

# The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 46 No 41.

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015

## THE THRONE OF GRACE

Magnificently-robed, high-crowned, great-bearded, enthroned in majesty, the Ancient of Days bears in his arms the slack and naked body of a crucified man, whose face is like his own. Above them hovers a dove in a nimbus of light. This image of the Trinity with the Cross at its heart, is one of the most striking images in Christian iconography, and is known as the "throne of grace", after Hebrews 4:16: "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need". It is the subject of two of Albrecht Durer's greatest works, both made in 1511: one a richly-framed and richly-coloured oil (the Landauer Altarpiece now in Vienna) made for a family chapel in an almshouse, before which the almsmen, elderly craftsmen, would pray for the souls of the donors; and the other a woodcut cheaply printed and purchased by thousands. (Images of both are easily found online: search "Durer" and "Trinity").

A throne, by definition, is the place of judgment and justice (cf. Psalm 89:14 and Daniel 7:9-12): and so there is a paradox in the idea of its being a throne of mercy and grace. How can this be? The crucified body of Jesus show us: he bears in his own body the judgment of God's justice against our injustice: and yet there is no wrath visible in the Father, but only tenderness, for his

body-language, as he bears in his arms the Crucified Son is strikingly like that of a Pietà, the Virgin of Pity, the mother of God mourning her dead Son. It is of his tender mercy to sinners that he has given his Son to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption, in propitiation of his wrath against sin, and now presents him to the suppliants at his throne, to be received by means of faith, as the offering made for us.

But if an offering has been made, who makes this offering? Not the Father, who receives the offering, but the Son sent into the world as victim and priest, who offers himself in sacrifice for our sins. Some blasphemously speak of "divine child abuse" but this cannot be, since the Son is also Lord, beloved and empowered, who freely and willingly cooperates with the Father in the work of our redemption.

And what of the Spirit – hovering in the form of a dove over the Father and the Son? He is the executive of the Godhead, effecting in us what the Father has decreed and the Son accomplished. It is the Spirit who makes Christ present in our hearts and minds, who stirs our cold hearts to faith, gratitude, and love, that we may receive him in all the saving virtue of his death. As today's epistle lesson puts it, it is the work of the Spirit, "that Christ may dwell in our

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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](http://www.stjohnssav.org)

**VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN**

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

**USHER CHAIRMAN**

Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of loved ones by Mr. and Mrs. Warren L. Traver;  
and in loving memory of Peter Meldrim Coy and Sally McAdoo Coy by Mr. and Mrs. Timothy E. Coy;  
and in loving memory of Jo Francis Deal and Edward John Derst, Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Derst, III and family;  
and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Helmken, and loved ones, and in thanksgiving for St. John's Church by Howard, Deborah, William and Jonathan Helmken and Mr. and Mrs. Gary M. Schubert.

**CHANCEL SOCIETY**

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr., Mrs. Jayne G. Holland, Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Nicholas K. Farley  
Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan, Mrs. B. Ray Summerell,  
Mrs. Emerson Thomas, Miss Laura Reid,  
Mrs. John C. Wylly, Jr.

**ACOLYTES**

**8:00** Turner Stevens  
**10:30** Hawkins Pindar, Jamie McClellan  
Finn Repella, Jackson McClellan  
Philip Inglesby, Edwin Shepherd

**COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN**

Mrs. Jack C. Wray

**ADULT EDUCATION SUNDAYS 9:30 A.M.**

Jack Wray – “*Creation From Genesis to Revelation*” (3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Cranmer Hall –far left classroom)

Father Dunbar – “*This our Sacrifice of Praise*” – Reading Room

David Noble – Malory's *Morte D'Arthur* (3<sup>rd</sup> floor Cranmer Hall – far right classroom)

**MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION**

**Tuesday** 6:45 a.m. Breakfast and Discussion on with Fr O'Brien, Parish House.

**Thursday** 7 a.m., 2 Kings, Fr. Dunbar, Reading Room, Cranmer Hall

**WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION**

*To Be Announced*

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

hearts by faith, that ... we may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God" (Ephesians 3:17-19).

While the Throne of Grace disappears from English art after the reformation, it abides still in Cranmer's 1549 Prayer to the Father, who "of thy tender mercie diddest geve thine only sonne Jesu Christ to suffre death upon the crosse for our redempcion, who made there (by his one oblacion once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblacion, and satisfaccyon, for the sinnes of the whole worlde...." Cranmer is reticent about the Spirit, but there is no mistaking the Trinitarian context of the Cross. It is in "the breadth, and length, and depth, and height" of the Cross, that we know the love of the Father and the Son in the Spirit. GGD

**MEN'S ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**

5:30 p.m. Social 6:15 p.m. Food  
6:45 p.m. Meeting

*Green Meldrim House*

All Men of Saint John's Welcome  
Tickets: \$20 on sale after Church  
Or Call Church Office 232-1251.

**PUBLICITY ASSISTANCE SOUGHT**  
**FOR MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S**

The Organist-Choirmaster is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the placing of publicity for music at St. John's under his direction. If you think you might be able to help, please call him at 912 660-8643 or at the Church office.

**PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK**

**Monday 21st September**  
**FEAST OF SAINT MATTHEW**  
**APOSTLE & EVANGELIST**

*Holy Communion with*  
*Morning and Evening Prayer*  
8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday to Friday**  
*Morning and Evening Prayer*  
8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

**In addition, on Wednesday**  
9:45 a.m. *Litany*  
10 a.m. *Said Eucharist*

**HOLLY DAYS BAZAAR**  
**JEWELRY DRIVE**

*Jewelry, Jewelry Everywhere*  
*Bring Us Some You Just Don't Wear!*  
Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup>, bring your old bangles, baubles, and beads to donate to the Holly Days Bazaar. (Or drop off in collection bag at the Church Office during the week.)

**SECOND HARVEST BACKPACK**  
**COLLECTION**

Please join the Women and Sunday School of St. John's in collecting items for the Second Harvest Backpack Program – which provides weekend nutrition for school children. Needed items include: **fruit cups, small cans of Vienna sausage, small jars of peanut butter, individual packages of crackers, and goldfish.** Collection bins at Cranmer Hall September 13-November 8. Items are packed every Wednesday at 3:15 at the Second Harvest Food Bank. To help, call Martha Sullivan for further details: 912-663-6221.

**8:00 A.M. —HOLY COMMUNION**

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel.....Prayer Book pg. 212  
*A continental breakfast is available Cranmer Hall following this service.*

9:30-12:00 (Noon)—Nursery (*Cranmer Hall*)

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

**10:30 a.m. – JOYFUL NOISE, JOYFUL HEARTS** (*Cranmer Hall*)  
*(Music, Teaching, and Fun for Pre-School through Kindergarten.)*

**10:30A.M. — SUNG EUCHARIST & SERMON**

HYMN #272 *Thou, Whose Almighty Word*..... Moscow

**ANTE-COMMUNION**

Collect for Purity.....Prayer Book, page 67  
 The Ten Commandments ..... 68  
 KYRIE ELEISON: #710..... Healey Willan  
 Collect and Epistle ..... 212  
 HYMN #376 *Come Down, O Love Divine*..... Down Ampney  
 The Holy Gospel..... 212  
 The Nicene Creed ..... 71  
 HYMN #454 *Lord, With Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee*..... In Babilone #357  
*Children may exit following the cross for PSALM PSINGERS (Gr 1-5)*  
 SERMON..... Fr Dunbar

**OFFERTORY**

Sentences  
 ANTHEM: *Blest Are The Pure In Heart*.....Malcolm Archer  
 Presentation of Alms #139  
 Prayer for the State of the Church..... 74

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

Invitation, Confession and Absolution..... 75  
 Sursum Corda #734 and Preface ..... 76, 77  
 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 # 210 *Deck Thyself My Soul With Gladness*..... Schmucke Dich  
 Motet: *Lord, With Glowing Heart I'd Praise Thee*..... Lowell Mason  
 Thanksgiving (*said with the congregation*)..... 83  
 GLORIA IN EXCELSIS #713 ..... Healey Willan  
 The Blessing (*Kneeling*)..... 84  
 HYMN #479 *Love Divine All Loves Excelling* ..... Hyfyrdol  
 ORGAN: *Trumpet Tune in E Flat* ..... Mark Thewes

*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** (Chapel) - as 8 a.m.