

St. Stephen's News

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

Vol. XX, Number 8

Edited by Anne Hawkins

March 3rd, 2009

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

Dark Horse to play at our St. Patrick's Party!

THE GREAT Celtic band **Dark Horse** will be joining us to celebrate the feast of the blessed St. Patrick with a rip roaring Irish party on Saturday, March 14th at 6:00pm. So if you enjoy the lilt of great Celtic music make sure you join us.

We are very fortunate to get Dark Horsplay for us and the fact that the musicians are the grandchildren of the indomitable Elsie Entwistle probably has something to do with it.

Everybody's Irish on St. Patrick's Day! Just dress yourself in a bit of green and feast on corned and roast beef with all the trimmings. Gorge yourself on mouth watering deserts. Ale, wine and soft drinks will be served and if you truly have a yen to drink green beer -- we will provide the food 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.

SUNDAY CHORAL EVENSONG

5.00 PM, SUNDAY, MARCH 8th

Because of scheduling difficulties, Choral Evensong will take place on the second Sunday of the month instead of the usual first Sunday

FROM THE PARISH TREASURER

Faceless bankers taste their own medicine

THERE is little more frustrating than dealing with banks, corporations and government agencies who use those ghastly push-button automated telephone services. First, they ask you: "How may I direct your call." Then they have you interminably pushing button after button -- often to no purpose whatsoever.

Not so long ago, the answering service at a huge and powerful government agency kept me pushing button for two and a half hours until I returned to the point at which I had started. The most frightening words in the English language, they say, is: "I'm from the government and I'm here to help."

Donna Szper, our Treasurer, has a keen eye for Internet humor. Recently she sent me the follow article. I thought it was so much to the point -- and so shriekingly funny -- I just had to share it. It is a letter of complaint written by 86-year-old lady to her bank. Apparently, her bank manager thought it so amusing he sent it to the New York Times.

"Dear Sir:

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my check with which I endeavored to pay my plumber last month.

By my calculations, three nanoseconds must have elapsed between his presenting the check and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honor it.

I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my entire pension, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only eight years. You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account \$30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank. My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways.

I noticed that whereas I personally answer your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overcharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become.

From now on, I, like you, choose only to deal with a Flesh-and-blood person. My mortgage and loan repayments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at your bank, by check, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank whom you must nominate.

Be aware that it is an offense under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope.

Please find attached an Application Contact which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Notary Public, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof. In due course, at MY convenience, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me.

I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Let me level the playing field even further.

When you call me, press buttons as follows:

IMMEDIATELY AFTER DIALLING, PRESS THE STAR (*) BUTTON FOR ENGLISH

#1. To make an appointment to see me

#2. To query a missing payment.

#3. To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.

#4. To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping

#5. To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.

#6. To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home

#7. To leave a message on my computer, a password to access my computer is required. Password will be communicated to you at a later date to that Authorized Contact mentioned earlier.

#8. To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 7.

#9. To make a general complaint or inquiry. The contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service.

#10. This is a second reminder to press* for English. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the setting up of this new arrangement. May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous New Year?

Your Humble Client."

FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPT.

Lenten Study: "Mere Christianity"

THE Lenten Series will be a 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 and will continue every Wednesday evening until April. 1st.

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

The First Sunday in Lent

O LORD, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; Give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness, and true holiness, to thy honor and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. AMEN. *BCP, Page 125*

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

March 8th, 2009

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION
The Epistle: I Thessalonians 4:1-9
The Gospel: St. Matthew 15:21-28

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER
The Psalter: Psalm 30
First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Second Lesson: St. Matthew 5:27-37

riet, Karen, Steve, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Edith Anne, Steven, Jeanne, 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, 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, John, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Elizabeth, 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, Al-bion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Wendell, Vivian, Geradine, John, Maxine, Ann Sharon, Tom, Dennis & Anita.

✠ 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: Trisha, Mary, McKayla, Randy, Rosemarie, Debbie, David, Skippy, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Doris, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erlene, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, Polly, Katherine, Helen; William, Betty, Cal, Wendell, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Dorcas, Walt., Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Leliliah, Jennifer, Miriam, Har-

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Donna, 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.

A pledge card for those who have not received one at church - Allan Gushue, Stewardship Chairman

✠ St. Stephen's Traditional Episcopal Church ✠

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093

My contribution towards helping the Parish through a difficult time.

I pledge to contribute an additional \$..... weekly to reduce the operating deficit.

The pledge will begin on

MyName.....Date.....

Address:.....

**✠ St. Stephen's Traditional
Episcopal Church ✠**

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093
Tel.: Office (410) 560-6776; Night 665-1278
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.

**HYMNS FOR THE SECOND
SUNDAY IN LENT**

Sunday, March 8th, 2009

PROCESSIONAL: 416 (Caithness)

O for a closer walk with God

GRADUAL: 459 (Campion)

Hark, my soul, it is the Lord

SERMON: 449 (Olivet)

My faith looks up to thee

COMMUNION: 211 (Jesu joy of man's desiring)

Come with us, O blessed Jesus

RECESSIONAL: 385 (Austria)

Where cross the crowded ways of life

**St. Stephen's Traditional
Episcopal Church**

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Timonium, MD 21093

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