

# The CATHEDRAL TIMES

The weekly newsletter of the Cathedral of St. Philip · Serving Atlanta and the World · May 24, 2026

## I LOVE AND ADMIRE THE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE!

by the Very Rev. Sam Candler, *Dean of the Cathedral*

Last week, a self-designated prayer rally on the National Mall, in Washington, D.C. billed itself as a “rededication of our country as one nation under God.” Participants claimed to be preparing for a 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our independence. Apparently, however, some of the sentiment there went towards denying the “separation of church and state” principle upon which our country was actually founded.

This is not new material for me. I am an ordained minister of the gospel, and I have been leading churches through the relationship between church and state for over forty years. Thus, I am writing this week to remind my readers of what I have said before. What I might say later this summer, as these sorts of rallies continue, is not a new reaction for me. I have been saying the same thing for my entire ministry: I love and admire the United States principle of the separation of church and state. I believe it is critical for a healthy country, and I believe it is critical for a healthy religion.

Take a look back at archives of my own sermons, either here at the Cathedral of St. Philip (“I Want to Observe Dependence Day!” <https://www.cathedralATL.org/sermons/i-want-to-observe-dependence-day/>) or even on Day 1 in the year 2000 (“Independence Day” <https://day1.org/weekly-broadcast/5d9b820ef71918cdf20024ea/view>)

Here is an excerpt from that 2020 sermon, still valid for today:

*“When European settlers gathered in this world three centuries ago, their firm religious sentiments were also solidly embedded in their political structures. It was unthinkable that a state — or a country — could exist without some accompanying established religion.*

*To this land, these folks also brought their religious faith. They were Anglican, German Lutheran, Swiss and Dutch Reformed, Anabaptist, Quaker, Jewish, and Puritan. Let us never forget when we celebrate the Fourth of July in our churches, the startling and sometimes conflicting diversity of religious expression in the early American colonies. When charters were granted to various individuals and companies in the colonies, those charters usually stipulated what sort of religious expression was to be allowed. This was true in Western Europe, and it was to be true in the new colonies.*

*Thus, religious passions often became the drivers of political division. We would do well in these days of religious political partisanship to heed what our ancestors learned.... Something new happened in this country, something for which I give gracious thanks this week. The founders of our country figured out a way to separate church and state in a way that gave enormous freedom to each....*

*By the time of the Declaration of Independence, Americans knew first-hand what religious intolerance was like. They knew what happened when a party or a state or a country tried to impose its own particular brand of Christianity, or its particular brand of passion, on its people. Such behavior did not lead to liberty, freedom, and independence. It led to dissension, oppression, and even death.*

*Part of the great American experiment, then, promulgated in the United States Constitution, was the dis-establishment of religion. No one religion, nor one group’s form of religion, nor one group’s form of passion, whatever it is, would be the standard of government in this new land. We are dependent upon that constitutional principle.*

*This decision was a beautiful one, for it allowed the brilliant diversity of American religion, and American passion, to flourish.*

*As a Christian in these United States of America, I give thanks today for the separation of church and state, the separation of passion and government, a separation which allows both religion and government to be truly free.”*

Those were my words of six years ago, and of twenty-six years ago. I am not making this up as I go along. This is our history.

*Sam Candler*





## *This* SUNDAY

MAY 24, 2026 • The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday, Year A

Acts 2:1-21 • Psalm 104:25-35, 37 • John 20:19-23

**8:45 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.: IN-PERSON AND ONLINE**  
**CATHEDRALATL.ORG / THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. PHILIP APP / FACEBOOK / YOUTUBE**

### **7:45 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST, MIKELL CHAPEL**

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Canon David Boyd

### **8:45 AND 11:15 A.M. BAPTISMS AND HOLY EUCHARIST, CATHEDRAL**

Celebrant: The Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener

Preacher: The Rev. Canon David Boyd

Cathedral Singers:

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943), "Veni Sancte Spiritus" from *Lux Aeterna*

Charles Beaudrot (b. 1951), *Come down, O Love divine*

Baptisms at 8:45 a.m.:

Owen Gregory Trandel, *son of Alison and Philip Trandel*

Braxton Arlen Reding, *son of Tatiana and Andrew Reding*

Baptisms at 11:15 a.m.:

Poppy Dillard Dyott, *daughter of Charlotte and Steve Dyott*

Hannah Madalyn Hall, *daughter of Christine and Justin Hall*

Amelia Caroline Hall, *daughter of Christine and Justin Hall*

Brooke Margot Wall, *daughter of Fiona and Brad Wall*

### **11:15 A.M. BAUTISMOS Y LA SANTA EUCARISTÍA (SPANISH), MIKELL CHAPEL**

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Thee Smith

Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval

Bautismos:

Oscar Betancourt Cisneros, *hijo de Eutimia Cisneros Juaquina y Rene Betancourt Lopez*

Maria Reina Betancourt Cisneros, *hija de Eutimia Cisneros Juaquina y Rene Betancourt Lopez*

Omar Betancourt Cisneros, *hijo de Eutimia Cisneros Juaquina y Rene Betancourt Lopez*

Damian Rangel Lopez, *hijo de Diana Moran Lopez y Juan Rangel Torres*

Selin Moronta, *hija de Kathya Martinez and Jose Moronta*

With the Thrift House closing in September after 77 incredible years, we want to make these last few months a true celebration, and we'd love your help to go out with a bang!

Come on in to find a final treasure, or consider donating those special items you no longer need. We're still gratefully accepting fine jewelry, clothing, bags, china, and all sorts of other odds and ends until June 30. Donation drop-off hours are Tuesday through Saturday, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thank you for making the Thrift House such a blessing to the community for all these years!



PLACE A DELIVERY ORDER  
OF PEACHES FROM  
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FUNDS RAISED SUPPORT THE RESCUED CROPS TO FEED OUR NEIGHBORS PROGRAM

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# PRAYER *List*

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**FOR THOSE WITH IMMEDIATE NEEDS:** Walter Boleman • Grace Burnia

**FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING:**

**LONG TERM PRAYERS:** Randy Allen • R. Huntley Allen • Lucy Baker • Benjamin Bao • Ann and Frank Blackistone, Jr. • Larry Boggs • Ian Bond • Stacy Boyd • The Bryant Family • Don Cameron • The Crossley Family • Rita Daly • Jerri Darnell • Jean Davis • Laura Demo-Anderson • Debbie Dewees • Sharon Douglas • Lucy Draper • Janet Harrison Estes • Max Ferguson • Phoebe Forio • Brad Foresythe • Susan Gavalis • Jenny Ham • Heather Huber • Melanie Johnson • Bennie King • Karen Klein • Lisa Krysiak • Bonnie Lamberth • Charles Lane • Jill Mahaffey • Tommy Mason • Marlene Matthews-Muniz • Clyde May • Wynetta McNeill • Floyd McRae • Sally Menning • Glenn Miller • Susannah Morgan • Graham Mulling • Jim Myrick • Charlie Neal • Leo Ortiz • Lori Hegwood Owens • Marian Palmore • Patti Parker • Brenda Pruitt • Rubye Reid • Lorraine Reynolds • Barbara Rice • Lisa Rowe • Lisa Staats • Louis “Skip” Schueddig • Taylor Shailendra • Roberta Shields • Bill Shropshire • Bronnie Smith • Fair Sutherlin • Richard Swanson • Martin Tilson, Jr. • Tommy Truesdale • Art Vinson • Jim Wilson

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Josephine Rose Adams • Frank Armstrong • Savannah Biven • Brenda Bootle • Marianna Bortner • Jason Brady • Trip Bray • Dennis and Robin Bridges • Saint Legend Brown • Beverly Brownlee • Geneveive Brownlee • Anne Bumbak • Calvin Burgart • Lila Jo Callaway • Anna Clifford • Andrea Cody • Sally Coleman • Beatrice “Bea” Comstock • Linda Connelly • Inaam Copt • Ava Corroon • Barbara Daniel • John M. DeBorde IV • Henry “Hank” Diversi • Marty Dunn • Nancy Ehringer • Mary Kent Ellis • Marilyn Epstein • Martha Flory • Pete Fonash • JT Foster • Kyle Garcia • Shannon Garcia • Laura Gardner • Ann George • Emily Giesen • Alexis Grace • Nikki Greenaway • Thomas E. Glynn • Dub Gulley • Ted Hackett • Nicholas Hadden • Harold Ham • McKee Hamilton • Josh Hargraves • Shirley Helmke • Keith Hinze • Lisa Hoybach • Jane Hunnicutt • Cherish Huntley • Wayne Huerth • Beth Ingle • William Irwin • Richard Jacobson • Dilini Jayawardena • Rhett Jayne • Farley Jenkins, Sr. • Margaret Maples Jones • Woody Jones • Delores and Lee Josephs • Patricia Kasm • Carol Kelley • Christopher Keltz • Mary Weston Klein • Gary Laney • Doris Little • Pete Livezey • Henry Long • Lauren Makhlof • Gatra Mallard • Dawn and David Mayers • Stephen McCain • Hailey McKeefry • Iris Miller • Jon Moravec • Larry Mortimer • Tom Myer • Augusta Horsey Nash • Fred Neuschel • Linus Nickel • Ramona O’Neill • Jeff Pace • Alfredo Paniagua • Stephen Pararo • Anna Lilia Diaz Parra • Kari Pekar • Jacquelin Bennett Phillips • Kevin Race • Lisa Randall • Paul Reeves • Hugh Ripps • Charlie Roberts • Mr. and Mrs. William Rowe • Einar Sagstuen • Don Saliers • Patricia Schooley • Lelia Sinclair • Alice Smith-Mather • Michael and Kathryn Snider • Laura Snyder • Becky Spotts • Doug Stapp • Kimberly Still • Izzy Straus • Dan Sullivan • Jan Swanson • Ted Tarantino • Pierson Thames • Cliff Thompson • Charles Vaughan • Angel Vega • Leopoldo Velita • Pat Volpicella • Dan Walls • Ron Winston • Caroline Davis Wish • Cutler Woodfin • Sylvia Wright • Gordy Grayson Wyatt • Hollis Youngner

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:** John Foxworth • Henry Howell

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## *The* CATHEDRAL *of* ST. PHILIP

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The Very Rev. Samuel G. Candler, *Dean*

Dale Adelman, Ph.D., *Canon for Music*

The Rev. Canon Salmoon Bashir,

*Canon for Liturgy and Ecumenism*

The Rev. Canon David E. Boyd III, *Canon for Pastoral Care*

The Rev. Canon Ashley Carr, *Canon for Parish Life*

The Rev. Canon George M. Maxwell, Jr., *Vicar*

The Rev. Canon Julia B. Mitchener, *Canon for Mission*

The Rev. Deacon Linda Rosengren

The Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval,

*Deacon for Hispanic Ministries and Pastoral Care*

The Rev. Theophus “Thee” Smith, Ph.D., *Priest Associate*

Haven Long, *Senior Warden*

Mary Hall Perrin, *Junior Warden*

**CATHEDRAL TIMES SUBMISSION DEADLINES:**

FOR THE **SUNDAY, MAY 31**, ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, MAY 20**. FOR THE **SUNDAY, JUNE 7** ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS **WEDNESDAY, MAY 27**.

**TO RECEIVE THE TIMES BY EMAIL:**

CONTACT LIZ AULL, LAULL@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

**TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST:**

CONTACT SARA CRAIG-GOODELL, SCRAIGGOODELL@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

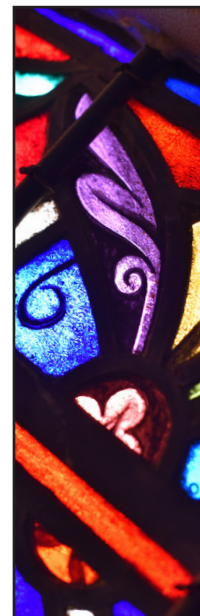
404-365-1000 | [cathedralATL.org](http://cathedralATL.org)

*pastoral care emergency line:*

404-365-1003



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# The CATHEDRAL of ST. PHILIP CATHEDRAL SINGERS

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2026 7:30 p.m.

*Enjoy a lovely June evening's respite amid  
the glow of stained glass, basking in music to  
soothe the soul and delight the senses!*

*Featuring spirituals arranged by Caldwell  
& Ivory, Carl Haywood, and works by  
Ivo Antognini, J.S. Bach, William Byrd,  
Eriks Ešenvalds, and Lucy Walker, this  
concert is presented by the professional core  
of the Cathedral Choir & Schola and our  
magnificent organists.*

*Tickets at [cathedralATL.org/concerts](http://cathedralATL.org/concerts)*

## STEWARDSHIP

### WHY WE GIVE: JEP AND JANET HOGAN

Janet and I are both from lifelong Episcopalian families and have deep roots in the church. We met at St. Luke's in Atlanta and later married at The Church of the Good Shepherd in Cashiers, NC. We have been members of the Cathedral of St. Philip since 1999 and raised our 5 children here, all having served as acolytes. Our daughter-in-law also grew up here as an acolyte, and we now enjoy seeing some of our grandchildren here participating in Sunday School and other children's programs.



We feel a strong sense of community and strongly believe in the importance of support, even when we disagree on some of the messaging of the church. It is vital to help provide financial support for all of the many things we enjoy such as the physical space, the music, the educational programs, the outreach and the salaries of our clergy and staff and all others who help make the Cathedral function.

It takes money to support all of these things which contribute to the main reason we are all here – to facilitate our spiritual growth and development. This in itself is an ongoing journey. We have gained so much from The Dean's Forum, Bible Studies, Wednesday evening Lenten programs, conversations with our clergy and, of course, our beautiful liturgy, and we look forward to continuing our growth here.

## OUTREACH

### SUPPORT EL REFUGIO THIS SUNDAY

This Sunday, May 24

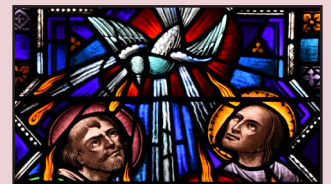
10:10 a.m., Child Hall

This Sunday, May 24, we will complete an intergenerational outreach project supporting families at El Refugio, the hospitality house for relatives of immigrants being held at Stewart Detention Center in Lumpkin, GA.

Participants will make cards and write short letters of encouragement to let detainees and their loved ones know that they are not alone and that we are praying for them. We will also be taking up a collection of gas cards on May 24. Please consider bringing a card for Race Trac, Pilot, Quick Trip, Shell, BP, etc., in any amount. These cards will be distributed by El Refugio to help people afford the trips back and forth from seeing their loved ones. Gas cards may be turned in at the information desk inside the Atrium or brought to the event on May 24. For more information, please contact the Rev. Julia Mitchener, Canon for Mission, [julia.mitchener@cathedralATL.org](mailto:julia.mitchener@cathedralATL.org).

### READ THE GOSPEL ON PENTECOST SUNDAY!

Do you speak another language?  
Readers are needed for Pentecost  
Sunday services on May 24 at 8:45  
a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Anyone who



can read and speak in a language other than English is invited to join the reading of the Gospel. You do not have to be an expert, you do not have to find your own translation, and you do not have to read alone! If you are interested, please contact Hillary Jones, 404-365-1038 or [hjones@cathedralATL.org](mailto:hjones@cathedralATL.org).