

# The Parish Paper

OF  
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 45 No. 26

The Fifth Sunday after Easter

May 25, 2014

## **THIS THURSDAY - FEAST OF THE ASCENSION**

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*

12:15 p.m. *Holy Communion*

5:30 p.m. *Sung Eucharist with Hymns*

*On this Rogation Sunday, as we celebrate the opening of the gates of prayer in the name of Jesus, a poems on prayer, by the priest poet.*

### **PRAYER**

Prayer the Church's banquet, Angels' age,  
God's breath in man returning to his birth,  
The soul in paraphrase, heart in pilgrimage,  
The Christian plummet sounding heav'n and earth;  
Engine against th'Almighty, sinners' tower,  
Reversed thunder, Christ-side-piercing spear,  
The six-days world transposing in an hour,  
A kind of tune, which all things hear and fear;  
Softness, and peace, and joy, and love, and bliss,  
Exalted Manna, gladness of the best,  
Heaven in ordinary, man well drest,  
The milky way, the bird of Paradise,  
Church bells beyond the stars heard, the soul's blood,  
The land of spices; something understood.

(George Herbert 1593-1633)

Herbert's poem is both a list (the simplest literary form) and a sonnet (the most structured and demanding). The point perhaps is that prayer is a form of speech both simple and sophisticated, and it reaches from the lowest to the highest – lifting up earth to heaven, and bringing down heaven to earth. The haphazard accumulation of metaphors comes to a sudden stop and an arresting conclusion in the last phrase of the poem: as we pray, the vision clears, as ignorance and perplexity gives way to understanding of the purpose and work of God.

**NOTES.** *Plummet* plumbline sounding the depths; *engine/tower* siege artillery and scaling tower; *transposing* a musical term for conversion from one key to another; *ordinary* everyday setting or dress.

**THE PARISH PAPER**  
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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](http://www.stjohnssav.org)

**VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN**

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed  
10:30 Mr. Wm. Howard Helmken, Jr.

**USHER CHAIRMAN**

Mr. E. Brian Culver

The flowers at the altar on Sunday are given to the glory of God in loving memory of George Anderson Mercer III and George Anderson Mercer IV by Elizabeth Mercer Gilbert, Wayne Mercer Willis, Bessie Mercer Halsey and their families;

and in loving memory of Jame Philbrick by Dr. Thomas Philbrick and Hunter Philbrick;

and in loving memory of Jane Philbrick by Mr. and Mrs. Brian D. Harlander;

and on the occasion of Fr. O'Brien's birthday, May 24th;

and on the occasion of the marriage of Annette Irene Bader and William Ross Burrus.

**CHANCEL SOCIETY**

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr., Mrs. J. Pride Sheahan  
Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan, Ms. Anne H. Mingledorff  
Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III, Mrs. Roland S. Summers  
Mrs. W Lee Belford, Mrs. Marshall F. Campbell  
Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish, Jr.

**ACOLYTES**

**8:00** John Osborne  
**10:30** Mikel Kelly  
Jamie McClellan  
Finn Repella, Phillip Inglesby  
Hawkins Pindar, Henry Osborne

**COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN**

Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings

**ADULT EDUCATION SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.**

- Fr Bergstrom: *History of St. John's Church*-- Reading Room
- David Noble's class will meet in Sr. High class room on the 3rd floor Cranmer Hall

**WEEKDAY STUDY GROUPS**

- Tuesdays 7 a.m. **Breakfast, Offices of Instruction** with Fr. O' Brien
- Thursdays 7 a.m. **Men's Bible Study, next meeting May 29th.**
- Thursdays 9:15 a.m. **Women's Study, on The Imitation of Christ**, with Fr. O'Brien

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

## The Empty Church

They laid this stone trap  
for him, enticing him with candles,  
as though he would come like some huge moth  
out of the darkness to beat there.

Ah, he had burned himself  
before in the human flame  
and escaped, leaving the reason  
torn. He will not come any more

to our lure. Why, then, do I kneel still  
striking my prayers on a stone  
heart? Is it in hope one  
of them will ignite yet and throw  
on its illumined walls the shadow  
of someone greater than I can understand?

R. S. Thomas (1913-2000)

For comparison, the poem of a modern Welsh  
priest poet, both striking and dark, as it  
explores the apparent absence of God or the  
turning away of man from him.

## The Daughters of the King

The women of St. John's are cordially  
invited to coffee and an informational  
meeting on Saturday, May 31 at 10 a.m.  
in the Ralston Room at Cranmer Hall.  
After a short presentation and  
refreshments, diocesan officers of the  
Order will be available to answer  
questions and offer personal insights  
about what the Order has meant to them.  
If you've been even a little curious about  
who and what the Order is or its history in  
the diocese (and particularly at St. John's),  
now is your chance to learn more. Please  
RSVP to Mary Dawson at 912.657.9099  
by May 26

## "On Eagles Wings"

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*July 14—18*

**For potty trained 3  
year olds through  
rising 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.  
Register NOW!**

*Scholarships available  
on request.*

### WEEKLY KALENDAR

#### **Monday**

*Office is closed  
for Memorial Day  
No services*

#### **Tuesday through Friday**

8:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
Morning prayer and  
Evening prayer

#### **Wednesday**

9:45 a.m. Litany  
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion

#### **Thursday, May 29th**

**Ascension Day**  
Holy Communion  
8:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m.,  
and 5:30 p.m.

**8:00 A.M. — HOLY COMMUNION**

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel ..... 175  
*A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.*

9:30 — 12 Noon NURSERY (*Cranmer Hall*)

**9:30 A.M. ALL AGES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** (*Cranmer Hall*)

10:30 A.M. Pre-school—3 year olds and 4 year olds (*Cranmer Hall*)

Jr. Choir—Kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> Grades (*Cranmer Hall*)

**10:30 A.M. — MORNING PRAYER & SERMON**

HYMN #88 *Jesus Lives! Thy Terrors Now* ..... St. Albinus  
 Sentences, Confession, Absolution, and Lord’s Prayer ..... Prayer Book, pages 6-7  
 Versicles and Responses ..... 7-8

VENITE (with Easter Antiphon) #606 ..... 9  
 Psalms #66, 67 ..... 416-417  
 First Lesson: Joel 2:21-27

TE DEUM #613, 617 ..... 11  
 Second Lesson: St. James 1:22, St. John 16:5 ..... 176

HYMN #450 *As pants the hart* ..... Martyrdom

BENEDICTUS #638 ..... 14  
 Apostles' Creed ..... 15  
 Versicles and Responses ..... 16  
 Collect for the Day ..... 175  
 Other Collects, Prayers and the Grace ..... 17-20

HYMN #101 *O Jesus, Crowned with All Renown* ..... Kingsfold  
*Kindergarten through 4<sup>th</sup> grade children may exit following the Cross for music.*

THE SERMON ..... Fr. Bergstrom

**OFFERING**

Sentences

Anthem: *If We Believe* ..... John Goss

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

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN #95 *Christ the Lord is Ris'n Today* ..... Nassau

ORGAN: *Praise to the Lord, Almighty* ..... Johann Walther

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*Everyone is invited to attend 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.*

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**12 Noon—HOLY COMMUNION** as at 8 a.m.