

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 42 No. 16

The Fourth Sunday in Lent (Refreshment or Mothering Sunday)

March 18, 2012

NEXT SUNDAY AT 5:30 P.M. – EVENSONG & STABAT MATER

Giovanni Pergolesi (1700-1727)

Sung by Lucy Sheils and Rebecca Flaherty

PERGOLESI'S *STABAT MATER*

By very ancient tradition, March 25th is the Feast of our Lord's Annunciation - the feast of his Incarnation by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary. When it falls on a Sunday in Lent, as it does this year, it is transferred to Monday. We shall have the best of both worlds, for on Sunday March 25th at 5:30 p.m. after a brief plainchant evensong, Lucy Sheils (alto) and Rebecca Flaherty (soprano) - two of the finest vocalists in Savannah - will perform one of the masterpieces of the western musical tradition, the *Stabat Mater* of Giovanni Pergolesi.

The *Stabat Mater Dolorosa* (translated as "At the cross her station keeping", Hymnal 1940 #76), a medieval hymn meditating on the Virgin Mary's suffering with her Son at his Cross, is one of the great expressions of Christian devotion to the Crucified Lord. It has inspired numerous musical settings (from Palestrina to Haydn and Dvorak), but Pergolesi's is perhaps the most eminent. Dramatic and passionate, Pergolesi's setting, composed shortly before his death at the age of 25 in 1736, stunned Europe, and received perhaps the greatest compliment of all: J. S. Bach adapted his music for a setting of Psalm 51.

Pergolesi's setting is currently available

in a number of superb recorded performances. With great self-restraint, I own only twelve of them. Among these, I would recommend: Anna Netrebko and Marianno Pizzolato, with the *Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santo Cecilia*, conducted by Antonio Pappano; or Mirella Freni and Teresa Berganza, with the *Solisti dell'Orchestra "Scarlatti" di Napoli*, conducted by Ettore Gracis. Bach's setting of Pergolesi's music to the words of Psalm 51, "Tilge, Höchster, meine Sünden", BWV 1083, was recorded by Thomas Hengelbrock conducting the *Balthasar-Neumann-Ensemble* with Maya Boog and counter-tenor Michael Chance.

REHEARSING THE LAW (3)

After reading the first essay in this series, I was chastised for using the technical term *chiasmus*. With apologies, therefore, for this lapse from everyday usage, let me say that the chiasmic structure of the Ten Commandments means that each commandment of the first Table of the Law (love for God) is paired with a commandment of the second Table of the Law (Love for our Neighbour).

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STANDING NOTICES

The occasional Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony, Penance, Communion and Unction of the Sick, and the Office of Burial of the Dead are always available by appointment, at announced times, or as necessary.

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

Please call the Church Office to inform the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital.

ST. JOHN'S WEB SITE

Parish Paper essays may be read on our web site: www.stjohnssav.org

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. David C. Barrow III

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God in memory of Mary Cromley Jeffords by Mr. and Mrs. Edwin H. Culver and Dr. and Mrs. Roland S. Summers.

And in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Harrell Charles Murray and Miss Ernestine Murray by Dr. and Mrs. Morgan W. Murray.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr., Mrs. Philip F. Kirk, Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff, Mrs. Thomas E. Johnson
Mrs. Nicholas Farley, Mrs. Roland S. Summers
Mrs. Gary Schubert

DAILY LENTEN SERVICES

Mrs. Neil H. Victor, Mrs. Timothy E. Coy
Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff, Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague
Mrs. David A. Young

ACOLYTES

8:00 John DeBacker
10:30 Clayton Compton
Lawson Turner, Chris Wasden
John Osborne, Mikel Kelly
Hunt Wasden, Henry Bowden

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Key D. Compton

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASSES

➤ Clergy: *Epistle to the Galatians* – (Chapel)

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Tuesday 6:45 a.m. *Men's Breakfast & Discussion on the Psalms* – Fr Dunbar (Parish House Dining Room, enter by Kitchen)

Thursday 7 a.m. *No Men's Study March 22nd*

Thursday: *Men's Forum* March 22nd..

WOMEN'S STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Reading Rm, Cranmer Hall.

Wednesday: 10:45 a.m.-Noon *Philippians*.

Thursday: 9:15 -10:30 a.m. - Athanasius *On the Incarnation* (with Fr O' Brien)

EASTER LILIES

If you wish to give a lily for the decoration of the Church at Easter, send a check for \$35 payable to St. John's Chancel Society marked "*Easter Lily*" to the Church Office. Please be sure to indicate clearly the intention of the gift (memorial, thanksgiving, etc.) *The list will be published the Sunday after Easter.*

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

This pairing is especially evident in the third commandment prohibiting irreverence for the divine Name, and the ninth commandment forbidding false witness against one's Neighbour. The primary context for "taking the Lord's name in vain" (by false oaths, perjury) and for "false witness" is the same – a court of law. When you call on God as your witness, you must speak the truth about your neighbor.

Nonetheless, as God is our Judge, these commandments apply to the whole of life. We must speak of God (and to God) with reverent love for him as he has revealed himself to us in his Word (that is what his "Name" means); and with must speak of our neighbours, and to our neighbours, with reverent love for them also. The Epistle of James (ch 3) brings these two ideas together in warning against "the tongue" which "no man can tame: it is a unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be." To the speech that springs from "envying and strife" and stirs up discord he opposes that speech which is "first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace". St. Paul speaks likewise to the Ephesians: "putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another" (4:25). We are to "speak the truth in love" (4:15): in our witness, the claims of truth cannot be set against the claims of love.

GGD

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

MONDAY– FRIDAY:

8:15AM - *Morning Prayer*
& *Holy Communion*

5:30PM - *Evening Prayer*
& *Holy Communion*

WEDNESDAY

8:15 – *Morning Prayer*
& *Holy Communion*

9:45 – *Litany*

10am *Sung Eucharist*

5:30PM– *Evensong, Supper,*
& *Adult Classes (6:30- 7:30 p.m.)*

ADULT CATECHISM:

NO Class THIS WEEK

T. S. ELIOT'S FOUR QUARTETS.

Fr O'Brien

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT

Mike Chastain To register, email:

mc3@me.com

THURSDAY:

NOON MEN'S FORUM

SATURDAY:

10:30 AM - *Holy Communion*

CHOIR EVENT

The Parish Choirs of St. John's Church, Savannah, and All Saints Church, Hilton Head will present a concert of sacred music, Sunday, March 18th at 4:00 at All Saints Church, 3001 Meeting Street, Hilton Head Island.

THE NEW PARISH DIRECTORIES HAVE ARRIVED!!

They may be picked up Sundays during Coffee Hour or in the Church Office during business hours 9—4:30. If you have your picture in the directory you may receive the first one free. Additional directories are \$10.00 each.

RECTOR'S CLASSES CANCELLED

The Rector will be speaking at All Saints Church, Thomasville, on Wednesday March 21st, and so his classes on March 21st at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday March 22nd at 7 a.m. will be cancelled (for this week only).

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION—(No organ during Lent)

COLLECTS, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL (*The Gloria in excelsis is omitted until Easter*) 130, 124
A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:00—12 Noon NURSERY (Cranmer Hall)

9:30 A.M.—ADULT, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN’S CLASSES

(Chapel and Cranmer Hall)

**10:30 A.M.—PRE-SCHOOL WORSHIP HOUR—
 3 year olds through Kindergarten** (Cranmer Hall)

10:30 A.M. —SUNG EUCHARIST & ADDRESS

HYMN #385 *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*Austria

ANTE-COMMUNION

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The Ten Commandments.....68

KYRIE ELEISON #702 John Merbecke

Collects..... 130, 124

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 3:1-22 *Moses called to deliver Israel from Egypt*

Epistle: Galatians 4:21-5:1 *Jerusalem which is above is free*130

HYMN: #597 *Jerusalem the Golden*Ewing

The Holy Gospel: John 6:1-14 *This is that prophet that should come into the world.*.....131

The Nicene Creed.....71

HYMN #59 *Lord, Who Throughout these Forty Days* St. Flavian

1st through 4th grade children enrolled in Jr. Choir will exit following the Cross.

ADDRESS.....Fr. O’ Brien

OFFERTORY

Sentences & Anthem: *Lord, How Long Wilt thou be Angry?*Henry Purcell

Presentation of Alms #732 *All Things are Thine*

Prayer for the State of the Church.....74

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation, Confession and Absolution, *Sursum Corda* 75, 76

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The Lord’s Prayer and Prayer of Humble Access (*said with the congregation*)82

AGNUS DEI #706..... John Merbecke

HYMN: #195 *Father We Thank Thee*Rendez A Dieu

MOTET: *Adoramus Te, Christe*.....Orlandus Lassus

Thanksgiving (said with the congregation)83

The Blessing (*Kneeling*).....84

HYMN #589 *O What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be*.....O Quanta Qualia

ORGAN: *Cortège and Litany (Opus 19, No. 2)*.....Marcel Dupré

Everyone is invited to attend the Coffee Hour in the Parish House immediately after the 10:30 service.

If you are a guest and visiting our Parish, please make yourself known.

12 Noon—HOLY COMMUNION (Chapel—Collect, Epistle, Gospel BCP pp 130, 124.)