

The Herald

May 13, 2012

6th Sunday of Easter

From the Rector: Of Being Saved 2.0

My post last week “Of Being Saved” got a record response either directly on the blog site or via private e-mail. One astute observer noted that what I had to say must have “touched a nerve,” so I thought I would expound on the topic again this week. Let me first reiterate that salvation has to do chiefly with the human community and not with the individual, which renders the phrase, “Jesus my personal savior,” incomprehensible. The notion of “personal” salvation is a relatively modern term...modernity being an era in which self interest has become the rubric under which we live. It is my observation that the theology of personal salvation begets exclusivity and judgmentalism: the notion that unless one believes as I believe, or the way my particular group believes... unless one knows the Jesus that I know, then one’s faith is erroneous.

Let me say again that faith is not an adherence to a set of Dogmatics or an assent to a particular belief system...faith is a sense of connection to a larger whole, a sense of relevancy and purpose, that moves us into the practice of God-likeness, the practice of the good...The writer of the Gospel of John calls it, “laying down ones’ life”...faith is not static but on the move. Faith is “acting as if,” as one responder put it...acting as if this way of the Christ, this way of compassion and mercy and justice...this way of raising up those who are beset by the indignities of our world...this way of nonviolence...this way of raising the dead of our world to life...Faith is acting as if this gospel vision, this promise of God’s imminent egalitarian kingdom is true. Belief evolves, as it ever has, and as it ever will. There is no such thing as an in stone doctrine other than to practice the way of Christ which is in a very intimate and mystical way to “know” Christ. When one “accepts” Jesus as our evangelical culture likes to put it, they best be prepared to know what they are getting into. Jesus is not a personal genie who capriciously grants wishes to some and not to others...but Jesus is the archetype of a way of life...not only the lens through whom we see God...but also the lens through whom God sees us...the true humanity...humanity that recognizes ourselves as one organism. (Indeed, we evolved from the same source...we are in fact all related on this planet, chemically, genetically.) And if one organism...it follows that until all are saved then the whole of us are not saved.

Therefore God’s project of salvation has to do with the whole of humanity, and I don’t mean our going out into the world as the faithful to huckster a belief system...the saved are the ones in this world who live in “well being” (in freedom and with food and water and shelter and amid nonviolence and in a relatively just community, and empowered with agency, that is, empowered to make change happen). As I mentioned before the word salvation in scripture is a socio-economic and political term...so under that rubric, in today’s world at least two thirds of our world are the unsaved...those are the ones who live without a sense of well being, who live in abasement and fear, and ill health, lacking basic necessities to which all are entitled...Those are the ones to whom we are sent...we the raised body of Christ, the people of the Way...the people who “act as if.” We go into the world as agents of change...changing the structures of our society that would disadvantage or disenfranchise the least of us. Therefore, for example, the work of salvation has everything to do with our engaging the health-care debate...the efficacy of our schools...the intractable troubles in our prison system...the immigration debate...not to mention the structures of power that belie the dignity of the human community around the planet.

God’s gracious commonweal...God’s gracious favor is for all...and the work of salvation is to share that favor with our neighbor...Salvation is nothing short of a socio-economic reordering of our common life on this planet in which power, well being and agency at the top of the socio-economic, and political pyramid is shared with the whole of humanity...Read the Magnificat in Luke, and you will hear the vital, the radical song of Salvation .

On the Calendar:

Tuesday, May 8

NO St. Michael choir
6pm Rector’s Forum

Wednesday, May 9

9:15am L’Arche (Chapel)
12N Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
12N Debtors Anonymous (DA)
4pm Sts Michael & Cecelia
Choirs - last rehearsal
7pm Adult Choir

Thursday, May 10

12N Al-Anon
7pm AA

Saturday, May 12

9am Garden Work Day
10:30am PFLAG
2:30pm L’Arche (Nursery)

Sunday, May 13

8am Holy Eucharist
9am Breakfast
9:20am Sunday School
10:30am Holy Eucharist - Senior
Sunday
Reception following

Wednesday, May 16

9:15am L’Arche (Chapel)
12N Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
12N Debtors Anonymous (DA)
7pm Adult Choir

Thursday, May 17

8:30am Food Share prep
10am Food Share signup
12N Al-Anon
6pm Taizé & potluck
7pm AA

Friday, May 18

5:15pm Food Share packing
5:30pm Wedding rehearsal

Saturday, May 19

8am Food Share distribution
5:30pm Wedding

The Rector's Forum has changed its schedule slightly. The next session is this Tuesday night, May 8, at 6pm for potluck supper, and following with discussion at 6:30. The next meeting will be May 22. The group will be reading and discussing *Freedom in Obedience*, a new book by William Stringfellow. Everyone is invited!

The Choirs of St. Michael and St. Cecelia will rehearse together on Wednesday, May 9 at 4pm, and will sing at the 10:30am service on May 13. There will be no more rehearsals until the Fall. Join us at 10:30 to hear their marvelous voices!

The garden needs some TLC! Layweeders and other gardeners are invited to a Garden Work Day at the church on Saturday, May 12, at 9am. Please bring your gloves, gardening tools and plenty of water to drink. Summer is upon us!

Senior Sunday

This Sunday, May 13, we will recognize our high school seniors during the 10:30 service. Each senior will be presented with a certificate and the congregation will bless them as they begin new chapters in their lives. Our seniors are: Tory Cleverdon, John Hill Hennessy, Kate Kelly, Grace Williams, Sarah Williams, and Conrad Wiley.

Help for the Service Center

The Mobile Bay Bears Baseball team is sponsoring a "Service Center Night" to benefit The Service Center of Catholic Social Services. Monday, May 14, anyone bringing a donation of a needed item for The Service Center will receive a free ticket to the Bay Bears vs. the Chattanooga Lookouts game at 7:05 pm. Suggested items are infant disposable diapers, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, paper towels or toilet paper and basic school supplies. The free tickets are provided through the courtesy of Remington College. For more information call 434-1510, go to www.servicecentercss.org or email Volunteercoord@mobilecss.org.

Dear Friends of the Mobile Christian-Jewish Dialogue: Please join us for the first in a series of occasional visits to local houses of worship: **VESPERS AT THE ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**, Wednesday, May 23rd, at 5:30 pm, 50 South Ann Street. Following the service refreshments will be served. Registration is requested, but not required (for the sake of preparation). Please call 438-9888. As always, participation in Dialogue events is open to all and without charge. We look forward to seeing you!

The May Taizé service will be held on Thursday, May 17, at 6pm in the Chapel, followed by potluck supper in the Saad Room. Come join us!

Food Share in May will begin with food delivery and unpacking on Thursday, May 17 at 8:30am. On Friday, May 18, packing begins at 5:15pm in Stirling Hall, and food distribution is at 8am on Saturday morning, May 19. Mark your calendars to help in this vital ministry.

Youth Sunday School classes will finish on Sunday, May 20, and resume again in the Fall. We will recognize and thank our teachers that morning. Please thank them for their hard work when you see them!

The Friday Night Supper Club

will have its last meeting of the year at the home of Nancy Lancaster, 2933 Quail Creek Run, on May 18 at 7:00 p.m. Please phone Nancy at 602-1855 to let her know what you will bring...OR...to let her know that you are unable to attend.

The Thursday Night Supper Club

will meet on May 24 at the home of Ray & Stella Hester, 1107 Palmetto Street at 6:30pm. Please call the Hesters at 415-3127 to let them know if you will be there. Everyone is invited!

Jean Dodge

has been awarded an Alumni Distinguished Service Award for 2012 at Virginia Tech University. Jean earned bachelor's degrees in sociology and political science in 1974 and was the university's first female class president. In addition to serving as class president, Jean was selected as Virginia Tech's Undergraduate Woman of the Year in 1974, served as Student Government Association President *pro tempore*, and was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Alpha Kappa Delta, and the American Association of University Women. She went on to earn a law degree from the University of Virginia in 1977. Jean will be sharing the stage at graduation this weekend with First Lady Michelle Obama, who will be speaking. Congratulations, Jean!



Family Promise® of Coastal Alabama

Building Communities,
Strengthening lives.

Family Promise of Coastal Alabama Presents...

2012 Dancing with the Clergy

Dinner, Dancing and Silent Auction

This entertaining fundraiser benefits Family Promise's mission to serve homeless families with children. Four clergy couples will compete in this spoof of "Dancing with the Stars".



Date: Friday, May 11th, 2012

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Dauphin Way United Methodist Church
1507 Dauphin Street (corner Catherine & Dauphin)

Ticket Costs: \$25 per person

Heart of Gold Tables (front row): \$500

All Other Tables (8 per table): \$200.00

Tickets & Information

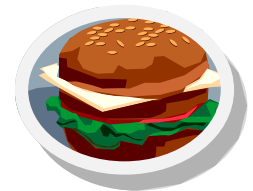
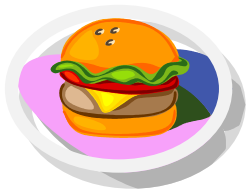
Contact: (251) 441-1991

Email: familypromiseal@bellsouth.net



announcing: burgers for beckwith!

- Who: Everybody!
- When: Sunday, May 20, following the 10:30 service
- What: Lunch—burgers, side dishes and drinks
- Where: Stirling Hall
- Why: To raise money to support Special Ministries campers at Beckwith
- How: sign up on Sunday or email Mary Holbrook (mary@allsaintsmobile.org)
- \$\$: suggested donation is \$10 per adult and \$5 for children under 12



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Vacation Bible School July 23-27, 2012

Focus on the Faithful

9am-12noon
ks - 5th grade
stirling hall

438-2492 or asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org to register

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Sunday, May 13, 2012

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Lessons

[Acts 10:44-48](#)

[1 John 5:1-6](#)

[Psalm 98](#)

[John 15:9-17](#)

The Collect of the Day

God of abiding love, you choose us as your servants and dare to call us friends: take our fragmented hearts, commanding them to love, making whole our joy, our life reborn in you; through Jesus Christ, who laid down his life for us. Amen.

Those Who Serve

Altar Guild: Jeff Clearman, Martha Harris, Julie Praytor, Ellen Wingard, Rosemary Williams

Bread bakers: Beth Hardaway, Lillian Carsten

Flower Guild: Burl Ratcliffe, Becky Wilson

Breakfast: Jean Tucker, Burl Ratcliffe, Robert Rodriguez, Kay Montgomery

Reception: Wyll Lewis, Greg Miles

8:00am

Lector: Jeff Clearman

Intercessors: Joe Basenberg

Chalice: Serena Willcox

Ushers: Will English, Pete Mackey

Greeter: Renee Dillard

10:30am

Lectors: Rob Gray, Valerie Mitchell

Intercessor: Martha Harris

Chalices: Ben Harris, Jan Irving

Acolytes: Ben Foster, Douglas Greene, Brendan Williams, Danner Butler

Ushers: Louie Wood, Henry Callaway, Michael Morrison

Music for Sunday

The Choirs of St. Michael & All Angels and St. Cecelia sing the service this Sunday

Voluntary Felix Mendelssohn *Prelude in G Major Op.37, No. 2*

Processional Hymn 191 *Lux coi*

John Rutter S-236 *Benedictus es, Domine*

Daniel Pinkham *Psalm 98*

Sequence Hymn 456 *de Tar*

Offertory Anthem Barry Rose *Risen Lord*

Presentation Hymn 705 *Forest Green*

Gabriel Fauré *Messe Basse, Sanctus and Benedictus qui venit*

Mason Martens S-148 *The Lord's Prayer*

Jeffrey Rickard *Christ our Passover*

Communion Hymn 204 *Noël nouvelet*

Motet Simon Lole *The Father's Love*

Post Communion Hymn 292 *Kingsfold*

Processional Felix Mendelssohn *Allegro Vivace (Sonata I Op. 65, No.1)*

Please keep in your prayers:

✚ For healing:

Katie Hammond

John Stephens

the Hale triplets

David Barrineau

David Hicks

Ann Wilson Wesley

Johnny Madden

Carson Owens & family

Thelma McMillan

Ann Tiffin Greer-Cowden

Amy Krecker

Sarah

Brian Hammond

Heather and family

Jason Cummins

Martha Collier

Wayne Smith

Martha Robert

JoAnn Pappas

Tripp Tate Diedrich

Martha Rose Hester

Dunn Chandler

Geoff Peach

Scott Podstata

Abraham Kuol

Becky Boulter

Roy Muth

Jim Gray

Jane Arnau

Jessica Montalvo-Lopez

Gregg Pounds

Evina Valera

Ed Givhan

Iris Prosch

Jerry

Richard Melton

Martha Murdock

LaNiece Bland

Lamar Elledge

Sharon Cleverdon

Mike Downing

Patsy Childress

Anna Marie Brown

Laura

✚ For those who serve in the armed forces:

Spencer Abbot

Matt Abbot

Jonathan Carter

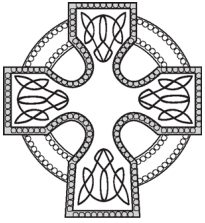
Kyle Metcalf

DeMario Snead

Randy Johnson

Jordan Caturia

Joseph Willcox



All Saints Church

151 SOUTH ANN STREET
MOBILE, AL 36604

www.allsaintsmobile.org

Clergy

The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan II, Bishop

Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

The Rev. James B. Flowers, Jr., Rector

rector@allsaintsmobile.org

Office: 438.2492 Home: 436.8932

The Rev. Mary C. Robert, Assistant Rector

asstrector@allsaintsmobile.org

Office: 438.2492 Home: 479.7398

All Saints Church Staff

Jeff Clearman, Principal Parish Musician

jeff@allsaintsmobile.org

Mary Holbrook, Financial Administrator

mary@allsaintsmobile.org

Office Volunteer

office@allsaintsmobile.org

Irene Raymond, Parish Sexton

Gretchen Thiel and Christa Harkins, Nursery Workers

Liz & Scott Kirby, Directors of Youth Ministries

All Saints 2012 Vestry

Joe Basenberg

Ricky Bradford, Jr Warden

Henry Callaway, Sr Warden

Valerie Case

Harold Dodge

Elizabeth Doyle

Rob Gray

James Hamilton

Woody Hannum

Amy Hunter

Emily Kelley

Don Mosley

Diana Nichols, Clerk

Jean Tucker

Darrel Williams

Curt Doyle, Treasurer

All Saints Committee Chairs

Acolytes: The Rev. Mary Robert

Addiction & Recovery: Becky Wilson

Adult Christian Education: The Rev. Jim Flowers

Altar Guild: Betty Bentley, Melanie Petithory

Choirs: Jeff Clearman

Communications: The Rev. Mary Robert

Community Ministries: Matt McDonald

Constitution & By Laws: Pete Mackey

Episcopal Youth (EYC): Liz & Scott Kirby

Finance Committee: Curt Doyle

Flower Guild: Katharine Flowers

Food Share: Mark Taylor, Burl Ratchliffe

Golden Circle: Laura Rutherford, Wylly Stirling

Hospitality & Events: Jean Tucker

IHN/Family Promise: Henry Brewster

Lay Eucharistic Visitors: Bill Evatt

Lectors, Intercissors & Chalice Ministers: The Rev. Mary Robert

Long-Range Planning: Curt Doyle

Nursery: Elizabeth Doyle, Amy Hunter, Jim Ayres

Parish Development: Clark Kelly

Property: Ricky Bradford

Refugees: Martha Harris

Ushers: Harold Dodge, Louie Wood

Stewardship: Woody Hannum, All Saints Vestry

Wedding Guild: Betty Bentley

Youth Christian Education: The Rev. Mary Robert

All Saints Episcopal Church

151 South Ann Street, Mobile, AL 36604 www.allsaintsmobile.org

Service Schedule

Sundays	8:00 am Holy Eucharist
	9:00 am Breakfast
	9:20 am Christian Education Classes (during school year)
	10:30 am Holy Eucharist
Wednesdays	12 Noon Holy Eucharist (Chapel)