

# The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 44 No. 14

The First Sunday in Lent

February 17, 2013

**THIS SUNDAY AT 5:30 P.M.**

**LENTEN CHORAL EVENSONG & CANTATA**

*"Hear My Prayer"--Felix Mendelssohn. Nursery available.*

## **DIOCESAN CONVENTION 2013**

The annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia took place in Tifton, Georgia, on Friday and Saturday, February 8th and 9th. There was much business of the usual kind, carried out with the competence and capability characteristic of the diocesan bishop and his office staff. Notably, the diocese has *reduced* its general asking of the parishes (to 10% across the board) and yet stayed within its budget. At the practical level, the diocese is a very well run organization, and there is an energy for building congregations that one must respect. The Convention also passed a resolution recommending that the national church (which currently asks 19% of its dioceses) adopt a 10% standard of funding, in accord with the historic standard of the tithes.

That is all good: yet a shadow over all of this remains, and was manifest at this Convention in the revision of a diocesan canon (church law) on "ethical standards". The former canon was passed in 2004, in response to the schismatic election, confirmation, and consecration of Gene Robinson as the Bishop of New Hampshire. In accord with the teaching of the Bible, the Prayer Book, the Catholic tradition, and the Lambeth Conference resolutions of the Anglican Communion bishops, it affirmed marriage (as the union

of a man and a woman) or abstinence from sexual intimacy, as the standard for the clergy. The bishop had asked for a revision of this canon, and a rather vague proposal had been drawn up by the Committee on Constitution and Canons; but in the end the Convention chose simply to scrap the existing canon without replacing it.

The arguments advanced for doing so were thin: that the existing canon was "unenforceable" (though the original draft of the officially-proposed replacement would have inadvertently put celibate priests in violation of canon law and made personal health a disciplinary matter); that these matters are sufficiently and properly addressed by the national canons and the 1979 Prayer Book (though they did not prevent the ordination of Gene Robinson as deacon or priest, let alone bishop); that the judgment of diocesan officials is to be trusted absolutely (thus reducing church law to the exercise of personal discretion); and so on. Vague allusions to the Bible's teaching did not disguise what drove the convention's decision - on the hand, progressive zeal to overcome "discrimination"; and, on the other hand, the pragmatic demands of institutional program.

I am genuinely sorry to say this,

**THE PARISH PAPER**  
OF  
**St. John's Church**  
1 WEST MACON STREET  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

*The Parish Paper* of St. John's Church (USPS 887-960) is published weekly by St. John's Church, One West Macon Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401. Periodicals postage paid at Savannah, Georgia. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to St. John's Church, 1 W. Macon St., Savannah, GA 31401.

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Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr..... Parish Secretary

Mrs. Peter W. Schmidt..... Financial Secretary  
Mrs. William D. Harrell..... Parish Activities Director

Mrs. Holden T. Hayes..... Christian Education Coordinator  
Mr. Rich Mays..... Associate Organist

Mr. Sinisa Domazet..... Buildings Manager

*Senior Warden..... Mr. R. Gilbert Wells*

*Junior Warden..... Mr. Floyd G. Whittington, Jr.*

*Clerk of Vestry..... Mr. William Howard Helmken*

*Treasurer..... Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford*

*Chancellor..... M. Tyus Butler, Jr. Esq.*

The Vestry: *Esqs.*, M. Tyus Butler, Jr., John M. Hewson III, Drs. J. Davidson Carson, Roland S. Summers, Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford, Mrs. Richard C.E. Jennings, Mrs. Morgan W. Murray, Mrs. R. Bartley Turner, *Messrs.* Charles B. Compton, Jr., W. Barron Crawford, E. Brian Culver, Lawrence L. Heam III, John C. Helmken II, Wm. Howard Helmken, Jr., Mr. R. Scott Howard, Mr. William C. Rodgers, Paul D. Troxler, R. Gilbert Wells, Floyd G. Whittington, Jr., Richard L. Wright.

*Vestry Emeriti:* Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr., Mr. James E. Hungerpiller, Dr. Edwin C. Shepherd

*President, ECW..... Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr.*

*President, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Roland S. Summers*

*President, Men of St. John's..... Mr. Richard L. Wright*

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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, as hospitals are reluctant to give out any information.

**ST. JOHN'S WEB SITE**

Parish Paper essays may be read on our web site: [www.stjohnsav.org](http://www.stjohnsav.org)

**VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN**

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed

10:30 John M. Hewson III, Esq.

**USHER CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Robert F. Brannen

The flowers at the altar on Sunday are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Victor L. Johnson, Jr. and Victor Johnson III by Mr. and Mrs. Glenn C. Hagin.

**CHANCEL SOCIETY**

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr., Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff  
Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III, Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan

Mrs. F. Debele Maner, Mrs. Michael Maloney  
Mrs. John C. Willey, Jr., Mr. John Forbes

**Daily Lenten Services**

Mrs. David A. Young, Mrs. Neil H. Victor

Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague, Mrs. W. Howard Helmken  
Mrs. Timothy E. Coy, Ms. Anne H. Mingledorff

**ACOLYTES**

**8:00**

**10:30** Clayton Compton, Chris Dixon  
Lindsay Pindar, Mikel Kelley  
Jamie McClellan, Turner Stevens

**5:30 EVENSONG**

Mikell Kelly

**COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN**

Mrs. R. Scot Howard

**SUNDAY MORNING AT 9:30 A.M.**

*Adult Confirmation, Newcomers, &-Refresher Class*—Reading Room, Dr. Bergstrom  
*Sin & Judgement in Shakespeare*—Conference Room, Dr. Noble

**NEW—For UPPER SCHOOL STUDENTS**

*“Your Questions—God’s Answers”* Upper School Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Cranmer hall, Fr. O’Brien & Mr. Walter Strong

**MEN’S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS**

Tuesdays 7 a.m. Parish House Dining Room (enter by Kitchen), Fr. O’Brien:

Thursdays 7 a.m. *Acts of the Apostles*, Reading Room with Fr. Dunbar.

**WOMEN’S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS**

Mondays Noon- 1p.m. *1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians*

Reading Room, Dr. Bergstrom

Thursdays 9:15a.m. [To be announced]  
Reading Room, Fr O’Brien

**THURSDAY AT NOON - MEN’S FORUM**

*Good Food for Body and Soul.*

*Guests welcome. Donation suggested.*

The Patriarch Isaac  
(Fr. Dunbar)

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

because I am not ungrateful for the good will St. John's receives in this Diocese, even from those who disagree with us: what was confirmed yet again was the carelessness of the Episcopal Church about its (doubtless inconvenient) constitutional commitments to the historic Faith and Order of the Church Catholic and the fellowship of the Anglican Communion; and its unreflective and yes, *undiscriminating* willingness to accommodate itself to cultural change. There is a theological difference here which good will alone cannot bridge; a theological difference which will be deepened and made more lasting by the practical consequences of canonical change.

GGD

### A HOLY HUSH

"Be still and know that I am God". In the time before service begins we attempt to maintain a prayerful, meditative stillness in the church – a "holy hush" in which the congregation prepares itself for the work of worship. Please keep conversation to a minimum at this time, and save your fuller greetings for the time after the service. Instead, in that rare silence before the opening hymn, think of something to give thanks for, something to repent of, something to ask for, someone to pray for; recite the Lord's Prayer (on your knees if possible). If you have more time on your hands, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the collect and lessons – the mental and spiritual "warm-up" will make the service all the more meaningful.

GGD

### ST. JOHN'S PRIVATE VIEWING OF "THE OFFERING OF ANGELS"

Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> 5:30– 7:30 p.m.

*Jepson Center, Telfair Museum.*

An opportunity to view the remarkable exhibition of religious art from the Uffizi in Florence, with other parishioners. Docent-led tours, with additional theological commentary by St. John's clergy, will be available for those who wish. Wine and cheese will be served. A \$30 minimum donation is requested. To reserve a place, email [cqhayes@gmail.com](mailto:cqhayes@gmail.com) with a cheque made out to St. John's Church School

### WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S LENTEN QUIET DAY

Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>

9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

At the Green-Meldrim House. Led by Father O'Brien on the mystical classic, "The Scale of Perfection". Includes Litany, Eucharist, and lunch. RSVP by Feb. 22nd to 232-1251. Please indicate if babysitting is required.

### PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup>**

*Church Office Closed for Presidents' Day*

**Monday to Friday**

8:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

*Holy Communion with Morning or Evening Prayer*

**In addition, on Ember Wednesday**

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10 a.m. *Sung Eucharist*

**Ember Saturday**

10:30 a.m. *Holy Communion.*

### WEEKDAY OFFERINGS IN LENT

*All unpledged offerings at weekday services in Lent will be reserved for the relief of those in need at home and abroad. Foodstuffs will also be collected for Second Harvest Foodbank.*

**8:00 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION**—(No organ or Gloria in excelsis during Lent)

Collects, Epistle, and Gospel (Exhortation p.85)..... 125, (124), 126  
*A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.*

9:00—12 Noon NURSERY (Cranmer Hall)

**9:30 A.M. — ALL AGES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** (Conference Room and Cranmer Hall)

10:30a.m. –Pre-school Worship—3 year olds through Kindergarten (Cranmer Hall)

**10:30 A.M. — SUNG LITANY, SUNG EUCHARIST & ADDRESS**

The Litany ..... Prayer Book page 54 or Leaflet  
 HYMN #55 *Forty Days and Forty Nights* .....Heinlein

**ANTE-COMMUNION**

Collect for Purity ..... Prayer Book, page 67  
 The Summary of the Law .....69  
 KYRIE ELEISON (Hymnal #702)..... John Merbecke  
 Collects .....125 (124)  
 The Lesson: Genesis 22:1-18 *The Testing of Abraham*  
 The Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10.....126  
 HYMN # 59 *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*..... St. Flavian  
 The Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 4:1-11 ..... 126  
 The Nicene Creed.....71  
 HYMN #550 *Am I a soldier of the cross?*.....Marlow  
*1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grade children enrolled in Jr. Choir will exit following the Cross.*  
 ADDRESS .....Fr. O'Brien

**OFFERTORY**

Sentences & Anthem: *Call to Remembrance* .....Richard Farrant  
 Presentation of Alms #732 *All Things are Thine*  
 Prayer for the State of the Church .....74

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

Exhortation .....85  
 Invitation, Confession and Absolution.....75  
 Sursum Corda.....76  
 SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS (Hymnal #704)..... John Merbecke  
 Prayer of Consecration: Institution, Oblation, Invocation .....80  
 The Lord's Prayer, Prayer of Humble Access (*said with the congregation*) .....82  
 AGNUS DEI (Hymnal #706)..... John Merbecke  
 MOTET: *Hide Not Thy Face* .....Richard Farrant  
 Thanksgiving (*said with the congregation*) .....83  
 The Blessing (*Kneeling*) .....84  
 HYMN #553 *Go forward, Christian soldier*..... Lancashire  
 ORGAN: *Litanies* ..... Jehan Alain

*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 - AS 8 A.M.)**

**5:30 P.M. – CHORAL EVENSONG & CANTATA**