

## **Reflecting on a Day of Grace**

*Nancy Paulin, vergers of St. George's Anglican Church Fort Langley, B.C., shares highlights from her participation in the Ordination of T. Vincent Jang to the Sacred Order of Deacons.*

While on vacation in San Francisco, I was honored to be invited to take part, as a ceremonial vergers, in the ordination of T. Vincent Jang to the diaconate. The service was held at Grace Cathedral on Saturday, December 4, 2004.

The day began at 9 a.m. as The Rt. Reverend William E. Swing, Bishop of California, led the ordinands and their presenters through the details of the service. One could see and hear the sheer delight of all as the bishop conducted the rehearsal with much good humor.

My assigned task was to lead the diocesan clergy, in procession, from the lower floor of the cathedral to their seats. Promptly at 11 o' clock the great Ghiberti doors opened. Led by the Crucifer and Choir, the dignified and colorful procession of clergy, presenters banner bearers and bishops wound its way through the cathedral.

As verging the clergy was my only responsibility, I was able to thoroughly enjoy the rest of the service – glorious music, provided by the Cathedral singers, the First Lesson, read in Cantonese, a moving sermon given by The Rt. Reverend Robert R. Shahan, retired Bishop of Arizona and, the highlight of the service - the ordination of five priests and six deacons. Among those presenting Vincent was Guild member Dr. Anna McHargue, vergers at Advent of Christ the King Episcopal Church, San Francisco.

The Dismissal was pronounced first in English by a newly ordained deacon, then in Cantonese by 'Deacon Vince'. As the procession moved out of the cathedral, the congregation broke into applause as family and friends celebrated the beginning of these ministries.

It was a tremendous privilege to be able to celebrate with Vincent as he moves into his new ministry in the church. "May the Lord by his grace uphold Vincent in the service he lays upon him."

My thanks to Grace Cathedral vergers, Albert Lander and Charles Shipley III, for their warm welcome. To be a part of this service was an experience I will long remember.