

### **The Rev'd Mark K.J. Robinson attended CREDO Conference**

The Rev'd Mark K.J. Robinson, rector of Calvary Parish, Stonington, accepted an invitation to attend a CREDO conference from 17 to 24 September at New Orleans Episcopal Conference Center. In Mark's absence, during his continuing education component of his agreement with us, the Rev'd Sara Potter and the Rev'd Anne Kimball covered pastoral care and liturgical responsibilities.

The eight-day conference provides participants with the means to find direction and clarity in four component areas: spiritual, physical, vocational and financial. CREDO provides a foundation for participants to embrace wellness and to prayerfully discern the direction of their vocation.

CREDO was founded in 1997 as a pilot program funded by The Church Pension Group. The number of participants has grown each year, with more than 500 clergy and bishops attending a conference in 2005. More than 2,300 Episcopal clergy, deacons and bishops from virtually every diocese in the country have taken advantage of the CREDO benefit. Participants are selected at random from all active clergy with more than one year in the pension fund. The Church Pension Group pays all but \$500 of the conference costs.

Calvary Parish's rector will join approximately 30 other clergy in the CREDO conference. Over the course of the conference, participants will meet in plenary sessions, small groups and private consultations with faculty members. Participants also have ample quiet time to reflect on their personal and professional lives.

Each participant commits to extensive reflection through pre-conference instruments and surveys that focus on personal and professional wellness. The work of CREDO is organized around four major areas in each person's personal and professional life. Each of these components is explored as an integral part of the whole.

- Spiritual – offers CREDO as a sacred space where each participant can reflect on his or her interior life and relationship with God in Christ.
- Vocational – provides opportunities for reflection, discernment and planning in the professional areas of vocation, career and work.
- Health – encourages reflection on physical and emotional health and well-being, stewardship of the body and development of a plan to address the individual's health needs.
- Financial – explores all aspects of personal financial management and encourages reflection on God-given resources and how best to use them in response to God's call.

Through this discernment and visioning process, and with the help of a faculty team of professionals, each participant builds a CREDO Plan – a personal covenant based on his or her CREDO work and a formal expression of the CREDO experience. The CREDO Plan provides a personal baseline and strategy for effective implementation.



## **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS IN HONOR OF ST. FRANCIS**

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 6th  
10:00 A.M.**

**This is a special occasion for parishioners  
and their pets (stuffed animals are also  
allowed)!**

**Refreshments for all!**

