

The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 49 No. 11

Quinquagesima

February 11, 2018

UPCOMING AT ST. JOHN'S

◆ WORSHIP ◆

Monday and Tuesday

Morning and Evening Prayer

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

In addition, on Ash Wednesday

Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist

7 am (Chapel), 10 a.m., 12:00 Noon, 5:30 p.m. (in the Church, with Hymns)

Litany at 9:45 a.m.

Nursery at 5:30 p.m. Service.

Thursday and Friday

Morning and Evening Prayer

with Holy Communion

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

In addition, on Saturday

10:30 a.m. *Holy Eucharist*

◆ SHROVE TUESDAY ◆

SHROVE TUESDAY – PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 13th 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Enjoy Pancakes, Sausage & Apples prepared and served by The Children's School Families and parishioners.

\$10 Adults and \$5 Children (12 and under).

Call 912-232-1251 for reservations.

◆ ADULT CATECHISM ◆

Begins Thursday, February 15th 6:15-

7:15 Adults seeking baptism, confirmation or reception are invited to join the Adult Catechism class in Cranmer Hall - Reading Room CH3. (Other newcomers or old-timers welcome too!) Please send contact information to the Parish Administrator Lisa Sharpley isharpley@stjohnssav.org (912) 232-1251 Note: if you have not been confirmed by a bishop in historic succession (most other Protestant confirmations) you are urged to do so.

REPENTANCE & JUDGMENT

The clergy, you know, can say some uncommonly foolish things. (I plead guilty). So I will not name the dignitary who some years ago opined at a clergy gathering that confession of sin made people judgmental. Though a murmur of reverent assent ran through the room, I refrained from asking the dignitary if giving things away also made people selfish. Some butterflies you don't break on the wheel.

What makes people judgmental, and ready to accuse and condemn others? Let me set aside one activity of judgment, which is the task of moral discernment, the discrimination of right from wrong, truth from falsehood, and so on, which is necessary and inescapable. (You can't say this kind of judgment is wrong without yourself making the judgment you condemn.)

The self-righteous judgmentalism that Scripture condemns – the readiness to accuse and condemn others with harshness of censure rather than the corrective charity of a brother or sister in Christ – is rather different. It is a response to an uneasy awareness of our own guilt, which we project on to others, in a futile attempt to escape the condemnation we fear. In condemning others, we feel better about ourselves. The more underlying unaddressed guilt and fear we have, the more harsh and blind we are in judging others.

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OF
St. John's Church
ONE WEST MACON STREET
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

www.stjohnssav.org

To receive the Parish Paper by email (on Fridays), send name and email address to information@stjohnssav.org

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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. Please call the Church Office to notify the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital or hospice.

VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed
10:30 Mrs. Christian M. Arden-Joly

USHER CHAIRMAN

Mr. Robert A. Vinyard, Esq

ACOLYTES

8:00 a.m. Henry Osborne
10:30 a.m. Jamie McClellan Jack McClellan
Turner Stevens William Taylor
Williams Sills Daniel Sills

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers at the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Wylly, Jr.

CHANCEL SOCIETY

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Jayne G. Holland,
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Sr., Mrs. Edward J. Derst III,
Ms. Anne H. Mingledorff, Mrs. James C. Pedrick,
Mrs. Rebecca P. Rhinehart, Mrs. William E. Dillard III,
Mrs. Jeanne W. McMillian, Mrs. David Eggleston

COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN

Daughters of the King

ROAMING GREETER

Mrs. T. Herbert Guerry III

SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR YOUTH:

CRANMER HALL-3RD FLOOR

Middle School Parents and Grandparents

Study and Discussion group in

Reading Room.

FOR ADULTS:

Father Dunbar's Class on 1 Kings - Chapel

MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Tuesday- *Men's Breakfast, St. Mark*
with Father O'Brien
6:45 a.m., Parish House

Thursday- *St. Luke* with Father Dunbar
7:00 a.m. Third Floor Cranmer Hall

WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION

Thursday- Book Study *A Wrinkle in Time* with
Father O'Brien 9:15 a.m., Reading Room, CH3

Wednesday, February 14th C. S. Lewis Group

WILL NOT MEET

Next meeting Wednesday, February 28th

◆ WELCOMING TALENTS ◆

Put your welcoming talents to good use and sign up to be a Roaming Greeter at Coffee Hour. Your Mission: to make every newcomer at St. John's go away feeling really welcome. No training necessary; just attentive, warm and friendly interaction with our visitors. Helpful tips to identify visitors will be provided! Email Elizabeth Schubert banklady10@bellsouth.net to sign up.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

Confessing and acknowledging one's sin, therefore, is a much more constructive response to guilt and fear – because it is humble, honest and hopeful acknowledgement of the truth about ourselves. In humility and honesty we seek (by the help of the Holy Spirit) to see ourselves as God sees us, “unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid”. We submit ourselves to the judgment of God's holy will and commandments, without self-justification or self-exculpation. The hope is this, that not from ourselves, but from the Judge himself, and based upon the goodness of his nature and the promises of his grace, we may confidently expect mercy, forgiveness and his Holy Spirit – the forgiveness that sets us free from guilt and fear, the Holy Spirit that heals and makes whole (holy) our diseased and fallen nature. If the Judge himself has declared and pronounced the absolution of our sins, then we are forgiven, whether we feel it or not. In humility and hope we must accept his word, and not fall back into guilt and fear. Rather, delivered from guilt and fear by his word of mercy, we are to serve him in gratitude and love.

If this is what we have done, and if that is what we have received, then it will be impossible for us to look at our neighbours with a judgmental eye or censorious spirit. One may go even further: it is *only* if we have confessed our sins, and only if we know the power of his forgiveness and Holy Spirit, only then can we look at our neighbours without a judgmental eye or censorious spirit. We shall see their faults and failings, to be sure, but not because we want to see them, or are secretly gratified to discover their

shortcomings, or delight in censuring them. We shall regard them as fellow-sufferers of the same disease, who need the same remedies we ourselves have received.

Lent, of course, is a season of repentance, and in a coming Parish Paper essay I will speak about how we practice repentance. But let's approach it, not as an exercise in guilt-mongering or blame-shifting, but an exercise of humility, honesty, and hope, from which we may expect a growth in charity toward our neighbour. GGD

KEEPING LENT

Fasting, prayer, and almsgiving are the works endorsed by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount, and are customary spiritual disciplines during Lent, along with an intensified use of the ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Fasting & Abstinence: Except for reasons of health or necessity, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are observed by a complete fast from food until evening, when a light and abstinent meal is taken. The other weekdays of Lent (including Easter Eve) are observed with abstinence (a self-denying reduction in the quality of food, drink, other pleasures and entertainments). The historic custom is to abstain from flesh meat (fish may take its place). By denying ourselves, we curb our appetites so that we may more fully serve God and our neighbor in prayer and almsgiving.

8:00 A.M.—HOLY COMMUNION

COLLECT, EPISTLE & GOSPEL.....Prayer Book, page 122
A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.

9:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Noon) - **Nursery** (*Cranmer Hall*)

9:30 A.M. – ADULT & YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (*Chapel and Cranmer Hall*)

10:30 A.M. - MORNING PRAYER, SERMON & CHILDREN'S CHURCH

HYMN #340 *We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died* Breslau
 Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord’s Prayer Prayer Book, pages 3-7
 Versicles and Responses 7-8

VENITE #608 9
 Psalm #31 375

First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9 *God's command and promise to Abram*

BENEDICITE *Insert*

* Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 13:1 & St. Luke 18:31 122

BENEDICTUS #638 14

Children may exit following the cross for CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Kindergarten – Grade 5)

Apostles' Creed 15

Versicles and Responses 16

Collect for the Day 122

Other Collects, Prayers and the Grace 17-20

HYMN #376 *Come Down, O Love Divine* Down Ampney

Sermon Father Dunbar

OFFERING

Sentences

Instrumental: *Cantabile (Op.10, No.3, RV 428)* Antonio Vivaldi
 Eliza DeRienzo, Flute

Presentation of Alms: #732 *All Things are Thine* Gardiner

General Thanksgiving (*said by all*) and Aaronic Blessing 19

HYMN #479 *Love Divine All Loves Excelling* Hyfrydol

VOLUNTARY: *Allegro (Op.10, No.3)* Antonio Vivaldi

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

12:00 P.M. (Noon)—HOLY COMMUNION (Chapel - as at 8:00 a.m.)