

St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH • TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

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FROM THE RECTOR

Prayer Book's history goes back beyond 16th century

Casual students of Church history are probably under the impression that the first English Prayer Book is the First Prayer Book of King Edward VI, which was authorized for use in 1549. Indeed, this wonderful book is the ancestor of all the Books of Common Prayer in use today.

The English Church played a major role in the liturgical life of the Church catholic for well over 1,500 years., And reviewing the English Church's contributions, the Book of 1549 cannot be claimed to be the first vernacular prayer book.

The liturgical works that survive from times prior to the Seventh Century demonstrate a lively liturgical tradition in which much, if not all, of the Eucharistic rite was celebrated in the vernacular rather than Latin. Thus it can be claimed they were distinctly English liturgies.

Latin, however, was the *lingua franca* of the polyglot British society which by the 6th & 7th Centuries embraced a number of languages, including at least three major strains of Gaelic (four with Pictish; five including Breton), Anglo Saxon and Old Norse, and numerous dialects of each.

When it came to the written word, Latin was a convenient compromise in an age when books, even of the cheapest sort, were laboriously hand copied by scribes. But while service books were often written in Latin, it was the custom for celebrants to make a running translation of the liturgy into the vernacular.

You'll find evidence of this practice, for example in the autobiography of Ireland's patron saint, St Patrick. In his *Confessions*, written in the late 5th & 6th centuries, Patrick grumbles that his native Latin has been ruined by years of speaking the "barbarous" Irish tongue. His *Confessions* show he wasn't exaggerating.

By the way, this habit of saying the liturgy at least partially in the vernacular seems to have continued into the Middle Ages when the Epistle and Gospel were often read in the vernacular during parochial Masses. And it's worth noting that Archbishop Cranmer reinstated this practice as a temporary measure before the 1549 Prayer Book was authorized.

Latin, however, did not entirely displace the major local languages as the medium for religious publishing in Britain until late in the first Millennium. A considerable body of writings remains from the ancient church in Wales and Ireland; while among the towering literary achievements of the English Church in the 8th Century the Venerable Bede's translation of the Gospels into Anglo Saxon.

The great historian and scholar, who spent virtually his entire life at the great Monastery at Jarrow, is best known today for his *History of the English Church and People*. But tradition has it that his last words were those of the final verse of Anglo Saxon translation of St. John's Gospel. Then, having completed his task, he begged for the *Gloria in Excelsis* to be sung and, as the brother sung the great hymn, Bede died.

Contrary to common belief, England from the late 6th Century to the early part of the 9th Century was among the most prosperous – and relatively tranquil – places in the West. Europe, as St. Gregory of Tours records, was wracked by constant warfare. Northern and central Italy was laid waste by barbarians. Rome had been put to sack not only by the barbarian invaders, but its own unpaid soldiery.

But with the rise of the Frankish Empire in the mid-8th Century, the situation began to stabilize. Charlemagne or Karl, der Gros the Frankish king, later proclaimed the Holy Roman Emperor. The man Charlemagne chose to lead his Palace School for the study of religion and the liberal arts was a

disciple of Bede, an English scholar named Alcuin from St. Peter's School at York, a renowned as a center of learning.

Alcuin – unintentionally perhaps – preserved for future generations the works of ancient Rome's literary giants (Virgil, Livy, Cicero, Ovid, Tacitus, Horace, Terence, Martial, etc.) by insisting his apprentice scribes perfect their skills on secular writings before being permitted to tackle the sacred.

Charlemagne considered the ceremonial of the Eucharistic liturgy in use by the Roman pontiff too simple for use in the imperial court. Thus he commissioned Alcuin to compose the Eucharistic liturgy for the Holy Roman Empire.

Ironically perhaps, until the Counter Reformation which began in the mid-16th Century, the Mass said by the Roman pontiffs was essentially the form of the Eucharist said in the English Province of York – one of the great English pre-reformation liturgies. Even more ironically, the Mass that emerged from the counter-reformation was derived from the Sarum Rite, the oldest of the English Eucharistic rites. GPH✳

Parish Prayer List

Our Prayer Chain offers prayer daily for people on the Prayer List and 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, ring the parish office at (410) 560 6776.

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FOR RECOVERY: Gene, Priscilla,, Peter, Charlotte, Bryan, Dorothy, Rodney, June, Sarah, Betsy, Edie, Alan, Terry, Helen, Linda, John, Judy, Neal, Aida, Stephen, Nathan, Hobie, Betty, Helen, Eunice, Robert✳, David, Jan, Susie, Sophia, Bobby, Lee, Cary, Cour Marie, Jim, Joanna, Kendall, Ian, Gloria, June, John, David, Adrian, Tom, Michell, Aida, Mai, Al, Kathy, Jack, Lewey, Stephen, Pamela, Isobel, Judy, Elizabeth, Wade, Sifa, Theresa, Lisa, Larry, Dan & Scott

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FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Caroline, Mavis, Melba, Sam, Vinnie, Doug, Ian, Lisa, Carey, Cindy, Jacob, Casey, Beth, Erin, Aubrey & Kath

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IN MEMORIAM:

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FOR THOSE WHO MOURN:

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ON ACTIVE SERVICE: Lt Alex Bursi, Capt. Charles Bursi, Lt Nicholas Clouse, USN; Lt Col. Harry Hughes; MSGT Michael Holter, USAF; Cpt Fiodor Strikovski, US Army.

FROM THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Come to our Pretend Sleepover

Calling all Sunday School Kids! On Friday, November 9th from 6 PM to 9 PM we shall be holding our grand **Pretend Sleepover** in the Parish Hall. There will be Pizza, a movie ("Free Birds"), as well as bunches of games and crafts

How about a Mom's Morning?!

All Mom's interested in bringing their 5 and under children to meet at St Stephen's weekly are invited to a preliminary meeting to discuss times and days on Oct 28th after the 9:15 AM service in the Sunday school classroom. Call Carolyn Kerouac at 203.500.9098 (email: carolynkeriuac@aol.com) to

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

Don't look now, but it's COOKIE WALK time !

Believe it or not, it is that time again! St. Stephen's famous "Cookie Walk" is just around the corner on December 1st (9:00AM to Noon). The only thing that needs to be done is lot of work by a lot of people. We hope we can count on YOU!

Beginning next week, we shall be publishing a series of cookie recipes, sign up requests, calls for donations of greens and items for the Silent Auction as well as various sundry items that come to mind in the days ahead We will even publish a recipe for cookies that is soooooo easy that even cookie novices can make them! WOW!

These recipes are generally known as "freezer cookies" The idea is to make up the dough ahead of time, freeze it, and then bake the cookies during the week before the Cookie Walk event. You can find additional step-by-step tips on freezing the dough at this web site:

<http://blog.kingarthurfLOUR.com/2015/10/21/freeze-bake-tips/>

This is probably our largest endeavor during the year here at St. Stephen's. It will require a lot of off-site and on-site work. However, the awards are huge for our Church, and for each of us who can participate in this fun event. Working together on such a worthy project reaps benefits far beyond those merely financial.

Both "old hands" (no sleight intended) and rookies will have a grand time working on various projects. Those of you who are new to St. Stephen's are especially encouraged to volunteer. You will meet new friends and strengthen current relationships, and you will be an "old pro" by December 1st.

APPOINTMENT

Mrs. Tracey Collins joins the Vestry

Mrs. Tracey Collins, a member of the Sunday School staff, has been appointed to join the Vestry in place of the long serving vestryman Gordon Turner. The daughter of former vestryman Mrs. Dorothy Lewis, Mrs. Collins has been a member of the parish for since the early 1990s. Her daughter Daytona also teaches Sunday School and her son Edward served as an acolyte.

THE MUSIC SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 21st

9.15 am - Choral Eucharist
Sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

11 am Choral Mattins

Sung by the Gentlemen of the Choir

Sunday, October 28th

11 am - Choral Mattins

St Stephen's Anglican Church

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093

Office: 410 560 6776 · **Rectory:** 443-425-2420

Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

www.ststeve.com

The Rev. Canon Guy P Hawtin, *Rector*

The Ven. Michael Kerouac, *Vicar* ·

Associate Rectors:

The Rev. Michael Belt, The Rev. John Novicki,

The Rev. M Wiley Hawks, The Rev. Robert Ludwig. &

The Rev. Dr. Norman Flowers

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

SUNDAY SERVICES

8am: Said Eucharist

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

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

Choral Services (as announced) – evensong.ststeve.com

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, 6pm: Evening Prayer

Friday, 12 noon: Healing Eucharist

Saturday, 5pm: Family Eucharist

Calendar of Events

WEEKLY

Monday, 6.30pm: Bridge Club

Thursday, 10am: Knitting Circle

Noon: Bible Study

Friday, 10.30am: Bible Study

MONTHLY & SPECIAL

TAKE NOTE: CHANGED DATE

The Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, October 24th, 7.00 pm

Ladies Who Lunch

Wednesday, Noon, November 21st

Information: Call Sara Douglas at 410-560-9026

Cookie Walk 2018

Saturday, December 1st from 9.00 AM to 12 noon

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St Stephens's Anglican Church
11856 Mays Chapel Road
Timonium, MD 21093

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