

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church
Timonium, Maryland

Vol. XXIV, Number 7

Edited by Don Ruthig

February 26th, 2013

FROM THE RECTOR

Sacked and pillaged by the dreaded Ninja mice

THANKS to the cold weather, the rectory has again been inundated with a plague of mice of dimensions unmatched since Moses was slugging it out with Pharaoh. The miserable little critters get into everything. Flour, rice, cookies, chips, bread, potatoes – you name it, they'll eat it.

As the weeks have passed, they have become bolder and bolder. No longer is the sack and pillage of our home restricted to the hours of darkness. The cheeky beggars have started to conduct daylight raids on the kitchen.

Charlotte is not one to take this sort of challenge lying down. She has marshaled her forces (namely myself and Casey (the Scottie Dog) to confront and slay the alien invaders.

This, I lament to say, has been much easier said than done. The mice in our house are quite superior specimens of the species. They are such remarkable survivors I fear they may be in the process of evolving into cockroaches. And this adds urgency to the struggle.

The prospect of our home becoming a battlefield for evolutionists and anti-evolutionists is bad enough. But imagine how inconvenient it would be if the U.S. Department of the Environment were to endow our mice with the same protected status as the Spotted Owl and the Kangaroo Rat.

Not that our mice need the government's protection. They are perfectly capable of looking after themselves, thank you very much. These mice are positive Houdinis. They routinely evade my cunningly laid traps, neatly stealing the bait in the process.

It doesn't seem to matter how ingeniously and deadly the trap, the canny little blighters effortlessly outwit it. Nor does it matter how fragrant and tempting the bait – they positively adore Brie, but don't seem too keen on Danish Blue – they pull it off the trap to thumb their noses at me.

Casey, I regret to say, isn't much help. Just like poor old Chip, her late companion, she's perfectly happy to chase mice. And, again, like Chip, her purpose, however, is not to kill them but to cultivate their friendship. The mice, I am happy to say, aren't keen to reciprocate.

Casey, unlike Chip, has yet to make contact with a mouse. Once Chip cornered a small, sleek and decidedly chubby young mouse and invited it to play. The mouse mutely declined his offer so Chip gingerly stretched out a forepaw and prodded it.

Stubbornly the mouse stayed put. Disgusted with its lack of sportsmanship, Chip stalked off.

At Charlotte's prompting, I decided that the best course of action would be to pick the mouse up and take him to the other side of Manor Road, far away from the rectory.

The ungrateful creature, however, was not in the least impressed by my kindness. From the palm of my hand, he looked me straight in the eye and sank his minute mousey incisors into my little finger.

"Oh gosh," exclaimed Charlotte, "You'll have to see the doctor. That mouse might have given you rabies."

"I can't go and see a doctor for a mouse bite," I protested, "I've got my pride. I'll be the laughingstock of the parish if it gets around that I went to the doctor to get treated for a mouse bite."

"Suit yourself," said Charlotte, "But if you start frothing at the mouth, don't blame me."

Chip contemptuously turned his back on me. I hope Casey will prove a tad more understanding. **GPH***

An appeal for At Jacob's Well

THE first Sunday of each month is set aside as a time to remember the needs of the men and women served by At Jacob's Well, an organization that has been housing Baltimore's homeless mentally ill for over 25 years. Unfortunately the amount collected at our monthly in-giving has dwindled somewhat of late.

At Jacob's Well provides transitional housing for those who are homeless or about to become homeless, and permanent housing for those who have achieved some residential stability and are ready for a less structured living environment. They rely heavily on individual donors for many of the basic housekeeping items and foodstuffs their residents need.

Always in demand are trash bags, toilet paper, floor cleaner, dish detergent, bleach, light bulbs, bars of bath soap, bottled water, and non-perishable foodstuffs (pasta and sauces, mac and cheese, peanut

butter, etc.) Please drop an extra item or two into your shopping cart to help fill the need for this underserved community. You can bring your donations to church with you or drop them off during the week. We'll make sure they are delivered to those in need.

LENTEN STUDY

Questions about the BCP you never had the courage to ask

FOLKS familiar with Church history usually claim the first English Prayer Book is the First Prayer Book of King Edward VI, which was authorized for use in 1549. True, this wonderful book is the ancestor of all the Books of Common Prayer in use in the world of Anglicanism today – albeit a very distant one in many cases, with its literary and theological DNA scarcely discernible. But it cannot fairly be claimed that it is the English Church's first prayer book.

The English Church has played a major role in the liturgical life of the Church catholic for more than one and a half millennia. Yet most Anglicans are entirely ignorant of the fact. This year's Lenten Study will trace the development of the BCP from pre-Saxon times onwards.

Our Lenten Series "The Development of the Prayer Book" runs for four Wednesday evenings beginning after 6.00 PM Evening

Lenten Studies Begin this Week

Wednesday, February 27th,
6.45 pm

(Following 6.00 pm Evening Prayer)
"The Development of the Prayer Book"

These studies will be continued on
March 6th, 13th, and 20th
Please mark your calendars

St. Patrick's Day

Corned Beef Supper
Saturday, March 16th
6.00 pm

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Being March 3rd, 2013

8.00 AM, 9.15 AM & 11.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION

The Epistle: Ephesians 5:1-14

The Gospel: St. Luke 11:14-28

For Your MORNING PRAYER

The Psalter: Psalm 25

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 20-25

The Second Lesson: I Corinthians 3

Prayer on February 27th and ending on March 20th. The presenter will be the Rector.

We are offering the usual deal – a hearty winter soup, the best bread in Baltimore and beverages. If you need more to eat, you are welcome to bring a sandwich. **GPH**

✠ 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✘, Kathleen, Michael, Morris, Charles, Dawn, Betty Jean, Elliot, Sharon, Paul, Andy, Michael, Rosina Donna, Diane, John, David, Richard, Bill, Charlotte, Leo, Riley, Mary-Ann, Linda Lou, Cynthia, Nancy, Judith, Deborah, Dorothy, Thelma, Mary, 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, Serina, Wyatt, Bobby, Alexander, Erlene, 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

✠ St Stephen's Anglican Church ✠

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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 in Lent and St. Matthias the Apostle

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord.. *AMEN*

Book of Common Prayer, Page 127

O Almighty God, who into the place of Judas didst chose thy faithful servant Matthias to be of the number of the Twelve: Grant that thy Church, being delivered from false apostles, may always be ordered and guided by faithful and true pastors; through Jesus Christ 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

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