

THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN

139 West 46th Street, New York, N. Y. (Between Sixth and Seventh Avenues)

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AVE

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The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin

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THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

DVENT brings us to the beginning of a new Christian year. The year bears within itself—in the yet unknown future portentous possibilities,—of good or of evil. As far as our own country is concerned on the material side, the outlook is far brighter than it has been for many years past. But as regards the world at large, the prospect is far from satisfying. Wars and rumours of wars: the growing deification of the State as all-powerful and capable of committing no wrong; the race in armaments and in "preparedness" for war; distrust and suspicion increasing among the nations of the world; persecutions of the Christian Church;—all these things are disquieting indeed. The material well-being of our own country is not enough. The spiritual welfare of our own people. and the growth of Christ's Kingdom among the nations of the earth are of far greater importance. The Church, which our Lord came to found, is the chosen instrument under God, to bring about this sorely needed transformation of the world. And to-day the Church is weak, disunited, struggling against great odds. Do we care? What are we doing to help?

The "depression," so-called, brought sorrow and distress to many people in this country. To the Episcopal Church it brought great difficulties also. Through the years of difficulty, the parishes of this country have had to attempt to "carry on"; with steadily diminishing incomes, and often with a steadily mounting burden of expense as it became necessary to help Church people who, through no fault of their own, found themselves without any means of livelihood. The Church suffered. Salaries had to be reduced, clergy thrown out of work, expenses cut down to the minimum, deficits at the end of each year mounted. Above all the great Missionary task of our Church, both at home and abroad, suffered severely.

Now we are facing better times. Do not let us forget the Church. Here at St Mary's indeed we have been singularly blessed during these difficult years, due to the magnificent support that some of our people have given to the parish. But, even at St Mary's, things are not yet as they should be. Out of approximately 1200 communicants on our rolls, less than 300 contribute regularly, by means of a pledge, to the support of the parish; while even fewer than this contribute regularly to missions.

This is not as it should be. It seems to indicate a lack of a sense of responsibility among many of our people. The time has gone by when those who could afford to make only a small pledge could excuse themselves from making any pledge at all because "it does not count." It does count,—emphatically so. The time has also gone by when those who can well afford to give generously can rest content with a pledge so small in relation to their income, that it really "costs them nothing." If the Church of God—which, as far as our own parishioners are concerned, is represented to them by this parish of St Mary the Virgin—is to go on and carry out its great work—YOU HAVE GOT TO HELP SAVE IT!

Within a few days you will receive a letter from me containing a pledge card. Don't neglect it, please. Don't wait. Fill it out, after praying about it, with the amounts you feel you can and ought honestly to give each week to your parish, and to the cause of missions. Along with the card you will receive a stamped envelope. Please fill in the card, put it in the envelope and mail it back to me.

If possible let us have all the cards in by our Patronal Festival—December eighth. Does the world need the Church? Is the Church worth saving? These pledge cards, to be mailed to you, form a kind of solemn referendum on these questions. Will you vote for Christ,—or against Him?

Affectionately your friend,

Framelle Mercer Williams, 89 J. E.

will hold its first meeting of the season on Friday evening, November 29th in the Guild Room on the third floor of the parish house. The hour of assembly is 8.15 and all are urged to be on time. The Father Rector will deliver a brief address, based on impressions received during his trip to Great Britain and France last summer. We believe that other entertainment is also to be provided, as well as light refreshments. Smoking will be distinctly in order. The Club has planned an interesting program for the balance of the season, including a dinner, a luncheon, and another meeting—four meetings in all. The Rector urges all men of the parish to join the Club and attend its meetings. Please note the date of this first one—Friday, November 29th,—and be on time.

TUESDAY, December 3rd, is the day set for the Advent Meeting of the Diocesan Woman's Auxiliary to be held in the Cathedral of St John the Divine. The Holy Communion will be celebrated at ten o'clock, and, following this, luncheon will be served in the Undercroft of the Cathedral. The meeting proper will be held in Synod Hall, and will start promptly at 1.30 p.m. All women of the Church are invited to attend.

FOR many years our parish branch of the Woman's Auxiliary has had monthly morning meetings during the winter season. It has, however, been pointed out that there are probably many women in the parish who would be glad to take a more active part in the Auxiliary but who are unable to do so, since business or other important engagements make it impossible for them to attend morning meetings. With this thought in mind, it is planned to establish an evening branch of the Auxiliary in addition to the morning one. The first meeting of this evening branch (which members of the morning branch will likewise attend) will be held in St Joseph's Hall, on Friday evening, December 6th at 8.15. The Father Rector will be present, and will outline the plan of organization. Following this, the Reverend Francis W. G. Parker, O.H.C., Prior of St Andrew's School for Mountain Boys in Tennessee, will tell of the work of the Holy Cross Fathers in that State.

The usual votive Mass for Missions will be said in the Lady Chapel on the morning of December 6th at 9.30, but no other morning meeting of the Auxiliary will be held in December.

THE usual tea and cake sale held by members of the Woman's Auxiliary to help raise their annual pledge towards the missionary quota of the parish, will be omitted this year. But the members of the Auxiliary ask instead that voluntary offerings, equivalent to what might have been spent for cake and tea, be sent to Mrs James H. Carll, Treasurer, in care of the church. Here is a chance to show how interested we really are in missions, when unbribed by cake!

THE Advent season calls us to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. There are several ways in which that preparation may be made. One way which many have not tried is keeping silent and recollected for a period of time, saying to God with Thomas

à Kempis, "Speak Thou to me and let all others hold their peace." An excellent opportunity to have such a time alone with God is the annual Retreat for women which is to be held in the church on Saturday, December 7th. That such a quiet day with God is not at all unnatural, those who have made retreats before can testify.

The Mass which begins the Retreat will be at 8 a.m. The addresses are scheduled at 10, 12, and 2.30. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will follow the last address.

Those who wish to be served breakfast at 8.30 or luncheon at 1, or both, must notify Sister Mary Virginia, S.H.N. at 133 West 46th Street to that effect by December 5th. The Father Rector is the conductor of this Retreat.

THE patronal festival of our parish, the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, occurs this year on Sunday,—December eighth. The parish was founded on this day in 1868 by Father Brown, and again on this same day in the year 1895 our present church edifice was first used for divine worship.

The Reverend William Pitt McCune, Ph.D., Rector of St Ignatius Church, New York City, will be the special preacher at the High Mass on our festival. The many friends of Father Dale, who is now Provincial Superior of the S.S.J.E. in California, will be glad to hear that he will be with us for a few days at the time of our patronal festival and that he is to be the celebrant of the High Mass on the day itself. On the evening of Sunday, December eighth, Solemn Vespers will be followed by a procession of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

All our parishioners should make a special effort to be present at the services on this feast of our Lady, and to receive Holy Communion on that day with special intention for the parish. MEMORIAL service for Father Huntington, the founder of the Order of the Holy Cross, is to be held in the Cathedral of St John the Divine on Sunday afternoon, December the 8th at 4.30, to commemorate his whole life's service and in special recognition of his relation to the establishment of the Church Mission of Help. The Father Rector is one of the committee in charge of this service. The Bishop of the Diocese and Father Hughson, Superior, O.H.C., will give addresses. It is unfortunate for us that the date chosen is our own patronal festival, but even so, there will be many who will desire to show their devotion to Father Huntington and to the work with which he so completely allied himself, by attending the Cathedral service in the afternoon.

PRAYER for peace set forth by the Bishop of New York:—As Bishop of this Diocese I hereby set forth the following prayer for use in all our churches, and it is my hope that similar petitions may be offered up in the churches of all Christian Communions. This is a time for all Christians of all Churches, both Catholic and Protestant, all over the World, and for all believers in God, to lift up their prayers together for the ending of war and for the establishment of justice, righteousness, and peace, among all mankind.

*

WILLIAM T. MANNING.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who canst bring good out of evil, and makest even the wrath of men to turn to thy praise; Grant, we beseech thee, that just and righteous counsels may prevail to end the present war in Ethiopia; and so guide and inspire the hearts of men that in all the world wars may cease, and that all nations and races may dwell together in brotherhood; for his sake who came into this world to show us the way of justice, and love, and peace, thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ECEMBER the 19th is the anniversary of the death of Thomas McKee Brown, the founder and first Rector of this parish. A sung Mass of Requiem will be offered for the repose of his soul at 9.30 that morning. We are all under a great debt to this priest who stood so valiantly for the Catholic Faith and did so much to make possible for us the blessings this church affords to-day.

The real test of a priest's work comes when he has departed. Then it becomes clear which of his spiritual children have been really brought to Christ. Some continue to live up to the Faith he held without the encouragement of his personality. They are the ones who rise up and call him blessed.

CORPORATE Communions of the month of December are announced as follows:

Sunday, December 1. The Church School, the Guild of St Mary of the Cross, the Guild of St Mary of Nazareth, 9 a.m.

Monday, December 2. Associates of the Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity (Mission House), 8 a.m.; Associates of the Community of St Mary (St Joseph's Chapel), 8 a.m.

Tuesday, December 3. Tertiaries of the Order of St Francis (Lady Chapel), 7.30 a.m.

Sunday, December 8. (Patronal Festival) General Communion of the parish, 7, 8, 9, or 10 a.m. The Knights of St Mary, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, December 11. St Mary's Guild, 9.30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 25. (Christmas Day) General Communion of the parish.

Friday, December 27. Fellowship of St John and Associates S.S.J.E., 8 a.m.

THE work of the Church Periodical Club is known to most of our Church people by name at least. The least known branch of this work is probably the Library Fund which is supported by offerings from the various parishes. The money is spent to supply missionary libraries with books which in the ordinary way they

never would receive. This year our diocesan fund purchased technical books for the library of St John's University in Shanghai. Next year a missionary library in this country will be aided, as the plan is to alternate between libraries at home and abroad.

Any individual who forwards his or her own magazines, after finishing with them, to a designated address will considerably aid the work of the C.P.C. Recently published novels sent to the circulating library at diocesan headquarters also will be a great help. By circulating these books for a small fee, this library is able to supply the main office with postage stamps,—no small order. Anyone caring to help should apply to the C.P.C. secretary for the parish, Miss Louise Picton, Hotel Martha Washington, 29 East 29th Street, New York City.

RECENTLY a man wrote the Father Rector thanking the Fathers for prayers offered in his behalf during a difficult time last spring. For the benefit of those in need and who desire our prayers, a box labeled, "For Intercessions Only" has been placed in the vestibule of the church. Please write plainly and simply the need and, if you care to do so, give the Christian name of the person to be prayed for, and drop the slip in the box. This box is not intended for other purposes. The Fathers wish to help through prayer in any way they are able. We hope that this will enable us to pray more directly for the needs of others.

CHRISTMAS suggests, among other things, time and energy given to purchasing cards and presents for our friends. Please remember that religious objects often make suitable presents, and that articles sold by the Sisters or by the church are well worth considering. A number of attractive Christmas cards are for sale at the Sisters' Mission House. The Tract Department has a supply of church calendars for sale which many persons would appreciate

for Christmas. The calendar on sale follows closely the ordo in use at St Mary's. The Parish Secretary will be glad to take orders for these calendars.

THE complete schedule of services to be held in connection with our observance of the Birth of the Christ Child will be found in the next number of AVE which will reach you several days before Christmas. We summarize below, however, some of the more important events:—

December 24. Tuesday. Christmas Eve. First Evensong of Christmas and Benediction, 6 p.m. Solemn High Mass (admission by ticket only), 12 midnight.

December 25. Wednesday. Christmas Day.

Masses, 6, 7, 8, 9 (Sung), 10, and 11 (Solemn High Mass).

The church will be closed at 1 p.m. on Christmas Day.

December 28. Saturday. Holy Innocents' Day. Christmas Party for the Church School, 12.15 p.m.

December 30. Monday in Octave of the Nativity.

The Dramatic Society's Christmas Play, St Joseph's Hall, 8.30 p.m.

S IN PREVIOUS YEARS admission to the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve will be by ticket only. This rule will be strictly enforced, and non-holders of tickets will be refused admission at the door.

The tickets should be ready for distribution by December 10th, and may be obtained from the Parish Secretary upon application in person or by mail. Please include with your application a stamped and self-addressed envelope. If you intend to apply for tickets in person, please note the hours when the Parish Secretary's office is open, as indicated on page 155 of this issue of AVE.

We earnestly request our friends to coöperate with us in seeing that the tickets for the Midnight Mass reach only those who will come as worshippers; rather than those who might attend out of mere curiosity, or as Christmas Eve revellers.

ALTAR FLOWERS

DURING the Month of December the altar flowers are given as follows:

December 8. Patronal Festival. In memory of Susanna and John Willis.

December 15. Octave of Patronal Festival. In memory of Sarah Jones.

December 25. Christmas Day. In memory of Thomas McKee Brown, Founder and First Rector.

December 27. St John Evangelist. By the Fellowship of St John.

December 28. Holy Innocents. In memory of Alice and Harriet Augusta Jones.

December 29. First Sunday after Christmas. In memory of departed members of the Guild of St Vincent.

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THE following contributions to AVE are gratefully acknowledged: Anonymous, \$2, \$1; Mr H. D. Baker, \$1; Miss Harriet L. Barton, \$1; Miss Helene Champlain, \$1; Mrs Edith Eckerson, \$1; Mrs Ada James, \$.50; Mrs T. G. King, \$2; Miss Sara S. Lawrance, \$5; Miss Isabel Marting, \$1; Mrs W. W. Raymond, \$3; Miss Louisa Richards, \$2; Mr A. A. Sommerwerck, \$1; Miss Emily Spooner, \$2; Mrs William L. Ward, \$1; Mrs Charles Cammann, Jr., \$10; Miss Estelle Lightbourne, \$1; Miss Louise Picton, \$1; Dr Anna S. Allen, \$5.

A VE is published monthly (July, August and September excepted) and is sent gratis to communicants and supporters of the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin.

It would be a great help if readers who value AVE would send an annual contribution towards the expense of its printing and circulation.

Inquiries concerning AVE should be sent to the Editor, The REVEREND FATHER BANNER, S.S.J.E., 144 West 47th Street, New York.

To insure delivery of AVE, the Parish Secretary should be notified promptly of any permanent change of address.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

"As many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ."

October 6. Robert Franklin Prather (Infant)

October 13. Dolores Mary Sirgheney (Infant)

October 13. Hamido Paul Sirgheney (Infant)

October 19. Dorothy Anne Ward (Infant)

October 26. Paula Joan Dee (Infant)

MARRIAGES

"Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

October 15. Francis Howell Baker and Teresa Maria Joseffy Fischer

BURIALS

"Grant them, O Lord, eternal rest, and may light perpetual shine upon them."

October 15. Fred William Davis, Sr.

MUSIC LIST FOR DECEMBER

Mass, Missa Il bianco e dolce cigno
Magnificat, Tone V, with faux-bourdons Tallis Nunc dimittis, Tone I, with faux-bourdons Giles
DECEMBER 8.—Conception of the B. V. M.
Mass in E minor*
Evensong: Magnificat, Tone I, with faux-bourdons Fayrfax Nunc dimittis, Tone VII, with faux-bourdons Unknown Edwardine Composer
Motet, "Ave verum"
DECEMBER 15.—Advent III.
Mass in honour of St Clare of Assisi
Evensong: Magnificat and Nunc dimittis (Second Service) Byrd Motet, "Ave verum" Elgar
DECEMBER 22.—Advent IV.
Mass, "Missa brevis"
Evensong: Magnificat, Tone VII, with faux-bourdons Tallis Motet, "Adoramus te, Christi" Perti

MUSIC LIST FOR DECEMBER, CONTINUED

DECEMBER 25.—First Mass of the Nativity (Midnight)
Mass, "Krönungs-Messe"
DECEMBER 25.—NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.
Mass in G
Mass in C
Evensong: Magnificat, Tonus peregrinus, with faux-bourdons

^{*}First time.

*

THE Bruckner Mass in E minor, to be sung for the first time at St Mary's on our patronal festival and, perhaps, for the first time in this country, will be an important addition to our settings of the ordinary. Of the three "grand masses" by the famous Austrian symphonist and organ virtuoso, it is the one most informed with a real liturgical spirit, and one found in the repertory of many of the best European choirs. The mass is scored for an eight voiced chorus and orchestra of wind instruments. The accompaniment, however, is unusually adaptable to the organ which will replace the orchestra when the work is sung by our choir. The influence of Wagner, whom Bruckner greatly admired, will be noted in several passages. Of Bruckner's organ playing it is said that the Angels came down to listen.

KALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

X 1.	Su.	ADVENT I.
2.	M.	Feria.
3.	Tu.	St Francis Xavier, C. Com. of Feria.
4.	W.	St John of Damascus, C.D. Com. of Feria.
5.	Th.	Feria.
6.	F.	St Nicholas, B.C. Com. of Feria. Abstinence.
7.	Sa.	Feria. Advent Retreat for Women. Addresses, 10, 12, and 2:30.
X 8.	Su.	CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.
•		(Patronal Festival), Com. of Advent II.
9.	M.	In Octave of Conception B.V.M. Com. of Feria.
10.	Tu.	In Octave. Com. of Feria.
11.	W.	In Octave, Com. of Feria.
12.	Th.	In Octave, Com. of Feria.
13.	F.	St Lucy, V.M. Com. of Octave and Feria. Abstinence.
14.	Sa.	In Octave, Com. of Feria.
¥ 15.	Su.	ADVENT III. Com. of Octave Day of the Conception of the B.V.Mary.
16.	M.	Feria. O Supientia.
17.	Tu.	Feria.
18.	W.	Ember Day. Abstinence.
19.	Th.	Feria.
20.	F.	Ember Day. Vigil. Abstinence.
21.	Sa.	ST THOMAS, APOSTLE. (Ember Day) Abstinence.
X 22.	Su.	ADVENT IV.
23.	M.	Feria.
24.	Tu.	Christmas Eve. Abstinence.
¥ 125.	\mathbf{w} .	THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.
		(Christmas Day). (Church closed after High Mass).
26.	Th.	ST STEPHEN, THE PROTOMARTYR. Com. of the Na-
		tivity.
27.	F.	ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST. Com. of the Nativity. Friday abstinence dispensed.
28.	Sa.	THE HOLY INNOCENTS. Com. of the Nativity and of St John.
₹ 129.	Su.	FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS. Com. of St Thomas of Canterbury, B.M. and of St John.
30.	M.	In Octave of the Nativity. Com. of St John.
31.	Tu.	
Days	indice ance	nted by A are days of precept, with an obligation of attend- e at Mass. Days on which votive and requiem Masses may be said are printed in italics.

SERVICES

SUNDAYS
Low Mass 7 and 8 a.m.
Sung Mass, with five-minute address 9 a.m.
Low Mass
Matins 10:30 a.m.
High Mass, with sermon
Evensong and Benediction, with instruction 8 p.m.
•
Week Days
Mass, daily 7, 8 and 9:30 a.m.
Also on Holy Days of Obligation . 6 a.m. and 12:10 noon
Children's Mass and catechism, Saturdays 9:30 a.m.
Matins 9 a.m.
Vespers 6 p.m.
Holy Hour, Saturdays 5 to 6 p.m.
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Other Services during the Week, and on Festivals,
as announced on the preceding Sunday.
and announced that processing Commany.
The Church is open daily from 6:30 a.m. till 9 p.m.
Adults or children can be prepared at any time for First Con-
fession, Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.
The office of the Parish Secretary is open at the following
times:
Mondays to Fridays 9.15 to 1 and 2 to 5

Saturdays Closed on legal holidays.

. 9.15 to 1

SACRAMENTS AND OTHER RITES

Confessions

Father Williams, S.S.J.E., Saturdays, 3 to 5 and 8 to 9 p.m. Father Otis, S.S.J.E., Saturdays, 3 to 5 and 8 to 9 p.m. Father Banner, S.S.J.E., Sundays, 8:30 to 9 a.m. Thursdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., and Fridays, 7 to 8 p.m. Father Peabody, 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 application 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

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MR NEWBURY FROST READ, Parish Treasurer
373 Fifth 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 Evensong on Sundays, or to communicate with the Parish Secretary, Rector's Office, 145 West 46th Street.