

# St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church  
Timonium, Maryland

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Edited by Don Ruthig

March 26th, 2013

## FROM THE RECTOR

### A Pop Tart foretells the shape of things to come

IT IS NOW quite apparent that the animating philosophy of the nation's governing elite is largely derived from the Wizard of Oz. At least, much of our social and economic policy is demonstrably based on wishful thinking.

Trouble is – unlike most second graders – the folks who run the country haven't yet figured out that clicking the heels of your little red shoes doesn't make your wishes come true.

The case of seven-year-old Josh Welch, who was suspended from his Maryland school for two days for allegedly gnawing a Pop Tart into the shape of a gun, provides us with a graphic example of social policy at its most idiotic.

Not merely content with suspending the child for something little boys have done on a daily basis with no discernible ill effects since the dawn of history – namely gnawing their food into odd shapes – the school authorities circulated parents offering counseling to children traumatized by the incident.

Clearly, children capable of being traumatized by a gnawed piece of pastry would be in desperate need of counseling – but not because of the threat posed by a Pop-Tart pistol, or even one chewed into the shape of a howitzer or intercontinental ballistic missile.

The counseling would be necessary to eradicate the irrational fears implanted in their youthful minds by the aspiring social engineers in the state's Department of Education.

What sort of world do these folks inhabit, one asks? Certainly not the one in which most of us live.

You don't necessarily need to agree with the notion that all guns are bad to understand that many people feel that way, including Maryland's education Solons. But is banning the gnawing of foodstuffs into the shape of weapons an effective way to discourage boys from being fascinated with the things?

Mothers throughout history have generally disliked seeing their sons play with war-like toys. But until recently at least most realized that forbidding them to do so was a sure fire way of peaking their interest in weapons.

In England, when my friends and I were in grade school, cap pistols were by far our favorite toys and cowboys and Indians our favorite pastime.

The schoolyard was generally littered with the extravagantly contorted "bodies" of those done to death during the daily lunch break shootouts. (The "dead" came back to life on counting to 50).

Later we acquired saloon pistols, air guns, .22 rifles and .410 shotguns, and some of us took to hunting rabbits and pigeons to augment our families' post World War II meat rations.

I am happy to report that none of us became mass murderers – merely doctors, dentists, policemen, fire fighters, railroad men, truck drivers, builders and, oh yes. ministers, priests, and at least one rabbi.

The situation was much the same, too, in the United States, I'll warrant, although things were not so tight food-wise after World War II as they were in Britain.

Back then, in those rather more rational days, parents responded to their children's interest in firearms by teaching them how to handle guns and ammunition safely. We were taught that there was a world of difference between a toy and the real thing.

Toys were made for play, but real guns were tools to be used solely for target shooting or hunting. They were always to be treated as if they were loaded, and above all – loaded or unloaded – they were never to be pointed at anyone.

To emphasize the point, a piece of doggerel was dinned into our heads: "Never, never let your gun pointed be at any one, for the pheasants ever bred will not bring back one man dead . . .".

The episode of Josh and the Pop Tart indicates that something is going seriously awry not just with our education system, but with our society as a whole.

Instead of dealing honestly and straightforwardly with

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 24<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>

**PALM SUNDAY: 8 AM Holy Eucharist**  
9.15 AM Sung Eucharist  
11.15 AM Choral Eucharist

**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 Presanctified

**HOLY SATURDAY**  
7 PM The Great Vigil of Easter

**EASTER DAY**  
8 AM Holy Communion  
9.15 AM Choral Eucharist  
(followed by Easter Egg Hunt for Children 7 and under)  
11.15 AM Choral Eucharist

controversial issues, the political establishment is increasingly resorting to propaganda and aversion therapy to coerce the public into submitting to a utopian, politically correct orthodoxy – witness the campaigns against fast food and regular soda.

Some – but by no means all – of the goals are laudable enough. It is manipulative and coercive methods that are not.

Such methods were once primarily the preserve of totalitarian societies such as those of the late, but unlamented, Soviet bloc. There, school children were routinely manipulated into betraying parents engaged in politically suspect activities.

On their first day of school, children in communist East Germany, for instance, were ordered to draw a picture of the television clock that was aired between programs. If the clock faces they drew were round rather than square, the secret police would conclude their parents were illicitly watching West German TV – a serious offense.

Certainly, things haven't yet sunk to that level here in the U.S. But the Pop Tart episode indicates that the machinery is there and that there are people among us who will not shrink from using it.

**GPH\***

## FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

### A floral challenge

"All Things British." That's the theme of this year's Garden Party Flower Contest.

Here's your chance to create a whimsical expression in flowers of whatever image "all things British" evokes in you.

It could be the royal carriage, a favorite James Bond movie, or even Dr. Who's Tardis. Just "say it in flowers" and bring your entry to the Garden Party on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

And, hopefully by now you've rummaged the back corners of your cupboards and bookshelves to find lots of suitable items for our jumble sale. Tables are set up in the Parish Hall for your contributions.

### RSVPs wanted!

WE really need your RSVPs!

Come celebrate Anne Hawkins' retirement on Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The party will take place at Rosa and Jim Halbert's home, 7929

**In-Giving for AT JACOB'S WELL - Sunday, April 6th**

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR  
EASTER SUNDAY**  
Being March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013  
**8.00 AM, 9.15 AM & 11.15 HOLY COMMUNION**  
The Epistle: Colossians 3:1-4  
The Gospel: St. John 20:1-10  
**FOR YOUR MORNING PRAYER**  
The Psalter: Psalm 93, 111  
The First Lesson: Isaiah 25:1-9  
The Second Lesson: St Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20

Ruxway Road from 5 to 7 PM. Maps and directions will be available closer to the date. We are asking you to bring an hors d'oeuvre, salad or dessert.

Please RSVP by March 31<sup>st</sup> to either Rosa at 410-825-1592 or Donna Szper at 410-252-1499. See you there!

**FROM ISAAC EAGLE**

**As I see it**

I spend a good deal of time just observing. In fact, that's mostly what I do.

And what I saw a couple of weeks ago almost made me actually fly right off my perch. The pile of non-perishable food and household supplies for At Jacob's Well just kept growing and growing until it practically engulfed the baptismal font.

A heartfelt thank you to all who responded so generously to our plea for At Jacob's Well. Keep this up and we may need to get a bigger car for Judy Elliot to take it all down there. **ISAAC**

**✠ 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, Finton, 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, Erline, Kathleen, Earle, Judy, William, Betty, Trisha, Peggy, Linda, Millie, Walt, Bruce, Cienna, Tom. Lelillah, 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, Dean, Ned, 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](http://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 Palm Sunday and Good Friday**  
  
Almighty and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility; Mercifully grant, that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the Same Jesus Christ our Lord. *AMEN*  
  
O merciful God, who hast made all men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, nor desirest the death of a sinner, but rather that he should be converted and live; Have mercy upon all who know thee not as thou art revealed in the Gospel of the Son. Take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word; and so fetch them home, blessed Lord, to thy fold, that they may be made one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *AMEN*  
  
*Book of Common Prayer, Page 134, 157*

**Return Service Requested**

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