ON Candlemas Day, Thursday, February 2, the annual High Mass for the Religious Communities of the American Church will be sung at St. Mary's at 11 a.m., with the Bishop of Algoma presiding. This year, we shall have as the preacher at this service, the Reverend Father Joseph, Superior of the Order of St. Francis.

A large part of the nave of the Church will be reserved for members of our several Religious Communities and their associates.

At the High Mass on Candlemas Day, the year's supply of altar candles is blessed, and votive candles are distributed to the people in the congregation during the singing of Nunc dimittis with its constantly recurring antiphon 'A Light to lighten the gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel'—and then there is a procession round the Church, one of the most beautiful and touching ceremonies of the liturgical year.

A procession of candles may appear a trifle compared with the world problems that confront us; but our forefathers in the faith, with insight greater than that of this generation, saw in the lighted candles the outward presentation of the Eternal Light and realized the presence in their midst of the Light of the world, Who redeemed us from darkness, and bringeth us to Eternal Light, Who liveth and reigneth for ever.
THE Holy Hour devotion for February will be held in the Church on the evening of Candlemas Day, beginning at 8 p.m.

ST. BLASIUS' DAY, February 3. A small leaflet obtainable at the Tract Table in the Church explains briefly and in an interesting manner the significance of St. Blasius' Day and the special blessing which belongs to it. The blessing of throats will be given at each Mass on Friday morning, February 3; also after Vespers at 6.30, and before Benediction at 9.30 p.m.

THE Woman's Auxiliary will hold a cake sale and serve tea in St. Joseph's Hall on the afternoon of Friday, February 3, from 3 to 6 p.m.

The Woman's Auxiliary has been invaluable in assisting in the missionary work of the Church, an enterprise which everyone who calls himself a Catholic Churchman should loyally support. St. Mary's branch of the Auxiliary needs more members. Will not more women of the parish help by coming to the monthly meetings and identifying themselves with this important organization? Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month, from October to May inclusive, in St. Joseph's Hall at 10.30 a.m. The members make a corporate communion at the 9.30 Mass on the same day.

THE annual Quiet Afternoon for nurses and social service workers, given under the auspices of the Guild of St. Catherine of Genoa, will be held this year on Septuagesima Sunday, February 12. The meditations will be given by the Father Rector at 3 and 5 p.m. Supper will be served in St. Joseph's Hall at 6.30 p.m. Graduate and student nurses and social service workers are cordially invited to this Quiet Afternoon. Any who expect to be present at the supper should send word, before Friday, February 10, to Sister Mary Virginia, S.H.N., 133 West 46th Street, New York City.

THE annual festival service for acolytes will be held here at St. Mary's on Monday, February 13 (Lincoln's Birthday). The celebrant of the pontifical High Mass will be the Right Reverend Rocksborough R. Smith, Bishop of Algoma. The preacher at this service will be the Bishop of Milwaukee, the Right Reverend Benjamin F. P. Ivins. Following the Mass there will be a procession and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

On the preceding day, Septuagesima Sunday, the Bishop of Milwaukee will celebrate the High Mass, and the Bishop of Algoma will preach.

THE annual parish dinner for the benefit of St. Mary's Summer Home at Keyport will be served in St. Joseph's Hall on Wednesday evening, February 15, at 6.30 o'clock. As it is very important to know beforehand how many guests to expect, you are urged to secure your tickets at once. The tickets are $1.00 each. They may be obtained from the Parish Secretary in the Rector's Office; or checks and applications may be sent to Mrs. William C. Dickey, 123 East 53rd Street, New York City.

A CORDIAL invitation is extended to the men and young men of St. Mary's and of other parishes to attend a Day of Retreat here on February 22 (Washington's Birthday), of which the Father Rector will be the conductor. The Retreat will begin with Mass and Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. Three meditations will be given,—at 11 a.m., 12 m. and 2 p.m. Breakfast and luncheon will be served to all retreatants who will signify their intention of being present. Such notification should be sent (preferably in writing) to Father Dale, 144 West 47th Street, New York City, before Monday, February 20.

TWO kind and very talented English friends of St. Mary's, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ogden, of London, have offered to give a concert for the benefit of our organ fund on the evening
of Washington's Birthday, February 22. The concert will be given at the Hotel Plaza in the Mirror Room. Mrs. Ogden will sing, accompanied by cimbalom and a string quintette; and Mr. Ogden will be heard in cimbalom solos, accompanied by the quintette. The entire proceeds of the concert will be for our organ fund, so it is our hope that many of St. Mary's parishioners and friends will be in attendance that evening. Tickets, which are two dollars, may be obtained from Mrs. William C. Dickey, 123 East 53rd Street, New York City; or from the Parish Secretary in the Rector's Office.

Elsewhere in this number of AVE we include a short article on the cimbalom.

Four illustrated travel lectures will be given by the Father Rector on the four Friday evenings of February. The subjects will be as follows: Feb. 3, Florence and Pisa; Feb. 10, Vienna and Buda-Pest; Feb. 17, Lake Garda, the Tyrol and the Dolomites; and Feb. 24, Strasbourg and Chartres.

These lectures are given each Friday evening at 8:15 in St. Joseph's Hall in connection with weekly parish social hour. Everyone is cordially invited.

Of the series of Wednesday evening recitals by Mr. Ernest White, organist of St. James' Church, Philadelphia, there remain two more programs, to be given on February 1 and 8. For these recitals no tickets are necessary. The hour for each is 8:30 p.m.

The Bishop has appointed March 31, the Friday before Passion Sunday, as the date for an episcopal visitation to the Church of St. Mary the Virgin for the purpose of administering the sacrament of confirmation. Will any persons who wish to be confirmed at that time please speak about it to one of the clergy at once, so that personal instruction may be arranged. As to children who have reached the age for confirmation, it is the duty of their parents or god-parents to see that they are brought or sent to the instructions for children which are being given by Father Klein after the children's Mass each Saturday.

The age limit for confirmation has always been disastrous. Children are so different that to draw a line before the number twelve is unjust. And then, psychologically, the normal age breaks down utterly in countless cases. The 'teens are almost the worst possible ages for confirmation. Our own Bishop is wise in leaving us free to present children for the sacraments while still very young, if they know their catechism.

Shrove Tuesday falls on the last day of February, when there will be priests in the Church all day to hear confessions. The complete list of announcements for Lent will appear in the March number of AVE.

Baptism of children should not be delayed. Babies must be brought to the Church as soon after birth as possible. Parents who would not think of letting them go on for weeks with some bodily ailment without seeing the doctor, will yet for the most trivial reasons put off having their children baptized. Original sin is much more serious than any bodily disease, and it takes something more than a trifling inconvenience or a matter of sentiment to excuse from negligence, if the baptism of a child is put off. If the child is ill, a priest should be sent for at once. If the child is in danger of death, and there is no priest to be found at the time; or if there is doubt whether the child will live until the priest can be fetched, in such a case any one—man, woman or child—can and must baptize the child. Every Christian should be ready for such an emergency, and ought to know how to baptize. Take clean water and pour it upon the child's head so that it runs on the skin. Pour the water three times, saying: 'I baptize thee in the Name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. A shell or a spoon may be used for pouring the water. There is no need to give the child a name in a case like this, as baptism does not confer the name. Any name may be taken from baptism.

THE churching of women, or the blessing of women after childbirth, is a pious and praiseworthy custom, though not one of obligation. The service, which is much neglected in the American Church, may be found in the Book of Common Prayer on page 305.

The woman who comes to be churched should make an offering, as the Prayer Book rubric indicates, which may be used for the relief of destitute women. It is most fitting and salutary that she should receive the Holy Communion as soon after as possible.

EXTREME unction is a sacrament of the Church. In our Book of Common Prayer it is called the “Unction of the Sick.” The outward form is the anointing with oil. The inward grace is the restoration of health to the soul, and, if it is God’s will, to the body also. It is plain that it does not always restore health to the body; for, if this were the case, we need never die. But in many instances where a person has been given up as a hopeless case by the doctor, he has been restored to health by this sacrament. If it is not God’s will that we should live longer on earth, extreme unction prepares us for a good death. When our Lord sent out the Seventy, He told them to anoint the sick with oil; and St. James says; ‘Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders (i. e., the priests) of the Church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another.’

WE are frequently asked to recommend some little booklet or tract which will furnish people with notes for meditation. Holy Scripture, we feel, can furnish most of us with all the material we need for meditation; and meditation upon the Word of God is most fruitful in building up in each one of us the Christian virtues of faith, hope and love. Busy people, however, need a plan or scheme for their daily Bible reading, as well as a few explanatory and devotional notes. To such we gladly recommend the little monthly pamphlets of the Bible Reading Fellowship which may always be found on the Tract Table in the Church. These booklets of “Daily Readings and Notes” cost five cents a copy.

MANY people from the parish and from outside came to the exhibition of vestments on January 13 and expressed much interest in the work of St. Mary’s Guild. Through the food sale which was held in St. Joseph’s Hall during that afternoon the Guild netted something over sixty dollars to be used in its work of making vestments for poor parishes and missions. The members of the Guild wish to express their gratitude for so much interest shown by other parishioners and friends.

AT the annual meeting of St. Mary’s Guild the following named officers were elected for the year 1933-34:

President. Miss Helena D. Appleton, 111 East 75th Street.
Vice-President. Mrs. C. T. Vogelgesang, 400 East 49th Street.
Treasurer. Mrs. Newbury Frost Read, 57 West 52nd Street.
Recording Secretary. Mrs. J. Radford English, 133 East 80th Street.
Corresponding Secretary. Miss Madeleine Murray, 50 West 45th Street.

Contributions for the work of St. Mary’s Guild should be sent to the Treasurer, Mrs. J. Radford English; or they may be forwarded through the Father Rector.

MISS Louise V. Richards continues to be Chairman of the Flower Committee (a department of St. Mary’s Guild), and donations of money for the altar flowers should be sent to her at 38 West 93rd Street, New York City.
THE altar flowers for the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary are given in memory of Ursula D. Arnold. Those for February 5, the fifth Sunday after Epiphany are given in memory of the late Gulian C. Verplanck Richards. Of your charity, pray for the happy repose of their souls.

THE Parish Lending Library in the Sisters’ Mission House has recently acquired a number of new titles through the generosity of a friend:

Liturgy and Worship. Edited by W. K. Lowther Clark.
The Elements of the Spiritual Life. By F. P. Harton.
Ways of Christian Life. By Dom Cuthbert Butler, O.S.B.
Mystical Prayer According to St. Francis de Sales. By Auguste Saudreau.
Prayer and Intelligence. By Jacques and Raïssa Maritain.
The Hidden Garden of Prayer. By Edward D. Sedding, S.S.J.E.
The Highway of the Church’s Year. By Father Thomas, O.S.B.
The Old Testament Calling. By Elsie Lindsey Smith.
The Inward Vision. By R. H. J. Steuart, S.J.
What Are Saints? By C. C. Martindale, S.J.
The Faith and Conduct of a Churchman. By A. C. Buchanan.
Charles Gore. By Gordon Crosse.
The Oxford Movement and After. By C. P. S. Clarke.
Psycho-Analysis for Normal People. By Geraldine Coster.

The Lending Library is open every Sunday after High Mass and before Vespers. On week-days, books may be borrowed between 4 and 6 p.m. The library is quite free to members of the parish. Persons borrowing books are asked not to keep them longer than three weeks without renewal.

WHEN we come to a Low Mass at the high altar on a Sunday morning, let us not kneel as far apart from the priest as possible. We come together to pray before an altar; let us draw as near to the altar and to one another as we can. It is a prayer meeting. We have been told that when Spiritualists come together for a seance in their temple, they do not scatter themselves like refrigerating units all over a cold and desolate room. They link themselves hand in hand, spirit blends with spirit, and when perfect harmony and sympathy are established, then the spirits come—so they say! A spiritualistic seance is simply an old-fashioned prayer meeting gone wrong. If we come together, if we have all things in common, if we join in prayer and song, then when the atmosphere is fit and the harmony complete, the spirits may come—the Saints and the Angels,—but God the Holy Spirit will surely come.

THE year 1933, as you have been reminded before, is the Centenary of the beginning of the Oxford Movement. The Church of St. Mary the Virgin was founded here in New York City over sixty years ago to exemplify in its teaching and practice the principles of the Oxford Movement. Many church-people throughout the Anglican Communion are beginning to make their preparations to keep the Centenary well. A book of prayers has been published to help us in our preparations for the keeping of the Centenary. It is entitled “An Hour of Prayer for the Centenary.” It may be obtained at the Tract Table in the Church for ten cents a copy.

WHERE do you live? It is both surprising and interesting to discover how many copies of AVE and other parish announcements are returned to us marked “Moved, address unknown.” Will you not help us by keeping us informed of any change of address? We are anxious to keep in touch with all of our parishioners; but it would require a good-sized army of detectives to follow up and record all the changes in address of our modern urban population. Please help, and let your clergy know where you are living.
The following contributions for AVE are gratefully acknowledged: Anonymous, $5; Miss Helena D. Appleton, $1; Mr. H. L. Bartow, $2; Miss Margaret J. Bell, $1; Miss Amy Bishop, $1; Mr. D. A. Brose, $1; Miss Norma J. Cameron, $1; Mrs. James H. Carll, $2; Mrs. W. M. V. Hoffman, $5; Mr. Henry A. Jencks, $1; Miss Emily Long, $1; Miss Helen Morgan, $2; Miss Caroline M. Peters, $2; Mrs. B. W. Pierson, $1; Miss Marion Piggott, $1; Dr. T. H. Rockwell, $2; Miss Maude Romain, $2; and Miss Grace S. Whiting, $2.


The Czimbalom

The czimbalom has been described by Liszt in his book "Gypsies and their Music" as 'characteristic national Hungarian instrument,' and he frequently refers to it as a fundamental and integral element in Tzigane orchestras.

In making these statements he doubtless had in mind the fact that thanks to the Hungarian gypsies it has been retained and used by them up to the present day. For, although common to various European countries in the XVIIth century, under the name of dulcimer in England, tympanon in France and cembalo in Italy, it generally and gradually fell into disuse except in Hungary.

It may be convenient to quote here a description of the instrument as it was at that period. 'The dulcimer (i.e., the czimbalom) is made in a kind of triangular form with wire strings screwed over two bridges at each end; and some strings run down under other bridges; some strings being single and others double to strengthen the sounds; all of which are shorter and shorter as they are more acute. When played on, it is generally laid on a table or stand and struck with both hands, with one rod in each hand, made of wood, the end of the rods being covered with tightly wound cotton wool.'

In this form it remained until about the year 1870 when Schunda of Buda-Pest succeeded after many attempts in inventing a pedal for it, thus enabling the player to exercise proper control over the sounds, whereas formerly he had to dampen them by placing his fingers on the wire whilst he played—quite a feat of legerdemain. Schunda also enlarged the instrument considerably, giving it a greater compass, and made many other improvements.

During the progress of these developments Liszt displayed a lively interest, and when the instrument was at last brought to perfection expressed great pleasure, as correspondence with Schunda and others attests; and the modern czimbalom built in various kinds of wood and standing on its four carved legs presents a most artistic appearance, invariably exciting curiosity and admiration. As the first percussion stringed instrument to be invented, it has properly been called the father of the pianoforte,
and in some respects the sire is regarded by not a few folk as superior to this offspring, for the reasons that the tone of the czimbalom possesses more sweetness and greater warmth, as well as by the fact that, owing to the performer being in direct contact with the strings, in contrast to the intervening mechanism of the piano, greater degrees of softness and loudness, as well as greater depths of expression can be obtained. By means of the tremolo, too, a sustained tone, not dissimilar to that of the violin is produced, with alluring effect; and together with the foregoing advantages it possesses a slightly barbaric timbre which expresses the romance of gypsy music in a delightfully distinctive manner, when used either as a solo instrument or with an orchestra. It can also be used to accompany the voice in various kinds of music, with charming effect.

In the year 1874, a czimbalom recital was given at Buda-Pest to signalise Schunda's achievement. Liszt honoured the recital with his presence, also Richter, as well as a number of the most eminent Hungarian composers and conductors.

Kalendar for February

2. Th. PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Candlemas). High Mass for the Religious Life, 11 a.m. Holy Hour, 8 p.m.
5. Su. EPIPHANY V. Com. of St. Agatha, Virgin, Martyr (251).
12. Su. SEPTUAGESIMA. Pontifical High Mass, 11. Nurses' Retreat, 3 to 7 p.m.
14. Tu. St. Valentine, Martyr in Italy.
15. W. Feria. Parish Dinner, St. Joseph's Hall, 6:30 p.m.
17. F. Feria. Abstinence.
19. Su. SEXAGESIMA.
22. W. St. Joseph of Arimathea, Confessor. Men's Retreat, 9:30 to 3. Concert in aid of Organ Fund, Hotel Plaza, 8:30 p.m.
23. Th. Vigil.
24. F. ST. MATTHIAS, APOSTLE. Abstinence.
26. Su. QUINQUAGESIMA.
27. M. Feria.
Music List for February

FEBRUARY 2.—PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.
Mass in honor of St. Clare of Assisi
Motet, "Ave Maria"

FEBRUARY 5.—FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY.
Mass, "Theresien-Messe"
Motet, "Halleluja"

VESPPERS:
Magnificat in E
O salutaris (No. 2)
Tantum ergo (No. 2)

FEBRUARY 12.—SEPTUAGESIMA.
Mass in C
Motet, "How lovely is thy dwelling-place"

VESPPERS:
Magnificat in E minor
O salutaris (Quatrième Messe solennelle)
Tantum ergo (No. 4)*

FEBRUARY 13.—ACOLYTES’ FESTIVAL.
Mass in G
Motet, "Ave coeli munus supernum"
Motet, "Ave verum"

VESPPERS:
Magnificat (Evening service for four voices)
O salutaris
Tantum ergo (Op. 48, No. 3)*

FEBRUARY 19.—SEXAGESIMA.
Mass, "Messe solennelle de Pâques"
Motet, "Sanctum et terribile"

VESPPERS:
Magnificat in G
O salutaris
Tantum ergo (five voices)

* First time.

Services

SUNDAYS
Low Mass
Children's Mass, with hymns
Low Mass
Matins
High Mass, with sermon
Vespers and Benediction, with sermon

WEEK DAYS
Mass, daily
Also on Holy Days of Obligation
Children's Mass and Catechism, Saturdays
Matins
Vespers

EVENING SERVICES AND INSTRUCTIONS
Parish Instruction (St. Joseph's Hall), Fridays
Benediction, Fridays
Holy Hour, Thursday, February 2

Other Services during the Week, and on Festivals,
as announced on the preceding Sunday.

The Church is open daily from 6:30 a.m. till 9 p.m.

The Priests of the Church are always ready to answer questions or to give instruction in the Christian religion.

Adults or children can be prepared at any time for First Confession, Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.
Sacraments and Other Rites

Confessions.
Father Williams, S.S.J.E., Saturdays, 3 to 5 and 8 to 9 p.m.
Father Dale, S.S.J.E., Saturdays, 3 to 5 and 8 to 9 p.m.
Father Klein, S.S.J.E., Fridays, 7 to 8 p.m.
Father Peabody, Thursdays, 5 to 6 p.m., Saturdays, 3 to 5 and 8 to 9 p.m.
A Priest can always be seen daily at 7:30 a.m., upon application.

Baptisms.—Sundays at 3 p.m., by arrangement with the clergy.
Proper sponsors should be chosen, and the mother should be churched.

Marriages are solemnized only after arrangement with the clergy
and after three days' notice has been given. A certificate of
Baptism should be produced by both parties. Those to be
married should, if confirmed, receive Holy Communion. A
nuptial Mass is suggested. It is against God's law to marry
anyone divorced, as long as the other partner is living.
Marriages are not solemnized during Lent, nor on Sundays
or Christmas Day.

Sick Calls, Holy Unction and Communion of the Sick, on appli-
cation to the clergy; in person, by telephone, or by post.

Burials.—The clergy should always be consulted before any
arrangements are made. The bodies of baptized persons may
be brought to the Chantry of the Church at any time before
the day of the funeral. It is the usual custom at St. Mary's
to have the funeral service a requiem Mass.

Music.—Arrangements for music at weddings or funerals should
be made directly with Mr. Nold, the Director of Music.

Directory

CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, 139 West 46th St.

St. Mary's House, Society of St. John the Evangelist
144 West 47th Street. Telephone: BRyant 9-0962
The Rev. Father Williams, S.S.J.E., Superior.
The Rev. Father Dale, S.S.J.E., Assistant Superior.
The Rev. Father Klein, S.S.J.E.
Brother Herbert Francis, S.S.J.E.
The Rev. Father Takeda, Nov., S.S.J.E.
Brother Richard, Nov., S.S.J.E.

The Mission House, Sisters of the Holy Nativity
133 West 46th Street. Telephone: BRyant 9-3232
The Sister Mary Virginia, S.H.N., Sister-in-Charge.
The Sister Mary Constance, S.H.N.
The Sister Bernardine, S.H.N.
The Sister Hildegarde, S.H.N.
The Sister Mary Louise, S.H.N.

The Parish House, 145 West 46th Street
The Rector's Office. Telephone: BRyant 9-0962
Miss Elizabeth Doremus, Secretary. Telephone: BRyant 9-0962
The Rev. Father Peabody. Telephone: BRyant 9-8858
Mr. Raymond Nold. Telephone: BRyant 9-5913
Mr. Charles D. Wayre. Telephone: BRyant 9-9672

Mr. Howard I. Dohrman, Parish Treasurer
1 Madison Avenue, New York

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin is supported largely by voluntary offerings through the use of weekly envelopes. Persons desiring the Duplex Envelopes for the support of the Parish and Missions are requested to apply to one of the clergy after High Mass or Vespers on Sundays, or to communicate with the Parish Secretary, Rector's Office, 145 West 46th Street.