

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXIII, Number 23

Edited by Anne Hawkins

June 19th, 2012

FROM THE RECTOR

The big news story that you never got to read

FURTHER evidence – if any were actually needed – of the mainline media's decided anti-Christian bias is the almost total news blackout imposed by America's news outlets on the outcome of what the media originally billed as “the forgery case of the century.”

In March, a Jerusalem Court dismissed charges of forgery against two men charged with forging an inscription on a First Century ossuary (burial box) that declared it to contain the remains of “James, son of Joseph, brother of Jesus.”

The announcement of the discovery of the ossuary in 2002 was front page news. Experts called to authenticate it made a persuasive case for believing the inscription referred to St. James, half brother of Jesus and author of the Epistle General of St. James.

It was a story that could not be ignored. To Christians, the saint is traditionally known as St. James the Less or St. James the Just to distinguish him from St. James called “the Great”, the son of Zebedee and brother of St. John the Evangelist.

A year or so later, however, even bigger headlines gleefully announced that the Israeli antiquities authorities had declared the inscription to be a forgery and that prosecutions would follow.

The jubilation among militant secularists at the news that the inscription was alleged to be forged is easy to understand. If the ossuary and its inscription were declared to be genuinely that of the brother of our Lord, their efforts to dismiss the Christian faith as mere superstition would be that much more difficult.

This doubtless explains why the acquittal of the owner of the ossuary, Israeli antiquities collector Oded Golan, and antiquities dealer Robert Deutsch, who had been accused of forging the inscription, has received so little attention from the decidedly secularist mainline media.

But while the “not guilty” verdict has not laid to rest speculation about the authenticity of the inscription, Hershel Shanks, founder of the Biblical Archaeological Society, points out that much of the discussion has ignored the wealth of scholarship available on the artifacts and trial.

Shanks and his society have followed every twist and turn in the five-year forgery trial -- consistently providing scholarly analysis of the archaeological facts and their implications for the trial.

For folks interested in discovering the facts, Shanks has produced an e-book entitled *James, Brother of Jesus: The Forgery Trial of the Century*. It contains a detailed analysis of the trial and the characters involved. It also lays out the evidence for believing the ossuary inscription to be authentic.

The e-book can be obtained free of charge from the Biblical Archaeology Society. Moreover, I plan to follow up the story as it develops in coming editions of the newsletter. **GPH**✘

FROM THE PARISH CHEFS

Silly Summer Suppers are starting June 21st

THE MOMENT you have all been waiting for now approaches. On Thursday, June 21st, the chefs of St. Stephen's will begin the 2012 series of “Silly Summer Suppers. And this year we will be starting with a mouthwatering tailgate party -- hamburgers, franks, chicken and all the trimmings

Truth to tell, its hard to think of a less appropriate name than “Silly Summer Suppers” for these remarkable gastronomic events. Not least, the food is absolutely scrumptious – and there is plenty of it. The only thing silly about these suppers is the price. Where else can you get a home-cooked entrée, dessert and salad for a meager \$10. Add to that soda for a buck and wine at \$3 per glass and \$5 for two.

Actually, a Silly Supper Supper is much more than a meal. It is a social occasion – a time to meet your neighbors and fellow parishioners for food, fun and – if it appeals to you – a light hearted game of bingo.

THE RECTOR'S REPORT: PART 2

Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 17th

FOR THE second year in a row the Award for Making Bricks Without Straw goes to **Adric our Organist & Choir Master**. Thanks to his creative direction and innovative music selection, the **Choir of Men & Boys** has maintained a remarkably high standard despite an acute shortage of trebles.

With veteran trebles **Xander Nickol and Davis Pfund** now on the choir's back benches, the burden of the treble line is being carried by three novices – **Avery Schweitzer, Michael Donaldson and Patrick Haley** – and a very creditable job they have made of it.

We are always on the lookout for trebles, experienced singers, as well as probationers and learners. If you know a boy who would enjoy singing and who would appreciate a splendid musical education – all for free – please let us know his name. We'd love to recruit him.

Adric and the choir have continued their splendid program of

Choral Evensongs. These services are generally sung on the first Sunday of the month and the offertory is in aid of the choir's special charity, **Dr. Bob's Place**, the Joseph Richey Hospice's new pediatric hospice.

Three or four Sundays a month during the academic year, the choir sings **Choral Mattins**. The officiant is usually **Peter Threadgill**, our head lay reader and resident composer. Indeed, from time to time, you will hear the choir singing music Peter, himself, has composed.

Thanks also goes to **Llwyd Bowers**, formerly organist at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Carey Street, Baltimore, who, from time to time, has good-naturedly turned out on Sunday to play for the 9.00 service.

Our lay readers **Gordon Turner, Paul Douglas, Dan Bursi, J. Brice Richardson, Bob Reynolds, and Dr. Kirby von Kessler** have been joined by **Chris and Carroll Browne**. (Chris is the artist who painted the reredos on the East Wall). **Postulants John Novicki and Michael Belt** have also been busy, both with studies and with outreach programs. John acts as lay chaplain to a group of re-enactors. Mike conducts a prayer service at a local nursing home

St. Stephen's Ladies Who Lunch, under the leadership of **Joyce Pearlberg**, have enjoyed another year of fellowship and fine dining. The **Altar Guild**, led by **Stephanie Verhage**, and **Joyce Perlberg** has had another busy year. Membership is open to both men and women. If you are interested in this vital work, please contact the parish office or an Altar Guild member. We are also looking for more **ushers** -- particularly

St. Stephen's JULY PATRIOTIC HYMN FEST

at 6.00 PM
at The Parish Church
Sunday, July 1st, 2012
hymnfest.ststeve.com

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR
THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

Being Sunday, June 24th, 2012

**8.00 AM & 9.00 AM
HOLY COMMUNION**

The Epistle: I St. Peter 5:5-11

The Gospel: St. Luke 15:1-10

11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 103

The First Lesson: Ezekiel 34:20-24

The Second Lesson: St. Luke 15:1-10

for the 11.15 AM Sunday service.

The Sunday School has again done well during the course of the year thanks to the creative work of **Diane Novicki, Tracey Gushue, Tracey Collins, Allison Hendricks, Alison Belt** and **Brock Johnson**. Diane also leads the **Junior Altar Guild**.

Our talented **Flower Guild** continues to deck the sanctuary with spectacular floral arrangements. It was hard to imagine the church appearing more beautiful than it did at Christmastide until we saw the Easter flowers.

Almost last, but very far from least, our long suffering treasurer **Bill Hawkins** would like to remind you that finances always get tight as summer approaches. Family vacations tend to play havoc with church cash flow. If you are planning a trip, Bill would very much appreciate it if you paid your pledge before you went away, rather than upon your return.

Meanwhile, if you would like to keep abreast of parish affairs, check a date, read a sermon, hunt through ancient newsletters or keep us with the endless complaints of Isaac the Misanthropic Brass Eagle, our website is the place to do it. You will find it at our web address: www.ststeve.com **GPH**✘

FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH

Please join us on June 20th

LADIES and their gentlemen are invited to Tarks Restaurant at 12 noon on Wednesday, June 20th, at the Greenspring Center on

Falls Road. Why not plan to join us for good food and great fellowship? To reserve your place, call Joyce Perlberg at Tel: 410-252-2680.

✠ 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: Richard, Bill, Leo, Riley, Mary-Ann, Linda Lou, Cynthia, Robert, Nancy, Judith, Deborah, Dorothy, Dr. Devadadson, Thelma, Mary, Adele, Linda, Jan, Liz, Bob, Wyatt, Jim, Reta, Sara, Tammy Sophie, Paula, Blair, Melvin, Heather, Laurie, Diane, Lynn, Katherine, Hindra, Ravi, Elizabeth, Brian, Tracey, Edithann, Jay, Perry, Amelia, Shirley, Adrian, Kimberly, Dean, Barb, Tanya, Jane, Brook, 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, Danny, Billy, Betty-Ann, Mildred, D'Metrius, Laura, Stacey, Frank, 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, Joanne, ✘Albion, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, Doris, Carol, and Suzie.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Aaron, Hope, Tom, 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, Laurie, Ellen, Lynn, Mildred, Sarah Lee, 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, Capt. Charles Bursi, USN. Lt. Col. Harry Hughes, Major Benjamin Hawkins, British Army

✠ 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

8.00 am: Said Eucharist

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

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

6.00 pm: Choral Evensong (*1st Sunday only*)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6.00 pm: Evening Prayer

Friday Noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5.00 pm: Family Eucharist.

**COLLECTS FOR TRINITY II AND
ST ALBAN THE PROTOMARTYR**

O LORD, we beseech thee mercifully to hear us; and grant that we, to whom thou hast given an hearty desire to pray, may by thy mighty aid be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN.*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 191

HEAVENLY Father, thou didst confer upon thy holy martyr Alban such love for the mercy of Christ that he freely gave his life to save the persecuted. Grant that we, following his example, might be so faithful in our confession of thy Gospel that we too might feel called to defend any who are persecuted for thy sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. *AMEN.*

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