

**ALL SAINTS' BULLETIN**  
**The Monthly Newsletter of All Saints'**  
**April, 2018**  
**228-9242**  
[www.allsaintsthomasville.org](http://www.allsaintsthomasville.org)

Dear Friends,

The Sundays in April are all 'Sundays of Easter'. In May we will see the Easter season draw to its conclusion as we celebrate first the Ascension and then Pentecost.

I don't want to wish April away but, knowing that I will be talking about Pentecost when I write to you next month, I want to talk about the Ascension this month. It is often overlooked but it has some important spiritual messages. In fact, I would go so far as to say that the Ascension colors the way we practice our faith as much as the resurrection and as much as the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Let me explain two theological reasons why the Ascension is so important.

First, why do you suppose that when it came time to leave Jesus didn't just vanish? There were other times when he did just that. He vanished after showing himself to the disciples in the upper room and he vanished after he had walked with his disciples on the road to Emmaus. At the Ascension he is lifted up towards heaven until a cloud removes him from sight and two angels appear asking the disciples, "Men of Galilee, why stand there looking up into the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up into Heaven, will come in the same way you saw him go." I think of it as comparable to a coronation ceremony. At a coronation the action of placing a crown on the monarch is intended to show just who they are. The Ascension is a planned event on God's part to show just who Jesus is, His Son and now rightfully back in his presence as the ruler of heaven and earth.

Second, in the Ascension Jesus left the limitations of the space-time continuum and passed into the freedom of eternity. When Jesus was born he took on all the limitations that we experience of space and time. You cannot be in two places at once. So, if someone wanted to see or interact with Jesus while he was alive they had to go to where he was physically present. With the Ascension he can be everywhere at the same time. He is still human, he still has a body, but it is a changed body that knows no limitations, just as we will be ourselves with recognizable bodies when we are resurrected, but without limitations. Jesus once he is ascended can be the Advocate and the intermediary for all no matter when or where they live.

What are the practical applications of these two theological truths?

1. The Ascended Christ is still supremely personal, but he is fully available. He is there to hear the prayers of all. In fact, he longs to hear the prayers of all.
2. The Ascended Christ is supremely powerful. As the Ascended King of heaven, he is sovereign over every part of the created order. He is at the right hand of the Father as the executive director of history and all the affairs of men. Supremely available and supremely powerful makes for a very desirable combination!
3. The Ascended Christ is right where we would want him to be, at the right hand of the Father and interceding for us. No matter how flawed we are, when the eyes of God look at us they see Jesus.
4. The Ascended Christ is our greatest hope. He spoke to bewildered disciples in John 14 when he said, "And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." Our greatest hope is intimately tied to Christ having first ascended to the place of eternal bliss.

Every blessing,

Paul+

### **YOGA CLASSES FOR ALL SAINTS'**

Madeline Rollins has recently qualified to be a Yoga Instructor and Father Paul has invited her to teach a weekly class for the members of All Saints'. The classes will be offered free of charge to Church members, but donations may be made. Madeline is designing a class which can benefit all our members who can work at their own pace and comfort. Research shows that one is never too old to benefit from stretching and increased suppleness and balance. The classes will start at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 12th. Look for more information from Madeline.

### **BOOK CLUB LUNCHEON**

We are happy to announce that the All Saints Book Club will be hosting a special luncheon at 12:45 pm on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 to honor parishioner, Nadia R. Watts, on the occasion of the recent publishing of her book, "Thomasville In Concert" a history of the Thomasville Entertainment Foundation.

We are excited to host the author herself, who will discuss the background story of this book and how it came into being as well as to answer any questions you may have. Copies are now available at The Bookshelf and at our local library.

Due to Nadia's earlier commitment to an unchangeable interview on the 11th, for this one time, the book club will be starting at 12:45 pm instead of the usual 11:50 am start time.

Plan to attend and invite other interested parties. Since lunch will be provided, please help us with the headcount by making a reservation. Just contact the All Saints secretary at 229-228-9242.

## ECW NEWS

The March meeting of the ECW was hosted by Patti Cooper, Lee Chub and Lee Mitchell. Attendees were treated to a tour of Patti's charming home and lovely gardens and among other goodies, tomato sandwiches made with a special Savannah recipe. At the meeting the membership voted to give a memorial in Gini Miller's memory of a brass and leather cover for the altar book. Matching glass decanters, etched with a cross and grapes, for use during the Eucharist, were chosen as a memorial in memory of Harriet Burns, a longtime member of All Saints and ECW. Both of these gifts are in place and were blessed by Fr. Paul at the Palm Sunday service.

Our April meeting will be held at the home of Kim Bragg at 10350 Springhill Road on Thursday, April 12, from 4:00 until 5:30. Debbie Wright and Andrea Hancock are the co-hostesses. We hope to see you there.

Pat

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

#### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18**

5:30 p.m. Holy Communion (Chapel)

Body & Soul

Reservations please

## CHOIR NEWS

### Adult Choir

Thank you to the Adult Choir for all you did to make Lent and Easter so meaningful. Margit

### St. David Choir

St. David's Choir sings May 13

**ATTENTION VESTRY**

The Vestry will have its regular monthly meeting in the Parish Hall Library at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 15.

**MEAL MINISTRY**

Please let me ([kbragg@rose.net](mailto:kbragg@rose.net)) or Margret Brinson ([mbrinson@rose.net](mailto:mbrinson@rose.net)) know of any parishioners that may need meals.

Thanks so much, Kim Bragg

**ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH BAZAAR --- April 14**

All Saints' Episcopal Church will have a Spring Bazaar on Saturday, April 14 from 9:00-12:00. It will include clothes, toys, kitchen and household goods, furniture, linens, rugs, paintings, etc.. As you spring clean, please drop off donated items to Linda Gail's by April 11. This is another way our church provides funding for many community outreach projects. Please consider giving an hour or two of your time to help make this event a success. Volunteer days for clean up and organizing items in Linda Gail's is every day April 5-6 and April 9-13. We will need many hands on deck the week of the sale and on the day of the bazaar. Please email to let us know when you can help ([lbrackenallsaintschurch@gmail.com](mailto:lbrackenallsaintschurch@gmail.com)) or sign up to volunteer through the sign up genius email sent to all parishioners on February 28.

**USHERS FOR APRIL**

April 8 Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.  
The Second Sunday of Easter Charlie Whitney  
Robert Balfour

April 15 Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.  
The Third Sunday of Easter Bill Arwood  
Michelle Arwood

