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

Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer OFM Conv. — Bishop of Savannah
Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland — Bishop Emeritus

Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Phone: (912)233-4709 Fax: (912)233-8229 E-mail: csjbsav@aol.com
Cathedral Website: www.savannahcathedral.org Diocesan Website: www.diosav.org Cathedral Music: sjbmusic.org

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 8:00 pm

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

Photo by Mary Clark Rechtiene
CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS 2017

This year Christmas falls on a Monday, and that brings with it the convergence of the 4th Sunday of Advent on December 24th, with Christmas Eve. Many people have asked the obvious question: “Do I need to go to Mass twice on December 24th, or can I just go once on December 24th and satisfy my obligation for both Sunday and Christmas? The answer is: I should go to Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent, and I should go to Mass for the Solemnity of Christmas. So, I need to attend two Masses and not just one.

On Saturday, December 23rd, the Vigil Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent will be celebrated at 5:30 PM. On Sunday morning, December 24th, Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 11:30 AM. We will not have Mass in the Extraordinary Form (The Latin Mass) at 1:00 PM. I thank those who regularly come to that Mass for their understanding. We will need a little bit of time after the 11:30 Mass to clean the Church, finish decorating for Christmas, and set us for the Christmas Masses which are to come.

On Sunday evening, December 24th, the first Mass for Christmas will be celebrated at 5:30 PM. This Mass was very popular last year and I would suggest that you arrive early to get parking and a seat in Church. At Midnight, Bishop Hartmayer will celebrate the Mass and bless the Christmas Crèche. On Christmas morning, Mass will be celebrated at 8:00 AM, at 10:00 AM, and the Extraordinary Form Mass (Latin) at 11:30 AM.

I hope you have a wonderful celebration of Advent and Christmas and that our Mass schedule will be accommodating.

Rev. J. Gerard Schreck
Rector
Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, Gaudete meaning rejoice in Latin. We rejoice this Sunday, knowing that we are over halfway through this period of preparation and that Jesus’ coming is so close that we can feel it in our very being. We will sing, “My soul rejoices in my God” in the responsorial psalm. Let us take a moment today to put all the Christmas planning and worries aside and reflect on the wonderful gift God gave us in Jesus.

Mass Intentions for the week of December 17, 2017

SUNDAY
Pro Populo
Mary Lukas (Anni)
Jerry Padilla
Poor Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY
Fred & Josephine Doyle
Julia Lingenfelser (Anni)

TUESDAY
Lillie Mae Blanshaw (Anni)
Antonio William Aliffi

WEDNESDAY
Sr. Christina Zammit

THURSDAY
Allan S. Laird (Anni)
Sr. Mary Keane

FRIDAY
Sr. Noreen Dennehy
Dorothy Powers (Anni)

SATURDAY
Carmela Rizza Aliffi

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, Mary Moriarty, Brian Murphy, Josephine Nasworthy, Patrick Neligan, Joy Povec, Jeffrey Powell, Msgr. Peter Riani, Jerrie Ridgeway, Joel Rivera, Tina Sanders, Bob Schwartz, Greg Smith, Fr. Jacek Szuster, Stephanie Venuto, Greg Waldhour, Jan Wilson and Larson Zekas.
**Cathedral Christmas Angel Trees**

**Gift Stockings Due this Week!**

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 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**

**Date Changed to This Sunday!**

The Knights of Columbus #631 and Cathedral of St. John the Baptist invite you to attend a Birthday Party for Jesus! Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 11:00 AM, (after the Cathedral’s 10:00 AM Mass) at the Knights of Columbus Ballroom, 3 West Liberty Drive. Santa and Elves, crafts and a light lunch (hot dogs and ice cream). 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**

This Weekend!

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!

**Cathedral Christmas Concert**

This Sunday, 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 responsibility 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
Catholic Trivia and Potluck

Calling all young adults 21 to 35 years old! We will be ending our Theology on Tap series with a fun pre-Christmas party! Bring some food for a potluck and the LCC will host a Catholic Trivia night with prizes! Meet us on December 19th 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. 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 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.

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.

Participating Catholic Tuition

Cathedral parishioners who have children in Catholic Schools and who wish to receive the parish participating tuition rate must be endorsed by Fr. Schreck. A participating parishioner is a parishioner who attends Mass on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation, participates in the activities of the parish, contributes to the offertory collection in a recognizable way by using envelopes or checks as a means of verification of attendance. Contributions must be made by the end of the year to receive the parish participating tuition rate for next year.

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

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 10, 2017: $21,350.00
Offertory December 11, 2016: $19,919.50

VISITOR’S DEPOSITORY BOX
Week Prior to December 10, 2017: $1,873.00
Week Prior to December 11, 2016: $2,314.50

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.

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

Children’s Religious Ed. Schedule
Dec 17 - CLASS - Status Reports
Dec 24 - NO CLASS - Christmas Holy Day

Cathedral Christmas Ornaments
We recently sold out of the 2017 Cathedral ornaments, but more have arrived and are already selling quickly. 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