

ALL SAINTS' BULLETIN
The Monthly Newsletter of All Saints'
April, 2018
228-9242
www.allsaintsthasville.org

Dear Friends,

This Sunday coming will be the Fourth Sunday in Lent. We are well into this season of reflection, introspection, and discipline. I do hope you have embraced the opportunities for spiritual growth which are offered by Lent.

As we move towards Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter perhaps you will find time to spend with the Bible, meditating on what it has to say to you. Dietrich Bonhoeffer was direct in his answer to the question why he meditated. In his book, *Meditating on the Word*, he simply said, "Because I am a Christian." He went on to explain.

"Therefore, every day in which I do not penetrate more deeply into the knowledge of God's Word in Holy Scripture is a lost day for me. I can only move forward with certainty upon the firm ground of the Word of God. And, as a Christian, I learn to know the Holy Scripture in no other way than by hearing the Word preached and by prayerful meditation."

The same book contains a letter that Bonhoeffer wrote to his brother-in-law, Rudiger Schleicher, on April 8, 1936. They were close friends and both of them would be executed by the Nazis right before the end of World War II for their participation in the conspiracy to kill Adolf Hitler. In this letter, Bonhoeffer says more about what the Bible means to him.

"I want to confess quite simply that I believe the Bible alone is the answer to all our questions, and that we only need to ask persistently and with some humility in order to receive the answer from it. One cannot simply read

the Bible the way one reads other books. One must be prepared to really question it. Only then will it open itself up. Only when we await the final answer from the Bible will it be given to us. That is because in the Bible it is God who speaks to us. And we cannot simply reach our own conclusions about God; rather we must ask him. He will only answer us if we are seeking after him....The word of someone we love opens itself up to us the more "we ponder it in our hearts," as Mary did. In the same way, we should carry the Word of the Bible around with us. We will only be happy in our reading of the Bible when we dare to approach it as the means by which God really speaks to us, the God who loves us and will not leave us with our questions unanswered."

For me, those words are an encouragement to commit to "really questioning" the Bible, not in the sense of doubting it, but in the sense of probing it for what truths God might want me to hear.

Elsewhere you will be able to read about the Church's services for Holy Week and Easter. The addition this year is the strings quartet on Good Friday evening. I do hope you will consider adding that to your Easter devotions.

I wish all of you a very blessed Easter.

Paul+

BOOK CLUB LUNCHEON

If you missed our March meeting we all contributed to the conversation on Lisa Wingates, "Tending Roses". It was unanimously agreed to be a "feel good story" that made many reflect on their own experiences of family relations, parenting, and the wisdom of Grandparents.

We anticipate a change in mood with the April book selection: "A Confederacy of Dunces" by John Kennedy Toole. This novel won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1981. Here is the online summary that introduces the many lively characters of Toole's novel.

The Online Summary: Toole's lunatic and sage novel introduces one of the most memorable characters in American literature, Ignatius Reilly, whom Walker Percy dubs "slob extraordinaire, a mad Oliver Hardy, a fat Don Quixote, a perverse Thomas Aquinas rolled into one." Set in New Orleans, A Confederacy of Dunces outswifts Swift, one of whose essays gives the book its title. As its characters burst into life, they leave the region and literature forever changed by their presence-Ignatius and his mother; Miss Trixie, the octogenarian assistant accountant at Levi Pants; inept, wan Patrolman Mancuso; Darlene, the Bourbon Street stripper with a penchant for poultry; Jones the jivecat in space-age dark glasses.

Enjoy the book and join us on Wednesday, April 10th at 11:50 am in the church social hall. Jack Coppadge has cordially volunteered to lead the discussion. Many thanks, Jack!

Please plan on joining us for a lively discussion and don't forget to bring a brown bag lunch. We'll supply the drinks and dessert.

Hope to see you then, Maureen

ATTENTION VESTRY

The Vestry will have its regular monthly meeting in the Parish Hall Library at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 14.

EASTER LILIES

Those of you who would like to give memorial and thanksgiving lilies for Easter, please call the Church office before Tuesday, April 9. EVEN IF you have given in the past, please call (228-9242) or e-mail (allsaint@rose.net) to confirm or cancel your order. The cost of the lilies is \$15 each.

Holy Week 2019
Schedule of Services

Palm Sunday – April 14

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion &
Reading of the Passion
5:00 p.m. Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday – April 18

6:00 p.m. Commemoration of the Institution of the
Lord's Supper
Stripping of the Altar and
Procession to the Altar of Repose

Good Friday – April 19

Noon – Joint Service at St. Thomas
5:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
6:30 p.m. A Simple Lenten Supper
7:30 p.m. Christ's Seven Last Words from the Cross
(Joseph Haydn)

Holy Saturday – April 20

8:00 p.m. Holy Communion &
the Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Sunday – April 21

9:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 a.m. Holy Communion
(No Evening Service)

LENTEN BOOK DISCUSSION

The parish will be reading together a work by theologian Stanley Hauerwas, emeritus professor of Duke University, entitled "Cross-Shattered Christ: Meditations on the Seven Last Words." As the title suggests, the book is a series of meditations on the seven "words" (or utterances) that the Lord spoke from the cross, as recounted in the Gospels.

Evening Prayer will be read in the chapel at 5:30, and we will plan to begin our time together at 6:00 and conclude by 7:30. Light collation will be provided.

TRANSITIONS:

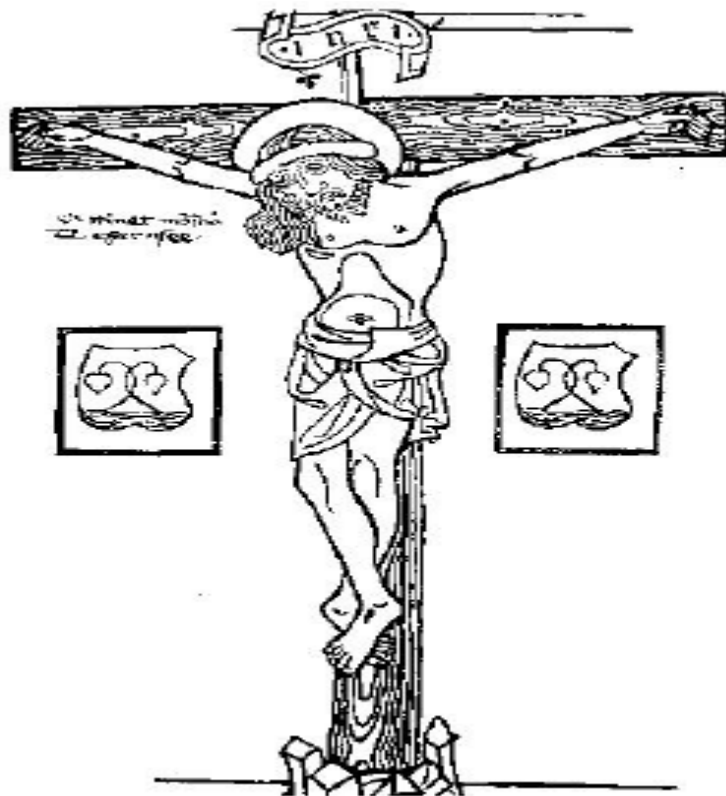
Happy Birthday in April to:

William Thomas Bragg	4-1-98
Caroline Sewell	4-2-96
Olivia Anne Enright	4-4-02
Caroline Rossiter Cobb	4-8-10
Rosslyn Ellis Johnson	4-9-14
Elizabeth Anne Rollins	4-14-03
Peyton Middleton	4-25-01
Annalee K. Jackson	4-28-96
John Treadwell (Jack) Josey, Jr.	4-29-07

Happy Birthday in May to:

Ford Faulk	5-2-98
Samuel Harrison Watts	5-8-04
Taylor Hill Middleton	5-10-04
Natalie Paige Moreton	5-11-99
Eliza Fontaine Miller	5-15-03
Ella Simmons	5-18-01
Ella Claire Thomas	5-19-08
Christopher C. Watt	5-27-99
Samuel Bruhn	5-28-01

JOSEPH HAYDN
THE SEVEN LAST WORDS
OF OUR SAVIOUR ON THE CROSS
FOR STRING QUARTET



GOOD FRIDAY (APRIL 19) AT 7:30 PM
ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
443 S. HANSELL STREET, THOMASVILLE
To register, please call or email Nikki Scott @ 229-228-9242 or
nscott@allsaintsthamasville.org.

SPRING POP-UP BAZAAR

All Saints' Episcopal Church will have a **Spring Pop-Up Bazaar** on Saturday, April 27 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 the Parish Hall by April 23. 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. Please email to let us know when you can help (lbrackenallsaintschurch@gmail.com).