

THIS SUNDAY AT ST. JOHN'S

The nursery is available from 8:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

8 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION, Church

A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following 8 a.m. service.

Introit: Psalm 92, BCP p 455-456

The Collect and Epistle, and Gospel: BCP, pp. 118-120

9 A.M. FAMILY MORNING PRAYER, Church

A light breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following 9 a.m. service.

10 A.M. ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL, Chapel & Cranmer Hall

11 A.M. SUNG EUCHARIST & SERMON, Church & Online

Music for This Sunday:

Fantasy in E, Harold Darke

#288 *O Worship the King* (HANOVER)

#573 *Go, Labor On!* ANGEL'S SONG (SONG 34)

#732 *All Things Are Thine* (GARDINER)

#455 *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds* (ST PETER)

I will lift up mine eyes, Parker Ramsey

#576 *Come, Labor On* (ORA LABORA)

Fantasy on *Ora Labora*

11 A.M. YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS, Cranmer Hall (3rd Fl)

5 P.M. PARENTS' NIGHT OUT & YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL, Cranmer Hall (1st Fl)

EXCITING CHANGES TO PARENTS' NIGHT OUT,

YOUTH GROUP, AND CHOIR REHEARSAL (3rd-12th grade)

We are excited to announce a development in Parents' Night Out. Sunday evening from 5-7 p.m., parents are welcome to drop off their children at Cranmer Hall. **Beginning Feb. 16**, youth group and choir rehearsal will alternate Sundays. The choir is open to children in 3rd through 12th grade. Dinner and childcare will be provided each week. Please know that potential youth and choir members are welcome to and encouraged to bring friends. Please fill out the information form at StJohnsSav.org/chorister so we have up-to-date contact information and be aware of any dietary restrictions your child may have.

Upcoming Schedule:

Feb. 16: Choir Rehearsal

Feb. 23: Youth Group

March 2: Choir Rehearsal

March 9: Youth Group

(*March 16: Spring Break*)

Mar 23: Youth Group (Evensong)

March 30: Choir Rehearsal

April 6: Youth Group

April 13: Choir Rehearsal

(*April 20: Easter Sunday*)

April 27: Final Choir Rehearsal

SAVANNAH ANTIQUES & ARCHITECTURE WEEKEND (SAAW)

Celebrate *Timeless Southern Charm*, March 6-8, with Southern Interior Designer and best-selling author, James Farmer and more. To purchase tickets or become a patron, please visit SavAntiquesWeekend.com.

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

COUNT DOWN TO THE CROSS

In the face of institutional inertia, reformers may feel the need to "move fast and break things", but then they run the risk of throwing the baby out with the bathwater. Getting the balance right requires prudence, and sound judgment. Even churches struggle to do so. In the second Vatican Council (1962-1965) the Roman church identified public worship as an area in need of renewal, but the reforms that followed were more drastic than had been anticipated, and did serious damage to the liturgy of the Roman church, and by its influence, on the liturgies of Protestant churches also. In particular, they harmed the church year (the annual cycle of seasons and holy days), and the eucharistic lectionary (the scripture lessons read at mass) in which that church year is embodied and expressed.

Like the Anglican and Lutheran churches, the Roman church had inherited from catholic antiquity a form of the calendar and of the eucharistic lectionary. In its Roman form, this calendar and lectionary had suffered some displacements and accretions, which could have been corrected by a modest and prudent reform. Instead, the Roman authorities mutilated the ancient calendar and abolished the ancient eucharistic lectionary in favor of a new three-lesson, three-year cycle, the *Ordo Lectionum Missae* of 1969. Thus was the baby thrown out with the bathwater. This would just have been a Roman problem, except that the mainline Protestant churches (including Episcopalians and Lutherans) decided to

follow suit, in the Common Lectionary of 1983 (and its replacement, the Revised Common Lectionary of 1994).

The new lectionaries sought to increase the quantity of Scripture read at the eucharist, but this expansion came at the expense of doctrinal quality, and

**UPCOMING WORSHIP:
WEEK OF SEPTUAGESIMA**

Online Morning Prayer:
8:15 a.m. Monday-Friday

Monday, Feb. 17:

Church office closed; no services today

Tuesday, Feb. 18:

8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*
with *Holy Communion*, Chapel
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

Wednesday, Feb. 19:

8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*, Chapel
Noon *Holy Communion*, Church
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel
9 p.m. *Sung Compline*, Church

Thursday, Feb. 20:

8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*
with *Holy Communion*, Chapel
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*
with *Holy Communion*, Chapel

Friday, Feb. 21:

Noon *Holy Communion*, Chapel
5 p.m. *Evening Prayer*, Chapel

Sunday, Feb. 23: Sexagesima

8 a.m. *Holy Communion*, Church
9 a.m. *Family Holy Communion*, Church
10 a.m. *All Ages Sunday School*,
Chapel & Cranmer Hall
11 a.m. *Morning Prayer*, Church/Online
11 a.m. *Youth Confirmation Class*,
Cranmer Hall
12:15 p.m. *Coffee Hour*, Green-Meldrim
5-7 p.m. *Parents' Night Out & Youth*
Group, Cranmer Hall

THE PARISH PAPER
of
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ONE WEST MACON STREET
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401
www.stjohnssav.org

To receive the Parish Paper by email (on Wednesdays), send name and email address to information@stjohnssav.org

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The Rt. Rev. Paul E. Lambert [Retired] (931) 327-5489
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Mr. William Douglas Organist and Choirmaster
Mrs. Janice W. Woods Business Manager
Ms. Doreen L. Karls Parish Administrator
Mrs. Daniel J. Mahfet Financial Administrator
Mrs. Jeremy J. Harvey (Heather) Communications
Mrs. Joseph Ross, Jr. (Sarah) Children's Ministry Director
Mr. Steven D. Vanderlip, Jr. Minister w/Youth/Pastoral Intern
Mr. Sinisa Domazet Buildings Manager
Master of Ceremonies Mr. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr.
Verger Mr. B. Ray Summerell
Verger Mr. James E. Morris

Senior Warden Mr. Graham P. Sadler
Junior Warden Mrs. Duncan Pindar (Terry)
Treasurer Mr. Floyd Whittington, Jr.
Assistant Treasurer Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford (Susan)
Clerk of Vestry Mrs. Elizabeth H. Schubert
Chancellor Dolly Chisholm

The Vestry: Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara), Mrs. L. Allan Reynolds, Jr. (Beverley), Mr. Douglas P. McManamy, Mrs. Jonathan D. Sprague (Mary), Mrs. Patrick Worsham (Jane), Mr. Charles J. Ezelle, Mr. Stephen D. Ezelle, Mr. R. Scott Howard, Mr. Richard Wright (Rick), and Mrs. James F. Holtzclaw (Sherry)

Chancellor Emeritus & Vestryman Emeritus: M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq. (Ty)

Vestry Emeriti: Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. Edwin H. Culver, and Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr.

President, Women of St. John's Melanie Finnegan
Co-President, Chancel Society Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan
..... Mrs. Linda H. Pounds
Pres. Emeritus, Chancel Society Mrs. Roland S. Summers
President, Men of St. John's Mr. Sean F. Finnegan
Church Office (912) 232-1251
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. Please call the Church Office to notify the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital or hospice.

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIR

8 a.m. Mr. Arthur D. Weed
11 a.m. Mrs. Duncan Pindar (Terry)

USHER

Mr. John G. Bradshaw

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw (Sally)
Mrs. Nohl A. Braun, Jr. (Alyce)
Mrs. Timothy E. Coy (Dorothea)
Mrs. B. Ray Summerell (Melanie)
Mrs. Jayne G. Holland
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr. (Barbara)
Mrs. Jeanne H. McMillan
Mrs. Linda H. Pounds
Mrs. Robert B Turner (Christiana)

FLOWERS

The flowers in church this Sunday are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Ruth and Homer F. Peeples.

To offer flowers for the altar, please call the Church office. After Sunday, the flowers are delivered to the sick, sorrowing, and shut-ins.

LIVING VINE FUNDRAISER

The rescheduled Sips at the Station event to benefit The Living Vine is **Tuesday, Feb. 18**, from 5:30-7 p.m. at Ardsley Station (102 E. Victory Dr.).

HOPE HAVEN COLLECTION

Support Hope Have by purchasing activity materials and holiday decorations. Items purchased off their wish list (StJohnsSav.org/HopeHaven) will ship directly to Hope Haven.

FEAST OF ST. MATTHIAS

Celebrate on **Monday, Feb. 24**, with a noon Holy Communion in the Church.

MASON JAR DONATIONS

Jane's Canners are looking for donations of 8-oz canning jars. If you'd like to donate, please place jars in the designated box in Cranmer Hall.

CHURCH TOUR VOLUNTEERS

Consider being a church tour docent! Tours are offered every Tuesdays & Fridays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact Frank Somoskey at 830-608-4939 or frank-denny@sbcglobal.net.

teaching of Christ and his Church. (It has been said, that if you want to know more about the Bible use the modern lectionary; but if you want to know more about Jesus, use the ancient lectionary.) Nowhere is this more evident that in the disappearance of the ancient Sundays before Lent (which begin this year on February 16th). In order to maximize the time available for "semi-continuous reading" from books of the Bible, the reformers summarily abolished these ancient Sundays, and extended the season after Epiphany ("ordinary time") all the way to Shrove Tuesday, where it runs smack into Lent.

These three Sundays before Lent bear the old Latin names of Septuagesima ("seventieth"), Sexagesima ("sixtieth"), and Quinquagesima ("fiftieth"). As the numbers suggest, with them the church begins a countdown that will take it through the forty days of Lent (in Latin, Quadragesima) all the way to Easter, the feast of Christ's resurrection. In these Sundays the church is prepared for this new direction of the Church's year – and the necessity for this preparation is not to be airily dismissed. As noted by the Orthodox theologian Alexander Schmemmann, "Long before the actual beginning of Lent, the Church announces its approach and invites us to enter into a period of pre-Lenten preparation.... the Church knows our inability to change rapidly, to go abruptly from one spiritual or mental state into another. Thus, long before the actual effort of Lent is to begin, the Church calls our attention to its seriousness and invites us to meditate on its significance. Before we can *practice* Lent we are given it *meaning*." The summary dismissal of this rationale by the reformers betrays their narrowly pedagogical perspective, their lack of spiritual wisdom and pastoral judgment.

So what is the meaning they teach? Recall first the meaning of the season

just past. In Epiphany the church celebrates the manifestation of God's glory in Christ - manifested *to* us, that it may be manifested *in* us, as we are transformed by him. But now we move on to the next stage, to the necessity of disciplined effort in our ongoing transformation. That's why on Septuagesima we hear of the labourers in the vineyard, and the athlete's training; on Sexagesima the labours of the apostle and the patience that receives and keeps the seed of God's word; on Quinquagesima of the journey up to Jerusalem, from blindness to vision; and of growing up into the maturity in faith, hope, and charity. The images vary, but the theme is one: the transformation of our lives requires effort, training, labour, discipline – the Lenten good works of fasting and self-denial, persistent prayer, and sacrificial giving.

Wherever works are involved, there is a risk of Pelagian works-righteousness, in which we think to put God under obligation by our trivial efforts. But these lessons also teach that all our work and labor is at all points dependent upon the unmerited grace of God, who calls us to labor and rewards us beyond all deserving. Even our will to work, and the strength and skill we bring to it, are themselves the gifts of his grace. As the Lord said to Paul, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor 12:9, Sexagesima).

– GGD

PRAYER BOOK SOCIETY —

ANGLICAN WAY CONFERENCE

What Anglicans think about the eucharist is the topic of the Anglican Way conference this week. A Choral Evensong with sermon on **Thursday, Feb. 20**, starting at 6 p.m. is open to all.

If you would like to help, please contact secretary@pbsusa.org.