

## Forty-Ninth Anniversary – 16 November 2012

It was forty-nine years ago that Bishop James Parker Dees founded our Anglican Orthodox Church. Like the Reformers of old, Bishop Dees came to the unavoidable and uncomfortable but very clear conclusion the modern church had become corrupt, more than that, heretical. While the basics were there, there was a clear need for reforming the church into conformation with Scripture. As in the 1500s, the church was in serious need of reformation. At the time, few in positions of authority grasped the need. Most of them were more interested in their trappings of power. James Parker Dees was the Reformer of our times. He managed to begin the successful reformation process which goes on to this day. He established a church in "perfect conformation with Scripture" as they say.

While we acknowledge it is not truly perfect, the leadership of the AOC has been dedicated to its continual improvement and perfection. Like James Parker Dees, the current leadership is all about Him and not them.

As Bishop Jerry said, "Today and for ever, we are thankful to God for all the Reformers, in particular James Parker Dee. Were it not for his great courage and sacrifice of Bishop Dees, I would have no church to attend which I could feel free to serve in good conscience. He gave us a church that continues to honor and serve our Lord Jesus Christ!"