



# Spiritus Gladius

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

## The Weekday Kalendar

<b>Monday</b>	<b>First Book of Common Prayer</b> MP 9:00 am HE 12:15 pm EP 5:30 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Columba</b> MP 9:00 am EP 5:30 pm HE 6:00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Ephrem of Nisibis</b> Lauds 6:45 am HE 7:00 am, MP 9:00 am EP 5:30 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Barnabas, Apostle</b> MP 9:00 am HE 10:00 am EP 5:30 pm
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Enmegahbowh</b> Lauds 6:45 am HE 7:00 am MP 9:00 am EP 5:30 pm

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

## Trinity Sunday

June 7, 2020

Via Livestream on Facebook <https://facebook.com/stpaultheapostlesavannah/>

9:45 a.m. Morning Prayer  
10:00 a.m. Solemn Mass  
12:15 p.m. Misa en Español  
5:30 p.m. Evensong (weekly)  
Benediction (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)

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*There is a 3 pm Mass at St. Bartholomew's,  
Chevis Road at Wild Heron Road on the  
4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the Month*

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### The Propers

[Genesis 1:1-2:4a](#)  
[2 Corinthians 13:11-13](#)  
[Matthew 28:16-20](#)  
[Psalm 8](#)

or [Canticle 13](#) (or Canticle 2)

Parish Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday

10 am - 12 pm / closed on Friday

912.232.0274 (Voice)

912.232.0337 (Fax)

# REFLECTIONS

White People's Work Avoidance

SCOTT ANSON BENHASE

For months on end, we had a broken wooden floor register in our kitchen. It was a real safety hazard. Because the wooden slats were shattered, one of our dogs could've had her paw go through and get stuck, or even worse, severely damage her leg. It was also a trip hazard for humans. So, I'd be in the kitchen, see the broken register and say to myself: "I should do something about that." You see, in the division of labor in our household, I'm the "fixit guy" (no one wants me cooking, trust me on that). Kelly never complained I wasn't doing my job. She just took a flat plastic pot holder and placed it over the broken register. That worked except when the HVAC kicked in, the air coming out of the register would blow the pot holder off the gaping hole. But I never got around to replacing the register for well over six months. It was hardly a big deal to fix it. All I had to do was buy a new one and install it. It was classic "work avoidance," the kind psychologists write about.

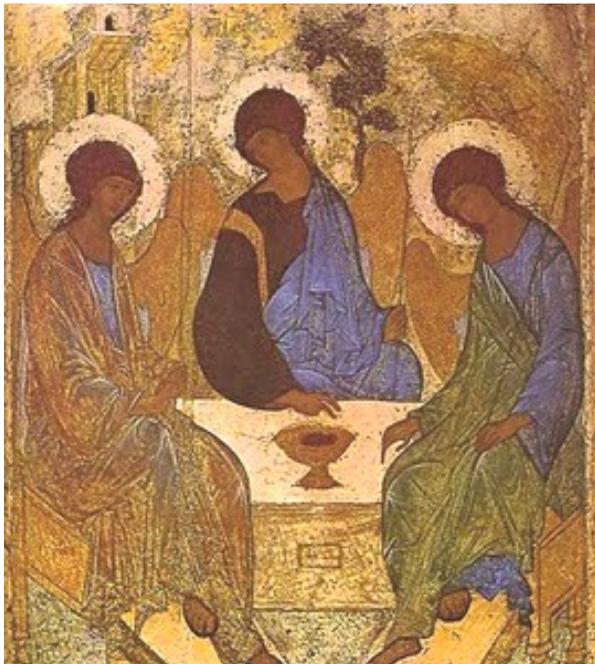
White people (like me) in our country are suffering from classic work avoidance when it comes to racism. We see it in the incarceration rates and the police killings. We see it in the inequality of our schools. We hear it, most disturbingly, coming out of the mouths of some of our most prominent elected leaders. And when we do, we cringe and say: "I should do something about that." But then we don't. When psychologists address work avoidance, they see it as a problem rooted in anxiety. We see the work we have to do, but since it makes us anxious, we just avoid doing it. Of course, that doesn't work. We even know it won't work, yet we avoid addressing the problem anyway. This avoidance behavior actually makes matters worse, raising our anxiety even more, not to mention our feelings of guilt and shame for our avoidance behavior.

That explains why so many white people don't do anything about our racism. And it also explains why racism is so persistent. It just won't go away as long as we avoid actually addressing it for the problem it is. Some of the avoidance behavior I hear sounds like this: "I don't see people's color" or "my family didn't own slaves so it's not my problem" or "growing up, I never learned to hate." While each of these may be partially true for some (although I'm skeptical), we live in a culture inbred with policies and practices that assume white superiority. When we refuse to recognize this inherent reality, we give ourselves permission to avoid our work.

I admit waking up to the reality of my complicity in racism isn't a pleasant experience. Maybe now, given the horrible killing of Mr. Arbury in Georgia and Mr. Floyd in Minnesota, our work avoidance will finally hit home? Instead of doing things to make ourselves feel better (reading books about racism, watching documentaries describing racism, going to a Civil Rights museum, etc.), maybe we can vote for people who speak against racism and tangibly act to end it? Such action is not about us feeling better about ourselves, because racism isn't about how we feel. It's about how our social, political, and economic systems maintain racial inequality. Psychologists tell us that to overcome work avoidance we have to learn to tolerate uncomfortable feelings, recognize the real cost of avoidance, and then act. Covering the gaping hole of racism won't solve the problem. That's just work avoidance. We have to act.

+Scott

# Parish News and Events



*The Trinity, Andrei Rublev, 15th Century, Moscow*

## Trinity Sunday

You may access the readings for this Sunday at: [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net)

## Study Questions on the Sunday Readings

### Genesis 1:1-2:4a

This is the first of the two creation accounts in Genesis. In this account, which comes from what is known as the priestly tradition, God created, God spoke, and God established order from chaos.

*In what ways does this creation story reflect your relationship with God?*

*Do you know of any ways this story has been used to mistreat others?*

*Hearing this creation story today, how do you think our Triune God is calling us today? What are some of our responsibilities to care for God's creation?*

### Psalm 8

“Who am I, that God would notice me?” These

are the words that flow through my head as I read through Psalm 8. Who am I, that this cosmic and powerful God, who so beautifully crafted the world, would notice me?

*Faith is not an easy journey. Have there been times where you have felt distant from God? What brought you close again?*

*We believe in a triune God. How do you understand the Trinity in your faith? Is it confusing? Does any of it make sense? Do you relate to one person of the Trinity more than another?*

## 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

This is the end of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, also called its final exhortation. Paul is writing to the church in Corinth, which, through previous visits and letters, he knew was facing significant challenges – especially around division and community.

*Imagine Paul were writing a letter to your congregation. What would that letter include? What would Paul point out as strengths and gifts, and what would Paul point out as things needing to be changed or improved?*

## Matthew 28:16-20

A large part of our identity as Christians is exploring how different aspects of Christian life – baptism, the Bible, Eucharist, worship, and prayer – play out as people who are connected to many other systems. Jesus tells us not to force our ways on other people, but to explore how the ways we live as Christians connect with the other people in our lives.

*Do you have any experiences of going out to proclaim Christ that were healthy and life-giving or negative and unhealthy?*

*This Bible study was written by Melina Dezhbod of Virginia Theological Seminary.*

## This Week at St. Paul's

### Mass Schedule

As of this writing we will be closed for Public Worship until the end of April please join us daily for Livestreaming on our Facebook Page

<https://facebook.com/stpaultheapostlesavannah/>

### Keeping St. Paul's going

Three ways to make your financial contribution. The vitality of St. Paul's depends on all of us

- 1) Join Realm
- 2) use your Banks' Bill Pay
- 3) send your check in the Mail

### Year-To-Date

Inflows April 2020  
\$129,023.75  
Outflows February 2020  
\$147,512.17  
Balance (-\$18,488.42)

Budget needed each week  
\$8,567.00

### Offering 05-31-2020

By Mail: \$4,123.45  
Online (Realm): \$1,195.00

### Restricted 05-31-2020

\$198.00

## St Paul's Collegiate Church

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

### The Episcopate

The Right Reverend Frank S. Logue  
Bishop of Georgia  
The Most Rev'd Michael B. Curry D.D.  
Primate, Episcopal Church, USA  
The Most Rev'd & 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'd Dr. Wm Willoughby III, OStJ  
Rector & Dean of Savannah  
The Rev'd Leonel Polanco  
Latino Missioner  
The Rev'd Lauren Flowers Byrd  
Assisting Priest  
The Rev'd Susan E. Gahagan, ECSB  
Deacon  
The Rev'd Victor Moreno, Deacon  
Robert McDowell Fogle III  
Music Director & Administrator  
Fr. Nathan P. Wilson, Asst. to the Dean  
Joe Daniels, Sexton  
Grace Downs, Children's Ministries  
& Children's Choir

### The Vestry

Sarah Ward, Senior Warden, '22  
Mark Frissell, Junior Warden, '21  
Heather Downs, Clerk, '21  
Judy Naylor-Johnson '23, Erick Nowicki '23  
Adriana Ramirez '23, Simona Perry '23,  
Kris Lee, 21, Jerry Riley, 21  
Ana Carter, '22, John Ely, '22  
Lorna Smith, '22  
Carl Pruetz Treasurer

## Thanksgivings and Memorials

### High Altar Flowers

are given to the greater glory of God and in thanksgiving for many blessings by the parish.

### Our Lady Queen of Peace Altar Flowers

are given to the greater glory of God and in thanksgiving for many blessings by the parish.

### Walsingham Shrine Flowers

are given to the greater glory of God and in thanksgiving for many blessings by the parish.

### HighAltar Sanctuary Lamp

Is given to the greater glory of God and in thanksgiving for many blessings by the parish

### Our Lady Queen of Peace Altar Lamp

Is given to the greater glory of God and in thanksgiving for many blessings by the parish

### Birthdays

Dr. Alan Boulton (9)  
Ed Minor (12)

### Anniversaries

Dorie and Craig Hopkins (8)  
Judy & Darrell Naylor-Johnson(8)  
Edward and Catherine Wexler (9)  
Lu and Jerry Riley (10)

### Expectant Mothers

Stefanie Morris  
Grace Rafield

### Departed

Thomas Archer Bryson III (10)  
Romyne Brady Clay (12)  
Phillip "Barger" Jenkins (May 21)  
Morris "Mac" Lemburg (May 25)