

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 47 No. 25

Pentecost, commonly called Whitsunday

May 15, 2016

THIS SUNDAY AT 5:30 P.M.

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR PENTECOST

Reception to following in Green-Meldrim House.

5:05 p.m. Music before the service

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday to Friday in Whitsun Week

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

*Morning and Evening Prayer
With Holy Communion*

In addition, on Wednesday

9:45 a.m. *The Litany*

10:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist*

Saturday in Whitsun Week

10:30 a.m. *Holy Communion*

NEITHER TOO STIFF NOR TOO EASY

It was on the feast of Pentecost 1549 that the first Book of Common Prayer came into use in the Church of England. From one point of view it was a break with the late medieval tradition of worship; from another point of view, it anchored early modern English liturgy in a tradition whose roots reached deep into Catholic antiquity. In the historic Prayer Books the ancient tradition was represented, reprinted, for the dawn of a new era, that it might fruitfully shape the modern age. And that was the genius of Anglicanism, as the 1662 Preface put it, "to keep the mean between the two extremes, of too much stiffness in refusing, and of too much easiness in admitting any variation from it".

We are not in a season of momentous liturgical change, but we have a task of

discernment and decision before us, how best to transmit the tradition that we have received unimpaired to our posterity. Others have attempted this task, in ways that for compelling reasons we have assessed as inadequate - but just what shall we do? How do we hold onto the distinctive tradition that we have received at St. John's, while at the same time making those changes by which we can share it effectively with our children, grandchildren, friends, neighbors and strangers? That's not an easy task. If those we call 'liberals' are notorious for throwing out the baby with the bathwater, 'conservatives' are notorious for indiscriminate hoarding. There is danger either way. Only under the ministry of the Spirit can we have a right judgment to discern what to hold onto as things essential, and what inessential things may be changed for the sake of edification. We must "keep the mean between the two extremes, of too much stiffness in refusing, and of too much easiness in admitting any variation".

To aid in this task of discernment, this year we have established a committee with the wonderfully dull name of "Long Range Planning". It is charged with cultivating a conversation with the clergy and congregation of Saint John's, to

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Mrs. Janice W. Woods Business Manager
Mrs. Thomas R. Corbin, Jr. Parish Administrator
Mrs. Daniel J. Mahfiet Financial Administrator
Mrs. Holden T. Hayes Christian Education Director
Mr. Sinisa Domazet Buildings Manager

Senior Warden Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings
Junior Warden Mr. Richard L. Wright
Clerk of Vestry Mr. E. Brian Culver
Treasurer Jonathan D. Sprague, Esq.
Chancellor M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq.

The Vestry: *Esqs.*, M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Joseph R. Ross, Jonathan D. Sprague; *Drs.* James S. McClellan, Jr., Roland S. Summers; Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr., Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings, Mrs. Austin O. Kennedy, Mrs. Morgan W. Murray, Mrs. Mark D. Stevens; *Messrs.* David C. Barrow III, E. Brian Culver, John C. Helmken II, R. Scott Howard, J. Alex Jarman, Joseph O. Mercer, Peter A. Pollak, Jr., L. Allan Reynolds, Jr., William C. Rodgers, R. Gilbert Wells, Richard L. Wright.

Vestry Emeriti: Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr., Mr. James E. Hungerpillar, Roland B. Williams, Esq.

President, ECW Mrs. R. Scott Howard
President, Chancel Society Mrs. Roland S. Summers
President, Men of St. John's Mr. J. Alex Jarman

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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. Please call the Church Office to notify the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital.

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 a.m. Mr. R. Gilbert Wells

USHER CHAIRMAN

John M. Hewson, Esq.

ACOLYTES

8:00 a.m. Jamie McClellan
10:30 a.m. Mikel Kelly Henry Osborne
Jackson McClellan Edwin Shepherd
Finn Repella Hawkins Pindar
Phillip Inglesby Patrick Perrie

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the light and guidance of the Holy Comforter by Mr. and Mrs. William Schweigert Burdell III,

And on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the institution of Father Gavin Dunbar as Rector of St. John's Church;

And in loving memory of Peter Loran Spurbeck, Professor of Cello, Master Artist and Pedagogue by Lane Newton Summers;

And in loving memory of Robert Cambier Rolloson and Dr. G. William Rolloson and families; and Dr. Robert Friedrich, Martin Ruhnky and families by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas (Mick) McCay.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Jayne G. Holland,
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Mrs. Audrey Allgaier,
Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III, Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan,
Mrs. W. Lee Belford, Sr., Mrs. William L. Belford, Jr.,
Ms. Laura Reid, Mrs. Roland S. Summers,
Mrs. H. Emerson Thomas, Jr., Mrs. Andrew T. Sheils, Jr.

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. William T. Moore, Jr.

SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR

The Women and Men of the Church, and the Chancel Society are hosting a special coffee hour to honor Father Gavin Dunbar on his 10th Anniversary as Rector of St. John's Church this Sunday, May 15.

Please join us after the 10:30 a.m. service in the Green-Meldrim House for refreshments.

9:30 A.M. SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION

Fr. O'Brien *The Holy Spirit*, CH Reading Room

9:30 A.M. YOUTH FORUM WITH THE RECTOR

Middle and Upper School youth are asked to join the Rector to talk about their part and place in the life and worship and work of St. John's.

MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Tuesday- Breakfast with Father O'Brien

Is Faith Reasonable?

6:45 a.m., Parish House

Thursday- *Romans* with Father Dunbar

7:00 a.m., CH Reading Room

Thursday- Men's Lunch at Noon, CH 1st floor

WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Wednesday-C. S. Lewis Women's Fellowship

2nd & 4th Wednesdays (May 25)

11:00 a.m., CH3 Reading Room

Thursday- Michael O'Brien's novel,

Island of the World with Fr. O'Brien

9:15 a.m., CH3 Reading Room

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

discern how we can enhance, strengthen, and broaden our mission without compromise to things essential of faith and worship, and to develop proposals for the Vestry and congregation to consider next year. While some "off the rack" solutions may be of little value to us, I am sure there are things we can usefully learn from other churches and we should be open to that. Knee-jerk reactions, either 'conservative' or 'liberal' will do little to help. But I am confident, that if we listen carefully, with humility and patience, with civility and charity, we shall have much to learn from each other, even in our disagreements. I am also sure that I have much to learn, and I am fully prepared to accept change that I have to make personally.

Churches sometimes do not want to have this conversation, either because of complacency, or fear. Yet healthy growth does not "just happen", and if we take care to listen, learn about, and provide the conditions and impetus for it, I am confident that we can plot some trajectories to take St. John's into a future of deepened faith, larger service, wider appeal, and growth spiritual and numerical, in ways that are consistent with what makes St. John's distinctive and important.

Next **Sunday, May 22, at 9:30 a.m.** the Long Ranging Planning Committee will hold a **congregational forum** in the Ralston Room, to introduce themselves, the topics they have identified as priorities for consideration, and the process they will be following to develop proposals for future flourishing. This is a "conversation starter" in which I would like many of you to take part. Your voice is needed!
GGD

NEXT SUNDAY

TRINITY SUNDAY AND TRUMPETS!

If you would like to contribute to the cost of the brass ensemble, please send your donations to St. John's Church marked "Trinity Brass". If you would like to dedicate your gift in memory or in honor of a loved one, please give details. These will be published in the Parish Paper.

EYCS SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE APPLICATION DEADLINE - MAY 31

College scholarships are available through the Episcopal Youth and Children's Services. Awards are based on financial need, for undergraduate education only. A priest's letter is required. Apply at eycs.georgiaepiscopal.org.

THIS SEASON'S OUTREACH COLLECTION:

Paper towels, napkins, bath tissue, and Kleenex for *The Living Vine* (a Christian ministry for women in crisis pregnancies) until May 22. New or gently-used car seats, strollers and bassinets also are greatly needed.

PARKING LOT IN MAY

To discourage opportunistic parking by non-parishioners attending Civic Center events, the entrances to the Parking Lot on Harris and Barnard streets will be chained after hours. The Charlton Street entrance will be left open for access by parishioners.

GUEST CONDUCTOR

Conducting the choir today at both services is Mr. Richard Morgan, one of North America's leading church musicians. He has been working with the choir this week, as part of their ongoing musical development.

ANNUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT THE O'BRIEN CUP- MAY 19

The Savannah Golf Club- 6:00 p.m.
Contact: Scott Howard to register
robert_s_howard@ml.com
912-598-3811

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECTS, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL..... Prayer Book, page 180
A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

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

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

10:30 A.M. - JOYFUL NOISE, JOYFUL HEARTS (*Cranmer Hall*)

Music, Teaching, and Active Fun for Pre-School through Kindergarten.

10:30 A.M.—SOLEMN EUCHARIST & ADDRESS

HYMN: #107 *Hail Thee, Festival Day!*..... Salve Festa Dies

ANTE-COMMUNION

Collect for Purity..... Prayer Book, p. 67

Summary of the Law 69

KYRIE ELEISON: #710 Healey Willan

Collect and Epistle: Acts 2:1-11 180

HYMN: #109 *Come, Thou Holy Spirit, Come!* Veni Sancte Spiritus

The Holy Gospel: St. John 14:15-31..... 181

The Nicene Creed 71

HYMN: #776 *O for A Thousand Tongues to Sing*..... Azmon

Children may exit following the cross for PSALM PSINGERS (Grades 1-5).

ADDRESS Father Dunbar

OFFERTORY

Sentence

Anthem: *The Spirit of the Lord* (from “The Apostles”) Opus 49 [Text from Isaiah 61]..... Edward Elgar

Presentation of Alms #139

Prayer for the State of the Church 74

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation, Confession and Absolution..... 75

Sursum Corda #734 & Proper Preface for Whitsunday 76, 78

SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS #711..... Healey Willan

Prayer of Consecration: Institution, Oblation, Invocation..... 80

The Lord's Prayer and Prayer of Humble Access (*said with the congregation*) 82

AGNUS DEI #712 Healey Willan

HYMN: #191 *Thou, Who at Thy First Eucharist Didst Pray* Song One (#470)

Motet: *O Lord, Give Thy Holy Spirit* Tommy Tallis

Thanksgiving (*said with the congregation*) 83

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS #713 Healey Willan

The Blessing (*kneeling*)..... 84

HYMN: #347 *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*..... Hyfrydol

VOLUNTARY: *Komm, Gott, Schöpfer, heilinger Geist* (BWV 667)..... J. S. Bach

Everyone is invited to attend Coffee Hour in the Parish House immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service.

If you are a guest and visiting our Parish, please make yourself known.

12:00 p.m. (Noon) HOLY COMMUNION in the Chapel (Collect, Epistle, Gospel as at 8:00 a.m.)