Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist
222 East Harris Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401 - Located at Abercorn and East Harris Streets
Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer OFM Conv.— Bishop of Savannah
Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland — Bishop Emeritus

Mass Schedule
Saturday: 12 Noon & 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, & 11:30 a.m.
Latin Mass 1:00 p.m.
Weekdays: Mon thru Fri: 7:30 am & 12 Noon
Holy Days: 7:30 am, 12 Noon, 6:00 pm
Nursery: 10:00 am Mass on Sundays.

Sacraments
Baptisms Arrangements should be made in advance.
Confessions Fridays: 4:00 to 5:00 pm
Saturdays: 11:00 am to 11:45 am & 4:15 pm to 5:00 pm
Also by request at other times.
Weddings
Arrangements should be made at least four months in advance. Participation in a marriage preparation program is required. Please call parish office for more information.
Anointing of the Sick By request for those who are seriously ill.

Faith Formation
Children’s Religious Ed Sunday 8:45 am to 9:50 am
R. C. I. A. Tuesday 7:00 pm to 8:00pm

Parish Staff
Rector - Very Rev. J. Gerard Schreck, JCD
In Residence - Msgr. William O’Neill, Rector Emeritus
In Residence - Rev. Pablo Migone
In Residence - Rev. Tom Peyton
Permanent Deacon - Rev. Dr. Dewain E. Smith
Interim Associate Director of Music - Jillian Pashke-Durant
Interim Associate Director of Music - Jared Register
Director of Religious Education - Mrs. Janee Przybyl
Bookkeeper/Admin. Assistant - Ms. Jan Cunningham
Office Assistant - Mrs. Brenda Price
Music Administrator - Mia Guerin
Maintenance - Mr. Jimmy Joseph Sheehan III
Housekeeper/Food Services - Ms. Alma Young
Docents - Mrs. Peggy Baker, Mrs. Gloria Keane

Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm • Phone: (912)233-4709 Fax: (912)233-8229 • E-mail: csjsav@aol.com
Cathedral Website: www.savannahcathedral.org • Diocesan Website: www.diosav.org • Cathedral Music: sjbmusic.org

Photo by Mary Clark Rechtiene
Rector’s Corner

COLLECTION FOR RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND

“PLEASE GIVE TO THOSE
WHO HAVE GIVEN A LIFETIME”

The 30th appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious takes place throughout the United States on this weekend. This annual, parish-based collection is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office and benefits some 32,000 aging Catholic sisters, brothers and priests in religious orders. Proceeds from the collection are distributed to eligible congregations to help underwrite retirement and health-care expenses. In 2016 the appeal raised more than $30,000,000. At the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, we remember with tremendous gratitude the ministry and work done especially by the Sisters of Mercy, the Marist Brothers, and the Franciscan Sisters. These men and women earned very little in the way of “salaries” and now are in need of our financial help so that they might live comfortably and with dignity in their later years. May God bless them all, and I thank you for your generosity to this annual appeal.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Next Sunday, December 17th, at 3:00 PM, the Cathedral Choir will perform its annual Christmas Concert. This concert has become quite popular over the past few years and is a wonderful way to enter into the celebration of Christmas. The Concert also provides the occasion for the viewing of the beautiful Christmas Nativity Crèche in the Cathedral. The concert is open to all, and is usually quite full! There is no charge to attend, but your donations for the Choir and our Cathedral Music Program are most gratefully received. There will be ushers with baskets at the conclusion of the Concert who will be happy to collect your donations. I hope to see you there!

Rev. J. Gerard Schreck
Rector
Mark’s Gospel begins by introducing us to John the Baptist, who prepared the way to Jesus by calling people to acknowledge their sins and receive a baptism of repentance. Are we prepared to welcome Jesus into the world? To do so properly, we need to acknowledge our sins and receive forgiveness for the wrong we have done. As we celebrate today’s liturgy, let us keep in mind our failings and resolve to keep Jesus in our minds and hearts as we interact with others.

### Mass Intentions for the week of December 10, 2017

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<td>Daniel Kelly</td>
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<td>Poor Souls in Purgatory</td>
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<td>Deceased Members of Gorman &amp; Rappe Families</td>
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<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>Belle Brunson (Anni)</td>
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<td>Fred &amp; Josephine Doyle</td>
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<td>TUESDAY</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY</td>
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<td>John Stacy III (MM)</td>
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<td>Joseph Sawdye</td>
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<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>Marilyn Beskie Schneider</td>
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<td>SATURDAY</td>
<td>Salvatore Aliotta (Anni)</td>
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### Please Pray For:

- Ed Arbo, Dale Asbury, Juan Ayala, Odillo Blanco
- Doris Boring, Vicky Buck, Heidi Carroll, Michael Cavanagh, Joan Coules, Eileen and Bill Dunlop, Mary Dunn, Erin Dunning, Chris Fernandez, Robert Green, Andy Hodgson, Matt Hunter, Denise LeMay, Fr. Lou Lindsay, Rose Marcantonio, Lee Marmarus, Gene Maxey, Hugh Markowsky, Gayle McGhee, Marcia Morgan, Brian Murphy, Josephine Nasworthy, Patrick Neligan, Joy Povec, Jeffrey Powell, Jerrie Ridgeway, Joel Rivera, Tina Sanders, Bob Schwartz, Greg Smith, Fr. Jacek Szust, Stephanie Venuto, Greg Waldhour, Jan Wilson and Larson Zekas.
Cathedral Christmas Angel Trees

During Advent, there will be two angel trees in the back of the Cathedral near the exits. Both trees will benefit those served by the Social Apostolate. The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women will set up one tree to provide gift cards for the homeless and low income families. The Christian Service Committee will set up a tree to collect food to provide families in need with a Christmas Dinner.

We are asking that you choose either a stocking or gift tag from these trees and purchase the items listed. It is important that each participant receives a gift package of equal value so please provide the gift cards or food items in the denomination or quantity requested. We welcome as many gift cards or Christmas Dinner items, as you would like to donate as there are many in need. Last year, the Cathedral donated over 300 Christmas Gift Stockings to the Social Apostolate. This year, we hope to donate as many stockings and to stock the pantry with a healthy Christmas Dinner for the families in need. You can return the stockings and gift bags to the large wrapped boxes located near the trees no later than Sunday, December 17th. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer with this effort, please ask a committee member after most masses. On behalf of the Cathedral Council of Catholic Women and the Christian Service Committee, we thank you for your support and generosity.

Children's Christmas Party

The Knights of Columbus #631 and Cathedral of St. John the Baptist invite you to attend a Birthday Party for Jesus! Saturday, December 16, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the Knights of Columbus Ballroom, 3 West Liberty Drive. Santa and Elves, crafts and a light lunch. Bring a gift for a child in need (any age). Please RSVP to Dwight Sheley at 912-659-9736 with the number in your party.

Christmas Bake Sale!

The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women will be having a Bake Sale on the Plaza after the 8:00, 10:00 and 11:30 AM Masses (or until they sell out) on the 17th of December. They will have a delectable variety of home-made goodies to tempt you! If you like to bake, and would like to donate one or more of your creations to our sale, we would love to add you to our group of bakers! Please contact Kate Haase at kthaze@me.com for information.

Cathedral Christmas Concert

December 17th at 3:00 PM. Featuring Rutter’s “Gloria”, and the unveiling of the Cathedral Crèche. Free and open to the public. Get here early, this is a very well attended concert!

Music Director/Organist Needed

Blessed Sacrament Church, in Savannah, is seeking a part-time Music Director and Organist, to lead the musical component of all parish Masses, including but not limited to weekend Masses and Masses for Holy Days of Obligation, in accordance with the liturgical calendar. In collaboration with the Pastor, the Music Director recruits and trains the musicians and cantors, coordinates music for special events (e.g., weddings and funerals), leads the adult and children's choirs of the parish, selects music for pastor approval, and enhances the parish's celebration of the Catholic faith. Ideal candidates are able to play piano and organ, conduct performances of musicians and singers, manage technical audio equipment, will have formal vocal training and/or significant music experience, including the ability to read music and sing at a performance level. Bachelor's degree in Music and choir experience in a leadership role preferred. Knowledge of Catholic liturgy required for the appropriate selection of music. Financial Compensation: Part-time, Salary, additional compensation received in the form of stipends from weddings and funerals. Qualified candidates are invited to email resume and cover letter to Paige Ryan, Parish Administrator, at PRyan@mbschurch.org.
March for Life 2018

“Let your light so shine before men...and glorify your Father in Heaven.”  Matthews 5:16

A March for Life bus trip is planned for Friday, January 19, 2018!  This will be the second pilgrimage organized by the Savannah Deanery Respect Life Ministry to Atlanta, GA on the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision Roe v. Wade.  Since Nellie Gray organized the first march for Life in Washington in 1974, the number of marches has increased to hundreds of rallies in January all over the country. These marches give thousands of life-affirming leaders, clergy and citizens a chance to speak up for the defenseless, so that one day each may stand before God and say, “I did speak out; I was not silent in the face of the wanton killing of innocents.”

Our pilgrimage will begin at 7:00 AM in the parking lot off of I-16 at Dean Forest (307) and Town Center Rd. (directly across from the entry gate to Southbridge).  Parking is free.  Prayer, scripture reading, singing and other activities are planned on the way to and from our state capital. Upon arrival in downtown Atlanta, we will visit a local parish and eat lunch.  At 1:00 PM, we will take part in a roadside witness until 2:00 PM.  Around 2:30 PM our bus will load for the return trip to Savannah.  Arrival time back at the point of departure will be approximately 6:30 PM.

Due to the generosity of our sponsoring Deanery Churches and the Knights of Columbus, the cost of the bus trip is FREE!  (Food and incidentals will be the resistibility of each pilgrim, as well as any tip for the bus driver.)

A reservation form (below) is required so that reservations do not exceed seats (56) on the bus.  ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE CATHEDRAL OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH OFFICE (222 E. Harris Street, Savannah, GA 31401), care of Gretchen Reese, by January 6.  Once the bus is full, remaining names will be placed on a waiting list in the order received and notified should space become available.  Please book as soon as possible.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Savannah Deanery Respect Life Ministry

______________________________________________________________
Cut out and return reservation to Cathedral Office. Please print information below clearly.

2018 March for Life Bus Trip to Atlanta

Today’s Date: _____________________________  Number of Persons: _____________________________

Name (s) _______________________________________________________________________________

Phone # _______________________________  Email ________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________________________

Church ________________________________________________________________________________
Cathedral Adoration Chapel

**Why should I go to Adoration?**
The more time you spend in Adoration discovering that God loves you and wants to spend time with you, the more you begin to want to spend more time with Him. Going to Adoration is not a chore! Everyone who goes begins to appreciate the quiet time alone with Jesus and to look forward to the scheduled hour again the next week.

**A new year is coming.** What a great time to initiate your special relationship with the person who loves you more than anyone else ever can! God is there for you three days a week right here in the Cathedral! There are three openings available for fall: Tuesday mornings at nine, Tuesday at noon and Thursday at noon. If none of those times is good for you, consider a prayer time with a partner anytime between eight and five in the afternoon on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. You are welcome to become an Adorer! Call Gretchen at 912-658-3848.

*Low Country Catholics Presents*

**“Living Radically Like Mary”**

Calling all young adults 21 to 35 years old! Come listen to Thabo Hall talk about how we honor Mary and reflect on how we can live a radical life for Christ through her example. Meet us at 3 West Liberty Street (the Knights of Columbus Building) at 7:00 PM for a talk and social. Beer available for purchase at the Knights bar. Bring money for food from the Mellow Mushroom. For more information, visit our Facebook Page: Low Country Catholics

**On-Line Giving**

Thank you to all of you who make your donations through on-line giving. Please consider changing to on-line giving for your donations to the Cathedral if you are not already doing so. Go to [www.savannahcathedral.org](http://www.savannahcathedral.org) and click GIVE. Then click on the green “online giving” button you see pictured. You will be taken step by step through the process of setting up donations weekly, monthly or you may make a one-time only donation.

**Cathedral Lectors Needed!**
The Cathedral Lector Ministry has suffered the loss of lectors who have had job transfers and/or physical concerns. If you would like to be a lector, please contact Roger at rogerdhaneline@comcast.net or at 912-712-3718. A brief orientation at the Cathedral is required and will be scheduled to meet your, and Cathedral, availability. Past lector experience is desirable but not required—only a desire to assist, liturgically, in the celebration of the Mass.

**Extraordinary Ministers Needed!**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion needed for the 5:30 PM Mass on Saturdays and also for the 11:30 AM Sunday Mass. If interested, please email Bill Sterritt at bill_sterritt@msn.com or call him at 912-232-1615 for information.

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**The Most Reverend Gregory Hartmayer, OFM Conv., Bishop of Savannah invites all couples celebrating their Silver or Gold (25th or 50th) Wedding Anniversaries in 2018 to join him in celebrating the**

**Gold & Silver Wedding Jubilee Anniversary Mass**
in your honor at the Cathedral of Saint John the Baptist in Savannah, Georgia on Sunday

**February 11, 2018.**

Those wishing to attend should register online at [https://www.diosav.org/familylife-marriage-jubilee](https://www.diosav.org/familylife-marriage-jubilee) by December 18, 2017 in order to receive a formal invitation with the detailed information. For more information, contact the Diocesan Office of Family Life at 912-201-4068.
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFERTORY
Offertory December 3, 2017: $24,480.50
Offertory December 4, 2016: $21,839.50

VISITOR’S DEPOSITORY BOX
Week Prior to December 3, 2017: $2,225.00
Week Prior to December 4, 2016: $2,238.50

BAA PROGRESS REPORT
Total Given: $137,443
Parish Goal: $114,459

Holiday Closings at the Cathedral
Adoration Chapel will be closed for one week at Christmas (Dec.19-Jan. 1), because many of our adorers will be traveling.
The Nursery will be closed December 24th and December 25th for the holidays. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Children’s Religious Ed. Schedule
Dec 10 - CLASS - Prayer Assembly; K and 1st Graders
Dec 17 - CLASS - Status Reports

Cathedral Christmas Ornaments
We recently sold out of the 2017 Cathedral ornaments, but more have been ordered and should arrive this week. If you wish to purchase one, you should do so soon! They have been going quickly. We ask for a donation of $20.00 per ornament. These make great gifts for any occasion! They can be purchased at the back of the church, online, or by coming by the Rectory office during office hours, Monday - Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The new 2018 ornament will be available beginning in January.

NEW PARISHIONERS & ADDRESS CHANGES
Anyone wishing to become a parishioner of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, should complete the following, cut out and drop it in the offertory collection basket. A census form will be mailed to you, which must be completed and mailed back. You may also join online at www.savannahcathedral.org. Thank you.

New Parishioner
Change of Address

Name __________________________________________
Address _______________________________________
______________________________________________
Telephone Number _____________________________
Email Address ________________________________

To register online, go to www.savannahcathedral.org

Cathedral Holiday Schedule
Advent Penance Service
Monday, December 18 at 7:00 PM

Christmas Eve Masses
Vigil Mass at 5:30 PM
Midnight Mass 12:00 AM
(Doors Open at 11:00 PM, Music Concert Begins at 11:15 PM)

Christmas Day Masses
8:00 and 10:00 AM,
11:30 AM (Latin Mass)

New Year’s Day Mass
10:00 AM