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

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 Wednesdays and 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

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

Photo By Mary Clark Rechtiene
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast. Isaiah 66

HYMN

WONDROUS LOVE

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?
2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
3. And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on;

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing and joyful be,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul;
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
And through eternity I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on!

PENITENTIAL ACT

Vatican XVII

1., 3. Lord, have mercy. 2. Christ, have mercy

COLLECT (OPENING PRAYER)
READING I
In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: “Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled.”

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: “Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!”

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
Psalm 137
Guimont

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you.

By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.
On the aspens of that land we hung up our harps. R.
For there our captors asked of us the lyrics of our songs, And our despoilers urged us to be joyous: “Sing for us the songs of Zion!” R.

How could we sing a song of the LORD in a foreign land?
If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand be forgotten! R.
May my tongue cleave to my palate if I remember you not, If I place not Jerusalem ahead of my joy. R.

READING II
Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Bower

Glo - ry to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ.
GOSPEL

Jesus said to Nicodemus: “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

John 3:14–21

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; he 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.

HOMILY

UNIVERSAL 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

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. John 3
SANCTUS

Cantor, then All:

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts.

Choir: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Cantor, then All:

Ho-san-na in the high-est, in the high-est.

Choir: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Cantor, then All:

Ho-san-na in the high-est, in the high-est.

MYSTERIUM FIDEI

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,

we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un-til you come a-gain.

AMEN


AGNUS DEI

1., 2. mi-se-re-re no-bis. 3. do-na no-bis pa-cem.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord. Psalm 122

COMMUNION MOTET

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ in me, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of every man who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me, Christ with me. St. Patrick’s Lorica
HYMN

1. Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
2. ’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And sight as the sun; I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.
3. When we’ve been there ten thousand years, Bright grace ap- pear The hour I first believed!

Vespers & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Join us for a 30-minute service of hymns, psalms, scripture readings and prayers in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Every Sunday in Lent
5:30 pm

The Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist | Savannah, GA
www.savannahcathedral.org

PARTICIPANT RELEASE
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March 14, 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

By wisdom a house is built,
by understanding it is established;
And by knowledge its rooms are filled
with every precious and pleasing possession.
PROVERBS 24: 3-4

Our homes are not merely buildings that provide shelter, but rather dwellings of respite and peace. Our homes are special places where our Catholic faith is passed on from generation to generation, where love is shared, and where memories are created. As your Bishop, please know that I pray that homes throughout our Diocese of Savannah are “domestic churches” where good values are learned and lived and discipleship is cherished. Every household must embrace the responsibility of determining the atmosphere for their home so that it is truly a place pleasing to God.

Modern technology has given us easy and affordable access to information and images, and has helped us to stay connected with one another, especially during this time of pandemic. Unfortunately, the internet and smart phones have also allowed access to information and images, specifically pornography, that are harmful to our relationships and to our souls. The introduction of pornography into a home is a dark reality that leads to brokenness of relationships, disrespect for the human body and even addiction. Statistics show that by age eleven many children have already viewed pornography online. The earlier a child is exposed to it, the deeper the wounds caused, and the more difficult it is to be freed from it. The statistics on adult usage of pornography are even more alarming. The moment to set good boundaries for internet usage is now.

Today throughout our Diocese, we are observing Safe Haven Sunday. In each of our parishes, materials are available to help you make your home a Safe Haven for you and your family. I encourage you to prayerfully read the booklet entitled Equipped, which offers concrete assistance in setting good boundaries for technology and internet usage. Whether you are a household of one or of many, I ask you to take the booklet and prayer card and join with me and with the faithful across our Diocese in ensuring that our homes are sacred places where holiness, chastity, and purity are desired and valued.

Thank you for making your home a “domestic church” and a Safe Haven. Be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones during this season of Lent and always. In a special way, I pray for those who are in need of help and healing from addiction. May you be courageous in setting good and healthy boundaries for your household and for your family. As we journey together this Lent and into the future, we will meet in our prayers and Rejoice in the Lord always.

In Christ,

+ Stephen D. Parkes, DD
Bishop of Savannah
Even during Lent we remain a joyful people, for we believe that God loves us despite our sinfulness, loves us so much that Jesus Christ sacrificed himself so that we may be redeemed and born into eternal life.

Today on Laetare ("Rejoice") Sunday, we anticipate the joy we will feel on Easter. Let us give thanks to God for the grace and mercy we have regularly received and trust we will continue to receive throughout our lives.

Join us for Stations of the Cross Every Friday During Lent after the Noon Mass.

**Mass Intentions for the week of March 14, 2021**

**SUNDAY**
- Pro Populo
- John Thang Dang
- **Tommy Spellman (Anni)**
- Poor Souls in Purgatory

**MONDAY**
- Gerte Fitzkie
- Mary Sullivan Curran

**TUESDAY**
- Deceased Hester Family Members
- Anna Chuc Nguyen

**WEDNESDAY**
- Bridget O’Neill (Anni)
- **Thomas Joseph Sheehan (Anni)**

**THURSDAY**
- Frederick J. Case, Jr.

**FRIDAY**
- Helen May
- Deceased McCarthy Family Members

**SATURDAY**
- Anna Chuc Nguyen
- **Michael O’Neill (Anni)**

**Please Pray For:** Ed Arbo, Nancy Bachner, Lola Bacon, Mabel Barba, Gerry and Maureen Bartlein, Jeff Bashus, Randy Beckle, Wendy Beiner, Cynthia Blaschke, Steve Blaschke, Doris Boring, Mike Bowers, Bill Boyle, Aaron Shane Conner, Joan Coules, Donna Cox, Natalie Deriso, Joan Devlin, Carlton Dowdy, Patrick Duffy, Eileen and Bill Dunlop, Erin Dunning, Chris Fernandez, Lance Gambrell, Evelyn Ganem, David Hampton, Jackie Heller, Ryan Helmes, Matt Hunter, Patricia Jarrell, Kathleen Kalagvano, Susan Spillane Lai, Shannon Lancaster, William Leach, Virginia Logan, Lee Marmarus, Hugh Markowsky, Gayle McGhee, Brian Murphy, Cindy Doolan Murphy, Josephine Nasworthy, Mary Peavey, USMC Derek Perez, Jeffrey Powell, Tina Sanders, Tyler Smith, Beverly Verley, Family of Andy Weiss, Beverly Willett, Jan Wilson, and Larson Zekas.
Social Apostolate
March Food Drive
The need for assistance has never been greater at this time with so many are struggling to provide food for their family.

We can help the Social Apostolate right here in Savannah. They bring hope and provides support in many ways to the working poor and the homeless here in our community. March is the month for the Cathedral to “stock the pantry” at the Social Apostolate. The needed items are:

Tuna, Salmon, Canned Ham, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Breakfast foods, Hearty Canned Soups, Peanut Butter, Jams/Jellies and Canned Vegetables and Fruit.

Food donations can be left in the baskets at the Church entry. Please check expiration dates and no industrial sizes. Thank you from the Christian Service Committee and the Social Apostolate!

Diaper Drive for Savannah Care Center
This is a great way to satisfy our Lenten call to almsgiving! All sized diapers and pull-ups are immediately needed. Diaper drive is March 20 - 24th. It will end with a rosary Prayer Service at Savannah Care Center on March 25th at 9:30 AM. All are welcome to attend. Drop off new diapers and pull-ups in marked boxes in Cathedral vestibule.

Sponsored by Savannah Deanery Respect Life.

Second Collection This Weekend!
This weekend we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help Jesus in disguise. This collection helps provide relief and support for struggling communities and works for peace and reconciliation among our brothers and sisters here and around the world.

We will have one Mass on St. Patrick’s Day at 10:00 AM. The church will be closed the remainder of the Day.

Happy St. Patrick’ Day
Celebrate with our “Celtic Forest” blend of dried florals and forest treasures created by Cathedral Flowers. Decorated bags of potpourri and sachets are available now at the Cathedral Docent desk and available for office pick via email order caflowers.19@gmail.com

Cathedral Ornaments are also available for purchase at the docent desk or online at www.savannahcathedral.org. These ornaments depict different stained glass windows throughout the church. There is a 2009 St. Patrick’s ornament - great gift and remembrance for St. Patrick’s Day here in Savannah. All ornaments are $20 each.

Rejoice! Christ is Risen
College Retreat!
All college students and college-aged young adults are invited to attend our annual intercollegiate retreat where students come together to pray and worship. April 9-11th at Camp Grace Roberta, GA. To Sign up and for more information visit: http://diosav.org/campus-ministry/intercollegiate-retreat

Solemnity of St. Joseph is Friday, March 19th
Fourth Sunday of Lent

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23 | Eph 2:4-10 | Jn 3:14-21

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

We all have mementoes that we treasure – a handmade Mother’s Day card, a delicate glass sculpture inherited from a relative, perhaps a fine piece of woodwork or beautifully woven quilt. We treasure them because they remind us of someone we love. Now, think about that we are God’s “handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance!” Our God, rich in mercy, rich in love, treasures us so much that he created each of us in his image and gives each of us grace – a pure, free gift. As we look in the mirror, we may be tempted to see only our imperfections. But Paul reminds us that if we look at ourselves the way God does and accept the gift of his love and grace, and cooperate with it working in us, we can live in Christ in the here and now, by extending love and mercy to others, and in eternity, in God’s loving embrace.

GO EVANGELIZE
PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Reading the news and social media, the phrase in today’s Gospel that “people preferred darkness to light” seems as true now as it was in John’s time. Sinfulness and evil still cause great harm in our societies. The good news is that it is also as true for us as it was then that God sent his only Son, “not ... to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.” Clearly, the world is a work in progress. We are a work in progress. Yet today’s readings remind us that we can choose light over darkness by accepting the gift of faith and grace that our patient and merciful God bestows on us. It doesn’t mean that we should turn off the news or hide from the world, but instead do our part to bring light to the situations we encounter. We know the kingdom of God won’t be built in a day, or even a millennium, but we take a step toward building the Kingdom when we allow God’s light to enter our hearts and then share that light with others through our witness, words, and prayer.

GIVE
Choose light! Respond to a troubling event in your community or state by seeking a concrete way to help – donate to a local Catholic Charities or relief organization, or contact your parish about possibly organizing a donation effort.
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFERTORY

Offertory Mar. 7, 2021: $26,398.50
Offertory Mar. 8, 2020: $20,813.00

Children's Religious Education Schedule

Mar 14 - CLASS
Mar 21 - CLASS - Prayer Assembly; 7th & 8th Graders and Meet with confirmation Parents

NEW PARISHIONERS

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.

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
________________________________________
Telephone Number ________________
Email Address
________________________________________