

The CATHEDRAL TIMES

The weekly newsletter of the Cathedral of St. Philip · Serving Atlanta and the World · August 9, 2026

WONDER

by the Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener, *Canon for Mission*

It didn't start out as wonder. Not at all. It started out with leaving the dank youth hostel where we'd wolfed down stale corn flakes after spending another restless night on mattresses that reeked of mildew and bore the holes of hastily extinguished cigarettes. When we finished our breakfast and got up from the table, our legs stuck to the vinyl seat cushions like we were at a fish camp in Lower Alabama in late August.

I had come to this place as a captive of sorts. I wanted to stay in the Basque country, leaning over the hotel balcony drinking wine at 11 a.m., pretending I was an "It Girl" in some Hemingway novel. But my traveling companions were devout Roman Catholics, and I was the group's only halfway fluent French speaker. So we went to Lourdes.

Lourdes was all that my smug little Anglican self had imagined. The shops were filled with plastic nativity scenes, statues of Mary in every shape and size, and, of course, the requisite bottles for carting away holy water from rows of spigots lined up at the shrine.

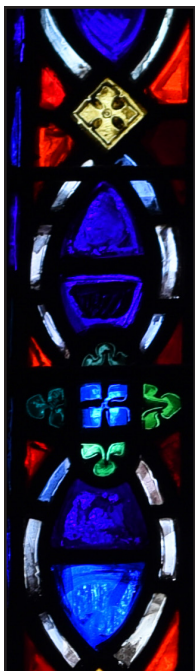
I brought a book with me so that I could read while my friends filled their bottles, while they kneeled beneath displays of cast off crutches bearing witness to those for whom this place had been an answer to prayer. I brought a book so that I wouldn't have to participate in what I was sure was mostly superstitious sap.

After a few hours, it came time to go. Finally we could get on the train and leave this place. I turned around to find my friends. It was then that I saw them: the faces. All the faces. Faces of young and old, rich and poor, faces of every race and nationality. Faces of emaciated middle-aged men held up by their ninety-year-old mothers, faces of babies cradled by fathers who were hardly more than children themselves. Faces, so many faces, and all of them turned so hopefully toward this tiny grotto in this tiny village with all those tiny plastic Mothers of our Lord. Now maybe it was just the glow of the late afternoon sun, but those faces were lit with an unfathomable beauty. It was an amazing and moving sight. So moving, in fact, that I felt an immediate and inexplicable urge to get some of that water myself. Racing towards the nearest spigots, I turned one on full blast, dousing myself from head to toe until I was soaked.

The capacity to be swept up by unexpected love, truth, or beauty is one of life's greatest gifts. It's a spiritual gift, really, one we pray for each time we celebrate a baptism: "Give [the newly baptized]... a sense of joy and wonder in all God's works." In all God's works! Not just the bucket list works, but the more pedestrian ones, too. The works we never imagined would catch our attention, much less knock us off our feet. The ones we glimpse in the long checkout line at the grocery or seated next to a shrieking toddler on an airplane or trudging along the path we walk everyday trying to get in our 10,000 steps. The ones we experience when the puny little seeds we planted in the spring yield a summer tomato so delicious it's hard to know whether the liquid running down our chin is juice or tears. The ones we feel when, at the end of a long, discouraging day (month, year, decade?), we fall into the arms of a friend who says simply, "I know."

They may not seem like much at first, these little moments of wonder, but I'll tell you, some of them have saved me. They have brought me back from the brink of despair. They have offered respite from cynicism. They have given me strength to keep going in the face of things I was sure would undo me. They have allowed me to relinquish the need for strength and to trust that God would carry me. May we all know such moments. May we all know such awe.





This SUNDAY

AUGUST 9, 2026 • The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 14, Year A
1 Kings 19:9-18 / Psalm 85:8-13 / Romans 10:5-15 / Matthew 14:22-33

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 George Maxwell

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Canon Julia Mitchener

Preacher: The Rev. Canon George Maxwell

Cantoris (Cathedral Choir):

John Ronald Daniels, Jr., *How shall I sing that majesty*

Peter Aston (1938-2013), *Author of life divine*

11:15 A.M. LA SANTA EUCARISTÍA (SPANISH), MIKELL CHAPEL

Officiant and Preacher: The Rev. Deacon Juan Sandoval

Adult EDUCATION

Summer of Hope, 10:10 a.m., Child Hall

Join us in Child Hall on Sunday mornings for the second annual "Summer of Hope." This speaker series sponsored by the Outreach Ministry will focus on the Cathedral's many new and continuing ministries offering relationship, encouragement, advocacy, support, joy, and purpose in partnership with our most vulnerable neighbors.

This Sunday, August 9: Executive Director of Toco Hills Community Alliance: This Sunday, we welcome the Rev. Dr. Lisa Heilig, Executive Director of Toco Hills Community Alliance. That organization provides emergency food assistance to more than 750 Northeast Atlanta families weekly. Dr. Heilig will share an uplifting message on anchoring our faith, renewing our spirits, and spreading light through community support.

Enjoy Biblical Greek! *is on summer break. Sessions resume on September 13 in room 239 and via Zoom..*

SPIRITUALITY



SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Elizabeth Oldfield:
**Becoming the People the
World Needs Now**

*Saturday, October 17,
9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.*

Join us on October 17, when we will explore with Elizabeth Oldfield what it means to grow up our souls in order to meet this moment. Drawing on theology, philosophy, behavioral psychology and more, we will spend time clarifying our values, reflecting on our formation, and building courage, steadiness and even joy for these turbulent times. And mark your calendars for Sunday, October 18, when Elizabeth will speak at the Dean's Forum in between services.

Elizabeth is a writer, public speaker and coach. She is fascinated by how we build lives and organizations which reflect the values of connection, clarity and courage. Her Substack is a bestseller in Philosophy. She is the host of *The Sacred* podcast and author of "Fully Alive: Tending to the Soul in Turbulent Times." Elizabeth lives in an intentional Christian community in South London with her family. Read more about Elizabeth at cathedralATL.org/2026-spirituality-conference.



**BACK TO SCHOOL
SUPPLY
DRIVE**

As the school year nears, The Ansley School requests your support. You can help provide essential classroom supplies and resources by contributing through their Amazon Wishlist. Your donation ensures that every student and teacher has what they need to start the year strong!



LEARN MORE

PRAYER List

FOR THOSE WITH IMMEDIATE NEEDS: Mary Elizabeth Morgan

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING:

LONG TERM PRAYERS: Randy Allen • R. Huntley Allen • Lucy Baker • Benjamin Bao • Ann & Frank Blackistone, Jr. • Larry Boggs • Jeff Bonnell • Lawrence Booker • Stacy Boyd • The Bryant Family • Don Cameron • Alex Cann • The Crossley Family • Rita Daly • Jerri Darnell • Jean Davis • Laura Demo-Anderson • Debbie Dewees • Sharon Douglas • Janet Harrison Estes • Phoebe Forio • Brad Foresythe • Susan Gavalis • Allison Gould • 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 • Millicent Miller • Graham Mulling • Jim Myrick • Charlie Neal • Leo Ortiz • Lori Hegwood Owens • Marian Palmore • Patti Parker • Patricia Payne-White • Brenda Pruitt • Rubye Reid • Lorraine Reynolds • Barbara Rice • Lisa Rowe • Lisa Staats • Louis "Skip" Schueddig • Taylor Shailendra • Roberta Shields • Richard Shook • Bronnie Smith • Fair Sutherland • Richard Swanson • Tommy Truesdale • Art Vinson • Jim Wilson

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Frank Adams • Josephine Rose Adams • Frank Armstrong • Alexander Collins Astrop • Savannah Biven • Walter Boleman • Brenda Bootle • Marianna Bortner • Jason Brady • Trip Bray • Dennis and Robin Bridges • Saint Legend Brown • Beverly Brownlee • Geneveive Brownlee • Anne Bumbak • Marion Bunch • Grace Burnias • Lila Jo Callaway • Caroline Cate • Anna Clifford • Andrea Cody • Sally Coleman • Beatrice "Bea" Comstock • Linda Connelly • Inaam Copt • Ava Corroon • David Crawford family • Barbara Daniel • Henry "Hank" Diversi • Marty Dunn • Nancy Ehringer • Mary Kent Ellis • Mercy Elyon • Marilyn Epstein • Elaine Escher • Martha Flory • Pete Fonash • JT Foster • Kyle Garcia • Laura Gardner • Ann George • Emily Giesen • Alexis Grace • Peter Grandell • Nikki Greenaway • Thomas E. Glynn • Dub Gulley • Ted Hackett • Nicholas Hadden • McKee Hamilton • Josh Hargraves • Victoria Leigh Hartness • Shirley Helmke • Keith Hinze • Dave Hopkins • Lisa Hoybach • Jane Hunnicutt • Cherish Huntley • Wayne Huerth • Beth Ingle • William Irwin • Richard Jacobson • Dilini Jayawardena • Rhett Jayne • Farley Jenkins, Sr. • Woody Jones • Delores and Lee Josephs • Patricia Kasm • Christopher Keltz • Mary Weston Klein • Gary Laney • Doris Little • Pete Livezey • Henry Long • Lauren Makhlof • Dawn and David Mayers • Stephen McCain • Hailey McKeefry • Barry Miller • Iris Miller • Jon Moravec • Larry Mortimer • Tom Myer • Augusta Horsey Nash • Katie Neill • Fred Neuschel • Linus Nickel • Ramona O'Neill • Jeff Pace • Alfredo Paniagua • Stephen Pararo • Anna Lilia Diaz Parra • Jacquelin Bennett Phillips • Kevin Race • Paul Reeves • Hugh Ripps • Charlie Roberts • Mr. and Mrs. William Rowe • Einar Sagstuen • Don Saliers • Allan Sandlin • Ernest Sandoval • Krista Sandoval • Charles Robert Schellhase • Patricia Schooley • Lelia Sinclair • Alice Smith-Mather • Michael and Kathryn Snider • Laura Snyder • Doug Stapp • Izzy Straus • Dan Sullivan • Jan Swanson • Ted Tarantino • Pierson Thames • Cliff Thompson • Peggy Thuyler and family • Pamela Tubbs • Charles Vaughan • Angel Vega • Leopoldo Velita • Pat Volpicella • Dan Walls • Ron Winston • Cutler Woodfin • Sylvia Wright • Gordy Grayson Wyatt • Hollis Youngner

BIRTHS: David Emory Boyd IV, son of Sarah and David E. Boyd III •

Margaret Suzanne Caswell, daughter of Mary Margaret and Tommy Caswell, Jr.

The CATHEDRAL of ST. PHILIP

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, AUGUST 16 ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5. FOR THE SUNDAY, AUGUST 23 ISSUE, THE DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12.

TO RECEIVE THE TIMES BY EMAIL:

CONTACT LIZ AULL, LAULL@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

TO SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT REQUEST:

CONTACT DAN MURPHY,
DMURPHY@CATHEDRALATL.ORG.

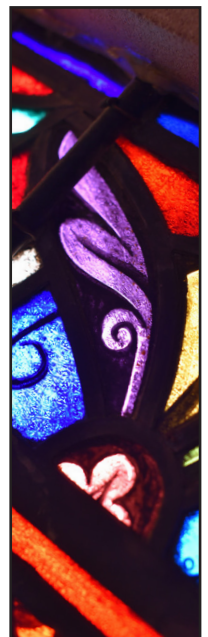
404-365-1000 | cathedralATL.org

pastoral care emergency line:

404-365-1003



CATHEDRALATL



MUSIC



SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CHOIRS UNCORKED

Choirs Uncorked is back – Friday, August 28! Proceeds from this fun and entertaining evening will help support the Cathedral Choir's pilgrimage to Canterbury and Winchester Cathedrals in the summer of 2027. Join us as we hang up our cassocks and let our hair down to show a side of ourselves not seen on a normal Sunday morning.

As part of this fundraiser, we are once again hosting a Cathedral of St. Philip-style Silent Auction. The success of this event depends on the generosity of our Cathedral community, and we are now accepting donations of auction items. Your donation—whether an experience, service, collectible, or handcrafted item—will help make this extraordinary journey possible.

Some of the items that have been especially popular in past auctions include vacation stays, original artwork, airline miles or hotel points, professional services, sports memorabilia, adventure experiences, unique jewelry and crafts, curated gift baskets, antiques and decorative collectibles, rare or specialty books, and event tickets. These are simply suggestions—all donations are sincerely appreciated. Our goal is to offer distinctive and desirable items that generate excitement among bidders while supporting the Cathedral's vibrant music ministry.

Donations are being accepted now and may be dropped off at the Cathedral front desk, in the choir room, or given to Carlisle Dent, Michael Vandergriff, or any member of the music staff and choir. Please include your contact information and a suggested opening bid with your donation so we may properly acknowledge your generosity. Thank you for your continued support of the Cathedral and its music ministry!

POSTMASTER: Dated Material. Please deliver by August 8, 2026



POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:
The Cathedral of St. Philip
2744 Peachtree Road, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30305-2920
404-365-1000

CATHEDRAL TIMES
(USPS-093440) is published weekly by
The Cathedral of St. Philip
2744 Peachtree Road, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30305-2920
Periodicals Postage Paid at Atlanta,
GA

HOMECOMING MINISTRY FAIR

Sunday, August 16
10:10 a.m. in Child Hall

Join us at the Ministry Fair to learn how you can connect and serve with others in our vibrant Cathedral Community!

STEWARDSHIP

YOU ARE A PIONEER OF LOVE!!

Pledgers: 751

Pledges: \$4,361,655

Thank you! The Cathedral community has been so incredibly responsive and generous to the 2026 Annual Stewardship Campaign. As of this writing, we are now less than 4% (less than \$180,000) away from our budgeted pledge goal for the year. To add further context, we have reached a record in pledged dollars and the pledged dollars to-date represent an increase of almost \$400,000 from the same households last year. I am particularly grateful to newcomers, baptism families, and other small groups who have heard the call and pledged generously. Of course, these financial commitments to God through the Cathedral are supporting the incredible worship, music, formation, and mission efforts of this community. Thank you! Please join us: cathedralATL.org/pledge.

NEW MEMBERS

Hannah Eades from Savannah, Georgia

Geoffrey and Caitlin Neville from Atlanta, Georgia

Jacob and Frances van Beek from Greenville, Alabama

PARISH BBQ

CathedralATL.org/ParishBBQ

August 23

5:30 p.m.

