By the time this copy of AVE reaches you, we shall be getting ready to welcome the Right Reverend Benjamin F. P. Ivins, D.D., Bishop of Milwaukee, who will spend nearly two weeks with us and will officiate at many of the interesting services which mark the beginning of February. Bishop Ivins is known to most of you, since he has visited here often before. He is the Episcopal Visitor of the Society of St John the Evangelist, and as such will be an especially welcome guest at St Mary's House.

On Thursday, February the second, at eleven o'clock there will be a High Mass in the interests of the Religious Life, at which Bishop Ivins will preach and assist at the throne. We expect, as in former years, that a goodly number of Religious, both men and women, will be present at this service, and we hope that a great many of our parishioners will be present, both as a courtesy to the representatives of religious communities, and to testify to our belief in the importance of the religious life as a normal element in the life of the Catholic Church. Let us pray that in the coming years many more men and women of our communion will offer themselves for this special service in the Church of God.

On Sunday, February the fifth, Bishop Ivins will assist at the High Mass and will preach. This will give all our parishioners a chance to hear him, especially those whose business would prevent their coming to church on a weekday.
There will be a quiet day on Saturday, February the eleventh, conducted by the bishop. Do not miss this opportunity for prayer and devotion under the guidance of a skilled pastor and director if you can possibly avoid it.

We do not often have the opportunity of being present at a Pontifical Mass — a Mass, that is, sung by a bishop, with all the traditional ceremonial which takes us back in spirit through so many centuries of the Church's life. Bishop Ivins will celebrate a Pontifical Mass on Sunday, February the twelfth, and again on Monday, February the thirteenth, the date of our annual Acolytes' Festival. Year by year this latter service grows in general interest. Since this Monday is the legal holiday appointed for the celebration of Lincoln's Birthday we may count on a fine turn-out of acolytes from parishes near and far. We specially urge you to be present since the preacher will be our Father Superior, the Reverend Spence Burton, S.S.J.E. This may be the last time he will appear officially at St Mary's before his consecration as Suffragan Bishop of Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

The feast of Saint Blasius, Bishop and Martyr, occurs on Friday, February the third. Ancient tradition ascribes to St Blasius a special power over diseases of the throat, and his intercession has for centuries been sought for protection against the coughs and colds which are so prevalent in our northern winters. The blessing of St Blasius is received at the altar rail, the throat of each suppliant being touched with two lighted candles bound together, while the aid of the saint is invoked by an appropriate collect. This ceremony will take place before each of the Masses on St Blasius' Day, and those who wish to have their throats blessed will please present themselves at the altar rail as soon as the priest enters the sanctuary to begin the Mass. The blessing will also be administered after evensong on that day.

In connection with the High Mass in the interests of the Religious Life there will be also the traditional blessing of candles and procession which is one of the features of Candlemas Day. These ceremonies precede the High Mass.

The Feast of the Purification celebrates one of the most lovely episodes of our Lord's infancy, and centers about the aged Simeon. We don't know very much about him, but what we do know is most suggestive. With the unique skill which we find only in the Bible, St Luke has drawn an unforgettable picture in a few almost casual lines.

First of all, he was an old man — almost ready to die. But a wonderful promise had been made to him by God — that he should not die until he had seen the Messiah, the Lord's Anointed, the Christ. So he struggled on, feeble, ailing, perhaps, watching the worldly civilization about him with a tired pity, wondering how in such an age and generation God could manifest Himself, and keeping up his faith by reading the Scriptures which testified of the coming Saviour.

We know a little more than that about him. Long after he was dead St Luke wrote his biography — just a line or two, but how significant!

First of all, he was just and devout — just and devout. That is a pair of virtues that don't always go together. You can think of others. You know people who are courageous but not kind, and others who are kind but lacking in real manliness and vigour of soul. There are clever people who are not good, and good people who, unfortunately, seem to us stupid. But Simeon was just and devout — straightforward, honest, square, yet devoted to his God and regular in his attendance at the temple.
Second, he was waiting for the consolation of Israel. What does that mean? It means he wasn’t looking for a selfish heaven; he sorrowed for the blindness and misery of his nation; and he looked longingly for the Redeemer who would come with healing in His wings.

Third, the Holy Spirit was upon him—a man of prayer, a man of God, a Spirit-guided man. It would be hard to pay a higher tribute to a man than that!

Well, there you have his biography in sixteen words—“just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.”

What happened to him? Led by the Spirit, he came into the temple, expecting to find there the Messiah, some strong prince of Israel anointed by God to bring in the reign of righteousness and peace. He came seeking the Messiah, and he found God—God in the form of a little Child in His mother’s arms.

The miracle is that Simeon was not disappointed. He tottered forward with the joyful flutter of great age; he took the holy Child in his arms; he blessed God and cried out: “Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.” Then he blessed the holy family, spoke certain strange words of prophecy, and went home to die, with unspeakable joy in his heart.

THE Bishop will visit St Mary’s on Friday evening, March the twenty-fourth, to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. In former years there has usually been a series of lectures in February embodying instructions in the elements of the Christian faith and life. This year it has seemed wise to omit these lectures, and instead, each of the Fathers will prepare his own candidates privately. Any children to be confirmed are expected to attend the Children’s Mass every Saturday, and they will there receive the instruction necessary to prepare them to receive the sacrament.

We hope that all of you will cooperate in securing a good confirmation class this year. If you are not yourself confirmed, now is the time to speak to one of the Fathers and ask for instruction. You cannot possibly know the fullness of the Christian life unless you are sharing the sacramental practices of the Church. You need regular absolution and regular communion if your spiritual life is to develop adequately. Do not let shyness or embarrassment keep you from being confirmed. There are always a good many adults, both men and women, in our confirmation classes, and you will not be conspicuous, no matter what your age may be.

Of course the most desirable age for confirmation is between nine and twelve. If you have any children of nine or over who have not been confirmed, see to it that their names are given to Father Eckman. If you know of other children unconfirmed, be a missionary and see if you can’t persuade their mothers to attend to this important duty. If you have grown-up friends who have shown some interest in St Mary’s, but have never taken the definite step of becoming communicant members of the Church, try to persuade them to talk the matter over with one of the Fathers.

Remember that one of the most important duties of every layman and laywoman is to be a missionary. The best missionary work you can do is to bring one or more people each year to baptism or confirmation or both. Don’t leave that to the clergy. It is your job. If the Church and the sacraments really mean what they should to you, you will want to bring a great many more people to know the joy and strength of the Christian life. You know the parable of the sower. Some brought forth thirty, some sixty, and some an hundred-fold. What is your record? Are you a propagating Christian?

At the annual meeting of St Mary’s Guild the following officers were elected for one year:

President—Mrs Warrington G. Lewis
Vice-President and Treasurer—Mrs Newbury Frost Read
Recording Secretary—Miss Hildegarde Nicholas
Corresponding Secretary—Mrs Lawrence Davis
The corporate communion of the Guild will be held at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, February the first, followed by the regular monthly business meeting in St Joseph's Hall at 10.30 a.m.

The Guild Room is open for sewing every Wednesday from ten in the morning till four in the afternoon. Any women of the parish who will volunteer to help with the work of the Guild will be warmly welcomed.

* *

The following officers of the Woman's Auxiliary were elected at a recent meeting:

President — Mrs John F. Southmayd
First Vice-President — Miss Edna Finch
Second Vice-President — Mrs James H. Carll
Treasurer — Miss Helena D. Appleton
Recording Secretary — Mrs William C. Dickey
Corresponding Secretary — Miss M. E. Bryan
United Thank Offering Custodian — Mrs James R. English

The February meeting of the Woman’s Auxiliary will be held in St Joseph's Hall at 8.15 p.m. on Friday, February the tenth. The speaker will be announced later.

During March four Mission Study Classes will be held in St Joseph's Hall. The exact dates and the names of the speakers will be announced in the March AVE.

* *

We hope you all had a very merry Christmas. Certainly the Fathers at St Mary's House did, and we wish to thank all our friends who remembered us with cards and gifts. You will remember that one of the Fathers complained of an overdose of camels on Christmas cards in years past. You will be glad to know that this little note had an almost miraculous effect. This year, though he received more cards than ever from his generous friends, there were very few camels — hardly enough to stock a good-sized zoo!

Especially we wish to thank the good friends who provided more records for our phonograph. Our collection has been notably increased, and on Sunday afternoons we can now regale ourselves with an hour of Beethoven, or of Bach, or of organ music, or of opera. "Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast" — and it also works pretty well to revive the spirits of the clergy after some particularly harassing or tedious piece of pastoral work.

* *

For some time past the Chaplain of the various devotional guilds has thought it best to combine the monthly services, and have a joint meeting for all once a month. In this thought the Father Rector concurs. Therefore, beginning with the first Friday in February, and every first Friday of the month thereafter (except in Lent) The Living Rosary Sodality, The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament and the Guild of All Souls will meet jointly in the Lady Chapel at 8.15 p.m.

* *

Shrove Tuesday falls this year on February the twenty-first. The day takes its name, as you know, from the fact that faithful Catholics come then to make their confessions and be "shriven," in order that they may enter on the penitential season of Lent with a soul cleansed from sin. Priests will be available at the following hours:

11.00 - 12.30 — Fathers Williams, Eckman and Peabody.
3.00 - 5.00 — Fathers Hoffman and Peabody.
7.00 - 9.00 — Fathers Williams, Hoffman and Peabody.

If these hours should be impossible for you, do not feel the least hesitation in asking for a special appointment. A priest will always
drop anything he is doing, except an urgent sick call, in order to
hear a confession, since nothing can be more important than recon-
ciling a sinner to his Lord.

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**W**EDNESDAY, February the twenty-second, is Ash Wednes-
day, and marks the beginning of our Lenten observance. Long
before our modern graduate schools of education were
thought of, the Church was entitled to a degree of Doctor of
Education. She has always known that people learn better by
seeing and by doing than by merely hearing, and the ceremonies of
Ash Wednesday well illustrate her advanced educational psy-
chology. Ashes are prepared by burning some of the palms dis-
tributed the year before on Palm Sunday. Then, before the Mass,
the faithful kneel at the altar rail, and the priest, dipping his thumb
in the ashes (which have been blessed, and sprinkled with holy
water) makes on the forehead of each person a cross, saying, as he
does so: "Remember, O man, that dust thou art, and unto dust
shalt thou return." Thus we are reminded of the shortness of
human life and its vanity, and our wills are strengthened to under-
take our Lenten discipline with seriousness of purpose and holy zeal.

Low Masses will be said at 7, 8 and 9.30. At 11 there will be
a High Mass, followed by a sermon. The preacher will be the
Father Rector. Immediately after the sermon (at approximately
12.10) there will be an additional Low Mass. Stations of the
Cross will be conducted at 4, and in the evening at 8 there will
be the Penitential Office and Benediction, with a sermon by Father
Eckman. Imposition of ashes will be given before each of the
Masses, at the Stations in the afternoon, and at the evening service.

**

AS usual, we shall have on weekdays during Lent an additional
Mass at 12.10, followed by a ten-minute address. The address
will be over promptly at 12.45, so that office workers due back at
one o'clock may still snatch a bite to eat before returning to work.
Come as often as you are able, either to the Mass, or to the address,
or both, as your circumstances permit.

The Father Rector will give the address on February 23rd, 24th
and 25th, Father Eckman will preach during the week of February
27th to March 4th. The topics for these addresses will be an-
nounced later in the weekly leaflet, and the full schedule of
addresses will be given in the March number of AVE.

**

**O**n Sundays during Lent the preacher at the High Mass will
be Father Hoffman. Father Eckman will preach on Sunday
evenings. On Fridays in Lent there will be Stations of the Cross,
sermon and Benediction at eight o'clock in the evening (except on
March 24th and Good Friday). The preacher at these services
will be the Father Rector.

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FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

BAPTISMS

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

December 18 — Ronald Sherman
January 1 — Lorraine Stout

BURIALS

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

December 24 — Elizabeth Hahn

CORPORATE Communions are announced as follows for the
month of February:

Wednesday, February 1, 9.30: St Mary's Guild.
Sunday, February 5, 9:00: Guild of St Mary of the Cross, Guild of St Mary of Nazareth, The Church School, The Knights of St Mary.

Monday, February 6, 8:00 (The Mission House): Associates of the Sisterhood of the Holy Nativity.

Wednesday, February 8, 9:30: Associates of the Community of St Mary.

During the month of February the altar flowers are given in memory of the following:

February 2 — Purification of the B.V.M. Ursula Dumont Arnold.

February 13 — Acolytes’ Festival. Mrs Archibald D. Russell.

The following contributions to AVE are gratefully acknowledged: Anonymous, $1; $5; Miss Florence Baldwin, $2; Miss Alice Bosworth, $1; The Reverend W. T. Bulkeley, $1; The Reverend E. C. Colcord, $2; Mrs H. V. Conrad, $2; Mrs E. L. Coster, $5; Mr F. S. E. Drury, $5; Mr Claude Farmer, $1; Mr Abraham Hatfield, $5; Miss Lillian Kennedy, $5; Mrs Richard P. Kent, $2; Mrs W. G. Lewis, $2; Miss Lena Lloyd, $2; Miss Emelie Long, $1; Miss Ruth Lowry, $1; Mrs Andrew B. Newcombe, $2; Mr Rudolph Schnorrenberg, $4; Mr Wellington Sloane, $2; Mrs A. K. Smith, $1; Mr R. G. Streit, $5; Mr Everett Titcomb, $1; Mrs Edward Wegmann, $1.

AVE 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 Hoffman, 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.

KALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY, 1939

2. Th. THE PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. Blessing of candles, Procession and High Mass, 11 a.m.
3. F. St Blasius, B.M. Abstinence.
4. Sa. St Gilbert, Ab.C.
5. Su. SEPTUAGESIMA. Com. St Agatha, V.M.
7. Tu. Feria.
10. F. St Scholastica, V. Abstinence.
12. Su. SEXAGESIMA.
14. Tu. St Valentine, P.M.
15. W. Feria.
19. Su. QUINQUAGESIMA.
24. F. ST MATTHIAS, AP. Fast and abstinence.
26. Su. LENT I.
28. Tu. Feria. Chanty Masses (at 8 a.m. for names in the Chanty Book), Fast.

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.
MUSIC LIST FOR FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 5.— SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY.
Mass, "Missa quarti toni" ............... Victoria
Motet, "O admirabile commercium"* ....... Händl
Evensong:
Magnificat, Tone I, with faux-bourdons ...... Fayrfax
Nunc dimittis, Tone VII, with faux-bourdons........ Unknown Edwardine Composer
Motet, "Adoramus te, Christe"* ............... Pitoni

FEBRUARY 12.— SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY.
Mass, "Missa in honorem Sanctae Clarae Assisiensis" ....... Recce
Motet, "Sicut cervus"* ............... Palestrina
Evensong:
Magnificat and Nunc dimittis (Second Service) ........ Byrd
Motet, "Adoramus te, Christe" ............... Viadana

FEBRUARY 13.— ACOlyTES' FESTIVAL.
Mass, "Missa Dona pacem" ............... Desderi
Motet, "Jubilate Deo" ............... Gabrieli
Motet, "Ego sum panis vivus" ............... Palestrina

FEBRUARY 19.— QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY.
Mass, "Missa Misericordias Domini" ............... Rheinberger
Motet, "O salutaris hostia" ............... Tallis
Evensong:
Magnificat, Tone VI, with faux-bourdons .......... Whitlock
Nunc dimittis, Tonus peregrinus, with faux-bourdons...... Whitlock
Motet, "Verbum caro" ............... Victoria

FEBRUARY 22.— ASH WEDNESDAY.
Mass, "Missa Deus Genitor alme" ............... Plain Chant

FEBRUARY 26.— FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT.
Mass, "Missa Cantabo Domino"* ............... Viadana
Motet, "Turn our captivity" ............... Byrd
Evensong:
Magnificat and Nunc dimittis (Short Service) ........ Gibbons
Motet, "O Domine Jesu Christe" ............... Palestrina

*First time.

SERVICES

NOTE: The schedule of Lenten services will be found in the Lenten leaflet.

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, and on Festivals, 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, 10.30 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. Supper, Sewing and Games, Tuesdays, 6.30 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) first 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


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: BRyan 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: BRyan 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: BRyan 9-0962

Miss Elizabeth Doremus, Secretary. Telephone: BRyan 9-0962

The Rev. Father Peabody. Telephone: BRyan 9-8858

The Rev. Father Lightfoot. Telephone: Schuyler 4-6276

Mr Raymond Nold. Telephone: BRyan 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.