

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 46 No.12

Quinquagesima

February 15, 2015

ASH WEDNESDAY - FAST DAY

For all the baptized not prevented by reason of health or necessity, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are observed by a complete fast from food until the evening, when a light meal is taken. The other weekdays of Lent are marked by abstinence, that is, a reduction in quality of food and drink and other pleasures. The historic custom is to abstain from flesh meat (i.e. fish may be eaten).

On Ash Wednesday: **IMPOSITION OF ASHES AND HOLY COMMUNION:**

In Chapel: 7:15 a.m.; In Church with hymns: 10 a.m.; 12:15 p.m.; and 5:30 p.m. (with choir)

Morning Prayer: 8:15 a.m.. Litany 9:45 a.m.

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday

Office Closed for National Holiday.

No Services. No Women's Bible Study.

Tuesday

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

Morning or Evening Prayer

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

5:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

Pancakes, sausage, ham, cheese eggs and fruit \$10/adult; \$5/child 12 and under.

Thursday and Friday

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

Morning or Evening Prayer

with Holy Communion

Saturday

10:30 a.m. *Holy Communion*

BELONGING TO CHRIST (2)

The Catechism tells me that in Baptism I was made "a member of Christ, the Child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven". The sequence is a logical one: if I am member of Christ, then I share in Christ's unique Sonship, and so I am made the child of God; if I am the child of God, then I am also an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven. One might expand that sequence in terms of divine saving action: Christ has taken upon himself our sin and death, and in

return has given us his righteousness and life eternal; he has reconciled us to the Father and endued us with the Holy Ghost. But though this saving action is in the background of the Catechism's second question (and becomes explicit in the fourth), the language of the second question and answer is essentially one of *relationship* - and relationship runs two ways. As a member of Christ, I belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to me; as the child of God, I belong to God, and God belongs to me; as an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven (in present grace and future glory), it belongs to me, and I belong to it. This is the language of covenant, a bond of mutual obligation. "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God". But what about my side of this covenant? He has given himself to us to be *our* God - what does it mean for us to be *his* people? He has given himself to me to be my Father - what does it mean for me to be his child? The human side of the covenant is spelled out in the answer to the third question: *What did your Sponsors then for you? Answer. They did promise and vow three things in my name: First, that I should renounce the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh; Secondly, that*

THE PARISH PAPER

OF

St. John's Church

1 WEST MACON STREET

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

The Parish Paper of St. John's Church (USPS 887-960) is published weekly by St. John's Church, One West Macon Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401. Periodicals postage paid at Savannah, Georgia. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to St. John's Church, 1 W. Macon St., Savannah, GA 31401.

The Rt. Rev. Scott Benhase..... Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Gavin G. DunbarRector
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
Mrs. Holden T. Hayes..... Christian Education Director
Mr. Sinisa Domazet Buildings Manager

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

The Vestry: Esqs., John M. Hewson III, Joseph R. Ross, Jonathan D. Sprague; Drs. James S. McClellan, Roland S. Summers; Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr., Mrs. Richard C.E. Jennings, Mrs. Morgan W. Murray, Mrs. Mark D. Stevens, Mrs. R. Bartley Turner, Messrs Charles B. Compton, Jr., E. Brian Culver, John C. Helmken II, Wm. Howard Helmken, Jr., R. Scott Howard, J. Alex Jarman, 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. Christian Arden-Joly
President, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Roland S. Summers
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 John C. Helmken II

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Robert F. Brannen

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Victor L. Johnson, Jr. and Victor L. Johnson III by Ms. Anne Bone.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Edward J. Derst III, Mrs. Nicholas K. Farley
Mrs. Rhett N. Willis, Ms. Anne H. Mingledorff
Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard
Ms. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III
Mrs. F. Debele Maner, Mrs. H. Emerson Thomas
Mrs. John C. Wylly, Jr.

ACOLYTES

8:00 need volunteer
10:30 John Osborne, Mikel Kelly
Turner Stevens, Hawkins Pindar
Finn Repella, Henry Osborne

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Samuel L. Forkner III

9:30 A.M. SUNDAY YOUTH & ADULT EDUCATION

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 East. 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 Resource Room. (Mrs. 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, led by Fr. O'Brien.

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

WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Monday Noon, Epistle to the Hebrews, led by Fr. Bergstrom --NO Meeting Mon. Feb. 16th.

Thursday 9:15 a.m., Phaedo, (led by Fr. O'Brien)
NO Men's Forum this week.

ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS

If you would like to donate flowers at the altar for a memorial or thanksgiving, please call Mary Burnett (351-9622) or Penny Futrell at the Church Office (232-1251). The cost is \$75.00, paid to St. John's Chancel Society.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

I should believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith; And Thirdly, that I should keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of my life.

Notice that the obligations of the baptismal covenant arise out of the very nature of the benefits it confers: they are the conditions upon which I realize and experience the benefit. If I am made "a member of Christ" and belong to him as a member belongs to a body, I cannot adhere to those powers that would divide me from him. I must *renounce* the three foes of man and God named in Scripture, *the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh.*

Robert Crouse gives the rationale: "We cannot serve two masters. Insofar as we are followers of the world - insofar as we look to the world around us as the standard and measure of our lives - we cannot be followers of God. Insofar as we are followers of the flesh - insofar as we measure our lives according to what is immediately pleasant and agreeable to us - we cannot be followers of God. Insofar as we are followers of the devil - that is to say, insofar as we put ourselves in the place of God as arbiters of good and evil - we cannot be followers of God" (Sermon for Trinity 18). One might only add that the powers named by the Scripture as the flesh, the world, and the devil, are to be identified not with creatures as made good by God but as estranged from him and become rivals with God for our love and loyalty. The flesh as the power opposed to God is not the body in itself, but human nature turned in upon itself and apart from God - flesh as if it had not need of Spirit. The world as a power opposed to God is not the world in itself, but human society turned in upon itself and away from God - human society organized as if God did not exist. The devil is an angel who has turned in upon himself and made himself a false god. To follow the promptings of these false gods is to separate ourselves from Christ.

When in Baptism we renounced the world, the flesh, and the devil, we were

signed with the sign of the cross, in token that we should not be ashamed "manfully to fight under [Christ's] banner, against sin, the world, and the devil". This spiritual combat, celebrated in some well-loved hymns, is the point of our Lenten disciplines. Fasting and abstinence curb the pleasure-seeking impulses of the flesh, and bring it into conformity with the motions of the Spirit; prayer aligns our will with God's to curb the rebellious pride of the devil; almsgiving mortifies the deadly attraction of worldly riches as an end in themselves. We crucify and put to death our allegiance to the three foes of Christ, that in him we may know more fully the Father's love, and the Spirit's power. GGD

THURSDAY EVENINGS IN LENT

6:15 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

ADULT CATECHISM

Confirmation and Reception of new members takes place Sunday May 3rd. Adult Catechism classes are on THURSDAYS 6—7:15 p.m. Light supper provided. (Donation requested). Please email Fr. Dunbar if you are planning to attend: gdubar@stjohnssav.org

All preparing for Confirmation or Reception should make plans to attend; but those already confirmed or received and seeking a "refresher" course are also welcome. If you cannot meet on Thursdays, please speak with Fr. Bergstrom jbergstrom@stjohnssav.org who will be available at an alternative time.

W. H. AUDEN'S CHRISTIAN POETRY

Beginning February 19th and throughout Lent. Copies of 'Collected Poems' are available for purchase at Shavers. Otherwise Photocopies will be made available at class by Fr. O'Brien.

FRESH AIR HOME SUMMER CAMP COLLECTION

Please join the Women and Sunday School of Saint John's in collecting household items for the Fresh Air Home's camp season: *liquid laundry detergent, bleach, pine sol cleaner, paper towels, and 55 gallon trash bags.* Collection in bins at the entrance to Cranmer Hall through April 5.

8:00 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel p. 122
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.: JOYFUL NOISE, JOYFUL HEARTS

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

10:30 A.M. — MORNING PRAYER AND SERMON

HYMN #370 *Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers*..... Graefenberg
 Opening Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord’s Prayer Prayer Book pp 3-7
 Versicles and Responses 7-8
 VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO #609 9
 Psalm #77 433
 First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9 *God calls Abram with a promise of blessing.*
 BENEDICITE, OMNIA OPERA DOMINI *insert*
 Second Lesson: I Corinthians 13:1, St. Luke 18:31 123
 BENEDICTUS #638 14
Children may exit following the cross for PSALM PSINGERS (Gr 1-5)
 Apostles' Creed 15
 Versicles and Responses 16
 Collect for the Day 122
 Other Collects and Prayers and the Grace..... 17-20
 HYMN (*Insert*) *Come Down, O Love Divine* Down Ampney
 THE SERMON Fr. Bergstrom

OFFERING

Sentences
 Anthem: *Jesu, The Very Thought of Thee* Eric H. Thiman
 Presentation of Alms: #732 *All Things are Thine* Gardiner
 and Hymn #141 (verse 4)
 Prayer and Blessing
 HYMN (*Insert*) *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*..... CWM Rhondda
 VOLUNTARY: *Allegro Maestoso* Dionigio Canestrari

*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, and gospel same as 8:00 a.m.*