



ALL SAINTS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Herald

February, 2015

Epiphany / Lent

From the Rector: Come On, Father

Judge Ginny Granade's ruling striking down Alabama's gay marriage ban seemed to come out of nowhere. Truth has a way of doing that. Perhaps it's because we don't get a regular newspaper anymore. Maybe I wasn't paying close attention, but it seemed the other media outlets gave the impending ruling little thought. But what a seismic shift in the way of things. What a step toward a more mature and gracious society. Mature, yes. What a cause for celebration! I was watching a local television news broadcast a few nights after the ruling. The news anchor prefaced the segment by saying that "local clergy" were weighing in on the ruling. That of course caught my attention. I was fearful about what might be

said in the name of the church. Sure enough a local priest stated that to bless same sex unions "denigrates" the institution of marriage.... How sad... how shameful.... how willfully ignorant. Good father, go ahead and say what you mean... that homosexual people aren't worthy of the dignity granted to the rest of us. What about the Gospel do you not understand? As I read scripture, it is central to Jesus' teachings for us as people of God, people of conscience, to stand against shame and indignity in any form it takes. Justice and dignity always trump social convention; justice and dignity always trump "religious" convention as well.

Given the mass (no pun intended) exodus from mainstream Christianity over the last several decades, one would think the church and the clergy thereof would be on their knees thanking God that there are still people in the world who want the church's blessing; that for some the church is still relevant. Is the church not first and foremost in the blessing business? We should be honored.

Over the past recent years I, like many of you, have become increasingly cynical as to how well our system of government functions.... the gridlock in congress; decisions of the court that undermine civil rights, that favor the rich over the poor. But every now and then our system of government has shining moments of genius; every now and then our government rises above ignorance and prejudice and fear, and serves the common good. This decision is one of those moments, and I for one rejoice in it. Wouldn't it be something to behold if the church could, or would, rise to such genius as well. Come on, father.

We are taught duly in Hebrew scripture and in New Testament literature to love the stranger among us; and warned to pay attention to our xenophobic tendencies; that in God's alchemy, we love God and we love ourselves by loving the stranger. Our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters have for far too long been shamed as the stranger among us. By loving them and celebrating their lives among us we move as the human community one step closer towards the wholeness God intends for our world. As a priest of the church I rejoice in this courageous step in righting a grievous wrong. We are all made in God's image. It is high time we started acting like it.



The Episcopal Church welcomes you

Christianity Today Adult Class

The Christianity Today adult education class is currently watching and discussing a series of talks by theologian and scholar Marcus Borg on "The Pre-Easter Jesus." Borg says it is important for Christians to distinguish the pre-Easter Jesus from the post-Easter Jesus. He teaches that the pre-Easter Jesus means the historical Jesus, Jesus of Nazareth, a first-century Galilean Jew who is a figure of the past. The post-Easter Jesus means what Jesus became after his death, the Jesus of Christian experience and tradition. In Christian experience people continue to experience Jesus as a living reality, as a figure of the present, and as a spiritual living divine reality. And in the Christian tradition, Jesus is increasingly spoken of as a divine reality and eventually seen as "very God of very God."

Borg describes the pre-Easter Jesus in five broad strokes. He says that Jesus was a:

---Jewish mystic/spirit person: One of those figures in human history who had frequent and vivid experiences of the sacred.

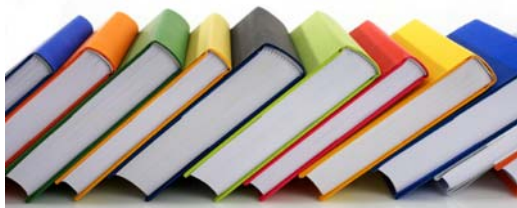
---Jewish healer: The historical evidence that Jesus performed paranormal healings is very strong; he must have been a remarkable healer.

---Jewish wisdom teacher: He taught a subversive and alternative wisdom.

---Jewish social prophet: Jesus stands in the tradition of the great social prophets of ancient Israel who challenged social systems.

---Jewish movement founder/initiator: A movement came into existence around him which embodied his alternative wisdom.

The talks total 4 hours and the class will watch the videos for about the next six Sundays. The class meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Walter K. Smith room, and all are invited to attend.



Books Too Adult Class

The "Books Too" group is discussing *The Spirituality of Imperfection* by Ernest Kurtz and Katherine Ketcham. This book combines an exploration of the world's spiritual traditions with the framework of AA's 12 step program. It is readily available in paperback. If you would like help finding a copy, contact Woody Hannum, ehannum@southalabama.edu "Books Too" welcomes anyone who is interested in the book we are reading and would like to participate in our discussions.

Altar Flowers

Would you like to give the altar flowers one Sunday, perhaps in memory or in honor of someone, in thanksgiving for something, or simply to the glory of God? If you are interested, call Dara Walker (438-2492) to select a date. The Flower Guild takes care of creating the arrangement. The cost is \$60, and, as a donation to the church, it is tax deductible.



Rector's Forum

The Rector's Forum continues on Tuesdays with potluck supper at 6pm, followed by discussion beginning at 6:30pm. In February, the Forum will meet on Feb. 10 and Feb. 24. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Tai Chi

Tai Chi classes are held in Stirling Hall on Mondays at 6pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.



Food Share in February will be on Saturday, Feb. 21. Come help pack food bags at 7:30am on Saturday morning just before the distribution at 8am. We'll pack the food, distribute it, and finish by 8:30.

The Refugee Pantry

During February, we are collecting dish soap, laundry detergent and toothpaste for the pantry. Please put it by the volunteer desk on Sundays or drop it off M-F during office hours.

Bishop Walkabouts

The walkabout to listen and learn about the nominees for the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, held last week at St. Paul's, Daphne, was well-attended by All Saints folks. If you weren't able to attend, you can watch the videos of the four candidates from any or all of the walkabouts (Dothan, Monroeville, Daphne) online by clicking [here](#).

If you would like to read about the candidates, click [here](#) for the "Walkabout Brochure."

The final step in selecting a new bishop will be the election during the Diocesan Convention which will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, Mobile, Feb. 19-21. The election itself will be on Saturday, Feb. 21. All Saints delegates are Henry Callaway, Chris Conte, Rose Ellen Stanbery and Clayton Ryan.

At this election there will be two voting machines, one for lay delegates and one for clergy delegates; the delegates will vote "by orders." A nominee must receive a majority of votes in both orders to be elected. The election will be streamed to the Bishop Search website: bishopsearch.diocgc.com.

Ash Wednesday

Between Mardi Gras and the Diocesan Convention, there is the beginning of Lent, otherwise known as Ash Wednesday. This day is a day of fasting and special devotion. There will be two Ash Wednesday services with the Imposition of Ashes - one at 12Noon in the Chapel and one at 6pm in the Church. Everyone is welcome.



February Lectionary Readings

Sunday, February 1
Epiphany 4
[Deuteronomy 18:15-20](#)
[Psalm 111](#)
[1 Corinthians 8:1-13](#)
[Mark 1:21-28](#)

Sunday, February 8
Epiphany 5
[Isaiah 40:21-31](#)
[Psalm 147:1-12, 21c](#)
[1 Corinthians 9:16-23](#)
[Mark 1:29-39](#)

Sunday, February 15
Last Sun. after Epiphany
[2 Kings 2:1-12](#)
[Psalm 50:1-6](#)
[2 Corinthians 4:3-6](#)
[Mark 9:2-9](#)

Sunday, February 22
First Sunday in Lent
[Genesis 9:8-17](#)
[Psalm 25:1-9](#)
[1 Peter 3:18-22](#)
[Mark 1:9-15](#)

February Birthdays			
1 Caroline Buerger	13 Allan Tucker	20 Meg Caldwell	26 Paula Reeves
2 Danielle Juzan	15 Charlotte Hall	20 Laura Hampton Greene	28 Hayley Praytor
2 Owen Burce	16 Rob Nichols	21 Gillian Ayres	28 Thomas Praytor IV
6 Annette Dove	16 Avery Kelly	22 Johnna Rogers	29 Richard Coarsey
10 Donnie Barnett	17 Martha Durant	24 Roger Franklin	
10 Kim Gray	18 Hank Caddell	25 Bill Evatt	
11 Ari Moore	18 Douglas Greene	25 Renea Greene	

If we have inadvertently left your birthday off of the list, please call the office (438-2492) to let us know. We will add your birthday to the church database.

Prayer List

✚For healing for: Chris Meztizta, Jr, Marie Ramange, Adele Fay, Elliott Roberds, Charlie Park, Vickie Nolen, Will, Emily Mosley, Mary Louise Durant Downing, Roger Franklin, John Simmance, Elaine Goodwin, Erin Grimm, Margaret Smith, Edgar Caten, Connie Robert, Gayle Parsons, Cheryl Thompson, Colleen, Neil McMillan, Selena Reed, Italy June Spratt, Larry Woods, Davis Sarrett, Dave Autin, Cora Cade-Lemmon, Lisa, William Dotch, Allan Tucker, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Betty Carver, Jay Waltman, Brenda Payne, Bill & Sarah Mair, Ann Thublin, Frances, Louise, Dorothy, David Hicks, Tom, Taylor Parton, Joe, James Riley, Charlotte Grubbs, David French Bacon III, Gerald Pockl, Laura, Sandy Kaynor & family, Robin & Ginny Heilbron, Charlotte Orr, Steve Doan, Clinton Wilson, Robert Doyle, Mary Lou Peake, Nancy, Larry Preul, Danny Moreau, Tommy Langan, Ann, John Stephens, Alisha, Sybil Wilson, Howard Young, Terrance Ulmer, Opal Berry, Cora Teague, Josh Watson, Kay Myers, the White family, Sharon, Katie Hammond, Achol Guet, Barbara Blum-Barnett, Caroline Fletcher, Mackenzie Petersen, Nancy Quittmeyer, Regina Slayton, Steven Bodiford, Mitch Price, Austin Brown, Heather and family, Martha Collier, Dunn Chandler, Evina Valera, Ed Givhan, Sharon Cleverdon, Patsy Childress, Anna Marie Brown, Laura

✚For those who serve in the armed forces, especially Spencer Abbot, Matt Abbot, DeMario Snead, S.T. Heath, Forrest Brewster, Stephen Rollins

✚For peace in the world

Please mark your calendars right away with the dates you are to serve!
 If you cannot be present for the date you are scheduled, please get a substitute and let the church office know who it is. 438-2492.

Lay Ministers for February 2015

Date	Time	Lector	Intercessor	Chalice	Acolytes	Ushers	Vestry Greeter	Altar Guild	Bread Bakers	Flower Guild	Breakfast	Godly Play Doorkeeper	Reception
Feb 1 4th Sun. after the Epiphany	8am	L Hallett	J Clearman	M Taylor		J Basenberg B Case		B Bentley P Reeves C Ryan	B Hardaway L Carsten	J Tucker B Wilson	J Clearman M Harris S Cleveland B Evatt	CL Taylor	R Williams M Morrison
	1030 am	A Blair B Woodmansee	M Harris	M Elledge B Bentley	D Williams A Atem H Gardner	C Doyle D Greene D Greene	V Mitchell						
Feb 8 5th Sun. after the Epiphany	8am	J Basenberg	L Hallett	L Van Dyke		P Mackey F South				B Bentley R Bradford	C Mackey V Case B Schneider K Kelly D Mosley	K Flowers	
	1030 am	M Kelley F Hannum	B Barrett	L Thomas N Lancaster	Em Doyle El Doyle N Hamilton	M Williams C Conte J Hamilton	C Kelly						
Feb 15 Last Sun. after the Epiphany	8am	P Wilson	B Evatt	TBA		R Dillard W Hannum				B Brewster K Butler	J Tucker B Ratcliffe K Montgomery M Winkler		F Rouse K McKenzie
	1030 am	H Caddell E Kelley	D Foster	B Hardaway M Morrison	SF Greene C Mosley A Atem	D Mosley H Brewster B Hines	V Mitchell						
Feb 22 1st Sun. in Lent	8am	MH Slaton	J Basenberg	S Willcox		B & B Evatt						MS Stephens	
	1030 am	B Hardaway E Valera	F Rouse	B Harris R LaMonte	M Morrison L Snow H Snow	L Wood H Caddell M Elledge J Rivers	E LaMonte				S Drew E Doyle	K Flowers R Greene C Ryan	



February 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>4th Sun. after Epiphany</i> 8a Holy Eucharist 9a Breakfast 9:20 Sunday School 9:30 Adult Classes 10:30a Holy Eucharist Reception follows	2	3	4 9:15a L'Arche –chapel 12N Holy Eucharist 7p Adult Choir	5 12N AI-Anon 4p Senior Choristers 7p AA, Smith Rm	6	7
8 <i>5th Sun. after Epiphany</i> 8a Holy Eucharist 9a Breakfast 9:20 Sunday School 9:30 Adult Classes 10:30a Holy Eucharist Reception follows	9	10 4p Junior Choristers 6p Rector's Forum	11 9:15a L'Arche –chapel 12N Holy Eucharist 7p Adult Choir	12 12N AI-Anon 4p Senior Choristers 7p AA, Smith Rm	13	14 10:30a PFLAG
15 <i>Last Sun. after Epiphany</i> 8a Holy Eucharist 9a Breakfast 9:20 Sunday School 9:30 Adult Classes 10:30a Holy Eucharist Reception follows	16 12N Office closes at noon	17 <i>Mardi Gras</i> Office Closed	18 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 9:15a L'Arche –chapel 12N Ash Wednesday service 6p Ash Wednesday service 7p Adult Choir	19 12N AI-Anon 7p AA, Smith Rm Diocesan Convention	20	21 7:30a Food Share
22 <i>1st Sun. in Lent</i> 8a Holy Eucharist 9a Breakfast 9:20 Sunday School 9:30 Adult Classes 10:30a Holy Eucharist Reception follows	23 6p Vestry mtg	24 4p Junior Choristers 6p Rector's Forum 6p 15 Place Board mtg	25 9:15a L'Arche –chapel 12N Holy Eucharist 6p Lenten Supper & Program 7:30p Adult Choir	26 12N AI-Anon 4p Senior Choristers 7p AA, Smith Rm	27	28



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
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The Rev. Mary C. Robert, Assistant Rector
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The Rev. Ruth B. LaMonte, Priest Associate
rblamonte@aol.com
Home: 251.928.4631

All Saints Church Staff

Jeff Clearman, Principal Parish Musician
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Dara Walker, Financial Administrator
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Office Volunteers
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Burl Ratcliffe, Parish Sexton
sexton@allsaintsmobile.org
Annie Maisel and Nyirou Kuot, Nursery Staff

All Saints 2015 Vestry

Cecil Gardner, Senior Warden
Clayton Ryan, Junior Warden
Hank Caddell Richard Coarsey
Chris Conte Elizabeth Jenkins
Clark Kelly Ed LaMonte
Barbara Michell Valerie Mitchell
Burl Ratcliffe Jana Simpson
Rose Ellen Stanbery Evi Valera
Pete Wilson
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
Caring Committee: Beth Hardaway
Choirs: Jeff Clearman
Community Ministries: Matt McDonald
Constitution & By Laws: Pete Mackey
Finance Committee: Curt Doyle
Flower Guild: Katharine Flowers
Food Share: Mark Taylor, Burl Ratcliffe
Golden Circle: Wylly Stirling, Mary Hunter Slaton
Hospitality & Events: Jean Tucker
IHN/Family Promise: Henry Brewster
Lay Eucharistic Visitors: Beth Hardaway
Lectors, Intercessors & Chalice Ministers: The Rev. Mary Robert
Long-Range Planning: Curt Doyle
Nursery: Elizabeth Doyle, Amy Hunter
Parish Development: Clark Kelly
Property: Ricky Bradford
Refugees: Martha Harris
Ushers: Harold Dodge, Louie Wood
Stewardship: Richard Coarsey, 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)