

St. Stephen's News

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

Vol. XX, Number 26

Edited by Anne Hawkins

July 7th, 2009

FROM THE RECTOR

Setting the past straight sets some folks at odds

THE MOTTO of the Order of the Garter, one England's noblest orders of chivalry, is "*Honi soit qui mal-y-pense.*" Roughly translated from the medieval French, it means "Evil be to he who thinks it" -- not an entirely charitable sentiment perhaps, but one I was tempted to invoke quite recently.

My irritation was occasioned by recent reaction to an article I dashed off some twenty years ago, and which, much to my surprise, has developed a degree of immortality courtesy of the Internet. It is a potted history of our Mother Church, the Church of England, entitled *Ecclesia Anglicana*. (Folks with an interest the arcana of church history can find it, among other places, on the parish web site.)

The article was originally written as a speech to a small group of Anglican clergy who were considering endorsing the notion that the Church of England was cut out of whole cloth by Henry VIII in 1535. Their contention was that, prior to the

Return of the best value in Baltimore!

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Every Thursday at 5.30 PM

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Beverages: Wine, \$3 per glass; Soda, \$1

Reformation, the Church of England had merely been a branch office, so to speak, of the Roman Church.

My article sought to demonstrate that their argument was based on a false historical premise. Far from being merely a branch of the Roman Church, the English Church had existed independent of Rome since its founding. And this, according to many ancient witnesses, had taken place some time in the First Century AD.

I pointed out that Rome, itself, had openly acknowledged the English Church's independence until 1215 -- the year in which King John attempted to validate his shaky claim to the throne by ceding England and its Church to the Roman pontiff and receiving back again as the pope's feudal vassal.

This prompted the drafting of the *Magna Carta* which repudiated John's self-serving act, and in both its first and final clauses, vigorously affirmed the historic independence of the Church of England. Nothing had occurred between that date and and Henry VIII's breach with the papacy to alter the English Church's independent relationship with Rome.

My article was in no way intended to denigrate the Roman Church, but rather to head off a potential cause of division in the world of American Anglicanism. Fast forward two decades, however, and some folks are interpreting my 20-year-old words as an attempt to undermine efforts to bring about an "intercommunion agreement" between Anglican traditionalists and the Roman Catholic Church..

Nothing could be further from my intentions. We live in an age in which husbands, wives, parents, children and sibling, are frequently members of different Church jurisdictions and denominations.

I, and an overwhelming majority of my diocesan colleagues, would enthusiastically welcome an agreement which officially permitted us to receive communion in Roman churches and to welcome Roman Catholics to our altar rails.

Indeed, Anglicans already welcome Romans (and, for that

matter, every other member of the faith in its catholic understanding) to share our communion. Moreover, many Roman Catholic clergy reciprocate the privilege on an informal basis. But it would be very much more comfortable for all concerned if the practice were to be sanctioned in the Canon Law of both Churches.

However, when reviewing the history of the English Church, there is no escaping the fact that, over the centuries, its relationship with Rome has frequently been fractious and marked by a woeful lack of charity on either side.

This ought in no way to be controversial. After all, if the past had all been kindness and light there would be no need for us to be talking about an "intercommunion agreement." We would never have broken communion with one another in the first place.

Rifts of historic proportions cannot be healed by denying history. Indeed, true reconciliation -- whether it be between individual penitents or entire jurisdictions of the church catholic -- can only be achieved by squarely facing up to the wrongs of the past and seeking each other's forgiveness.

As to my article, it largely achieved all that it was intended to do: It upheld the antiquity, independence and catholicity of the Church of England. So let that be an end to it!

Honi soit qui mal-y-pense! GPH✘

FROM THE TREASURER

Pity the poor treasurer in earnest this summer

ABOUT this time of year I usually start writing tongue-in-cheek articles beginning "Pity the poor treasurer . . ." They are intended gentle reminders that the parish's bills don't take a holiday when our parishioners set off on vacation. The message is that we would much appreciate you paying your pledges before you go away rather than after you come back.

The reason for this is that sacred institutions -- in common with many secular ones -- suffer from cash flow problems in the summer months. Your kind response my reminders over the years have enabled us to get through the summer doldrums without having to dip too deeply into our modest reserves.

This year, however, is different. The recession continues to bite hard. Overheads have been rising -- and rather more steeply than usual. At the same time, the summertime cash flow blues are a much deeper shade than usual.

I and the vestry would very much appreciate it if you were able to help us out this summer by bringing your pledges up to date before you head for the hills or the seaside. Of course, we understand that some folks will find it difficult to do so. Summer sometimes spells cash flow shortages for people as well as parishes.

But if you are able to bring your pledge up to date without putting yourself into the poor house, I'll guarantee there's one parish treasurer who'll fervently give thanks for your thoughtfulness. **God bless & bon voyage, BILL HAWKINS**

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE

Please give blood on July 13

OUR NEXT Community Blood Drive is scheduled to take place in St. Stephen's Parish Hall on Monday, July 13th. The Red Cross team will be at the church from 3.30 PM to 8.00 PM. Please call me, Anne Hawkins, at 410-308-2771 or the church office, to make an appointment to your life saving donation.

Your donation is particularly important at this time of year. With many donors away on vacation, blood is in extremely short supply, while demand is greatly up thanks to increased travel.

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**
Sunday, July 12th, 2009

8:00 AM & 9.15 AM
HOLY COMMUNION
The Epistle: I St, Peter 3:8-15
The Gospel: St. Luke 5:1-11
11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER
The Psalter: Psalm 65
First Lesson: Judges 6:11-23
Second Lesson: St. Luke 5:1-11

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Course on Thomas Aquinas

THE NEWLY-established Anglican Seminary, **Holy Trinity Theological Seminary**, is offering an exciting summer course on St. Thomas Aquinas. The instructor is The Rev. John Worgul, Dean of Holy Trinity Seminary.

The course is academically more demanding than the four-day Prayer Book course that took place last month. It takes place every Monday evenings until August 24th. Opportunities are still available to audit the course.

Thomas Aquinas is one of the church's most fascinating theologians. With him we reach the pinnacle of Medieval thought. We will strive to gain from this course a basic idea of the contours of his thought and a sense of his deep spirituality.

For further details, contact The Rev. John Worgul at Tel: 410-861-6876 or on the Internet at frjworgul@yahoo.com.

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

For Independence Day

O ETERNAL God, through whose mighty power our fathers won their liberties of old; Grant, we beseech thee, that we and all

the people of this land may have grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN. BCP. Page 263*

✠ **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: Carl, Charlotte, Catherine, Algin, Sam, Rosemary, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, James, Patty, Antonio, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Rosemarie, Debbie, Jack, Grace, Bob, Fran, Doris, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt Bobby, Alexander, Erlene, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, Polly, Katherine, Helen; William, Betty, Cal, Wendell, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Dorcas, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tracy, Tom. Lelilah, Jennifer, Miriam, Harriet, Karen, Steve, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Marian, Edith Anne, Steven, Jeanne, Judith, Angela, Tammy; Ellen, Jim, Patricia, 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, Naomi, Pam, John, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Elizabeth, Gloria, Lee Emily, Elsie, Bruce, Regina, Lewis, Madolin, Eudora, Carol, Bernie, Charlene, Josephine, Margaret, Mackie, Jody, Sheila, Jo Anne, Thomas, Jeanne, Sister Catherine-Grace, Mae, Anita, Marilyn, Lawrence, Rebecca, Dorothy, Joanne, Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, Geraldine, Maxine, Ann Sharon & Dennis.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Donna, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Georgetta, Carolyn, Perry, Suzanne, Tony, Robert, 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, 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: Col. Scott Taylor, U.S. Army, 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.

✠ **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 Ven. Guy P. Hawtin
ASSOCIATE RECTOR: The Rev. James V. Johnson, Jr.
VICARS: The Rev. Rhae E. Kelley, 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.

**THE HYMNS FOR THE
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Sunday, July 12th, 2009

PROCESSIONAL: 156 (Morning Star)
Awake, awake to love and work

GRADUAL HYMN: 539 (Armes)
Soon may the last glad song arise

SERMON : 564 (Lyons)
How firm a foundation

COMMUNION: 466 (Lytlington)
God be in my head

RECESSIONAL: 567 (Dulce Carmen)
Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

**St. Stephen's Traditional
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