support system.

The Lectionary pages represented one of the first content destination web site for the Heard Library system, a departure from the more prevalent 'list of links' subject bibliographers were typically doing at the time. Other valuable resources such as Marshall Breeding's Lib-web-pages were also widely used by external users, but again were pointers to other sites not locally developed content destination pages.

Version 2 – An Improved design

In the summer of 1999 we embarked on a broadly shared staff effort to develop a revision of the look and feel of the lectionary pages. In addition to Anne Richardson's effort, Julie Owen a full-time staff member, and another creative graduate assistant, Sarah Parsons were the people most engaged in designing and testing the new version.

The new interface, a dramatically improved design, also was intended to simplify the maintenance of the resource. The move to the NT Server did simplify access and file maintenance, still over 1,800 individual files with arcane file names proved a massive chore for maintenance and updating. Anticipating the necessity of updating virtually all files over a three year rotation, it made sense on the second iteration to try to make the support for the resources more sustainable (a desire repeatedly sought, and enduringly elusive). This version introduced separate clearly named folders for each of the seven seasons in each year; and one file for each week - with all scripture references bookmarked within that file rather than separate files. This achieved a reduction in the number of files by approximately 30%, but more importantly made the file management on the server less arcane and more explicit file names made it easier to find the appropriate file to correct errors.

While the design was widely praised by users as a very 'professional' web design, the incorporation of the art images remained very limited. Standard images were introduced into the headers for each season (Year A Epiphany image 1999, is the same image as Year B 2000. Similarly, the 'Baptism of the Lord' image in Year B is the same image as Year A). Unfortunately, the way the headers were created (as separate 'gif' images referencing the Year of the Cycle) meant there continued to be significant duplication in the files, rather than an integrated style sheet pulling in variable information as needed.

Slide Insert 4: Version 2 – Advent Images identical on A,B,C indexes

Thus we see both the strength and weakness of the democratization of publication on the web. The RCL pages were up early, heavily used and revised frequently. As we did not have professional programmers available for design the implementation tended to be rather a brute force approach. Anne Richardson's talents for visual design and the arts gave us a vision for a resource that we did not have the programming resources to implement. Yet if we waited for our project to become a priority to receive support from the IT professionals, it would likely not have been produced at all.

The new version was released in August 1999, and it quickly had a significant impact on the level of use. While Google was still not a significant presence on the web at that time, there were many web crawlers and search engines available (hard as it is to remember in this post-

Google age). The announcement of this revision to the RCL site was sent to various search engines, and we saw a dramatic growth in the activity on the site.

In an internal email to the Divinity Library staff in November 1999, I noted that the new Lectionary page had become by far the most heavily used pages on our server, jumping from relative parity with our Home Page for the number of hits/month, to 3x the number received by the home page. This pattern of overwhelming volume for the Lectionary pages remained consistent as long as the Divinity Library maintained its own web server.

From: Bill Hook <Hook@LIBRARY.Vanderbilt.edu>
To: [...deleted...]
Subject: New Lectionary Page - seems to be a hit
[... prior content deleted...]
For Sept - October - the lectionary pages constituted 5 of the top 10 most frequently requested pages - with the "old" primary bookmark page \lectionary\table.html - #1 on the list with 66,255 requests - and the Div Library home page #2 with 20,053 requests.

To put this in perspective, in July-August these two pages were also #1 and #2 - though in reverse, with 9,032 and 7,310 requests respectively.
From FEB - JUNE 99 - all together these two pages (Still #1 and #2 received 27,985 and 22,445 requests each over a 5 month period! Quite a substantial jump with the new pages!

Our users experienced far fewer disruptions with this upgrade than the changes introduced with the migration from the Unix server to the NT server. Still, amidst many laudatory comments received from users, we were reminded once again that not everyone likes change:

Date: Sun, 26 Sep 99 14:36:36 -0500
From: Anne Womack <Womack@library.vanderbilt.edu>
To: [...name deleted...]
Cc: hook@library.vanderbilt.edu
Subject: RE: Lectionary Format

Mr. [...],

We did realize when we adopted this new format that some persons would miss the old format. This new format is much easier to manage and offers options that some of our users had asked for. I wonder if you simply can just use scissors to cut the readings apart? It is exactly the same format, just placed end on end. We are sorry to disappoint you, but this will be the only format available in the future.

As mentioned earlier, from the first version of the RCL pages onward, we regularly received requests from users for enhancements and upgrades. Scripture Indexing was one of the most prominent, though we saw no way to handle such an enhancement with our limited staff and programming expertise. Downloadable formats for Palm Pilots and PDAs was another frequent request we regretfully had to respond that we could not handle. Consequently, some users took it into their own hands.

Date: Mon, 8 Jan 01 12:02:19 -0600

From: Anne Womack <Womack@library.vanderbilt.edu>
To: hook@library.vanderbilt.edu
Subject: FWD: RCL Query

Bill,

Well, Mr. [...name deleted...] did it himself in an eBook format! Read what he says - very exciting, I think, if we can work out the issues involved.

>===== Original Message From [...name deleted...]=<=====

Hello,

For my own use I have just converted the RCL Readings for Year C (2000/2001) as found on the Vanderbilt Divinity Library Website into an E-Book for reading on my PSION PDA. The format is the MobiPocket format which is compatible with readers on other types of PDAs also. More information on that can be found at www.mobipocket.com.

I was wondering about the legality of making the e-Book freely available, both through the MobiPocket Contributed Library, and probably through Jenee Woodard's Website "The Text this Week", www.textweek.com.

I realize that I will also have to primarily clear this with CCT and the NCC (since the readings are NRSV), but wanted to know your position on such a project as well

Email files in 2001 indicate lectionary activity frequently dealt with broken link notifications – external pages that were referring to our lectionary site, but the URL was outdated or no longer present. With the move from the Unix server to the NT server the old pages were removed from that server, and we would receive regular notices from the library webmaster of broken links from user bookmarks that were years out of date:

Date: Fri, 31 Aug 2001 10:57:13 -0600

Mr. [...deleted...],

I was unable to see an explicit indication on your conference web page as to who the webmaster is. If, as is quite possible you are not the person to whom this notice needs to go, please forward it appropriately.

There is a link on your conference page (the URL is listed below) which points to a resource on the Divinity library web- although the link is at least 4 years out of date.

Slide Insert 5: Year A update illustrated. Otherwise design is unchanged.

Stable Interlude: 2001-2004

In the fall semester 2002, we implemented a complete redesign of the Divinity Library web page, with the accompanying flurry of file link problems and 'where did this' go type of email

reference questions. We retained the URL and Lectionary structure as it had been. By and large my records show little correspondence regarding the lectionary in 2002-03, meaning it was simply humming along with Anne and her students responding to email questions and error notations. Email reference questions regarding the Lectionary was a steady component almost every week.

In June 2003 Anne developed a document with proposed enhancements we might pursue with the Lectionary, if a grant application being considered in the Divinity School could include funding for the Lectionary. This would have been the first external money we would receive for the RCL, hitherto it had been developed entirely with internal library funding. Unfortunately this funding possibility never developed.

Little is visible about the lectionary through 2003-04 as well, though there is this email:

Date: Tuesday, April 06, 2004 3:26 PM -0700

From: [... name deleted...]

To: "Womack, Anne Richardson" <anne.womack@vanderbilt.edu>

Subject: Re: COMMENTS-Divinity Library Web Site (fwd)

> Question/Comment: To whomever might be able to answer this question. Some friends
>of mine and I were recently directing another friend to your page so that he could have
>online access to the Lectionary. Upon surfing your site, we came up with a
> question that I've never thought of before. That is, while some of the images on some
>of the seasons make perfect sense (poinsettia for Christmas for example), some of the
>images seem rather random, like Lent for instance. What's up with that picture?
>Perhaps someone on your end could put an end to this mystery.
>Thanks, [...name deleted...]

Dear [...name deleted...]

You have asked a very good question. When we developed these Lectionary pages, the technology for creating one's own digital images was very limited. We had to find items owned by Vanderbilt or donated by a digital photographer to create our images on the site. As a result, we had some images that were seasonally appropriate, but many that are not. The Lenten images are from one of Vanderbilt's special collections of photographs from the Nashville sit-ins during the Civil Rights era, as that was a very important time for our university and the city of Nashville. We selected to use them during the period of Lent, because of the deeply reflective nature of them. We are hoping to receive some grant funding within the next year that will allow us to add features to and enhance the Lectionary site, as it is used by tens of thousands of persons around the world. We are so glad that you have shared it with others.

Anne was still searching for ways to generate images for the lectionary, and technology that would allow the images to be integrated into the pages seamlessly.

Another Platform Migration – Back to the University Library Web Server

The first half of 2004 found server security issues developing into a serious situation. Web servers were being hacked, often for transmission of images that were widely sought over the

Internet, but had nothing to do with what university's wanted the servers to be for. The urgency of keeping security patches up to date, also had an impact on the Front Page web authoring software we had relied on since we migrated to an NT server in 1997. Fortunately for me, I had just recently handed off the server management to a full-time LAN administrator in the School right before the overhead of server management had developed into a significant time commitment. We had several instances when the university network security officer notified us that our server had been compromised, though fortunately for us none of them involved compromise to our web pages or required more than brief outages to close the hole.

As FrontPage became increasingly problematic, we began planning for a migration from the NT server back to the university library web server, and a move from FrontPage to Dreamweaver as the editing software. By late August 2004, we had a mirrored copy of the lectionary running on the library server, but production delivery was still from the NT Server. Staff time to work on the move was scarce, and it was late spring 2005 before we were prepared to commit to the production server migration during that summer break.

In a Fall 2004 e-mail, Anne makes a reference to the statistic, "...we are seeing 2 million 'hits' per year..." and she also refers to using the 'Wayback' machine to view the 96 edition as the earliest version found there. October 2004 saw the serendipitous relationship emerge with a talented Ph.D. student in the Homiletics program. Joshua Villines was an accomplished programmer and web editor, and was enthusiastic about joining us to support the Lectionary project. His skills enabled us to off-load most of the web updates and edits from Anne and myself, vastly improving the quality of expertise devoted to it.

Late May 2005 saw an extended power outage (planned but with insufficient notice) for the building housing our web server, put web presence in peril. It precipitated an emergency migration of our production web instance away from the NT server (planned to be retired later in the summer). The migration was only possible because we had been testing mirror copies on the library web server. But the details of establishing a 'virtual instance' of our domain name within the University Library web server had not been worked through completely. The emergency migration over the Memorial Day holiday, led to a variety of problems. Direct links to our DNS addresses, including the now 10 year old lectionary address, did work within our web pages, but we discovered many links did not get parsed by the server correctly. A painful two weeks ensued as the LITS programmers got all of the redirects fixed and the virtualization tweaked.

After the move to the library server had fairly well stabilized, Josh started on his plan to systematically update the pages using cascading style sheets and templates to regularize the code. He had been forced to fix many of the irregular and inconsistent coding practices that had accumulated in the system with the variety of people who had contributed to maintaining the site. It was clear we needed a more professional approach to reduce the amount of staff time necessary to maintain it.

Version 2.5 – Image links to Weekly Readings

In September 2005 Josh began a project to try to integrate image data into the lectionary pages. Anne had built a growing database of images from her own travels and photography, as well as encouraging faculty to contribute relevant images from their own work. The CDRI grant Anne received from ATLA in 2001-02 (Images of Biblical Iconography: French Medieval Cathedrals) had been added to locally in an image database that was maintained and developed by our Library Information Technology Services (LITS) unit. Josh was hoping to extract links from those images to embed in the lectionary pages. January 2006 saw the introduction of those links, after much behind the scenes programming by LITS to make the database accessible for deep linking from the Lectionary pages. This could not have been done without Josh's programming abilities, and even then he was disappointed that his best efforts had not been able to allow a thumbnail image to appear on the lectionary index. Rather what appears was a generic 'icon', clicking upon which generated a customized search of the Art in the Christian Tradition database to bring up the relevant image for that week.

Slide Insert 6: Version 2.5, Table structure introduced for index pages, to allow link to CDRI art images.

Note here that these images were retrieved from the Internet Archive, which reproduces the web structure, but the image links made a dynamic call to the CDRI database, so these links do not function with this archived copy.

Josh spent much of 2006 working on implementing a consistent style sheet and 'cleaning up the code'. He proposed in January 2007 to work on delivery of the LONG REQUESTED Scripture index, and an significantly expanded FAQ document, reflecting the most common questions accumulated in Anne's files over the prior years. The Scripture Index was implemented in June 2007, as PDF or Excel file downloads.

Slide Insert 7: FAQ Page

Slide Insert 8: Scripture Index downloads

Shortly after that, Josh was working on providing RSS. This proved, as many things do, more problematic than one would hope, and combined efforts by Josh, Chris Benda and our LITS department spread over most of the fall semester. By late November 2007 we had RSS feeds available. (11/28/2007 posting on ATLANTIS by Chris Benda)

Slide Insert 9: RSS feeds

Version 3 – Database Delivery

We began actively considering migration of the management of the lectionary data from html to a dynamic database delivery mechanism In January 2008. This was in no small measure a

result of our keen awareness that all the work Joshua had done would not easily be sustainable as he was approaching the completion of his dissertation.

From: Anne Richardson Womack
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2008 2:03 PM
Subject: Re: FW: COMMENTS-Divinity Library Web Site

All,

I believe that the request to post the daily lections is the most frequently asked-for enhancement by our users, second to providing other bible versions than NRSV.

If the daily readings were added via a database platform, this task would be much simpler. Bill has suggested that this level of improvement can come through grant funding, especially if we add a daily art image to the project.

My only concern about the funding arrangement is that Lilly has just given funds for the African-American Lectionary project, but if the art piece is integral, perhaps Luce would be interested. Not knowing anything about grants, I expect that there are other avenues to explore.

In March 2008 I submitted a formal request to LITS to explore the development of a:

more systematic structure to maintain and update the Revised Common Lectionary we publish. This may be amenable to a content management software system, or some other database structure. I would like to start a plan for migration of the current structure over the next year, if possible. [INFORM request, 3/31/2008]

Discussions with LITS programmers (Jodie Gambill and Tao You) began in May, with the design work of what the page should look like having already been largely designed by Anne. The development of the back end database was to be Jodie and Tao's responsibility, with close collaboration and constant email exchanges amongst the two of them, Anne and Chris (over 200 lectionary related emails in 2008-09 that I was copied on, I have no doubt there were many more that I never saw).

Of course, enhancement requests just kept on coming:

I just got an Amazon Kindle [sic] and it has become one of my best friends! I take it in my purse wherever I go. Is it possible for you to put the lectionary in a podcast so each day's readings would automatically deliver to my Kindle just same as getting the Wall Street Journal? [Comments- Divinity Library Website, 5/4/2008]

Great site! I use it regularly and am looking forward to seeing what you do with the redesign. Would it be possible to include an iCal subscription as well as a RSS feed? [Comments- Divinity Library Website, February 26, 2009]

A beta test version of the new design was mounted on the Heard Library Test Pilot site March 1, 2009. A link announcing the development of the new site was placed on the production Lectionary page asking for comments. User comments began almost immediately. There is a substantial number of regular, weekly users many of whom were happy to participate in the development process. We gathered over 150 comments and suggestions about the new design between March and June 2009.

The timeline we were working for was to move the new version into production in June, during the ATLA conference. That goal was accomplished, and we chose to purchase a modest sponsor package for the conference to advertise the new version of the Lectionary in the program.

To no great surprise, after an extremely positive reception in the beta testing interval, when it went into production we heard from the many loyal users who had NO interest in changing to a new interface at all! We have continued to provide access to the 'classic' interface through the end of the current Year C (November 2010). We stopped supporting the classic site when we went into production with version 3. Errors are not being corrected there if found, and the Image links to the CDRI database have failed and will not be fixed.

Slide Insert 10: RCL Version 3 home page – multi page demonstration

The move to the database delivery structure and the web 2.0 enabled features, meant that now the home page automatically displays the Readings for the current week, for this week it is Proper 7 (12) June 20,2010. Clicking on the bookmarks in this multiple page screen capture, you can step through a variety of the features of this version.

- Click on Proper 7 to see the text of readings for that week.
- On the readings page are links to Art images related to the week's readings, which makes a dynamic call to the Art in the Christian Tradition database, and displays appropriate images.
- Prayers for the week have been added for the first time in this version.
- Requests for text readings in other versions than the NRSV are accommodated with an external link to BibleGateway.com
- Enhanced printing options allow the user to select which texts to print and what size font to use
- Users can export the readings either via email, or downloading as a text file to their computer.
- RSS feeds have been automated
- The Frequently Asked Questions entries have been expanded
- Clicking on one entry line will expand the text, clicking again will collapse it to the briefer display
- Feedback page
- The long awaited Scripture Index. This comprehensive display actually extends for 30 pages to display the entire corpus of readings throughout the Bible.

Slide Insert 11: "Lectionary Classic" still available through end of 2010

Enhancements provided in Version 3

- Database delivery format reduces potential for error and increases the speed at which new Year updates are added, something that our users appreciate, especially denominational publishers. The database format also makes other delivery forms such as RSS feeds relatively automatic.
- Printing has been significantly enhanced, one of the most frequently requested improvements. Users can select which scripture passages they wish to print and can select the size of the font as well. This is a particular need for lectors, who often are asked to read only certain scripture texts and who need a large font for ease of reading from the lectern.
- The addition of both the "Propers" language as well as the "Nth Sunday after Pentecost" language was a popular improvement.
- The ability to email either lections or texts has been added. Users can also now download lections and texts as txt files.
- We added the ability to deliver the lections in an Excel spreadsheet format. This was much desired by pastors who reformat the data for items as diverse as Lectionary bookmarks, calendars, and newsletters.
- We have significantly enhanced the art component of the prior Lectionary site, something that was requested by a few users and once in place, has proved very popular.
- Users often asked questions in the past related to searching the Lectionary; we have added a search feature for both texts and lections in the new version.
- We have finally explicated the full structure of the Lectionary selections as initially laid out by the Consultation on Common Texts. This was much more difficult than we had initially thought, but it is now in place. We had many questions from users over the years about various particulars of the CCT arrangement, and we feel that we have finally met these.
- We finally provided a biblical citation list of all the lections in biblical book order. This had been one of the most frequently requested items, and the database structure allowed this work to be done fairly easily.
- We added the ability read each week's lections in versions/translations other than the NRSV, by giving a form link to Bible Gateway from each week's readings page.

The collaboration between the Divinity Library staff and the professional programmers of LITS was extremely successful. The design of the look and feel by Anne was much appreciated by the programmers, as they could then concentrate on the functionality requested. The beta testing provided substantial useful feedback that led to a much better roll out in production. We anticipate further upgrades and enhancements – though such will have to be filtered among the various competing priorities for programmers' time.

There is already a significant list of enhancements that have been submitted in the past year, the most frequently requested are:

- Make the calendar feature work with all standard calendaring systems (Outlook, Google, etc.)
- Daily Lectionary
- Mobile-friendly site (Blackberry/PDA, etc.)
- iPhone/Droid apps
- Add the artwork for the week to the download/print functions

As is often the case, success raises expectations, and as usual in libraries, there is an abundance of work ahead, always exceeding our capacity to get to it.

Appendix – Web Statistics for Revised Common Lectionary

Google Analytics Web statistics –

The Divinity Library web page statistics included the lectionary pages prior to June 2009.

The precipitous decline in hits on the Divinity Library web pages in 2009-10 mirrors the migration of the RCL to the new database delivery system.

Appendix 1: Lectionary 6/09- 6/10: 2.6million hits, 928,000 visits.

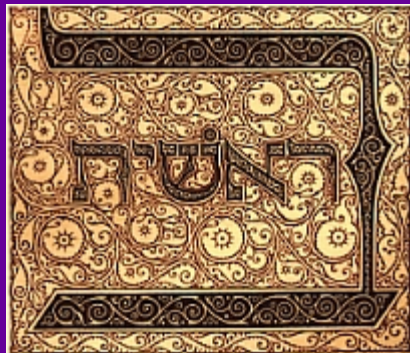
Appendix 2: Divinity Web stats 6/08-6/09 2.3 million hits, 864,000 visits
643,000 of those for the Lectionary

Appendix 3: Illustrating the drop in Div lib web stats 08-09 - 09/10.

Lectionary Texts for Reference and Reflection

[Click Here](#)

→ [To Lectionary Readings](#)



- A project of the Divinity Library, a division of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library of Vanderbilt University
- The project's purpose is two-fold:
 1. to provide a reference resource for ministers, students and parishioners that gives easy access to the selections of the Revised Common Lectionary week by week
 2. to invite reflection through reading the biblical texts on varied backgrounds and viewing selected images from the Vanderbilt University Special Collections.
- Copyright permission for this project has been received:
 - Lectionary selections are from the *Revised Common Lectionary* copyright @ 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT). Nashville: Abingdon Press. Used with permission.
 - Scripture quotations are from the *New Revised Standard Version of the Bible*, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
- All images in this project were taken from works in the Special Collections Department of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library, Vanderbilt University.
- For questions, suggestions or comments, please contact Anne Womack, Public Services Librarian, Vanderbilt Divinity Library, 419 21st Ave., S., Nashville, TN 37240-0007, (615) 322-6992. Vanderbilt students Heather Wibbels and Rick Logsdon have provided major support for this project.
- For Weekly Commentary on the Revised Common Lectionary (Not Associated with the Vanderbilt Divinity Library Lectionary Project), [Click Here](#).
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Text Only Version of Lectionary Tables

Listing for Christmas Season, Year A, 1995-1996

24/25 December 1995

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 - [Isaiah 9:2-7](#)
 - [Psalm 96](#)
 - [Titus 2:11-14](#)
 - [Luke 2:1-14 \(15-20\)](#)
 - [Proper II:](#)
 - [Isaiah 62:6-12](#)
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 - [Titus 3:4-7](#)
 - [Luke 2:\(1-7\) 8-20](#)
 - [Proper III:](#)
 - [Isaiah 52:7-10](#)
 - [Psalm 98](#)
 - [Hebrews 1:1-4, \(5-12\)](#)
 - [John 1:1-14](#)

31 December 1995

- [First Sunday after Christmas](#)
 - [Isaiah 63:7-9](#)
 - [Psalm 148](#)
 - [Hebrews 2:10-18](#)
 - [Matthew 2:13-23](#)

1 January 1996

- [Holy Name of Jesus \(Mary, Mother of God\)](#)
 - [Numbers 6:22-27](#)
 - [Psalm 8](#)
 - [Galatians 4:4-7 or Philippians 2:5-11](#)
 - [Luke 2:15-21](#)
- [When observed as New Year's Day](#)
 - [Ecclesiastes 3:1-13](#)
 - [Psalm 8](#)
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Lectionary Readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, Year A, December 24 and 25, 1995

Proper I

[click here](#) → [Isaiah 9:2-7 ~ Psalm 96 ~ Titus 2:11-14 ~ Luke 2:1-14\(15-20\)](#)

Proper II

[Isaiah 62:6-12 ~ Psalm 97 ~ Titus 3:4-7 ~ Luke 2:\(1-7\) 8-20](#)

Proper III

[Isaiah 52:7-10 ~ Psalm 98 ~ Hebrews 1:1-4, \(5-12\) ~ John 1:1-14](#)



From Horae Beatae Virginis Mariae: ad usum Romanum, (Rheims, 1480). Vanderbilt University Special Collections.

- [Return to Table for Advent](#) or [Text List of Advent](#)
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- [Return to Lectionary Home Page](#)

Isaiah 9:2-7

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day (Year A)

9:2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined.

9:3 You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

9:4 For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

9:5 For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

9:6 For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

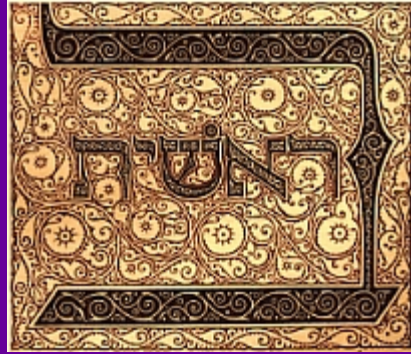
9:7 His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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Lectionary Texts for Reference and Reflection

→ To Lectionary Readings



- A project of the Divinity Library, a division of the Jean and Alexander Heard Library of Vanderbilt University
- The project's purpose is two-fold:
 1. to provide a reference resource for ministers, students and parishioners that gives easy access to the selections of the Revised Common Lectionary week by week
 2. to invite reflection through reading the biblical texts on varied backgrounds and viewing selected images from the Vanderbilt University Special Collections.
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STOP!

This project makes extensive use of backgrounds and images. If you have difficulty reading the biblical texts because of display problems with the backgrounds (the backgrounds display much more effectively on high-end monitors/video cards), the problem can be resolved by trying one of the procedures listed below. Please PROCEED TO THE LECTIONARY READINGS first, to determine whether you need to turn off backgrounds as described below:

1. For Netscape Users:
 - Under the pull down menu Options, choose Preferences. Select Fonts and Color. Under Colors, select 'Always use mine'. Images will still load, but backgrounds will not...OR...
 - Under the pull down menu Options, turn off Auto Load Images. Now neither images nor backgrounds will load when you open the pages.
2. For users of other browsers, please consult the help files of your browser for assistance in turning off images and backgrounds.
3. Another method (for most browsers) to enable you to read the text more easily is simply to highlight the text. Without clicking and dragging, this can be accomplished by choosing "Select All" from the Edit menu at the top of your browser window. This will contrast the text against the background and eliminates the need to change your browser settings.

On to the Lectionary Readings''

Revised Common Lectionary Readings

Readings for Year B (November 1996 - November 1997)

- Season of Advent
 - [Table Version](#) ←
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Readings for Year A (November 1995 - November 1996)

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- Season of Christmas
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Readings for Year B (November 1996 - November 1997)

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Table of the Season of Advent, Year B, 1996

1 December 1996	<u>First Sunday of Advent</u>	<u>Isaiah 64:1-9</u> <u>Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19</u> <u>1 Corinthians 1:3-9</u> <u>Mark 13:24-37</u>
8 December 1996	<u>Second Sunday of Advent</u>	<u>Isaiah 40:1-11</u> <u>Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13</u> <u>2 Peter 3:8-15a</u> <u>Mark 1:1-8</u>
15 December 1996	<u>Third Sunday of Advent</u>	<u>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11</u> <u>Psalm 126 or</u> <u>Luke 1:47-55</u> <u>1 Thessalonians 5:16-24</u> <u>John 1:6-8, 19-28</u>
22 December 1996	<u>Fourth Sunday of Advent</u>	<u>2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16</u> <u>Luke 1:47-55 or</u> <u>Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26</u> <u>Romans 16:25-27</u> <u>Luke 1:26-38</u>

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The Season of
Advent

YEAR B

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 1999

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 1999

Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 1999

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126 or
Luke 1:47-55
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 1999

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:47-55 or
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

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The Season of
Advent

YEAR A

<u>First Sunday of Advent</u>	December 2, 2001	Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44
<u>Second Sunday of Advent</u>	December 9, 2001	Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12
<u>Third Sunday of Advent</u>	December 16, 2001	Isaiah 35:1-10 Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:47-55 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11
<u>Fourth Sunday of Advent</u>	December 23, 2001	Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25

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The Season of
Advent

YEAR C

<u>First Sunday of Advent</u>	December 3, 2000	Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36
<u>Second Sunday of Advent</u>	December 10, 2000	Baruch 5:1-9 or Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 1:68-79 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6
<u>Third Sunday of Advent</u>	December 17, 2000	Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18
<u>Fourth Sunday of Advent</u>	December 24, 2000	Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46b-55 <i>or</i> Psalm 80:1-7 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

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The Season of
Advent

YEAR A

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Clicking on the  icon will search the [Religious Iconography Image Database](#) for images related to that liturgical date.

Liturgical Date	Hebrew Bible Lection	Psalm	Epistle Lection	Gospel Lection
 <u>First Sunday of Advent</u> December 2, 2007	Isaiah 2:1-5	Psalm 122	Romans 13:11-14	Matthew 24:36-44
 <u>Second Sunday of Advent</u> December 9, 2007	Isaiah 11:1-10	Psalm 72:1-7, 18- 19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12
 <u>Third Sunday of Advent</u> December 16, 2007	Isaiah 35:1-10	Psalm 146:5-10 or <i>Luke 1:47-55</i>	James 5:7-10	Matthew 11:2-11
 <u>Fourth Sunday of Advent</u> December 23, 2007	Isaiah 7:10-16	Psalm 80:1-7, 17- 19	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25

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[Scripture Readings Listed According to the Books of the Bible, PDF format](#)

[Scripture Readings Listed According to the Books of the Bible, Excel format](#)

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-  [Season after Pentecost](#) (also available in two files: [first half](#) and [second half](#))

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-  [Season after Pentecost](#) (also available in two files: [first half](#) and [second half](#))

Year C *November 2009 to November 2010*


Feeds for November 2009 on will only be available from the [new lectionary site](#).

What is RSS?

RSS (Really Simple Syndication) is an Internet method used to publish frequently updated content such as blog entries, news headlines or podcasts. An RSS document, which is called a "feed," contains either a summary of content from an associated web site or the full text.

RSS makes it possible for people to keep up with their favorite web sites in an automated manner that's easier than checking them manually.

How do I get started?

- Click on the RSS icon  for the feed to which you want to subscribe.
- In RSS-aware browsers, like recent versions of Internet Explorer and Firefox, the feed will display on a Web page and you'll be given options for ways to subscribe. These options will typically appear at the top of the Web page.
- If your browser doesn't give you these options, copy the URL for the feed (an address typically ending in [.xml](#)) to a [feed reader](#).

[adapted from Wikipedia's [article on RSS](#)]

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Welcome

YEAR C

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November 2010

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Year C (2009 - 2010)

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READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Proper 7 (12) (June 20, 2010)

- First reading and Psalm
 - 1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a
 - Psalm 42 and 43
- Alternate First reading and Psalm
 - Isaiah 65:1-9
 - Psalm 22:19-28
- Second reading
 - Galatians 3:23-29
- Gospel
 - Luke 8:26-39

TABLE OF READINGS FOR THE CURRENT SEASON

[Season after Pentecost \(May 30, 2010 - November 25, 2010\)](#)

The above terms, "First Reading and Psalm," "Second Reading," "Gospel," etc., are organizational nomenclature that broadly categorize each day's readings. Seasonal variations in the organization of the readings result in differing groupings of scripture throughout the liturgical year, especially during the Season of Pentecost. To read more, click [here](#).

During the Season of Pentecost, the Revised Common Lectionary offers two sets of parallel readings. "First" OT readings follow major stories/themes, read mostly continuously, beginning in Year A with Genesis and ending in Year C with the later prophets. "Alternate" OT readings follow the historical tradition of thematically pairing the OT reading with the Gospel reading. Whichever approach is chosen at the beginning of Pentecost, the intent is for the remaining Season of Pentecost readings to follow the same approach. In addition, both sets of readings offer "complementary" options (indicated by italics,) readings that may be used with, or in place of, the standard reading.

COMMENTS: Please send your comments and questions about the new website and its offerings to the Vanderbilt Divinity Library staff.

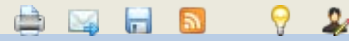
ART and PRAYER

For each week, the RCL website has added scriptural reflections based on

-- Site Tip --

What is the best browser and version for viewing the Lectionary site?

[See All FAQs >>](#)



PROPER 7 (12)

*Fourth Sunday after
Pentecost*

Year C

June 20, 2010

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Year C (2009 - 2010)

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- Season after Pentecost**

- ◊ Trinity Sunday
- ◊ Proper 5 (10)
- ◊ Proper 6 (11)
- ◊ **Proper 7 (12)**
- ◊ Proper 8 (13)
- ◊ Proper 9 (14)
- ◊ Proper 10 (15)
- ◊ Proper 11 (16)

<< 1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a and Psalm 42 and 43 • Isaiah 65:1-9 and Psalm 22:19-28 • >>
Galatians 3:23-29 • Luke 8:26-39

1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a

19:1 Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.

19:2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow."

19:3 Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

19:4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."

19:5 Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat."

19:6 He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again.

19:7 The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you."

19:8 He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

19:9 At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

19:10 He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

- ◊ **ART**
- ◊ PRAYER
- ◊ OTHER VERSIONS

- ◊ Proper 12 (17)
- ◊ Proper 13 (18)
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- ◊ Proper 27 (32)
- ◊ Proper 28 (33)
- ◊ Reign of Christ -
Proper 29 (34)
- ◊ Thanksgiving Day,
USA

19:11 He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake;

19:12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

19:13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

19:14 He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

19:15a Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus.

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Psalm 42 and 43

42:1 As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

42:2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

42:3 My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

42:4 These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

42:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help

42:6 and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

42:7 Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me.

42:8 By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

42:9 I say to God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?"

42:10 As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

42:11 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God;

for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

43:1 Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; from those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me!

43:2 For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you cast me off? Why must I walk about mournfully because of the oppression of the enemy?

43:3 O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

43:4 Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

43:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

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Isaiah 65:1-9

65:1 I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name.

65:2 I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices;

65:3 a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks;

65:4 who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

65:5 who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long.

65:6 See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps

65:7 their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions.

65:8 Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all.

65:9 I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

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Psalms 22:19-28

22:19 But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

22:20 Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!

22:21 Save me from the mouth of the lion! From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.

22:22 I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

22:23 You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

22:24 For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

22:25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

22:26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!

22:27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

22:28 For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

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Galatians 3:23-29

3:23 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.

3:24 Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.

3:25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian,

3:26 for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

3:27 As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

3:28 There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

3:29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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Luke 8:26-39

8:26 Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

8:27 As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs.

8:28 When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"--

8:29 for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)

8:30 Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him.

8:31 They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

8:32 Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding, and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission.

8:33 Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

8:34 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country.

8:35 Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

8:36 Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.

8:37 Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned.

8:38 The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying,

8:39 "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

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<< [1 Kings 19:1-4, \(5-7\), 8-15a and Psalm 42 and 43](#) • [Isaiah 65:1-9 and Psalm 22:19-28](#) • [Galatians 3:23-29](#) • [Luke 8:26-39](#) >>

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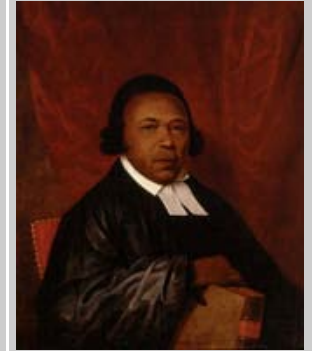
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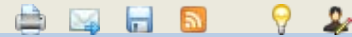
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PROPER 7 (12)

*Fourth Sunday after
Pentecost*

Year C

June 20, 2010

- Home**
- Year A (2010 - 2011)**
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 - Christmas
 - Epiphany
 - Lent
 - Holy Week
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- Year B (2011 - 2012)**
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 - ◊ Trinity Sunday
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 - ◊ Proper 9 (14)
 - ◊ Proper 10 (15)
 - ◊ Proper 11 (16)

<< *Thematic* • *Intercessory* • *Scripture* >>

Thematic

Beckoning God,
as you moved in the lives of Elijah and Elisha,
move in our lives,
inviting us to journey to unknown territory,
to listen for your voice,
and to speak your prophetic word
in a world that does not want to hear.
empowered by your Spirit,
grant us the courage we need
to journey, trust, listen, speak,
and accept your commission
to be your faithful servant people. Amen.

- ◊ *1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a and Psalm 42 and 43*
- ◊ *Isaiah 65:1-9 and Psalm 22:19-28*
- ◊ *Galatians 3:23-29*
- ◊ *Luke 8:26-39*

Intercessory

Friends in Christ,
God invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers
as dear to us as our own needs.
Loving our neighbors as ourselves,
we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions
on behalf of the church and the world.

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Hear our prayers, God of power,
and through the ministry of your Son
free us from the grip of the tomb,
that we may desire you as the fullness of life
and proclaim your saving deeds to all the world. Amen.

OR

As you heard the prayer of Isaac and Rebekah, O God,
and guided them in the way of your love,
so listen now to those who call upon you.

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- ◉ Proper 13 (18)
- ◉ Proper 14 (19)
- ◉ Proper 15 (20)
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- ◉ Proper 25 (30)
- ◉ All Saints Day
- ◉ Proper 26 (31)
- ◉ Proper 27 (32)
- ◉ Proper 28 (33)
- ◉ Reign of Christ -
Proper 29 (34)
- ◉ Thanksgiving Day,
USA

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Move us to praise your gracious will,
for in Christ Jesus you have saved us from the deeds of death
and opened for us the hidden ways of your love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OR

Lord God, friend of those in need,
your Son Jesus has untied our burdens
and healed our spirits.
We lift up the prayers of our hearts for those still burdened,
those seeking healing,
those in need within the church and the world.

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Hear our prayers
that we may love you with our whole being
and willingly share the concerns of our neighbors. Amen.

OR

Creator God,
you call us to love and serve you
with body, mind, and spirit
through loving your creation
and our sisters and brothers.
Open our hearts in compassion
and receive these petitions
on behalf of the needs of the church and the world.

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Holy One,
hear our prayers and make us faithful stewards
of the fragile bounty of this earth
so that we may be entrusted with the riches of heaven. Amen.

OR

We praise your abiding guidance, O God,
for you sent us Jesus, our Teacher and Messiah,
to model for us the way of love for the whole universe.
We offer these prayers of love
on behalf of ourselves and our neighbors,
on behalf of your creation and our fellow creatures.

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Loving God,
open our ears to hear your word
and draw us closer to you,
that the whole world may be one with you
as you are one with us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OR

God of mercy and healing,
you who hear the cries of those in need,
receive these petitions of your people
that all who are troubled
may know peace, comfort, and courage.

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Life-giving God,
heal our lives,
that we may acknowledge your wonderful deeds
and offer you thanks from generation to generation
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OR

God of salvation,
who sent your Son to seek out and save what is lost,
hear our prayers
on behalf of those who are lost in our day,
receiving these petitions and thanksgivings
with your unending compassion.

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Redeeming Sustainer,
visit your people
and pour out your strength and courage upon us,
that we may hurry to make you welcome
not only in our concern for others,
but by serving them
generously and faithfully in your name. Amen.

Scripture (Series 1)

God our refuge and hope,
when race, status, or gender divide us,
when despondency and despair haunt and afflict us,
when community lies shattered:
comfort and convict us with the stillness of your presence,
that we may confess all you have done,
through Christ to whom we belong
and in whom we are one. Amen.

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1 Kings 19:1-4; Isaiah 65:1-9; Psalm 22:19-28; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39 (New International Version)

New International Version (NIV)

1 Kings 19:1-4

[Listen to this passage](#)

1 Kings 19

Elijah Flees to Horeb

¹ Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ² So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them."

³ Elijah was afraid ^[a] and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, ⁴ while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."

Footnotes:

a. [1 Kings 19:3](#) Or *Elijah saw*

[New International Version \(NIV\)](#)

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Isaiah 65:1-9

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Isaiah 65

Judgment and Salvation

¹ "I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me. To a nation that did not call on my name,

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PROPER 7 (12)

*Fourth Sunday after
Pentecost*

Year C

June 20, 2010

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Advent
Christmas
Epiphany
Lent
Holy Week
Easter
Season after Pentecost

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Christmas
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Lent
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Year C (2009 - 2010)




Advent
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Easter

Season after Pentecost

- ◊ Trinity Sunday
- ◊ Proper 5 (10)
- ◊ Proper 6 (11)
- ◊ **Proper 7 (12)**
- ◊ Proper 8 (13)
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* Luke 8:26-39

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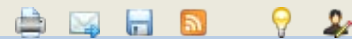
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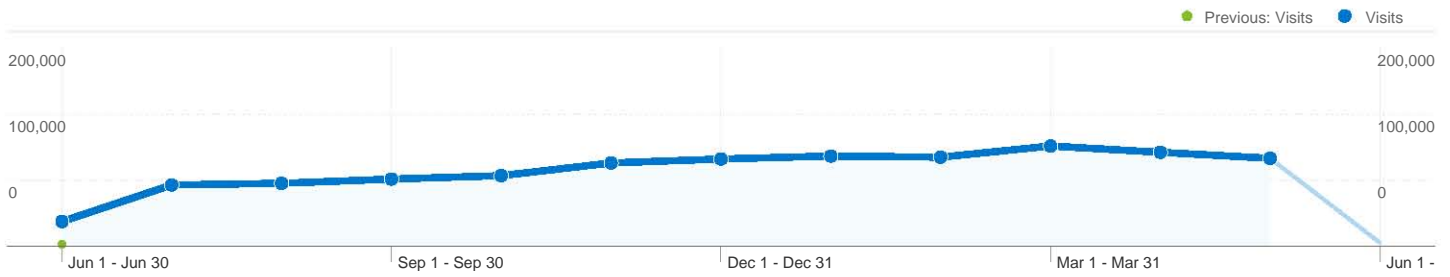
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00:02:38 Avg. Time on Site

Previous: 00:03:14 (-18.48%)

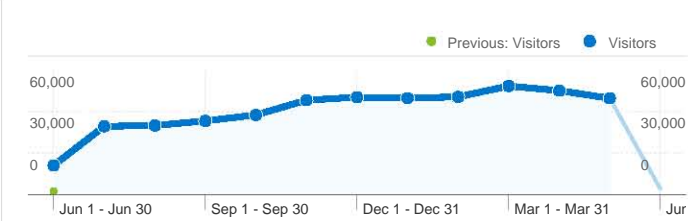
2.84 Pages/Visit

Previous: 3.24 (-12.35%)

37.44% % New Visits

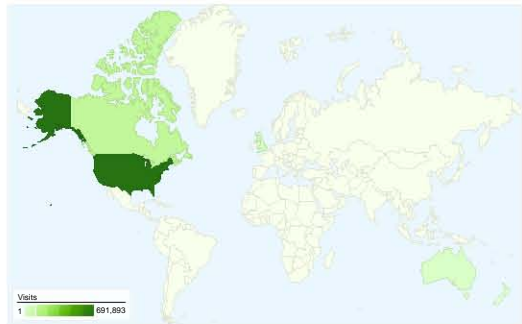
Previous: 49.87% (-24.92%)

Visitors Overview



Visitors
347,696

Map Overlay



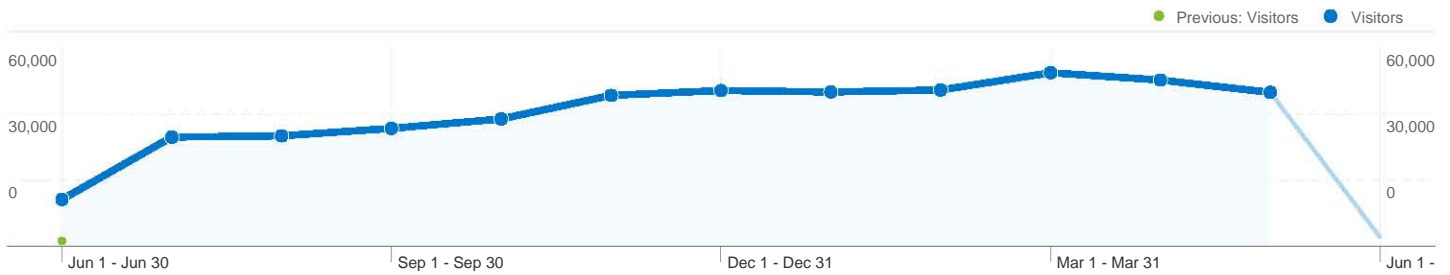
Traffic Sources Overview



- **Search Engines**
371,196.00 (40.00%)
- **Referring Sites**
315,690.00 (34.02%)
- **Direct Traffic**
241,101.00 (25.98%)
- **Other**
2 (> 0.00%)

Content Overview		
Pages	Pageviews	% Pageviews
/		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	755,092	28.69%
Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	2,260	35.91%
% Change	33,311.15%	-20.10%
/lections.php?year=B&season=Season after Pentecost		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	106,981	4.07%
Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	1,107	17.59%
% Change	9,564.05%	-76.89%
/lections.php?year=C&season=Lent		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	77,442	2.94%
Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	34	0.54%
% Change	227,670.58%	444.67%
/lections.php?year=C&season=Easter		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	76,375	2.90%
Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	23	0.37%
% Change	331,965.21%	694.07%
/lections.php?year=C&season=Epiphany		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	72,378	2.75%
Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	36	0.57%
% Change	200,950.00%	380.77%

R



347,696 people visited this site

927,989 Visits

Previous: 1,945 (47,611.52%)

347,696 Absolute Unique Visitors

Previous: 1,602 (21,603.87%)

2,631,612 Pageviews

Previous: 6,293 (41,718.08%)

2.84 Average Pageviews

Previous: 3.24 (-12.35%)

00:02:38 Time on Site

Previous: 00:03:14 (-18.48%)

43.85% Bounce Rate

Previous: 34.60% (26.72%)

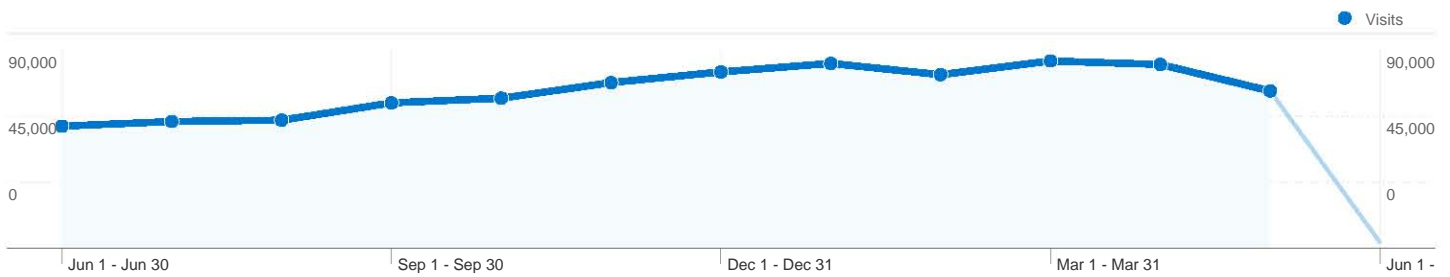
37.44% New Visits

Previous: 49.87% (-24.92%)

Return to Page 13

Technical Profile

Browser	Visits	% visits	Connection Speed	Visits	% visits
Internet Explorer			Cable		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	478,508	51.56%	Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	346,574	37.35%
Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	1,094	56.25%	Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	663	34.09%
% Change	43,639.31%	-8.33%	% Change	52,173.60%	9.56%
Firefox			DSL		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	231,770	24.98%	Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	318,290	34.30%
Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	502	25.81%	Jun 30, 2009 - Jun 30, 2009	708	36.40%
% Change	46,069.32%	-3.23%	% Change	44,856.21%	-5.77%



Site Usage

864,289 Visits

45.05% Bounce Rate

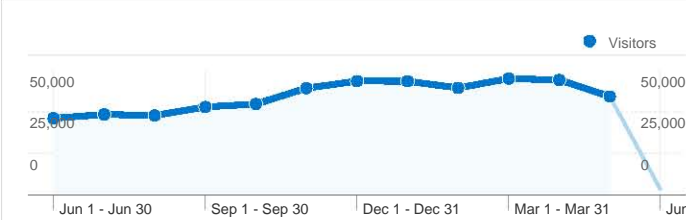
2,332,225 Pageviews

00:02:10 Avg. Time on Site

2.70 Pages/Visit

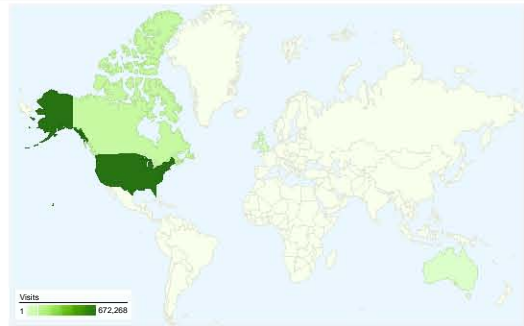
38.47% % New Visits

Visitors Overview



Visitors
358,896

Map Overlay



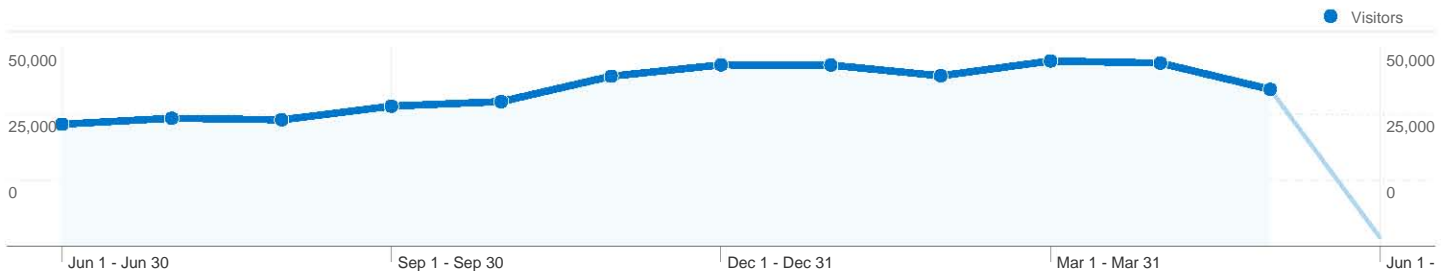
Traffic Sources Overview



- **Direct Traffic**
311,459.00 (36.04%)
- **Search Engines**
301,524.00 (34.89%)
- **Referring Sites**
250,870.00 (29.03%)
- **Other**
436 (0.05%)

Content Overview

Pages	Pageviews	% Pageviews
/lectionary/	643,816	27.61%
/lectionary/APentecost/index.ht	218,297	9.36%
/	119,449	5.12%
/lectionary/BEpiphany/index.ht	99,555	4.27%
/lectionary/BEaster/index.htm	95,497	4.09%



358,896 people visited this site

864,289 Visits

358,896 Absolute Unique Visitors

2,332,225 Pageviews

2.70 Average Pageviews

00:02:10 Time on Site

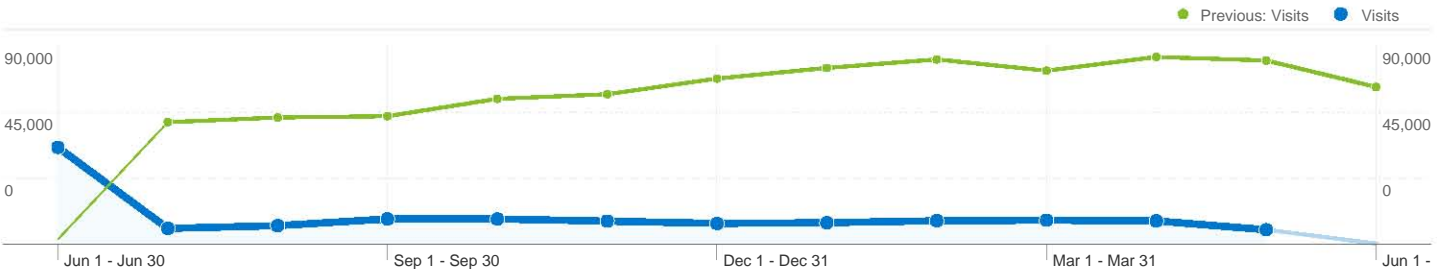
45.05% Bounce Rate

38.47% New Visits

[Return to Page 13](#)

Technical Profile

Browser	Visits	% visits	Connection Speed	Visits	% visits
Internet Explorer	561,828	65.00%	DSL	265,004	30.66%
Firefox	199,054	23.03%	Cable	259,541	30.03%
Safari	76,104	8.81%	Unknown	169,840	19.65%
Mozilla	11,297	1.31%	T1	131,843	15.25%
Chrome	8,624	1.00%	Dialup	26,990	3.12%



Site Usage

150,636 Visits

Previous: 863,889 (-82.56%)

63.58% Bounce Rate

Previous: 45.06% (41.10%)

306,858 Pageviews

Previous: 2,330,136 (-86.83%)

00:02:05 Avg. Time on Site

Previous: 00:02:10 (-3.57%)

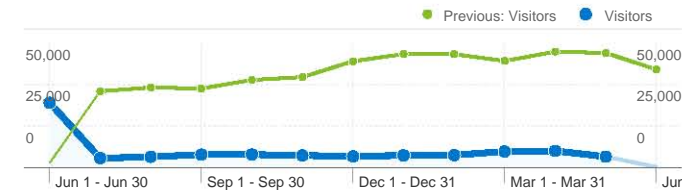
2.04 Pages/Visit

Previous: 2.70 (-24.48%)

34.68% % New Visits

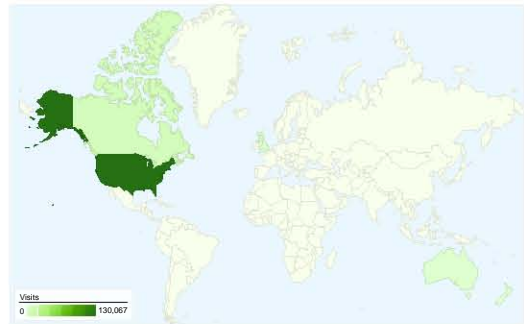
Previous: 38.49% (-9.90%)

Visitors Overview



Visitors
65,068

Map Overlay



Traffic Sources Overview



- **Direct Traffic**
75,079.00 (49.84%)
- **Referring Sites**
47,275.00 (31.38%)
- **Search Engines**
28,235.00 (18.74%)
- **Other**
47 (0.03%)

Content Overview		
Pages	Pageviews	% Pageviews
/		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	118,130	38.50%
May 31, 2008 - May 31, 2009	119,326	5.12%
% Change	-1.00%	651.74%
/lectionary/		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	25,037	8.16%
May 31, 2008 - May 31, 2009	643,227	27.60%
% Change	-96.11%	-70.44%
/lectionary/BPentecost/index.htm		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	22,827	7.44%
May 31, 2008 - May 31, 2009	46,563	2.00%
% Change	-50.98%	272.26%
/lectionaryclassic/		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	15,630	5.09%
May 31, 2008 - May 31, 2009	0	0.00%
% Change	100.00%	100.00%
/lectionary/BPentecost/bProper6.htm		
Jun 1, 2009 - Jun 1, 2010	7,807	2.54%
May 31, 2008 - May 31, 2009	2,438	0.10%
% Change	220.22%	2,331.61%

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