THE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

The duty of supporting the Church of God by such contributions as we are able to give is as much a part of our Catholic religion as attending Mass on Sunday, or observing Fridays. The Jews gave a tenth of their income to the support of the Temple — how many Christians give as much to their Church? I am urging every friend of St Mary's to make a regular and definite pledge for the support of the parish during the coming year. No longer can we depend on a few large gifts from "well-to-do" people — there are no such — rather must we count on the smaller gifts of all those who value what St Mary's stands for. In a few days you will receive a pledge card. Please fill it out for such an amount as you are able to give and return it promptly to me. It is truer than ever of our beloved parish that services are "supported by voluntary offerings." Now is the time for every faithful Catholic to rally to the support of the Church of St Mary the Virgin.

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IT is with sincere regret that we announce the death of our trustee, Mr F. deLancey Robinson which occurred on Saturday, November twelfth at his residence, Brecknock Hall, Greenport, Long Island. The funeral took place in Greenport on Tuesday, November fifteenth, interment being in the Greenport Cemetery. A memorial Mass of Requiem will be sung at St Mary's for Mr Robinson on Tuesday, December sixth at eleven o'clock. May he rest in peace.
THE seventieth anniversary of our beloved parish of St Mary the Virgin will be celebrated on our Patronal Festival, which falls on Thursday, December the eighth, the Feast of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That will be a joyous day of rejoicing for all of us, and also a holy day of obligation, when we shall come without fail to be present at the offering of the Holy Sacrifice and, if possible to make a well-prepared communion. Low Masses will be celebrated at 6, 7, 8, 9.30 and 12.10. At eleven there will be a High Mass with the full choir. Our special preacher on that occasion will be the Reverend Leicester C. Lewis, Ph.D., S.T.D., Rector of St Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

SUNDAY, December the eleventh, is the third Sunday in Advent, but it is also the Sunday in the Octave of the Patronal Festival. Accordingly, there will be at eleven o'clock a solemn procession and High Mass of the Feast of the Conception of our Lady. The Father Rector will preach. In the evening at eight o'clock there will be solemn Evensong and Benediction, with a brief address by Father Eckman.

THE Guild of St Mary of Nazareth is sponsoring an evening of diversified entertainment on Friday, December the ninth, in St Joseph's Hall. The members of the Woman's Auxiliary, who meet the same night, have very generously consented to hold their meeting upstairs, so that the young people may have the use of the Hall. There will be dancing, movies, a character-analysis wizard, and all sorts of other treats. The long-awaited movies of Keyport will be shown after the main film. There will be a special table for the display and sale of the products of home baking, and also a table of novelties. Don't fail to keep this date open. Those who come are urged to make a voluntary contribution of thirty-five cents, to cover expenses.

ONCE more the Advent Retreat is approaching. This year it will be held on Saturday, December the seventeenth, and will be conducted by the Father Rector. It begins with a special Retreat Mass at eight o'clock, celebrated by the Conductor, followed by addresses at 10.30, 12.30 and 2.30. After the last address the Retreat will close with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

We are always glad to provide breakfast and luncheon for those who notify us beforehand. In order that there may be ample food for the retreatants, and yet no waste, you are strongly urged to send in your name, with an indication of the meal or meals at which you will be present, to the Sister-in-Charge, Mission House of the Holy Nativity, 133 West 46th Street, New York City.

This retreat is intended primarily for women. Other retreats for men, for nurses, and for special guilds are noted in the leaflet which is enclosed with this copy of AVE. A good deal of thought has been spent in trying to provide opportunities for retreat for various groups within the parish, and it is our hope that more people will take advantage of these opportunities than has been the case in recent years. We cannot overestimate the importance of taking a day, or even a half a day, periodically, to be alone with our Lord, to review the mistakes and failures of the past months, to stimulate our devotion to our Blessed Lord, and to make some sensible rule of life for the days to come. Of course it is even better to go to some Religious House or some retreat center for a full retreat of three or four days or more; but in our busy lives this is not possible for all of us. If that is the case, the least we can do is to come faithfully to the brief periods of retreat provided for us in the parish, and to make the best possible use of them, by keeping the silence strictly, and by engaging in the spiritual exercises suggested with real devotion and fervour.

ALREADY the world is becoming a little more friendly and a little more jolly in anticipation of the coming feast of Christmas, the anniversary of the Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Once more the shop windows are gay with Christmas trees and tinsel and red ribbon; the bells of the Salvation Army tinkle on the street corners; the children gaze longingly at bigger and better kiddie cars and dolls and toys; the crowds hurrying along the street seem filled with a new and friendly excitement, as each individual in his own way prepares for his share of Christmas cheer. In spite of the commercialization of Christmas in some quarters, and much in its celebration that is tawdry and materialistic, it is still happily impossible to kill the spirit of Christmas — “peace on earth, good-will to men.” “For
unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ, the Lord.” Our Infant King, changeless, eternal, transcends all barriers of race and creed and nation — “O come, let us adore Him!”

Saturday, Christmas Eve, should be kept as a day of abstinence and of quiet and happy preparation for the coming feast. It is not the time for Christians to engage in undisciplined revels and noisy holiday-making. Better to spend some part of the evening in church, perhaps preparing and making a penitent and sincere Christmas confession, and the rest of the time with one’s family, seeing to it especially that our children learn to appreciate the religious significance of their best of all holidays, made bright and happy with Christmas dinner and Christmas gifts. Why not tell them all the old, old Christmas story in your own words, or read with them that immortal second chapter of St Luke’s Gospel?

The liturgical observance of Christmas will start with sung Vespers on Saturday evening, December the twenty-fourth, at eight o’clock, followed by the singing of familiar carols by the congregation and the choir. This carol singing, which was introduced for the first time last year, won the enthusiastic approval of our people, and we intend to repeat it again this year. Come if you possibly can, and bring all the family, including the children. On Christmas Day there will be Low Masses at 6, 7, 8, and 10. The usual Missa Cantata with hymns and communions will be sung at nine. At eleven there will be a solemn procession and High Mass, with a Christmas message from the Father Rector. At Evensong at eight o’clock, Christmas carols will be sung. The secular observance of Christmas occurs on Monday, December twenty-sixth, St Stephen’s Day. On that day the church will be closed at noon, so that not only the clergy but the sacristans and others who serve us so faithfully throughout the year may go home for a Christmas celebration with their families.

Our Christmas communion should be one of the happiest and most fruitful of the year. It is sure to be so, if we prepare for it by a thoughtful and careful Christmas confession. The various Fathers are always ready to hear confessions at special times by appointment, and a priest can usually be found at any hour by application to the Secretary or the Sacristan; but the following definite hours are printed here for your information.

May we urge you again to observe certain courtesies in connection with your confessions, at a time when there are apt to be many penitents waiting their turn. Please see that your confession is well prepared and orderly before you actually come to the confessional. The opening and closing forms should be reduced to a minimum. “Since my last confession . . . ago” is enough. Allow those who have come to church before you to make their confessions first, but do not wait in the immediate vicinity of the confessional box. This somewhat thoughtless practice is often embarrassing both to priest and penitents.

Schedule of Confession Hours

Wednesday, December 21:
4.30 to 5.30, The Father Rector.
Thursday, December 22:
4.30 to 5.30, Father Eckman.
Friday, December 23:
11 to 1, The Father Rector and Father Peabody;
3 to 6, Fathers Hoffman, Eckman and Peabody;
7 to 9, The Father Rector and Father Hoffman.
Saturday, December 24:
11 to 1, Fathers Hoffman and Eckman;
3 to 6, Fathers Hoffman, Eckman and Peabody;
7 to 8, The Father Rector;
9 to 10, Fathers Hoffman and Peabody.

Perhaps a good many of our parishioners have been wondering what damage was done at the Summer Home from the recent hurricane. We are thankful and happy to say that with the exception of a few panes of glass, several large boughs of trees, and the trellis which sheltered the small outdoor shrine on the chapel wall, there was no damage at all. That is indeed fortunate, considering our location on the bay. But there is a lot of repairing to be done none the less. Both porches and stairs on the big house need considerable repairing. The fence enclosing our property is beginning to sag and bend dreadfully and wants a lot of work done on it. Then the Annex needs some new floors and paint, let alone the fact that the plumbing in the “big house” is about worn
out from years of use. A storage and tool shed is also quite necessary, and we hope that somehow these things can be taken care of. Mr George Smith, our caretaker, has proven to be a very efficient carpenter. All who visited the Home last summer will testify to the sturdiness of Mr Smith's work. So the matter of ordinary repairs really amounts to only material costs, and we hope that our handy carpenter will have an opportunity to display a great deal more of his handiwork. Perhaps some good friends will offer to make some of the repairs as memorials. Incidentally, we have on hand $115.00 which has been given during the past year to be applied towards the purchase of a Station Wagon — but, alas, unless the fund grows more, and rapidly, tall weeds may grow around it, — and we do not like weeds! During his fortnightly visits to the Home, the priest-in-charge occasionally hears groans from the kitchen sink, which has been groaning for over a year, as it is about to fall apart from rust and decay. What shall we do? You may want to know that since the Home closed on Labour Day, a new oil stove has been installed in the priest's house, and the entire interior of the house lined with celotex insulation, to give more comfort to all of us when we go down on picnics in the fall and spring. The seven dwarfs "whistle while they work," and that denotes true happiness. Wouldn't it be splendid if some good friends would help with their contributions now, so that during the winter months Captain Smith could "whistle while he works?"

TUESDAY, December the twenty-seventh, is one of the two patronal festivals of the Fathers who serve you here — the Feast of St John the Evangelist. We hope that many of our parishioners and friends will attend Mass on that day, and will pray for our Society. Especially we ask your prayers this year for Father Burton, who has been our beloved Superior for nearly fifteen years, in the new work to which God is calling him as Suffragan Bishop of the Missionary District of Haiti. Pray also that the Holy Spirit may wisely guide our Society in the election of a new Superior, and the necessary re-arrangement of our work in this country and abroad.

At eight o'clock on this day there will be a corporate communion of the Associates of the S.S.J.E. and the members of the Fellowship of St John, followed by a breakfast in St Joseph's Hall.

YOU are invited by the Woman's Auxiliary to a "Stay-at-Home-Bridge-Party" for the benefit of the Auxiliary's pledge to missions, which counts on the parish quota. Tables are five dollars and single tickets a dollar and a quarter. Those who buy tables and like to play do so in their own homes, and those who do not care for the game are spared the trouble of giving away tickets. So please play bridge (or not) to help our missions. Make cheques payable to The Woman's Auxiliary, and send them to the President, Mrs John Southmayd, 140 East 46th Street.

THERE will be an evening meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary on Friday, December the ninth, at eight o'clock. The meeting will be held upstairs in the guild room over St Joseph's Hall.

THE corporate communion of St Mary's Guild is scheduled for Wednesday, December the seventh, followed by the usual monthly meeting in St Joseph's Hall.

YOUR attention is called to the Diocesan meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary to be held on Tuesday, December the sixth, at the Cathedral of St John the Divine. The meeting will open with a celebration of the Holy Communion by the Bishop of the diocese, at which the Presiding Bishop will preach. There will be the presentation of the United Thank Offering, luncheon at 12.30, and a missionary meeting afterwards with several prominent speakers. All the women of the parish are urged to attend.

LAST year many of you made the Fathers and Brothers at St Mary's House happy by Christmas gifts of records to add to their collection of "canned music." Our splendid reproducing machine, itself a gift from a very generous parishioner, has been in almost daily use during the year, and little by little we are acquiring a notable collection of records. But there is always room for more. Some of you may find that you have a lot of records tucked away somewhere which are never used. Others of you may care to pass on to us some album of records which you no longer need. Others, still, may find it possible to provide us with some new and beautiful recording. We welcome nearly all
types of music, from sacred music, through symphonic, instrumental and operatic music, even sentimental songs and ballads — up to (but not including) brass bands and jazz and swing music! The last three we cannot quite cope with!

CHRISTMAS means for most of us Christmas cards to be sent far and wide to our absent friends, or to be tied onto our Christmas gifts. Surely we should take some pains to see that our cards have something definite to do with the birth of the Lord Christ, and do not simply depict a coach and four, a winter scene in the woods, or a couple taking a sleigh ride! Even Camels can be overdone. Last year one of the brethren received forty-two cards with camels, making one hundred and twenty-six camels in all. This leads to nightmares.

We suggest that you look over the attractive selection of cards on sale at the Mission House by the Sisters of the Holy Nativity. They range in price from five cents up, with packages of assorted cards at a dollar. We haven't checked up on the camels in their display, but we are reasonably certain that they are outnumbered by pictures of our Lady and of the Infant Christ.

CHRUCH KALENDARS for 1939 are now on sale either from the Parish Secretary's office or from Miss Julie Wright at the tract table after High Mass on Sunday. This year the Kalendar has a picture of the interior of St Mary's printed on it, together with a list of the services. The more important feast days and fast days of the Church Year are indicated on these Kalendars, and they may well serve as a practical and inexpensive Christmas gift. The price is only fifty cents.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

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

October 16 — William Francis Maier (Infant)
# KALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

<table>
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<td>Christmas Eve.  Abstinence. Solemn Vespers, 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>In Octave of the Nativity. Com. St John. The Friday abstinence is dispensed.</td>
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*Days indicated by ☼ are days of precept, with an obligation of attendance at Mass. Days on which votive and requiem Masses may be said are printed in italics.*

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# MUSIC LIST FOR DECEMBER

**DECEMBER 4. — ADVENT II.**

**Mass,** "Missa octavi toni"*  
Motet, "Rorate cali desuper"  
Anerio  
Palestrina

**Evensong:**

- Magnificat, Tone V, with *faux-bourdons*  
  Talis  
- Nunc dimittis, Tone I, with *faux-bourdons*  
  Giles  
- Motet, "Panis angelicus"  
  Casciolini

**DECEMBER 8. — CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.**

**Mass,** "Missa Ascendo ad Patrem"  
Motet, "Sancta Maria"  
Palestrina  
Victoria

**DECEMBER 11. — ADVENT III.**

**Mass,** "Missa festiva in E"  
Motet, "Ave Maria"  
Kromolicki  
Bruckner

**Evensong:**

- Magnificat and Nunc dimittis for four voices  
  Farrant  
- Motet, "Jesu dulcis memoriam"  
  Victoria

**DECEMBER 18. — ADVENT IV.**

**Mass,** "Missa Dona pacern"  
Motet, "Ecce Dominus veniet"*  
Desderi  
Händl

**Evensong:**

- Magnificat and Nunc dimittis, with *faux-bourdons*  
  Tomkins  
- Motet, "Adoramus te, Christe"  
  Perti

**DECEMBER 24. — CHRISTMAS EVE.**

**Vespers:**

- Magnificat, Tone VIII, with *faux-bourdons*  
  Sixteenth century  
  Desderi
- Alma Redemptoris Mater  
  Palestrina  
  Desderi
- O salutaris hostia*  
  Bruckner

**DECEMBER 25. — NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

**Mass,** "Missa in honorem Sanctae Clare Assisiensis"  
Refice  
Paleystrina

**Evensong:**

- Magnificat, *Tonus peregrinus,* with *faux-bourdons*  
  Byrd  
- Nunc dimittis, Tone I, with *faux-bourdons*  
  Byrd  
- Motet, "Adoramus te, Christe"  
  di Lasso

*First time.
THE POLYPHONIC CHOIR

SOPRANOS

Louise Langland
Eleanor Southern
Kathleen Quinn
Isabel Parkman
Margaret A. George
Mathilde A. Prahl

CONTRALTOS

Zoë Fenton Jones
Marie Guion
Lulu B. Evans
Ruth Bieber

TENORS

Howard B. Kavelin
Don McCray
Edwin McKinley
Richard Walsh

BASSES

Roger White
Laurens Anderson
James Banks
Richard E. Parks

THE PLAIN CHANT CHOIR

Robert C. Parker
Henry P. Ayres
George Nason
Eugene F. Robert, Jr., Librarian
Smith W. Pearsall
Douglas F. Clarke
Allen Raines
Ernest White, Organist

Raymond Nold, Conductor

SERVICES

Sundays

Low Mass ............. 7 and 8 a.m.
Matins .............. 8:40 a.m.
Sung Mass, with address .... 9 a.m.
Low Mass ........... 10 a.m.
High Mass, with sermon ... 11 a.m.
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 ............... 7:30 a.m.
Evensong .......... 6 p.m.
Holy Hour, Saturdays .... 5 to 6 p.m.

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

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 Confession, Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

The Parish Secretary's office is open at the following times:

Mondays to Fridays ..... 9:15 to 1 and 2 to 5
Saturdays ............. 9:15 to 1
Closed on legal holidays.
SACRAMENTS AND OTHER RITES

CONFESSIONS

Father Williams, S.S.J.E., Wednesdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Fridays, 7 to 8 p.m.
Father Hoffman, S.S.J.E., Saturdays 3 to 5 and 8 to 9 p.m.
Father Eckman, S.S.J.E., Thursdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 8 to 9 p.m.
Father Peabody, Saturdays, 3 to 5 and 8 to 9 p.m.
Father Lightfoot, Sundays, 8.30 to 9 a.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.

PARISH GUILDS AND ORGANIZATIONS

_all persons who come regularly to the Church of St Mary the Virgin are urged to ally themselves with one of the Guilds and thus take their share in the work of the Church and its missionary activities. Any inquiries concerning each particular Guild may be addressed to the Chaplain, who will gladly give information._

THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.—Second Fridays, Votive Mass for Missions, 9.30 a.m. Business Meeting, 11 a.m. The Father Rector, Chaplain.

ST MARY'S GUILD.—For making and care of vestments. Working meetings, Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Corporate Communion, first Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. Monthly business meeting, 10:30 a.m. The Father Rector, Chaplain.

GUILD OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS.—Works for the support of St Mary's Summer Home, Keyport, New Jersey, and for missions of the Church. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Monthly devotional meeting, third Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m. Corporate Communion, first Sunday, 9 a.m. Father Eckman, Chaplain.

GUILD OF ST MARY OF NAZARETH.—For Young Women. Sewing and Games, Tuesdays, 8 p.m. Corporate Communion, first Sunday, 9 a.m. Father Hoffman, Chaplain.

GUILD OF HELP.—For forwarding the social service work of the Church. Meetings as announced from time to time. The Father Rector, Chaplain.

ST MARY'S DRAMATIC SOCIETY.—Father Eckman, Chaplain.

GUILD OF ST VINCENT.—For Altar Servers. Last Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m. Father Hoffman, Chaplain.

KNIGHTS OF ST MARY.—For Young Men. Mondays and Thursdays, 8 p.m. Corporate Communion, the Sunday after the first Thursday, 9 a.m. Father Hoffman, Chaplain.

CHURCH SCHOOL.—Saturdays, Children's Mass and catechism, 9:30 a.m. Sundays, Sung Mass, 9 a.m. Father Eckman, in charge.
DEVOTIONAL GUILDS

**Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament and Guild of All Souls.**—St Mary's Wards. Meetings (Lady Chapel) third Fridays at 8.15 p.m. Father Eckman, Chaplain.

**Living Rosary of Our Lady and St Dominic.**—St Mary's Ward. Meetings (Lady Chapel) first Fridays at 8:15 p.m. Father Eckman, Chaplain.

**OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

**Fellowship of St John.**—Object: Prayer and work for the Society of St John the Evangelist. Corporate Communions, December 27th and May 6th. The Father Rector, Chaplain.


**Guild of St Catherine of Genoa.**—A non-parochial Guild for Graduate and Student Nurses. Devotional address (Lady Chapel) second Sundays at 5:45 p.m., followed by tea in the Mission House. Retreats and other meetings, as announced. Father Eckman, Chaplain.

**THE PARISH LIBRARY**

**William Edward Jones Memorial Lending Library.**—In the Sisters' Mission House there is available a collection of books in theology, apologetics, ecclesiastical history, religious biography and devotional literature. Books may be borrowed for home-reading. Hours: Week-days, 4 to 6 p.m. Sundays, half-an-hour after High Mass and before Evensong.

**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 Hoffman, S.S.J.E.
The Rev. Father Eckman, S.S.J.E.

**The Mission House, Sisters of the Holy Nativity**
133 West 46th Street. Telephone: BRyant 9-3232

The Sister Ruth Mary, S.H.N., Sister-in-Charge
The Sister Mary Gertrude, S.H.N.
The Sister Mary Constance, S.H.N.
The Sister Sheila Raphael, 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
The Rev. Father Lightfoot. Telephone: SCHuyler 4-6276
Mr Raymond Nold. Telephone: BRyant 9-5913

Mr Philip C. Bardes, Undertaker. Telephone: STillwell 4-2357

**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.