

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 48 No. 9

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 22, 2017

UPCOMING AT ST. JOHN'S

◆ WEEKDAY WORSHIP ◆

Monday to Friday

Morning and Evening Prayer

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

In addition, on Wednesday

THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer*

with Holy Communion

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10:00 a.m. *Eucharist*

5:30 p.m. *Evening Prayer*

with Holy Communion

◆ CANDLEMAS ◆

Thursday, February 2

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST

(commonly called CANDLEMAS)

5:30 p.m. **CHORAL EVENSING &**

PROCESSION WITH LIGHTS

With the choir of Skidaway U.M.C.

Reception to follow in Green-Meldrim House.

◆ OYSTER ROAST ◆

Saturday, February 4

12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Camp Villa Marie

(Follow LaRoche Avenue to Isle of Hope, turn left onto Hopecrest Avenue, to 6 Dolan Drive.)

Tickets (All Inclusive)

Advance Reservations: \$30 each

Day of Event: \$35 each

Under 21 years of age: NO CHARGE

Reservations available at Coffee Hour each Sunday and in Church Office on weekdays.

For More Information, Call:

Alex Jarman- 404-617-6310

Scott Howard- 912-286-0315

Martin Sullivan- 547-4608

BROAD AND NARROW - PART II

Last week I noted that many Christians were embarrassed by Christianity's claim to an exclusive grasp of spiritual truth. But as I also noted last week, all other world religions make exclusive claims to the truth as well, and so does atheism. In fact, even those whose professed position is one of tolerance for all religions, or who profess to see the truth in all religions, or who think they all teach the same thing, or who consider all religions to teach untruth – they also think they are right and everyone else is wrong! They also believe the world would be a better place if everyone else had the same view of spiritual reality that they do. So those holding “enlightened” religious views are just as narrow and exclusive as the Christianity they criticize for being narrow and exclusive. It is the same self-contradiction as those who criticize others for being self-righteous – and preen themselves on their moral superiority for doing so. That is not a step forward but a step back.

It is certainly true that much evil has been done in the name of religion, Christianity not exempt. Even *more* evil has been done in the name of atheism, of course – all the crusades, pogroms, and inquisitions of Christendom pale in comparison to the atrocities of the 20th century's atheistic regimes. Yet this does not exonerate the religious, or Christians.

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OF
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Treasurer.....Mr. David C. Barrow III
Chancellor.....M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq.

The Vestry: *Esqs.*, M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Joseph R. Ross, Jonathan D. Sprague; *Drs.* J. Davidson Carson, James S. McClellan, Jr., Roland S. Summers; Mrs. Christian M. Arden-Joly, Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford, Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr., Mrs. Austin O. Kennedy, Mrs. Gary M. Schubert, Mrs. Mark D. Stevens; *Messrs.* David C. Barrow III, E. Brian Culver, Edwin H. Culver, John C. Helmken II, J. Alan Jarman, Joseph O. Mercer, Peter A. Pollak, Jr., L. Allan Reynolds, Jr., R. Gilbert Wells, Richard L. Wright.

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

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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 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mr. L. Allan Reynolds, Jr.

USHER CHAIRMAN
R. Bartley Turner, Esq.

ACOLYTES

8:00 a.m. Turner Stevens
10:30 a.m. Phillip Inglesby Jamie McClellan
Henry Osborne Patrick Perrie
Finn Repella William Taylor

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley A. Wasden, Jr. by their children and grandchildren;

And in loving memory of Dr. Robert A. Burnett by Mary, Wendy, and Decie;

And in loving memory of Julia Floyd Smith, Sanford G. Simmons, and John Pindar Bradshaw Schaller, and loved ones by Marie Simmons;

And in loving memory of Leonard Trosten on his birthday by Mrs. Ali Trosten and Jay Overstreet.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Edward J. Derst III,
Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard,
Mrs. Michael W. Rhinehart, Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan,
Mrs. David A. Young, Mrs. Michael F. P. Maloney,
Mrs. F. Debele Maner, Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

The Men of St. John's

THIS WEEK AT COFFEE HOUR:

Oyster Roast Tickets - \$30 now (\$35 at door)
Freshly-made Orange Marmalade - \$5 a jar
Sign-up for Coffee Hour and Greeters

SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

FOR YOUTH:

CRANMER HALL-3RD FLOOR

CONFIRMATION CLASS-*GRADE 6- Catechism*
JR. HIGH -*GRADES 7,8,9- 25 Lights of the World*
SR. HIGH -*GRADES 10,11,12- Reasons to Believe*

FOR ADULTS:

READING ROOM: *1 Samuel*- Father Dunbar
CH3: *Joshua*- Jack Wray

WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP FAITH FELLOWSHIP

Cranmer Hall-2nd Floor - at back

MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Tuesday- Men's Breakfast with Father O'Brien
6:45 a.m., Parish House
Why Be Moral?

Thursday- *St. Luke* with Father Dunbar
7:00 a.m., Reading Room, CH3

Thursday- Men's Small Group with lunch
Noon- Fellowship Hall, CH1

WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Thursday- Book Study with Father O'Brien
9:15 a.m., Reading Room, CH3
Shusaku Endo's Silence

2nd & 4th Wednesday- Next meeting January 25
C. S. Lewis Reading Group
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Noon)
The Four Loves

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

So what is to be done? For many Episcopalians, the answer is to soften the exclusive claims of Christianity. Yet pulling from those claims (as we have noted) is simply to embrace another set of exclusive claims. The answer, rather, is to embrace the exclusive claims of Christianity more fully and deeply – for in them is the correction of the abuses we observe. For if we accept the truth of Christianity, then we believe the doctrine of sin – the truth that we are deeply flawed, sinners deserving of condemnation (a doctrine empirically confirmed by the evil done in the name of Christian faith). If we believe this doctrine without reserve, it will humble our pride. It will leave us no grounds for self-righteousness, and contempt for others. It will even make us more ready to acknowledge those elements of truth in other religions, and in non-Christians.

Along with the teaching of sin is the teaching of grace – that we are loved beyond our deserving, forgiven and accepted by God despite our flaws. Believing that we are loved more than we deserve leaves us no ground not to love others beyond their deserving also. If Christ loved me, and gave himself for me, a guilty sinner, how can I not love and give myself for my neighbor also?

Believing the Christian truth does not make Christians superior to others, nor does it make them more deserving than others. Because Christians are sinners, they will be tempted to abuse the privileges that their religion gives them, to claim for themselves superiority over others, and to claim a religious justification for treating others with contempt. As

we have seen, so does every other religious position (including, especially, atheism). But in the Christian truth about spiritual reality, there is a remedy for our sinful inclinations. Softening these claims will not cure the sin to which we are prone. But if we actually believe the Christian truth is *the* truth about spiritual reality, then the only contempt we will show is for all our pride, and the only boasting we will express is in the undeserved grace of our God. GGD

ECW MEETINGS

The Women of St. John's will have their February Board Meeting on Monday, January 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish House Dining Room. The General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 1 in the Green-Meldrim House immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Chapel Service. Steven Branyon, St. John's Organist/Choirmaster, will be our speaker. All are welcome.

THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE AT ST. JOHN'S

The Elliott House of Studies and the Prayer Book Society USA are co-sponsoring a theological conference at St. John's from noon to noon, February 16-18. Because 2017 is the 500th anniversary of Luther's 95 Theses, and the beginning of the Reformation, the conference will revisit the Reformation heritage of Anglicanism under the title of "Anglicanism: Catholic and Reformed". For details on speakers and their papers, go to www.pbsusa.org. Conference is open to clergy and laity from any denomination. Registration fees for the entire conference is \$139; auditor's fees are \$25/half-day session.

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECT, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL Prayer Book, page 112; Gospel, page 114

9:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Noon) - **Nursery** (*Cranmer Hall*)**9:30 A.M. – ADULT & YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** (*Cranmer Hall*)*Supervised Fellowship and Fun is available for children from Preschool to Grade Five whose parents are attending class.***10:30 A.M.—SUNG EUCHARIST, ADDRESS & SUNDAY SCHOOL**HYMN #47 *What Star is This* Puer Nobis**ANTE-COMMUNION**

Collect for Purity Prayer Book, page 67

Decalogue 68

KYRIE ELEISON: (Hymnal #710) Healey Willan

Collect: 112

Epistle: Romans 12:16 112

HYMN #53 *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise* Salzburg

The Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 8:1 114

The Nicene Creed 71

HYMN #517 *Thine Arm, O Lord, In Days of Old* St. Matthew*Children may exit following the cross for SUNDAY SCHOOL (Kindergarten - Grade 5)*

Address Father O' Brien

OFFERTORYSentences & Anthem: *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Richard Shephard

Presentation of Alms (Hymnal #139) Old Hundredth

Prayer for the State of the Church 74

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation, Confession and Absolution 75

Sursum Corda (Hymnal #734) 76

SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS (Hymnal #711) Healey Willan

Prayer of Consecration: Institution, Oblation, Invocation 80

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

AGNUS DEI (Hymnal #712) Healey Willan

HYMN #50 *Saw You Never in the Twilight* ChartresMotet: *An Epiphany Prayer* Gilbert M. MartinThanksgiving (*said with the congregation*) 83

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (Hymnal #713) Healey Willan

The Blessing (*Kneeling*) 84HYMN #545 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* WoodbirdVOLUNTARY: *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern (Opus 67)* Max Reger*Everyone is invited to attend the 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.)