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 & 12:15 pm to 1:00 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. Jared Register
Office Assistant - Mrs. Brenda Price
Maintenance - Mr. Jimmy Joseph Sheehan III
Housekeeper/Food Services - Mrs. 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: csjbsav@aol.com
Cathedral Website: www.savannahcathedral.org • Diocesan Website: www.diosav.org • Cathedral Music: sjbmusic.org

Photo by Mary Clark Rechtiene
Rector’s Corner

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The images and stories of the Holy Family of Nazareth provide an even deeper insight into the mystery of the Incarnation. Not only was the Son of God born in flesh and blood, He was raised and nurtured in that most basic of human institutions, the family. With Mary his mother and Joseph his foster father, he experienced the love and tenderness of parents, and began to practice the virtues which would shape his character. “The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree,” we are used to saying. Surely Jesus was the Son of the Most High God, but he was also the son of Mary and Joseph and would have learned from them what it means to live a human life of faith and trust in God.

On this Feast we remember and pray for all of our families, and we give thanks to God for the love that we have found there. We are also very much aware that in 21st century America, and the world, families today come in many different shapes and appearances, and face a whole assortment of challenges. We pray for all families, that they may be bound together by love, respect, patience, forgiveness, and kindness.

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Monday, January 1st, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Following upon the great Ecumenical Councils of Chalcedon and Ephesus, which wrestled with the proper understanding of the person and natures of Christ, Mary was given the title “Theotokos” or The God-bearer. Thus Mary is proclaimed not only the Mother of Jesus, but also the Mother of God. It is good for us to begin a new year by celebrating and honoring Mary who brought the Savior into the world.

In accordance with the norms of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, this Solemnity, when it falls on a Saturday or a Monday, does not carry with it the obligation to attend Mass. There will be one Mass celebrated at the Cathedral on January 1st, at 10:00 AM.

On behalf of Bishop Hartmayer, Monsignor O’Neill, Father Peyton and Father Migone, I wish you a blessed and happy new year!

Rev. J. Gerard Schreck,
Rector
The feast of the Holy Family was introduced into the liturgical calendar in 1921, promoted as a way to honor the Christian family. So today not only do we honor the Holy family, we also focus on our own families and consider how we can be like the Holy Family. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in their devoted love and care for each other and in the way Mary and Joseph raised and cared for Jesus, can be a model for our own families.

Mass Intentions for the week of December 31, 2017

SUNDAY
Pro Populo
Poor Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY
Fred & Josephine Doyle
Michael Jasura Sr. (Anni)

TUESDAY
Int. of Carlton Dowdy

WEDNESDAY
Sr. Estelle Barron
Dr. Laurence Dunn

THURSDAY
Sr. Barbara Healy
Int. of Frederick Kohrt

FRIDAY
Sr. Rosalie O’Connor
Frances Elizabeth Schaner

SATURDAY
Ann Byrnes White (Anni)

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.
Join us next Sunday, January 7th for Donuts and Coffee after the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses in the Parish Center. All are welcome! Please join us!

**Cathedral Book Club**
The Book club will begin discussing Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky on Jan. 11th. Where: Parish Hall Library. When 10:15 AM to 12:00, Wednesdays. Information email threenovacks@gmail.com.

**Cathedral Ornaments**
We are out of the 2014 and 2015 ornaments, but all other year’s are for sale. This week we will begin selling the new 2018 ornament! They are $20 each, and may be purchased at the back of the church or at savannahcathedral.org.

**Cathedral Book Club**
The Bible Study finishes the Bible Timeline Study! We will discuss Session 19 on January 8th. Where: Parish Hall Library. When 6:00 to 8:00 on Monday nights. New participants are welcome. For more information email: threenovacks@gmail.com

**Prayer Group**
Ignatian Prayer Group meets Thursday nights 6:00 to 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Next session is January 4th. New participants are always welcome.
The Living Eucharist:
Kicking off the Prayer Campaign

During Lent, the Cathedral parish is participating in Living the Eucharist (LE). LE is a parish-based renewal experience that fosters spiritual growth and discipleship by promoting full, conscious, and active participation in the Eucharist. This Lenten spiritual renewal program provides us with opportunities to grow in our faith through learning more about the Eucharist, participating more actively in Sunday Mass, and Living the Eucharist each day as disciples of Jesus. The program consists of six (6) 90 minute sessions over the six weeks of Lent. Two Sign-Up Sundays will take place, starting in a few weeks. There will be announcements at all Masses describing the program and sign-up events. Please consider becoming a small group leader, joining a small group, or participating with your family. Also, please support this ministry by praying for our fellow parishioners as we experience this Lenten Journey. For more information about the Living Eucharist, go to http://www.livingtheeucharist.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 _____________________________________________________________________________
Children’s Religious Ed. Schedule
Dec 31 - NO CLASS - New Year Holiday
Jan  7 - CLASS

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.

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](http://www.savannahcathedral.org). Thank you.

- [ ] New Parishioner
- [ ] Change of Address

**Name ____________________________**
**Address ____________________________**
**Telephone Number ____________________________**
**Email Address ____________________________**

To register online, go to [www.savannahcathedral.org](http://www.savannahcathedral.org)

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.

Cathedral Ornaments
We are out of the 2014 and 2015 ornaments, but all other year’s are in stock including this year’s! They are $20 each, and may be purchased at the back of the church or at [savannahcathedral.org](http://savannahcathedral.org).

CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFERTORY
Offertory December 24, 2017: N/A
Offertory December 25, 2016: $55,298.76

VISITOR’S DEPOSITORY BOX
Week Prior to December 24, 2017: N/A
Week Prior to December 25, 2016: $3,698.00

Last week’s figures are unavailable due to early printing of the bulletin.