

St. Stephen's News

St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church, Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XX, Number 5

Edited by Anne Hawkins

February 10th, 2009

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

Eat your fill at our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

MAKE SURE you don't forget one of the top gastro-nomic events of the year -- St. Stephen's great 2009 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, which takes place in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, February 24th, from 5.30 PM to 8.00 PM.

It is a truly unique occasion. It is organized and conducted by the Men of the Parish (albeit they are sponsored and exceedingly closely supervised by the ladies of the Parish Life Committee).

They cordially invite all members and friends of St. Stephen's to partake of their traditional Shrove Tuesday fare: Home made American, English AND Polish pan-

FROM ALLAN GUSHUE

A challenge that's posed by the hard times we face

NO GOOD deed, they say, goes unpunished. And in St. Stephen's case, we have learned to our considerable dismay that this maxim applies to the careful way in which we have managed the parish's money.

We have always run on a bare bones budget and kept a watchful eye on expenses. For example, we have only three full-time employees -- the rector, the associate rector and the director of pastoral care -- and a part-time janitor. Believe me, their pay by no means exceeds their dreams of avarice.

The other three clergy attached to the church are volunteers. In other words, they pay for the privilege of working for us. You'll never find a better deal than that.

By being frugal, we have been able offer a range of services to our members, friends, their families and the community at large that is far greater than that of many much bigger churches. But in the present economic climate our thrift has come back to bite us.

Last year, thanks to the steep economic downturn, we operated at a deficit and it looks as though this unhappy situation is continuing into current fiscal year.

We are by no means unique in this. Many other institutions are in the same boat. Unlike a lot of other churches, however, our frugality means there is very little fat to trim in our budget. This, in turn, means that if we have to cut, we will be cutting into muscle.

This would be a very real loss to all of us. The church, you see, plays an even more important role in difficult times than it does when things are going well. It is in hard times that people truly rely on the pastoral care, counsel, spiritual comfort and guidance, the fellowship and material support that the church offers.

As Stewardship Chairman, the problem of making up as much of this shortfall as possible falls on my shoulders. I calculate that if just 40 percent of our parishioners were prepared to give \$15 a week over and above their present pledges our money problems would largely be solved.

Of course, not everybody will be able to afford that sort of increase, while some of us might well be able to give more. If an extra \$5 a week is all you can afford, it will still be very much appreciated. If you prefer to give lump sum, that will be just fine too. Pledge cards will be available this weekend.

Good stewardship is not solely a matter of money, of course. The Parish Life Committee will be working as never before in the cause of promoting fellowship and raising funds to support the work of the parish.

Among other things, we will be starting up our highly successful "Silly Summer Suppers" program in the very near future and we use your help both in the kitchen and, just as important, to promote it in the community.

Your help would also be greatly appreciated with events such as our Pancake Supper, the St. Patrick's Night, the English Garden Party and the Cookie Walk.

Ideas are things that are no less important. If you have an idea fund raising -- or for anything else that will advance the work of the church -- don't be shy. Please let us know. All advice will be gratefully received, and carefully considered.

Please join with me and my vestry colleagues and prayerfully consider what you can do to help the parish in these difficult times. I need this church and the faith it preaches. And I have faith in you that together we can do what's needed.

Your Friend in Christ -- ALLAN GUSHUE

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE February 25th, 2007

Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

8.00 AM: Union Memorial Hospital Auditorium

10.00 AM: The Parish Church

12 Noon: Union Memorial Hospital

7.00 PM: The Parish Church

Choral Eucharist & Imposition of Ashes

cakes, smothered in butter and syrup, accompanied by generous helpings of succulent sausage and a wide selection of soft drinks.

This is the best deal in Baltimore. For adults, admission will be \$5 to defray expenses, while for children admission will be half price (\$2.50 each) for the first two in the family; all the others eat free.

Come one! Come all! This is dining at its best!

...And by the way, we are having a St. Patrick's Party!

MARK your calendars as we shall be celebrating the feast of the blessed St. Patrick with a rip roaring Irish party on Saturday, March 14th at 6:00pm. And, naturally, all things Irish will be warmly welcomed.

So your forebears hail from Outer Mongolia! No problem! Everybody's Irish on St. Patrick's Day! Just dress yourself in a bit of green and then sit back to enjoy fine food and hearty entertainment.

Feast on corned and roast beef with all the trimmings. Gorge yourself on mouth watering deserts. Ale and soft drinks will be served and you'll have the chance to try our green beer -- if we can find the coloring! The cost is a modest \$10:00 per adult. Children are welcome at \$5:00 for the first two; thirds, fourths and fifths are free.

NOTE: We would much appreciate some male muscle (female too, for that matter) to set up the Parish Hall for the party. Please be at the parish hall at 3:00 PM on Saturday, March 14th.

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE SUNDAY CALLED SEXAGESIMA
February 15th, 2009**

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION
The Epistle: II Corinthians 11:19-31
The Gospel: St. Luke 8:4-15
11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER
The Psalter: Psalm 33
First Lesson: Isaiah 30:8-21
Second Lesson: St. Mark 4:26-34

FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPT.

Lenten Study: "Mere Christianity"

THIS YEAR'S Lenten Series will be interactive study of C.S. Lewis' thought-provoking book "Mere Christianity." The series will begin at 6.45 PM after Evening Prayer on Wednesday, March 4th, 2009, and will continue every Wednesday evening until April 1st.

We are announcing the study earlier than usual because some of you may wish to read "Mere Christianity" ahead of time. If you have already read it, why not root around your bookshelves for your copy and re-read it? It is truly one of the great Christian classics. **BROCK JOHNSON**

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

O LORD, we beseech thee favorably to hear the prayers of thy people; that we, who are just punished for our offences, may be mercifully delivered by thy goodness, for the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN. Book of Common Prayer, Page 114*

✠ St. Stephen's Traditional ✠ Episcopal Church

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093
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Web Address: <http://www.ststephens-md.org>

RECTOR: The Ven. Guy P. Hawtin
ASSOCIATE RECTOR: The Rev. James V. Johnson, Jr.
VICARS: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley, The Rev. Robert Menas
& The Rev. Jonathan Filkins
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.

✠ 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: McKayla, Randy, Rosemarie, Debbie, David, Skippy, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Doris, Carolyn., Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erline, Jack, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, Polly, Katherine, Helen; William, Betty, Cal, Wendell, Jack, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Dorcas, Walt., Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Lelilah, Jennifer, Miriam, Harriet, Karen, Steve, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, James, Suzanne, Marian, Edith Anne, Steven, Jeanne, Betty, Judith, Angela, Tammy; Ellen, Jim, Patricia, Henry, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Robert, Christine, Ruth, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, George, Bryan, Jason, Jane, Joan, Frances, Mary, Ernie, Pat, Lynn, Michael, Ray, Leslie, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Rachel, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Eric, Naomi, Pam, Betty, John, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Elizabeth, William, Gloria, George, Lee Emily, Elsie, Bruce, Regina, Lewis, Madolin, Eudora, Carol, Bernie, Charlene, Josephine, Margaret, Mackie, Jody, Sheila, Jo Anne, Thomas, Jeanne, Sister Catherine-Grace, Mae, Marilyn, Lawrence, Rebecca, Dorothy, Joanne, ✠ Albion, Martha, Matthew, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Wendell, Vivian, Geradine, John, Maxine, Ann Sharon, Tom, Dennis, Alice & Anita.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Georgetta, Carolyn, Perry, Suzanne, Tony, Robert, Doris, Drake, David, The Norris family; Gillian, Beverley, Adrienn, Jhana, Marla, Matthew, Joan, Laurie, Ellen, Lynn, Mildred, Sarah Lee, Tom, Susan, Debbie, Kathy, Owen, Douglas, Amy, Jo Anne, Mary, Gregory, Isabel, Bobby, Dorothy, Harriet, Darren, Scott, Rebecca, William, Charles, Joyce, Asfa, Eleanor, Kathy, Linda, James, Barry, Ann, Evelyn, Jeanette, Elizabeth, Virginia, Mildred, Chris, Micki, Stephen, Erik, Carol, Sandra, Elsie, Rhae, John, Robert, Mary, Michael & Loyal.

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

HYMNS FOR THE SUNDAY

CALLED SEXAGESIMA

Sunday, February 15th, 2009

PROCESSIONAL: 553 (Lancashire)

Go forward, Christian soldier

GRADUAL: 4013 (Weymouth)

Behold a Sower! from afar

SERMON: 563 (St. Dunstan's)

He who would valiant be

COMMUNION HYMN: 195 (Rendez a Dieu)

Father, we thank thee who has planted

RECESSIONAL: 287 (Elbing)

Give praise and glory unto God

St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church

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