

# St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Anglican Church,  
Timonium, Maryland

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Edited by Anne Hawkins

April 12th, 2011

## FROM THE RECTOR

### Wow! They said it was "the best synod ever!"

CYNICS CLAIM the best one can hope for any church meeting is that no lasting damage is done to the Church Universal. However that certainly was not the case with the recent Diocesan Synod at St Stephen's.

Even before the event was over, delegates were congratulating our volunteers who planned and administrated the event, prepared and served the food and arranged the transportation for organizing the "best synod ever."

Indeed, Diocesan Chancellor Jim Elkins -- a man with an extraordinarily long experience of church meetings -- declared it was the finest synod he had ever attended. And Mr. Elkins is not a man given to exaggeration.

The tone was set by Bishop Brian Marsh, our episcopal visitor, who told the synod that it was time for the diocese to make plans for the future. This included the election of a new bishop.

Delegates responded by unanimously endorsing the candidacy of The Rev. John Vaughan, rector of St. Patrick's Church, Port St. John, Florida, as suffragen bishop and instructing Chacellor Elkins to apply to the House of Bishops to issue a write of election.

A suffragen bishop is an assistant bishop who has no automatic right of succession one the retirement of the diocesan bishop. Father Vaughan welcomed the prospect of serving as Bishop Marsh's assistant.

"It doesn't matter how experienced a priest is in the parochial ministry, the episcopate is very different," said Fr. Vaughan, "If I am elected, it will indeed be a privilege to learn the job under the leadership of Bp. Marsh."

One of Bp. Marsh's first acts at the synod was to designate St. Stephen's as his "pro-cathedral" in the diocese. A "pro-cathedral" is a parish church that serves temporarily as the cathedral or co-cathedral of a diocese.

The bishop said that he chosen St. Stephen's as his pro-cathedral because it is a strong and enthusiastic parish. It also had the benefit of being the closest parish to his home -- an important consideration for a busy bishop shepherding two dioceses.

As if in response to the announcement, Don Ruthig presented him with a handsome cherry wood and oak crozier -- a pastoral staff in the form of a stylized shepherd's crook. But in fact nobody in the parish had been aware that the bishop would be designating St. Stepehn's as his pro cathedral prior to the synod.

Don, the parish's master wood worker, had crafted the crozier out in respose to a plea from the bishop. Today's heightened airport security makes it difficult to carry something as unusual as a crozier through a check point.

Just four days before the synod, the bishop called me to ask if I could find him a crosier somewhere. It's a bit presumptuous for a parish priest to keep a crozier in the sacristy and I was quite at a loss as to where to find one.

In desperation I called Don Ruthig and left a message on his answering machine. "Do you think you could run the bishop up a crozier in the next four days?" I begged.

Less than an hour later, Don was on the phone to the rectory. "I've been researching croziers. I think I can have it ready by Tuesday," he said.

The atmosphere at the synod was one of friendship and collegiality. There wasn't a single abrasive incident or discordant note. Votes -- in the House of Laity, the House of Clergy and the synod, itself -- showed a gratifying unanimity.

Credit for the success of the synod goes in very large part to Rosa Halbert and Donna Szper, who organized the event -- a job, it must be admitted, a bit like herding cats. They were ably assisted by a team including Martha Miller, Colby

Hawkes, Judy Elliott, Stephanie Verhage, Judy Kight, Ellen Reather, Brock Johnson, Bob Reynolds and *chef extraordinaire* Dan Bursi, whose fillet mignon knocked the delegates' socks off. (*Apologies to those I have left out*).

"The food at this synod is out of this world," one delegate remarked after the Thursday night banquet. "And the Choir of Men & Boys were just terrific. I can't speak too highly of your choirmaster. He and the choristers made the Eucharis especially meaningful for all of us." **GPH**

## FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

### Four weeks to sign up as garden party patrons

GARDEN PARTY Day is coming up fast! The big event is scheduled to take place on May 7<sup>th</sup> to be precise. And there is still much to be done to ensure that this year's party is as successful as its predecessors.

One way you can help is by becoming a Patron of the event. It might not get you on the Queen of England's Birthday Honors List, but your name will be listed in our complementary program guide -- and that's almost as good. There are four levels of patronage. Why not pick one and sign up?

- Imperial Crown \$100 . . .
- House of Windsor \$75 . . .
- House of York \$50 . . .
- House of Lancaster \$30 . . .

And May Day, May Day . . . Please come to the Parish Life Committee meetings on Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> -- the last monthly meeting before the event -- to help us finalize our plans.

ST STEPHEN'S CHOIR OF MEN & BOYS  
sing a  
**Choral Evensong for Easter**  
at 6 PM on  
**The First Sunday After Easter**  
May 1st, 2011 .  
Reception to follow

There are all sorts of items we need for the party: We are looking for: **Cakes for the Cake Stall**. Last year your cakes were so scrumptious, we sold out completely in the first two hours. Please double your efforts. It's all in a good cause.

We also need **tea cakes and dainties** for our **Tea Room**. We can use all the help we can get to provide mouthwatering teas for our guests.

**Card tables and chairs** to go with them are also on our wish list. And **tea pots**, too. Not the George II sterling silver heirloom that you inherited from the Custis side of the family, but the pretty little pot that Aunt Mabel gave you a couple of Christmases ago would do very nicely.

We are also still in the market for **superior quality jumble** for our White Elephant Stall. This is your opportunity to at last get rid of the zither Uncle Thomas used to twang at family gatherings and the cage that once was home to Cousin Ebenezer's parrot. Please search your cupboards, attics, cellars and fallout shelters for salable treasures.

And we are badly in need of **bottles of wine and spirits** only for our bottle stall.

**Pretty baskets** are also needed for our floral arrangements.

We are hoping to offer our guests a selection calculated to appeal to every taste.

**Last, but far from least we desperately need help. Please volunteer to give a hand, both for set up on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and on Party Day, Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR  
PALM SUNDAY**

being the Sixth Sunday in Lent, April 17th 2011

8.00 AM, 9.15 AM & 11.15 AM  
HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11  
The Gospel: St. Matthew 827:1-54

FOR YOUR MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalms 24 & 97

The First Lesson: Zechariah 9:9-12  
The Second Lesson: St. Mark 11:1-11

**THE LENTEN SERIES**

**Explore St. Paul's world**

THIS year's Lenten Series concludes at 6.45 PM on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. We are exploring the Roman Empire of St. Paul. Join us for hearty soups, the best bread in Baltimore, beverages and food for thought.

**✠ PARISH PRAYER LIST ✠**

OUR Prayer Chain offers prayer daily for people on the Prayer List and guests of the Joseph Richey Hospice. To add a name to the list, or to the visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the office at 410 560 6776.

**RECOVERY:** Georgetta, Melvin, Noah, Mavis, Heather, Laurie, Diane, Don, Lynn, Helen, Katherine, Hindra, Sara, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Linda, Robert, Nancy, Edithann, Doris, Jay, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Helen, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, James, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erline, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom, Lelilah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Steven, Jeanne, Tammy; Ellen, Jim, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, Bryan, Jason, Jane, Joan, Frances, Pat, Michael, Ray, Leslie, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Naomi, Pam, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Gloria, Lee Emily, Elsie, Bruce, Regina, Lewis, Madolin, Linda, Carol, Bernie, Charlene, Josephine, Margaret, Jody, Sheila, Jo Anne, John, Geradine, Thomas, Jeanne, Sister Catherine-Grace, Maxine, Ann Sharon, Dennis, Mae, Anita, Marilyn, Lawrence, Rebecca, Dorothy, Joanne, ✠Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian and Carol.

**LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE:** June, Anna, Jean, Garrett, Ned, & Stephen, Rachel, Robert & Renee, Lydia; Richard, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Georgetta, Carolyn, Suzanne, Tony, Erik, Doris, Drake, The Norris family; Gillian, Beverley, Adrienn, Jhana, Marla, Matthew, Joan, David, Laurie, Ellen, Lynn, Mildred, Sarah Lee, Tom, Susan, Kathy, Owen, Douglas, Amy, Jo Anne, Mary, Gregory, Isabel, Bobby, Dorothy, Darren, Scott, Rebecca, William, Charles, Joyce, Asfa, Eleanor, Kathy, Linda, James, Barry, Ann, Evelyn, Jeanette, Elizabeth, Virginia, Mildred, Chris, Stephen, Carol, Sandra, John, Mary, Michael and David

**ON ACTIVE SERVICE:** Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; LTC R. J. Lytle, PFC Charles E. Heintz, IV, U.S. Army; Alex Bursi, US Navy; Capt. Charles Bursi & LTC Harry Hughes, U.S. Air Force.

**Easter Flowers for St. Stephen's Altar**

Here is a selection of beautiful spring flowers to decorate the church for Easter. Please make your choice and return this form to the church office with your check by Wednesday April 20th. Flowers may be taken home after the 11:15 am service.

	# of plants		# of plants
Lilies Small elite 6" 4-6 blooms @ \$10	_____	Keepsake Azalea @ \$14	_____
Hydrangeas Four plus Blooms @ \$15	_____	Hyacinths @ \$8.50 (6"pot)	_____
Daffodils @ \$8.50 (6"pot)	_____	Tulips @ \$ 8.50 (6" pot)	_____

Your Name:.....

My gift is made IN HONOROF, IN MEMORYOF, IN THANKSGIVINGFOR (please circle).....

**✠ St. Stephen's Anglican Church ✠**

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093  
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776; Rectory (410) 665-1278  
Web Address: ststeve.com.

RECTOR: The Venerable Guy P. Hawtin  
VICAR: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley  
ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER: Adric

DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE: Anne Hawkins (410-308-2771)  
WEDDING CO-ORDINATOR: Anne Hawkins (410-308-2771)

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

8.00am -- Holy Communion  
9.15am -- Holy Communion  
(Nursery & Church School)  
11.15am -- Morning Prayer

(1st. Sun. of the month: Holy Communion at 11.15am)  
(1st Sun. of the month: Choral Evensong at 6.00pm)

**WEEKDAY SERVICES**

Wednesday: 6.00pm Evening Prayer  
Friday: Noon: Healing Eucharist

**COLLECTS: PASSION SUNDAY &  
SAINT RICHARD OF CHICHESTER**

WE BESEECH thee, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon thy people; that by thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

*Book of Common Prayer, Pages 132*

ALMIGHTY God, who dost shew forth thy glory in the lives of thine elect: Grant, we pray thee, that following the good example of thy servant Saint Richard, Bishop of Chichester, we may be fruitful in piety and good works to the praise of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Return Service Requested

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