



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	William Porcher DuBose MP 9:00 am EP 5:30 pm HE 6:00 pm
Wednesday	Feria Lauds 6:45 am HE 7:00 am, MP 9:00 am EP 5:30 pm
Thursday	Bernard, Abbot MP 9:00 am HE 10:00 am EP 5:30 pm
Friday	Abraham of Smolensk 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

The Feast of St. Mary the Virgin

August 16, 2020

Via Livestream on Facebook [https://
facebook.com/stpaultheapostlesavannah/](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 (4th Sunday)

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

Remember to Wash your Hands Regularly

The Propers

[Isaiah 61:10-11](#)

[Galatians 4:4-7](#)

[Luke 1:46-55](#)

[Psalm 34 or 34:1-9](#)

Parish Office is closed to in person visits until further notice. For updates on church events call or visit our Web Site at www.StPaulSavannah.org

Reflections

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Some thoughts in the face of the pandemic - Among early Greek Christians the writings of Irenaeus are an important example of a focus on the potential ability of humanity to mature in this life. In this framework good and evil are required for human beings to master the art of informed decisions. Evil is a prerequisite for the full formation of each human. To become fully animate in God's image the existence of evil is a prerequisite. Therefore, in choosing to disobey God's command to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Adam and Eve give evidence to God's gift of free will.

Important to this way of engaging the problem of good and evil is the biblical injunctions to "choose good." According to Irenaeus this divine challenge is pointless without a real choice between good and evil. Life from this framework is a series of opportunities to cultivate and choose the image which God intended from the creation of humanity. Ultimately contact with evil provides the necessary nexus for spiritual growth and development.

Among modern writers John Hick is generally regarded as the most able proponent of this approach. Hicks' contends that human beings are incomplete, and they must contend with the problem of good and evil for them to become what God intends. This approach obviously emphasizes the human ability to respond freely to the will of God. It also presents a world in which the presence of good and evil are the crucible for informed and meaningful human development to take place

This account of good and evil protects the place of human freedom and it reverberates with the insight that often God's grace and love can be experienced most profoundly amid suffering and anguish. It proves less than resilient in the face of profound evil. A legitimate critique can and should be posited about how evil plays a positive role in the formation of the image of God in humanity when it involves wholesale destruction like the Nazi Holocaust or wholesale terrorist attacks with no regard to the complicity of those caught in the event - from where comes any moral direction or stimulus to resist and overcome the evil out of which they arise?

Considering this question, it is time to turn to St. Augustine of Hippo's approach to the question of good and evil which continues to have a major impact on the western theological tradition of the Church. The answer that he developed in the fourth century is related to countering the Gnostic vision of the world asserted by the followers of Mani. The Manicheans accounted for the existence of evil as resident in the evil nature of all matter. For the followers of Mani and their Gnostic Christian disciples the purpose of salvation was to be found in the deliverance of humanity from the evil material world into a spiritual world completely uncontaminated by matter.

Central to most Gnostic systems was the idea of a demiurge - a demigod who created the heavens and earth from preexisting matter. Both the defects of matter and the need to escape from the present world were due to the inadequacies of the demigod. It was the job in this cosmological system for a redeemer god to intervene and free humanity from the prison of this world of matter.

For Augustine, creation and redemption was the work of one God. It was impossible for him to blame the existence of evil on creation since that would merely transfer it to God. According to Augustine, God created the world good. This meant that all matter was intrinsically good; so, the question remained how to account for evil. The fundamental insight of Augustine concerning evil is that it is a direct consequence of the misuse of Human freedom. Like Irenaeus human freedom is fundamental to Augustine's construct and the presence of evil in the world can be squarely placed before humanity and its choice of self will over the will of God. By choosing evil Humanity introduced the contamination of evil to the world.

WWIII (to be continued)

Parish News and Events



THE FEAST OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

This Sunday, St. Paul's celebrates the Feast of St. Mary the Virgin. This feast day (normally held on August 15th), has been celebrated since the earliest days of the Christian church. The Gospel of Luke contains a "Song of Praise" that was sung by Mary when her cousin Elizabeth recognized her as the mother of the Lord (Luke 1:43). Elizabeth was pregnant with John the Baptist when her cousin Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus, came to see her: "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord

comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy'" (Luke 1:41-44). "Mary's Song of Praise" is also called "The Magnificat" because its opening line in Latin is: "Magnificat anima mea Dominum," "My soul magnifies the Lord."

In-person Reception of Communion

As mentioned in last Sunday's bulletin, St. Paul's will continue to livestream Sunday Mass until it is deemed safe to have in-person worship, however reception of communion will be available in person outside the front entrance to the church. After the 10:00am Sunday Mass, the Presider will recess to the front doors and have communion available for those who wish to receive. The Presider will be available until 11:30am.

Vestry Meeting

The Vestry will hold their next regular meeting on Monday, August 17th on zoom following mass at 6:00pm on Facebook. All meetings of the Vestry are open to the members of the Parish. If you would like to join us, please contact Heather Downs at hpdowns@comcast.net for the zoom link.

St. Paul's COVID-19 Task Force

The Task Force is working to develop protocols and guidelines for in-person gatherings and building use per the recommendations of the Diocese of Georgia Guidance Document and Safer Standards Chart. The team met on August 3rd and August 10th. Our next meeting is scheduled for August 31st. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering to help, please contact Marsha Tolbert (tolbert429@aol.com) or Erick Nowicki (erickn5510@gmail.com).

This Week at St. Paul's

Mass Schedule

As of this writing we will be closed for Public Worship for the foreseeable future, 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 May 2020

\$156,632.75

Outflows February 2020

\$179,880.83

Balance (-\$23,248.08)

Budget needed each week

\$8,567.00

Offering 08-09-2020

By Mail: \$11,595.00

Online (Realm):\$1,545.00

Restricted 08-09-2020

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

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

**Remember to Wash your Hands
Regularly**

Thanksgivings and Memorials

High Altar Flowers

are given to the greater glory of God and in memory of Fred Stephens by Marjory Stephens

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

High Altar Sanctuary Lamp

Is given to the greater glory of God and in memory of Nedra Welde, mother of Deacon Sue Gahagan

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

Vicki Minor (16)

Jim Burch (20)

Wynne Hodges (22)

Expectant Mothers

Grace Rafield

Katherine Posse de Voest

Deported

Henry Parker Howard (17)

Mamie D. Beasley (17)

Herbert H. Hubbard (18)

John Frank Kuller (18)

Maude Elizabeth Weber (21)

Rosemary Towers (21)

Caroline Lewis Lovett (22)