

# St Stephen's News

ST STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH · TIMONIUM, MARYLAND

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FROM THE RECTOR

## When it comes to Marxism, old Karl has the final say

Karl Marx, it seems, has been adopted as the political philosopher of choice for the nation's self-anointed intellectual elite. This is rather odd. Few of them qualify as proletarian. Most of them are obviously members of the bourgeoisie – a class Marx utterly despised.

But just because people claim to be Marxists doesn't mean that they actually qualify as such. You can take this straight from the horse's mouth: the late great Karl Marx, himself.

In 1871, following France's defeat in the Franco-Prussian War, a group of Marx's disciples set up the Paris Commune, a socialist mini-state in the French capital. Glowing with pride the "Communards" sent a cable to their mentor announcing the first Marxist revolution.

Marx cabled back word to the effect: "It is not a Marxist revolution."

Crushed, the Communards protested: "But we are all Marxists!"

Marx replied: "*Je ne suis pas Marxiste. Je suis Marx!*" ("I'm not a Marxist. I'm Marx!")

He could confidently make this claim because he had described in great detail the type of revolution he believed to be inevitable in his massive three volume work, *Kapital*.

Marx was an economic, political and social Darwinist. And he considered his theory of economic, political and social evolution just as "scientifically inevitable" as the theory of biological evolution postulated by Charles Darwin presented in "*Origin of the Species*."

In *Kapital*, Marx analyzed Europe's economic, political and social evolution from the dark ages through feudalism to absolutist rule and the emergence of what he dubbed bourgeois democracy and the capitalist system. (Yes, Karl Marx invented the word "capitalism.")

The next inevitable evolutionary step, he declared, would be that the social class of wage earners (the highly skilled workers who actually ran the capitalists' operations) would seize control of the enterprises for which they labored.

The evolutionary nature of Marx's theory meant his revolution could only take place in the most advanced, highly industrialized society. At the time in which Marx was writing, the only suitable candidate would have been Great Britain.

Agrarian France had, according to Marx's theory, was nowhere near sufficiently industrially developed for the next evolutionary step. Hence his curt dismissal of the poor Communards, who, in any event, were brutally crushed by the French military a couple of months later.

Russia was far less industrially advanced than 1870's France at the time of the Russia's October Revolution in 1917. By that time, however, Marx had long been pushing up the daisies in London's Highgate Cemetery.

He was, thus, denied the opportunity of informing the self-proclaimed Marxist Vladimir Ilyich Ulyanov (a.k.a. Lenin) and his murderous gang of Bolsheviks: "*Je ne suis pas Marxiste. Je suis Marx!*" That pleasure fell to me at a dinner party in Moscow back in the early 1970s.

The guest list included a number of posh communists, including Georgy Arkadyevich Arbatov, a member of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and an advisor to Leonid Brezhnev, the party's general secretary.

They were an arrogant lot and, as the dinner went on, the rudeness with which they treated the poor subservient souls serving the meal became increasingly irritating.

Eventually, one of them asked my opinion of the October Revolution. It was almost certainly the vodka talking, but I replied: "It was a very nice revolution, I'm sure. But, actually, I don't think it could be described as a Marxist revolution. It's more reminiscent of absolutism and the rise of the bourgeoisie."

The remark was received in stony silence. However, warming to my point, I went on: "That doesn't mean there hasn't been a Marxist revolution, of course."

"Not the Chinese?" gasped one of the guests. The

## 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:** Mavis, Pam, Eileen, Rebecca, Catherine, Bill, 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, Maxine, 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.

Soviets had, at that time, been fighting the Chinese Communists for possession of Siberia, which had been ceded to Russia involuntarily in the 1870s. They were, in those days, mortal enemies.

"of course not," I replied, "They are even more industrially backward than you lot. No, the real Marxist revolution has taken place in the United States. Just look at the Forbes 500 and the Fortune 1,000. Very few of the people who run those companies actually own them. They are Marx's highly skilled industrial proletariat who have seized the reins of power."

"That is enough!" snapped Arbatov, a specialist in U.S. affairs, "That was not funny!"

He lurched to his feet and stormed out, followed by the rest of the party, some still chewing. As for me, I caught the first morning flight West out of Moscow.

I still can't make up my mind whether Karl Marx would see any merit in my argument about the managers of American industry. But I'm certain he'd condemn our self-styled Marxist intellectuals to the firing squad in a trice – for being so hopelessly bourgeois. GPH✘

FROM THE CLERGY

# Thanksgiving Day Service

Despite Covid19, we still have much for which to give thanks. We shall be holding our Thanksgiving Day Eucharist, as usual, on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26th at 10.00 AM — repeat 10.00 AM. Let join together to show God our appreciation for his all blessings before we tuck into turkey and all the trimmings on Thursday, November 26th.

FROM PARISH LIFE

# COVID Cookie Walk2020 and Knitting Auction

Even though we are all limited by the pandemic, the knitting auction will take place starting 1 November 2020 at the church, and end on 19 December 2020.

We have over 50 items to auction. Each is lovingly done by someone in our knitting Circle. There are lots of hats, scarves, sweaters, shawls and mitts for your buying and gifting pleasure. As usual, we will have a “Buy it Now” at the bottom of each bid sheet, so you can get your item immediately. Each item’s starting bid is the cost of the yarn. Each of our knitters has spent hours knitting to

bring you this fabulous array of handmade items. The more you bid, the more we can give to our charities, which include St. Stephen’s Church ([www.ststeve.com](http://www.ststeve.com)), Christ Child Society of Baltimore ([www.christchildbaltimore.org](http://www.christchildbaltimore.org)) and The Heifer Project ([www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org)). Please stop by anytime the church is open to view and bid on these lovely items.

Jellies and Jams will be available after 1 December 2020. The price is \$6.00 per jar. Our wonderful soup mix will also be available for \$5.00 a package. Jezebel Sauce, that spicy condiment, will be selling for \$5.00 a jar.

Homemade cookies (prepackaged) will be available by the 1 pound box for \$12.00. Cookies will only be available on December 19th between 9:00 am and noon.

## Our Sunday service schedule

Holy Eucharist at will be said at 8.00 AM and 9.15 AM. Morning Prayer will be said 11.00 AM with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month. Sunday School takes place at 9.15 AM

We are continuing our videos of Feast Day and Sunday Eucharists. These are posted on the **parish website** ([www.ststeve.com](http://www.ststeve.com)), **Youtube** and **Isaac the Eagle’s Facebook** page from 9.00 AM onwards every Sunday and Day of Obligation. They are listed 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, please mail your offerings to the Treasurer’s Mail Box: **St Stephen’s Anglican Church, P.O. Box 6161, Timonium, MD 21094.** GPH☒ & JPN☒

## St Stephen’s Anglican Church

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[www.ststeve.com](http://www.ststeve.com)

The Very Rev. Guy P Hawtin, Dean & Rector  
The Rev. John Novicki, Vicar ·  
Associate Rectors:  
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](http://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 Stephen’s Anglican Church  
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Timonium, MD 21093

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