

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church,
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXIII, Number 10

Edited by Anne Hawkins

March 21st, 2012

FROM THE RECTOR

Bring back the pointy teeth and neck rings

THE VENERABLE *National Geographic Magazine* has changed vastly in recent decades. Gone are the politically incorrect photo essays that populated my adolescence with natives who filed their teeth to points, stretched their lower lips to accommodate discs the size of tea plates, and exponentially extended their necks with multiple brass rings.

Today, in place of such embarrassing naiveties, readers are treated to weighty "think pieces" on such subjects as "The Teenage Mind."

(In my humble opinion, the politically incorrect illustrations of exotic self-mutilations provide a far better insight on the average adolescent mind than long and worthy intellectualizations. But I digress . . .)

I confess that I cancelled my *National Geographic* subscription when my teenage offspring failed to echo my adolescent fascination with it. Their interest waned, I suspect, at about the same time that the folks with pointy teeth were banished from its pages.

It was, thus, quite some time since I'd last leafed through the publication when Clark Cochran (*9 AM, front pew, Gospel side*) drew my attention to an article in a recent edition entitled: *In the Footsteps of the Apostles*.

"Let me know what you think of it," he said.

Well, for starters, there are no photographs of exotic mutilations – merely a rather unappetizing shot of the skull of Mary Magdalene in its gold reliquary in a French basilica. Roles hitherto assigned to folks with the brass neck extenders have been foisted off on Christian pilgrims – crawling up the stairs of shrines, weeping at altar rails, and prostrate in the dirt at Holy Places.

A map accompanying the article postulates that the expansion of the Church in the First Century AD was rather more modest than the evidence of the New Testament and the Church Fathers would suggest.

There is, for example, good reason to believe that, before planting churches in Crete and Malta and his execution in Rome, Paul undertook a missionary journey to Spain. Persuasive evidence also indicates Christianity arrived in the British Isles prior to the Roman invasion in AD 43.

Happily, the article treats Jesus and his apostles as genuine historic personages and not – as is so often the case in the media these days – quaint and improbable figures of myth and legend. Even so, it was jarring to see Judas Iscariot described as the "alleged traitor."

If the Gospels are correct, there is nothing "alleged" about it. To be sure, one can speculate about Judas' motives for betraying Jesus for 30 pieces of silver – e.g. that he was trying force our Lord's hand – but there is no other way to describe his act than "treachery."

Indeed, if Judas can rightly be described as an "alleged traitor" then it is no less reasonable to call Jesus Christ the "alleged Messiah," and Peter, Paul, James, John, etc. "alleged apostles."

You can bet your bottom dollar that no article in the *National Geographic* would have the temerity to call Siddhattha Gotama Buddha the "alleged enlightened one" and still less to refer to Mohammed as "an alleged prophet."

A further genuflection to political correctness is the inclusion of Mary Magdalene as an apostle – indeed, the Apostle to the Apostles. True, she was among the women

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 1st to April 8th

PALM SUNDAY: 8 AM Holy Eucharist
9 AM Sung Eucharist
11.15 AM Choral Eucharist
6 PM Choral Evensong

HOLY MONDAY: 6 PM Holy Eucharist
HOLY TUESDAY: 6 PM Holy Eucharist
HOLY WEDNESDAY: 6 PM Holy Eucharist

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 7 PM
Choral Eucharist & Stripping the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY - 12 NOON
The Seven Last Words From The Cross
3.30 PM Children's Way of the Cross
6 PM Communion of the Pre-sanctified

HOLY SATURDAY
7 PM The Great Vigil of Easter

EASTER DAY
8 AM Holy Communion
9 AM Choral Eucharist
11.15 AM Choral Eucharist

who delivered the news of Jesus' resurrection to the apostles and the Greek for messenger is *apostolos*, but the rest is speculation. There is no evidence that either she or her fellow disciples considered her to be what the Church has traditionally hailed as an apostle.

For my money, the magazine was more entertaining and educational -- and a whole lot less pretentious -- when it concentrated on exotic lands populated by folks who filed their teeth to points, stretched their lower lips to accommodate tea plates, and exponentially extended their necks with multiple brass rings. **GPH**✘

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.

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 want to find out about sex and "Original Sin, Essenes and the Dead Sea Scrolls just raise a hand. We are offering food for the body as well -- a hearty soup, the best bread in Baltimore and choice of beverages. If that's not enough, bring a sandwich.

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
PASSION SUNDAY**

Being the Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 25th, 2012

8.00 AM & 9.00AM

HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15

The Gospel: St. John 8:46-59

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalms 51 or 71

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 8:15-20

The Second Lesson: St. Luke 20:9-18

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, Erlene, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tom, Lelilah, 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, 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.

✠ 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,

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 LAETERE SUNDAY
OR LENT IV & ST CUTHBERT**

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. *AMEN.*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 130

ALMIGHTY God, who didst call thy servant Cuthbert from following the flock to follow thy Son and to be a shepherd of thy people: In thy mercy, grant that we may so follow his example that we may bring those who are lost home to thy fold; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one

God, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
TIMONIUM MD
PERMIT NO.181

St. Stephen's Anglican Church
11856 Mays Chapel Road
Timonium, MD 21093