

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church,
Timonium, Maryland

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Edited by Anne Hawkins

March 14th, 2012

FROM THE RECTOR

Lies that get told in the battle for men's minds

ONE of most despicable Soviet practices was the use of fraud and deceit to achieve their ends. Lenin instituted this policy at the outset when he dubbed his tiny group of supporters "Bolsheviks" (from *bolshoi*, meaning great) and his very much more numerous opponents "Mensheviks," (implying they were the tiny faction.)

The technique was continually employed to demonize opponents and deny them a voice in the public square. Citizens who peacefully protested oppression were branded as "hooligans." Jews and Christians who sought to practice their faiths were dubbed "anti-social elements."

Nations that timidly opposed Soviet barbarities were smeared as "aggressors," while the reflexively belligerent USSR and its puppets fraudulently described themselves as "peace-loving peoples."

A similar degree of deceit is reflected in the current campaign to force religious institutions to provide their employees with all manner of birth control services – including those contrary to long-established church teachings.

This campaign is based upon the blatantly false proposition that the provision of free contraceptives is a "women's health issue."

- (1) *When a woman's health is genuinely at risk, employers' health insurers, religious and secular, routinely cover birth control measures. The health and safety of the mother is held to be paramount.*
- (2) *The idea that "free" or "cheap" contraceptives are available only through health insurers is manifest false. They are readily available free or at very low cost from places such as birth control clinics, supermarkets, and high school and college health departments.*

The real aim of the campaign, in fact, is to force all religious organizations tacitly but publicly to sanction casual, vicarious sex. This has the goal of radicals since the French Revolution, not because casual sex might be pleasurable, but on the theory it will undermine the traditional family and pave the way for far reaching revolutionary change.

While the Roman Catholic Church might appear to be the primary victim of the campaign, virtually all religions -- Christian, Jewish and Moslem -- are targets. No religious jurisdiction or organization I am aware of has declared itself in favor of casual, vicarious sex or the destruction of the traditional family.

Certainly, the doctrine of the Roman Church on the matter of contraception is more rigorous than that of many religious bodies. But it is hard to think of a Christian, Jewish or Moslem religious group that does not have problems with -- or ethical objections to -- some of the modern birth control practices, if only "late-term" or "post birth" abortions.

Those campaigning in favor of the legislation are attempting to deny people of all faiths the freedom to act according to their religious precepts and their consciences – flouting the rights guaranteed to us in the First Amendment.

This is not merely a fight to uphold the values of the Roman Church. It is a battle to defend the right of all people of faith to live in accordance with their religious teachings.

When a government attempts to overthrow of the legitimate precepts of one religious group it is in fact

THE OBSERVANT EAGLE THREE CHEERS FOR JOHN

I was probably the only person who witnessed last week's wonder at first hand: It was John Woodall, the parish's master electrician, swaying about, 60 feet up, on one of those cockamamie extending arm lifts replacing all the light bulbs in the sanctuary. It was an act of cool, calm courage and he deserves our heartfelt thanks and admiration. Not least, he's made it easier for me to keep my eye on you! ISAAC

attacking the rights of all of religious organizations – even those, like atheists, opposed to religion. If the state can, by fiat, can delegitimize one article of faith, all expressions of faith are in jeopardy. **GPH**✘

THE LENTEN STUDY

All you want to know about Christianity etc.

THIS YEAR'S Lenten Study is a freewheeling series of five seminars entitled "*All You Wanted To Know About Christianity But Never Had The Courage To Ask.*" The series continues on Wednesday evenings at 6.45 PM (after Evening Prayer) until March 28th.

Participants will join in a "no holds barred" interchange with a panel of five experts on everything from Archaeology to Zwingli and all stops in between.

If you are puzzled by the relationship of Jerusalem (old and new) with Christianity, have at it. If you would like to know the real cause of England's row with Rome, just ask. If you want to find out about sex and "Original Sin," or the pros and cons of infant baptism, or Essenes and the Dead Sea Scrolls, or the "lost Books of the Bible" just raise a hand. As usual we will be offering nourishment for the body as well as the soul -- a hearty soup, the best bread in Baltimore and choice of beverages. If that's not enough, bring a sandwich.

✠ 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 prayer list, or to the visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the parish office at 410 560 6776.

RECOVERY: Leo, Riley, Sallie, Linda Lou, Cynthia, Goff, Robert, Nancy, Judith, Deborah, Dorothy, Nancy, Dr. Devadadson, Thelma, Mary, Adele, Linda, Jan, Liz, Bob, Wyatt, Jim, Reta, Sara, Tammy Sophie, Paula, Blair, Melvin, Noah, Mavis, Heather, Laurie, Diane, Don, Lynn, Helen, Katherine, Hindra, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Robert, Nancy, Edithann, Jay, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, Val, Joseph, Joshua, Rachel, Carl, Cal, Catherine, Sam, Ruth, Kristi, Paul, Sue, Patty, Antonio, Ray, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Fran, Carolyn, Ken, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erline, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tom. Leliliah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, George, Eliza, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Steven, Jeanne, Tammy; Ellen, Patricia, Bonnie, Mary Ann, Christine, Dee, Brian, Barbara, Gillian, Eileen, Matthew, Bryan, Jason, Joan, Frances, Pat, Michael, Brandon, May, Scott, Stephen, Robert, Danny,

**THE PARISH BRIDGE CLUB
INVITES YOU TO A RELAXED AFTERNOON OF
GOOD NATURED BRIDGE
AT 3.30 PM ON SUNDAYS
LEARNERS HEARTILY WELCOME!
EASY-GOING INSTRUCTION PROVIDED!**

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
LAETARE SUNDAY**

Also known as Rose Sunday, March 18th, 2012

8.00 AM & 9.00AM

HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Galatians 4:21-31

The Gospel: St. John 6:1-14

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalms 147

The First Lesson: Exodus 16:4-15

The Second Lesson: St. John 6:27-40

Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, Alma, Christine, John, Henry, Naomi, Pam, Ben, Kevin, Gwen, Gloria, Lee Emily, 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, Dorothy, Joanne, Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, Doris, Carol, Suzie and Jennifer.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Jennifer, Brendan, Rosa, June, Anna, Jean, Garrett, Ned, Stephen, Rachel, Robert & Renee,

Lydia; Richard, Melba, Debbie, Phyllis, Carolyn, Suzanne, Tony, Erik, Drake, Bobby, Kay & Emma, 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: LTC R.J. Lytle, PFC Charles E. Heintz, IV, USA; Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; Lt. Alex Bursi, Charles Watts, USN; Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt. Col. Harry Hughes, USAF.

FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL: George G. Harvey

FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: Georgeanna Harvey & family

THE LAST WORD

Join us on March 21st

THE Ladies Who Lunch will be meeting at Razorbacks restaurant, in Towson at 12 noon on Wednesday, March 21st. The restaurant is located at the south west corner of Dulany Valley Road and Fairmont Avenue. Do accept this invitation to join us for fellowship, fun and a great dining experience. we guarantee you won't regret it. Book your place by calling Joyce Perlberg at (410) 252-2680.

Easter Flowers for St. Stephen's Altar

Here is a selection of beautiful spring flowers to decorate the church for Easter. Please make your choice and return this form to the church office with your check by Wednesday, March 4th. Flowers may be taken home after the 11:15 am service.

Lilies Small elite 6" 4-6 blooms @ \$10 _____ # of plants
Hydrangeas Four plus Blooms @ \$20 _____
Daffodils @ \$10 (6"pot) _____

Field Azalea @ \$15 _____ # of plants
Hyacinths @ \$10 (6"pot) _____
Tulips @ \$10 (6" pot) _____

Your Name:..... My gift is made IN HONOR OF,
IN MEMORY OF, IN THANKSGIVING FOR (Please Circle)

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: Said Eucharist

9.00am: Sung Eucharist (with Nursery & Church School)

11.15am: Choral Mattins (1st Sunday: Choral Eucharist)

6.00pm: Choral Evensong (1st Sunday only)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6.00pm: Evening Prayer

Friday Noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5.00 pm: Family Eucharist.

**COLLECT FOR GAUDETE SUNDAY
OR LENT III & ST PATRICK**

WE BESEECH thee, Almighty God, look upon the heart desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 130

O GOD, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant Patrick to be the Apostle to the Irish people that he might cause the light of the Gospel to shine in the world: Grant us so to walk in that light, that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Return Service Requested

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11856 Mays Chapel Road
Timonium, MD 21093