

St. Stephen's News

St Stephen's Anglican Church
Timonium, Maryland

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Edited by Don Ruthig

April 2nd, 2014

FROM THE RECTOR

Time to move our lips when we read

ABOUT the most difficult thing in the world today is finding a publisher for a volume of poetry. No matter whether they are tragedians, romantics or writers of comic verse, poets are cold shouldered by the major publishing houses.

Yet it wasn't always so. Poetry's decline as a popular cultural medium began less than 60 years ago. Indeed, publishers once vied for the services of leading poets and went out of their way to nurture the up-and-coming.

It was by no means unusual for poets to make a handsome living. Whitman and Longfellow by no means starved in garrets. Rudyard Kipling, poetaster of Imperial India, lived in considerable opulence. T. S. Elliott, Robert Frost and Ezra Pound were lionized and routinely feted.

Poor A. A. Milne took his poetry very seriously and would, doubtless, be appalled that today he is remembered only as the creator of Disney characters. Winnie the Pooh and Piglet came into being when Milne, as a joke, dashed off a tale about his infant son, Christopher Robin, and assigned the copyright to his wife for pin money.

But poetry's decline is only the tip of an iceberg. Writing standards, public and private, have been in free fall for more than a generation. Just take our newspapers. The tortured grammar and syntax might be forgivable if the contents weren't so banal and tedious.

Wars, for example, are many things – brutish, terrifying, gruesome and nasty – but they aren't boring. You'd never guess this from the filings from Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria. Compare today's hum-drum offerings with the work of the war correspondents during the Spanish Civil War, World War II, Korea and even Vietnam.

The same holds true in the world of books. Fiction or non-fiction,

the publisher's lists are dominated by the turgid and dreary. There are possibly as many great writers published today as in the past. The loss has been most keenly felt in the great middle ground – the journeymen writers of detective stories, romantic novels, "rattling good yarns" and non-fiction works, such as popular histories.

It's not that such titles have ceased to be published. The problem is that the quality of the writing has plummeted. One reason for the decline in standards is that editors aren't what they used to be. Media conglomerates, dominated by managers obsessed with the bottom line, tend to pare editorial costs to the bone. And, as my dad used to say, "If you pay peanuts, you get monkeys."

But the real villain of the piece is our modern habit of "silent reading." It was the utilitarians of the 19th Century who promoted silent reading. Numerate and literate workers were vital to meet the demands of modern industry.

But instructions for the operation of machinery can scarcely be described as literature, and, besides, the time and motion engineers decreed they should be read as quickly, efficiently and quietly as possible.

Before the advent of the high industrial age, every one (ignoramuses and intellectuals, without exception) read aloud – and not just books and collections of poetry, but newspapers, magazines and private correspondence.

Writers of all sorts, thus, framed their work to be read aloud. They weren't concerned merely with the efficient transmission of information. They took just as much care about how their work would sound.

Folks should bear this in mind when they struggle with Shakespeare, Dickens, Melville, Henry James and their contemporaries. It is only reading writers of the past aloud that we can fully grasp their ideas and appreciate the richness of their language.

However, thanks to television, computers and the Internet, reading aloud is rapidly becoming a lost art. It is, indeed, ironic that

in an age in which our means of communication has reached undreamed of heights our ability to express ourselves is approaching a nadir. GPH

Holy Week Schedule

April 13th through April 20th

Palm Sunday

8.00 AM Holy Eucharist
9.15 AM & 11.00 AM Sung Eucharist
6.00 PM Service of Lessons and Anthems for
Passiontide

Holy Monday

6.00 PM Holy Eucharist

Holy Tuesday

6.00 PM Holy Eucharist

Holy Wednesday

6.00 PM Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday

7.00 PM Choral Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday

12.00 Noon The Seven Last Words from the Cross
3.30 PM Children's Way of the Cross
6.00 PM Communion of the Presanctified

Holy Saturday

7.00 PM The Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Day

8.00 AM Holy Communion
9.15 AM Choral Eucharist
(Followed by Easter Egg Hunt for Children 7 and under)
11.00 AM Choral Eucharist

Calendar of Events

Weekly Activities at St Stephen's

Mondays, 6.30 PM (Temporary Lenten Schedule):

Bridge Club at the home of Fr. Mike

Tuesdays, 7.00 AM: Breakfast Fellowship at the Nautilus Diner

Thursdays, 10.00 AM: Knitting Circle meets in Quimby Hall

Fridays, 10.30 AM: Bible Study in the Cadwalader Room

Special Events

Tuesday, April 8th, 7.00 PM: Parish Life Committee Meets in the Cadwalader Room.

Wednesday, April 9th, 11.30 AM: The Ladies Who Lunch at Ginza Restaurant. Please note earlier time.

Sunday, April 13th, 6.00 PM: Service of Lessons and Anthems for Passiontide

Saturday, May 3rd, 11.00 AM-4.00 PM: British Garden Party and Fete

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

Typically British Garden Party Theme

IN homage to the British roots of our annual garden party, the theme for this year's Garden Party Flower Show is "Typically British," so let your imagination loose and create in flowers whatever is to you typically British. Entries for the flower show should be delivered to the church on Friday afternoon, May 2nd.

For those who choose to create with flour rather than flowers, there's plenty of need at the bake table. Ellen Reather and Judy Kight have agreed to chair this annual favorite and are seeking all kinds of baked goods; cakes, pies, cookies, breads, etc. Baked items should be delivered to the church either Friday afternoon or before 10 AM on Saturday, May 3rd.

We're also continuing a table we introduced last year - the St. Stephen's Craft Table. Whether it's ceramics, wood, fabric, metal, or any other medium you work with please consider donating some items for sale on this table. Any unsold items will be returned to the donor.

Finally, please remember:

- ✓ Continue selling ads for the brochure to local businesses.
- ✓ Consider becoming a Garden Party Patron
- ✓ Drop off books, CDs and DVDs for the book table
- ✓ Bring your jumble to Quimby Hall.

Lenten Studies of the Shroud of Turin - Wednesdays following 6 PM Evening Prayer

**THE SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE
PASSION SUNDAY**
April 6th, 2014
8.00 AM, 9.15 AM & 11.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION
The Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15
The Gospel: St. John 8:46-59a
For your MORNING PRAYER
The Psalter: Psalm 51
The First Lesson: Isaiah 1:10-20
The Second Lesson: St. John 8:46-59a

fellowship -- what more could you want? To reserve your place 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✠, Fr. Mike✠, Carolyn, Hilarie, Vivian, Jack, Suzie, John, Rodney, Hamilton, Donald, Annie, Evelyn, Cal, Finton, Fran, Tracey, Linda Lou, Edie, Adele, Baby Charlie, Angie, Oona, Cary, Janna, Martina, Leela, Bobby Sally, Isabelle, Julie, Ray, Courtney, Mary, Phyllis, Liz, Joe.

LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Stephen, Ann, Lydia, Remi, Melba, Donna, Josh, Kim, Shane, Susan, Paula, John, Hannah.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE: Lt. Benjamin Schramm, USMC; Lt. Alex Bursi, Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt Nicholas Clouse, USN. Lt. Col. Harry Hughes.

FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH

Plan to join us on April 9th

THIS month the Ladies Who Lunch will be meeting at **11.30 am** at Ginza Japanese Restaurant, 56 Cranbrook Rd, Cockeysville, on Wednesday, April 9th. Why not join us for a convivial get-together over a delicious meal? Good food and good

Easter Flowers for St. Stephen's Altar

Here is the 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, April 16th. Flowers may be taken home after the 11:15 am service on Easter Sunday.

	# of plants		# of plants
Lilies Small elite 6" 4-6 blooms @ \$10	_____	Field Azalea @ \$15	_____
Hydrangeas Four plus Blooms @ \$20	_____	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 Rev. Canon Guy P. Hawtin
VICAR: The Venerable Michael Kerouac

ORGANIST & CHOIRMASTER: Adric
DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE: Happy Riley
(410- 252-8674)

WEDDING CO-ORDINATORS: Happy Riley (410-252-8674)
Martha Miller (410-321-9038)

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00 am: Said Eucharist

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

11.00 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.

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY
IN LENT AND RICHARD BISHOP
OF CHICHESTER

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

WE thank thee, Lord God, for all the benefits thou hast given us in thy Son Jesus Christ, our most merciful Redeemer, Friend, and Brother, and for all the pains and insults he hath borne for us; and we pray that, following the example of thy saintly bishop Richard of Chichester, we may see Christ more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever..

AMEN

Return Service Requested

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