

St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH · TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

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FROM THE RECTOR

The writer George Orwell: A prophet for our times

Shattered windows in the stores on Chicago's Magnificent Mile, street battles in Portland and Seattle, buildings ablaze in Minneapolis – all serve to evoke images of Kristallnacht, Germany's Night of Broken Glass that in 1938 signaled the beginning of the Nazi drive to exterminate Europe's Jewish population.

Ironically, the people whose barbaric acts are reminiscent of those of Germany's Nazi past claim to be "anti-fascist." But Antifa's calculated viciousness so closely mirrors that of Adolf Hitler's brown shirted storm troopers, it is reasonable to conclude that the reverse is true.

The violence wracking many of America's greatest cities is especially chilling for those who witnessed the launch of the Cold War by Adolf Hitler's evil twin Josef Stalin. As Yogi Berra famously observed, the violence here in America today is just like déjà vu all over again.

Folks might find it m odd to hear Hitler and Stalin described as twins. After all, Hitler was "right wing" while Stalin was "left wing – and today people use "right wing" as a term for political conservatives.

Actually, there was nothing conservative about Hitler. He, like Stalin, was a socialist. Indeed, it was Stalin who coined the term "right wing" to differentiate Hitler's brand of socialism from Stalin's "left wing" version.

The difference between the two "wings" was trivial. Stalin outlawed privately-owned businesses, maintaining that the state should own the means of production. Hitler said it didn't matter who owned the means of production providing the producers did what the state told them.

The ultimate achievements of the two socialist visions, however, were remarkably similar – slaughter on what is best described as an industrial scale.

It is impossible to contemplate those dark days without recalling the words of George Orwell, pen name of a writer named Eric Blair, an archenemy of totalitarianism, and whose best known work is the novel 1984.

The ideological underpinnings of today's cultural turmoil largely originate in our education system, most notably, but by no means exclusively, in our colleges and universities. Prophetically, Orwell's description of the leftist intellectuals of his day aptly describes their modern American counterparts.

Here is what Orwell had to say about the leftist intellectuals of his day with the words 'American' and 'America' substituted for "English" and "England:"

"[America] is perhaps the only great country whose intellectuals are ashamed of their own nationality. In left-wing circles it is always felt that there is something slightly disgraceful in being an [American] and that it is a duty to snigger at every [American] institution, from [the nuclear family] to [apple pie].

"It is a strange fact, but it is unquestionably true that almost any [American] intellectual would feel more ashamed of standing to attention during [The Star Spangled Banner] than of stealing from a poor box"

Orwell was acutely aware of the danger to democracy presented by political correctness, including the destruction of historic artifacts, including monuments and statues. Its purpose, he declared, is to obliterate our understanding of history and to stifle political debate.

"The most effective way to destroy people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history," he

wrote. "Whoever controls the image and information of the past," he continues, "determines what and how future generations will think; whoever controls the information and images of the present determines how those same people will view the past . . . He who controls the past commands the future. He who commands the future conquers the past.

Orwell eloquently denounced leftist attacks on the English language. His words are particularly relevant today in view of recent claims from leftist academics that the English language itself is racist.

The University of Washington in Tacoma's writing center, for example, has condemned the English language — and especially its rules — as racist. Similar sentiments have also been endorsed by the English faculty at Rutgers University. Orwell comments tersely: "There is no swifter route to the corruption of thought than through the corruption of language . . . In our time, political speech

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: Bill, Pam, Eileen, Rebecca, Catherine, Richard✕, Janis, Daniel, Leona, Rachel, Elizabeth, Kim, Dorothy, Donna, Skip, Dan, Sarah, Betsy, Edie, Heidi, Alan, Terry, Helen, Linda, John, Neal, Stephen, Nathan, Hobie, Betty, Helen, Jan, Bobby, Lee, Cary, Marie, Jim, Joanna, Kendall, Ian, Gloria, June, John Tom, Michell, Jack, Lewey, Stephen, Pamela, David, Wade, Sifa, Eileen, Ravi, Theresa, Larry Ricard, Judy & Scott

FOR LIGHT, STRENGTH & GUIDANCE: Sam, Cameron, Jim, Diana, Caroline, Karen, Ardis, Mavis, Michael, Ian, Melba, Vinnie, Doug, Chip, Elizabeth, Lisa, Carey, Jacob, Casey, Beth, Kath, Rebecca, Colin & Christian.

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.

and writing are largely the defense of the indefensible ... Thus, political language has to consist largely of euphemism, question-begging, and sheer cloudy vagueness ... Political language [is] designed to make lies sound truthful ..."

Orwell harbored no illusions about the goals of those behind politically motivated violence:

"[N]o one ever seizes power with the intention of relinquishing it," he wrote in his novel 1984. "Power is not a means; it is an end. One does not establish a dictatorship in order to safeguard a revolution; one makes the revolution in order to establish the dictatorship."

A poem by Pastor Martin Niemoller, incarcerated in Dachau Concentration Camp for defying the Nazis, sums up the consequences of failing to heed Orwell's warnings:

*First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a socialist.
Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a trade unionist.
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—
Because I was not a Jew.
Then they came for me—
and there was no one left to speak for me. GPH✕*

FROM THE PARISH CLERGY

New County rules on Covid19

Dr. Gregory Wm. Branch, Health Officer for Baltimore County, has promulgated the following order: “Beginning Thursday, July 23 at 9 a.m., Baltimore County individuals ages 2 and up are required to wear face coverings in any indoor business, service, organization or establishment that serves the general public. This includes, but is not limited to, retail establishments, recreational establishments, houses of worship and other locations open to the public.

Residents are strongly encouraged to wear masks in outdoor public areas where social distancing of at least six-feet is not possible. Exemptions to the decree are:

- Individuals who cannot wear a face covering (as defined in Governor's Executive Order No. 20-04-15-01) due to a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability;
- Individuals who are communicating or seeking to communicate with someone where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
- Individuals at food service establishments while eating or drinking, which shall all be subject to the same existing regulations and exceptions previously in place under the Governor’s Executive Orders and the Health Officer Orders

of the Maryland Department of Health In addition, all non-seated parties, must wear a face covering when moving in or about a restaurant or bar premises.

- Individuals are not required to show documentation that an exception applies.”

The full text of th Health Department Directive and Order and the Interpretive Guidance can be found at the County web site.

Our Sunday service schedule

Services will resume at 8.00 AM, 9.15 AM and 11.00 AM and we shall be celebrating the Eucharist at all services. Sunday School will be informal.

For shut-ins and folks st in quarantine we will be continuing our videos of Feast Day and Sunday Eucharists. These are posted on the **parish website (www.ststeve.com)**, **Youtube** and **Isaac the Eagle’s Facebook** page.

You’ll find them from 9.00 AM onwards every Sunday and Day of Obligation at **ststeve.com** at the bottom of the Home Page, under “Recent Blog Posts. A new midweek “broadcast” talk by the rector can also be found on the website every Wednesday or Thursday.

Meanwhile, we have opened a Post Office Box for the exclusive use of the treasurer. Please mail your offerings to: **St Stephen’s Anglican Church, P.O. Box 6161, Timonium, MD 21094**. All other mail should be sent to our street address. GPH✘ & JPN✘

St Stephen’s Anglican Church

11856 Mays Chapel Road, Timonium, MD 21093
Office: 410 560 6776 · Rector: 443 425-2420
Vicar: 410 878-5275 · Pastoral Care: 410 252 8674

www.ststeve.com

The Very Rev. Guy P Hawtin, Dean & Rector
The Rev. John Novicki, Vicar ·

Associate Rectors:

The Rev. Michael Belt, The Rev. C. Daniel Bursi,
The Rev. Dr. Norman Flowers,
The Rev. M. Wiley Hawks & The Rev. Mark Newsome,
Mrs Happy Riley, Director of Pastoral Care
& Wedding Coordinator

SUNDAY SERVICES

8am: Said Eucharist

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

11 am: 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

For Our Country.

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favour and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honourable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogancy, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth.

In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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