

St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH · TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

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FROM JOHN DARLINGTON

Don't look now! The party is just around the corner!

Don't look now but May 4th is *fast* approaching! What is so important about May 4th you say? Haven't you been reading my articles? Tsk Tsk!! I cannot believe that you haven't been paying attention.

Now I can understand that you could forget your spouse's birthday, your anniversary, a doctor's appointment or even the IRS' money grab on April 15th, but May 4th? How could this happen?

May 4th is this year's date of our annual British Garden Party! Wow! It is a good thing that I am looking out for you, isn't it? There is going to be a lot of fun and excitement which you will not want to miss.

Bag Pipers and Punch and Judy Shows are just the tip of the iceberg. Games for the children and Games of Chance for the adults, gastronomic delights to challenge your palate, delightful wines and beer to quench your thirst, as well as many interesting items for sale that will test your pocketbook.

Henry the VIII will make an appearance along with his Court Jester, and the ever present and dangerous King's Goaler (that's "Jailer" to us Yanks!).

If you are into fresh baked good, there will be plenty available such as cakes (whole, half, & quarter size). There will be an abundance of interesting objects on the Jumble table that need new homes, and last, but certainly not least, we will again have our famous English Tea Fête serving hot tea, cakes and sandwiches from 11:30 to 2:00.

Now that I have tickled your curiosity, we need to finish up with the preparations. That means volunteers! There are several sign-up sheets in the Cadwalader Room outlining various tasks that need to be completed prior to the Big Day.

Of particular importance is the daily roster for the run-up week prior to May 4th. Don't be bashful, sign up! There are also posters announcing our Garden Party that can be distributed to local merchants as you go about your daily shopping.

Lastly, don't forget to consider being a Contributing or an Ad Patron. The following are the levels of patronage:

Contributing Patron

Imperial Crown @\$100.

House of Windsor @\$75 House of York @\$50.

House of Lancaster @ \$25

Ad Patron

Quarter Page @\$25.

Half Page @50.

Whole Page @\$100.

If you are interested in becoming a Contributing Patron, your name will be printed in the event program. Please indicate how you want your name displayed. Should the Ad Patron category appeal to you, the text of your ad should be included with your check.

Either way, all checks should be made out to St. Stephens Anglican Church and deposited in Cindie Baker's mailbox which is in the Church Office just off the Cadwalader Room. However, remember that time is a wastin! You need to get your money and instructions into Cindie by April 27th. Let's Get Crackin!

FROM FATHER ROBERT LUDWIG

Loving your neighbor is not just an option

Father Ludwig was a fine preacher and an excellent writer. Recently I came across a pithy meditation he wrote some years ago. It is well worth re-reading. Please say a prayer in his memory. GPH✕

The other day a friend of mine used the term "paying it forward" which brought immediately to mind the phrase "random acts of kindness". Both are euphemisms for earning merits by impulsively doing good to your fellow men.

On the face of it, this appears to be a noble ideal. Giving aid or alms to the person at the bus stop, or outside the grocery store, or perhaps to what we used to call bums (but are now called "the homeless") is a good thing. Who can argue that helping some- one in need is wrong?

The problem with "paying it forward" or "random acts of kindness" is that in these efforts we remove a very important participant. His name is God. Just as dangerous is the implied pat on the back that one using these phrases feels he should receive.

Every Sunday we hear the Summary of the law, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind, and

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 visiting list, or to join the Prayer Chain, call the parish office (410) 560 6776.

FOR RECOVERY: Daniel, Leona, Charlotte, Bryan, Rachel, Elizabeth, 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

FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Bethany, Caroline, Ardis, Mavis, Melba, Sam, Vinnie, Doug, Ian, Lisa, Carey, Cindy, Jacob, Casey, Beth, Kath, Rebecca, Catherine & Elizabeth

IN MEMORIAM:

THOSE WHO MOURN:

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

with all thy strength. This is the first commandment" (Here lies the rub!) And the second is like, namely this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets"?.

This is where the problem with "paying it forward" and "random acts of kindness" lies. We are commanded by God to love him *and* our neighbor. The phrases "paying it forward" and "random acts of kindness" excise God from the equation. It becomes our largess that helps the poor guy on the corner and not the overwhelming commandment of God. In doing it in this fashion we also imply "?Look what a nice thing I've done, I didn't have to, but I did".

In this we really brush God aside. We become the masters of our fate and that of our fellow man. We are commanded by God to do good to our fellow man. This isn't suggestion or a hint, it is a commandment given to us by God himself in the Christ. It is an obligation, not an option.

As well, the doing of good for our fellow man is no cause for celebration. It is our duty.

To pat oneself on the back for canned goods to the poor or a dollar to the "bum" on the corner is to forget God. It is he that made our alms possible in the first place.

Finally, to love, to help, to give alms, (or the occasional buck), to someone less well off than ourselves, brings us full circle in that Summary of the Law, because to love our fellow man, "even the least of these my brethren,"? (*Matthew 25:40*) is to love God himself. RHL✕

Easter Flowers For St Stephen's Altar

Here is a 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 Thursday, April 17th. Flowers may be taken home after the 11.0 am Service

Your Name: _____

Lilies Small elite 6" 4-6 blooms @ \$10 (# of plants.....)

Field Azalea @ \$15 (# of plants.....)

Hydrangeas Four plus blooms @ \$20 (# of plants.....)

Hiacynths @ \$10 (6" pot) (# of plants.....)

Tulips @ \$10 (6" pot) (# of plants.....)

Total # of plants _____ Total amount enclosed _____

My gift is IN HONOR, IN MEMORY OF, IN THANKSGIVING FOR (please circle)

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 Very Rev. Guy P Hawtin, Dean & Rector
The Ven. Michael Kerouac, Vicar ·

Associate Rectors:

The Rev. Michael Belt, The Rev. John Novicki,
The Rev. M Wiley Hawks
and 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

The Holy Week Schedule

MONDAY BEFORE EASTER, April 15th
6 PM, Holy Communion.

TUESDAY BEFORE EASTER, April 16th
6 PM, Holy Communion.

WEDNESDAY BEFORE EASTER, April 17th
6 PM, Holy Communion

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 18th
7 PM Choral Eucharist & Stripping the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY, April 19th
NOON: Seven Last Words From The Cross
3.30 PM, Children's Way of the Cross
6 PM, Communion of the Presanctified

HOLY SATURDAY, April 20th
7 PM, The Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter

EASTER DAY (Sunday, April 21st)

8 AM: Said Holy Eucharist.

9.15 AM: Choral Eucharist,

(followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for children aged 7 and under).

11.00 AM: Choral Eucharist

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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