

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 46 No. 42

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

September 27th, 2015

MEN'S ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, September 30th

5:30 p.m. Social 6:15 p.m. Food

6:45 p.m. Meeting

Green Meldrim House

All Men of Saint John's Urged to Attend

Tickets: \$20 on sale after Church

Or Call Church Office 232-1251.

CATECHIZING

Christ commissioned the church to make disciples of all nations, by “baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”; and by “teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19). There is a doctrine to be learned, “mere Christianity” if you like, “the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, the Ten Commandments and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe to his soul’s health”. In accordance with Scripture’s command (Psalm 78:1-8) the Prayer Book provides a Catechism, in question and answer form, “that is to say, An Instruccion to bee learned of every childe, before he be brought to be confirmed of the bushop” (1549 Prayer Book rubric in original spelling!).

In his classic treatise on pastoral care, the *Country Parson*, the priest-poet George Herbert values Catechizing for infusing “a competent knowledge of salvation to every one of his Flock”: The “secret” benefit of this practice “consists in this, that at Sermons, and Prayers, men may sleep or wander; but when one

is asked a question, he must discover what he is [i.e. awake, and alert or asleep, and wandering!]”. T. F. Torrance makes a subtle point about the value of this question and answer form. A major part of any serious research or education, he says, is learning to ask the right questions – “the questions appropriate to the nature of the object”, and in answer to which the object’s nature is disclosed to us. In Christian instruction, “the young learner does not know enough as yet to ask the right questions. We have to encourage him to ask questions, but also to learn that only the appropriate questions will be a means of knowledge. This is nowhere more true than in regard to Christian communication. Christianity does not set out to answer man’s questions. (...) Christianity is above the question the Truth puts to man at every point in his life, so that it teaches him to ask the right, the true questions about himself...” (*The School of Faith*, pp. xxv-xxvi). The Catechism thus trains the young Christian to ask the right questions, in answer to which the Truth may disclose Himself to him.

To learn a catechism no doubt

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The Rt. Rev. Scott Benhase..... Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Gavin G. DunbarRector
1 West Macon Street 31401(912) 429-3384
The Rev. Craig E. O'Brien..... Priest Associate
423 E. Gaston Street 31401(912) 308-4441
Mr. R. Steven Branyon Organist/Choirmaster
Mrs. Janice W. Woods Business Manager
Mrs. Peter W. Schmidt Financial Secretary
Mrs. Holden T. Hayes. Christian Education Director
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President, ECWMrs. Christian Arden-Joly
President, Chancel Society..... Mrs. Roland S. Summers
President, Men of St. John's..... Mr. Randolph H. Kulp II
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.

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 Joseph R. Ross, Esq.

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. J. Earl Gilbreath

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God:
in loving memory of Edna and Jack Fitzpatrick and loved ones by their family;
and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney T. Nutting, Sr. by their families.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr., Mrs. Jayne G. Holland,
Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Nicholas K. Farley
Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan, Mrs. B. Ray Summerell,
Mrs. Jonathan C. Glen, Ms. Laura Reid,
Mrs. William T. Moore, Jr.

ACOLYTES

8:00 Henry Osborne
10:30 Jamie McClellan
Jackson McClellan
Philip Inglesby
Finn Repella

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Mrs. William C. Rogers

ADULT EDUCATION SUNDAYS 9:30 A.M.

Jack Wray – “*Creation From Genesis to Revelation*” (3rd floor, Cranmer Hall –far left classroom)

Father Dunbar – “*This our Sacrifice of Praise*” – Reading Room

David Noble – Malory’s *Morte D’Arthur* (3rd floor Cranmer Hall – far right classroom)

MEN’S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Tuesday 6:45 a.m. Breakfast and Discussion on with Fr O'Brien, Parish House.

Thursday 7 a.m., 2 Kings, Fr. Dunbar, Reading Room, Cranmer Hall

WOMEN’S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

To Be Announced

HOLLY DAYS BAZAAR

JEWELRY DRIVE

Jewelry, Jewelry Everywhere

Bring Us Some You Just Don’t Wear!

Sunday October 4th, bring your old bangles, baubles, and beads to donate to the Holly Days Bazaar. (Or drop off in collection bag at the Church Office during the week.)

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

involves drill, but in the hands of a competent catechist, even drill need not be a dull affair, but varied, interactive, game-like, and mixed with instruction in the meaning of the words and concepts they are memorizing. Herbert describes the process thus (original spelling alert):

When once all have learned the words of the Catechisme, he thinks it the most usefull way that a Pastor can take, to go over the same, but in other words: for many say the Catechisme by rote, as parrats, without ever piercing into the sense of it. In this course the order of the Catechisme would be kept, but the rest varied: as thus, in the Creed: How came this world to be as it is? Was it made, or came it by chance? Who made it? Did you see God make it? Then are there some things to be beleaved that are not seen? Is this the nature of believe? Is not Christianity full of such things, as are not to be seen, but beleaved? You said, God made the world; Who is God? And so forward, requiring answers to all these, and helping and cherishing the Answerer, by making the Question very plaine with comparisons, and making much even of a word of truth from him. This order being used to one, would be a little varied to another. And this is an admirable way of teaching, wherein the Catechized will at length finde delight, and by which the Catechizer, if he once get the skill of it, will draw out of ignorant and silly souls, even the dark and deep points of Religion.

Herbert compares this process to the Socratic method and suggests a catechist might learn some teaching tools from the dialogues of Plato! No

question: the catechizing of the young is a demanding art and craft, which too often is abandoned in favour of softer and less profitable options: but merely providing youngsters will pleasant experiences is not enough (although we hope for them as well) – we hope they will master “all things which a Christian ought to know and believe to his soul’s health”. Your prayers please for those who undertake this ministry! GGD

PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday - Friday

Morning and Evening Prayer
8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 29th

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
Holy Communion with
Morning or Evening Prayer
8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

In addition, on Wednesday

9:45 a.m. *Litany* 10 a.m. *Eucharist*

**SECOND HARVEST BACKPACK
COLLECTION**

Please join the Women and Sunday School of St. John’s in collecting items for the Second Harvest Backpack Program – which provides weekend nutrition for school children. Needed items include: **fruit cups, small cans of Vienna sausage, small jars of peanut butter, individual packages of crackers, and goldfish.** Collection bins at Cranmer Hall September 13- November 8. Items are packed every Wednesday at 3:15 at the Second Harvest Food Bank. To help, call Martha Sullivan for further details: 912-663-6221.

8:00 A.M. – HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECTS, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL Prayer Book, p. 213

*A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.*9:30-12:00 (Noon)—Nursery (*Cranmer Hall*)**9:30-10:15 A.M.—ALL AGES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** (*Cranmer Hall*)**10:30 a.m. – JOYFUL NOISE, JOYFUL HEARTS** (*Cranmer Hall*)*(Music, Teaching, and Fun for Pre-School through Kindergarten.)***10:30 A.M.—MORNING PRAYER AND SERMON**HYMN #149 *Awake, My Heart, and Render* Selnecker

Sentences, Confession, Absolution & Lord's Prayer Prayer Book pp. 3-7

Versicles and Responses 7-8

VENITE Hymnal #609 9

Psalms #102 *A Prayer for Israel's deliverance and restoration* 464First Lesson: Daniel 9: *Daniel's intercession for his people's restoration* insert

TE DEUM Hymnal #615, 619 11

Second Lesson: Ephesians 4:1 & St. Luke 14:1 213

BENEDICTUS Hymnal #634 14

Children may exit following the cross for PSALM PSINGERS (Gr 1-5).

Apostles' Creed 15

Versicles and Responses 16

Collects of the Day 213

Other Collects and Prayers, the Grace 17-20

HYMN #418 *Blest are the Pure in Heart* Franconia

SERMON Fr. O'Brien

OFFERING

Sentences

Anthem: *He Watching Over Israel* F. Mendelssohn

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

Prayer and Blessing

HYMN #279 *At the Name of Jesus* King's Weston

VOLUNTARY: Postlude in C F. Mendelssohn

*Everyone is invited to attend Coffee Hour in the Green Meldrim 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) - as 8 a.m.