

# The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 41 No. 52

The Sunday Next before Advent (Trinity 25)

November 21, 2010

## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

THIS SUNDAY AT THE 10:30 A.M. SERVICE

### FOUR LAST THINGS

Death, Judgment, Heaven, Hell: these are the “four last things”, a traditional focus of meditation in the dark month of November, which begins with All Saints and the commemoration of All Souls, and runs into Advent, with its expectation of Christ’s coming again to judge the quick and the dead. It is not an easy meditation: it is meant to discomfort the worldly – but its purpose is to show us our true comfort.

**DEATH:** In the knowledge of our mortality, we learn humility: and in the knowledge of the “shortness and uncertainty of human life”, we are moved to look beyond it, to the God whose days are without end and whose mercies cannot be numbered. “Today, O that ye would hear his voice” (Psalm 95:8). Death, the penalty of Adam’s disobedience, drives us to seek the Life won for us by the obedience of Christ.

**JUDGMENT:** “It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27). By death we are called to account at the judgment seat of Christ: and what we are judged on is not the hand we have been dealt, but how we played it. All our choices add up in the end to one choice, for or against God, and in that

choice we find our eternal destiny. A careful scrutiny of our choices is thus in order. We are moved to look at ourselves as God looks at us. The thief on the cross shows us the way. In penitence he acknowledged himself justly condemned, in faith he testified to the righteousness of Christ, and in hope he prayed to be remembered by Christ in his kingdom. Christ answered him with this promise: “Today shalt thou be with me in paradise” (Luke 23:43). Through repentance and the forgiveness of sins, we enter into the Sabbath rest of paradise. We rest from our labours, because we rest in the perfect work of redemption which Christ has accomplished for us. And though like the thief we may leave this world with our sanctification incomplete, in death there are no more obstacles to sanctification.

**HEAVEN:** As Christians, “our citizenship is in heaven, from whence we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself” (Philippians 3:20, 21). In our choices in this life we forge an eternal destiny; we develop (or do not develop) a capacity to receive in soul and body the everlasting life and

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The Rt. Rev. Scott Benhase..... Bishop of Georgia  
 The Rev. Gavin G. Dunbar .....Rector  
 1 West Macon Street .....(912) 234-2209  
 The Rev. Craig E. O'Brien..... Priest Associate  
 201 E. 49<sup>th</sup> Street Upper flat.....(912) 308-4441  
 Mr. Michael Chastain, MRE,M.Div. .Director of Family  
 Life and College Outreach Ministries ....(912) 450-0000  
 Brian J. Taylor, DSM..... Organist/Choirmaster  
 Mrs. I. David Futrell, Jr.....Parish Secretary  
 Mrs. Peter J. Smyth..... Financial Secretary  
 Mrs. William D. Harrell..... Parish Activities Director  
 Mr. Wesley Perkins.....Associate Choirmaster  
 Mr. Rich Mays.....Associate Organist  
 Mr. Sinisa Domazet ..... Buildings Manager  
 Senior Warden .....*Mr. John C. Helmken II*  
 Junior Warden .....*Joseph R. Ross, Esq.*  
 Clerk of Vestry.....*Mr. J. Wesley Krulic*  
 Treasurer.....*Mr. David C. Barrow III*  
 Chancellor.....*M. Tyus Butler, Jr. Esq.*

The Vestry: The Vestry: *Esqs.*, R. Kran Riddle, Joseph R. Ross, Dr. J. Davidson Carson, Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford, Mrs. Edward J. Derst III, Mrs. Paul M. Pressly, Mrs. Neil H. Victor, *Messrs.* David C. Barrow III, Stephen R. Braswell, W. Barron Crawford, Edwin H. Culver, John C. Helmken II, Lawrence L. Hearn III, J. Wesley Krulic, William C. Rodgers, J. Pride Sheahan, Paul D. Troxler, R. Gilbert Wells, Floyd G. Whittington, Jr., Roland B. Williams.

*Vestry Emeriti:* Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. James E. Hungerpillar, Dr. Edwin C. Shepherd

*President, ECW* .....*Mrs. William E. Osborne*  
*President, Chancel Society*..... *Mrs. Roland S. Summers*  
*President, Business Women* .....*Mrs. Myrtice A.J. Lewis*  
*President, Men of St. John's*.....*Mr. Richard L. Wright*  
 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.

Those who have been baptized and confirmed, or are ready and desirous to be confirmed, are admitted to the Holy Communion. In case of doubt, please consult the clergy.

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

**VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN**

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed

10:30 Mr. R. Stephen Braswell

**USHER CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Austin O. Kennedy

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Brendon Appleton Maloney and Quinn Kennedy Maloney and in celebration of the birthdays of Brendon Kennedy Maloney, Barrett Quinn Maloney, Parker Ellis Maloney, and Merrick Chaffee Maloney by McBrier, Michael, Oliver and Isabelle Maloney.

And in loving memory of Bruce Alan Capra by Dr. and Mrs. Charles R. Fana, Jr.

And in loving memory of Leonora Huguenin Victor by her family.

**Chancel Society**

Mrs. Warren Traver, Ms. Anne H. Mingledorff  
 Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Mrs. Roland S. Summers  
 Mrs. Marshall F. Campbell, Mrs. Andrew T. Sheils, Jr.

**ACOLYTES**

**8:00** Will Sadler  
**10:30** Oliver Maloney  
 John DeBacker, Lawson Turner  
 Lindsay Pindar, Charles Perrie  
 Chris Dixon, John Osborne

**COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN**

Dr. Melanie Helmken (Mrs. John C. Helmken II)

**SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASSES**

- Frs. Dunbar & O' Brien – **Old Testament** (Chapel)
- Jack Wray (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Classroom) **Isaiah -55**—“*The Word of God Stands*”.
- David Noble –*The Tale of the Clerk of the Oxenford*.” (Reading Rm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl)
- Mike Chastain—**Marrieds (& Singles) Forum**—Ralston Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Cranmer Hall.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS**

**Tuesday** 6:45 a.m. Men's Breakfast & Study—  
 (Parish House Dining Room, enter by Kitchen)  
**Thursday** 7 a.m. *No Meeting this week*

**WOMEN'S STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS**

Reading Room, Cranmer Hall.  
**Wednesday**—10:45 a.m.-*No meeting this week*  
**Thursday**—*No Meeting this week*

**The ECW Board** will meet in the Parish House dining room Monday, November 27th.

endless joy of heaven. We have everything to hope for....

HELL:...And everything to fear. It is fantasy that Christ said nothing about hell. Quite the opposite: it is precisely in the revelation of the love of God, that the possibility, and eternal consequences, of rejecting that love appear. Incredible as it may seem, we have the ability to deprive ourselves of eternal happiness by the choices we make; we can make ourselves incapable of joy. The thought should prick the bubble of complacency. It should also move us to profound gratitude for whatever graces of repentance and faith and charity which have been given us.

The end of this meditation is peace: the peace that breathes through these lines of Richard Baxter's written in 1681:

Lord, it belongs not to my care  
Whether I die or live;  
To love and serve thee is my share,  
And this thy grace must give.

If life be long, O make me glad  
The longer to obey;  
If short, no labourer is sad  
To end this toilsome day.

Christ leads me through no darker  
rooms  
Than he went through before;  
He that unto God's kingdom comes  
Must enter by this door.

Come, Lord, when grace hath made  
me meet  
Thy blessed face to see:  
For if thy work on earth be sweet,  
What will thy glory be!

Then I shall end my sad complaints  
And weary sinful days,  
And join with the triumphant saints  
That sing my Saviour's praise.

My knowledge of that life is small,  
The eye of faith is dim;  
But 'tis enough that Christ knows all,  
And I shall be with him.

GGD

**PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK**

**MONDAY - TUESDAY**

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

*Morning and Evening Prayer*

**WEDNESDAY**

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer*

9:45 a.m. – *Litany*

10:00 a.m.—*Sung Eucharist*

5:30 P.M.—*Evening Prayer*

*No Supper or Class this week*

**THURSDAY – THANKSGIVING DAY**

10:30 a.m. – *Sung Eucharist*

**NO SERVICES FRIDAY**

**HOLIDAY HOURS –  
CHURCH OFFICE & PARISH HOUSE**

*The Office will be closed*

*Thursday and Friday*

*November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving.*

*The Parish House will be closed*

*Monday-Friday (November 22–26), but*

*will be open for tours on Saturday,*

*November 27<sup>th</sup>.*

**ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS**

If you returned an Estimate of Giving card, and have not received an acknowledgment, please contact the church office 232-1251.

**8:00—HOLY COMMUNION**

COLLECTS, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL ..... 225

*A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.*

**9:00—12 Noon NURSERY** (Cranmer Hall)

**9:30—ADULT, YOUTH, and CHILDREN’S CLASSES** (Chapel, Cranmer Hall)

**10:30 –Pre-school Program continues**—3 year olds through Kindergarten (Cranmer Hall)

**Jr. Choir**—grades 1 through 4 (Cranmer Hall)

**10:30—MORNING PRAYER and ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

CARILLON

HYMN #228 *Only Begotten, Word of God Eternal*..... Rouen

Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord’s Prayer .....Prayer Book 3-7

Versicles and Responses ..... 7-8

VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO (Hymnal #609)..... 9

Psalm #145.....520

First Lesson: Ecclesiasticus 44:1-15 *Let us now praise famous men.*

TE DEUM (Hymnal #615, 619) ..... 10

Second Lesson: St. Matthew 25:31-end *Come, ye blessed of my Father.*

BENEDICTUS (Hymnal #638)..... 14

Apostles' Creed ..... 15

Versicles and Responses ..... 16

Collect for the Day ..... 117

Other Collects and Prayers..... 17-20

General Thanksgiving and The Grace

HYMN #227 *All Things are Thine* .....Gardiner

**OFFERING**

Anthem: *Greater Love Hath No Man* ..... John Ireland

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

Prayer and Blessing

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Call to Order and Minutes**

**Vestry Nominations**

**Addresses and Reports to the Congregation**

**Open Discussion and Questions**

HYMN #347 *Alleluia, Sing to Jesus*..... Hyfrydol

ORGAN: *Fanfare*..... Alec Wyton

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, Gospel p. 225**