

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 43 No. 33

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

July 15, 2012

THIS WEEK - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 16TH—20TH * 9 A.M. - NOON

Open (free of charge) to children 3 years old (and potty trained) through to those who have completed 1st grade and are moving into 2nd grade. Register Now! Volunteers welcome.

DEACONS

This summer the Reverend Horace Tipton has been spending a couple of months with us as a student of Elliott House. That has been interesting from a number of points of view, but one of them consists in the fact that he is a recently-made deacon. Fr O'Brien and I both are deacons, but we are also priests, which tends to obscure the distinction of the two. So what is a deacon?

In general Greek usage, the words "deacon" (*diakonos*) and "diaconate" (*diakonia*) refer to intermediaries of various kinds, such as messengers or waiters. In the New Testament, these words often have this general sense. When Jesus tells his disciples to follow his example, who came "not to be minister unto, but to minister", he is speaking of *diakonia*, which simply means ministry or service. In this sense, all Christians exercise a ministry of *diakonia*, all Christians are called to service of the gospel (cf. Acts 20:24; 21:9, where this term is applied to the life and preaching of St. Paul).

But in the New Testament this general sense acquires a technical sense, a specific function or office of deacons (Philippians 1:1), along with bishops and presbyters (or priests). As the Prayer Book ordinal notes, "it is evident unto all men, diligently reading

Holy Scripture and ancient Authors, that from the Apostles' time there have been these Orders of Ministers in Christ's Church, - Bishops, Priests, and Deacons". St. Paul discusses the moral qualifications of deacons in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 (a passage read at the making of a deacon, Prayer Book, p. 531). Generally speaking, deacons are subordinate clergy, assistants of those charged with the pastoral care of the church, the "pastors" (shepherds) charged with *episcopo* (oversight) of the Church - both bishops (*episcopoi*) and the presbyters (or priests) who are associated with them in the church's government.

In the Church's tradition, and in the American Prayer Book, St. Stephen (the first martyr) is identified as one of the seven deacons ordained by the apostles (an inference drawn from Acts 6, which identifies them simply as "the Seven"). They are charged with the service of the poor, although Stephen also becomes a vigorous preacher of the gospel. Following scriptural and ancient precedent, the historic Ordinal of the 1928 Prayer Book charges deacons with various duties of service in the liturgy, service of the Gospel, and

THE PARISH PAPER

OF

St. John's Church

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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 Mr. Lawrence L. Hearn III

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. John Riley

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. Ross Hunter Philbrick by Dr. Thomas Philbrick.

And in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Howell and Kathyne H. Koritz by Jeanne H. McMillan, Caroline, and Claire.

The flowers at the Chapel altar on Wednesday are given to the glory of God and in honor of the anniversary of the Ordination of the Rev'd Gavin G. Dunbar.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard Sr.

Ms. Anne Mingledorff, Mrs. Philip F. Kirk
Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague, Ms. Jeanne McMillan,
Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish Jr., Mrs Edwin C. Shepherd, Jr.

ACOLYTES

8:00

10:30 Lawson Turner Clayton Compton,
Chris Dixon, Mikel Kelly,
Patrick Perrie, Hunt Wasden

COFFEE HOUR

Mrs. Frank P Lee

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING

Men's Bible Study & Discussion Groups

(READING ROOM, 3RD FLOOR, CRANMER HALL)

Tuesday 7:00 a.m. - Colossians, with Fr. O'Brien

Thursday 7:00 a. m. - Acts of the Apostles, with Fr. Dunbar

BAZAAR BUSINESS

The canners need fresh veggies and fruits (figs, peppers, pears, peaches, apples, mangos, etc) sugar, mint, pecans and half-pint jars. Jane Pressly 233-6551.

Storage unit available for White Elephant and Treasurer Room, contact Betsy Howard at 398-1326 or betsyd6@aol.com

CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Office closes at Noon on Fridays.
Monday through Thursday 9—4:30 p.m.
The Rector will be out of town until
Wednesday 18th July.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

service of charity: to assist the priest in divine service, especially the Holy Communion, at which he may proclaim the gospel, and distribute the consecrated elements. If licensed, he may also preach, and in certain circumstances may be given authority to baptize, and bury the dead. (He may not, however, celebrate the Eucharist, pronounce absolution or blessing, which are acts of pastoral authority reserved to bishops and priests.) He has two distinctive duties - the catechizing of new Christians, and, "where provision is so made, to search for the sick, poor, and impotent [i.e. disabled or otherwise helpless] people of the Parish, that they may be relieved with the alms of the Parishioners" (Prayer Book, p. 533). In ancient times his responsibility for administering alms for the relief of those in need developed into major administrative responsibilities (from which arose the office of Archdeacon). In his work as an "agricultural missionary" in Planting Faith Ministries - teaching and helping Anglican subsistence farmers in Kenya - the Reverend Mr. Tipton has been exercising diaconal ministry in the modern age.

In recent centuries, most deacons have been "transitional" deacons - that is, their diaconate lasts a short time before their ordination as priests. In reaction to this, there has been a revival of "permanent" or "vocational" deacons (those who do not go on to be made priests). The terms are clumsy, since the deacon does not cease to be a deacon when he becomes a priest, any more than a priest ceases to be a priest when he becomes a bishop. That is not just a technicality, for what such terms obscure is that *all* priestly and episcopal ministry is nothing else than ministry, service or *diakonia*. "The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to

minister, and to give his life" - in sacrifice, the priestly action of "the shepherd and bishop of our souls - "a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). All true priestly and episcopal ministry is founded upon the diaconal office and order.
GGD

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday- Friday (Chapel)

8:15am & 5:30pm

Morning or Evening Prayer

In addition, on Wednesday

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10:00 a.m. *Holy Communion*

SIGN UP FOR A SUMMER MORNING!

Parents &/or Grandparents are asked to sign up for one Sunday this summer, to teach a simple story-lesson to the Pre-School/ Kindergarten class at 10:30 a.m. Sign-up sheets will be in Cranmer Hall beginning this Sunday or call Maryan Harrell 232-8887 or 272-7925.

A FAREWELL

We bid farewell today to Choral Scholar Matthew Jones who will be moving to Ohio at the end of this week. We thank him for his nine years of service to the choir.

BERGSTROM GIFT

Last Sunday at the Coffee Hour to welcome Jeremy and Jackie Bergstrom to St. John's, both were presented with copies of the 1928 Prayer Book bound with King James Bible. These were the gifts, respectively, of the Men of St. John's and the Women of St. John's, in token of the community of faith and worship they have come to share with us.

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECT, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL 197

A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:30-12:00 (Noon)—Nursery (Cranmer Hall)

9:30-10:15—ADULTS & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL (Chapel)

Pre-School through 6th Grade Summer Program (Cranmer Hall)

10:30—11:30 Activities for Pre-School & Kindergarten (Cranmer Hall)

Jr. Choir—1st through 4th Grade (Cranmer Hall)

10:30 A.M. — MORNING PRAYER & SERMON

CARILLON

HYMN #158 *O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*..... Puer Nobis

Sentences, Confession, Absolution, & Lord's Prayer Prayer Book, pp. 3-7

Versicles and Responses 7-8

VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO #610..... 9

Psalm #28, 29.....373

First Lesson: Romans 6:3.....197

JUBILATE DEO #64515

Second Lesson: St. Matthew 5:20197

BENEDICTUS #63414

Apostles' Creed15

Versicles and Responses16

Collect for the Day197

Other Collects and Prayers, the Grace..... 17-20

HYMN #542 *Jesus shall reign* Duke Street

1st through 4th Grade Children enrolled in Jr. Choir will exit following the Cross.

THE SERMON..... Fr O'Brien

OFFERING

Sentences

Anthem: *All Thanks to Thee*..... George Frederic Handel

Mr. Matthew Jones, tenor

Presentation of Alms: Doxology #139, and Hymn #141 (verse 4)

PRAYER and BLESSING

HYMN #570 *O Jesus, I have promised*.....Llanfyllin

ORGAN:*Prelude and Fugue in C (BWV 553)*.....attr. Johann Sebastian Bach

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

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

12 Noon HOLY COMMUNION in the Chapel. (Collect, Epistle, Gospel as 8 a.m.)