

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 45 No.12

Sexagesima

February 16, 2014

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Sexagesima continues our preparation for Lent. It calls us to that season of corporate spring training, as, in one body in Christ, we share the disciplines of fasting and abstinence, prayer and almsgiving, through which we may die to sin and rise to righteousness, growing up in those virtues which are called 'theological' because they are directed to God ('theos' in Greek): faith in God, hope in God, and charity, or the love of God for our neighbours in Christ. Of these virtues it is hope which is exemplified in today's epistle lesson, in the apostle's boasting not in his own strength, but in the power of God made present in the apostle's weakness. These virtues are the fruit of God's word, which the gospel lesson today tells us to bring forth with patience. "Welcome dear feast of Lent: who loves not thee, / He loves not Temperance, nor Authority, / But is compos'd of passion. / The Scriptures bid us *fast*; the Church says, *now*: / Give to thy Mother, what thou wouldst allow / To ev'ry Corporation" (George Herbert, "Lent"). Herbert's words are a rebuke to the anarchic individualism that infects us all.

MEMBERS OF CHRIST

As the quotation from Herbert and my own comment on it suggest, I am not a fan of "cafeteria Christianity", the self-gratifying individualism of the religious consumer browsing the doctrinal and

liturgical buffet. If the Christian religion is just an extension and inflation of the self, what is the point? Surely it is about giving up ourselves to Christ, surrendering ourselves to a spiritual community, a divine institution, something much bigger than ourselves, something that can take us out of ourselves, and into the life of God. That is why I make no apology for asking the adult members of St. John's who have been baptized and admitted to communion but have not been confirmed in the manner that the Prayer Book sets forth (that is, with laying on of hands with prayer for the seven-fold gifts of the Spirit by a bishop in historic succession) to do so. One may reasonably ask *why* the Prayer Book sets up this expectation, and I am happy to give an answer to anyone who asks; but *that* it does so cannot be disputed. As one thoughtful parishioner put it, it is a matter of "when in Rome", by which he meant (as I do) nothing to do with Rome in any ecclesiastical sense; but rather, "when you are a member of a church in the Anglican tradition, then you need to embrace the Anglican tradition in its totality, and not as a religious consumer". Not quite so snappy, but tolerably clear: this is not about devaluing the Christian tradition from which anyone has come - this not sectarian snobbery - but rather making a full investment of

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1 WEST MACON STREET

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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.stjohnssav.org

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed

10:30 Dr. J. Davidson Carson

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Robert Brannen, Jr.

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Lizzie Kitchens by her family.

The flowers at the Baptismal Font are given to the glory of God on the occasion of the Holy Baptism of Stanley Pierce Pollak, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Pollak, Jr.; and in loving memory of their grandparents, Charles Williamson, Bernard Pollak, Jerbert and Jeanne Gengler and C. Kenneth and Rhonda Smith.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. William E. Osborne, Mrs. Marshall F. Campbell, Jr. Mrs. Anne H. Mingleddorf, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard Mrs. Edward J. Derst III, Mrs. F. Deble Maner Mrs. Sanford G. Simmons, Mrs. Howard Kearn Mrs. Roland S. Summers, Mrs. David C. Barrow III

ACOLYTES

8:00 Lindsay Pindar
10:30 Chris Dixon
Charles Perrie
Turner Stevens, Edwin Shepherd
Hunt Wasden, Phillip Inglesby

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

MRS. C. E. JENNINGS

9:30 A.M. SUNDAY YOUTH & ADULT EDUCATION

- Fr. O'Brien Upper School, Fellowship Hall
• Fr. Dunbar: St. Mark, Reading Room
• Dr. Noble: Shakespeare's History plays will NOT meet until further notice
• Mr. Jack Wray: The seven penitential psalms of David. 3rd flr, back left classroom Cranmer Hall.

WEEKDAY STUDY GROUPS

- Monday Noon: Women's Study - NO MEETING THIS WEEK.
• Tuesdays 7 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Offices of Instruction, Parish House Dining Room (enter by kitchen), with Fr O'Brien
• Thursdays 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study, on Samuel, Reading Room (Fr Dunbar)
• Thursdays 9:15 a.m. Women's Study, on The Imitation of Christ, with Fr O'Brien

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

self in the Christian tradition we have claimed as our own. Dr. Bergstrom, with a little assistance from me, is teaching adult Catechism for those seeking baptism, confirmation, or reception into the Episcopal Church, Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Reading Room. I hope to see some more of you there. GGD

ART AUCTION & COCKTAILS

to benefit the Scholarship and Enrichment fund of the Children's School at St. John's Church.

Friday March 7th at 7 p.m., at the Green Meldrim House. \$75 per guest.

ADULT CATECHISM

Adults seeking baptism, confirmation, or reception into the Episcopal Church (from another denomination in which they have been confirmed by a bishop in historic succession) - and adults seeking a refresher course in the fundamentals - are invited to the Adult Catechism class Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Reading Room. Confirmation is set for Sunday, May 4th. To register, please email Dr. Jeremy Bergstrom jbergstrom@stjohnssav.org.

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

ST. MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

8:15 A.M. & 5:30 P.M.

Holy Communion & Morning or Evening Prayer

TUESDAY- FRIDAY

8:15AM & 5:30PM- *Daily Prayer*

in addition on WEDNESDAY

9:45am *Litany*

10 am *Sung Eucharist*

PARKING ON SAINT PATRICK'S DAY

Spaces in the St. John's parking lot are available to St. John's parishioners *by reservation*, in return for a donation of \$20.00 to the Men's Club. Spaces will be held until 11 a.m., and any unreserved spaces will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. If we are over-subscribed, a lottery will be held on March 10th. To reserve your parking space send an email to Mensclub@stjohnssav.org or speak to Rick Wright 598-2073.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

FAMILY SERVICE

9:30 a.m. Sung Eucharist.

Parade Garb Welcome!

ST. PATRICK'S SNAKE HUNT

For children, after the service, in the Mall, with a SPECIAL GUEST.

PANCAKE SUPPER

Join us for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, March 4th from 5:30 until 7:30. Pancakes, sausage, ham, cheese eggs and fruit - \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. RSVP to Caroline Hayes at 232-8887 or chayes@stjohnssav.org

THURSDAY AT NOON - MEN'S

FORUM

"Children of Abraham? What Jews, Christians, and Muslims have in common - and what they don't"

(Fr Dunbar - Part 2 of 2)

Good Food for Body and Soul.

Guests welcome. Donation suggested. Food served 11:50, Talk starts at 12:10 ends at 12:50

8:00 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel.....p. 120
A continental breakfast is available in the Cranmer Hall following this service.

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

9:30-10:15 A.M.: ALL AGES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Cranmer Hall)

10:30 a.m. to end of service: Sunday School for Three and Four-Year Olds

(Activities in Cranmer Hall for children during the 9:30 education and/or 10:30 service times)

10:30 A.M.—MORNING PRAYER & SERMON

HYMN #415 *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* Aberystwyth
 Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord's Prayer 3-7
 Versicles and Responses 7-8
 VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO #608..... 9
 Psalm #44..... 394
 First Lesson: Genesis 6:5-end. *God threatens a great flood and promises to save Noah in the Ark.*
 BENEDICITE.....*insert*
 Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 11:19 and St. Luke 8:4*insert and* 121
 HYMN: #450 *As Pants the Hart* Martyrdom

THE MINISTRATION OF HOLY BAPTISM, Prayer Book, page 273

STANLEY PIERCE POLLAK

BENEDICTUS #638 14
 Apostles' Creed 15
 Versicles and Responses 16
 Collect for the Day 120
 Other Collects and Prayers, the Grace 17-20
 HYMN #564 *How Firm a Foundation* Lyons
 Kindergarten through 4th grade children may exit following the Cross for Junior Music.
 THE SERMON..... Fr. Dunbar

OFFERING

Sentences

Anthem: *Lord Let Me Know Mine End* Maurice Greene

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

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN #562 *Stand Up for Jesus* Webb

ORGAN: Antiphon V *How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou* Marcel Dupre

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 (Church- as 8 a.m.)