

All Saints' Herald

May
2023

Newsletter of
All Saints Anglican Parish
Aiken, South Carolina

A Parish of the
Anglican Catholic Church
Diocese of the South

From My Notebook...



Made in the Image of God from Conception Yet We Quibble over his Existence

By Fr. Alexander

Quibble, quibble, quibble. That's what we humans being do. Quibble.

But what if we took time away from quibbling and looked at our world in light of the vastness of the universe?

Can we even imagine how immense, remarkable, just wonderous is our universe?

As we gaze upon the stars in the dark sky, or just take a close up look at the wonders of Nature, the world that surrounds us on this little planet that nestles in a vast, incomprehensible universe, what runs through our minds?

Why are there Laws of Nature? Or the laws that govern human relations or societies, or communities, even nations?

What constitutes good? What is the origin of evil?

What is the source of all Creation?

Is there a God? Who is God? How do we even know there is a God?

Oh, how the questions go on and on, not the least of which is: Why do we worship God or any deity? What drives us morally?

Why and how do we know there is a right and a wrong? When does life in the form of a child begin, and why does it matter?

Just a few of the questions that keep popping up in the course of our lives, that is, if we take the time to think about this whole concept that there is something greater than we "mere" human beings.

Science and astronomy, on the one hand, have put into perspective that we are, in comparison to the universe, infinitesimally small, while, on the other hand, science itself has given us so much knowledge that we also see ourselves as greater than we actually are.

But science still leaves a lot of questions unanswered — however, what puts it all into perspective is religion.

Why religion? Well, because it is the belief in something greater than ourselves that causes us to consider who we really are in this great universe — why are we here; how were we created; who or what created us; when does life begin; what happens to us when our life ceases on this earth?

And in the big debate today over abortion are such issues as: are we just tissue and cells to be disposed of at will from the moment of conception until well after we are born; what freedom should we have to dispose of those cells and tissue and when; and what moral

Services & Meetings

Monday the 1st....

Sts. Philip & James, Apostles & Martyrs: Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday the 3rd....

Invention of the Holy Cross: Evening Prayer at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday the 9th....

Vestry meets at 5:15 p.m.

Wednesday the 10th....

Lenten Feria: Holy Communion at 5:30 , Parish Night Out follows at 6:30.

Tuesday the 16th....

ACW Lunch at 11:30 a.m.

Men of All Saints' meet at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday the 17th....

St. Paschal Baylon, Confessor: Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday the 18th....

Ascension Day: Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday the 24th....

Of the Octave of the Ascension: Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday the 31st....

Ember Wednesday in Whitsun Week: Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m.

Diocesan Synod 3rd thru 5th St. Stephen's, Athens, Ga.

Fr. Alexander & Betty will be attending.

issues surround any decision to do so?

In truth, it is religion that focuses us on the whole concept of morality — yet, what is morality; where did it originate; why is it important?

When we begin to consider these things, we begin the journey of understanding how God works in the world. We begin the process of recognizing that science and religion are not at odds, one trying to disprove the other, but that they work together in furthering our understanding of who we are in this great universe.

Moreover, the decisions we make in life concerning life, our bodies, and the joining of sperm and egg to create a new life are grounded in our conception of God, our Creator, and the role he plays in all of Creation, particularly from that moment sperm and egg come together in the womb.

While all of life is dependent upon God, whether we believe in his existence or not, his existence is not dependent upon our belief in him. Yet, throughout the presence of human life on earth, there has been an innate desire to establish some sort of relationship with a Creator, a Divine Being, who has control not only over life and death but who also has control over all aspects of our lives, our relationships with each other, our relationship with all of Creation.

I would propose that the starting point for rational beings is the belief in the existence of a Creator followed by a consideration of how God works in establishing a relationship with us, we who claim to have been made in his Image.

One of the greatest proofs of God is the very fact that individuals, as well as

(Continued on page 27.)

Announcements

Scoured from the Weekly Bulletins & Elsewhere

Beautiful Parish Grounds

If you have not taken the time to look around at the Parish grounds, please do. Through the work of many hands, we have a beautiful setting for our church, its facilities, and the graveyard. We especially thankful to **Elise Lehman** who has volunteered her labors and, of course, to **Jerry Burns**, Junior Warden, for making sure the grounds, as well as the buildings, are well-cared for.

May Vestry Meeting

The Vestry's May meeting will be on Tuesday, the 9th at 5:15 pm in the Parish Hall. As a reminder, Vestry Meetings are open to members of the Parish.

ACW Lunch

ACW will meet for lunch this month on the 16th at 11:30 a.m. at **Whiskey Alley**. Please let **Betty Alexander** know if you're planning to attend.

Men of All Saints'

Men of All Saints' (MOAS) will meet on Tuesday the 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. At this time, the menu is undecided. If you have any suggestions, let Fr. Alexander know; otherwise, we're working on it!

Ascension Day

We will celebrate the Ascension of our Lord on Thursday the 18th with Holy Communion at 5:30 p.m. This is an-

other significant *Feast of the Church*.

We celebrate most of the Prayer Book Feasts according to **The Calendar** and the **Tables and Rules for the Movable and Immovable Feasts**.

Market Day Sale to Return

The **ACW** is making plans now for the return of the **Market Day Sale**. It is scheduled for late October.

The **ACW** is accepting items now for the sale. Drop-offs may be made during regular office hours, Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please do call ahead so Kathy can open the Parish Hall for you.

Clare Michelinie is chairperson this year, and she says to please keep us in mind when doing your spring cleaning.

The following contributions are always accepted:

- Household items of any kind
- Costume jewelry and handbags
- Holiday items
- Small tools
- Baked goods

All proceeds to benefit **All Saints' Parish**. Please contact **Clare** if you have any questions at the following email: claremichelinie@verizon.net.

[A big THANK YOU to Clare for taking on this project!]

More Announcements

ACW Makes Memorial Contribution for Pat Byers

The **ACW** has made a memorial contribution to Samaritan's Purse in honor



of **Pat Byers**. Pat was a well-beloved member and **ACW Treasurer** for many years.

A total of \$550 was collected.

Samaritan's Purse was one of Pat's favorite charities, and one whose work she had brought to the attention of **ACW** members when they considered charitable donations.

Parish Artists to be Featured in Aiken Artist Guild Show

Carol Sue & Forrest Roberts, Sharon Padgett, and Dot Holladay will have entries in the **Aiken Artist Guild Show** this year.

The show will run from May 18th thru June 18th at the **Aiken Center for the Arts**, Laurens Street, downtown.

The opening reception is May 18, 6-8 p.m. Please stop in and view the works of our own All Saints' artists.

Date Set for Bishop's Annual Visitation

Mark your calendars for June 11th. That's when the bishop, Archbp. Mark

Haverland, will make his Annual Visitation to All Saints'.

Inquirer's Class

Several Parishioners have shown an interest in having an Inquirer's Class. This would be especially helpful for newcomers to the Parish, or really anyone interested in learning more about the Faith, Doctrine, & Liturgy of Anglican Catholic Church, its history and relationship to the Episcopal Church, Anglican Communion, the Church of England. If interested, please let Fr. Alexander know. We will try to schedule such a class at a time most convenient for everyone interested.

Parish Picnic

Plans are underway for a **Parish Picnic** during the merry month of May at **Byerley Stables** on the corner of Audubon and Two Notch. As soon as a date is established, we will let you know and also the time.

Coffee Hour Volunteers

Coffee Hour is a great time for fellowship following the 10:30 service, but the honored duty of providing Coffee Hour has fallen to just a few, and relief is needed. So, we're looking for more people to help prepare the Sunday Coffee Hour, and it doesn't have to be elaborate — two or more may team up for a particular Sunday. If interested in joining the Coffee Hour team, please contact **Lena Whittaker**, who is chair of the **Hospitality Committee**.

ACW News

by Betty Alexander

The April ACW lunch at *O'Charley's* drew a small, but enthusiastic group. Present (going clockwise around the table, bottom photo) were **Betty Alexander, Patricia Sharp, Trina Crocker, Ann Zouck, Pat Hardwick, and Marion Terrell**. Everyone had a great time, but it is probable that, after lunch, few could have reported the topics of their wide-ranging conversations. (Memory is becoming increasingly ephemeral!)

Marion displayed her assortment of vitamin and mineral supplements, which she takes primarily at lunchtime. Since she came to lunch



after going to her Pilates class, she seems to be doing well, and may be onto something.



Another topic of conversation was the annual Easter egg hunt for the nursery school and kindergarten students at **Children's Place**. It was a big success and included an array of artistically decorated bags for the children to use when collecting their eggs.



Betsy and Bonnie Bunny (a.k.a. **Claire Michelinie** and **Maryanne Ebert**) made a return guest appearance (because THE Easter Bunny is stretched a little thin around that time) and brought a

More ACW News....Annua; Easter Egg Hint

special joy (and glamour) to the occasion. We hope that our ACW can continue providing an Easter egg hunt for the children, even after the organization's new building is complete, late this Summer. We will stay in touch with the social workers at **Children's Place**, in hopes of working something out.

The May ACW lunch will be at *Whiskey Alley* on

Tuesday, May 16. Please let us know if you plan to attend, so we can have enough seating.

Note: The ACW recently organized a memorial fund in honor of **Pat Byers**, a well-beloved member and ACW Treasurer for many years. A total of \$550 was collected. A check has been sent to **Samaritan's Purse**, one of Pat's favorite charities, and one whose work she has brought to the attention of ACW members when they considered charitable donations. We think that Pat would be pleased.



Men of All Saints' News

Another good monthly dinner meeting of the **Men of All Saints'** on Tuesday, April 18th.

Bob Sukovich served grilled burgers to a group of 20, while **David Twigg**



showed off his replica of a *War of 1812* rifle, a *Springfield*, complete with bayonet.

Jordan Hewett announced that he will soon become a father. His wife is due with their first child, sometime in July. They are preparing for a boy.

We had a number of guests attending, which helped swell the numbers.



Don Michelinie brought his neighbor, **Bob Ritter**, a sometime relative of *Tex Ritter*.

A frequent guest, **Bill Granade**, brought his son, **Seth**, who assisted Bob with getting the food ready and, also, with clean up. Seth works at the *Neon Fig* as bartender and waiter.

The group welcomed **Keith Fraley**, who has been attending services on an occasional basis. We hope Keith will decide to make All Saints' his home.

Others present were: **Tony Harris, Chris Roberts, Jeff Kern, Dieter**



Voegele, Jerry Burns, Bruce Drake, Clayton Kern, Ken Connor, Forrest Roberts, Carl Bottomley, and Fr. Alexander.

The next meeting of **MOAS** will be on **Tuesday, May 16th, at 6:00 p.m.** in the **Parish Hall**.

Menu not decided....suggestions welcome.



*Photos
by
Forrest Roberts*



Altar Guild Workday

Much to do to Keep our Sanctuary in the Best of Shape

It was a busy Saturday morning on April 1st, as members of the Altar Guild took on the task of preparing the church for Palm Sunday and Easter.

The quarterly effort is a matter of polishing silver and brass ornaments, including those used at the Altar, such as the Chalice, Paten, and Ciborium, and many other items.

The official name of the Guild is *St. Catherine's Altar Guild*.



If interested in joining the **Altar Guild**, please contact **Betty Alexander**. The Guild is seeking new members, as there is plenty of work to be done to the Glory of God and in support of our services.



Above, **Jean Drake** polishes Altar candle sticks, while, below, **Pixie Keating**, **Carol Sue Roberts**, and **Ann Zouck** discuss what needs to be tackled next.



Above top, **Pixie Keating** polishes the Baptismal Font, while, above, **Betty Alexander** polishes Altar candles.



Altar Guild Workday

Oiling the Altar — An Annual Project



Dominique Corbett took up the daunting task this year of *Oiling the Altar*, which requires a certain amount of agility.

Bruce Drake provided some assistance when a piece from top of the Altar broke off from where it had been previously glued.

Meanwhile, **Lillie** stood guard, protecting Dominique and making sure no one interfered with her precarious work atop the Altar itself.

Palm Sunday

Blessing of the Palms begins Outside



In good All Saints' Tradition, the **Blessing of the Palms** began outside on a very pleasant *Palm Sunday* morning.

Parishioners and guests gathered before the Lychgate as Fr. Alexander presided over the Blessing.

Blessed Palms were distributed among those joining in, then everyone processed into the church

led by Thurifer, Alan Wingard, and Fr. Alexander.

Those unable to join the outside service waited inside, and palms were brought to them.

So, we began Holy Week, commemorating our Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, a reminder of Christ's final triumph with his Resurrection.



Photos
by
Forrest Roberts



Liturgical Music

Sung Propers from The English Gradual
Add another element of Beauty to our Services

Thanks to the efforts of our Cantor, **Tony Harris**, and Choristers, **Larry Byers** and **Chris Roberts**, the singing of the *Propers* is taking hold in our services.

Carol Sue Roberts obtained and introduced our *Men's Chorus* to **The English Gradual** and coached them initially.

For some years now, the **Introit**, **Gradual**, **Offertory Sentence**, and **Communion Verse** have been read, rather than sung.

Joining with the *Men's Chorus*, Fr.

Alexander now sings the **Proper Preface**.

There are other parts of the service which may also be sung but there are no plans at this time to expand.



Tony Harris sings the *Introit*.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May Birthdays

- 2 Forrest Roberts
- 6 Bob Storey
- 8 Lauren Matthews
- 9 Fr. Alexander
- 12 Pat Hardwick
- 14 Linzee Whittaker
- 28 Jeff Kern
- 31 Ray Vaughters
- 31 Jane Vaughters

May Anniversaries

- 1 Mitchell & Kirsten Collins



Larry Byers joins the Cantor, as does **Chris Roberts**, not pictured here.

Photos Too Good to Just Cast Aside

Thanks to our official Parish Photographer, **Forrest Roberts**, and other contributors, we always have an abundance of photographs for our Newsletter, most too good to just cast aside.

So is the case with these taken on Palm Sunday except the last one. Starting at the top and working counter-clockwise:



Jean Drake (in the hat) and **Sharon Riordan**; **Carl Bottomley**, **Jerry Burns**, and **Kevin Riordan**; **Tony Harris**, **Bob Storey**, **Larry Burns**, and **Michael Coats** just before Blessing of the Palms; **Barney Lamar & Tucker the Support Dog**; **Larry Byers** and **Fr. Alexander** read the Passion Narrative; and Easter Bunny Assistant, **Clare Michelinie**, hides eggs for Children's Place Easter Egg Hunt.





Outreach

Kindliness

by Carl Bottomley

the rock and the bucketful of water

Over the past weeks, my mind has continually come up with an image of Ripples. Not the potato chip, good for dipping, but the image of water and ripples when something disturbs the surface. Once, many moons ago, I read a description of a stone, a rock, if you will, being dropped into a bucket filled with water. Obviously, a huge splash occurred, and from the splash outward came a torrent of water, soaking everything in its path. Turbulent surface followed the splash, then things started to settle and finally calm, and peace returned with the stillness of the surface of the remaining water. I'm not sure why, but for some reason unbeknownst to me, I've always envisioned things, be they problems, or wishful thinking but with some visual images. This one is not much different.

Looking at this image, my mind wandered to the last time I said something unkind to a person, how my remark struck that person. The surprise, the hurt that my comment caused at the moment it was spoken. And it hit the person, not unlike the rock dropped in that bucket. The pain my comment created was like the huge splash that I saw as the stone hit the water. It totally devastated the surface of this person. And it went deep, not unlike the stone which fell aimlessly to the bot-

tom of that bucket. I stood looking at the person, not unlike looking at the bucket, seeing what I had created by my offhand comment, not really realizing the damage I had done. Feelings splashed outside the bucket, and out of this person's being. I could visually see this happening, and like with the bucket, I could not stop this from happening; the damage was done. No going back and taking that hurtful comment back; it has been said, and like trying to grab the rock sliding from my hand and dropping that rock, the situation could not be reversed.

Gradually, like the water in the bucket, the situation became quiet, and stillness and the silence between us reminded me of how the surface of this imaginary bucket, once so violently disturbed, could be quiet again.

Looking at this bucket, and this relationship, it will be forever impacted by this thoughtless act on my part. Now, there is water missing from the bucket, and this was not replaceable. Oh, certainly, over time the bucket will be refilled, but never the same. It has been permanently altered.

Never realizing the impact my comment would make was thoughtless, selfish, and basically unwarranted. There were other ways to have said what I said, but I was not thinking

of the damage I caused, but rather only the point I was attempting to make.

I wonder through these many years how many times this might have happened, with who, when, where, all those unanswered questions that only 20/20 hindsight can produce. I do know that, while I still from time to time "lose it", and am still guilty of this, that perhaps I've tempered my sense of self importance a bit, and as a result produced far better interactions with those I have relationships with, be they spouse, children, grandkids, or even the Walmart greeter. I've also seen the flip side of what a smile, a soft compliment, can produce in terms of a response, a simple smile, a warm handshake, a pat on the back. Quite amazing.

Quite often I wonder about our Lord's relationship with his disciples. His band of merry men who followed Him, faithful to His final days. I'm sure, sometimes stumbling, as we all do, and the words of encouragement that must have been passed on to them. And the example that, while being disciplined, there was kindness, a gentleness, and not the release of some comment or another that was meant to hurt. At no point, have I read where Jesus dropped a rock in a bucket. He was humble, honest, straightforward, loving, and cared deeply for this group of people He had invited to follow Him. What a great example to me, a blueprint, of how I should and could behave, and some-

times do — but sometimes fail.

The damage I did that day can never be undone. I apologized, I learned an invaluable lesson, and still will, from time to time, put my foot in my mouth. Try as I might, I still stand guilty. As just another guy, try as I might, I am human and subject to falling, and sometimes hard.

What I can do, is try, try to be a better person, a person who is just fractionally better each day. Often now, I will say to myself in private, sort of whispering in my own ear, "how important is it"? I try each day to do one thing, just one thing, that is of benefit to another person and do it so the person never knows how, why, or who was involved. I want no thank you, no accolades, just so that I know that, for that moment in time, I did the right thing, for the right reasons. And I thank my God that I've been given the chance and the gifts to do it. Always remembering that vision of the rock and the bucketful of water, and the damage I did that day — a hard lesson learned.

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Just Death & Taxes?

More to Life Found in Christ

As I finally completed and filed my taxes for 2022, I thought back to the old saying: *The only certainties in life are death and taxes.*

Now, if you want to think that, then you may be missing out on a lot of life!

Granted, there are times when it appears the **grim reaper** and the **IRS** are in cahoots. Throw in Congress, the naysayers, and the myriad of portenders of doom, and the results can be dauntingly apocalyptic.

A survey of apocalyptic predictions over the last 50 or so years has proved all to be unfounded. Meanwhile, the countless predictions of earth's destruction by human contributions have once again caught the imagination of both science and pseudoscience, dragging the populace along a thorny path-way.

No one can deny that humankind has evolved to the degree that it could possibly destroy the earth; however, the human trend seems to be to destroy itself first.

However, in the midst of all this to do, there is another element that must be considered — **God**.

After all, God did create everything — the universe and all that it contains, especially the earth, to be the habitat of his one particular creation — **man-kind**.

Not so amazingly, the search for other earths, other life, has proven to be fruitless, though the search goes on, as it must. We human beings are a curious lot, so we must, by our nature, explore all the possibilities.

But, sometimes, we overlook reason, or rationality. Perhaps what most sets us apart as the pinnacle of God's Creation is **reason**, the ability to discern, to choose, to rationalize — yes, even to determine our own destiny!

To what degree, however, we humans affect climate change is something we choose to do, whether rationally or irrationally. Of course, the capability of being irrational is part of our human nature, too.

The excitement of the discovery of an earth-like planet in some distant solar system raises the hope of the discovery of life's existence outside our own solar system. Pause for a moment. When we spot a planetary object hundreds, even thousands of light years away, are we not looking millions of years into

The Significance of Smells & Bells in Our Liturgical Worship

Our Anglican worship can hardly be surpassed in its beauty. It goes beyond the language itself to the dignity and actions of the clergy, the Altar, the candles, the vestments, the music, and the voices of the people.

This is all basic to Anglican worship. Yet, there is more in our heritage that dates back to the earliest days of Christianity, even from the beginning, Christian worship has included, in some form, the use of incense, bells, and the sign of the cross.

Often in the Church today, the use of incense, bells, even the sign of the cross, are often associated with what is called "high" church, but that is an over-simplification.

the past? Are we not looking at something that is far beyond our reach?

God, in his infinite wisdom, created a universe to contain his peculiar creation — us. But, at the same time, his creation is beyond our imagination, while capturing our imagination.

A universe that challenges our imagination, a spectacular earth that is peculiar within the universe, and a creature that excels all creation — **mankind**.

Now, what does all this have to do with *death and taxes*?

Here is a quick look at the significance of those "smells & bells".

Sign of the Cross: Asking God's Blessing. The Sign of the Cross was used by early Christians as a sign of recognition during the persecutions and from the early second century on as a sanctifying action, used in both Baptism and Confirmation.

Bells: A call to worship. The bells of the church tower ring out to call the people to worship. At the Altar, they are used to announce the most sacred parts of the service. Their use is ancient, the church bell sounding so that the peasants in the field who could not attend the service would know when

(Continued on page 23.)

Here we are, the pinnacle of God's Creation, surrounded by beauty beyond imagination — if all there is to life is *death & taxes*, then we are really out in left field!

We must refocus ourselves, our lives away from the earthly and concentrate on the spiritual. The devil has been paid his due, and we should focus on the heavenly, punctuated by the beauty that surrounds us and which is found in the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, where we find life, life eternal.



Decorating for Easter

It's Not Just Work....It's a Lot of Fun, Too!

Just a few showed up to decorate the church for Easter, probably expecting it to be just a lot of work. But, as they soon found out, it's a lot of fun, also.



Left, **Pixie Keating** ponders where to place one of her hydrangea, while **Carol Sue Roberts**, right, arranges a candle in one of the windows.



Below left, **Ann Zouck** blows out a candle on a cupcake as she and **Lillie** celebrate their birthdays, meanwhile, **Phoebe Marshall**, below right, makes her way to the Sacristy.



Susan Thomas carefully places each hydrangea around the Altar. Not show is **Betty Alexander** who managed to avoid the camera.



Thoughts on the Crucifixion & Resurrection

By Fr. Alexander

In reflecting on the Scripture accounts of Holy Week, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection, I was struck by the abandonment which Jesus must have felt.

True, his Disciples rallied around him until after the Last Supper and his arrest in the garden. At that moment, they all fled, leaving him alone to face trial and death.

Peter did follow him for a time when he was led to Herod's palace in Jerusalem but there he denied Jesus, as had been predicted.

Where were all his followers during his trial before Pilate? And at the Crucifixion?

In John's Gospel, we find that only Mary, his Mother, her sister, Mary, wife of Cleophas, Mary Magdalen, and John himself were present.

The scene at the Cross is quite vivid in John's Gospel. It has or should have left an indelible image in our minds, especially that moment when Jesus commits the care of his Mother to John.

At the death of Jesus, we have others standing afar off in the distance gazing, these described in part as women who had followed Jesus from Galilee.

Jesus abandoned. But not entirely. There are four who figure prominently in his life who stood by — his Mother, her sister Mary, Mary Magdalene, and John.

Finally, though, in his Resurrection, his Disciples and followers regroup as he makes his appearances. They are renewed in their commitment and strengthened beyond our imagination by knowing that he is alive, that the grave could not hold him. And we know the rest of the story.

Yet, if Mary, her sister Mary, Mary Magdalene, and John could stand by our Lord at their own peril, where do we stand? On Good Friday, where were we during his arrest in the garden, during his trial before Pilate, and when he was nailed to the Cross?

Could we not watch just a few hours — just a few hours in comfort and safety?



Continued from page 19....

the most sacred parts of the service were taking place. They could then join with the congregation by offering private devotions.



Incense: Carrying our prayers to heaven. The smoke from the incense is considered symbolic of prayer rising to God (the odor of a sweet savor). At the Altar, its practice symbolizes the Grace of our Lord cleaning and sweetening our worship and our lives so that the offering may become acceptable to God.



Though not used in all parishes or in all services, incense and bells do remain a beautiful part of our Anglican heritage.

We, at All Saints', do not purport to be "high" church, but we might be considered much closer, as we use the Missal, bells, and have a statue of the Virgin Mary — and we have, on special occasion, used incense, mostly during the Blessing of the Palms on Palm Sunday.

Fortunately, for those with allergies, a

hypoallergenic incense has been developed. Something for us at All Saints' to consider in the future.

Our liturgical practice at All Saints' is somewhat close to that of other parishes in the ACC; however, there is a tendency among many to be more elaborate.

For us, for the moment, the introduction of more liturgical music is our focus, which we have done with our small men's choir. We hope that the addition of a cantor and choristers has enhanced the liturgy for those attending the 10:30 service, and we would be very much interested in expanding to include a women's choir.

Finally, the language, the dignity and actions of the clergy, the Altar with its Cross, candles, vestments, music, the voices of the people; bring to this the sweet smell of incense and the clearing of bells, and we have a beauty of worship unsurpassed in all of Christianity.





Nature

As Seen through the Lens

by Forrest Roberts

Little Bee-eater & Malachite Kingfisher

Location: *Here & There*

We have about 50,000 wildlife images, so very difficult to pick favorites. All of them trigger a memory for us, so maybe they are all favorites.



The two images above are the Black Egret, which is now named a Black Heron.

It wades in shallow water and makes an umbrella-like canopy with its wings. Minnows and small fish swim to get in the shadow, and the Egret has an easy meal. Images taken in Tan-

zania.

The image at the top of the next page was also taken in Tanzania at our lodge at the Ngorongoro Crater. Sitting by the pool during cocktail hour, with beautiful pastel colors in an amazing sunset.

The other two images on the next page were in Kenya in the Masai Mara. The Spotted Hyena was very happy with his trophy, a Thomson's gazelle. A couple of hundred yards away, a female Thomson with a fawn looks on.

Finally, below, is a Summer Tanager at Silver Bluff Audubon in Jackson, S.C. It landed just above my vehicle, and I had a perfect view thru the open sun roof.

Nice to be lucky, sometimes.



[Note: this is a monthly series of nature photography by Forrest Roberts, who, with Carol Sue, travels extensively, both of them photographing the wonders of Nature.]



NOTE

Carol Sue & Forrest Roberts, as well as Sharon Padgett and Dot Holladay, will have entries in the *Aiken Artist Guild Show* at the

Aiken Center for the Arts
May 18-June 22, 2023

Opening reception is
May 18, 6-8 p.m.



By Fr. Alexander

Meat Loaf

The Dirge of Cuisine — Or Not!

Have you ever thought about it? Meat Loaf seems to always get a bad rap.

Oh, no....Not Meat Loaf!

Meat Loaf.... again?

You mean, we're having Meat Loaf?!

Don't they serve anything besides Meat Loaf? (Army Mess Hall)

Ok, I think you get it. But does Meat Loaf deserve the bad rap?

Granted. There's good Meat Loaf, and there's not so good Meat Loaf....and there's simply bad Meat Loaf.

For the Men of All Saints' dinner not long ago, Bob Sukovich made a special Meat Loaf in the shape of a foot. Interesting, of course, but also good.

But, let's take it a step further, or as they say, kick it up a notch.

Here's the Clerical Kitchen approach to Meat Loaf — gourmet cuisine in disguise!

Meat Loaf ala Clerical Kitchen

Ingredients:

- 3 lbs Ground Beef (good stuff)
- 2/3 cup Onion, Minced
- 1 tsp Garlic Powder

- 2 tsp Salt
- 3 tsp Pepper
- 1 1/4 cups Bread Crumbs
- 2 Eggs
- 1/2 cup Ketchup
- 1 tsp Worcestershire Sauce

Take all the ingredients together and, as they say when baking bread, knead them together — really well. I mean really well. Squeeze and squeeze with your hands, until well mixed.

Next, take a loaf pan, and spray well with a spray such as Virgin Olive Oil. Put the Meat Loaf mixture in the pan, patting it down, so it is nice and comfortable, filling the pan side-to-side.

Now, your Meat Loaf is ready for a 400 degree oven, which will be its home for about 30 minutes before you disrupt it, and check it for progress.

Probably not done, so continue cooking until done.

But....pause for a moment. If you like a nice finishing touch, just before you think it's really done, top it with ketchup. That will take it up several notches.

Remove from the oven when done, and serve with a nice tossed salad and vegetables. A baked or roasted potatoes would be nice too.

So....there you have it....the **dreaded Meat Loaf**....ala Clerical Kitchen

Andiamo a Mangiamare! — Bon Appetit!

Saint of the Month

St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop & Confessor (d. 604)

St. Augustine was a prior of St. Andrew's Monastery in Rome when he was sent by Pope St. Gregory to England in 596 to convert the English. He arrived in England in 597 after having been denied permission to turn back. Upon landing on the isle of Thanet, he was favorably received by King Ethelbert of Kent, who was baptised the same year.

St. Augustine journeyed to France to be

Continued from page 3....

societies, have evolved around the premise of a basic respect for human life. We have evolved with a certain value of human life and with an affection for other human beings. We are human because we are rational, and we have a sense of morality and respect for life because we are rational; otherwise, we would be no better than animals in a zoo, and we would not be having any discussions, much less that of the existence of God.

At the forefront in understanding and accepting that there is a God is the realization that he works through the familiar to reveal that which is hidden, in particular, who he is. We cannot see God, as he is Spirit, but he certainly can communicate with us through that which surrounds us, and he uses the concrete to illustrate the spiritual. That is evident in the Parables and illustrations used by Jesus in revealing God and his Gospel to us.

More importantly, as Christians, he has given us something else — Grace.

consecrated bishop, returning to England to convert thousands. He built a church and Benedictine monastery in Canterbury, and spent his life working in Kent.

Although St. Augustine was not successful in convincing bishops of the Celtic rites to adopt the discipline and practices of Rome, he has been recognized as "the Apostle of the English" and the first archbishop of Canterbury.

Grace is God's love and mercy given to us simply because he wants us to have it. Some might say it is unmerited favor. But it is freely given and expressed most explicitly in the salvation rendered to us by the Sacrifice on the Cross of his Son, Jesus Christ.

As Christians, we can only aspire to our potential greatness as creatures of God's making. As rational beings, we are set apart in the world with a common purpose — to worship our Creator, in whose Image we have been created, not the other way around. We are not greater than nor equal with God — we are his well-loved creation, and instilled in each of us is a desire to seek our Creator, though some still believe it is God whom we have created in our image — human audacity.

We were created to Love, Worship, and Obey our Creator. We were created to respect all life from its beginning 'til its end. He gave us the Church to enable us to do so. This is what God asks of us — not demands, but asks of us to do so freely of our own will.

Parish Monthly Calendar

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat														
	1 Sts. Philip & James, Apostles & Martyrs HC at 5:30 pm	2 St. Athanasius, B.C.D.	3 Invention of the Holy Cross HC at 5:30 pm	4 St. Monica, Wid.	5 Conversion of St. Augustine,	6 B.V.M. On Saturday														
7 Easter 4 (Comm. St. Stanislas, B.M.) MP & HC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 HC 10:30	8 Feria	9 St. Gregory Nazianzus, B.C.D. Vestry meets at 5:15 pm	10 Feria HC at 5:30 pm	11 Feria	12 Sts. Nereus, Achilleus, & Pancras, Mm.	13 B.V.M. On Saturday														
14 Easter 5 Rogation Sunday (Comm. St. Pachomius, Abt. & St. Boniface, M.) MP & HC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 HC 10:30 Healing Service 11:45	15 Rogation Monday	16 St. Simon Stock, C. (Comm. Rogation Day) ACW Lunch 11:30 MOAS at 6:00 pm	17 St. Paschal Baylon, C. (Comm. Vigil of Ascension & Rogation Day) HC at 5:30 pm	18 ASCENSION HC at 5:30 pm	19 St. Dunstan, B.C. (Comm. Of the Octave Ascension)	20 St. Bernardin of Siena, C. (Comm. Of the Octave Ascension)														
21 Ascension Sunday MP & HC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 HC 10:30	22 Of the Octave, of Ascension	23 Of the Octave, of Ascension	24 Of the Octave, of Ascension HC at 5:30 pm	25 Octave of the Ascension	26 St. Augustine of England, B.C.	27 Vigil of Pentecost														
28 Whitsunday <i>Pentecost</i> MP & HC 8:30 Bible Study 9:30 HC 10:30	29 Monday in Whitsun Week	30 Tuesday in Whitsun Week	31 Wednesday in Whitsun Week HC at 5:30 pm	Note: Fr. Alexander & Betty attending Diocesan Synod in Athens, Ga., May 3-5.	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Ap - Apostle</td> <td>Ev - Evangelist</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abt - Abbot</td> <td>Abs - Abbess</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B - Bishop</td> <td>Bb - Bishops</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C - Confessor</td> <td>Cc - Confessors</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D - Doctor of the Church</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>M - Martyr</td> <td>Mm - Martyrs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>V - Virgin</td> <td>Wid - Widow</td> </tr> </table>		Ap - Apostle	Ev - Evangelist	Abt - Abbot	Abs - Abbess	B - Bishop	Bb - Bishops	C - Confessor	Cc - Confessors	D - Doctor of the Church		M - Martyr	Mm - Martyrs	V - Virgin	Wid - Widow
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