



Spiritus Gladius

The Weekly News Letter of the Collegiate Church of
Saint Paul the Apostle, Savannah

The Weekday Kalendar

Monday	Feria
	MP 9:00 am
	HE 12:15 pm
	EP 5:30 pm
Tuesday	Christmas Eve
	MP 9:00 am
	HE 5:30pm
	HE 10:30pm
Wednesday	Christmas Day
	HE 10:00am
	Lunch 11:00am
Thursday	St. Stephen
	MP 9:00 am
	HE 10:00am
	EP 5:30 pm
Friday	St. John
	Lauds 6:45am
	HE 7:00am
	MP 9:00 am
	EP 5:30 pm

MP - Morning Prayer **HS** - Healing Service
HE - Holy Eucharist **EP** - Evening Prayer

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 22, 2019

8:00 a.m.	Early Mass
9:15 a.m.	Christian Education
9:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
10:00 a.m.	Solemn High Mass
12:15 p.m.	Misa en Español
5:30 p.m.	Evensong (weekly) & Benediction (4 th Sunday)
6:30 p.m.	Evening Mass

*There is a 3 pm Mass at St. Bartholomew's,
Chevis Road at Wild Heron Road on the
2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month*

The Propers

[Isaiah 7:10-16](#)
[Romans 1:1-7](#)
[Matthew 1:18-25](#)
[Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18](#)

Parish Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday
10 am - 12 pm / closed on Friday
912.232.0274 (Voice)
912.232.0337 (Fax)

REFLECTIONS

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Soon the *Gloria in Excelsis* returns to the celebration of the Holy Mass - the angelic hymn proper to the celebration of the incarnation of Christ, the Child of Bethlehem, born of the Virgin Mary, God's true Son, begotten from eternity. It will be natural with the return of the *Gloria* to envision the night when the angels first sang this hymn of praise. To picture innumerable angels in the night sky suddenly aglow with resplendent light makes sense as we sing, "*Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.*" These words are so resounding and evocative that the Church has chosen this hymn to be a near constant in our celebration of the Mystery of Christ with us in the Mass. Like the Shepherds before us, we will be called to hasten in obedience to the heavenly tidings to worship the heavenly babe of Bethlehem! Have we prepared our hearts in the same spirit of worship which ruled the hearts of those lowly shepherds on that first Christmas long ago? Will we come to the Mystery of Christmas eager to worship Him who is coming into our very midst as we celebrate the Holy Eucharist? Will our eagerness abound in ejaculations of devotion to the Father who sent and sends His Divine Son: "*We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.*" Eagerness and joy can and does break all bounds!

Equally natural on this night of joyous celebration is to think of the Divine Son, to think of Him as He came on earth to redeem us, to think of Him as proclaimed to be the lamb of God by blessed John Baptist, who prepared the way for His earthly ministry. In the Mass we greet Jesus as the Lamb of God, both priest and victim. The Holy Sacrifice of the Cross and its re-presentation in the Mass challenges us to think of Him as the eternal Lamb of God as envisioned in the Book of Revelation, presenting to God the Father in heaven the perfect sacrifice of His glorified humanity on our behalf. Through this glorious hymn, the Church teaches Her children to be honest, teaches us to seek mercy, pardon and peace which come only through Jesus Christ. Into our mouths She puts the words: "*O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.*" All are solemn words, pleading words, hopeful words!

The *Gloria* closes with a burst of joy: "*For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, art most high in the glory of the God the Father.*" Thus, the second person of the Trinity is not honored alone, but rather in union with the other Persons of the Trinity, the Father and the Holy Spirit, because the Godhead is a unity. The joy of the Church is that the initiative of God evokes initiatives from us in concert with the will of God. The *Gloria* itself is a hymn begun by the angels (messengers of God's will) in the sky and finished by the Church on earth. Just as blessed John Baptist attempted to prepare and make straight the way of the Lord, so too have we been re-created by water and the Holy Spirit, for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through our attempts to convey the hope that is within us.

Advent and Christmas being seasons of hope, let us dedicate "ourselves, our souls and our bodies" to making way for others to know Christ, to using all the devices of love and mercy at our disposal to bring others to Christ and to making the gift which is ours in this Parish available to others. I look forward to seeing each one of you in Church on Christmas. Let us join with renewed vigor and sing of our joy in the Lord, making known the depth of the love which is ours in Jesus Christ and giving concrete expression to the strength we find in this place.

WWIII

HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HOLY HOLIDAY

Parish News and Events

Hymns & Music:

Hymns: 265, 497, 270, 56

Anthems: Ave Maria (Schubert), The Cherry Tree Carol (Traditional)

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum; benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus [Christus]. Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus [Christ]. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Christmas Mass Schedule

December 21st: 10:am:

Flower Box/Wreath Making

All are invited to assist

December 23rd: 9:00 am

*Greening of the Church
(all are invited to assist)*

December 24th: 9:00 am

Altar Guild Set Up

December 24th: 5:30pm:

Pageant and Mass

10:30pm:

*Lessons/Carols and Mass
(Choir, Trumpet, Flute)*

December 25th: 10:00 am:

Mass (Organ)

11:00 am:

*Christmas Lunch
(Parish Hall)*

Donations for the Homeless Drive

This Sunday, December 22nd, is the last day for the drive to support the Community of St. Joseph. There is a critical need for men's pants, size 32-38, men's shoes size 11 and above, warm socks, men's coats, hats, scarves, mittens and of course warm blankets. Donation bins are located under

the stairs in the office vestibule.

Ronald McDonald House Toy Drive

Today is the last day for the St. Paul's Church Ronald McDonald House and children's cancer unit toy drive. Please bring your wrapped toy(s), marked "boy or girl". Toys are needed for ages 3-10.

Christmas Flower Donations

Monday, December 23rd is the last day for Christmas flowers donations. Donation forms can be found on the information tables in the church vestibule and in the Parish Hall. Donations will be recognized in the bulletin on Sunday December 29th.

Christmas Flower Preparation

Your help is needed to prepare the window boxes for the inside of the church. If you would like to help, meet at the church on Saturday, December 21st at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Day Luncheon

Following our Christmas Day Mass at 10:00am, all are invited to attend a luncheon in the parish hall. Sign ups are on the bulletin board in Brady Hall.

Dean and Sexton's Lunch Jan 1st

Join your fellow parishioners for our New Year's Day Mass and Luncheon, hosted by the Dean and Sexton at St. Paul's Church. Mass on January 1st will be at noon, immediately followed by lunch in the parish hall.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Father Willoughby will be leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land—February 16-24, 2020. If you or someone you know are interested please send him an email at frwwiii@gmail.com for more information.

Lay Ministers 12-22-2019

8 am

Katie Easterlin (LEM)
Lorna Smith (Lector)

10am

Erick Nowicki (Sub Deacon)
Mary Willoughby (Lector)

Acolytes

Roy Morris
Zachary Morris
Collin Parker
Garrett Shoemake
Olive Ward
Wyeth Ward

Head Usher

Audrey Lang

Year-To-Date

Inflows October 2019
\$358,052.00
Outflows October 2019
\$358,568.59
Balance (-\$516.59)

Budget needed each week
\$8,567.00

Offering 12-15-2019

\$31,541.00

Restricted 12-15-2019

\$1,519.00

St Paul's Collegiate Church

1802 Abercorn Street - Savannah, GA 31401
34th & Abercorn Streets
1.912.232.0274

The Episcopate

The Right Reverend Scott A. Benhase D.D.
Bishop of Georgia
The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry D.D.
Primate, Episcopal Church, USA
The Most Rev & Rt Hon Justin Welby D.D.
Archbishop of Canterbury

Honorary Assistant Clergy

Canon J. Robert Carter, PhD
Fr. George B Salley, Jr
The Rev. John G Anderson
Lutheran Pastor in Residence

Staff

The Very Rev. Dr. Wm Willoughby III, OStJ
Rector & Dean of Savannah
The Reverend Leonel Polanco
Latino Missioner
The Rev. Lauren Flowers Byrd
Assisting Priest
The Reverend Susan E. Gahagan, ECSB
Deacon
The Reverend Sara Zevallos, Deacon
Robert McDowell Fogle III
Music Director & Administrator
Nathan P. Wilson, Asst. to the Dean
Joe Daniels, Sexton
Victor Moreno, Pastoral Assistant
Colleen Willoughby
Convo Coordinator
Grace Downs, Children's Ministries
& Children's Choir
The Vestry
Sarah Ward, Senior Warden, '22
Mark Frissell, Junior Warden, '21
Heather Downs, Clerk, '21
Jim Burch '20, Cuffy Sullivan, '20
Marsha Tolbert, '20, Dan Porter, '20,
Kris Lee, '21, Jerry Riley, '21
Ana Carter, '22, John Ely, '22
Lorna Smith, '22
Carl Pruetz Treasurer

Thanksgivings & Memorials

Altar Flowers

The flower decorations on the High Altar last Sunday were the flowers used in the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe, given by the Latino congregation at St. Paul's Church.

Our Lady Queen of Peace

Altar Lamp

Is given to the greater glory of God and in thanksgiving by the parish.

Sanctuary Lamp

Is given to the greater glory of God and in thanksgiving by the parish.

Birthdays

Cindy Bignault (24)
Joe Rosenblum (26)
Lu Riley (27)

Expectant Mothers

Heather

Departed

Lorraine Sessoms Griffin
(22)
Irma Louise Bourne (24)