



THE FOURTH EPISTLE SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH MOBILE, ALABAMA

The Reverend Thomas Heard, Rector
The Protestant Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
The Right Reverend James Russell Kendrick, Bishop

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June 2018

FROM THE RECTOR:

Dear Ones,

As has been our custom for several years, we commemorated the First Book of Common Prayer on a Wednesday following Whitsunday, The Day of Pentecost. This year, it happened to be the 23rd, Wednesday of Pentecost week.

We also did, according to our custom, use the setting for communion from that first Book of Common Prayer of 1549.

At the end of the service, several people commented on how little the people actually participated in the liturgy.

Until the 1979 edition, every edition of the Prayer Book in America presumes that Morning Prayer will precede Holy Communion. This is preserved as an option in the 1979 BCP, to use Morning Prayer as the Liturgy of the Word. One of the advantages is the native ability to include some of the canticles as responses to the readings. For me, the 1979 option actually hangs together better than its predecessors. The place of the Decalogue or the Summary of the Law at the start of the communion service just feels odd to me. But, I digress...

The 1549 BCP is a product of its time. The Reformation was moving on apace. Martin Luther, Huldrych Zwingli, and John Calvin were producing forms that kept the essentials of the Roman rite, but eliminated many ceremonial features. In Calvin's case, there were to be no commemorations of saints. Zwingli produced another version that eliminated music from the rite, as well as anything for which he was unable to find a scriptural basis.

Thomas Cranmer's 1549 version was widely unpopular. It was still pretty conservative and cloaked some of the private prayers of the priest with the recitation of all or part of Psalm 119.

Congregational participation was very limited. I think some of this is a result of the "privatization" of the mass. Beginning in the ninth century, much of the liturgy was said inaudibly by the priest alone. Remember, too, that there didn't have to be anyone else present for the priest to say mass. Even confession and creed recitations were said by the priest. I guess it is no wonder that the congregation (if present) became more of an audience. Herein is another change that occurred: the mass took on more of a performance character, and even the buildings began to conform to that type of venue.

By 1549, congregational participation was limited to responses, amens, the Gloria, and the Creed. The confession was said on behalf of all present, the Lord's Prayer, the Prayer of Humble Access, and the Postcommunion prayer were all said by the priest.

I wonder how many really remember the shape of the liturgy from the 1928 BCP? We've been using the 1979 edition for nearly forty years and for many, it is the only edition known.

The overarching concept in the 1979 BCP is the recovery of practices of the ancient church. For the most part that means before Constantine. The restoration of Baptism as full and complete Christian initiation finds its roots in the early church. The common life of the church was centered in the Sunday eucharist. The local church likely had a family feel to it: every one knew everyone else; all participated in the life of the community. We have fragments of early liturgies; they look remarkably like what we do today. I think we are much richer for it, even though we have barely scratched the surface of its true depth.

--Thomas

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JUNE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Saint Barnabas

We will commemorate Saint Barnabas the Apostle on Monday, 11 June at 12:10PM. Our first knowledge of Barnabas comes from Acts 4:36-37:

Thus Joseph who was surnamed by the apostles Barnabas (which means Son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, sold a field which belonged to him, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

His missionary efforts earned him the title of Apostle. Barnabas was from Cyprus, a Jew of the Diaspora. It was Barnabas who brought Paul to the Apostles in Jerusalem, testifying to Paul's experiences. He later settled in Antioch and sent for Paul to assist in leading the church there.

The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

On Monday, 25 June, we will observe the Feast of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist at 12:10PM. John the Baptist, one of the "Johns" commemorated in the main window in the chancel, is chronicled in all four of the Gospels. The son of Elizabeth and Zechariah, John was destined to be the herald of Jesus' ministry. John had his own crowd of disciples that followed him, calling people to repentance and baptizing them as a symbol of their new lives. John is remembered in Advent as Prophet and in Epiphany as the baptizer of Our Lord. In the Gospel of John, John the Baptist is the figure who declares Jesus to be "The Lamb of God."

Saint Peter and Saint Paul

On Friday, 29 June at 12:10PM, we will observe the Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. While sometimes at odds with each other, their joint leadership of the church is commemorated in remembering their martyrdom at Rome. Tradition holds that Peter was crucified head downward and Paul was beheaded, as befitted a Roman citizen.



The regular meeting of the Wardens and Vestry of Saint John's Church was called to order at 11:30AM by Fr. Heard.

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as submitted.

Connie McLean reviewed the financial performance. Income for April was \$12,676.71, against expenses of \$17,664.89. Connie remarked that Plate and Pledge was low for the month.

Connie also reported that the checking account balance is getting low. She researched the T. Rowe Price account we hold and recommended that the account be closed and the proceeds deposited in the checking account. The motion was unanimously approved.

Outreach will be providing books for Mobile Community Action Head Start. The books are on order and will be stickered before distribution in August.

The Parish Picnic will be held on 22 July at the church.

Fr. Heard reported the Garden Fund seems to have peaked. We did not reach the \$2400 goal, but have more than enough to replace the sprinkler system. The vestry voted to proceed with the replacement of the sprinkler system and to use the balance of the fund and our local resources to accomplish the garden makeover.

Fr. Heard reported that the sewer line serving the parish house has been inspected with a video camera and is rusted out in several places. This explains the repeated backup events we have experienced. The line is about eighty feet long and the camera submerged three or four times. The vestry voted to authorize Fr. Heard to get bids, select a contractor, and proceed with the replacement.

The Vestry approved plans to do a Book Sale to liquidate the remaining inventory and fixtures of Thee Store.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15PM with prayer.

PARISH LIFE



Saint John's celebrates the April birthdays of Paula Ross and Cookie Rich. (Photo by Irene Yeager)

Elsewhere in the Diocese

YARD SALE

Trinity, Mobile
Saturday, June 23

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Christ Church Cathedral
June 5 - 7; 9AM-12PM

St. Luke's, Mobile
June 11 - 15; 9AM-12PM

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Redeemer, Mobile
Every Wednesday, 5:00-6:30PM
Pay what you can. Dine-in only.

4TH SUNDAY POTLUCK: JUNE 24TH

...and now for something completely different.

The theme this month is "Bring Something Different". If you usually bring a salad... bring a dessert. If you usually bring an entrée... bring a veggie... If you usually bring a dessert... bring an entrée... get the picture? Let's mix it up and see what we get. No matter what you bring we know we will have delicious food and great fellowship.



THIS AND THAT

Congratulations go to Nicky Tarantole. Nicky entered a drawing in the PTA Reflections Art Contest at W. C. Griggs School, with the theme "Within Reach." His drawing was of the big bad wolf with his three little pigs all tied up. Nicky hit the theme right on. His drawing placed 1st at the school, 1st at the county level, and 2nd at state. Nicky is very proud of his certificates and medals and of being featured in a *Mobile Bay Parent* magazine article. Mother Jennifer is very proud of her 4th grader. Connie and Bob Anderson are the proud grandparents.

Scrip orders will be taken on June 10. They will be back on Sunday the 17th. Summer is a great time to eat out. We have cards from the elegant to the fast food restaurants. It's a good time for cook outs and other summer fun. Get a list from Bootsie and check out the options.



Let your Secret Prayer Partner know you are praying for their safe summer. Give them a smile by sending a card. Remember, YOU are a secret for now.

-Bootsie Cieutat

OUTREACH

THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE SPRING BREAK FOOD BOXES

Twenty-four boxes of food were distributed to families with young children. The boxes were delivered to the families on Maundy Thursday, the week before the public school Spring Break. The food in the boxes helped the families feed their children during the spring break holiday. Children who are home all day need lots of food!!

We partnered with Mobile Community Action Head Start for this project: they chose the recipients and their staff delivered the boxes.

The original plan was to fill twelve boxes but the Outreach Committee was given a generous donation to double the number of boxes we distributed. The donated money was used to purchase the food to fill the additional 12 boxes. The donations from the parish members filled 12 boxes, Outreach funds bought the hams, fruit and bread to go in the boxes.

From the Head Start Director, "Thank you St. John's for your generosity."

Outreach Committee



Saint John's says farewell to Wendy Cape.
Please stay in touch! Wendy's new address is:
338 Ransom Rd.
Winston-Salem, NC 27016



Bishop Russell Kendrick Visitation Ascension Day 2018



Photos by Nikki Shaw.

EPISCOPAL ASSET MAP

New York, NY, May 9, 2018 - The Episcopal Asset Map, an online platform showing the location and ministries of Episcopal churches, schools and other communities, has been revamped and refreshed with more-detailed information, easier access and ease of navigation.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry called the Asset Map “truly a tool, a resource” and points out that it has been “revised, expanded, updated, user-friendly and now includes virtually the entire Episcopal Church from the largest cathedral to the smallest house church.”

The Episcopal Asset Map is a joint project of the Episcopal Church and Episcopal Relief & Development. This innovative partnership tracks local ministries and shows the location and the array of ministries and programs offered by Episcopal congregations, schools and institutions throughout the Church. Nearly every diocese of the Episcopal Church is represented on the map as well as over 20 networks, such as Jubilee Ministries, the United Thank Offering, Ethnic Ministries, and Episcopal Camps and Conference Centers.

On the map, Episcopal Church institutions appear as pins, linked to a profile page with additional information about location, hours, facilities, programs and any photos or videos that have been shared and approved. Because the map is grassroots-populated, local congregations are able to post the most relevant and up-to-date information such as summer worship schedules or special programs that respond to the needs of the community.

“A website is a tool, but it takes you sharing the stories of our worship communities to make it effective and useful,” said Christopher Sikkema, Coordinator for Digital Evangelism. “We are excited to announce that in the weeks ahead, the “Find A Church” on www.episcopalchurch.org will be updated by the Asset Map. This move strongly demonstrates our focus on

evangelism: every Episcopalian taking the responsibility to tell the story of this diverse church of ours.”

Among the many updates to the Episcopal Asset Map are:

- ⇒ An updated user interface
- ⇒ Enhanced search capabilities
- ⇒ Improved abilities for networks across the Episcopal Church to display their data
- ⇒ Dedicated pages for Episcopal dioceses and networks to tell their stories and connect people with important contacts

“What remains the same is that the map allows us to tell the stories of the whole Church, highlight new and exciting ministries, and begin to understand more fully the ways the Holy Spirit is moving through the congregations, dioceses and networks of the Episcopal Church,” noted Katie Mears, Senior Director of Episcopal Relief & Development’s US Disaster Program. “I’m so excited that this map continues to highlight the presence, ministry and capacity of the church both on normal days, but also after a disaster. We are already seeing dioceses and regions use this information as they plan disaster responses.”

For more information about the Episcopal Asset Map, visit www.episcopalassetmap.org. A short video is also available in English and in Spanish.





Connie Anderson	06/03	Emily Johnston	06/10
Neva Bache	06/05	Ron Waites	06/12
Joan-Marie Elam	06/05	Connie McLean	06/16
Jerry Fulford	06/07		



David & Kim Partsch	06/06
David & Mary Jones	06/12
Bob & Mary Sheffield	06/28
Neil & Marie McPhail	06/30



For healing grace and continued strength, we pray for our members:

Mac Pearce, David Rich, Joyce Lee, Neil McPhail, Marian Boykin, Ron Brown, Jayson Chestang, Budd McLean.

For our Homebound:

Bea Brown, Joan-Marie Elam, LaVerne Foster, Mary Catherine Warren, Chick Wohlert.

For victims of war and their families, and members of our Armed Forces and their families:

Marcus Rich, Ross Hussman, Josh Vernor, Ellis Garner, Eric Mattoon.

For our Friends and Family:

Georgia Morrison, Rolf & Cheryl McInnis, David Green, Laurie Williams, Melanie Boulter, Ted & Sadie McGill, Larry Kent, Frank Thompson, Tiffany Matthews, Betty White, Starley Anderson, Augusta Wombaugh, Betty Williams, Lee Bert Benbow, Eddie Chubb, Kelley Lynd, Kay Barnes, Latecia Cushion Knight, Evia Daniel, Charles Geck, Jerry Wigfield, Karen Davis, Mary Jo Vinson, Bonnie Jernigan, Kaye Turner, Katelynn Tillman, Britney Butler, Angie Leon, Johnny Leon, Neal Tourné, Sandy & Ray Michel, Connor Crist, Paul Nelson, Krystal Hiatt, Elias Bates, Mark Stiber.



New church directories are available for pickup in the Great Hall. Please let us know in the office if there are any additional changes.

Contact Us

Staff:

The Reverend Thomas Heard, *rector*
rector@stjohnsmobile.org

Louis Daniel
 Organist & Choir Director
music@stjohnsmobile.org

Lella Lowe
 Financial Secretary
finance@stjohnsmobile.org

Jack Ruppe
 Sexton

Vestry:

Darren Anderson

Janet Buckley, *clerk*

James Christiansen, *junior warden*

Cindy Gass, *senior warden*

Kathe Gieseler

Jan Joseph

Connie McLean, *treasurer*

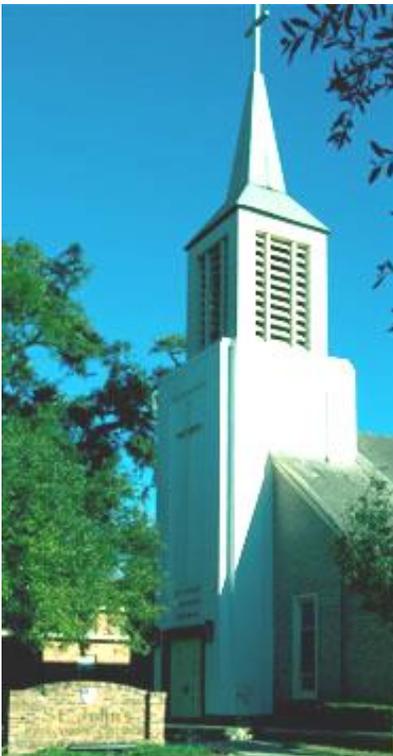
Nikki Shaw

Ron Waites

Saint John's Episcopal Church
 1707 Government Street
 Mobile, Alabama 36604

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Come Worship With Us!

Monday—Friday:

8:30AM Morning Prayer

Sunday:

9:00AM Adult and Youth Christian
 Formation

10:00AM Holy Eucharist

Wednesday:

10:00AM Holy Eucharist;
 Healing on the 1st
 Wednesday of the month.

Other Feasts and Holy Days are
 observed throughout the year; please
 see our website for the latest schedule.

Parish Office

Monday-Thursday
 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Telephone: 251-479-5474

Fax: 251-473-1230

www.stjohnsmobile.org

SAINT JOHN'S: THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN MIDTOWN MOBILE
 Grounded in shared sacramental life and moving into the world
 to be the hands of Our Lord.