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

VOL. LIV

September - October, 1985

No.5

The Feast of the Assumption 15 August 1985

My dear People:

I am writing you on what is surely one of the loveliest feasts of the Christian year, and a day made lovelier still this year by the presence in our pulpit of my former bishop, The Right Reverend James Winchester Montgomery, the Bishop of Chicago. It is Bishop Montgomery's second formal visit to St. Mary's, for he came here first in the fall of 1979 to ordain my first curate to the Priesthood. Often the Bishop simply appears at Mass or one of the Offices when he is in New York, and occasionally he has celebrated a weekday Mass here when he has been in town. The result is that many of you have met him, and I know that you share in my personal joy at his presence here this evening.

And of course I am writing you as we prepare our September-October issue of AVE for mailing, and I therefore want to touch briefly on two aspects of our life that deserve your attention at this time.

The first has to do with our Feast of Dedication on the first weekend in October. You will learn the liturgical details further on in these pages, and I would simply remind you of the two main events of that weekend, Solemn Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 5 PM on Saturday, October 5th, and our Procession and Solemn Mass at 11 AM on Sunday, the 6th. Last year our celebration included a three-day parish mission by Father John Gaskell, Vicar of St. Alban's, Holborn, in London, and we were challenged at that time to consider anew our vocation as the family of God in this place. And you will remember that we did so in three ways: first, as always, in terms of our worship; secondly, in terms of

the way in which we reach out to one another within the common life of this parish; and thirdly, our witness to this community in which we find ourselves. All during this past year we have endeavored to focus on these vital components of our life together, and we have learned in fact that they constitute the basis of our ministry here. Not separately but as a coherent whole. Not in isolation from one another but as deeply interrelated elements of our one mission in this place. Father Gaskell helped us to see that this mission is at the heart of our life. Expressions of it may vary from time to time. In its essentials, however, it remains the same.

And so it is in terms of the mission of this parish that we will come together once again on our Feast of Dedication to celebrate the continuing presence of this parish in the Diocese and City of New York. The preaching this year will be done by the home team, as Father Sloane and I share our pulpit, he on Saturday afternoon and I on Sunday.

And I would just add a few additional remarks on our mission at St. Mary's as we anticipate our Dedication Feast. Those remarks have to do with our Christian stewardship in this place. Stewardship, as we know, begins in worship, for it has to do with rendering worth to Almighty God, with offering praise and thanksgiving to him who by right is worthy of our devotion. It continues in our care for one another and in our ministry to this community, and it is expressed finally in the sacrificial way in which financially we support the work of the Church. One of the happier realizations that has occurred here in recent years concerns the tremendous increase in the financial support of our parish that has occurred among our parishioners. I have discovered in fact that, in terms of financial stewardship in the Diocese of New York, it has always been high. Now it is higher than ever. Already a new Stewardship Committee is hard at work anticipating our needs for the next year, and we hope that our November - December issue of AVE will contain some detailed financial information that all of us should know about, as well as some communication on the subject from our parish Treasurer and myself. As many of you know, our Diocesan Convention of 1984 was re-convened this past June to consider for an entire day two important dimensions of current need. The one concerned itself with

clergy salaries, and with the need to maintain a diocesan minimum stipend that corresponds with the cost of living index in the greater New York area. The second had to do with the formula by which assessments are levied on the parishes and missons of the diocese. A new proposal, accepted by the Convention, has substantially altered that formula, and in a matter that will inevitably work a hardship on parishes within the income range of St. Mary's. I will tell you about it in detail in our next AVE, and will give you as well some excerpts of a short speech (my first!) that I made to the Convention in this regard.

I said at the outset that there were two aspects of our life that I hoped to touch on in this letter. The second has to do with our deacon, The Reverend Clark Berge, who has lived in our Mission House for the past year, has coordinated the ministry of the parish in that place, and has participated fully in the daily round of services in the church itself. In fact Father Clark has become a deeply loved member of this parish community. This September he will be leaving us to return to his home diocese. the Diocese of Olympia, and on St. Matthew's Day, Saturday, September 21st, he will be ordained to the Priesthood in this church by Brother John Charles, SSF, who will be acting on behalf of Clark's own bishop. The Ordination Mass will take place at 10 AM. I want simply to say that I hope that you will be here, and I can think of no finer way to say Godspeed to a young man who has so enriched our lives than to express the hope that we will all be here for his priesting. I can assure you that many people who have been helped by his ministry in our Mission House will indeed be here. What he has done there is nothing less than spectacular. He has literally been the Church to the people residing in that place. He has through his own efforts involved a sizable and committed group of our own people in its ministry. And, wonder of wonders, he was able this summer to bring together our own ministry with that of St. Clement's Church, just to the west of us on 46th Street beyond Ninth Avenue, for the common purpose of providing an arts daycamp for the low-income kids of our immediate neighborhood. Given the deep differences between these congregations, representing in fact the sad and continuing

disagreement with which we must live as Catholics within the Episcopal Church, this local instance of mutual cooperation is heartening indeed. It is the sort of thing that Catholic churchmen must pursue wherever it is possible. I think we can be proud of Clark for having enabled it to happen on West 46th Street.

With this letter go my love and my continuing prayers for you all.

Faithfully in Christ,

Egar F. Wells

PREACHERS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

September	1	Pentecost XIV	The Rev'd Mr. Berge
September	- 8	Pentecost XV	Father Sloane
September	15	Pentecost XVI	Father Willoughby
September	22	Pentecost XVII	Father Wells
September	29	Pentecost XVIII	Father Sloane
October	5	Eve of Dedication (5 PM)	Father Sloane
October	6	Feast of Dedication	Father Wells
October	13	Pentecost XX	Father Sloane
October	20	Pentecost XXI	The Ven. Michael S. Kendall,
		Archdeacon of the Bron	ix, Manhattan & Staten Island
Ocotber	27	Pentecost XXII	Father Wells



St. Mary's clergy have indeed been peripatetic this year! Our summer issue of AVE contained Father Wells' thoughts on his part in an Anglican pilgrimage to Russia during Easter Week. What follows is Father Sloane's description of the pilgrimage he conducted to England for some of our people later in Eastertide.

I had resisted - was it the temptation or the pressure? - for years! It was thus with some trepidation that I finally went to Heathrow Airport to meet the eleven people who comprised the first Sloane Tour of England. The eleven were all ladies and all members of St. Mary's or somehow related to St. Mary's by family or friends. It was an ecumenical group which included one Roman Catholic, two Presbyterians, and even one from St. Thomas Fifth Avenue and one from Resurrection in Manhattan! How I wondered, would everyone cope with Walsingham and St. Alban's, Holborn?!

Most Americans begin their time in England in London. I had decided to do the opposite, to visit the capital after we had seen the country. So it was to the ancient capital of England that we first made our way, to Winchester and its Cathedral. Winchester Cathedral has been a place of worship for one thousand years - which soon put St. Mary's and 1868 in their proper place! Surrounded by a magnificent heritage and consciously aware of those who had stood before us in that great building, as I celebrated Mass in one of the chapels I sensed we were all aware of the lasting and eternal truths of our Faith. In the same spot for centuries thousands had offered bread and wine and had recieved the Body and Blood of Christ. Our gathering for prayer and for Mass in such places became an important and powerful part of our journey.

Along with spiritual nourishment that morning in Winchester came physical nourishment - and it was at a nearby pub that the tone of ploughman's lunch and shepherd's pie was set for our lunch stops.

At Salisbury, our next stop, we encountered the first 'Sloane Nostalgia', another hallmark of the trip! We were greeted in the Cathedral by the Bishop of Sherborne who had been the Diocesan Director of Ordinands in the Diocese of Canterbury

and who initially helped me with my priestly vocation. Strangely, we were to encounter one of Bishop Kirkham's predecessors a few times; St. Aldhelm followed us to Salisbury, Bath and Sherborne where he had been the first Bishop. We adopted him as our patron saint for this part of the trip.

Our base for these first few days in the South West was a Jacobean Manor House in the heart of the Somerset countryside - all too authentic when the heat didn't work in frosty conditions - but a delightful place nonetheless.

Next a warm welcome at Wells Cathedral on Sunday morning where we discovered that the Sacrist receives that august publication AVE! That guarenteed a special tour of the Chapter House. Tours of the City of Bath, Bath Abbey, the American Museum, Sherborne Abbey and a brief stop at Glastonbury completed our first leg. The ancient capital of England, the cradle of Christianity in England with St. Joseph of Arimathea and his links with the empty tomb, and the unspoiled beauty of the English countryside started us off on the right foot and in the right direction.

On to Gloucester and two nights at the Lygon Arms in the Cotswolds to enable us to 'do' Oxford. Mass there at Pusey House, that great memorial to the Oxford Movement father, and lots of 'Sloane Nostalgia'. It was wonderful to return to Pusey House to say Mass as a priest at the altar where I had first learned the Catholic Faith as an undergraduate. A tour of Sloane's old college, St. Edmund Hall, lunch at C.S. Lewis' favorite pub, the recognition of the spot where Cranmer, Latimer and Ridley were burned for what they believed, a visit to the grave of Pusey, a look at the church where Keble preached the Assize Sermon and the sheer beauty of Oxford made a perfect day. We made a little pilgrimage to the tiny parish church at Binsey, once a center of pilgrimage with its associations with the patron saint of Oxford, St. Frideswide, and the well of St. Margaret of Antioch with its healing powers, now all too difficult to find at the end of a small country lane, and surrounded by hedges and trees. This wonderful day could only have ended with a superbly funny performance of The Merry Wives of Windsor at the Royal Shakespeare Theater in Stratford and an elegant buffet supper awaiting us at our ancient coaching inn.

'Go East Ladies!'. By way of the devastation and glory of Coventry, so powerful in its own dramatic story of new life and reconciliation and peace; to the ancient castle of Warwick and so to Suffolk and the Angel Hotel at Bury St. Edmunds. Now we were to 'do' East Anglia!-but first a day of pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in all its simplicity and holiness. Father Houlding from St. Alban's, Holborn, a frequent appearer on our tour, led us in pilgrimage and prayer and Mass.

Visits to the splendid Cathedrals of Norwich and Ely and to the 'other place', Cambridge, all capped with a sublime Evensong at King's College.

And now, expertly equipped with knowledge of 'fan Vaulting' and 'perpendicular', Henry IV and Henry VIII, 'high' and 'low', 'ploughman's lunch' and 'bitter', 'Gloster' not 'Gloucester', 'the High' not 'High Street' in Oxford, we could by way of Constable country, at least cope with London, and the first stop? Church, of course, and another warm welcome at Evensong at St. Paul's and more 'Sloane Nostalgia'!

On Sunday, Mass and a home away from home with our friends at St. Alban's, Holborn - and not just Mass, but sherry and lunch too, and then the Marian feast and yet another sermon by Father Sloane!

The cheerful courier, Father Sloane, gave them Monday off, a free day for shopping, but it turned out to be a Bank Holiday and everything was closed!

Tuesday was another pilgrimage day, another 'cradle of English Christianity', Canterbury, the site of St. Augustine's monastery and the shrine of St. Thomas Becket. Mass in the old Norman crypt and a look at the King's School. On the way home a classic stop in visit to the ancient church at Cobham and a visit to the ancient pub across the street!

On the last day in London many went their own way to do their own thing. Some came with me to wave at the Royal Family as they drove to Westminister Abbey for the V.E. Anniversary service. The 'final bash' happened that night with an elegant dinner in the form of the 'menu surprise' at the Dorchester Hotel.

Our ages ranged from the twenties to the eighties, we were from different church traditions, and some had not met each other before, but we experienced an old fashioned pilgrimage of which Chaucer would have approved - veneration of our ancient Faith, growth in that Faith, fellowship with one another, and lots of fun.

Andrew Sloane



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	ALTAR FLOWER M	1EMORIALS
September October October October	I-PENTECOST XIV 6-DEDICATION 13-PENTECOST XX 27-PENTECOST XXII	Edgar Wilson; Hallie Wilson Rufus McIntosl Edgar Wilson; Hallie Wilson The departed member of the McGrane Family

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

1	Su.	THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
2	M.	The Martyrs of New Guinea, 1942
3	Tu.	of the Holy Angels
4	W.	Requiem
5	Th.	of the Incarnation
6	F.	Abstinence
7	Sa.	of Our Lady
8	Su.	THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
9	M.	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (transferred)
10	Tu.	Requiem
11	W.	Proper 18
12	Th.	John Henry Hobart, Bishop of New York, 1830
13	F.	Cyprian, Bishop & Martyr of Carthage, 258 (Abstinence)
14	Sa.	HOLY CROSS DAY
15	Su.	THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
16	M.	Ninian, Bishop in Galloway, circa 430
17	Tu.	Requiem
18	W	EMBER DAY (Edward Bouverie Pusey, Priest, 1882)
19	Th.	Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690
20	F.	EMBER DAY (John Coleridge Patteson, Bishop of Melanesia & his Companions, Martyrs 1871 (Abstinence)
21	Sa.	SAINT MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST (Ember Day)
22	Su.	THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
23	M.	Requiem
24	Tu.	Proper 20
25	W.	Sergius, Abbot of Holy Trinity, Moscow, 1392
26	Th.	Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, 1626
27	F.	Vincent de Paul, Priest, 1660 (Abstinence)
28	Sa.	of Our Lady
29	Su.	THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
30	M.	ST. MICHAEL & ALL SAINTS (transferred)

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

1	Tu.	Remegius, Bishop of Rheims, c. 530
2	W.	Holy Guardian Angels
3	Th.	Requiem
4	F.	Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226 (Abstinence)
5	Sa.	of Our Lady
6	Su.	THE FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH Procession and Solemn Mass, 11 AM
7	Μ.	Our Lady of the Rosary
8	Tu.	Proper 22
9	\mathbf{W} .	Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, 1253
10	Th.	Paulinus, First Archbishop of York, 644
11	F.	Requiem (Abstinence)
12	Sa.	Wilfrid, Archbishop of York, 709
13	Su.	THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
14	Μ.	of the Holy Trinity
15	Tu.	Teresa of Avila, Carmelite Nun, 1582 (Samuel I.J.
		Schereschewsky, Bishop of Shanghai, 1906)
16	\mathbf{W} .	Requiem
17	Th.	Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, and Martyr, c. 115
18	F.	SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST (Abstinence)
19	Sa.	Martyrs of North America (Henry Martyn,
		Priest & Missionary)
20	Su.	THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
21	Μ.	Requiem
22	Tu.	of the Holy Angels
23	\mathbf{W}_{-}	SAINT JAMES OF JERUSALEM, BROTHER OF OUR
		LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND MARTYR, c.62
24	Th.	of the Holy Eucharist
25	F.	of the Holy Cross (Abstinence)
26	Sa.	Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons, 899
27	Su.	THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
28	Μ.	SAINT SIMON AND SAINT JUDE, APOSTLES
29	Tu.	James Hannington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, and his Companions, Martyrs, 1885
30	W.	Requiem
31	Th.	of the Holy Spirit

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. Saturdays: 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sundays: 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

RECTORY

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THE REVEREND EDGAR F. WELLS, Rector

THE REVEREND ANDREW L. SLOANE, Curate

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

The Reverend Edgar F. Wells, Rector The Reverend William Willoughby III The Reverend Andrew L. Sloane, Curate
The Reverend Mr. Clark Berge

Parish founded 1868

Church built 1894

SERVICES

SERVICES
SUNDAY
Morning Prayer 8:40 am
Masses9:00, 10:00 am, and 5:00 pm
Sunday School 9:45 am
Solemn Mass with Sermon
Evening Prayer and Benediction 4:00 pm
WEEKDAYS
Morning Prayer 8:30 am
Noonday Office
Daily Masses (except Sat.)
Saturday
Evening Prayer (except Sat.)
Saturday 5:30 pm

COUNSELING

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday ... 11:30-12:00 noon (Father Wells)
1-1:30 pm (Father Sloane)
Sunday ... 10:30-10:50 am (Father Wells)
(Father Sloane)
Major holy days 5:30-5:50 pm (Father Wells)
(Father Sloane)

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