Dear Parishioners of St. Mary's,

The month of May this year affords practicing Catholics two Thursdays of spiritual treasure — Ascension Day, on May the sixth, and Corpus Christi on May the twenty-seventh, and as we well know Catholics accept spiritual treasure on any day, be it a Sunday or not.

On Ascension Day we in spirit accompany our dear Lord to the Upper Room in Jerusalem, there to listen as He imparts to His Apostles His last words before His departure up to heaven. He enkindles their faith and He makes known to them the fact that their mission will be attended by signs and wonders. We then join the company of apostles and disciples and holy women, including blessed Mary, as they follow Jesus down the slope of Mount Zion through the Holy City past the Brook Cedron and up the Mount of Olives, from which can be seen the Temple and the palaces of Jerusalem lying proudly below in the distance. We hear Jesus reassure the Apostles with these words: “Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you”. Now at the very hour in which He was raised on the Cross of Calvary, Jesus, having entrusted to the Apostles their great mission of spreading the Gospel throughout the whole world and admitting into the Holy Catholic Church through Holy Baptism all men of all nations, raised His sacred hands in blessing and rose from the ground and mounted up to heaven, and, as a cloud enveloped Him, vanished from the eyes of His followers. But they had not lost their Saviour for, although He had entered heaven in triumph taking with Him the holy souls of all ages who had awaited deliverance from Paradise, His Church on earth would presently be filled with the Holy Spirit and her children would
be daily nourished by the Body and Blood of their ascended Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

On this Feast of the Ascension there will be a High Mass with communions at seven, followed by Low Masses at 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 and 12:10.

Later in the month we come to the happy festival of Corpus Christi, called by the French The Feast of God. Yes, it is the Feast of God Incarnate in the mystery of the blessed Eucharist. A sure sign of our genuineness as Catholics is a practical faith in the Eucharist. This faith will manifest itself on the Feast of Corpus Christi by the receiving of the Living Bread from Heaven in Holy Communion at one of the Masses and also by attendance at the Solemn Votive Mass of the Blessed Sacrament on the Sunday in the Octave, May the thirtieth, at eleven, at the close of which there will be a Procession of the Host and Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Our faithful worship on these two blessed Thursdays in May will indeed carry us to the Throne of Grace.

Affectionately,

[Signature]

ANGLICAN CATHOLIC DECORUM

WHAT does a young man do when he desires to answer God’s call to serve Him in the sacred priesthood?

First he goes to his parish priest and lays before him his holy ambition. His priest and spiritual adviser will then set before him the glories and the joys and the burdens and the sacrifices and the disciplines and the privileges of the priestly life. He will also examine somewhat the young aspirant as to his reasons for choosing the vocation of a priest and as to his notion of the ideals to be attained in so sacred an office. He will try to make sure that the young man has not chosen the priesthood to please dear Aunt So-and-So who hopes before she dies to see her dear nephew magnificently attired in gorgeous vestments, or to take up a work which is connected with no punching of a time clock but rather a haven of charm in the form of an ivy-clad rectory.

If the priest-adviser be wise, he will then assure this young man that he must prove his worth, as the best sort of preparation for so high a calling. It will be pointed out that he must work hard in his studies in school, college and theological seminary; that he must work to support himself as far as possible and that he must above all work hard at his religion. This latter means that he will live by a definite Rule which will be his guide in his prayer life, his confessions, his communions, his self-discipline, his meditations, his visits to the Blessed Sacrament, his fasting and his almsgiving. The more sacrifice he is called upon to make during his training the better, for the life of a priest is pre-eminently a life of sacrifice.

When the young person in question has approached the end of his college training, on recommendation of his parish priest he will apply to the bishop of the diocese in which his parish is located to become a Postulant for Holy Orders. Then he will enter a theological seminary for specialized training, never for a moment forgetting that his true training will take the form of an ever more generous response in prayer, fasting and almsgiving to the love of the Great High Priest, Jesus Christ. Midway in his seminary training he will become a Candidate for Holy Orders, having had his candidate’s papers signed by the rector and vestry of his parish church. After his education is finished, his bishop will arrange for his ordination to the Diaconate, which normally will last from six to twelve months, after which Diaconate the bishop will ordain him to the Priesthood. Normally his first official act as a priest is to impart God’s blessing first to his mother, if she be living, and then to those who have assisted by their prayers at his ordination. He will then look forward with humble awe to the privilege of celebrating the first Holy Mass which will be followed by daily Masses and the normal administering of the Sacraments of Holy Baptism, Holy Penance, Holy Matrimony, and Holy Unction. He also will look forward to shepherding that portion of the flock of Christ entrusted to his
loving care. In such shepherding he will strive to set the example of living in the world but not of the world, which exemplary life calls for a loneliness that is sweet and not bitter. As a priest he will always appear in the uniform of a priest for he is always on duty. A priest never takes a vacation from his priestly calling, although very properly he may be expected to take one day a week for re-creation and a month or so each year for a complete change of scene. In the priestly life, as in every other type of life, breakdowns do not come from overwork, but rather from thinking about the work that has never been accepted as a happy privilege.

There is also the vocation for the Religious Life. When this vocation is accepted young men and women offer themselves to the life of monks or nuns. The call to the Religious Life is a very special vocation in which the one called looks forward to serving God under life-vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. Men and women thus called renounce the possession of all worldly goods, cut themselves off from the family ties and free themselves from the desire to have their own way. Those who feel moved to serve God in the Religious Life should first talk with the parish priest who will try to ascertain if their calling is genuine, that is, if it is a calling to complete and positive consecration to loving service and not some form of escape. Those whose call appears to be genuine would then be urged to visit one of our religious communities—a young man one of our monasteries and a young woman one of our convents. The Superior of the Religious Community would arrange for anyone genuinely called to serve for a time as a postulant and then for a more extended time as a novice. If the novice is accepted by the community after full testing in the novitiate, profession as a monk or nun follows, and the Religious Life is undertaken in its full glory and with its complete sacrificial joy.

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SIDE LIGHTS OF OLD ST MARY'S

The love of money is said to be the root of all evil. If this is so, the people connected with St Mary's in its early days must have been singularly free from the root. Ground had been broken in April, 1868, and the Church was opened and dedicated on the 8th December, 1870, but not until January, 1873, was there any reference to a salary for the Rector.

At the Trustees' Meeting that month the following recommendation was presented: "That the Minister in charge of the Free Church of Saint Mary the Virgin receive a salary of three thousand dollars for the year ending December 8, 1873." There appears to have been but one slight omission in this excellent recommendation, and that was its reticence on the subject of obtaining the $3,000. Perhaps for this reason, the recommendation was "accepted, without any action being taken thereon."

The matter could not be allowed to die, however, and at the February Meeting action was taken, which sounds so strangely to us now that it may be interesting to transcribe it in full: "A Resolution was passed that a subscription paper should be prepared and handed around to procure subscriptions for a salary of $3000. for Rector's salary from July, 1873, to July, 1874."

It will be noted that the starting date of the salary had been advanced six months, probably to allow opportunity to secure the subscriptions, but unfortunately there is no record of the amount obtained.

The Reverend Flavel Scott Mines had been associated with St Mary's from its beginning, but he severed his connection some seven months before the church building was opened. For nearly two years from that time Father Brown carried on alone, until, on the 11th March, 1872, the Reverend McWalter Bernard Noyes became curate, "he having kindly offered his gratuitous clerical services."

Had Father Noyes not made the offer on those very generous terms he would not have secured the post, for the financial problems were increasing in complexity, and the sexton's annual salary of $500. appears to have been the only payment for services which the debt-ridden young venture could stand.

How it stood at all remains one of the modern miracles. Before adopting the obviously desperate device of trying to obtain subscriptions for some sort of salary for the Rector, it had been
planned to build him a rectory adjoining the Church on the east. The philosophy behind this remarkable scheme seems to have been that a salary must be paid each month in money, whereas a house can be financed on mortgage and credit. By this time we have become accustomed to one of the characteristics of these adventurers in faith: that they expected support to come to their venture shortly, although they had very little at the time. But the house proved impossible, because the land on which it was to be built had already been mortgaged to build the Church, and could not therefore be used as security for a second loan. Without such a loan there was no hope for financing even the most modest rectory.

This was perhaps fortunate, as it was extremely difficult at this time to meet the promissory notes and other debts which had for the most part to be liquidated by new loans. So many and various were the expedients to meet the ever-recurring crises that one wonders, for the hundredth time, why this devoted little band of people did not give up the attempt to keep their frail bark afloat. There are so many discouragements recorded in the official minutes of the Trustees, in spite of the reserved, not to say stilted, style of those records, and there must have been so many more that never got into the minutes at all, that one marvels at the courage and persistence which kept going in the face of so many difficulties.

At this very time, May, 1872, strong efforts were being made to raise $2000, which had to be paid in September. Then, as now, it would have to be raised before the summer, or it would not be ready in time. At the meeting that month Father Brown as Treasurer, a post he assumed during the worst financial crises, was able to announce that all but $400 of the essential $2000 was in hand. And then came an order to spend $433 for flagging the sidewalk in front of the Church. (How strangely “flagging” sounds now.) There was nothing for it but to start another subscription, which produced $300 for the flagging.

It would not be correct, however, to assume, in spite of all the shifts they were driven to, that the Trustees of those days were reckless optimists, blindly trusting to the future. They firmly believed in divine help, and counted on it; and they had no thought of failure. At one of their meetings during this very period of acute financial strain, they passed resolutions which cover eight pages of the large minute book, to set right certain small irregularities in their former proceedings. They must have spent a long evening, justifying the holding of meetings at places not specified in the by-laws, and in curing other such defects in their records. They had high hope, deep faith, a keen sense of duty — but no fear of failure.

☆

N. F. R.

THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Once, beneath the shadow of a Cross,
For a brief hour we cast aside our mourning
To receive a Gift — a Gift so precious
We needs must say our thanks with joy.
And yet that joy was muted,
We knew too well the price that would be paid.
But now O Lord our joy need know no bounds!
Now art Thou resplendent in Thy glory!
We contemplate the wonder of Thy love
In a Mystery unfathomable,
And awestruck worship Thee
With all the beauty that we know —
Music, and light, and color —
Laying at Thy feet O God
These lovely things that are Thine own.
The procession has passed by,
In the deep hush we knew Thy Presence.
Thy blessed Benediction rests upon us,
And humbled, yet exalted,
We go forth renewed.

E. G. D.

PARISH NOTES

MAY is the month of Mary. In honor of Our Lady a May Festival will be held on Sunday evening, May the ninth, at eight o'clock. Solemn Vespers of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be followed by a Procession and the Crowning of the Statue of Our Lady. The devotions of this Festival will be brought to a close
with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The boys and girls of the parish are invited to march in the May Procession.

As

On Sunday, May the second, the usual blue envelopes for the United Thank Offering of the women of the Church will be found in the pews. Our parish custodian, Mrs Harold H. Bowman, will be in the vestibule of the church after High Mass to receive the offerings of the women. These offerings will be presented at the ten o'clock Mass on Tuesday morning, May the fourth, at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine. If you use the blue envelope please write your name on it. Should you wish to send a check kindly mail the same to Mrs Harold H. Bowman, 330 East 43rd Street, New York City 17. This check should be received as soon as possible that it may be included in the Presentation at the Cathedral on May the fourth.

The Guild of Saint Mary of the Cross will hold a Cake and Apron sale in Saint Joseph's Hall on Wednesday afternoon, May the fifth, from three until five. Your patronage is earnestly solicited that the women of this Guild may be encouraged in their work for their home parish and for charity.

The Woman's Auxiliary will entertain at Tea on Friday afternoon, May the fourteenth, from four to six at Saint Joseph's Hall. All women of the parish are most cordially invited to attend this Tea. The speaker will be the Reverend Dumont Morisseau, Archdeacon of Haiti. The offerings will be used for the missionary work in Haiti. Numerous attractive gifts will be on sale at the Mission Table. All the articles made during the season for various missions will be displayed.

The Chairman of our Altar Flower Fund reports that the following are open days for gifts of flowers for the High Altar, either as memorials or as thank offerings:

July 18, The Eighth Sunday after Trinity
July 25, Saint James' Day
August 29, The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
November 14, The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity
December 8, The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

If any of our readers desire the privilege of providing flowers kindly notify Mrs Newbury Frost Read, 57 West 52nd Street, New York 19, (EL 5-3312).

We thank God that more individuals than ever before are being called to experience His mercy in the forgiveness of sins in the Sacrament of Holy Penance. There are very many who would like to make their first confession and who seek thorough preparation for this blessed step upward in the spiritual life. Your priests are always ready and happy to prepare men and boys for first confession and the Sisters of the Holy Nativity are always ready and happy to prepare women and girls for this treasured experience. In the name of the Compassionate Saviour, do not delay.

From the Parish Register

Baptisms
"As many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ."
March 5 — Mattie Myrtle Jones (Adult)
March 27 — Leland Andrew Craig (Infant)

Received by Canonical Transfer
"And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers."
March 12 — Robert Lee Scheel

The altar flowers for the month of May are given in memory of the following:
May 2 — Rogation Sunday, Emma Frances Taber.
May 6 — Ascension Day, Mary Selena Arnold.
May 9 — The Sunday after Ascension, Louise Carl Read.
May 16 — Whitsunday, George Martin Christian, Priest and Rector.
May 23 — Trinity Sunday. William and Mary Dickey.
May 27 — Corpus Christi. Abigail Burt.

Of your charity pray for the happy repose of their souls and of the souls of all the faithful departed. Requiescant in pace.

THE Corporate Communions for the month of May are as follows:

Sunday, May 2, 9:00, The Guild of St Mary of the Cross.
Wednesday, May 5, 9:30, St Mary's Guild.
Friday, May 7, 8:00, The Fellowship of St John.
Sunday, May 9, 9:00, The Living Rosary of Our Lady and St Dominic.
Friday, May 14, 9:30, The Woman's Auxiliary.
Sunday, May 30, 9:00, The Church School.

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions toward the expense of printing and mailing AVE: Anonymous, $2, $1, $1; Mr Gail Chandler, $1; Mrs Edward Livingston Coster, $5; Mrs Gustave Friedauer, $2; Mr Donald Garfield, $1; Colonel C. G. Irish, $5; Mrs Francis F. McDowell, $5; Miss Evelyn Pike, $2; Miss Nancy Platou, $2; The Reverend Charles M. Pond, $2; Mrs Ernest Stavey, $2; Miss Sarah E. Van Deusen, $2; Mrs Miles L. Yates, $2.

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 Rev. Father Taber, 145 West 46th Street, New York 19.

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

KALENDAR FOR MAY

1. Sa. SS PHILIP & JAMES, APP., MM.
2. Su. THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER. Com. St Athanasius, B.C.D.
10. M. St Antoninus, B.C. Com. Octave and SS Gordian & Epimachus, MM.
11. Tu. Of the Octave.
17. M. Monday in Whitsun Week.
18. Tu. Tuesday in Whitsun Week.
20. Th. Of the Octave. Com. St Bernard of Siena, C.
21. F. EMBER DAY. Com. St Yves, Pr, C. Fast and Abstinence.
22. Sa. EMBER DAY. Fast and Abstinence.
23. Su. TRINITY SUNDAY.
24. M. St Vincent of Lerins, C.
26. W. St Philip Neri, C. Com. St Eleutherius, B.M.
27. Th. CORPUS CHRISTI.
31. M. Of the Octave. Com. St Angela of Merici, V., and St Petronilla, V.M.

Days indicated by □ are days of precept, with an obligation of attendance at Mass.
MUSIC FOR MAY, 1948

MAY 2 — EASTER V (Rogation)
Missa Sancti Josephi ............................................Peeters
Motet, Estote forte in bello .................................Victoria
Evensong
Magnificat and Nunc dimittis ................................Sixteenth Century
Motet, Tota pulchra es, Maria ............................Bruckner
O salutaris .........................................................Desderi
Motet, Adoramus te .............................................Rosselli
Tantum ergo ........................................................Kodaly

MAY 23 — TRINITY SUNDAY
Missa Festiva ......................................................Kromolicki
Motet, O admirabile commercium .............................Handel
Evensong
Magnificat and Nunc dimittis ................................Byrd
Motet, Duo Seraphim ............................................Victoria
O salutaris ..........................................................Victoria
Motet, Adoramus te .............................................Corsi
Tantum ergo (4 part) .............................................Victoria

MAY 30 — SUNDAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CORPUS CHRISTI
Missa Festiva ......................................................Gretchaninoff
Motet, O sacrum convivium ....................................Victoria
Evensong
Magnificat and Nunc dimittis ................................Byrd
Motet, Ego sum panis vivus ....................................Palestrina
O salutaris ..........................................................Victoria
Motet, Adoramus te .............................................Sixteenth Century
Tantum ergo ........................................................Kromolicki

SERVICES

Sundays
Low Mass .........................................................7:00 a.m.
Morning Prayer ................................................7:40 a.m.
Low Mass .........................................................8:00 a.m.
Sung Mass (St Francis' Altar) ..............................9:00 a.m.
Low Mass (Lady Chapel) ......................................10:00 a.m.
High Mass, with sermon ......................................11:00 a.m.
Evening Service and Benediction, with address ..........8:00 p.m.

Week Days
Mass, daily .......................................................7, 8, and 9:30 a.m.
Also on greater Holy Days as announced
11 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.
Mass, Fridays ...................................................12:10 p.m.
Morning Prayer (with Litany, Fridays) ...................9:00 a.m.
Evening Prayer (with Litany, Wednesdays) ...............6:00 p.m.
Special Devotions, Fridays (St Francis' Altar) ..........8:15 p.m.

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 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 Taber: Fridays, 12 to 1; Saturdays, 2 to 3 and 8 to 9 p.m.

Father Jacoby: Thursdays, 4:30 to 5:30; Saturdays, 4 to 5 and 7 to 8 p.m.

Father Kreutler: Fridays, 4:30 to 5:30 and 7 to 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 3 to 4 p.m.

Confessions will also be heard Sundays, 8:40 to 9:00 a.m

A Priest can always be seen after any service.

BAPTISMS.—Sundays after High Mass by arrangement with the clergy. Proper sponsors should be chosen.

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 White, 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 CHURCH SCHOOL.—Sundays, Sung Mass and Instruction. 9 a.m. Corporate Communion, last Sunday, 9 a.m.

THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY.—Second Fridays, Corporate Communion, 9:30 a.m. Business Meeting, 10:45 a.m. Father Taber, 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 Sundays, 9 a.m., monthly business meeting, 10:45 a.m. Father Taber, Chaplain.

GUILD OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS.—For charities 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 Jacoby, Chaplain.

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

GUILD OF ST VINCENT.—For Altar Servers. Meetings, fourth Fridays, 8:15 p.m. Father Kreutler, Chaplain.
DEVOTIONAL GUILDS

CONFRATERNITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. — St Mary's Ward. Holy Hour (St Francis' Altar) first Fridays, 8:15 p.m. Father Taber, Chaplain.

LIVING ROSARY OF OUR LADY AND ST DOMINIC — St Mary's Ward. Corporate Communion, second Sundays, 9 a.m. Recitation of the Rosary (St Francis' Altar) second Fridays, 8:15 p.m. Father Kreutler, Chaplain.

GUILD OF ALL SOULS. — St Mary's Ward. Stations of the Cross, third Fridays, 8:15 p.m. Father Jacoby, Chaplain.

SERVANTS OF CHRIST THE KING. — For young people who will keep a Catholic Rule of Life. Meetings and corporate communions as announced. Father Jacoby, Chaplain.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS


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 immediately after High Mass and before Evensong.

REMEMBER ST MARY'S IN YOUR WILL

The following is the form of bequest:

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath to THE SOCIETY OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN, a corporation organized and existing under the Laws of the State of New York, and having its principal office at 145 West 46th Street, New York City, (here stating the nature or amount of the gift)."

DIRECTORY

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

THE RETORY

144 West 47th Street. Telephone: PLaza 7-5845

The Rev. Father Taber
The Rev. Father Jacoby
The Rev. Father Kreutler

THE MISSION HOUSE, Sisters of the Holy Nativity
133 West 46th Street. Telephone: PLaza 7-6464

The Sister Mary Josephine, S.H.N., Sister-in-Charge
The Sister Bernardine, S.H.N.
The Sister Mary Angela, S.H.N.
Sister Ruth Barbara, S.H.N.

THE PARISH HOUSE, 145 West 46th Street
The Rector's Office. Telephone: PLaza 7-5845
Miss Elizabeth Doremus, Secretary. Telephone: PLaza 7-5845
Mr Ernest White. Telephone PLaza 7-8232

Louis Fellowes, Funeral Director. Telephone: REgent 4-1908

MR NEWBURY FROST READ, Parish Treasurer
30 Nassau Street, New York 5

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.