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

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

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
Sat: 1:00 am to 1:15 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 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
Maintenance  - Mr. Jimmy Joseph Sheehan III
Housekeeper/Food Services  - Ms. Alma Young
Docents  - Mrs. Peggy Baker, Mrs. Gloria Keane

Photo by Mary Clark Rechtiene
Eucharist: Meal or Sacrifice?

In the period before the Second Vatican Council (1962–1965), Catholic Mass was often called “the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.” The altar was viewed as a place of sacrifice. Church vocabulary for the Eucharist was filled with expressions like “sacred victim,” “unbloody sacrifice,” and “Christ the priest”—phrases hallowed by the Council of Trent.

The Second Vatican Council reminded Catholics, however, that the Mass is also a meal. Our church vocabulary began to include expressions like “the feast of the Eucharist,” “gather at the table of the Lord,” and “sharing the paschal banquet.” So popular was this, in fact, that people began to wonder if the idea of sacrifice was becoming outmoded. If the Eucharist is a gathering at a dining table, how can it also be a sacrifice on an altar?

These two themes—sacrifice and meal—bring up different associations. Sacrifice calls to mind things that are hard, scary, distant. Blood, guts, fear. Meal brings associations that are warm, convivial, ordinary. Food, drink, family. In the background of a meal, you see women with rolling pins. In the background of a sacrifice, you see men with knives. So which one is it? Is the Eucharist a sacrifice or a meal?

THE WRONG QUESTION

The problem with these alternatives, however, is that they are not really alternatives. What we have before us is a both/and situation, not an either/or. The Eucharist is both sacrifice and meal. To worry about which one takes priority is to miss the point. We need both.

Our understanding of the Eucharist must hold together both sacrifice and meal for three reasons. First, the origins of the Eucharist in the life of Christ demand both. Second, the two ideas belong together in human life and sacred history. Third, we need both of them to ground us in the reality of God’s work here on earth today. Let us look at each in turn.

ORIGINS IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST

At every Mass, we recall what Jesus did at the Last Supper. He gave his disciples his Body and Blood as food and drink. Yet the Mass is not a memorial of the Last Supper. It is the death and resurrection of Christ that we remember and encounter in the Mass.

If Jesus had not died on Calvary and risen again, no one would even remember that meal in the upper room. Similarly, if Christ had died for us on the Cross but never instituted the Eucharist, we would have no dining ritual like the one we actually have. Jesus himself linked his suffering with a meal. That’s why we do the same, in memory of him.

HUMAN LIFE AND SACRED HISTORY

Sacrifice and meal are also linked in nature. We may not like to be reminded of it at the dinner table, but every delectable roast was once a live animal. Even vegetarian meals involve cutting down or pulling up some living thing so we can eat it. There is death—for the sake of life—in the background of every meal, no matter how safe and serene the setting may be.

Beyond this, the sacred history of the people in the Old Testament brings together sacrifice and meal in a crucial
way. God saved his people from the tenth plague in Egypt by having them sacrifice a lamb and paint its blood on the doorposts of their houses. The angel of death would “pass over” the houses marked by the blood of the lamb. No one within would be harmed. This same sacrificed animal then became the main dish of the meal they would eat as they prepared for the Exodus.

The lives of the Chosen People were safeguarded by the blood of the lamb. Its flesh, shared as food, nourished them for the journey that lay ahead—the journey from slavery to freedom. Both meal and sacrifice are necessary parts of the story.

**GOD’S WORK ON EARTH TODAY**

As the story of the Passover suggests, there is a purpose to the signs God uses in dealing with his people. The slaying of the Passover lamb, and the eating of it, are part of the great story of the Exodus. The people were being led into freedom. They were on their way to the Promised Land.

For Christians, the sacrifice of Jesus and the sharing of bread and wine are also part of a great story—the story of our redemption. The sacrifice of Jesus Christ leads to resurrection and eternal life. We eat the bread of life and drink the cup of salvation to strengthen us for the journey of faith. Even death cannot harm us when we are signed with the cross of Jesus.

But that’s not all. Living for others, as Christ taught us—outside of Mass—is both a sacrifice and a feast. We give ourselves in sacrifice when we love, labor, and suffer to do what is right and good every day. We prepare a meal of justice and peace when we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and share the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ in our world.

**REFLECT**

Are you willing to make sacrifices in your everyday life, for love of God and neighbor? Sometimes a sacrifice means going out of your way to help somebody, or taking a humble attitude, or doing something good when it’s inconvenient. Think about the week that just passed. What opportunities were presented to you? How did you respond?

**ACT**

Make time to share a meal with someone. Maybe invite a family member whom you don’t see often, or a friend or colleague you’ve put off because of your busy schedule. Make it delightful. Let “living the spirit of Eucharist” be the hidden agenda of the meal.

**PRAY**

Jesus, you are the true Lamb, whose blood consecrates the homes of all believers. Thank you for giving your life for me. You are the Good Shepherd, who spreads a banquet before us. Thank you for feeding me. How can I bring you to this hungry world? Show me the way!

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**AUTHOR**  Rita Ferrone is an award-winning writer and speaker in the areas of liturgy, catechesis, and renewal in the Roman Catholic Church.

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Rector’s Corner

THE MONTH OF MARCH
AND
IRISH FESTIVITIES AT THE CATHEDRAL

As the saying goes, “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.” While that may pertain to the weather, this year it is also true for our Cathedral schedule. We will soon be very busy with all of the festivities related to St. Patrick’s Day in Savannah, and then we will participate liturgically in all that has to do with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Paschal Lamb. It will be a busy month.

The celebration of our Irish heritage is something that makes Savannah, and the Catholic community in Savannah, unique. On behalf of the Cathedral parish, I want to congratulate Mr. Mike Kenny who has been elected to serve as the Grand Marshall of the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. It will be a wonderful day for all in Savannah, and because St. Patrick’s Day falls on a Saturday this year we can expect an even larger crowd.

On Sunday, March 11th, at the 11:30 Mass, the Irish societies of Savannah will gather, with the Grand Marshall, for the annual Celtic Cross Mass and Procession to the Irish memorial on Bay Street. If you regularly attend our 11:30 Mass on Sunday, be prepared for a larger congregation on that day, and for difficulties in parking.

On Saturday, March 17th, St. Patrick’s Day, Bishop Hartmayer will celebrate the Mass in the Cathedral at 8:00 AM. Following the Mass, the Cathedral will be closed until 4:15 PM. We will not have the regularly scheduled confessions at 11:00 AM or the Mass at 12 noon. The Cathedral will reopen for confessions at 4:15 and there will be Mass celebrated at 5:30 PM. The schedule for Sunday March 18th will be as usual.

I hope that you have a wonderful few weeks, and enjoy these celebrations of our Irish heritage in Savannah.

Rev. J. Gerard Schreck
Rector
Today is pretty much halfway between Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday, between having ashes applied to our foreheads and waving palms in our hands. If going from dust to dust or welcoming the Messiah only to have him put to death is all there is, then we do seem foolish, as we hear Saint Paul say today. But we know there is more. Together we make this Lenten journey, looking beyond our earthly lives.

<table>
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<th>Mass Intentions for the week of March 4, 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pro Populo</td>
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<td>Margaret Aliotta (Anni)</td>
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<td>Poor Souls in Purgatory</td>
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<td><strong>MONDAY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothy Repetski (Anni)</td>
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<td>Edward J. Whelan, Jr. (MM)</td>
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<td><strong>TUESDAY</strong></td>
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<td>Judy Quinn</td>
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<td><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></td>
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<td>Sylvia Mancuso</td>
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<td><strong>THURSDAY</strong></td>
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<td>John Czarnota</td>
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<td>Elizabeth McGinty</td>
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<td><strong>FRIDAY</strong></td>
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<td>Gregory Periera</td>
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<td><strong>SATURDAY</strong></td>
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**Please Pray For:** Ed Arbo, Dale Asbury, Juan Ayala, Odillo Blanco, Doris Boring, Vicky Buck, Heidi Carroll, Michael Cavanagh, Marjorie Connors, Joan Coules, Eileen and Bill Dunlop, Mary Dunn, Erin Dunning, Chris Fernandez, Robert Green, Catherine Joy Henning, Andy Hodgson, Matt Hunter, Charles James, Patricia Jarrell, Denise LeMay, Fr. Lou Lindsay, Virginia Logan, Bates Lovett, Mark Mamalakis, Rose Marcantonio, Lee Marmarus, 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, Dr. Frank Rizza, Tina Sanders, Greg Smith, Fr. Jacek Szuster, Stephanie Venuto, Greg Waldhour, Bob Weiterman, Jan Wilson and Larson Zekas.

*Flower on the Blessed Mother Altar are in Memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Francis Embler*
Joins us for Coffee and Donuts today after the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses. All are welcome!

Social Apostolate
March Food Drive
Simply stated it takes one act of kindness to light a small flame to change the hearts of so many. For 50 years this has been the mission of the Social Apostolate and continues with the help of countless individuals who donate their time and talents as part of their faith journey. This mission brings hope and provides support in many ways to the working poor and the homeless here in our community. It is through the grace of God that we are here and it is in that grace we are given opportunities to serve those in need. March is the month for the Cathedral to “stock the pantry” at the Social Apostolate and with our help we can continue this mission together as one family.

Please place the needed item list, that you will find in this week’s bulletin, in a familiar location to help remind you throughout the month of March for the food drive. Thank you!

Cathedral Concert
Tenebrae - A Service of Shadows
Featuring Allegri’s “Miserere” and Gregorian chant. Here at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on Wednesday, March 28th at 7:00 PM. This concert is free and all are invited!

Camp Villa Marie Job Opportunity
Camp Villa Marie is accepting applications for all positions for summer 2018! If you are energetic, creative and enjoy working with children, consider applying for a camp position! Must be at least 16 years of age and CPR and First Aid certified prior to beginning of camp. Visit https://diosav.org/human_resources-jobs for an application! Submit application by March 15.

Pray the Rosary with us!
Each month, the USCCB Office for Child & Youth Protection livestreams the Rosary on it’s Facebook page www.facebook.com/usccb for victims/survivors of clergy sexual abuse. On March 21st at 10:00 AM, the Rosary will be streamed from the Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Savannah. Please join us here as we keep the intentions of victims/survivors and their healing in our prayers.

Available Ad Space
Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Melanie VanOver from Liturgical Publications, our bulletin printer, will be in our office this week, securing new ads for our bulletin. Please consider purchasing an ad, sponsoring a charity, or In Memory of a Loved One. Your participation helps you attract customers!

BENEFITS OF ADVERTISING
- Local, targeted community advertising for one full year, at one low price.
- A FREE ad listing on parishesonline.com.
- FREE, professional ad design, and 4 free ad changes per year.

Melanie VanOver
941-524-6921 | mvanover@4LPi.com
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFERTORY
Offertory February 25, 2018: $21,365.50
Offertory February 26, 2017: $18,476.50

VISITOR’S DEPOSITORY BOX
Week Prior to February 25, 2018: $3,322
Week Prior to February 26, 2017: $4,541

A Prayer for Living the Eucharist

Dear Jesus
Help us to spread your presence everywhere we go.
Flood our souls with your spirit and life.
Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly, that our lives may be only a radiance of yours.
Shine through us, and be so in us, that every person we come in contact with might feel your presence.
Let them look up and see no longer us, but only you!
Stay with us, and then we shall begin to shine as you shine;
so to shine as a light to others.
The light, O Jesus, will be all from you; none of it will be ours;
it will be you, shining on others through us.
Let us thus praise you in the way you love best
by shining on those around us.
Amen.

Children’s Religious Ed. Schedule
Mar 4 CLASS
Mar 11 CLASS - Daylight Savings Time Begins

Virtus Training
A Virtus Training Session has been scheduled at Blessed Sacrament School on Wednesday, March 21st, 5:30 to 8:30PM. Please enter through door at the corner of 44th Street and Crescent Circle nearest the little playground. There will be directions on the door as to what room the workshop will take place. Virtus is required for anyone who may come into contact with minors, but it is a valuable learning experience for all adults. It is free and open to all, but you must register at www.diosav.org. Click on the Virtus Training Session under upcoming events.

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 Ornaments are available to purchase for $20 each. We have all years available! You may purchase online or at the back of the church.