

St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Anglican Church,
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXII, Number 20

Edited by Anne Hawkins

May 24th, 2011

FROM THE RECTOR

Unity efforts declared “on hold” in Canada

THE ANGLICAN Church and the Roman Church have been at each others throats for the best part of 1,500 years. It takes two to tango, as my wife likes to say, and no doubt both sides share a degree of blame for this unhappy state of affairs.

However there is no gain saying that Rome bears the greater burden. Not least, over the past one and a half millennia, the Romans have launched at least four “hostile takeovers” of the Anglican Church.

Efforts to reconcile the two churches have signally failed, culminating with an exceedingly ugly brush off from Rome in 1896 with a “Papal Bull” entitled *Apostolicae Curae* which declared Anglican Holy Orders to be “absolutely null and utterly void.”

The “Bull” was highly dubious from a theological perspective – as the Anglican prelates of the day were swift to point out, replying to it in Latin decidedly more elegantly than that of the “Bull.”

But worse, the “Bull” was a manifestly political document. It was widely known that the Vatican was actually planning to recognize Anglican Orders until the Roman primate of England persuaded the Pope that such a move would spell the end of the Roman Church in England.

Apostolicae Curae created a vast gulf between the two churches that has proved exceedingly difficult to bridge. Some 30 years or so ago, however, the bishops of the world wide Traditional Anglican Communion (TAC) initiated talks with Vatican officials with the aim of establishing intercommunion between the two churches..

Many Anglican clergy – myself, included – were highly doubtful about the endeavor’s prospects for success. The Vatican’s publication of its “Apostolic Constitution” last year appeared to confirm our fears. It was not an offer of intercommunion, but, rather, an invitation to submit to the Roman Church with all that that entails.

Even so, a number of TAC parishes – some here in America, apparently rather more in Canada and Australia – opted to apply to join the “Ordinariates” proposed by the Vatican in the Apostolic Constitution. In doing so they hoped to establish, so to speak, an Anglican Church under a Roman umbrella.

Now those hopes appear to have been cruelly dashed. TAC Primate Archbishop John Hepworth declared the venture “indefinitely on hold” following the announcement by Canadian Roman Archbishop Thomas Collins that his priests would be visiting every pro-Ordinariate Anglican parish in Canada to tell them effectively “to shut up shop.”

In a letter to Bishop Peter Wilkinson of the Anglican Catholic Church of Canada, Archbishop Hepworth denounced the Roman plans. He wrote:

“These priests are to announce, on behalf of Archbishop Collins, that the parishes will close forthwith, that the laity and clergy will attend a Catholic parish for from four to six months, that they will not receive the sacraments during this time, that they will be catechized adequately during this time since any catechesis from the Catechism of the Catholic Church done by the Traditional Anglican Communion is inadequate because only Catholics understand the Catechism, that the dossiers submitted by Traditional Anglican

Communion clergy show an inadequate training since they have not attended Anglican Communion Theological Colleges, and therefore those selected by the Ordinary and approved by the [Vatican] will have to attend a Catholic Seminary for an as yet unspecified time, at the end of this process, new parishes for Anglicans along the lines of the Anglican Use in the United States may be established, but not necessarily in the former Traditional Anglican Communion churches, and that during this process the Traditional Anglican Communion must cede its property to the Ordinariate.”

Archbishop Hepworth went on: “As a result, with my explicit consent and approval, albeit given with a full consideration of the likely impact on Ordinariate formation in every other part of the world, including Australia, Bishop Wilkinson is writing to Traditional Anglican Communion clergy in Canada informing them that the process of forming the Canadian Ordinariate will be placed on hold, and that the

visits of Catholic clergy scheduled for May will not proceed . . .”

“It is just on thirty years since these Canadian Anglicans left the Anglican Church of Canada in support of Catholic teaching and the continuation of the ARCIC dream. After so many years of sacrificial work, the wanton destruction of their communities, the absolute disregard for their ecclesial integrity, and the brutish manner in which these edicts are being communicated, are powerful disincentives to unity.”

One cannot say for certain that America’s Roman authorities will impose similar conditions on U.S. Anglican parishes applying

to join an Ordinariate here. But it seems hardly likely that they will be vastly different from those imposed in Canada.

This is not a time for skeptics to be saying: “I told you so.” We might have had no interest in swapping our Anglican heritage and identity for a Romanesque one, but a number of our friends were sincerely convinced that this was the best way to preserve and continue Anglicanism.

We might not agree with their theological reasoning, but we can at least feel the depth of their hurt and empathize with their sense of rejection. Above all, let us pray that something better comes out of this experience – not just for our Anglican brethren, but for our Roman friends as well. **GPH✠**

FROM THE PARISH CHEFS

Silly Summer Suppers are coming on June 9th

THE MOMENT you have all been waiting for now approaches. On Thursday, June 9th, the chefs of St. Stephen’s will begin the 2011 series of “Silly Summer Suppers.”

Truth to tell, its hard to think of a less appropriate name than “Silly Summer Suppers” for these remarkable gastronomic events. Not least, the food is absolutely scrumptious – and there is plenty of it.

The only thing silly about these suppers is the price. Where else can you get a home-cooked entrée, dessert and salad for a meager \$10. Add to that soda for a buck and wine at \$3 per glass and \$5 for two.

Actually, a Silly Supper Supper is much more than a meal. It is a social occasion – a time to meet your neighbors and fellow parishioners for food, fun and – if it appeals to you – a light hearted game of bingo.

ST STEPHEN'S CHOIR OF MEN & BOYS

will sing a

Choral Evensong for the
Sunday After The Ascension

at 6 PM on

Sunday, June 5th, 2011

People of all faith traditions
are heartily welcome
Reception to follow

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
ROGATION SUNDAY**

being the Fifth Sunday After Easter, May 29th 2011

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM

HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: St. James 1:22-27

The Gospel: St. John 16:23-33

11.15 MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 65

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 34:25-31

The Second Lesson: St. Luke 11:1-13

Why not join us on Thursday, June 9th? Your stomachs will thank you. Your friends will thank you. And our chefs will thank you for appreciating their good cooking.

FROM THE VESTRY

Annual Meeting, June 5

ST STEPHEN'S Annual Parish Meeting will take place between the 9.15 AM and the 11.15 AM services on Ascension Sunday, June 5th. Members attending the meeting will hear the Rector's report on the state of the parish, the reports of the Treasurer and Wardens, and elect candidates for the Vestry. The candidates nominated for the vestry this year are all sitting members. They are: Mr. William H.J. Hawkins, Treasurer; Dr. Kirby von Kessler, Registrar; and Mr. G. Brock Johnson, Vestryman.

THE EDITOR

Get the newsletter by email

AT LONG last we have a new publishing program which gives us the capability of delivering St. Stephen's News by e-mail. If you would rather receive the newsletter by e-mail, please email the Treasurer at treasurer@ststeve.com or give me a call at the parish office and I will arrange it. **AEH**

✠ 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: Blair, Jim, 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, 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, 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: Rosa, 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.

✠ 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

Saturday: 5.00 PM Family Eucharist.

**COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH
SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**

ALMIGHTY God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou doest promise; that so, among th sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 173

Return Service Requested

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11856 Mays Chapel Road
Timonium, MD 21093

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