Cathedral Basilica of Saint John the Baptist

222 East Harris Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401 - Located at Abercorn and East Harris Streets
Most Reverend Stephen D. Parkes — Bishop of Savannah
Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland — Bishop Emeritus

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:00 to 5:00
Phone: (912)233-4709 Fax: (912)233-8229
E-mail: office@savannahcathedral.org
Cathedral Website: www.savannahcathedral.org
Cathedral Music: music@savannahcathedral.org

Mass Schedule
Saturday: 12 Noon & 5:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, & 11:30 am
Latin Mass 1:00 pm
Weekdays: Mon thru Fri: 7:30 am & 12 Noon
Holy Days: 7:30 am, 12 Noon, 6:00 pm
Nursery: Open For 10:00 AM Mass

Sacraments
Baptisms Arrangements should be made in advance.
Confessions Fridays: 4:00 to 5:00 pm
Saturdays: 11:00 to 11:45 am and 4:15 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.

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

Parish Staff
Rector - Very Rev. J. Gerard Schreck, JCD
Parochial Vicar - Rev. Andrew Larkin
In Residence - Msgr. William O’Neill, Rector Emeritus
In Residence - Rev. Tom Peyton
Permanent Deacon - Rev. Dr. Dewain E. Smith
Director of Music - Dr. Paul Thornock
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
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PREFACE

PRELUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

Bruhns

INTROIT

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near: Do not be anxious over anything; but in all manner of prayer, let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4

HELMSLEY

HYMN

1. Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
    once for our salvation slain;
    swell the triumph of his train:
    Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. Every eye shall now behold him,
    robed in dreadful majesty;
    pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
    deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply
    Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. Yea, amen! let all adore thee,
    high on thine eternal throne;
    claim the kingdom for thine own:
    Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.
    Alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

4. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near: Do not be anxious over anything; but in all manner of prayer, let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4
COLLECT (OPENING PRAYER)

READING I
The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God. I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

 RESPONSORIAL PSALM

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: R. the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. R.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy. R.

READING II
Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.
A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, “Who are you?” He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, “I am not the Christ.” So they asked him, “What are you then? Are you Elijah?” And he said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” He answered, “No.” So they said to him, “Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?” He said: “I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘make straight the way of the Lord,’” as Isaiah the prophet said.” Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.” This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

HOMILY

CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. (rise)

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

Lord, hear our prayer.

DIOCESAN PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

O God, hear our prayer and let our cry come unto You.

Bless our Diocese of Savannah with many vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Religious Life.

Give the men and women You call the light to understand Your gift and the love to follow always in the footsteps of Your priestly Son.
PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR  O Thou the Central Orb

O Thou, the central orb of righteous love, pure beam of the Most High, eternal Light of this our wintry world, Thy radiance bright awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.
Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine, gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.  Henry Ramsden Bramley

SANCTUS  New Plainsong Mass  Hurd

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MYSTERIUM FIDEI  Hurd

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection until you come again.

GREAT AMEN  Hurd

Amen, Amen, Amen.

AGNUS DEI  Hurd

1. Have mercy on us.  3. Grant us peace.
COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us. Isaiah 35

COMMUNION MOTET

Rejoice in the Lord Alway

Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I say, rejoice.
Let your moderation be known unto all men: the Lord is even at hand.
Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication,
let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks.
And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds, through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4

FINAL BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

HYMN

VENEZ DIVIN MESSIE

1. O come, Di- vine Mes- si- ah, The world in si- lence waits the day
2. O come, De-sired of na- tions, Whom priest and prophet long fore- told,

When hope shall sing its tri- umph, And sad- ness flee a- way.
Will break the cap- tive fet- ters, Re- deem the long- lost fold.

Dear Sav- ior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dis- pel the night and
show your face, And bid us hail the dawn of grace.

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come, BWV 661

Bach

PARTICIPANT RELEASE

Please be aware that by entering this area, you consent to your voice, name, and/or likeness being used, without compensation, in films and tapes for use in any and all media associated with the Catholic Diocese of Savannah, and you release the Catholic Diocese of Savannah, its successors, assigns, and licensees from any liability whatsoever of any nature. Please speak with an usher or Diocesan representative if you have any questions or concerns.
Rector's Corner

CHRISTMAS and Covid-19

With Christmas fast approaching, please be aware of our schedule of Masses at the Cathedral Basilica. In order to accommodate safely the number of people who might be coming for Christmas Mass, we are adding an additional Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve at 7:30 PM. For all of our Christmas Masses, our maximum occupancy will be 300 persons. Social distancing will be required; hand sanitizer will be available for use; and we ask that everyone please wear a mask during Mass.

We cannot predict how many people may want to attend Mass at a particular time. Therefore, it could happen that you arrive for Mass and are not able to enter because we have reached our maximum occupancy. I apologize in advance for that, but these are most unusual circumstances in which we are living. In case you come and are turned away, the 10:00 PM Mass, celebrated by Bishop Parkes, will be livestreamed!

I thank you for your patience, and I hope you have a very Merry Christmas!

Rev. J. Gerard Schreck
Rector

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve
5:00 PM Prelude Concert
5:30 PM Vigil of the Nativity
Cathedral Brass

7:00 PM Organ Prelude
7:30 PM Vigil of the Nativity

9:30 PM Concert
10:00 PM Mass in the Night
Cathedral Choir, Cathedral Brass

Christmas Morning
8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses
11:30 AM Latin Mass
The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday because today’s opening antiphon begins with the word gaudete, which means rejoice. We rejoice today, for the coming of the Lord is so near that we cannot help but think about it. Perhaps we are starting to feel overwhelmed by all of what we need to do between now and Christmas. Let this be an opportunity to refocus our attention on the true reason we celebrate this time of year. Rejoice, the Lord is near!

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<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>Pro Populo&lt;br&gt;John Stacy III&lt;br&gt;Poor Souls in Purgatory</td>
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<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>John Cooper&lt;br&gt;Anna Chuc Nguyen</td>
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<td>Carmelina Rizza Aliffi</td>
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Please Pray For: Ed Arbo, Nancy Bachner, Lola Bacon, Mabel Barba, Gerry and Maureen Bartlein, Randy Beckle, Wendy Beiner, Cynthia Blaschke, Steve Blaschke, Doris Boring, Mike Bowers, Bill Boyle, Aaron Shane Conner, Stephen Corcoran, Joan Coulas, Donna Cox, Natalie Deriso, Joan Devlin, Carlton Dowdy, Patrick Duffy, Eileen and Bill Dunlop, Erin Dunning, Chris Fernandez, Lance Gambrell, David Hampton, Ryan Helmes, Matt Hunter, Patricia Jarrell, Kathleen Kalagvano, Susan Spillane Lai, William Leach, Virginia Logan, Lee Marmarus, Hugh Markowsky, Gayle McGhee, Brian Murphy, Cindy Doolan Murphy, Josephine Nasworthy, Jenna Nobles, USMC Derek Perez, Jeffrey Powell, Tina Sanders, Tyler Smith, Family of Andy Weiss, Beverly Willett, Jan Wilson, and Larson Zekas.
“Life in Christ” Course in Spanish
The Office of Hispanic Ministry is pleased to announce that our Catechetical school Fray Pedro de Corpa will be offering the course “Life in Christ I” staring January 6, 2021. The course will be in Spanish and everyone is welcome to register to attend virtually from their home. There is no fee for the four-class-course that will be taught by Fr. Pablo Migone. If interested, contact the Office of Hispanic Ministry at 912-201-4067 or email hm@diosav.org and you will be sent the necessary information.

Gold and Silver Wedding Jubilee Anniversary Mass
All couples celebrating their Silver or Gold (25th or 50th) Wedding Anniversary in 2021 are invited to a Special Mass on Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 3:30 PM at the Cathedral Basilica. Those wishing to attend can register online at www.diosav.org/gold-and-silver by December 21st in order to receive a formal invitation.

Advent Angel Giving Tree
During this season of Advent, the Cathedral Council of Catholic Women and the Christian Services Committee will partner on the Advent Angel Giving Trees. The Christian Services Committee will be asking for donations of food to provide a healthy Christmas dinner for the clients of our Social Apostolate. In partnership with this effort, the Cathedral Council of Catholic Women (CCCW) will be asking for donations of gift cards as an additional benefit for the same clients. These are great ways to give and benefit less fortunate families in our community. Please visit the Angel trees in the back of the church and return your donations to either the baskets under the food tree or the box by the gift card tree. We will take all donations through Sunday, December 20. Thank You for your generous donations to this worthwhile cause.

Third Sunday of Advent by The Faithful Disciple

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE, WITNESS

GROW: The prophet’s words in the Book of Isaiah are bursting with hope: “The Lord ... has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord.” As we enter the third week of Advent, these words may resonate more deeply for many of us as we look back on 2020. We know that for many of the world’s people, struggle can be an everyday reality; however, after this year marked by pandemic, mourning, racial injustice, and mounting unemployment, the prophet’s hope-filled words may hit home more acutely. Regardless of what 2020 has been like for us, Advent is a reminder that we have reason for hope: in Emmanuel, God with us. Let us prepare our hearts and our minds for Christ’s coming through prayer, confident that the Lord will fulfill the promises of the prophet.

GO: In today’s Gospel, we remember the line by John the Baptist: “He came … to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.” As predicted by John the Baptist and the prophet, Christ came to dwell among us, and remains within us through the Eucharist and the working of the Holy Spirit. We, like John the Baptist, can “testify to the light” by sharing Christ’s presence through our witness to others.

WITNESS: Last week we focused on making God’s kindness visible through our words and actions toward the people with whom we live and interact regularly; this week, let our witness focus on testifying to the light in our digital presence and encounters. Make your words be those that foster hope and promise rather than incite division.
Christmas at the Cathedral

Sunday, December 20, 2020 • 5:00 p.m.

Due to the pandemic, we are required to severely limit seating for Christmas at the Cathedral to 30% of normal capacity. There are no tickets remaining for in-person attendance.

The concert will be performed by the Cathedral Choral Scholars and a chamber ensemble drawn from members of the Savannah Philharmonic. The program will include many of the great carols of the season, plus Vivaldi’s Magnificat.

The concert will be Livestreamed for all to enjoy.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we have upgraded the microphones for the Livestream and dramatically improved the audio quality of our broadcasts. Because we use multiple cameras, we will provide a beautiful and rich video presentation, as well.

We are, once again, pleased to offer our annual gift of Christmas at the Cathedral to our parish and to the city.

Please join us at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 20th for Christmas at the Cathedral. The Livestream link will be found on the homepage of the Cathedral Basilica’s website.

Sincerely,

Friends of Cathedral Music
**Children's Religious Education Schedule**

Dec 13 CLASS - Prayer Assembly; First Eucharist Class - Status Reports

Dec 20 CLASS - NO CLASS

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**CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFERTORY**

Offertory Dec. 6, 2020: $30,389.50
Offertory Dec. 8, 2019: $20,043.70

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### Cathedral Basilica Potpourri

Celebrate the Christmas season with fragrant gifts from Cathedral Flowers and Evergreens. “Bayberry Christmas” and “Lavender Mist” potpourri and sachets are decorated and available for sale now. Purchase at the Cathedral Docent Desk at the back of the church 9 to 5 daily, or email caflowers.919@gmail.com for office pick-up instead of delivery. You may also order online at [www.savannahcathedral.org](http://www.savannahcathedral.org) for convenient shipping option.

### Cathedral Basilica Ornaments

Cathedral Ornaments are available. You can purchase them at the back of the church or online at [www.savannahcathedral.org](http://www.savannahcathedral.org).