

St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH • TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

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A parish in the classical Anglican tradition

14 April 2015

FROM THE RECTOR

Queen Victoria to grace our British Garden Party

No need to get bent out of shape if you have never been invited to one of Queen Elizabeth II's famous Buckingham Palace Garden Parties. There is a much better alternative available for everyone to enjoy here in Timonium.

St Stephen's Annual British Garden Party & Fête (*from 11am to 4pm on Saturday, 2 May*) is a much more entertaining affair. It offers many more interesting and amusing things to do than merely hobnobbing with the invitees at Buckingham Palace – the other 7,999 of the British Royal Family's closest friends.

What's more, here in Timonium there is far greater variety of food on offer, including a scrumptious English tea, not to mention Welsh and Cornish pasties and good old-fashioned hot dogs. As for pies and cakes, we'll wager you'll find a far wider and much more mouth-watering selection at our cake stall than you'll be offered in the queen's back yard.

On top of all this, you can drink choice beers and wines at our English pub while there's not so much as a beer tent at a Buckingham Palace Garden Party. There's no Punch and Judy Show either.

Admittedly, when it comes to quantity the palace has got us beat. For the three parties at Buckingham Palace this year the 400 staff will serve up 81,000 cups of tea, 60,000 sandwiches (cucumber with crusts cut off), 60,000 slices of Victoria sponge cake and 30,000 iced coffees. But as far as variety is concerned, we win hands down.

And if it's royalty that interests you, have we got a very special treat in store for you in Timonium? We are welcoming a surprise VIP guest – the 'royal' who first started the Buckingham Palace Garden Party tradition.

No, it's not Henry VIII. True, he loved a party, but he wasn't so keen on rubbing shoulders with *hoi poloi*. In any event, His Majesty has sent us his regrets. Apparently he will be unable to attend because he is far too busy lopping off the heads of various unfortunate spouses and skivvies.

Their loss, however, is our gain. [*Editor's note: That is not an entirely felicitous expression.*] Instead of Henry, Her Imperial Majesty Victoria, Queen of England and Empress of India will open our Garden Party. [*Has nobody had the courage to tell her that India is no longer a Jewel in her Crown?* – Editor]

Actually, there couldn't be a better choice to open St Stephen's British Garden Party and Fête than Queen Victoria. After all, she launched the Garden Party tradition back in 1863.

Today the Royal Garden Parties are held three times a year during the summer months at Buckingham Palace. Another takes place in Edinburgh, Scotland at the Palace of Holyrood House, home of the late Mary Queen of Scots among others.

The parties provide an opportunity for the British royal family to meet and greet a cross-section of society and to thank their guests for various good deeds they have done. The emphasis is on rewarding unsung heroes and heroines rather than greeting the aristocrats and diplomats who regularly hob-nob with them.

Even so, they are pretty stuffy affairs. For starters there's a dress code, so forget about dressing comfortably.

At a Buckingham Palace Garden Party, men are encouraged to wear 'morning dress' (i.e. black swallowtail coats and pin striped pants) or at the very least a 'lounge suit'. Uniforms and 'national dress' are also acceptable.

Women are expected to wear 'afternoon dress' with gloves, hats or 'fascinators' (whatever they may be).

Don't worry, however, at our Garden Party in Timonium you won't be asked to dress up like a hambone with a frill on it for Queen

Victoria. She's much too laid back for that sort of thing.

You're welcome to dig out your crinoline or top hat from the attic if you feel like it, but Her Majesty will be just as happy to shake your hand if you're dressed in tee-shirts, shorts, jeans or sweats.

What's more, as some 8,000 people are invited to each royal garden party at Buckingham, Palace, there's no chance for guests to corner the Queen Elizabeth for a private chinwag about Phil and the kids.

That most certainly won't be the case here at Timonium: Queen Victoria will be only too glad to shake your hand, pat your kids on the head, share a cup of tea with you or may be even a genteel glass of wine.

(Her gillie John Brown taught her how to drink Scotch, but, unless her tastes have changed, she's probably too refined to enjoy a glass of porter.)

One way to really impress her is to become a Patron of the event. It will not only get you on to Queen Victoria's Birthday Honours List, it will earn you a special mention in our complimentary program guide. How's that for one-upmanship?

So sign up for one of the four levels of patronage:

- Imperial Crown, for a donation of \$100
- House of Windsor, for a donation of \$75
- House of York, for a donation of \$50
- House of Lancaster, for a donation of \$25

You can also get on Her Majesty's good side by helping us out with all sorts of items we need for the party:

We are looking for: **Cakes for the Cake Stall**. Last year your cakes were so scrumptious, we sold out completely in the first two hours. Please double your efforts. It's all in a good cause.

We also need **tea cakes and dainties** for our Tea Room. We can use all the help we can get to provide mouthwatering teas for our guests.

We are also in the market for **superior quality jumble** for our Jumble Sale Stall. This is your opportunity to at last get rid of the auto harp Uncle Thomas used to twang at family gatherings and the cage that once was home to Cousin Ebenezer's parrot.

Please search your cupboards, attics, cellars, and fallout shelters for saleable treasures. You can start bringing them to the church this week.

Other things we are badly in need of are **bottles of wine and spirits** only for our Bottle Stall.

Last, but far from least, we need volunteers to put up and take down the tents and stalls and, of course, to man them on the day. **GPH**☒

The 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. 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.

FOR RECOVERY: John ☒, Hilarie, Jack, Donald, Evelyn, Cal, Finton, Edie, Cary, Judy, Julie, Phyllis, Steve, Wendy, Matthew, Adele, Starr, Helen, Emily, Kathleen, Ned, Marty, Mark, Don, Linda, Elizabeth, Mary Lou, Cathy, William, Dan, Lindsey

FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Stephen, Melba, Susan, Scott, Charles, Vinnie, Doug, Rusty, Ian, Lydia

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

Countdown to Garden Party

How can you help make our Garden Party a success? Let us count the ways...

✓ Become a Garden Party patron! Your name will be listed in the Garden Party programme acknowledging your generosity.

Levels include:

- Imperial Crown - \$100
- House of Windsor - \$75
- House of York - \$50
- House of Lancaster - \$25

✓ Rummage through your house for unwanted bric-a-brac, collectibles, books, DVDs, CDs, etc., and drop them off on the jumble table in Quimby Hall.

✓ Sell advertisements and sponsorships for the programme. Must be received by 22 April. Letters are available in the Cadwalader Room.

✓ Pick up a poster or two from the coffee room table and post at your local 'haunts'.

✓ Donate bottles of wine and spirits for our liquor wheel.

✓ Bake cakes, pies, cookies or breads for our Bake Table. Bake small dessert items for the tea room. Baked goods should be delivered to the church on Friday, 1 May.

✓ Lend us card tables for the tea room. Be sure to put your name on them so we can make sure you get them back.

✓ Create a beautiful floral entry for our 'All Things British' flower contest. Deliver to the church prior to 10am on 2 May.

FROM THE LADIES WHO LUNCH

The Ladies will lunch on 15 April

This month the Ladies Who Lunch will meet at Razorback's Grill on Wednesday, 15 April at noon. Razorback's is located at 826 Dulaney Valley Road. (Visit www.razorbacksgrill.com to view a menu.) Why not bring those tax refunds and join us for a convivial get-together over a delicious meal? Good food and good fellowship – what more could you want? Please ring Joyce Perlberg on **410 252 2680** to make your reservation; she will need a final count by the 13th.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School: Savannah Safari

Vacation Bible School will be offered once again for children ages 4–10 from 22–27 June, 9am–noon. There will be a modest \$20 fee to cover snacks, crafts and supplies. To process your child's registration, please contact Happy Riley in the church office: **410 560 6776**.

St Stephen's Anglican Church

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093

Office: 410 560 6776 · Rectory: 410 665 1278

Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

www.ststeve.com

The Ven. Canon Guy P. Hawtin, *Rector*

The Ven. Michael Kerouac, *Vicar*

The Rev. Michael Belt, The Rev. John Novicki, *Associate Rectors*

The Rev. Mr M. Wiley Hawks, *Deacon* · Adric, *Magister Chori*

Mrs Happy Riley, *Director of Pastoral Care & Wedding Coordinator*

SUNDAY SERVICES

8 am: Said Eucharist

9.15 am: Choral Eucharist (with Nursery & Church School)

11 am: Choral Mattins (1st Sunday: Sung Eucharist)

6 pm: Choral Evensong (as announced: evensong.ststeve.com)

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6 pm: Evening Prayer

Friday, 12 noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5 pm: Family Eucharist

Calendar of Events

WEEKLY

Mondays, 6.30 pm: Bridge Club

Tuesdays, 7 am: Fellowship Breakfast (Nautilus Diner)

Thursdays, 10 am: Knitting Circle

Fridays, 10.30 am: Bible Study

MONTHLY & SPECIAL

Wednesday, 15 April, 12 noon:

The Ladies Who Lunch meet at Razorback's Grill

Thursday, 16 April, 2 pm:

Afternoon Tea

Saturday, 2 May, 11 am–4 pm:

British Garden Party and Fête

Sunday, 6 May, 6 pm:

Choral Evensong

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Timonium, MD 21093

11856 Mays Chapel Road

St Stephen's Anglican Church

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