

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 43 No. 2

Advent II

December 4, 2011

THIS SUNDAY

5:30 P.M. —EVENSONG FOR ADVENT

& 6:30 P.M.—PARISH SUPPER

Bring a covered dish, salad, or dessert.

Fried Chicken, Lasagna, Tea and Wine are provided.

Sitters available.

ADVENT PRAYER

Advent is the season of hope, and the exercise of hope is prayer – indeed, without prayer hope is dead, and what we take to be hope is just wishful thinking or presumption. “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you” (Luke 11:9): the saying is both a command to ask and a promise to receive. So why do we not ask? We are of course (we say) ‘too busy’ to make use of this means of grace – but that is simply to reframe the question. Why do not then make it a priority?

Here we must dig deeper and ask some hard questions about why we do not pray. Because we do not believe his word of promise? Because we despair of his power to fulfill his promises? Because we take his goodness for granted? Because we are too proud to acknowledge our dependence upon God for all goods? Because we are willfully disobedient to God’s commands? Because we do not trust him to be gracious? Because we are indifferent to our soul’s health? To raise the question is to recognize that the answers *will not do*.

To be sure, prayer is often hard work, and it is just possible that we might not “get

anything out of it”. It is a work of spiritual discipline to fix the mind and will upon God, and to embrace his promises in hope and his commands with the obedience of faith. Yet how do we expect the fruits of this discipline if we do not apply ourselves to it? Again, there is no excuse.

I ask these questions, because our business this Sunday morning begins (in accord with ancient custom) with the singing of the Litany in procession. Here is a unique opportunity for the church as a community to engage in sustained, systematic, comprehensive supplication for the needs of the church and its members, especially those in trouble or adversity. If we are not in trouble or adversity, there are other Christians who are, and one day (very likely) we may be: to sustain them in their troubles, and to prepare our souls for our own, is not misplaced effort.

To give your mind and will to the words of the Litany is to take a small but significant step in learning how to pray in Christ, and to pray in Christ is to lay hold of the hope that is given to us this Advent, hope in Christ that we may

THE PARISH PAPER
OF
St. John's Church
1 WEST MACON STREET
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

The Parish Paper of St. John's Church (USPS 887-960) is published weekly by St. John's Church, One West Macon Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401. Periodicals postage paid at Savannah, Georgia. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to St. John's Church, 1 W. Macon St., Savannah, GA 31401.

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. 49th Street Upper flat (912) 308-4441
Mr. Michael Chastain, MRE, M.Div Family Life and College O
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. Rich Mays Associate Organist
Mr. Sinisa Domazet Buildings Manager

Senior Warden *Joseph R. Ross, Esq.*
Junior Warden *Mr. David C. Barrow III*
Clerk of Vestry *Mr. J. Wesley Krulic*
Treasurer *Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford*
Chancellor *M. Tyus Butler, Jr. Esq.*

The Vestry: The Vestry: *Esqs.*, John M. Hewson III, R. Kran Riddle, Joseph R. Ross, Roland B. Williams, Dr. J. Davidson Carson, Mrs. Stuart C. Clifford, Mrs. Edward J. Derst III, Mrs. R. Bartley Turner, Mrs. Neil H. Victor, *Messrs.* David C. Barrow III, Charles B. Compton, Jr., W. Barron Crawford, Edwin H. Culver, Lawrence L. Hearn III, Wm. Howard Helmken, Jr., J. Wesley Krulic, J. Pridge Sheahan, Paul D. Troxler, R. Gilbert Wells, Floyd G. Whittington, Jr.

Vestry Emeriti: Mr. George Fawcett, Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath, Jr., Mr. James E. Hungerpillar, Dr. Edwin C. Shepherd

President, ECW *Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr.*
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)@stjohnsav.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.

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 and recordings of Services and Sermons are to be found on our web site:
www.stjohnsav.org

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 R. Kran Riddle, Esq.

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Floyd G. Whittington, Jr.
Mr. Joseph P. Sinclair

The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. George O'Donnell and Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Cook by Mr. and Mrs. Floyd G. Whittington, Sr.

And in memory of loved ones by Mrs. William E. Hutchinson, Jr.

And in thanksgiving on the birthdays of William Reese Cooper and Max Cooper Hamilton by Dr. and Mrs. Max Murray Cooper.

The flowers at the altar in the Chapel on Thursday, December 8th, are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lt. John Woodward Sognier, Jr. by Dr. and Mrs. Morgan W. Murray and Dr. and Mrs. William E. Osborne.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Timothy E. Coy, Ms. Anne H. Mingleдорff
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Mrs. David A. Young
Mrs. Shack B. Wimbish, Jr., Mrs. Morgan W. Murray
Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr. Mrs. William E. Osborne

ACOLYTES

8:00 Lawson Turner
10:30 Clayton Compton Kameron Sallee
Charles Perrie, John Osborne
Patrick Perrie, Henry Bowden

5:30 Evensong
Mikel Kelly

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. Michael Nadeau

MEN'S STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Tuesday 6:45 a.m. Breakfast & Study (with Mike Chastain), Parish House.

Thursday Rector's Bible Study 7:00 a.m.
Acts of the Apostles. *Reading Room, Cranmer Hall.*

Thursday Men's Forum—12:00 -1 p.m.
As announced weekly.

WOMEN'S STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUPS

Reading Room, Cranmer Hall.

Thursday: 9:15 a.m.—10:30 a.m.
(with Father O'Brien)

CORRECTION: It is Roland B. Williams, Esq. not Dr. Roland S. Summers, who completes his Vestry term this December. Our apologies for the mistake.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

receive the Father's gift: "If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? ... If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" (Luke 11:11-13). We cannot hope in God without the prayer that obeys his command, claims his promises, seeks his gift. This Advent we pray that Christ may come to us in his Spirit of prayer. GGD

PARISH KALENDAR

Monday to Friday

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

Morning (or Evening) Prayer and Holy Communion

Except Wednesday 7th:

8:15 a.m. *Morning Prayer*

& *Holy Communion*

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10 a.m. *Sung Eucharist*

ST. AMBROSE, DOCTOR & BISHOP

5:30pm *Evensong* & 6 p.m. *Supper*
Adults \$9; Couples \$15; Families \$16

Children under six Free.

6:30 p.m. Class: Galatians

Thursday 8th

Noon: Men's Forum -

The Advent of God in the Word written and preached (Mike Chastain)

Saturday 10th :

10:30 a.m. *Holy Communion*

NEW CHOIR CD FOR GIFT-GIVING THIS CHRISTMAS

The St. John's Choirs will have a NEW CD available in time for Christmas. It will feature selections of favorite anthems and services recorded live. As this is a limited run, pre-orders are being taken at Coffee Hour.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS

The Tuesday Evening Bible Class held at Scott and Betsey Howard's home at (Grimbal Point Rd.) is **moving to Thursday** Evening at the same time. Contact Betsey for details 353-3396. All are welcome.

ECW MEETINGS

The **ECW Board** meets Monday, **Dec. 5th** at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish House.

The **ECW General meeting** will be Wednesday, **December 7th**, in the Parish House following the 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion service. Fr. Dunbar will present the **RECTOR'S MUSIC FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS. All welcome!** (Sitters available)

ADVENT COLLECT

STIR UP, we beseech thee, O Lord, our hearts to prepare the ways of thine only begotten Son; that by his Advent we may be enabled to serve thee with purified minds; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

WREATHS, GARLANDS AND POINSETTIAS

If you would like to give a Poinsettia, Wreath or Garland for the decoration of the Church, please send a check to the Church Office, made out to **St. John's Chancel Society**. Please include with the check a note of how the memorial should read and by whom it is given. **Poinsettia--\$30, Wreath or Garland \$80.**

The Rector is at the University of the South this weekend, for the official Dedication of the RALSTON ARCHIVE AND LISTENING LIBRARY.

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

Collect, Epistle, and Gospel..... Prayer Book, page 92 (90)
A continental breakfast is available in the Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:30 — 12 Noon NURSERY (Cranmer Hall)

9:30 A.M. —ADULT, YOUTH & CHILDREN’S CLASSES (Chapel and Cranmer Hall)

10:30 s.m.—Pre-School continues—3 year olds through Kindergarten (Cranmer Hall)

Jr. Choir—1st through 4th grades

10:30 A.M. — SUNG LITANY, SUNG EUCHARIST, & SERMON

The Litany Prayer Book page 54 or Leaflet
 HYMN#484 *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* Truro

ANTE-COMMUNION

Collect for Purity..... Prayer Book page 67
 Summary of the Law and Kyrie Eleison (Hymnal #702) 69, John Merbecke
 Collects of the Day 92, 90
 Isaiah 11:1-10 *Christ’s universal Kingdom of Righteousness and Peace foretold.*
 Epistle: Romans 15:4 92
 HYMN #8 *O Word, that Goest Forth on High* Rex Glorioso
 The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 21:25..... 93
 The Nicene Creed 71
 HYMN ##312 *The Lord Shall Come and Not Be Slow*..... York
1st through 4th grade children enrolled in Jr. Choir exit after cross.
 SERMON..... Fr. O’Brien

OFFERTORY

Sentences
 Anthem: *Lo, in the Time Appointed*..... Healey Willan
 Presentation of Alms, Doxology #139
 Prayer for the State of the Church 74

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation, Confession, Absolution..... 75
 Sursum Corda (Hymnal #734) 76
 SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS #704 John Merbecke
 Prayer of Consecration: Institution, Oblation, Invocation..... 80
 The Lord’s Prayer and Prayer of Humble Access (*said with the congregation*)..... 82
 AGNUS DEI #706..... John Merbecke
 HYMN #329 *How Bright Appears the Morning Star*..... Frankfort
 Motet: *Say unto Them that Fear the Lord* Everett Titcomb
 Thanksgiving (*said with the congregation*)..... 83
 The Blessing (*Kneeling*)..... 84
 HYMN #5 *Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending* Helmsley
 ORGAN: Chorale Prelude on Helmsley..... Alan Ridout

Everyone is invited to attend the Coffee Hour in the Parish House immediately following the 10:30 service. If you are a guest and visiting our Parish, please make yourself known.

12 Noon—HOLY COMMUNION (Chapel)

5:30 P.M.—CHORAL EVENSONG; 6:30 P.M.—PARISH SUPPER (SITTERS AVAILABLE)