

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 45 No. 13

Quinquagesima

March 2, 2014

ASH WEDNESDAY - FAST DAY

For all the baptized not prevented by reason of health or necessity, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are observed by a complete fast from food until the evening, when a light meal is taken. The other weekdays of Lent are marked by abstinence, that is, a reduction in quality of food and drink and other pleasures. The historic custom is to abstain from flesh meat (i.e. fish may be eaten).

On Ash Wednesday: **IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND HOLY COMMUNION:**

7:15 a.m. , 10 a.m.; 12:15 p.m.; and 5:30 p.m. (with choir)

Morning Prayer: 8:15 a.m.. Litany 9:45 a.m.

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday and Tuesday

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

Morning or Evening Prayer

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

5:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

*Pancakes, sausage, ham, cheese eggs
and fruit \$10/adult; \$5/child 12 and under*

Thursday and Friday

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

*Morning or Evening Prayer
with Holy Communion*

Saturday

9:00 a.m. *Holy Communion*

little of the residual freshness of Eden - yet that same little charmer is perfectly capable of throwing a tantrum if he does not get his own way. Every parent knows it is not a straight-line progression to virtue: the seeds of pride, envy, malice, anger, greed, and fear are present from the beginning. It's only natural, one might protest, but that is the point of the doctrine: there is flaw in our nature. Though not proper to it - human nature was created in the image of God, unambiguously *good* - it inheres in our nature as we receive it, and it affects all of us. To be sure, we are not as bad as we can possibly be - the common graces of human socialization rein us in - yet we are affected by original sin in every aspect of our humanity: the mind darkened, the will perverse, the appetites inflamed or deadened. Doing the right thing does not come to us spontaneously. And even when you do everything right, the good may still elude you. That is the insurgent power of original sin.

ADAM'S INHERITANCE

On the face of it, the doctrine of original sin is a difficult one: for it is the doctrine that we are conceived in sin, and born into the world as sinners, even before we have committed any actual sin; that we inherit Adam's guilt and inclination to sin, the bitter fruit of his disobedience at the tree of paradise. Paradoxical as this doctrine may seem, however, it is the only one that empirically verifiable. Little children enter the world with a

THE PARISH PAPER

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St. John's Church

1 WEST MACON STREET

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

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Junior Warden..... Mr. William Howard Helmken, Jr.
Clerk of Vestry..... Mr. R. Scott Howard
Treasurer..... Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford
Chancellor..... M. Tyus Butler, Jr. Esq.

The Vestry: Esqs., M. Tyus Butler, Jr., John M. Hewson III, Joseph R. Ross, Jonathan D. Sprague, Drs. J. Davidson Carson, James S. McClellan, Jr., Roland S. Summers, Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr., Mrs. Richard C.E. Jennings, Mrs. Morgan W. Murray, Mrs. R. Bartley Turner, Messrs. Charles B. Compton, Jr., E. Brian Culver, John C. Helmken II, Wm. Howard Helmken, Jr., R. Scott Howard, William C. Rodgers, Paul D. Troxler, 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, Roland B. Williams, Esq.

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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. James S. McClellan, Jr.

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. David C. Barrow III and Mr. George H. Barrow

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. James Thompson Walker, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson Myers, by Mr. and Mrs. James T. Walker, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Hill.

And in loving memory of Jettie L. Mooney by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Johnston and family.

And on the of occasion of the Solemnization of Matrimony of Elizabeth Ruth Brodsky and Morgan Wimbish Murray, Jr.

CHANCEL SOCIETY CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III, Mrs. J. Pride Sheahan
Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard
Mrs. Edward J. Derst III, Sylvia Summers
Mrs. William E. Osborne

ACOLYTES

8:00 Jamie McClellan

10:30 John Osborne

Mikel Kelly

Patrick Perrie, Joseph Saffold

Hawkins Pindar, Henry Osborne

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Thomas S. Johnston

9:30 A.M. SUNDAY

YOUTH & ADULT EDUCATION

- Fr. O' Brien Upper School, Fellowship Hall
• Dr. Bergstrom: Adult Catechism, Reading Room
• Dr. Noble: Shakespeare's History plays will NOT meet until further notice
• Mr. Jack Wray: The Seven Penitential Psalms. 3rd floor, 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
• NO MEN'S FORUM THIS WEEK

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

Strange as it may seem, the witness of Scripture and tradition is this: we don't begin where Adam began, but where he left off. We are born into a community of rebellion against God, and under his just condemnation, which precedes and determines our individual existence. It is against the backdrop of original sin that we may take the full measure of Christ's work upon the cross, to restore by his obedience unto death at the tree of the cross, that which Adam undid by his disobedience at the tree of paradise. It is against the backdrop of original sin that we may take the full measure of the Spirit's gift, reforming us in holiness and righteousness. Our sins are remitted completely, through faith in the blood of Christ; and our natures are regenerate, through the Spirit's gift: yet in his wisdom, God does not put to death the sinful nature all at once, but by degrees, lest we be overcome by pride. Until our dying day, we are engaged in a struggle against the world, the flesh, and the devil: for it is precisely through this spiritual warfare that we know our complete dependence upon Christ.

So the Christian life is a life for soldiers of the cross; and our Lenten discipline is the Christian militia's annual bootcamp, training us to fight the spiritual battle more effectively. that we may have "power and strength to have victory, and to triumph, against the devil, the world, and the flesh". May it please Christ "to strengthen such as do stand; and to comfort and help the weak-hearted; and to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet". GGD

GIFT TO MALAWI SISTERS

Over the years, thanks to thoughtful donations, St. John's Church has been able to support Saint Mary's Convent in Greenwich, NY, in the establishing of a daughter-house in Malawi, one of the most impoverished countries in Africa. Recently the Malawi sisters have developed a realistic business plan for a preschool, which will have places in it for orphans who live in such poverty that even their nutrition requirements are compromised - at an age when nutrition deficiencies lead to permanent learning disabilities. On this Quinquagesima Sunday, when the Scriptures propose to us growth in the virtue of charity as the purpose of our Lenten disciplines (especially almsgiving), it is most fitting to announce that (thanks to an anonymous donation) St. John's Church fund "*For the Least of These My Brethren*" was able to give \$55,000 to St. Mary's Convent in Malawi for this project. As this it takes shape, look for information about it to be shared with our Sunday School students.

FEBRUARY PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Helen Culver * Heath Kulp
Elizabeth Kulp * Andy Perkins
Jacob Perkins * Emiline Baxter
Sarah Jane Schulze
Mary-Porcher Warner

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

COLMAN ELIAS was born to the Rev'd Dr. Jeremy and Jackie Bergstrom on Sunday, February 23rd, at 6:36 a.m., weighing 9 lbs 10 oz.

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, March 18th 6 p.m.
Ordination of Jeremy Bergstrom

8:00 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel (*The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted until Easter*) 122
A continental breakfast is available in 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: Three and Four-Year Olds Sunday School
(Activities in Cranmer Hall for children during the 9:30 education and/or 10:30 service times)

10:30 A.M. — MORNING PRAYER AND SERMON

HYMN #344 *O love how deep, how broad, how high* Deus Tuorum Militum
 Opening Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord’s Prayer ... Prayer Book pp 3-7
 Versicles and Responses 7-8
 VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO #609 9
 Psalm #77 433
 First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9 *God calls Abram with a promise of blessing.*
 BENEDICITE, OMNIA OPERA DOMINI *insert*
 Second Lesson: I Corinthians 13:1, St. Luke 18:31 123
 BENEDICTUS #638 14
 Apostles’ Creed 15
 Versicles and Responses 16
 Collect for the Day 122
 Other Collects and Prayers and the Grace 17-20
 HYMN #554 *Lead On, O King Eternal* Lancashire
Kindergarten through 4th grade Children may exit following the Cross for music.
 THE SERMON Fr. Dunbar

OFFERING

Sentences

Anthem: *Though I Speak with the Tongues of Men* Edward C. Bairstow
 Presentation of Alms: #732 *All Things are Thine* Gardiner
 and Hymn #141 (verse 4)

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN #376 *Come Down, O Love Divine* [additional stanza on insert] Down Ampney
 ORGAN: Voluntary in D George Dyson

*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 (as 8 a.m.)