

# St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH • TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

Volume XIX, No. 42 *A parish in the classical Anglican tradition* October 31st, 2018

FROM THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

## It's time to start thinking about Cookie Walk 2018

It is time to get down to some serious business! The Parish Life Committee had its initial Cookie Walk meeting on Sunday October 21<sup>st</sup> during which we discussed various and sundry items in preparation for Cookie Walk Week (November 26 to 30).

There are a number of important tasks to be accomplished prior to that time in order to get that "week" started in the right direction. The single most important thing is Volunteers, Volunteers and, need I say it again, VOLUNTEERS!

Naturally, we have the usual HCG (hard core group), but we need additional parishioners to step up and offer their help as well. A special appeal goes out to new Church members to lend a hand. By the beginning of November, a Volunteer Sign-Up Table will be in place near the Church office.

Additionally, we could use donations of wreath ornaments, such as bows, ribbons, pine cones and other colorful items, as well as various baskets and containers for holiday arrangements.

We will be publishing in the coming weeks a number of tried and true cookie recipes from the St. Stephen's Cookbooks, and James Beard's *American Cookery Book*, however, we could always use more, especially some old family recipes that are favorites with you.

As mentioned in our initial article published last week, we will also be publishing recipes for "freezer cookies". You can make the dough in advance, freeze it, and bake these cookies in the week before the Cookie Walk.

There are additional step-by-step tips on freezing cookie dough at this website: <http://blog.kingarthurfLOUR.com/2015/10/21/freeze-bake-tips/> LET'S GET CRACKEN!

FROM THE RECTOR

## Barbarism and decadence: In praise of the *bon mot*

Political discourse in America, it fervently to be hoped, reached its nadir in Brooklyn recently when a gathering of witches solemnly cursed the newly installed justice of the Supreme Court, expressing the ugliest of sentiments in language that encompassed both the vile and the banal.

This isn't a complaint about the fact that these folks think less than highly about the justice. They have a First Amendment right to their views. My contempt is reserved for the dreariness of the language in which they expressed their disapproval.

It calls to mind way a comment by the 1<sup>st</sup> Century AD Roman poet Martial (*Marcus Valerius Martialis to give him is proper name*) about the gladiatorial games and circuses so beloved of his fellow citizens .

"I could forgive the circus all its cruelty, blood and vulgarity," he wrote, "if it wasn't so interminably boring."

And that's the problem with the manner in which the latter day social critics on both sides of the aisle express themselves: They are downright boring.

Whatever happened to "*bon mots*" – the swift, elegant, and often hugely funny, put downs that were a regular feature of conversation and debate when I was a young? Today, it seems, they've gone the way of the dodo.

When it came to *bon mots* few could equal the mastery of Oscar Wilde. Never the sporting type, he summed up fox hunting as "the unspeakable engaged in the pursuit of the uneatable."

"America," he declared, "is the only nation to have gone from barbarism to decadence without a period of civilization in between."

He was particularly known for the tart rejoinder. Asked at a pretentious literary party if he was enjoying himself, he replied: "Well, there's nothing else to enjoy here is there?"

Even on his death bed in a dreary boarding house in Dunkirk, France, Wilde was unable to resist a *quip*. "Either that wall paper goes or I do," he declared.

Wilde was one of the few people to get the better of the playwright George Bernard Shaw, himself no mean exponent of the *bon mot*. Shaw once fulsomely praised a particularly witty quip by Wilde. "I wish I'd said that," he remarked. "Don't worry, Bernard," Wilde replied, "One day you will,"

Shaw was no less a master of the cutting riposte. One day the noted Victorian actress and beauty Mrs. Patrick Campbell sought to compliment Shaw by light-heartedly suggesting they have a child together.

"Imagine how wonderful it would be to combine my beauty with your brains," she exclaimed.

Shaw dismissed the idea out of hand. "No, madam," he replied, "Think what a catastrophe it would be if it were to have my beauty and your brains."

Sir Winston Churchill was similarly fast on his feet. Lady

## 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, Charlotte, Bryan, Dorothy, Sarah, Betsy, Edie, Alan, Terry, Helen, Linda, John, Judy, Neal, Stephen, Nathan, Hobie, Betty, Helen, Robert, Jan, Bobby, Lee, Cary, Marie, Jim, Joanna, Kendall, Ian, Gloria, June, John, Adrian, Tom, Michell, Al, Kathy, Jack, Lewey, Stephen, Pamela, 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.

Astor, the British Parliamentarian and socialite, outraged by some statement by Churchill, blurted out: "Sir, if you were my husband I would put poison in your tea."

"Madam," replied Churchill suavely, "If I were your husband, I should drink it."

Returned to the opposition benches in the House of Commons after the Second World War, Church complimented the man who had unseated him, the socialist Prime Minister Clement Attlee. "Mr. Attlee is a very modest man . . ." Churchill began. After pausing, he added, "But then he has much to be modest about . . ."

On the other side of the House, socialist spokesman Michael Foot was noted from his acerbic wit. He was frequently at odds with Brendan Bracken, a fiery, red headed Irishman who

served as Churchill's Parliamentary Secretary.

"He is a complete phony," Foot once exasperatedly exclaimed, "Even his hair, which looks like a wig, is real!"

A quick wit can also have practical uses. It saved Robert Clive, former Governor of Bengal for the British East India Company, from impeachment.

Clive returned to England from India in the latter part of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, having amassed a fabulous fortune worth millions upon millions of dollars in today's money. His political enemies soon accused him of abusing his governorship by ruthlessly plundering the people he ruled.

Standing before the bar of the House of Commons, Clive heard the prosecution detail the bribes he had received – vast piles of gems, including rubies, diamonds, emeralds, sapphires and pearls, and thousands of *lahks* (an Indian unit of 100,000) of gold coins. "What do you have to say to that?" he was asked.

"When I think of what I might have had," he replied, "I am astonished at my moderation!" He was exonerated completely.

Among the sharpest wits in my youth was John Grosser, a colleague at The Times of London. Grosser, a parliamentary correspondent, towered well over six foot. He was a Rugby and field hockey international, and, incongruously perhaps, a noted *bon viveur* and dandy.

One day, in pouring rain, Grosser's Saville Row tailor delivered a new, superbly cut Irish tweed suit to his fashionable apartment, a stone's throw from the Houses of Parliament. Grosser was quite unable resist the urge to show it off. "But one drop of rain on it and all the creases will come out," he wailed to

the apartment block's doorman who escorted him to a waiting taxi under the shelter of a vast umbrella.

Ensnared in the cab, Grosser instructed the driver not to drop at the gate but take him directly to St. Stephen's entrance.

"It is a simply glorious example of the tailor's art," he gushed, preening himself, "The softest Irish tweed. Very hard to cut. Only a master can handle it. The trouble is a drop of rain on it, dearie, and all the creases will come out! But I simply couldn't resist wearing it. It's absolutely gorgeous"

The driver dropped him off as he was bidden, and, having been paid off with a handsome tip, could no longer restrain himself. "Here, mate," he jeered, "All you bleedin' need is earrings!"

"Earrings, dearie?" retorted Grosser, quick as a flash, "Never with tweed!" GPH✘

## 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](mailto:carolynkeriuac@aol.com)) to discuss.

## 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](http://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](http://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 31st, 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

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11856 Mays Chapel Road  
Timonium, MD 21093

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