

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 42 No.17

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2011

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 8:15 A.M. - *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*

5:30 P.M. - *Evening Prayer & Holy Communion*

SATURDAY: 10:30 A.M. - *Holy Communion*

EXCEPT WEDNESDAY

8:15 A.M. *Morning Prayer & Holy Communion*

9:45 A.M. *Litany* 10 A. M. *Sung Eucharist*

5:30 P.M. *Evensong* (Church) 6:00 P.M. *Supper* -

6:30 P.M. *Class:* "Understanding the Stations of the Cross" (1st of 3)

FRIDAY 25TH MARCH – FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION

8:15 A.M. & 5:30 P.M. - *Daily Prayer & Holy Communion*

THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION

One of the major Christian feast days falls during Lent. The date – March 25th, exactly nine months before Christmas – indicates its importance in the Church's year of grace: for in commemorating the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary we are also commemorating the conception of her Son, and the beginning of the Incarnation. This feast celebrates the "wonderful exchange" that lies at the heart of the gospel: the Son of God became Son of Man so that the sons of men might become the sons of God. Coming when it does (which in most years is closer to Easter) it reminds us that it was in the sacred humanity which the Son of God took upon himself in the womb of Mary, that this exchange was transacted, in the sufferings of the cross, and in the glory of the Resurrection. He took himself our sin, our death, that he may give us his righteousness and life.

The account of the Annunciation given by St. Luke (1:26-38) comes in a sequence of stories that begins with another annunciation, that made to Zacharias concerning John the Baptist (1:5-25). One cannot miss the invitation to "compare and contrast" what these twin accounts present. Zacharias, a priest, and his wife, Elizabeth, both aged and childless, recall the forebears of Israel, Abraham and Sarah. Gabriel, the angel who appears to him as he is offering incense in the Temple at the evening hour, is known as the archangel who appeared to Daniel (Daniel 9) hundreds of years before, in answer to his fasting and prayer in intercession of Israel, seeking forgiveness for the sins of his people and the restoration of the holy city (9:3-19, a very suitable Lenten prayer!). In mysterious words, Gabriel speaks to Daniel of the rebuilding of the holy city, and of the coming of

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Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr..... Parish Secretary
Mrs. Peter J. Smyth..... Financial Secretary
Mrs. William D. Harrell..... Parish Activities Director
Mr. Wesley Perkins..... Associate Choirmaster
Mr. Rich Mays..... Associate Organist
Mr. Sinisa Domazet Buildings Manager

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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.

RELIGIOUS 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 www.stjohnssav.org
ON FACEBOOK: St. John's Church in Savannah

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 John M. Hewson III, Esq.

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. R. Scott Howard

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Harrell Charles Murray and Miss Ernestine Murray by Dr. and Mrs. Morgan W. Murray.

The flowers at the baptism font are given to the glory of God on the occasion of the baptism of Lucille "Lucy" Katharine Leonard, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steven J. Leonard, and in memory of her grandmother, Nancy Desbouillons Altman, by her great grandmother, Mrs. Jack E. Altman

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. McDonald Fawcett, Mrs. William E. Osborne
Mrs. Edward J. Derst III, Mrs. Robert A. Burnett
Mrs. Philip F. Kirk, Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff
Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr., Mrs. Richard W. Adams

DAILY LENTEN SERVICES

Mrs. David A. Young, Mrs. William B. McNeal II
Mrs. Philip L. Perrie, Mrs. Wm. Howard Helmken, Jr.

ACOLYTES

8:00 Austin Nichols
10:30 John DeBacker
Clayton Compton, Lawson Turner
Lindsay Pindar, Chris Dixon
Charles Perrie, Mikel Kelly

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Darrell L. Hearne

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASSES

- Clergy – Adult Confirmation (Chapel)
- Jack Wray (3rd Floor Classroom)—*David, Ezekiah, Josiah: Israel's Three Good Kings.*
- David Noble –The Canterbury Tales—Reading Room, 3rd Floor.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Tuesday 6:45 a.m. Men's Breakfast & Study—
(Parish House Dining Room, enter by Kitchen)
Thursday 7 a.m. Bible Study—Reading Room

WOMEN'S STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Reading Room, Cranmer Hall.
Wednesday: 10:45 a.m.–Noon Bible Study
Thursday: 9:15 a.m.—*War in Heaven*—with Fr. O'Brien

EASTER LILY

If you wish to give a lily for the decoration of the Church at Easter, send a cheque for \$35 payable to St. John's Chancel Society marked "Easter Lily" to the Church Office. Please be sure to indicate clearly who the Lily will be in memory of, or thanksgiving for.
The list will be published the Sunday after Easter.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

Messiah (Christ). “Seventy weeks are determined upon the people and upon the holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and the prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy” (9:24). Gabriel’s appearing to Zacharias and then to Mary indicates that the “seventy weeks” is accomplished, and the time of reconciliation and righteousness has at last arrived.

Gabriel promises a son to Zacharias, John (the Baptist), “to make ready a people prepared for the Lord” (Luke 1:17), but Zacharias demands a sign: “Whereby shall I know this? For I am an old man and my wife well stricken in years”. He receives the sign he asked for, in the just penalty of his unbelief – he is not able to speak, until his son is born. He who cannot hear the word of God is not able to speak it either.

Zacharias and Elizabeth, aged and childless, represent the Old Testament in its hope but also in its falling short. Mary, a virgin, represents something new. This newness is also apparent in Mary’s question, “how shall this be, seeing I know not a man?” Unlike Zacharias’ question, Mary’s is not the expression of doubt – the angel answers her question, without hint of reproof – but the expression of faith, seeking to understand what is believed. As Saint Augustine put it, “before Mary conceived Christ in her womb, she had conceived him in her mind, by faith”. Because she asked in faith, she learned the answer: “The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee ...

therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God”. Mary, a virgin, together with the Son she conceives by the Holy Ghost, exceed all the precedents for miraculous conception in the Old Testament. Her annunciation thus signifies a new fullness of grace bestowed by God, the grace of the new and eternal Covenant made between God and man in the one who is both God and Man, Mary’s son. GGD

CALVIN OTIS

Recently I was given a copy of an illustrated article about the work of Calvin Otis, the architect of St. John’s Church, about whom I had known very little, except that he was from Buffalo, N.Y. It includes a period engraving of St. John’s Church in Buffalo, now demolished, with a truss design that will be familiar to all parishioners! Copies will be available at the Church office: you may wish to reserve one before picking it up. GGD

SAVANNAH CONVOCATION LENTEN SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Tuesdays March 15 - April 12
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

At St. Thomas Church, Isle of Hope
Four Five-Week Classes.

ADULT CONFIRMATION & REFRESHER CLASS

This Sunday Fr Dunbar’s class in the Chapel will look at the benefits and obligations of Baptism, with a focus on the Three Foes of Man – the World, the Flesh, and the Devil. As Fr O’Brien is out of town, **there will be no Old Testament class.** Its members are welcome to sit in on Fr Dunbar’s class. .

8:00—HOLY COMMUNION—(No organ during Lent)

Collects, Epistle, and Gospel (*The Gloria in excelsis is omitted until Easter*) 127, (124)
A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:30—12 Noon NURSERY (*Cranmer Hall*)

9:30—ADULT, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN’S CLASSES (*Chapel & Cranmer Hall*)

10:30—Pre-school continues—3 year olds through Kindergarten (*Cranmer Hall*)

1st through 4th grade children enrolled in Jr. Choir

10:30 —MORNING PRAYER and SERMON

CARILLON

HYMN #414 *O For A Heart*..... Tallis Ordinal (#298)

Sentences, Confession, Absolution, Lord’s Prayer 6,7

Versicles and Responses..... 7-8

VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO #608..... 9

Psalm #25 369

First Lesson: Genesis 32: 24—31 *Jacob wrestles with the Angel of the Lord.*

BENEDICITE..... *insert*

Second Lesson: I Thessalonians 4:1, St. Matthew 15:21..... 127, 128

BENEDICTUS #634..... 14

Apostles’ Creed..... 15

Versicles and Responses..... 16

Collect for the Day..... 127 (124)

Fixed Collects..... 17

Other Prayers, Prayer of St. Chrysostom and the Grace 17- 20

HYMN #61 *The Glory of These Forty Days*..... Spires

1st through 4th grade children enrolled in Jr. Choir will exit following the Cross.

THE SERMON..... Fr. Dunbar

OFFERING

Sentences

Anthem: *Come Friends and Relations* Early American, arr. John Fenstermaker

Presentation of Alms: #732 *All Things are Thine*

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN #567 *Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us*..... Dulce Carmen

ORGAN: *Allegro, from 1st movement of Sonata VI (Opus 65, no. 6)*..... Felix Mendelssohn

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 (Chapel: Collect, Epistle, Gospel as at 8 a.m.)