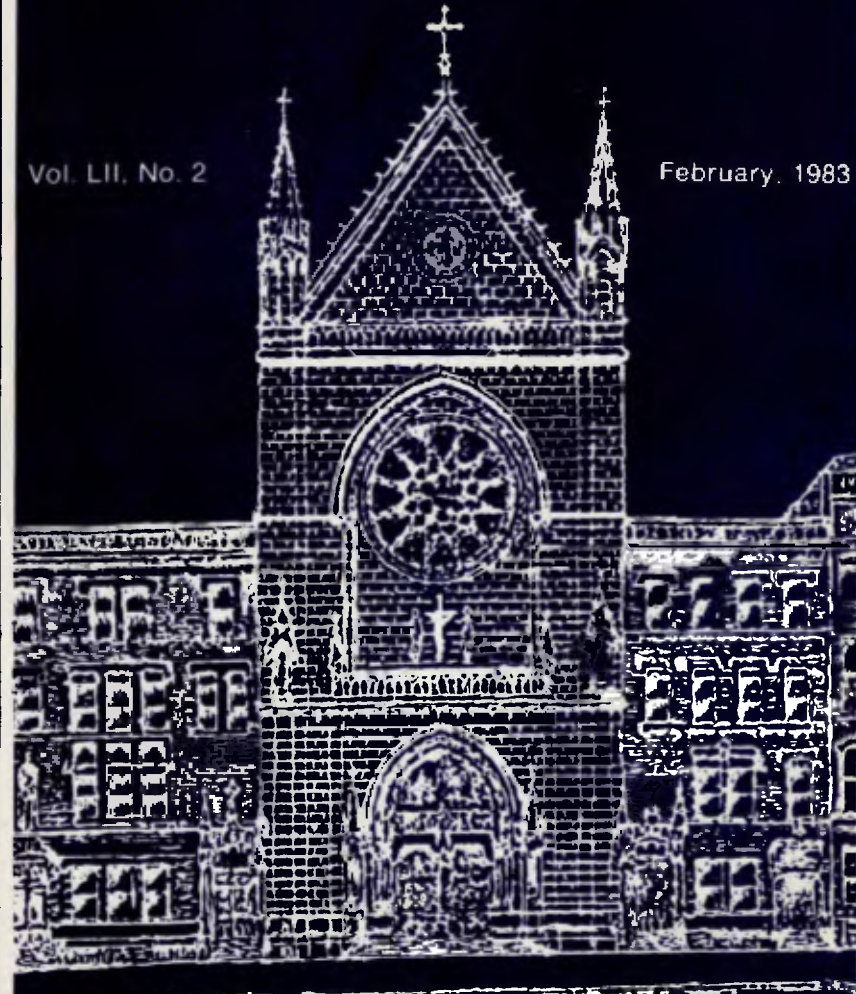


AVE

Vol. LII, No. 2

February, 1983



The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin
New York City



AVE
Church of Saint Mary the Virgin
145 West 46th Street
New York City 10036

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
New York, New York
Permit No. 3330



THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

139 West 46th Street • New York • New York • 10036

The Reverend Edgar F. Wells, Rector The Reverend Andrew L. Sloane, Curate
The Reverend John L. Scott

Parish founded 1868

Church built 1894

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Morning Prayer	8:40 am
Masses	9:00, 10:00 am, and 5:00 pm
Adult Education	9:50 am
Solemn Mass with Sermon	11:00 am
Evening Prayer and Benediction	4:00 pm

WEEKDAYS

Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Noonday Office	12:00
Daily Masses	12:15 and 6:15 pm
Evening Prayer	6:00 pm

COUNSELING

A priest is available in the church daily, 12-1 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Friday	5-6 pm (Father Sloane)
Saturday	2-3 pm (Father Sloane) 5-6 pm (Father Wells)
Sunday	10:30-10:50 am (Father Wells)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Rev'd Edgar F. Wells, *President*
Courtlandt Nicoll, *Vice-President*
Philip W. Callanan, *Secretary*
Jack R. Cortner, *Treasurer*

Donald F. Farley
John Z. Headley
Barbara L. Klett
G. Edward Mueller
Charles Arthur Schaefer
Leroy Sharer

AVE is published monthly (except June thru August) by the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, 145 West 46th Street, New York City 10036. Telephone (212) 869-5830. The Rev'd Edgar F. Wells, editor; The Rev'd Andrew L. Sloane, associate editor; Mr. Tony Gonzalez, layout. Your contribution of \$10.00 or more will be greatly appreciated, and will ensure future publication and distribution of AVE. All gifts made to AVE- Church of St. Mary the Virgin are tax-deductible.

*AVE is produced by Mission Graphics
48 Henry Street, NYC 10002, (212) 227-6715*

AVE

A Monthly Bulletin of
THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN
New York City

VOL. LII

FEBRUARY, 1983

NO. 2

The Purification of St. Mary the Virgin
February 2nd, 1983

My dear People:

This letter bears the date of Our Lady's Purification, one of the loveliest feasts of the Christian year, and certainly one which over the years has been among the best loved of our parish observances. I first attended a Candlemas celebration at St. Mary's when I was an acolyte, and the servers from various parishes in the New York area came to St. Mary's for the occasion. Well do I recall the glory of that occasion, with our own Bishop Donegan pontificating at the throne. Two other Candlemas observances stand out in my mind, one of them coinciding with Father Donald Garfield's Institution as Rector of St. Mary's, and the other with Archbishop Michael Ramsey presiding and preaching, at the conclusion of one of the great Trinity Institutes here in New York. Perhaps partially because this feast falls in the middle of the dark and sometimes dreary winter, the marvelous symbolism of light surrounding it makes this day particularly appealing. Always at St. Mary's, the center of our celebration is the High Mass at 6 PM, preceded by the blessing of candles and a solemn procession. This year that Mass will be decidedly episcopal in tone, with Brother John Charles, SSF, presiding and pontificating. Brother John Charles is one of the truly gifted preachers of the Episcopal Church today. A native of Australia, he was, prior to entering the Franciscan order, Assistant Bishop of

Adelaide, Australia. He is increasingly well known in the American Church, and it will be our joy to have him as a guest on February 2nd.

And if February begins with the rich warmth of Candlemas, it leaves the scene having brought us once again to the austerities of Lent. Ash Wednesday falls this year on February 16th, and perhaps this letter can be the means of publishing our Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday schedule.

Shrove Tuesday, February 15th

12 — 1 PM, Confessions (*Father Sloane*)

5 — 6 PM, Confessions (*Father Sloane, Father Wells*)

Ash Wednesday, February 16th

7:40 AM, Morning Prayer

8:00 AM, Mass*

12 Noon, Noonday Office

12:15 PM, Mass with hymns*

5 — 6 PM, Confessions (*Father Sloane, Father Wells*)

6:00 PM, Solemn Mass (sermon, *Father Wells*)*

* *Imposition of Ashes*

As to the rest of it, Stations of the Cross and Benediction will take place each Friday evening at 7, and this year we will return to an earlier custom of providing short homilies in between these two services each evening. Responsibility for them will be shared by the clergy of St. Mary's and of the Church of the Transfiguration. Note that the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord Jesus Christ, March 25th, falls this year on a Friday. On that day the Lenten fast will be dispensed, and a Procession and Solemn Mass will take place at 6 o'clock, with Father Norman Catir as our preacher.

And so February brings us from Candlemas into Lent, and from the protection of the manger into the testing and challenge of adult life. I promised in our January *AVE* that I would provide a listing of our parish pledges for you in this issue, comparing our 1983 projected giving with our actual receipts for 1982. Unfortunately, as this letter is being written so as to make a

January 15th deadline, we still have not heard from all our pledgers as of the first part of January. I'm told that this reflects old habits at St. Mary's, and that many of our pledges don't get in until a month or so of the new year has elapsed. I cannot urge you strongly enough to return your pledge cards to the church before the beginning of the calendar year for which those cards are intended. Had 1983's cards been returned by December of 1982, I would now have a full report to give you, and our budget for the new year would have been considered by our Board of Trustees at their January meeting. Your help in this matter will be appreciated by us here more than you will ever know. As things stand out, our Budget Committee will do its work during January, and in February our Board of Trustees will consider 1983's budget at their monthly meeting. I will, in our March issue of *AVE*, publish both our parish budget and our anticipated income for the new year.

Perhaps as you read our January *AVE*, you noticed both our new cover format and our new listing of Trustees. The former was obvious, and we have already received several plaudits for it. Our older cover design had been the creation of a parishioner, Miss Phyllis Brackett, and had served for years by way of identifying our magazine for our reading public. In her characteristically gracious way, Phyllis supported our plan to try a new cover design. Well, we'd like to know what you think of it. We'll try it for a while, and will not be at all hurt at being told that we ought to attempt something else.

This past December, at their one legally mandatory meeting of the year, the Trustees of the Society of the Free Church of St. Mary the Virgin elected new officers for 1983, and also elected two new members to the Board. Philip Callanan continues as the Secretary of the Board, and Courtlandt Nicoll is our new Vice-President. Our two new members are Dr. Leroy Sharer and Mr. Donald K. Farley. Leroy has been a server and reader at St. Mary's for many years, and is increasingly involved in our parish life. Donald, who prefers his middle name, Kevin, has been at St. Mary's for almost four years, and is active as a server and reader at

weekday Masses, and as an usher and reader on Sundays. Both these men have demonstrated a deep love for St. Mary's, and their presence on the Board will continue the process by which Board members are becoming more accessible to the people of our parish. Both men are also involved in the cursillo movement, and have thus shared in the influence being made by St. Mary's on the work of Catholic renewal within the Diocese of New York.

Two other matters need mentioning in this already overlong epistle, and in their own way each has to do with the piety that has been associated with parishes of our tradition over the years. The first matter concerns Evensong and Benediction, both of which have been a part of St. Mary's life for as long as most of us can remember. As recently as the early 1960's, Evensong was sung by our full choir every Sunday afternoon between October and May, and our choir members were paid for their services, for the most part. Often there would be as many as a hundred people in the congregation as well. With the passage of time, and the tightening of the economic noose, fewer choir members were paid for singing at this service. During the first three years of my own incumbency the choir at Evensong consisted, with one exception, entirely of volunteers, and these were largely men who had sung earlier in the afternoon in another parish, and who brought their own talents to St. Mary's at a later hour because of their love for our musical tradition. Occasionally, usually at Easter and Christmas, approximately a hundred people would be present for Evensong, but on most Sundays the number varied between twenty-five and forty, and for the most part our own people were not in evidence. Last fall, with the advent of a new organist and choir, the music at Evensong has become the responsibility of volunteers. Despite some initial interest on the part of parishioners, a volunteer choir never did materialize, and gradually the responsibility for the chanting of the Divine Office fell increasingly on Father Norman Catir's and my shoulders, and on those of two or three other persons. Attendance has plummeted. Far from being discouraged, I look on this situation as an opportunity for re-evaluating still further the whole rationale behind St. Mary's

inherited schedule of public services. It is formidable. It made sense when we were practically the only parish in midtown Manhattan with weekday Masses, and with the Divine Office on Sunday afternoons. But the evidence in favor of its continuation is against us. We do not have the money any longer to pay musicians for most services, and the absence of our own people from them is reflective less of a lack of support where St. Mary's is concerned than of busy and active lives which permit only so much time to our people for any endeavor once High Mass is over on a Sunday morning. We have already reduced our weekday Masses to two a day, and as of the new year we have dropped the singing of Evensong on most Sunday afternoons. Instead we are saying Evening Prayer every Sunday at 4, and we are singing the hymns at Benediction a cappella. On two or three special occasions each year our full choir will sing Evensong, and we will give to that service some of the glory to which we have been so accustomed for such a long time. Two occasions of this kind will occur this spring. One will be Easter Day, and the other will be the annual May Festival and Crowning of the Virgin on the first Sunday of May. This latter occasion will also serve as an area rally for members and friends of the Evangelical and Catholic Mission, and the Bishop of Eau Claire, The Rt. Rev'd William C. Wantland, will preach for us and officiate at Benediction. I hope that many of you will be here then.

The second matter has to do with the schedule of Holy Hours that appears in *AVE* month by month, and in our Sunday bulletins. There was a time when a monthly Holy Hour was a usual part of the piety of parishes like St. Mary's. It had been discontinued for some years at the time of my arrival. It was restored during my first year because of the expressed interest of several people in the parish, and initially we would have as many as twenty people for this event. I am told that some people came simply to please me. Be that as it may, attendance at Holy Hour also declined, and within three years it could no longer sustain itself. It has therefore been discontinued. There is a part of me that regrets all this. There is another part that understands it as

symptomatic simply of changing patterns in the Church's piety, and I believe deeply that our first job is to understand those changes, and to mold them into the general pattern of Catholic renewal. We are slaves only to eternal truth, and we must at all costs be flexible in our use of different vessels for the purposes of conveying that truth. We are simply living at a time of transition where the use of these vessels is concerned. Catholics will understand this, and will contribute creatively to it.

With this letter go my prayers and love, as always.

Edgar F. Wells

FRIDAY LENTEN DEVOTIONS — 1983



STATIONS OF THE CROSS, HOMILY AND BENEDICTION

Homilists: The Clergy of the Church of the Transfiguration and the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin

February 25; March 4, 11, 18, 1983 at 7:00 pm

at

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin

LAY MINISTRIES AT ST. MARY'S

SAINT MARY'S GUILD

Sacred vessels and vestments are cared for by men and women working together on assigned weekends each month, and at other specified times. Of special importance is the restoration of older vestments in the parish. To volunteer, please contact one of the clergy.

* * *

THE CURSILLO COMMUNITY

A group of men and women dedicated to the building of Christian community within our parish life. Members meet weekly at various convenient times for the purpose of sharing their experience of the Christian life in small groups, and come together monthly as a larger body for common worship, adoration, and the sharing of Christian fellowship. In the strictest sense this is not a parish organization but a movement of spiritual depth, grounded in the principles and teaching of Catholic Renewal in our own day. All parishioners are welcome.

* * *

SAINT VINCENT'S GUILD

Acolytes' Guild for men serving at Sunday and weekday services. Those interested should speak to the clergy. Guild members occasionally serve as Readers as well.

* * *

SAINT RAPHAEL'S GUILD

Ushers at parish services: Sunday mornings and evenings, and on Feast days. Interested persons, men and women, should contact Emil Denworth at 263-6385.

* * *

SAINT MARTIN'S GUILD

Tours of the church are conducted after Sunday Solemn Mass, and Guild members are trained for this special ministry. If interested, please phone Philip Parker at 582-0807.

* * *


BROTHER LAWRENCE GUILD

Hosts and Hostesses in charge of refreshments after Solemn Mass on Sundays and feast days, and at special parish meals. Interested persons should phone George Blackshire at 858-5797.

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE
and
THE PURIFICATION OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Low Masses: 8:00 am & 12:15 pm



Morning Prayer: 7:40 am *Evening Prayer: 5:30 pm*

SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS with CANDLEMAS PROCESSION 6:00 pm

Sermon: Br. John Charles, SSF

CONTRIBUTIONS TO *AVE* are gratefully acknowledged:

James E. Merold, \$10.00; Baldwin Bergersen, \$25.00; Peter & Emily Williamson, \$10.00; Mrs. H.A.W. Randall-Mills, \$10.00; The Rev'd James P. DeWolfe, \$25.00; The Rev'd Canon W.F. Tuhey, \$10.00; Mrs. H.A. Howell, \$10.00; The Rev'd R.J. Bunday, \$10.00; Helen Bryan Smith, \$10.00; The Rev'd Canon Lyman E. Howard, \$10.00; Mrs. L.G. Tompkins, \$10.00; Terry L. Jackson, \$10.00; The Rev'd Dennis Smart, \$10.00; Mrs. J.M. Dyer, Jr., \$10.00; The Rev'd Lynn Baumar, \$10.00; The Rev'd James Sigler, \$10.00; R. Michael Darrow, \$10.00; Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Jennings, \$20.00; The Rev'd James Brice Clark, \$5.00; D. McKenzie, \$25.00; Rebecca Howe, \$10.00; Mr. & Mrs. John T. Williams, \$25.00; Mrs. Francis W. Callahan, \$10.00; N. Cassandra Kenfield, \$10.00; Frederick & Ann R. Heider, \$25.00; Richard M. Pietro, \$6.00.

ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS

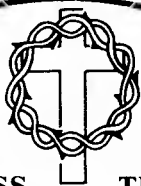
Feb. 2 — THE PRESENTATION Mildred Anne Handy
Feb. 6 — EPIPHANY V:
Feb. 13 — THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY: Robert
& Kate Greene

MAY THE SOULS OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED REST IN PEACE AND MAY LIGHT PERPETUAL SHINE UPON THEM

OUR NEW COVER

We hope that you like the new cover for Ave. This is the first new cover since Ave was first published fifty years ago. The old cover was designed by a faithful parishioner, Miss Phyllis Brackett and has stood us in good stead over this half century. We are indebted to her for her love and care.

The new cover as you can see shows the exterior of the Church on forty sixth street and first appeared publicly in the New York Times of December 8th 1895 under the headlines: "FATHER BROWN'S CHURCH. The New St. Mary the Virgin's to be Opened To-day. A CATHEDRAL LIKE STRUCTURE." That drawing which then portrayed something so new, now warms the hearts of many across the world who receive "AVE" and who have come to love this special place. The strange new structure on 46th. Street has over the last eighty years become familiar to churchmen around the world as one of the great witnesses to the Catholic faith and to the thousands of unchurched men and women who are drawn through those doors portrayed on this cover and who in this "Cathedral of Times Square" discover something of the beauty of holiness. So it is that the new cover symbolizes our history, our heritage, our witness and our mission in this City of New York. May all who read what lies within the covers pray for that witness and mission. As you look at the portrayal of the entrance to this House of God, pray for all who pass by and all who live and work within, that there the Love of God may truly be known and made known.



THE CROSS AND THE GLORY

— A Lenten Series —

February 15th - April 5th, 1983

Mondays, 1:00 - 2:00 pm; Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

A Devotional Bible Study of Saint John's Gospel (Chapters 13 — 20),
based on William Temple's *READINGS IN ST. JOHN'S GOSPEL*.

This series will be led by Fr. Sloane.

PREACHERS IN FEBRUARY

- Feb. 2 — PRESENTATION & PURIFICATION (6:00 pm):
Br. John-Charles, SSF, Former Assistant Bishop of
Adelaide, Australia.
- Feb. 6 — EPIPHANY V: Father Sloane
- Feb. 13 — EPIPHANY VI: Father Scott
- Feb. 16 — ASH WEDNESDAY (6:00 pm) Father Wells
- Feb. 20 — LENT I: Father Wells
- Feb. 27 — LENT II: The Rev'd Charles Smith, Vicar,
St. Mary Magdalen's, Oxford,
England.



ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS may be given by anyone who desires to do so, and at any time except the seasons of Advent and Lent (save for Lent IV). It is permissible to give flowers on the same Sunday or weekday when other commemorations are being made. Should you care to share in this work, please phone our parish secretary on any weekday between 9 am and 4 pm.: (212) 869-5830.

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

- 1 Tu. Tuesday of Epiphany IV
- 2 W. THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE & THE PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Low Masses: 8:00 am & 12:15 pm
Morning Prayer: 7:40 am; Evening Prayer: 5:30 pm
Candlemas Procession & Solemn Pontifical Mass, 6:00 pm
- 3 Th. St. Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary to Denmark & Sweden, 865. (comm. St. Blase, Bishop & Martyr, 316.
- 4 F. comm. Cornelius the Centurion
- 5 Sa. The Martyrs of Japan, 1597, (comm. St. Agatha, Martyr in Sicily, 250.
- 6 Su. THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
- 7 M. Monday of Epiphany V
- 8 Tu. *Requiem*
- 9 W. Wednesday of Epiphany V
- 10 Th. St. Scholastica, Abbess at Monte Casino, c. 543
- 11 F. *Our Lady of Lourdes*
- 12 Sa. Saturday of Epiphany V
- 13 Su. THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
- 14 M. St. Cyril, Monk & St. Methodius, Bishop, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869, 885
- 15 Tu. comm. Thomas Bray, Priest and Missionary, 1730
- 16 W. ASH WEDNESDAY *Strict Fast & Abstinence,*
Ashes imposed throughout the day and at all Masses
SOLEMN MASS WITH PONTIFICAL OFFICE, 6:00 pm
Lenten Weekday
- 17 Th. Lenten Weekday
- 18 F. Lenten Weekday *Stations of the Cross & Benediction, 7:00*
- 18 F. Lenten Weekday *Stations of the Cross & Benediction, 7:00 pm*
- 19 Sa. Lenten Weekday
- 20 Su. THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
- 21 M. Lenten Weekday
- 22 Tu. Lenten Weekday
- 23 W. *Ember Day*
- 24 Th. SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
- 25 F. *Ember Day Stations of the Cross & Benediction, 7:00 pm*
- 26 Sa. *Ember Day*
- 27 Su. THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
- 28 M. Lenten Weekday

DIRECTORY

CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN

139 West 46th Street • New York • New York • 10036

*The Church is open for prayer and meditation
Mondays-Fridays: 7 a.m.-9 a.m., 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sundays: 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.*

RECTORY

144 West 47th Street • New York • New York • 10036

THE REVEREND EDGAR F. WELLS, Rector
THE REVEREND ANDREW L. SLOANE, Curate
(212) 869-5831

PARISH OFFICE

145 West 46th Street • New York • New York • 10036

Mr. Tony González, Parish Secretary

*Office Hours from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday, except legal holidays
(212) 869-5830*

The Rev'd John L. Scott 575-9214
Mr. Jack R. Cortner, *Treasurer* 869-5830
Mr. Quentin Lane, *Director of Music* 869-5830
Mr. Emil Denworth, *Head Usher* 263-6385
Mr. George H. Blackshire, *Hospitality* 858-5797
Mr. Philip Parker, *Tours* 582-0807
Miss Doreen Swan, *Gift Shop* 431 3568
Mr. Ralph M. Morehead, *Funeral Director* 744-2500

The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin depends for its operating expenses on the sacrificial giving of its clergy, parishioners, and friends. Pledge envelopes may be obtained from the Parish Secretary by phoning (212) 869-5830. We need and are grateful for your support.

**WOULD YOU LIKE THE CLERGY TO VISIT YOU?
PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN.**

Dear Fathers,

I would like to meet with you sometime during the next few months.

1. _____ In my home.
2. _____ In your office.
3. _____ Over a drink or a bite out.
4. _____ I suggest that we

Sincerely yours,

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Please check the address label on the other side of this page. If your address is incorrect, or if you plan to move, please fill in the portion below and return it to us as soon as possible.

Name _____

New Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Former Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____