

[send this](#)[bookmark](#)[print](#)[close](#)

The Parish Paper

OF
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol.1 No.1

01/12/01

Passion Sunday

O THOU the very Light of light, whom men in their darkness approached with lanterns and torches: Keep us from following the little lights of the world, that deepen our night; and lead us into that holy city where the true light shineth and never goeth down; and thou with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, world without end.

O GOD, the Father of mankind, who didst suffer thine only Son to be set forth as a spectacle, despised, derided and scornfully arrayed, the more in his humiliation to reveal his majesty: Draw us daily, we beseech thee, both to behold the man and to worship the King, immortal, eternal, world without end.

O LORD, the King of kings, who didst establish the power of a perfect kingdom by hanging upon the tree: Sign thou our lives, as our brows, with thy Cross, that, what thou hast written upon us may be written for ever, and we be all thine; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

from E. Milner – White,
A Procession of Passion Prayers

O GOD, when you created man you gave him the gift of freedom. All else that lives is bound to the laws of nature. The plant grows as it must, and the animal follows the necessity of its being; but to man you have given the mystery of inner beginning. He can act from within himself; therefore his action belongs to him, and in his action he belongs to himself. In this freedom he should have served you, but he used it to revolt against you. Thereafter it was lost, and he became a servant.

But you did not abandon him to himself. You sent your Son into the world, and he announced to man a higher freedom. He calls each one of us and stretches out his hand to him that he may believe in him, trust in him, obey him and so conquer his slavery.

Grant me your Holy Spirit, so that I may sense the divine freedom in which Christ stands, and that I may feel the desire for "the glorious freedom of the children of God", which he alone can give. I am of this world, and it compels and binds me; I am filled with the powers of my nature, and they disturb and mis-lead me. But may the Holy Spirit give me confidence that I am called to eternal freedom in you.

And may it help me to struggle for that freedom in the needs and demands of each hour; to overcome evil by prolonged effort; to become pure and good and to make room for his holiness. And in all slavery, poverty and seeming hopelessness may he give us unshakable hope for that day when all chains will fall and I will partake of the freedom of God's children.

Amen.

Romano Guardini,
Prayers from theology

(psalms) (psalms) various



[Report Errors](#) | [Comments](#)

Copyright 2003 - 2004 St. John's Episcopal Church in Savannah, GA. All rights reserved.