

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 46 No. 32

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

July 19th, 2015

THIS SUNDAY'S 9:30 A.M.

CLERGY CLASS:

T. S. Elliott: *Four Quartets* - Fr.
O'Brien Reading Room, 3rd Floor.

VISITATION

What happens when the priest walks through the door of your sickroom? For parishioners of St. John's, that priest is usually Fr. O' Brien, and from time to time I receive notes that testify to the gratitude of many for his ministry to the sick and infirm; and that says much for the care and conviction he brings to this work.

But what are they giving thanks for? His own distinctive personality? Well, we cannot deny that is there - but it is there more as medium than as message. What the priest brings is indeed and inevitably refracted through his own distinctive individuality; yet is no more to be confused with it than light is with the "brittle, crazy glass" of the window through which it shines.

Do they give thanks for a personal connection with a church community? Well to be sure, that too: a personal connection with a network of interpersonal relationships, a community, the Church. And yet there is more. The visitation of the sick is not just a social visit. The social dynamic of personalities may be the context, but it is not the content.

The "more" comes to light in the

ministry of Word and Sacrament which the Prayer Book enjoins for the sick and infirm - a ministry of teaching, exhortation, prayer, and blessing; of confession, absolution, and counsel; of Unction or Laying on of hands; of the Holy Communion; and for those whose life is drawing to its close, the viaticum (the "waybread" of Holy Communion) and prayers for the dying.

The priest comes through the door, and in his presence, not only is the Church represented, the community of faith, but also Christ. In word and sacrament he makes Christ's presence audible, visible and tangible. God in Christ is ever present in his Spirit, but it is the ministry of Word and Sacrament that makes his presence perceptible to us, and seriously physically sharpens our perceptions of him.

Yet still I think we need to say more, and that more is this, that where God is present he is surely active, he is at work, and he is at work not only in good things but also in evil. In my experience, this idea scandalizes some of the clergy, but the idea is intrinsically comforting. If God is only active in good things like health and ease, what does it mean if I am not experiencing health and ease? But if God can work his good purpose even in evil things like sickness

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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.

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 may be read on our web site: www.stjohnssav.org

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

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

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. John D. Riley

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Howell III and Kathyryne H Koritz by Jeanne, Caroline, and Claire;
And in honor of Mr. Ross Hunter Philbrick by Dr. Thomas Philbrick.

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The Anthem for today is given to the glory of God in loving memory of Eileen Foran by Doug Foran.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Ms. Jayne G. Holland,
Mrs. Mark Alleaier, Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr.
Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan, Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III
Mrs. John Reiter and Mrs. Wiley A. Wasden III
Dr. Lucinda Schultz

ACOLYTES

8:00 *volunteer requested*
10:30 Mikel Kelly, Jamie McClellan
Hawkins Pindar, Hunt Wasden
Finn Repella, Jackson McClellan

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Ms. Darcy Daniell

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS

Mallory's Mort D'Arthur-class will resume
September 20th

Clergy Class: T.S. Elliott - *Four Quartets* - Fr. O'Brien. *Reading Room, 3rd Floor.*

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Tuesday Men's Breakfast - *Will resume at later date.*

Thursday 7 a.m. 1 Kings, led by Fr Dunbar, in Reading Room.

WOMEN'S STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUP

Classes will resume in the fall.

JANE'S CANNERS - in the Cranmer Hall kitchen on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. Donations of sugar, figs, pears, apples, onions, 8 oz. jars, green peppers, etc. gratefully received. Please call Jane Pressly 233-6551.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

9:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.

Friday 9:00a.m. to 12:00 (noon)

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

and suffering, then I have nothing to fear. He can use even evil to attain his good purposes.

We are very aware of the physical and medical aspects of illness, infirmity, injury; but human beings are not just machines made of meat and bones for medical technicians to repair: there is a spiritual aspect to them also, a time when God is at work to make us whole, not only in body but also in soul. It is a testing time, when faith is tried, and purified like gold in the fire; but it is also a time of grace, an opportunity to grow in faith. The two are not really separate: judgment and mercy work together, judgment to separate us from that which separates us from God; mercy to unite us to that which unites us to God. And so we meet illness, infirmity, and injury in the perspective of the cross, resurrection and praying (because it is the cross) for patience in all our suffering and (because it is resurrection) for a happy issue from all our afflictions.

This happy issue may be a recovery of bodily health, and a strengthening of faith; but ultimately, and for everyone, it can only be our deliverance from the burden of the flesh into the joy and felicity of the heavenly paradise, it can only be "our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory". What happens when the priest walks through the door of your sickroom? In his visitation, Christ himself comes, God makes himself present, the Spirit goes to work in our weakness, suffering, and death

- precisely so that we may walk through the door that opens to his house, and dwell with him, not for a brief visit, but forever.

GGD

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday to Friday

Morning and Evening Prayer

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

In addition, on Wednesday July 22nd

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10 a.m. *Holy Eucharist*

Saturday, July 25th

SAINT JAMES THE GREAT,
APOSTLE & MARTYR

10:30 a.m. *Holy Eucharist*

Summer office hours through Labor Day

Monday through Thursday; 9:00 to 4:30

Friday 9:00 to 12 noon

NEXT WEEK!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday through Friday

July 27th – 31st

9:30 a.m.--Noon

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CAMP

(2 years - 5 YEARS OLD)

July 27th - July 31st

9:00 am until 1:00 pm

Offered by The Children's School

For more info Contact Caroline Hayes

chayes@stjohnssav.org

VOICE FESTIVAL AT ST. JOHN'S

Amy Shoremount Obra, soprano

Tuesday, August 4th

6:30pm – 8:00pm

\$45 advance sale - \$50 at the door

To order: call 855.76.OPERA or

info@savannahvoicefestival.org

8:00 A.M. — HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel Prayer Book pg. 198
A continental breakfast is available Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:30 A.M. — ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (*Cranmer Hall*)

10:15 a.m. — 12 Noon NURSERY (*Cranmer Hall*)

10:30 a.m. —Pre-school/Three-year-olds through Kindergarten (*Cranmer Hall*)

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

HYMN #157 *Father, We Thank Thee* Christe Sanctorum
 Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord’s Prayer Prayer Book, pages 3-7
 Opening Versicles & Responses 7-8
 VENITE #610 9
 Psalms #47, 48 397, 398
 First Lesson: 1King’s 17:1-24 *Elijah and the Canaanite widow of Zarephath* *insert*
 BENEDICTUS ES, DOMINE #626..... 11
 Second Lesson: Romans 6:19 & St. Mark 8:1 198-199
 BENEDICTUS #634 14
Children may exit following the cross for PSALM PSINGERS (Gr 1-5)
 Apostles' Creed 15
 Intercessory Versicles and Responses..... 16
 Collect for the Day..... 198
 Other Collects and the Grace 17-20
 HYMN 195 *Father, We Thank Thee* Rendez a Dieu
 THE SERMON Fr. Bergstrom

OFFERING

Sentences

Anthem: *Jesu, Lover of My Soul*..... Philip Stopford

Presentation of Alms: Doxology #139, and Hymn #141 (verse 4)

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN #280 *God, My King, Thy Might Confessing* Stuttgart

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: *Maestoso A Poco Vivace*, (Werk 90)..... Hermann Schroeder

*Everyone is invited to attend Coffee Hour in the Green Meldrim House immediately after the 10:30 service.
 If you are a guest and visiting our Parish, please make yourself known.*

12 Noon — HOLY COMMUNION (Church) - as 8 a.m.