



The Wheel



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Valentine's Dinner Dance & Auction

Saturday, February 10

6:00 PM - Silent Auction opens

7:15 PM - Dinner is served

8:00 PM - Live Auction

The annual J2A Valentine Dinner Dance and Silent & Live Auction will be held in the Parish Hall and will include a gourmet meal served by our youth, a fun-filled evening of music and dancing, and an exciting live and silent auction. This annual event will raise funds for the group's Pilgrimage to Italy this summer.

Get tickets now

Tickets are on now sale at church after services. The cost is single \$40.00, couples \$75.00. Reservations are required.

Auction items needed



J2A members are asking our parishioners for donations for our live and silent auction. In the past, we have had exciting items available such as vacation rentals, vintage wine, classes and lessons, gourmet-cooked dinners, antiques, collectibles, jewelry, gift certificates, pottery, tickets to sporting events, and much more. If you have suggestions, opportunities, or can assist our youth in helping make this event a success, please contact Amelia Snider at 770-971-2839 or Amelia@stcatherines.org, or any of the J2A Leaders or Youth.

Please plan to participate -- it is a wonderful way to support our youth program and have a great time as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thanks,
Your J2A Youth Group

Annual Parish Meeting 2007

Sunday, January 21
12:30 PM in the Parish Hall

The Annual Parish Meeting is a time to reflect on the year past and to explore the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead in the new year. It is a time for the congregation to receive reports from the Rector, Senior Warden, Treasurer, and other organizations throughout the parish.

We hope you will be a part of this most important time in our common life.

- **7:30 and 10:30 AM** worship services only on this day
- **Church School will meet** before the 10:30 service, at 9:00-10:15 AM.
- **Lunch will be served** in the Parish Hall before the meeting immediately after the 10:30 service.

The people of St. Catherine's seek to share in the love that Jesus Christ has for us and the world by welcoming, accepting, nurturing, and serving all people through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We Welcome You!

Lenten Reflections —



Writers needed!

Many writers needed now! If you would like to write a brief (1-3 paragraphs) meditation on a piece of scripture for our annual Lenten Reflections booklet, please sign up in the Opportunities For Ministry in your bulletin or contact Karen Manno at Karen_AT_StCatherines.org. We will be in touch with your assignment. Reflections will be due to Karen by Friday, Feb. 9. **NOTE:** If you volunteer to write and have not received your assignment by January 26, contact Karen by email or call her at 770-973-8668.

Next Baptism

April 7

Please check with the office for more information and to request the customary booklet about Holy Baptism.

Christian Community

By Kathy Holman

"But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care of one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually, members of it."

— 1 CORINTHIANS 12:24b-27

Almost five years ago I walked 400 miles across Northern Spain. Two friends of mine and I walked much of the Camino de Santiago. I'm not really a hiker, and the first invitation from my friend Anne was dismissed with a chuckle and a smile. I believe my exact words were, "Have a nice time, Anne, and let me know how it was when you get back." Once planted, though, the invitation took root in me and I decided that there was something for me in this pilgrimage opportunity. Experienced pilgrims of the Camino were quick to point out that our pilgrimage would not end in Santiago de Compostela – that's where it would begin. They were right. The Camino has become a metaphor for me and many of my pilgrimage experiences continue to teach me.

We were well into our journey and finally feeling comfortable and stronger than in

our initial days when we heard about a young woman who had died in her sleep in the auditorium-like sleeping room of one of the "refugios" along the pilgrim way. The reports said that a North American woman tried desperately to revive the 25 year old through chest compressions and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Unfortunately, the young girl, traveling with her boyfriend could not be revived and there was much sadness and a quiet respectfulness for the fragility of life and our helplessness in the face of death. The pilgrim community was hushed and a bit more serious as we moved along our way that day. And we thought about how brave and caring was the woman who tried to revive the girl. Later we learned that our traveling companion's death was the result of undiagnosed viral meningitis. This news gave us a new appreciation for the "North American woman" who had given mouth-to-mouth resuscitation in hopes of breathing life into the dying woman. Our heroine was now in a Spanish hospital for observation in case she had contracted meningitis through her unselfish actions.

Days later we encountered a rather arrogant woman who was interested in impressing us with how much further she had walked than we had and how much more quickly she had moved along the way. Her

Continued on page 3

Prayers of the People

For the Sick

Sharon Parisi, James, Natalie May, Betty Boyce, Lisa Arnold, George Schnorf, Reese & Margaret Ivey, Jonathan Pearson, Shelley Ransdell, Helen Senchak, Julie Brannock, Nick Manno, Joni Cope, Jerri Blake, Bill Fisher, The Skinner Family, Lavonne Sanders, the Rev. Patty Roberts, Lil McRitchie, Bob Wilson, Shirley Childs, Anne Whittle, Hoyt, Trudy, Doris Ramsay, Doug Ferguson, Fr. Nick Abraham, Holy Trinity Church, Cliff Wingo, Bob Pepper, Anna Walls, Lois & Matthew Golightly, Sadie Mastley, Ginny Acocella, Spencer Shushan, Emma, Bill Brinson, Sheila Crowe Bishop, Betty Temple, Pat

Repotski, Peggy Stewart, Ursula Christie, Anne-Braxton Smith, Arthur Loewy

Before Surgery

Paige Schlenker, 1/22/07;
Jim Lange, 2/6/07;
Tracy Buckalew, 2/9/07

Deceased

Dorothy McHone, friend of Paul & Sharon Parisi; Allison Perry

Special Prayers

Defend all the men and women of our armed forces at home or abroad especially in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait that they will have a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be.

PRAYER FOR THANKS FOR BLESSING: We thank you Lord, for the blessings we receive through the work of the Parish Administration and Facilities Ministry Team.

Prayers of the People

(1/21/07) Karen, John & Amy Mathews; Jim & Nancy Mattox; J.D., Jon & David Mattox; Al, Karen, Katherine & Paul Maxwell, Claire Chironi; Marilyn May
(1/28/07) Walt, Gail, Robin & Scott McGill, April Studley; Michael & Katja Michael; Karoline & Michael Fendley; Kenneth, Linda, & Dana Minzenberger; Andy, Carol & Jennifer Mitchell, Katie Lowry; Charles Monk

Women's Bible Study — new day



The evening Women's Bible Study Group is moving from the third Thursday to the second Monday each month at 7pm in the Library. The February meeting will be on Monday the 12th. All are welcome.

WOW!

Christmas Offering a Record!

Our Christmas 2006 Offering was \$6,533.51, our largest ever. The offering will be divided three ways between St. George's Episcopal Church in New Orleans, MUST Ministries, and Emmaus House. Thank you to all for your wonderful generosity to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Christian Community

Continued from page 2

competitive demeanor was an irritant to us and we admittedly took some pleasure in angrily "putting her in her place" by pointing out all her shortcomings and her obvious self-centered nature. At breakfast the next morning we found out that she was the very person who had so selflessly given mouth-to-mouth to the pilgrim who had died. Our heroine became human and we came away from that experience a bit more humbled and not so quick to judge those we met on the rest of our journey. One never knows, does one?

The next encounter that comes to mind was with an obviously eccentric man who was traveling the Camino on a bicycle. He was filled with stories of riding across the desert of the western United States into California. What he described doing was impossible, or at the very least, improbable. In need of an extended "break" from the walking and some much needed water and a bit of food, I sat down with him and he and I engaged in a most astounding conversation about the meaning of pilgrimage. We talked about how the pilgrim community was "real church" – the church universal. We were all traveling toward a goal the best way we knew how. All of us had a unique story and we came from different places and we were longing for different things in the hope of finding wholeness – each of us missing some piece and in search of that one thing that would make us more complete in some way. We talked of the woman who died and the woman who had tried to save her and the care and concern of the pilgrim community and the presence of God so obviously reflected through the respect and support of our fellow travelers. This, we decided was what real church was all about. How wonderful it would be if the larger Christian community could see this, how much better the world if only everyone could really understand! I walked away from this conversation more aware and more appreciative of the importance of understanding what it means to embrace commonality in the midst of what appears to be diversity and I walked away astounded at the depth of a conversation which had taken place spoken literally in

Assist St. George's during Mardi Gras

February 15-20



Each year the people of St. George's raise money during the week of Mardi Gras for their Dragon Café ministry (which provides meals every week to needy people in the neighborhood). St. Catherine's will be joining churches from other parts of the nation to assist St. George's in this fundraising effort. Please contact Paul Parisi as soon as possible at 404-315-8850 if you'd like to be involved in this trip.

Spring trip to New Orleans

March 31-April 5 — St. Catherine's is planning a spring ministry trip to assist people in New Orleans with house gutting and construction, yard clearing and other chores, including assistance to St. George's. Please contact Paul Parisi if you'd like to be involved with this opportunity.

four different languages. You see, neither of us spoke a common fluent language, so we spoke bits of the four languages that we both knew.

Like I said earlier, it's been almost five years since my walk on the Camino. I can honestly say that I have not seen or experienced what that eccentric man and I described as "real" church in those years - until this past weekend. My experience with the St. Catherine's youth on their January ski trip was participation in a true faith community. We are fortunate indeed to have such a caring, nurturing, supportive, compassionate group of young people among us. I am impressed beyond words. This parish, the youth leaders, the parents of these children and the children themselves are all to be congratulated on a job well done. The seeds of authentic Christian community have been planted and have produced good fruit. Congratulations!!

Kathy †

Words of Wisdom Needed

Please write your advice to our Rite 13 youth celebrating the Rite 13 rite of passage on Jan. 27-28. Fill out and return the form from your bulletin or send them by email to Amelia at amelia@stcatherines.org. Please send your contribution by Tuesday, Jan. 23.



Lenten Series begins Feb. 28

Our Wednesday evening Lenten Series begins February 28. The series will be 5 weeks long, continuing through March 28. Each evening we will provide a choice of soups, bread, and simple beverages, followed by programs for all. See you there!

MLK Concert Jan. 21 at Cathedral

The fifth annual Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Concert is 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21, at the Cathedral of St. Philip.

Sponsored by the Diocese of Atlanta's Antiracism Commission, it will feature music by black composers from Guadeloupe, South Africa, Nigeria, Jamaica, and the United States from the 18th century to present.

The concert is free and open to the public. Calvert Johnson serves as concert organizer. Participating musicians include the Episcopal parish choirs of the Cathedral of St. Philip, directed by Bruce Neswick; Church of the Nativity, Fayetteville, directed by Joanne Brown; and Church of the Epiphany, directed by David Houston. Also participating will be organist Trey Clegg of St. Paul's, Atlanta; keyboardist Dr. Calvert Johnson of St. Bartholomew's, Atlanta; Atlanta Symphony Orchestra principal flutist Christina Smith of St. Luke's, Atlanta; violinist Qiao Chen Solomon of Agnes Scott College, Decatur; and the Still Waters Youth Sinfonia orchestra directed by David E. Richards III.

Feast of Absalom Jones

The Feast of Absalom Jones, which commemorates the first African-American Episcopal priest (ordained in 1802), will be celebrated at 4 p.m. **Sunday, Feb. 11**, at the Cathedral of St. Philip. The Rt. Rev. Michael B. Curry, Episcopal Bishop of North Carolina, will be the guest preacher for the service and will be joined by Bishop J. Neil Alexander as celebrant.

Providing music will be the choirs of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Atlanta, directed by Trey Clegg. A reception, featuring entertainment by the Fort Valley State University Jazz Ensemble, follows in the Cathedral's Great Hall. The Atlanta chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians annually sponsors the Absalom Jones Day activities. All are welcome. For information contact the Rev. Carolynne Williams at the Cathedral.



Vestry Notes

From the January 16 Vestry meeting:

- Vestry discussed and approved the 2007 Budget.
- Faithful Mission pledges are approximately \$760,000.
- Thanks were given for Mikel Parker for his six years of service as Finance Chair.
- Thanks were given for our outgoing Vestry members — Nancy Denton, Joyce Hendricks, Gail McGill, Liz Rea.



Our Newest Christians

Baptised
January 7, 2007

Tyler Mackenzie P.,
Caroline Vaughn G. and
Lydia Colette S.



Elizabeth Inn

**Next Date:
Sunday, Jan. 28**

St. Catherine's volunteers staff the Inn and provide dinner for the guests on the 28th of each month. This Outreach ministry is very rewarding, and we invite everyone to call or e-mail Tracy Buckalew (tracyklpc@peoplepc.com) or Connie Bergeron (404.819.0891; connieb@mindspring.com) Both you and the guests at the Inn will benefit from your being there.



When is your special day?

The calendar each month in The Wheel lists all known birthdays. We would also like to list wedding anniversaries. If you would like to share this information please send your name and date information to the church office.

Wednesdays in Epiphany

A list of our adult Wednesday Evening Programs through Epiphany—bring your own supper.

- **January 17 and 24 —
“Discerning What God Is
Doing: A Study of Acts”**

"God is still speaking," the United Church of Christ currently announces in promotional and outreach materials. Another denomination, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is entering "a season of discernment," encouraging its members to seek a deeper understanding of the will of God and how they might "embody God's purposes in and for the world." Individual congregations in all denominations compose mission statements to articulate how they seek to fit into God's plans or manifest God's concerns.

This language about God's ongoing influence and activity raises questions. In what ways can God be at work among human beings? In what specific ways does God work today, with us, in our world? How do we recognize and partner in this work? Christians propose a wide variety of answers to these questions, and this study aims to help participants think about how they, in collaboration with others, attempt to identify God at work around them. The study does not pretend to offer an exhaustive analysis of what it means for God to act or to be recognized in the actions and experiences of people of faith. Instead, it offers an exploration of selected biblical passages that prompt their readers to reflect on how they consider and expect God to be at work.

The Acts of the Apostles portrays some of Jesus' earliest followers trying to keep pace with what God is doing in their midst. In many passages these believers speak about God's activity through their explanations of what God has done and their interpretations of what God is still doing. The theological conclusions they reach are rarely self-evident. Their statements about God result from discernment declarations of faith that require an openness to God and attempt to make sense of events and people's experiences in light of convictions about who God is and how God operates. Although Acts does not prescribe a fool-proof process for how communities of faith can successfully discern God's leading, it does remind us that God's people have

always found discernment to be necessary, as well as often contentious and surprising.

- **January 31 and February 7—
“When Church People Disagree:
Division or Discernment?”**

Several denominations in the United States are wrestling with division, even to the degree that members are considering breaking away to become part of a different denomination. The identified trigger for schism is usually a particular issue over which there is significant disagreement. However, the process by which such issues are addressed can be a significant factor toward fragmentation. How can Christians live together faithfully in the midst of disagreement? Is there a better way to make decisions than the win/lose method of majority vote?

A growing number of regional, national, and international church bodies are taking seriously a new process for how to engage one another when significant differences exist. The process is called communal spiritual discernment, and it is a process that has been around for quite some time but proving useful in our time. The first session of this study explores the church's call to witness to its oneness in Christ and discusses how parliamentary procedure can exacerbate win/lose dynamics. The second session describes the process of communal discernment to help participants imagine an alternative to these win/lose modes of decision making. The Leader's Guide focuses more on the attitudes needed for discernment to be effective.

- **February 14 —
“What Happened at the 2006 Episcopal
Church General Convention?”**

The Episcopal Church U.S.A. held its General Convention in Columbus, Ohio, June 13-21, 2006. Author Greg Garrett followed the actions and discussions during the conference and provides this summary of major events and decisions.

Vestry Retreat

The Vestry will be on retreat February 2-4 at the Center for New Beginnings in Dahlonaga, GA. As always this will be time of bonding, of planning for the upcoming year, and for reflections on our corporate life. It is a time of joy and hard work. This year we will be continuing our discernment about the future mission and ministry of St. Catherine's. We feel that we are a critical moment in this congregation. We have been praying together and with you over these past months and now is the time for us to determine our next steps in fulfilling God's call to us.

We ask for your prayers.

Letters

Dear St. Catherine's Community,
Many thanks for your generous gifts throughout the Advent and Christmas season. I am continually touched by the depth and sincerity of giving that Bill and I have encountered these past months. We thoroughly enjoyed the children's Christmas concert, the Christmas pageant, the Lessons and Carols service, and all the gatherings in which we were so graciously included. We feel fortunate indeed to have been placed in such a warm and caring family and we look forward to many more celebrations with you and yours.

With deep gratitude and love,
Deacon Kathy

Dear St. Catherine's Family,
Just a short note to let you know how much Ron and I were both touched by the care and love shown to me during my recent illness. I so appreciate all that was done - visits in the hospital from both Fr. Jim and Sherry, having communion brought to me, the delicious meals, cards, and most of all your prayers. I could feel them around me.

Thank you so much.
In Christ,
Julie Brannock

Dear St. Catherine friends,
Thank you so much for your caring and love. The flowers, food, visits and cards were so appreciated. They truly warmed my heart and hopefully helped to cure its problems. Happy New Year to you all, and peace and love from
Lucy Hilley

January Ministry Team Focus: Parish Administration and Facilities

This month we celebrate the life and work of the Parish Administration and Facilities Team. This team is responsible for the effective operation, maintenance and upkeep of the church buildings; the development and upkeep of the grounds and landscaping; and the extensive communication network including publication of The Wheel newsletter and Parish Announcements weekly emails, maintenance of the St. Catherine's website, publication of the worship service bulletins, Reflections booklets and much more. The Team works closely with the Vestry, the clergy and the staff to ensure this.

To find out more about their activities or to become involved please check the Opportunities for Ministry in your bulletin or contact team convenor Bill Selby.

The Kairos Community of Georgia thanks [St. Catherine's] for your gift of \$250.00, directed donation for K.O. South. Your donation will go a long way toward furthering the work of Kairos Prison Ministry in Georgia. We are currently in 18 men's and 2 women's prisons. Also, Kairos Outside and Torch ministries are growing. Your generosity makes it possible to bring God's word and the love of Jesus Christ to the incarcerated. May God continue to bless you abundantly.

In HIS name,
Edd Harrison, State Treasurer

WELCOME our Newcomers!

John Michael Talbot Concert

Atlanta Episcopal Cursillo Community will host an evening with John Michael Talbot, a prolific Christian singer/songwriter known throughout the world for his spiritually meditative compositions. Concert begins at 7:00 PM on **Friday, March 23, at the Cathedral of St. Philip**. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at the Cathedral Bookstore or online at www.itickets.com/events/169926.html

“Volunteers”

Wellstar Partners Newsletter announces Summer Volunteer Program. Applicants must be at least 15 and not turned 18 by May 31, 3.0 GPA or higher, in good standing with school/community, and interested in a medical career. They must commit to 4 hours/week for 8 weeks and follow Wellstar policies and procedures, TB testing, purchase a uniform, attend an interview and an orientation session. Space is limited. Call Wellstar Cobb 770-732-3605 or Wellstar Kennestone 770-793-7120.

Please welcome these new faces (new members and frequent visitors) to St. Catherine's:

- Beth and Juan S. moved here from Norman, Oklahoma. They live in Kennesaw in the Oak Ridge subdivision.
- Melanie and Harrison L. and their children, Oliver, age 3 ½, and Nathaniel, age 6 months, have recently moved from New York to the East Cobb subdivision of Sutton Glen. The boys are enrolled at Mt. Zion preschool. Harrison is a professor in the Drama Department at Kennesaw State and is directing Drama Department's current production.
- J.D. M. and his sons David and Jonathan are long time Mariettans. J.D. is employed at Lockheed and enjoys guitar, fitness training, and walking. His parents are Bill and Nancy M.
- Stephanie and David Y. and their children Riley, age 4, and Danielle, 6 months, have been attending St. Catherine's since 2004. Both children are enrolled in St. Cat's preschool. The Yucius family is active in the Young Families group. Stephanie teaches the monthly Women's Bible Study class and is interested in becoming involved in Catechesis. They live in the Providence Walk subdivision.
- Beth B. is a consultant in the health care industry. She has been attending (mostly the 11:15 service) for about 1½ years. She is involved with the Flower Guild and lives in Indian Hills with her husband and a crazy dog.

Parishioners, please introduce yourself and make these newcomers know how welcome they are in our family.

Big Easy gets Big Help!

Our January 6 “Big Help for the Big Easy” Benefit Dinner & Dance raised \$2,040.09 in ticket sales and other donations for our partner church in New Orleans, St. George's. A “Big Thank You” to Lee and Marlene Stuart for the dinner and to all those who participated or donated!

Right: The Wolfe Family knows the Big Easy;
Bottom left – Cutting the King Cake!
Bottom right – Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!

Look for more photos coming in the Feb. 2 eWheel!





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Mark Your Calendars

1/21.....Annual Meeting
1/27.....Rite 13 Dinner
1/28.....Rite 13 Ceremony;
Elizabeth Inn
2/2-4....Vestry Retreat
2/9.....Lent reflections due
2/10.....Valentine's Dinner/
Dance/Auction
2/14-20New Orleans trip
2/16-18Women's Retreat
2/20.....Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
2/21.....Ash Wednesday

The Wheel

Next Publications:
Feb. 2, 16, Mar. 2
Deadline for Articles:
Wednesday before

Editor: Karen Manno
Email:

KAREN@STCATHERINES.ORG
Phone: 770-973-8668



Diocesan Ministry Fair 2007

**"Renewing Our Baptismal
Covenant"
Saturday, February 24
9 AM - 4 PM at the Cathedral**

Reserve February 24, all day, for the 2007 Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta Ministry Fair at the Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta. Special guest for the Great Gathering this year will be the Rt. Rev. Duncan Gray, Bishop of Mississippi, who will share with the ongoing work being done to repair and rebuild after last year's hurricanes and flooding.

Cost of the Fair will be \$20/person if registered and received by 2/18 and \$25/person, if paid after that date or at the door. For complete information about all the workshops and activities and to register online go to the Ministry Fair link on the Diocesan website, episcopalatlanta.org. Registration material is also available at church. See you there!

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Preschool registration for the 2007-2008 school year is here!

- Currently enrolled students will register February 1st through February 12th
- Church members not currently enrolled may register Sunday, February 11th at 10:00 am at the preschool office.
- Registration for the general public will be on Thursday, February 15th in the parish hall beginning at 10:30 am.

Please visit our website for more information on our wonderful preschool, including ongoing school tour times. As always, we appreciate your referrals to our school.

