

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 42 No. 14

Sexagesima (Second Sunday before Lent)

February 27, 2011

OLD FRIENDS & NEWCOMERS

This weekend past a meeting of the Prayer Book Society board took me to All Souls, Oklahoma City, where I had the pleasure of a visit with our friends, Fr Patrick Bright and his wife Rhea. With a cold-blooded eye on the main chance that would do credit to an Okie oil-baron, Patrick had me conduct a Saturday morning seminar on the Eucharist, preach at his four principal services, and speak to his adult forum. Even now I am plotting revenge.

By their attachment to the Church's tradition, churches like St. John's or All Souls can find themselves on the institutional margins. Nonetheless, precisely because of this attachment, they can also flourish, holding on to a core of long-term members, and attracting new ones, often from other Christian churches. Paradoxically, it is sometimes the newcomers who take the Church's tradition more seriously and seek to live it out more fully than those for whom it has become routine. Welcoming, educating, and making space for these new members is an important task for the congregation: a task that requires a conversion of our own hearts. GGD

SPRING-TRAINING II

This Sunday is Sexagesima, the eighth before Easter and the second before Lent, whose teaching prepares us for the disciplines of that season of spiritual spring-training. Today we consider the

virtue of Christian Hope, as a goal of our spring-training. In the Old Testament (Genesis 6:5-end), Noah's obedience to God's commands is a model of Hope established not in the world's false promise, but in the saving promise of God. In the epistle lesson (2nd Corinthians 11:19-12:9), Paul's endurance of sufferings for the sake of the gospel is a model of Hope founded not in his own strength or achievement, but in the power of God. The gospel lesson (St. Luke 8:4-15), the parable of the Sower who went out to sow his seed, teaches us to hear and receive the Word of God in Hope, patiently enduring and confidently waiting for its fruition. The hope in which Lenten disciplines train us is founded upon the Promises of God (Genesis), directed to the Power of God (Epistle), and expressed in Patient expectation of God (Gospel).

If Faith is exercised in the *fasting* and *abstinence* of those who hungrily hear the word of God, Hope is exercised in the *prayer* of those who are hungry for the grace promised by God. Thus fasting is accompanied by prayer, in which we learn to hope in God, in his power to fulfill his promises set forth in his word.

During Lent, therefore, I would encourage you will plan to join the Church at least once a week in its

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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 Mr. Wm. Howard Helmken, Jr.

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. William S. Willingham

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Lizzie Kitchengs.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Thomas Johnson, Mrs. Richard C.E. Jennings
Mrs. Edwin H. Culver, Mrs. J. Wynton Ezelle
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Mrs. Anne H. Mingledorff
Mrs. F. Debele Maner, Mrs. Michael Maloney
Mrs. D. Brian DuFour

ACOLYTES

8:00 John DeBacker
10:30 Kelley Compton
William Sadler, Clayton Compton
Chris Dixon, Peter Stein
Charles Perrie, John Osborne

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. R. Bartley Turner

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASSES

- Clergy – **Old Testament** (Chapel)
- Jack Wray (3rd Floor Classroom)—*David, Hezekiah, Josiah: Israel's Three Good Kings.*
- David Noble –The Canterbury Tales—Reading Room, 3rd Floor.
- Mike Chastain—**Married Life Forum**—2nd floor (Sr. High Room), 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. Bible Study (Reading Rm)

WOMEN'S STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Reading Room, Cranmer Hall.
Wednesday—10:45 a.m.-Noon Bible Study
Thursday—9:15 a.m.—10:30 a.m. *War in Heaven* (with Fr O' Brien)

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

On *Ephesians*: Beginning 7:00 p.m. March 8th for six weeks, at the home of Scott and Betsy Howard, 216 Grimald Point Road, Isle of Hope. Call 253-3396 if you are coming!

MARCH 8TH, SHROVE TUESDAY

Dinner and Mardi Gras Celebration
Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Red Beans & Rice, Jambalaya. Food, Entertainment and Fun from 5:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Tickets on sale after services.

\$10 adults, \$5 children.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

daily prayers, either in the Chapel at 8:15 and 5:30, Monday to Friday, or by reading them privately. (Fr O' Brien or I would be happy to show you how.) Christian spring-training begins Ash Wednesday March 9th. "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled".

WAY OF THE CROSS

For centuries Christians have gone on pilgrimage to Jerusalem, to visit the holy places where Jesus fulfilled and accomplished the will of God for our salvation, by his death and resurrection. Such pilgrims continued to practice the "way of the cross" after they came home, embracing the Cross of our Savior in repentance, faith, and love. In the version we use on Good Friday at 5:30 p.m. – one devised by Pope John Paul II and more closely aligned to the Biblical text than the one customarily used - there are fourteen "stations" (stopping places) along the way of the cross, at each of which we remember with gratitude and repentance what Jesus did and suffered for our salvation.

On every Sunday until Easter, after their assembly and before class, the Sunday School children will learn about one or two of the Stations of the Way of the Cross. On Palm Sunday, all the stations in order will be reviewed and completed, as the children make their own prayer booklets. Then on Good Friday at 5:30 p.m. the youth of St. John's will lead families and other parishioners in a Way of the Cross that begins in Pulaski Square and concludes in the Church. Parents and grandparents, please take note!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Medical Equipment Transport Service, an international service project of Rotary District 6920, is looking for volunteers to sort medical supplies on the 3rd Tuesday morning of each month from 9 a.m. until Noon. This project, formerly directed by Patti Victor and now by Linda Herdina, collects retired medical equipment and surplus medical supplies and ships them to developing nations. Skills required are to be able to work on your feet for three hours and lift light boxes. Refreshments are provided. Only 12 volunteers are required for each Sort Day, so if you would like to volunteer, call Linda Herdina at (912) 856.0548 to sign up.

WOMEN OF SAINT JOHN'S (ECW)

Board meets Monday 10 a.m.

*General Meeting Wednesday
after 10 a.m. Chapel:*

"JOHN NORRIS, GREEN'S GREEN ARCHITECT" – Beth Reiter speaking on the innovative ideas of the Green-Meldrim House's architect (with slides)

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

MONDAY– FRIDAY:

8:15AM - *Morning Prayer*

5:30PM - *Evening Prayer*

WEDNESDAY

8:15 – *Morning Prayer*

9:45 – *Litany*

10am *Sung Eucharist*

5:30PM– *Evensong, Supper, & Class* "Understanding the Holy Communion" (*last of four*).

8:00 – HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel (*No Gloria in Excelsis till Easter*)..... p. 120
A continental breakfast is available in the Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:30 — 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—1st through 4th grade children (*Cranmer Hall*)

10:30—MORNING PRAYER and SERMON

CARILLON

HYMN #415 *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*.....Aberystwyth

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

Versicles and Responses 7-8

VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO #608 9

Psalm #44 394

First Lesson: Genesis 6:5-end. *God threatens a great flood and promises to save Noah in the Ark.*

BENEDICITE *insert*

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 11:19 and St. Luke 8:4 *insert and* 121

BENEDICTUS #634 14

Apostles' Creed 15

Versicles and Responses 16

Collect for the Day..... 120

Other Collects and Prayers, the Grace 17-20

HYMN #564 *How Firm a Foundation*..... Lyons

1st through 4th grade children enrolled in Jr. Choir will exit following the Cross.

THE SERMON Fr. Dunbar

OFFERING

Sentences

Anthem: *Deliver Us, O Lord Our God*..... Adrian Batten

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

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN #562 *Stand Up for Jesus*..... Webb

ORGAN: *Verse in C*..... John Blow

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; same as 8 a.m.)