

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church
Timonium, Maryland

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Edited by Anne Hawkins

December 11th, 2012

A Job Undone

The poet Ogden Nash contended that the worst kind of sins were the sins of omission. Sins of commission, he argued, often involved some degree of fun, while sins of omission were generally no fun at all.

"Where," he asked, rhetorically, "is the fun in shouting: 'The next round of unpaid bills is on me?'"

Sadly, I can attest to the truth of Nash's observation. Bishop John Vaughan's letter, printed below, was written partly because I and too many of my fellow clergy this year overlooked our obligations to ask you to support financially the Anglican Church's national organization.

Our excuse, of course, is that it has been a terribly busy year, what with the reorganization of the diocese, the election of a bishop and welcoming six new parishes and whole slew of new clergy into the diocese.

But excuses, however good, don't provide the wherewithal to enable the Anglican Church in America to fulfill its national and international obligations – not least the church's work in the mission fields both at home and abroad.

In tough economic times like this we tend to be more than usually absorbed with our own problems here at home. We often overlook the far greater difficulties being experienced by fellow Anglicans in far needier parts of the world such as Africa.

Certainly, in these economically challenging times the help the national church can give looks modest. But in the Third World a dollar goes a very long way indeed.

The Anglican Church in America asks each individual member to contribute \$30 a year to help the church fulfill its vital national and international obligations.

I hope that at this the most joyous and giving time of the Christian year the members and friends of St. Stephen's will find in their heart to give \$30 to further the church's important work.

Naturally, there will be some who cannot afford the full \$30, in which case please send what you can afford. In parts of the world, where a church can be built for a couple of hundred dollars, it is amazing the good even a small financial gift can do.

Please send you check to St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093 and note on it: "For the National Church." **Thank you and God bless you all – GUY HAWTIN, Rector**

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Next Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, begins the New Year for the Diocese and the Church. For the Diocese, and for many individual parishes, it has been both a difficult and a blessed year. In 2012, much of that difficulty for parishes and the Diocese stemmed from dealing with the difficulties and uncertainties of our struggling economy. Many of us were afflicted financially, emotionally and spiritually during the past year. On the blessings side of the ledger, though, the Diocese made great strides to return to normal operation, and to heal from the division and discord that resulted from the Ordinariate. We were fortunate to have great support from our Presiding Bishop, and were able to elect a Suffragan Bishop. Our ranks of clergy have grown, and we have men with vocations back on their path. God willing, we will elect a Diocesan Bishop at our upcoming Synod in February.

In the year to come, the priority for myself and the Standing Committee will be the reinforcement and growth of our parishes. We will work to fortify our existing clergy, and, where possible, supplement the clergy in key parishes. With a return to our primary mission within the Diocese and each parish, we hope to swell the number of brothers and sisters who will join us as we worship our Lord and serve His people.

Before we can move forward in the New Year, however, we have to finish the business of this current year. For the Diocesan office, that business includes both the payment of our National Assessment and adjusting our own finances to account for both a substantial increase of travel and travel expense. I know that many parishes have also struggled with diminished giving and higher expenses. In the coming year, it is our goal to return the Diocese to a true system of tithing for support of parishes, the Diocese and the National Church. For the year past, I am reaching out to you for your kind assistance in completing our commitments of giving, and to consider increasing the support of the Church as a consideration in your Advent meditations.

I am asking each pastor to bring the 2012 National Assessment current by Christmas. That assessment should not come at the expense of parish operations, and so by extension, I am asking each

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

Schedule, Dec. 24th, 2012 to Jan. 6th, 2013

CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday, December 24th

4.00 PM: Children's Christmas Service & Blessing of the Creche
7.00 PM: Family Candlelight Eucharist
10.30 PM: Choir sings carols followed by Solemn High Christmas Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY

Tuesday, December 25th

10.00 AM Sung Holy Communion

PATRONAL FESTIVAL

The Feast of St. Stephen

Comm. Sunday, December 30th

8.00 AM: Holy Communion
9.15 AM: Holy Communion
11.15 AM: Morning Prayer

NEW YEAR'S EVE

The Feast of St. Sylvester

Monday, December 31, 2012

11.15 PM: Holy Communion

NEW YEAR'S DAY

The Feast of The Holy Name

Tuesday, January 1, 2013

10.00 AM: Holy Communion

EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 6, 2013

At 6.00 PM The Choir will sing:

A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS FOR EPIPHANY

parish to have two special second collections during Advent for the purpose supporting Diocesan travel for the coming year. Finally, I ask you all to pray about tithing in the coming year. Tithing is not only our Biblical commitment to support God's Church, but it is a source of blessing to the family that is tithing as well. In this world, it seems counter-intuitive that financial peace can come from increasing our giving during stressful times and tight budgets, but we know from history and by the promise of our Lord in Scripture, that the family that tithes is blessed in both financial matters and spiritual peace.

I will be keeping each of you in my own prayers and meditations throughout Advent, and look forward to sharing the blessings of the coming year with you. ✠ **Bishop John**

An Eagle Humbled

It's hard to humble an eagle. After all, our majestic species has been the symbol of dynasties, empires and great countries for hundreds of years. But this year's Cookie Walk has done it - and done it with panache.

In financial terms, we have exceeded \$9000 in profit from the Cookie Walk itself, and over \$1800 for Dr. Bob's Place and the Joseph Richey Hospice from the knitter's Silent Auction. Wow!!

But more a measure of success than money, the marvelous support from the members of this parish is truly awe inspiring. You baked a huge amount of delicious cookies, peanut brittle and jams; provided a mountain of fresh greens; donated lovely gift items; and created beautiful wreaths and table decorations that were quickly snapped up.

Thank you to all who baked, cooked, decorated, gave your time before, during and after the big day, and, most of all, thank you to all who attended and made the Cookie Walk the best ever. I tip my wings to you! **Isaac Eagle**

FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH

Join Us on December 19th

The Ladies of St Stephen's will hold their Christmas lunch at

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Being December 16th, 2012

8.00 AM & 9.15 AM HOLY COMMUNION
For The Epistle: I Corinthians 4:1-5
The Gospel: St. Matthew 11:2-10
11.15 AM MORNING PRAYER
The Psalter: Psalm 99
The First Lesson: Jeremiah 1:4-10, 17-19
The Second Lesson: St. Luke 1:57-80

Adele, Linda, Jan, Liz, Bob, Wyatt, Jim, Reta, Sara, Tammy Sophie, Paula, Blair, Melvin, Heather, Laurie, 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, Lauren-Michelle, McKayla, Randy, Jack, Grace, Fran, Carolyn, Ken, Serena, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erline, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tom, Leliliah, Jennifer, Miriam, Karen, George, Eliza, Ray, Mel, John, Randy, James, Sarah, Linda, Suzanne, Steven, 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, Maxine, Ann, Sharon, Dennis, Mae, Anita, Marilyn, Lawrence, Joanne, Martha, Jackie, Charles, Tony, Edward, Kim, Vivian, Doris, Fran, Carol, and Suzie.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Hope, JoAnn, Larry, Aaron, Hope, Tom, Rosa, June, Anna, Jean, Garrett, Stephen, Rachel, 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, Carol, Sandra, John, Mary, Michael and David

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: PFC Charles E. Heintz, IV, USA; Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; Lt. Alex Bursi, Charles Watts, Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt Nicholas Clouse, USN. Lt. Col. Harry Hughes.

Bluestone Restaurant on Aylesbury Road, Timonium, at noon on Wednesday, December 19th. As has become custom, ladies are invited to bring their gentlemen with them to this time of good fellowship and good food. Call Joyce Perlberg at 410-252-2680

✠ PARISH PRAYER LIST ✠

OUR Prayer Chain offers prayer daily for people on the Prayer List as well as the guests of the Joseph Richey Hospice & Dr. Bob's Place. 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: Fr Guy✠, Ray✠, Morris, Charles, Dawn, Betty Jean, Elliot, Sharon, Paul, Andy, Michael, Rosina Donna, Diane, John, Robert, David, Richard, Bill, Charlotte, Leo, Riley, Mary-Ann, Linda Lou, Cynthia, Nancy, Judith, Deborah, Dorothy, Thelma, Mary,

Christmas Memorial Flowers

To make a contribution towards the Church Christmas decorations in honor or memory of a loved one please complete this form and return it with a check (payable to St. Stephen's Church and marked Christmas flowers) by December 19th.

Name of Donor:.....

Poinsettias (Pink, Red or Jingle Bells) 6 inches, single (5-8 blooms) @ \$10 (# of plants)
7 inches, double, (10-12 blooms) @ \$16 (# of plants)
8 inches, triple, (red) (12-18 blooms) @ \$27 (# of plants)

Total # of plants _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

My gift is **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

8.00 am: Said Eucharist
9.15 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 THE Second Sunday of
Advent AND Saint Ambrose of Milan**

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. *AMEN*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 92

O God, who didst give to thy servant Ambrose grace eloquently to proclaim thy righteousness in the great congregation, and fearlessly to bear reproach for the honor of thy Name: Mercifully grant to all bishops and pastors such excellency in preaching, and fidelity in ministering thy word, that thy people may be partakers with them of the glory that shall be revealed through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever *AMEN*

Return Service Requested

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11856 Mays Chapel Road
Timonium, MD 21093