

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 46 No. 2

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2014

THIS SUNDAY AT 5:30 P.M.

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR ADVENT

5:05 P.M. MUSIC FOR ADVENT

Reception to follow in the Green Meldrim House.

COME LET US ADORE HIM!

Advent reminds us that we did not come to Christ, without his first coming to us: and that he came to us in his Spirit, in the preaching of the Gospel, in the ministry of Word and Sacrament, in the witness of the faithful ... and yes, in the politely persistent invitation of a friend, or of a friendly stranger, who kept inviting us to church. And now it is our turn to be that politely persistent friend, who invites us (and keeps inviting us) to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. "Our King and Saviour draweth nigh: O come, let us adore him." Advent tells us, NOW IS THE TIME to invite a friend - or a stranger- to one of the special services of this holy season:

- *Advent Lessons and Carols* (Sunday, December 21st, 10:30 a.m.),
- *Christmas Eve Pageant* (5:00 p.m.),
- *Christmas Eve Solemn Eucharist* (11:00 p.m.)
- *Christmastide Lessons and Carols* (Sunday, January 4th, 5:30 p.m.),
- *Epiphany Sunday Procession of the Wise Men and Solemn Eucharist* (Sunday, January 11th, 10:30 a.m.).

"And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob" (Isaiah 2:3).

GGD

THE MUSIC OF THE SEASON

The pilgrims of hope responded with ecstatic joy to Christ's coming in royal

meekness. To honor him they stripped the shirts off their backs and the branches from the trees, but above all they *sang*: "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" The season of Advent has no other purpose than that we should likewise rejoice in his coming. Unfortunately, Christmas is the season for any number of cynical pop stars to market sentimental glop in the spirit of crass commercialism. *You do not have to be their victim.* There is so much fresh and exquisite Christmas music you can listen to instead: and by Christmas music I mean music that is both "high" and "low", art music and popular, divine and human.

Here's an international list of recordings - Norwegian, Dutch, German, Swedish, English, that you will find almost nowhere else... aren't you glad to read the Parish Paper?

- *Rós - Songs of Christmas*: Det Norkse Solistkor, Grete Pedersen, conductor. There has been a great revival of choral singing in Scandinavia, and here is one of its fruits: a Norwegian soloists' choir, singing an eclectic and exquisite suite of chant, chorales, and folk songs, concluding in the meltingly lovely "Jul, Jul" (yes, you guessed it - it means "Yule, Yule").
- *Angels & Shepherds: a 17th century Christmas*. The Netherlands Bach Society; Jos van Veldhoven, conductor. Just what it says it is: gorgeous

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1 WEST MACON STREET

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- The Rt. Rev. Scott Benhase Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Gavin G. Dunbar Rector
1 West Macon Street 31401 (912) 234-2209
The Rev. Craig E. O'Brien Priest Associate
423 E. Gaston Street 31401 (912) 308-4441
The Rev. Dr. Jeremy W. Bergstrom Priest Assistant
5 Autumn Leaves Court 31410 (912) 656-3807
Mr. R. Steven Branyon Organist/Choirmaster
Mrs. Janice W. Woods Business Manager
Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr. Parish Secretary
Mrs. Peter W. Schmidt Financial Secretary
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President, Men of St. John's..... Mr. Randolph H. Kulp II

- Church Office (912) 232-1251
Fax (912) 232-5559
Parish House (912) 233-3845
Cranmer Hall (912) 232-8887
E-mails (firstinitiallastname)@stjohnssav.org

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 and recordings of Services and Sermons are to be found on our web site:

www.stjohnssav.org

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

- 8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mrs. R. Bartley Turner (Christiana)

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Robert J. Merritt and
Mr. Robert J. Merritt, Jr.

The flowers at the altar on are given to the glory of God and in living memory of Mr. and Mrs. George O'Donnell and Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Cook by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd G. Whittington, Sr.

and in loving memory of Judge John Woodward Sognier and of Lt. John Woodward Sognier, Jr., by Dr. and Mrs. Morgan W. Murray and Dr. and Mrs. William E. Osborne.

and in celebration of the birthday of Ann Harvey Burdell by her grandparents.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

- Ms. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Jr.
Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff, Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr.
Mrs. Timothy E. Coy, Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III
Mrs. L. Dale Hendrix, Jr. Mrs. Marie Simmons.
Mrs. I. D. Futrell, Jr., Mrs. Andrew T. Sheils, Jr.

DAILY SERVICES

- Mrs. David A. Young, Mrs. Timothy E. Coy
Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague, Mrs. Wm. Howard Helmken II
Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff, Mrs. Neil H. Victor

ACOLYTES

- 8:00 volunteer needed
10:30 Charles Perrie, Mikel Kelly
Turner Stevens, Finn Repella
Philip Inglesby, Henry Osborne

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr.

Men's Discussion Group Third Floor, Cranmer Hall. Led by Rick Wright, Walter Strong, and Charles Ezelle.

Women's Discussion Group Reading Room, Cranmer Hall. Led by Carol Hewson, Susan Donahue, Linda Sheahan, and Laura Wimbish
Harlotry, Compassion, Shepherding, and Jesus - 3rd floor, Cranmer Hall. Led by Jack Wray.

Sin and Judgment in Shakespeare's History Plays 3rd Floor East. Led by David Noble.

Middle and High School Youth. Third Floor. Led by Mrs. Skip Jennings and Fr. Bergstrom.

St. John's Gospel Chapel. Led by Fr. Dunbar.

MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Tuesday 6:45 a.m. Breakfast and Discussion on the Holy Spirit, with Fr. O'Brien, Parish House.

Thursday 7 a.m.,2 Samuel, Fr. Dunbar, Reading Room, Cranmer Hall.

WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Monday Noon, led by Fr. Bergstrom, on John Jewell's Apology and Defence.

Thursday 9:15 a.m., led by Fr. O'Brien. on Plato's Euthyphro - What is Piety? What is Religion?

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

music of Praetorius, Sweelinck, Crueger, Bach, and many others less familiar, gorgeously sung.

- *"Hark! The Herald Angels' Sing": Famous Christmas Carols.* Chor des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Florian Helgath, conductor; François Leleux, oboe. The Germans gave us Christmas Trees and Silent Night, and their mastery of the Christmas tradition is evident here. A conventional title belies the freshness of the contents: carols ancient and modern interlaced with exquisite Baroque oboe instrumentals.
- *Advent at Merton.* Choir of Merton College, Oxford; Benjamin Nicholls, Peter Phillips, conductors. English choirs have defined Christmas music for most of the last century; and on disks like this they demonstrate that they are not ready to retire. I was scared of this disk at first: ten out of its eighteen tracks are recent compositions - seven of them settings of the Great O Advent Antiphons - but my ears set my fears to rest. No surprise really: Peter Phillips is the director of the Tallis Scholars, whose recordings of 16th century polyphony have enchanted listeners for the last 30 years.
- *In Terra Pax: A Christmas Anthology.* City of London Choir; Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. The English late romantics of the 20th century in full splendour: Vaughan Williams, Holst, Howells, and Rutter. Worth purchasing simply for the sake of the magical sixteen-minute title track by Gerald Finzi.
- *Praetorius: Mass for Christmas Morning.* Gabrieli Consort & Players, Paul McCreesh, conductor. A revelatory recreation of a 17th century Lutheran Christmas liturgy,

whose congregational chorales explode with Christmas joy.

- *Noël.* Anne Sofie von Otter, Bengt Forsberg. An intimate chamber suite of familiar and rare folksongs, carols, and lieder, sung by the great Swedish mezzo-soprano accompanied by the piano. A matchless performance of Cornelius' *Die Könige* is just one of many pleasures. GGD

Thursday December 11th

MEN'S FORUM

Good Food for Body and Soul.

First Came John (Part 2)

The ministry of John the Baptist
- and why it matters now (Fr Dunbar)

*Thursday at Noon. Guests welcome.
Talk starts at 12:10 ends sharp at 12:50.*

WREATHS, GARLAND AND POINSETTIAS

To give a Poinsettia, Wreath or Garland for the decoration of the Church, please send a check to the Church Office, made out to **St. John's Chancel Society**. Please include with the check a note of **how the memorial should read and by whom it is given. Poinsettia--\$30, Wreath or Garland \$80.**

ADVENT PARISH KALENDAR

Monday 8th December
CONCEPTION BVM

Monday - Friday (Chapel)

8:15am & 5:30pm

*Morning or Evening Prayer
With Holy Communion*

In addition, on Wednesdays

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10:00 a.m. *Sung Eucharist*

Saturday

10:30 a.m. *Holy Communion*

CHRISTMAS TOY COLLECTION

New Toys for children ages 5-17, to be distributed by the Salvation Army, will be taken Nov. 16th through Dec. 14th. Leave donations in the box at Cranmer Hall.

8:00 A.M. - HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel Prayer Book page 92 (90)
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.-END OF SERVICE: PRE-SCHOOL & PRE-KINDERGARTEN

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

10:30 A.M.— SUNG EUCHARIST AND SERMON

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 HYMN #11 *The King shall come when Morning Dawns* St. Stephen

ANTE-COMMUNION

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 HYMN #329 *How Bright Appears the Morning Star* Frankfort
Children may exit following the cross for JOYFUL NOISE (5's and 6's) and PSALM PSINGERS (Gr 2-5)
 SERMON..... Fr. Dunbar

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 HYMN #5 *Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending* Helmsley
 VOLUNTARY: *Prelude on "Richmond"* Healey Willan

Everyone is invited to a Special Coffee Hour in the Parish House immediately following the 10:30 service, in honour of Mrs. Vivian Howard on her 100th Birthday. If you are visiting, please make yourself known.

12 Noon—HOLY COMMUNION (CHAPEL) Collect, Epistle, Gospel p. 92 (90)

5:05 p.m. Music for Advent; **5:30 p.m. - CHORAL EVENSONG FOR ADVENT**