

# St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Church, Timonium, Maryland  
A parish in the classical Anglican tradition

Vol. XXI, Number 33

Edited by Anne Hawkins

August 24th, 2010

## ECCLESIA ANGLICANA VI

### The Magna Carta states Church's independence

IT WAS NOT until the decidedly unpopular King John ceded England as a secular feudal fiefdom to the Pope, that Rome had the slightest claim to authority in Britain – a claim swiftly and unequivocally disavowed in 1215 A.D. by the English Church and the English nobility in concert.

They asserted independence of both England and the English Church in the document that forms the foundation of the English and American Constitutions. The first provision of the Magna Carta (the Great Charter) reads: "The Church of England shall be free and hold her rights entire and her liberties inviolate . . ."

The independence of the Anglican Church, moreover, was considered so important that the Charter concludes with a re-assertion of that right. The final clause states: "that the Church of England shall be free, and that all men have and hold the aforesaid liberties truly and peaceably, freely and quietly, and wholly in all things and in all places forever."

Some modern historians claim these statements in the Magna Carta are not an assertion of independence from Rome, but, rather, an assertion of independence from royal authority. If this is so, the Pope certainly didn't see it that way at the time. He excommunicated everybody who signed the document – prelates and nobles – for disavowing papal authority.

Roman church lawyers have contended King John's decision to cede the realm of England to the Pope as an fiefdom – whether or not from ignoble motives – is legally binding in that John was the legitimate King of England. The question of John's legitimacy has been challenged – he was, after all, not the direct heir to the throne. However, from a constitutional perspective, it is not unreasonable to argue that the legitimacy of John's claim to the English has little bearing on the matter.

The throne of England, from its inception, has been, effectively, an elective office. This is in line with its Celtic and Anglo Saxon origins. And, indeed, the assembled representatives of the English people have asserted this on a numerous of occasions. All of the Anglo-Saxon kings were elected and a number of the Normans were accepted by assent of the ruling Council of State. In more recent history, Parliament exercised its

## THE RETURN OF THE SILLY SUMMER SUPPERS

Fun neighborhood get-togethers every  
Thursday at 5.30 PM  
Join us for fine food & fellowship

Come sing  
your heart out  
at St. Stephen's Church  
**Labour Day Hymnfest**  
at 6.00 PM Sunday, September 5th  
Reception to follow

prerogative in this regard in 1603 with the accession of James I, in 1688 with the accession of William and Mary and with the accession of the Hanoverians in the 18th Century.

In the 13th and 14th Centuries, the English reasserted their independence from Rome by enacting the laws of mortmain and praemunire – ordinances that made it a criminal offense to abet papal efforts to encroach upon English ecclesiastical and temporal prerogatives. The laws re-iterated that all appointees to English benefices be made in the name of the King and the Anglican Church – Ecclesia Anglicana – not in the name of the pope. And they declared that anyone who sued for redress in papal courts put himself outside the protection of the laws of England and forfeit his goods to the State. In 1420 – a hundred years before the Reformation – the pope tried to reassert his claims over England by excommunicating all of the English clergy. But his bulls of excommunication were confiscated at the borders by the English government and burned. Indeed, the pope's efforts to deny the English faithful the Sacraments were wholly ignored. **GPH**✘

## FROM THE CHOIR MASTER

### Sing hymns to cast off the chains of tradition

*OUR Fourth of July Hymnfest was such an overwhelming success, we decided to repeat the experiment with a Labor Day Hymnfest on Sunday, September 5th. The Hymnfest, which will be followed by a gala reception, will take place at the Parish Church at 6.00 PM -- the same time as our monthly services of Choral Evensong.*

*For many Maryland families Labor Day is traditionally celebrated in superheated automobiles in miles-long traffic jam in locations like the Bay Bridge or on I 95. Here, at last is an opportunity to cast off the chains of tradition. How much nicer it would be to celebrate the last public holiday of summer by singing your favorite hymns in the comfort of an air-conditioned church.*

*Come and join your voice with ours in a musical tribute to the people who built the USA. The program will be largely devoted to the parish's most popular hymns. This means we are giving you another opportunity to vote for your favorite hymn or hymns.*

*We will be giving out voting slips with the orders of service at Sunday services. Submit the numbers and tunes of your favorites and drop your votes in the alms bason*

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

being Sunday, August 29th, 2010

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM  
HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: II Corinthians 3:4-9  
The Gospel: St. Mark 7:31-37

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 32  
The First Lesson: Isaiah 29:18-24  
The Second Lesson: St. Mark 7:31-37

along with your offering. Alternatively you can mail them in or hand them in at the office. Then get ready to sing your heart out. **ADRIC**

**FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE**

**Come to the Fall Picnic on Sunday, Sept. 12th**

THE Parish's Fall Picnic will take place in the churchyard on September 12th -- the Sunday the Choir of Men & Boys return from their summer vacation.

To make it easier for all parishioners to attend, the Rector has agreed to combine the 9.15 AM and 11.15 AM services. This means there will be the usual 8.00 AM Eucharist, follow by a Choral Eucharist at 10.30 AM. The service will be over in time for you to dig into the hamburgerers, hot dogs and the traditional picnic fare -- all provided free of charge by the folks at the Parish Life Committee.

As usual we are asking parishioners whose family names begin with the letters A to M to bring a salad or some such and folks whose names begin with letters N to Z to bring a dessert. See you at the picnic! **STEPHANIE VERHAGE**

**✦ 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:** Helen, Alma, Sara, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Linda, Robert, Nancy, Sharp, Edithann, Doris, Jay, Robert, Nancy, 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, Katherine, William, Betty, Cal, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom, Lelillah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, Steve, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Edith Anne, Steven, Jeanne, Tammy; Ellen, Jim, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, George, Bryan, Jason, Jane, Joan, Frances, Ernie, Pat, Lynn, Michael, Ray, Leslie, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Naomi, Pam, John, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Elizabeth, 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, Carol and Debbie.

**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, Debbie, 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, Micki, Stephen, Carol, Sandra, Elsie, John, Mary, Michael and David

**ON ACTIVE SERVICE:** 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 Traditional Episcopal Church ✦**

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093  
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776; Rectory (410) 665-1278  
Web Address: <http://www.ststephens-md.org>

RECTOR: The Venerable Guy P. Hawtin  
ASSOCIATE RECTORS:

The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley and The Rev. Robert Menas

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 (Nursery)  
(1st. Sun. of the month: Holy Communion at 11.15am)

**WEEKDAY SERVICES**

Wednesday: 6.00pm Evening Prayer  
Friday: Noon: Healing Eucharist  
Saturday: 5.00PM Family Eucharist.

**COLLECTS FOR SUNDAY TRINITY XII & ST AUGUSTINE, BISHOP OF HIPPO**

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve; Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy; forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. *AMEN.*

*Book Common Prayer, Pages 206*

ALMIGHTY God, who from among the people of Africa didst raise up thy servant Augustine to be a Bishop and Doctor of the Church: Grant us so to follow him in paths of penitence and discipline that we may attain the vision of thy glorious Godhead; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *AMEN.*

Return Service Requested

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11856 Mays Chapel Road

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St. Stephen's Traditional

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