



# The Saint

All Saints Episcopal Church  
Jackson, MS

July, 2009

## ONE GOD IN TRINITY

In our previous news letter I introduced the study on the doctrine of the Trinity. This is one of the humongous themes in the theology of the Christian church. Though I've chosen to talk a little more on the same topic I cannot guarantee that I'll go in-depth. Let me begin by asking simple questions: Is it possible to know God? Can we prove his existence in a way which an open-minded outsider would have to accept? If there is one fundamental matter in our faith that perplexes many of us, it is the theme of the holy Trinity. The Gospel of John 3:1-15, shows how little did Nicodemus understand God and the Savior. Do we understand any better than Nicodemus? Theologians differ as to whether we have the idea of God because it is inborn; or whether we come to believe in God because there are so many evidences in nature and experience of his existence - whether, in other words, we believe in God from intuition or from evidence.

The Biblical writers had reached the certainty that God is, by a process of spiritual apprehension, rather than of logical deduction. Charles Bream remarks, "There were among the blessed who, though they had not seen, yet had believed. According to Bream and other biblical theologians, we may deduce that God cannot be proved by our scientific measure. He

is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end (Rev. 21-5-7)" (Bream p. 210). God made heaven and earth and all in it. Bream underscores the fact that



"Whatever there is of beauty or order in the universe is due to God's planning. All life has its origin in God. If it thunders, God

speaks, if it lightens, the lightening are the thunderbolts of God" (p. 211). The Old Testament, and to a larger extend the New Testament, also, take God's existence and activities as a matter of course. In the Old Testament especially, the first view is dominant, according to Hullock view, "The idea that God is not a possibility merely, but an inborn postulate of our being. He further remarks that God cannot be located, defined, circumscribed. He has no dwelling place, no throne, no fixed habitation or limitation (Hullock, p 209). The reason we don't understand God is because He is infinite and we are finite. Jenkins adds, "God's knowledge surpasses our human understanding. Thus, our minds, imaginations, and being cannot be compared with divinity of God" (Burriss Jenkins p. 204).

What is the Trinity? Nowadays, if

*(Continued on page 2)*

**All Saints Episcopal Church**  
147 Daniel Lake Boulevard  
Jackson, MS 39212  
601-372-5185

**The Rev. William Ndishabandi**  
Rector

**The Rev. Bill Hanna**  
Deacon

**The Rev. Cathy Halford**  
Deacon

### THE VESTRY

**Ross Turner** Senior Warden  
**Tim Ryan** Junior Warden  
**Jolinda Charbonnet** Treasurer  
**Therese Hanna** Clerk

**Kenny Hall** Vanessa Kelly  
**Greta Lovell** Shungu Nhema  
**Lissa Nelson** Christine Nelson  
**Stephen Stuart** Tori Myers

**The Vestry meets after the 10:30 service on the 3rd Sunday of each month.**

### Our Mission

"We strive through prayer, worship, study, and fellowship to be a people, individually and corporately, in whom and through whom Christ lives and changes the world with his Love."

### Sunday Services

8:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist  
9:30 A.M. - Sunday School  
10:30 A.M. - Holy Eucharist

Healing is offered on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

[www.allsaintsjacksonms.com](http://www.allsaintsjacksonms.com)

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someone asks what God is like, how do you define the three persons in one? We usually begin by saying that God is a “being” who possesses certain attributes like goodness, holiness, righteousness and so on. One of my systematic theology professors said, “If the doctrine of the Trinity was to be properly taught, mastered, and understood the problem of knowing God’s essence would appear as abstract-useless-speculation.” The doctrine of Trinity defines God’s love for mankind through His incarnation, His sacrificial love on Calvary, and the fellowship of His indwelling Spirit who always intercedes for us. In His Divine nature, God the Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit is: co-equal, co-eternal, and co-substantial. In physical terms, one might say that all three persons occupy the same divine ‘space’; to see God is to see all three at once, not one after the other in ascending order of succession. As a doctrine, this belief is called co-inherence, which means that each of the hypostases is a complete manifestation of the divine essence (Bruner, p. 160).

The Trinity of Person in the Unity of the Godhead seems to be so fundamental to life that we see its impress everywhere. Body, mind and Spirit make the sum total of personality. The ancients numbered the elements, fire, land and water. Astronomy was limited to the sun, the moon and the stars. And yet we can see the minds of the Bible writers working from the opposite end as well. When the Psalmist tells us that “the heavens declare the glory of God,” he is, in a sense, working from the opposite end. He seems to hint that, even if we had not begun by being sure that there is a God, we should soon have had to come to the conclusion that God must exist, by merely contemplating the rational and orderly processes of nature. David needed no telescope to discover that the stars in their courses moved according to plan. His words convey to us the idea that, if he had not known for a certainty all along that there was a God, the orderly processes of nature would have forced him to that conclusion. In Psalm 94, the Psalmist writes, “He that planted the ear shall he not hear? And he not only looked at the starry heavens. He looked at himself. He found himself with ears that heard and eyes that saw, and he pronounced it unthinkable that the power which created ear and eye should not itself hear and see. St. Gregory, in his argument on same Psalm, spoke of the things we see in nature as “footprints, marks upon the sands of time indubitably indicating that God had passed by - traces not merely that a blind necessity had been at work, but a wise and good Creator. No man has seen God at any time: yet his footprints are visible; they tell us that he has been there, that he has planned, that he has been at work” (McRay Ramsey, p 368). Let me hope that this article will bring some new insights in your understanding of the trinity. I appreciate your patience and diligence in taking your time to read this laborious article. May God grant you His favor, sustain and provide for you. Walk in His (God’s) footprint, take a step of faith to claim his might power, and invite him into your life.

William+

### **Prayers of the People**

Please remember to pray for Myron, Stevie, Don, Susan, Edward, Scott, Lissa, Marion, Lela, Vicki, Bill, Betty, Jennifer, Peggy, Adelaide, Barbara, Stephen, Betty, Daryl, Mary Jane, Janis, Bill, Mary Lane, Betty, The Rev. Greg Proctor, Anne, Polly, Eddie, Melissa, Naomi, and the Duggar family as they grieve;

For those who have died, especially Eddie Duggar;

For Adam Pastor and Marc Hines, serving in military duty in Iraq;

For our farmers and for rain for their crops ;

In Thanksgiving for those who dreamed, worked, and died that we might have the gift of freedom in our country.





### Volunteers Needed for Silent Ministry

Often referred to as the silent ministry, the Altar Guild provides set-up services for the 8:00 and 10:30 services and provides occasional duty throughout the year in preparing for special observances. Currently, there are only six members of the Guild, and new members are really needed to carry out an effective program of worship support. Teams of two are assigned a month in rotation to implement this mission which requires about one hour a week to do the work. An added benefit is that Altar Guild members learn more about why we do what we do in our liturgy, and the personal worship experience is enhanced. Please consider joining this group. If you are interested, contact Hank Holmes.

### STEWPOD COLLECTION

It is great to see all the food in the Stewpot Food collection bin in the narthex. Al is going to take the food early next week. Have to get in grocery bags and then deliver. The bin will be empty soon, ready to be filled up for the rest of the extra food needs in the summer.

### Flower Bed

If anyone is willing to help (and offer their gardening knowledge), I am willing to work on the circular flower bed in front of the church one Saturday or Sunday. Just call or see me at church.

Cindy Gavette

### From the Junior Warden

My thanks go out to everyone who participated in our June 6<sup>th</sup> workday. We had a very good turn out and much was accomplished.

Recently, the vestry approved a new version of guidelines for the usage of the Parish Hall. The new version clarifies a couple of fuzzy areas but there were no major changes. Feel free to peruse these guidelines which are now posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. I would like to briefly point out one item that I think should be emphasized so as to avoid scheduling conflicts. It is important to remember that the schedule for the Parish Hall is recorded on a calendar in the church office. This calendar is maintained by Polly Blakeney. Should you wish to reserve the Parish Hall you may refer to this calendar to find open dates for your event. If the event requires a deposit then the deposit must be made before the event is entered on the calendar. A reservation is not considered final until the event is entered on the calendar.

I am continuing with the removal of tree debris and debris from the clearing of overgrown parts of the property. If anyone owning a pickup truck or utility trailer could haul off a load or so each week it would be of great help.

Cathy Halford approached me recently with the idea of painting the big room in the Parish Hall. It has been a number of years since the Hall was painted so I gave her my blessing to try to organize the task. I estimate that it will require up to about 8 gallons of paint to paint the big room. More details can be found in an accompanying article to this newsletter from Cathy. Please consider donating your time or funds to cover the cost of paint (or both) to this effort. Thanks Cathy!

Tim Ryan





### July Birthdays

David Culpepper - 7/12

James Ethridge - 7/16

Jesse Gallagher - 7/16

Connie Taylor - 7/16

Naomi Ndishabandi - 7/17

Alex Lovell - 7/20

Lisa Saucier - 7/31

### July Anniversaries

Mimi & Richard Bradley - 7/2

### Choir News

All Saints' Choir will not rehearse on Wednesday nights during July, although we will still sing on Sundays.

Regular Wednesday night rehearsals will resume on August 5, 7:00 p.m. Please come join us and sing to God's glory!

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**WHAT:** Mississippi Championship Hot Air Balloon Fest

**WHERE:** Canton Multi-purpose Complex

**WHEN:** Thursday, July 2nd – Sunday, July 5th

**INFO:** <http://www.ballooncanton.com>



This festival is a fundraiser for The Good Samaritan Center, a non-profit social service agency helping families in crisis. Dozens of hot air balloons will lead a fun filled weekend for children and adults of all ages. This four-day event will include four competitive balloon races, two spectacular balloon glows, two incredible firework presentations, great food and entertainment and children activities in Canton, including a Special Shape Balloon Fiesta, Patriotic Skydiving Team, and much, much more!

For more information call 601-355-6276 or visit the festival website.





TO ALL THE "WORKER-BEES" OF ALL SAINTS:

I am asking for help from anyone interested in painting the parish hall (the big room)! We are hoping to take about two Saturdays during the month of August, preferably August 8 and 15, to get the job done. There is so much to be proud of at our church. Since our cleanup day a few weeks ago, things are looking so good. Let's brighten up the room where we eat and meet with our own brothers and sisters and with so many others outside our parish. I will have color samples for you to see and give me input. The more the merrier and the quicker we will be able to complete this project. Please contact me at [chalford48@yahoo.com](mailto:chalford48@yahoo.com) or 601-607-3096. Thanks!

CATHY HALFORD

NOTICE TO EVERY GOOD EPISCOPALIAN:

Dear Children of God:

You are cordially invited to join us (Episcopalians around the Dioceses) for a twenty-four hour a day vigil from July 8 through July 17. The purpose of the vigil is to surround those attending the National Convention of the Episcopal Church USA in Anaheim, California with prayer. Bishop Gray III has given his blessing to this endeavor. However, no extra credit points will be given or withheld for your participation or non-participation in this vigil; this is a non-coercive endeavor! Please participate as you feel called.

(This is an excerpt from a memorandum from The Reverend Margaret Ayers.)

**Gray Center Work Weekends**

Fri, Sep 25, 2009 – 06:00 PM *until* Sat, Sep 26, 2009 – 06:00 PM  
Fri, Nov 06, 2009 – 06:00 PM *until* Sat, Nov 07, 2009 – 06:00 PM

Everyone is welcome to come out Friday during the "game plan" time to relax and enjoy each others' company. Saturday morning we will go full force working on the weekend project so don't miss out on the community, fun, and satisfaction these weekends produce. For questions or to be added to the work weekend email list, contact Grae Dickson at [grae@graycenter.org](mailto:grae@graycenter.org).



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 147 Daniel Lake Boulevard  
 Jackson, Mississippi 39212

*Expect a Miracle!*



July 2009

Altar Guild for July: Therese Hanna & Vanessa Kelly

	July 5 5th Sunday After Pentecost	July 12 6th Sunday After Pentecost	July 19 7th Sunday After Pentecost	July 26 8th Sunday After Pentecost	August 2 9th Sunday After Pentecost
<b>Crucifer</b>	Pam Turner	Christine Nelson	Emily Saucier	Hank Holmes	Pam Turner
<b>Server</b>	Ross Turner	Tori Meyers	Greta Lovell	Alex Lovell	Ross Turner
<b>Layreader</b> 8:00 10:30	Emma Magee C. Gavette	J. Charbonnet C. Gavette	Emma Magee J. Charbonnet	Emma Magee J. Charbonnet	J. Charbonnet C. Gavette
<b>Chalice Bearer</b>	Hank Holmes	Lissa Nelson	Tori Meyers	Alec Valentine	Joy Patterson
<b>Lectors</b>	Kenny Hall Stephen Stuart	Lissa Nelson James Ethridge	Connie Taylor Joy Patterson	Hank Holmes Greta Lovell	Vicki Miles Ross Turner
<b>Host Family</b>	Polly Blakeney	Therese Hanna	Lisa Saucier	Nancy Henderson	Kenny & Lauran Hall
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Dish & Dollar	Greta Lovell	Scott Essex	Kenny & Lauran Hall	Dish & Dollar
<b>Nursery Worker</b>	Doreen & Anna	Doreen N.	Doreen & Anna	Anna	Doreen N.

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