

MAY — JUNE, 1991

VOL. LX No. 3

# AVE



Rear Elevation  
Church of St. Mary the Virgin  
New York City

## AVE

Church of Saint Mary the Virgin  
145 West 46th Street  
New York City 10036-8591

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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**THE CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN**

139 West 46th Street New York New York 10036-8591

Parish founded 1868

Church built 1894

**SERVICES**

**SUNDAY**

Morning Prayer .....	8:40 am
Masses .....	9:00, 10:00 am, and 5:00 pm
Sunday Adult Class .....	9:45 am
Solemn Mass with Sermon .....	11:00 am
Evening Prayer .....	4:45 pm

**WEEKDAYS**

Morning Prayer .....	8:30 am
Noonday Office .....	12:00
Daily Mass (except Sat.) .....	12:15 and 6:15 pm
Saturday .....	12:15 pm
Evening Prayer (except Sat.) .....	6:00 pm
Saturday .....	5:00 pm

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday .....	11:30-12:00 noon (Parish Clergy)
	1:00-1:30 pm (Parish Clergy)
	4:00-5:00 pm (Parish Clergy)
Sunday .....	10:30-10:50 am (Father Wells)
Major holy days .....	5:30-5:50 pm (Father Wells)

The Reverend Edgar F. Wells, Rector .....	869-5830
The Reverend Gary Lawler, Curate .....	869-5830
The Reverend John H. Conners, Neighborhood Ministry .....	869-5830
The Reverend Allan Jackson, Assistant .....	840-0354
The Reverend Arthur M. Wolsoncroft, Assistant .....	523-6920
The Reverend Donald L. Garfield, Rector Emeritus	

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**AVE**

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

**VOL. LX**

**MAY - JUNE, 1991**

**No.3**

Easter/Pentecost 1991

My dear people:

It is hard to believe that spring has finally come to New York City. Easter began early this year, and the great feast of our redemption had to compete with weather that for one minute seemed an augury of spring, and the next reminded us that winter was not yet over. Rather different from a year ago: once the New Year arrived we never again experienced any serious cold. All of which means that New York offers weather, and it does so with a kind of New Yorkese unpredictability. "It's worth it," hardened New Yorker will say, "to live in New York."

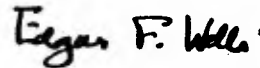
Certainly one thing that has been worth it in New York in recent weeks has been the outpouring of prayer and devotion in this parish's life as we traveled through Lent into Holy Week, and from there into the immeasurable joy of the Easter season. *Hail thee festival day, oh day that art hallowed forever. Our liturgical life has been so enriched this year by the expanded work of our choir, and Holy Week and Easter Day will not soon be forgotten. Our Visitor at the Easter Vigil was Bishop Dennis, and our joy at his presence here was rewarded by his kindness to us, his preaching, and the care with which he confirmed and received a class of candidates who has been preparing for this day since early winter. Our preacher on Good Friday and Easter was Canon James Winters, rector-emeritus of St. Barnabas' Church, Ottawa, Canada, and it is beginning to seem as if he is becoming a fixture at St. Mary's. And Mozart's Coronation Mass sung here on Easter morning: nothing could have been more appropriate to our Easter joy or to New York's continuing celebration of the 200th anniversary of the composer's death.*

And of course we now move ahead into the season of Pentecost, but not before dedicating the month of May to the Mother of God as we have done so faithfully in year's gone by. This year's May Marian festival repeats last year's new twist and is again being celebrated at High Mass in the morning of the first Sunday in May rather than in the afternoon. This makes it more of a parish occasion for us, and thus a time when our usual Sunday congregation can share in our love for Our Lady. How wonderful to proclaim that the mother of Jesus is our mother as well, and to know that in heaven she leads the prayers of the whole company of saints in praising and worshipping God. That she prays for us we know only too well, for the power of her intercession is at the heart of our life together in this place.

And as May is Mary's month, so June belongs in a special way to her Son. Our keeping of the Solemnity of Corpus Christi falls on June 2nd this year, and our great procession of the Eucharist will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament once again. Every once in a while someone will say to me that they do not like Benediction, and my response always is to ask what they really believe is received by the faithful in Holy Communion. If Jesus is not there our worship is vain indeed. But of course he is, and our life at St. Mary's is a witness to that truth.

This letter comes to you with my prayers and love, and with great thanksgiving for our common life in Christ.

With my love in Christ,



Edgar F. Wells

## REMEMBER SAINT MARY'S IN YOUR WILL

BEQUESTS may be made in the following form:

"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 Forty-sixth Street, New York City, [here state the nature or amount of the gift]:.

## PREACHERS IN MAY AND JUNE

May	5	6 Easter	Father Wells
May	9	Ascension Day - 6 PM	Brother Clark Berge, SSF
May	12	7 Easter	Father Wolsoncroft
May	19	The Day of Pentecost	Father Wells
May	26	Trinity Sunday	Father Lawler
June	2	Solemnity of Corpus Christi	Father Wells
June	9	3 Pentecost	Father Lawler
June	16	4 Pentecost	Father Wells
June	23	5 Pentecost	Father Lawler
June	30	6 Pentecost	Father Wells

## ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIALS

May	5	EASTER VI	Christian & Ada Troutwine Ruby Verdier
May	19	THE DAY OF PENTECOST	Martha Hannah Stokoe Joseph Gale Hurd Barry George Martin Christian Priests and Rectors
May	26	TRINITY SUNDAY	Paul & Henri Chavasse
June	23	PENTECOST V	Philip and Anicia Martin

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

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 Advent III and 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.

*On Laetare Sunday, March 10th, 1991 the Annual Parish Meeting of the Society of the Free Church of Saint Mary the Virgin took place in St. Joseph's Hall. The following sermon was Father Wells' Charge to the parish at the High Mass celebrated just prior to that meeting.*

*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Ephesians 2:8*

Once again this morning we have come to that beautiful day known as Laetare Sunday: that occasion during Lent when the rigors of the season are relaxed in the liturgy, when the color of rose is used at the altar, when flowers appear momentarily once again, and when the first words of the mass, words which give this day its name, unfold in this way: *Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad with her.* One of the remembrances of this Mid-Lent Sunday is that Jerusalem is our spiritual mother, and that in the holy city, and in the temple of God that was enshrined in that place, we Christians are meant to see the origins of the New Covenant of grace that Jesus has established with his Church. *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. May they prosper that love you.* (Ps. 122:6) The Jerusalem of the Old Covenant would in one sense cease to exist. The temple of Old Testament truth would be no more. Which is why in those wonderful words from Galatians that used to form part of today's epistle, St. Paul has this to say: *But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all* (Gal. 4:26). To follow the road along which we are traveling this Lent, to set our feet on the spiritual path of imitating Christ in his suffering and death, is to claim for ourselves that true freedom that men and women are meant to find in Jesus Christ. *You will know the truth, Jesus tells us, and the truth will make you free.* (John 8:32). What a paradox that freedom could only come through Christ's suffering! What a lesson in each of our lives that the road to true peace and happiness is the road of turning our wills over to God, the road of penitence and forgiveness, the road that every single one of us must travel if we are going to know true freedom in our lives. Yes, freedom from the obvious sins that separate us from God and our fellows. But freedom also from the demons and inner urgings that wreak havoc and despair in our lives. Do you remember the Advent hymn, *From our sins and fears release us; let us find our rest in thee?* That is why the church prays without ceasing, day in and day out. That is why mass is offered, in Easter as well as in Lent, in Christmastide and

Advent, and indeed throughout the calendar year, so that God's people may learn the truth as it is taught in Jesus, and so that our lives may be freed from all the forces that so easily enslave us. Yes, the Church prays corporately, day in and day out, and you and I pray individually as well; and during this Lent our rhythm of fasting and prayer has as its one purpose the conversion of our lives; a new beginning, once again, of God's purposes within us, a new and renewed sense of our true freedom in Christ. It is to this that St. Paul refers this morning when he tells us that by grace we have been saved through faith. Grace, which he tells us is purely and simply a gift of God. Grace, which does not operate in a vacuum but with which we are meant to cooperate in the living out of our lives. That cooperation has to do with purposefully placing ourselves at God's disposal, but in no way does it take away the freedom and graciousness of God's own work within our souls. Thus our pilgrimage this Lent is the journey of redeemed men and women who wish to be renewed in the freedom of the Christian gospel. If you are not a free person, if your life is ruled by your moods and passions, Lent is a time when you can recognize within yourself the demons that hold you captive. Yes, and not only this, but you can call them by their names. The point is that God's will for us is that we should be free. To know and follow Jesus Christ is to be given the freedom to express the deep spirituality that resides within each one of us simply as a result of the humanity that binds us one to another. We are spiritual beings because we are human beings. God's intention is that we should know and love him, and finally that we should live with him for ever. And it is as I know and love Jesus Christ....not through the knowledge of my intellect but through the deepest knowledge of all: through that intimacy of relationship that makes knowledge and love to be one and the same thing....it is as I know and love Jesus that I discover what true freedom is meant to be. And somehow or other for my own part, I find increasingly that I identify that freedom with intimacy: my ability truly to know and love myself; my ability to know and love those who have proven trustworthy in my life; and my ability finally to know and to love the God who has created me. Theologically I know that this all begins within each one of us. True freedom, I believe, is the gift of intimacy, and it is in the end a gift that comes to us from God.

Now by particular design, and for the past several years, this Fourth Sunday in Lent has also become the occasion of this congregation's Annual Parish Meeting. That meeting will take place after brunch today in St. Joseph's Hall. If you are new it will afford you the opportunity of learning about our parish, about where we have been in our life together, and where we hope we may be going. If you are both a member of this parish and a communicant in good standing, it will be your chance to vote for various candidates for lay positions in our parish and diocese. By this means you will be able to visualize the Church as being of larger dimensions than you had perhaps supposed. Because, wonderful though St. Mary's is, in the end it is simply a piece in those larger puzzles that we call the Diocese of New York, the Episcopal Church, or even the Anglican Communion. Many Anglo-Catholics have made the mistake of thinking that they were Catholic churchmen because their parishes seemed to them to be isolated islands of true observance in an ocean of false belief. Our life at St. Mary's is meant to dissuade you from that thinking. The only reason that St. Mary's is a Catholic parish is because the Episcopal Church is a Catholic Church, and it is within that Church that we were baptized and confirmed, and that we are nourished by the sacraments of the Christian life. As our wonderful Father Lang put it in his inimitable way, you cannot be more Catholic than the Church to which you belong. This is true of individual persons and it is true of parish communities. For better or for worse you and I are Episcopalians, and despite what anyone else has ever told you, the only religious body that can legitimately call itself Anglican in the United States is the Episcopal Church. It is within this Church that you and I are trying to follow Christ, and for each of us St. Mary's is a special and particular vehicle by means of which we are able to continue on that journey.

And of course one of my tasks this morning as rector of this parish is to try on this occasion to make this sermon at least in part a charge to our parish family, and I must admit that the temptation exists to use this pulpit for a kind of annual state of the parish address, with facts and figures regarding our growth or decline, our financial state, and our attendance at mass (though not in that order!), and our participation in other parish activities. And that is what you will hear about at our meeting next door.

But the responsibility that is mine as rector of St. Mary's concerns facts and figures only insofar as they contribute to our understanding of what our first purpose at St. Mary's must always be. My own conclusion after twelve years as your rector is that there are two primary ways of viewing our participation in this parish's life, and both of them have much to say about the living of any authentic Christian spirituality.

The first, and in my opinion the more generous view, is an understanding of the Christian life that uses our parish as a primary source for our spiritual nourishment but which impels us beyond these walls to express our faith in the larger world in which we live, whether that world be our diocese, our home, or the place in which we work. Within this context I believe that St. Mary's can provide a healthy basis for a spirituality that is wholesome and nourishing in our common life. It begins with loving God and being fed by his sacraments.... and particularly with our faithfulness at mass and our disciplined use of the sacrament of reconciliation. It continues in the generosity with which we live our lives in the world.

The second view, and from my perspective a narrower one by far, is an understanding that sees our parish as a refuge for private and possibly extremely self-centered spiritual experience. It depends strongly on the unchangeability of outward and visible signs (and oh, how we love such signs at St. Mary's!), but signs that often become confused between matters of essential and non-essential importance. It is a spirituality of great dependence where St. Mary's is concerned, and it tends to avoid the more fundamental issues of change and growth that are the true issues of our lives if we are to develop as mature spiritual beings. And when essentials and non-essentials become confused, the possibility of a healthy spirituality becomes greatly impaired.

There is furthermore an added dimension to this that we need to understand. When parish life is as intense as ours tends to be, and when those involved in required tasks of parish maintenance, whether clergy of layfolk, salaried or volunteers, are as few in number as they are at St. Mary's, the risk of burn-out is high indeed. Occasionally someone comes on board here whose motives turn out to be something other than we had thought them to be, but for the most part those who serve this parish, clergy and laypeople, are men

and women of the highest motivation. To prevent their losing heart, and to preserve them for what they give by way of nourishing our common Christian journey, it seems to me that our emphasis must always be on that more generous view of the Christian life to which I referred a moment ago. Private spirituality will always be a tempting option in a parish like St. Mary's. Our task is to convert it from a vision that limits it to itself into a larger view that places first priorities on our common journey as members of the Body of Christ. In that way St. Mary's can be what we are meant to be, the source of an expanded and more generous Christian pilgrimage for all who worship here, one that begins at the altars of our parish but which carries us into ever wider areas of human contact.

And this in the end is the difference between slavery and freedom, between a spirituality that confines and cripples us and one in which by the grace of God we find our freedom in Jesus Christ. St. Paul says that the Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all, and he reminds us this morning that by grace we have been saved through faith, faith that truly is a gift of God. Where the Church of St. Mary the Virgin is able to nourish and deepen your faith, take this parish and love it, and serve both it and the Church for Christ's sake. My prayer for St. Mary's on this laetare Sunday is that we may claim this larger view, and that our journey in Jesus Christ will truly make us free.

### **THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (MARIAN MAY FESTIVAL)**

**Sunday, May 5th**  
Solemn Mass 11:00 a.m.

*(CROWNING OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY)*



Sermon: Fr. Edgar F. Wells  
*Messe Solennelle (1952)*  
Jean Langlais  
Anthem: *God Is Love*  
McNeil Robinson

### **ASCENSION DAY**

**Thursday, May 9th**  
**PROCESSION & SOLEMN MASS**  
6:00 p.m.

Sermon: Brother Clark Berge, SSF  
*Messe Solennelle (St. Cecilia)*  
Charles Gounod

Anthem: *God Is Gone Up*  
Gerald Finzi

5:30 p.m. *Organ Recital*  
Richard Clemmitt, Princeton, NJ



### **THE DAY OF PENTECOST**

**SUNDAY, MAY 19TH**  
**PROCESSION & SOLEMN MASS**  
11:00 a.m.

Sermon: Father Edgar F. Wells

*Missa Brevis*  
Jackson Hill

Motet: *Veni Sancte Spiritus*  
William Byrd



### **TRINITY SUNDAY**

**Sunday, May 26th**  
**PROCESSION & SOLEMN MASS**  
11:00 a.m.

Sermon: Fr. Gary Lawler

*Missa Festiva*  
Marius Monnikendam

Motet: *Cherubim Song*  
Alexander Arkhangelsky  
*Solemn Te Deum*

(Organ versets by Kyler Brown)



## CALENDAR FOR MAY

- 1 W SAINT PHILIP & SAINT JAMES, APOSTLES  
 2 Th Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria & Doctor, 373  
 3 F *No Abstinence*  
 4 Sa Monnica, Mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387  
 5 Su THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
*May Marian Festival: Marian Procession & Solemn Mass, 11 AM*  
 6 M ROGATION DAY  
 7 Tu ROGATION DAY  
 8 W ROGATION DAY (Dame Julian of Norwich, circa 1417)  
 9 Th ASCENSION DAY  
*Procession & Solemn Mass, 6 PM*  
 10 F *No Abstinence*  
 11 Sa *Of Our Lady*  
 12 Su THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
 13 M  
 14 Tu  
 15 W Isidore  
 16 Th  
 17 F *No Abstinence*  
 18 Sa Vigil of Pentecost (Florence Nightingale, 1910)  
 19 Su THE DAY OF PENTECOST: WHITSUNDAY  
*Procession & Solemn Mass, 11 AM*  
 20 M Alcuin, Deacon and Abbot of Tours, 804  
 21 Tu The First Book of Common Prayer, 1549  
 22 W EMBER DAY  
 23 Th *Requiem*  
 24 F EMBER DAY (Jackson Kemper, 1870) *Abstinence*  
 25 Sa EMBER DAY (Bede the Venerable, Priest, Monk, Doctor, 735)  
 26 Su THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:  
 TRINITY SUNDAY  
*Procession & High Mass, Solemn Te Deum, 11 AM*  
 27 M Memorial Day (*Requiem*)  
 28 Tu  
 29 W *Requiem*  
 30 Th Corpus Christi  
 31 F THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
*Abstinence*

## CALENDAR FOR JUNE

- 1 Sa Justin, Martyr at Rome, c. 167  
 2 Su THE SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI  
*Solemn Mass, Procession, Benediction, 11 AM*  
 3 M The Martyrs of Uganda, 1886  
 4 Tu *Requiem*  
 5 W Boniface, Archbishop of Mainz, Missionary to Germany,  
 and Martyr, 754  
 6 Th Norbert, Bishop  
 7 F THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS  
*No Abstinence for those attending Mass*  
 8 Sa William, Archbishop of York, 1154  
 9 Su THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
 10 M Ephrem of Edessa, Syria, Deacon, 373  
 11 Tu SAINT BARNABAS THE APOSTLE  
 12 W *Requiem*  
 13 Th Anthony of Padua, Friar, 1233  
 14 F Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, and Doctor, 379 *Abstinence*  
 15 Sa Evelyn Underhill, 1941  
 16 Su THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
 17 M *Requiem*  
 18 Tu Bernard Mizeki, Catechist and Martyr in Rhodesia, 1896  
 19 W Romuald Abbot  
 20 Th  
 21 F Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious *Abstinence*  
 22 Sa Alban, First Martyr of Britain, c. 304  
 23 Su THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
 24 M THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST  
 25 Tu *Requiem*  
 26 W  
 27 Th Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor  
 28 F Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, c. 202 *Abstinence*  
 29 Sa SAINT PETER AND SAINT PAUL, APOSTLES

## A LETTER FROM THE TREASURER

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Mary's:

I am pleased to submit to you our church's 1991 Budget as approved by your Trustees at their February meeting.

In 1987 our pledged income was in excess of \$153,000.00. As you can see that projected total income is now planned to be \$115,000.00. That is due in part to deaths in our parish family and to some transfers to other parishes outside of the city. While pledges are down, we are keeping our diocesan assessment payments current, and at the same time are also struggling to pay back assessments. These back payments of \$22,200.00 per year are being paid for three years, and we are now in our second year.

Since the time we received the air right money, the Board of Trustees has been working hard to make improvements here at St. Mary's. The Music Program has been greatly expanded and the fund raising project for restoration of the church and buildings was inaugurated. We also are about to start a project together with "The Center" for Children and Families to create a "safe space" that will provide services to young people who are, or are at risk of being infected with H.I.V., the Aids virus. This project will now make good use of our Mission House.

With all these things happening at St. Mary's, together with plans for studying other ways we can answer our call to Christ's mission for us in our time, we hope to draw others to join us here at St. Mary's. It is a fine line we walk financially these days, but we are excited about the prospects here. Personally, I think of this time to be a time of challenge, and if each of us contributes his or her share in participation not only in ongoing activities but with ideas for new ones, I know that others will be drawn to join us.

Thank you all for the many sacrifices you make for this place, and we ask you for your continued support.

Yours in Christ,  
Russell H. Bagley, Jr.  
*Treasurer*

## THE SOCIETY OF THE FREE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

### APPROVED 1991 BUDGET

RECEIPTS	ACTUAL 1990	BUDGET 1991
PLATE OFFERINGS	27,391.19	25,000.00
PLEDGES: COMMITTED	117,617.62	106,000.00
ANTICIPATED GROWTH	-0-	4,000.00
CONTRIBUTIONS	-0-	5,000.00
SPECIAL OFFERINGS	8,070.92	8,000.00
DONATIONS	20,183.47	15,000.00
EASTER & CHRISTMAS	20,541.77	20,000.00
INTEREST ON CAPITAL	57,580.14	72,000.00
SPECIAL PURPOSE	750.00	-0-
REPAYMENTS	29,193.90	47,500.00
APPROPRIATIONS	<u>151,000.00</u>	<u>109,947.00</u>
SUB-TOTAL	432,329.01	412,447.00
CASH ON HAND 1-1-91	.	<u>12,358.00</u>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>432,329.01</b>	<b>424,805.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
SALARIES:		
CLERGY	59,810.00	59,850.00
PARISH SECRETARY	9,360.00	23,000.00
SEXTONS	27,336.90	27,860.00
BOOKKEEPER	6,848.66	6,720.00
BUILDING MANAGER	25,480.81	6,563.00
FICA	5,435.01	4,872.00
REIMB. CLERGY S.E. TAX	3,888.00	6,284.00
ALL INSURANCE	69,601.56	70,400.00
STEAM, GAS, ELECTRICITY	48,107.59	50,000.00
OFFICE EXPENSE	5,434.69	5,500.00
GUEST CLERGY	-0-	2,000.00
RECTOR SERVICE	3,300.00	-0-
TELEPHONE	5,263.11	5,500.00
AUDITING	7,500.00	7,500.00
PRINTING	8,004.32	8,000.00
CLERGY PENSIONS	15,497.98	14,300.00
DIOCESAN ASSESSMENTS	69,857.00	74,956.00
POSTAGE	3,797.00	4,500.00
REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS	14,882.00	15,000.00
CLEANING & MAINTENANCE	9,701.23	10,000.00
ADVERTISING	12,251.22	12,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS	81.30	800.00
SPECIAL PURPOSE	500.00	-0-
WATER TAX	4,650.69	4,500.00
SECURITY	3,911.56	4,500.00
BANK CHARGES	218.26	200.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>420,719.88</b>	<b>424,805.00</b>



*With our Mission House once again committed to a period of service to our neighborhood, St. Mary's has negotiated an agreement with a non-profit organization known as The Center for Children And Families whose work in Queen has earned them high praise in the City of New York. The scope of their work here is outlined in the statement printed below, and we are pleased particularly that opportunity for the participation of our own people will once again be available in this new ministry.*

#### **A STATEMENT OF MUTUAL COMMITMENT OF SERVICE**

*If you take away from the midst of you the yoke, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.*

—Isaiah 58: 9b-10

In the name of Jesus Christ, the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin seeks to respond to the call of Isaiah the Prophet. We are an economically, ethnically and socially pluralistic parish community, committed to maintaining and encouraging our diversity by providing a welcoming environment for all people. Our corporate life is dedicated to the worship of God and the sharing of the Light of Christ with one another and the extending of its radiance into the world around us.

A primary means for our outreach to the people of the surrounding communities has been the Parish Mission House, whose various ministries and programs through the years have sought to respond to the most serious human needs present in any given age. The current crisis precipitated by the arrival of the AIDS virus in our community has provided us with a new incentive to bring into being a ministry which would aggressively confront the spread of this dreaded virus while compassionately addressing the needs of its victims.

The Center for Children and Families, a social service organization with a long history of unswerving commitment to the protection and nurture of children and the strengthening of families, has also recognized the threat which the AIDS crisis poses to those whom they so selflessly have determined to help. The shadow of HIV infection is extending itself at an ever accelerating rate among teenagers and young adults, either through indiscriminate sexual activity or through the use of street drugs, or both. The group most susceptible to infection among these young people are adolescents

who are homeless or live in an unstable or unsafe home environment. A disproportionately large number of these youngsters live or circulate in the Time Square area.

The Center has successfully worked with homeless adolescents for many years in other areas of Metropolitan New York. It is an agency which has provided social, psychological and medical services, legal and medical advocacy, job training, remedial education and life skills development to hundreds of lost, forgotten and troubled children to help them toward a healthy and productive adulthood. The Center has been hoping for an opportunity to extend these valuable services to the homeless, at-high-risk youth of the Midtown area.

Through mutual friends, our two organizations, a church with a desire to do something about the AIDS epidemic and an empty Mission House, and a Queens-based social service agency with proven programs and an experienced staff have found each other. We have determined to join forces in combating the AIDS virus among these vulnerable and undercared-for children of God in our midst. We feel that our combined effort can make a significant impact in the battle against the spread of the AIDS virus in our community and in particular among these young people with uncertain futures.

While some details of our partnership are yet to be finalized, we wish to take this joyful opportunity to make public our mutual pledge of commitment to the success of this dynamic program of outreach and assistance to a needy and vulnerable population at our very doorstep. We pledge our efforts and our resources to the realization of a long and beneficial relationship in our work and lives together. We herewith enter into a covenant of mutual cooperation and support for the sake of those whom we seek to serve and to save.

In token of these pledges of intention, and with prayers for God's most gracious guidance for our endeavors, we do here affix our signatures as a sign to all of our determination to join the fight against the spread of AIDS to the next generation, and to be a source of love and encouragement to each other and to all who seek our help.

The Rev'd Edgar F. Wells  
Rector and President of  
The Board of Trustees of  
The Society of the  
Free Church of  
Saint Mary the Virgin

Frank I. Modica  
President of the Board of Directors  
for The Center for Children and  
Families, Inc.

## MUSIC FOR MAY & JUNE, 1991

- May 5  
Sunday  
11:00 am  
THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Marian May Festival)  
SOLEMN MASS (Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary)  
Messe Solennelle (1952) *Jean Langlais*  
Anthem: God Is Love *McNeil Robinson*
- May 9  
Thursday  
5:30 pm  
6:00 pm  
ASCENSION DAY  
ORGAN RECITAL--Richard Clemmitt, Princeton, NJ  
PROCESSION and SOLEMN MASS  
Messe Solennelle (St. Cecilia) Charles Gounod  
Anthem: God Is Gone Up *Gerald Finzi*
- May 12  
Sunday  
11:00 am  
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
SOLEMN MASS  
Messa brevis in D Major (1945) *Everett Titcomb*  
Anthem: And I Saw A New Heaven *Edgar L. Bainton*
- May 14  
Tuesday  
8:00 pm  
CONCERTS AT ST. MARY'S  
Kyler Brown, organist  
Works of Franck, Gigout, Messiaen and Widor  
Tickets: \$7; for information call 212-921-2939
- May 19  
Sunday  
11:00 am  
THE DAY OF PENTECOST  
PROCESSION and SOLEMN MASS  
Missa Brevis *Jackson Hill*  
Motet: Veni Sancte Spiritus *William Byrd*
- May 26  
Sunday  
11:00 am  
TRINITY SUNDAY  
PROCESSION AND SOLEMN MASS  
Missa Festiva *Marius Monnikendam*  
Motet: Cherubim Song *Alexander Arkhangelsky*  
Solemn Te Deum (Organ versets by Kyler Brown)
- June 2  
Sunday  
11:00 am  
THE SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI  
SOLEMN MASS and PROCESSION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
Mariazeller-Messe *Joseph Haydn*  
Motet: Ego sum Panis *Juan Esquivel*  
Motet: Laudate Dominum *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*  
Motet: O sacrum convivium *Olivier Messiaen*
- June 9  
Sunday  
11:00 am  
THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SOLEMN MASS  
The Full Choir will resume on Saturday, October 5, 1991 with the singing of Evensong and Benediction at 5:00 p.m. During the summer months small choir of musicians will sing Mass with the exception of August 15th when the Full Choir will be present.

## CONCERTS AT SAINT MARY'S

Presents

**KYLER BROWN**, Organist

Grande Pièce Symphonique, Op. 17 *César Franck*  
Toccata *Eugène Gigout*  
Méditation sur le Mystère de la Sainte Trinité (V)  
*Olivier Messiaen*  
Symphonie No. 5 (Toccata) *Charles-Marie Widor*  
Improvisation

Mr. Brown, Music Director and Organist at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, performs on the glorious Aeolian-Skinner Organ, Opus 891.

May 14, 1991, Tuesday, 8:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$7.00

For information call (212) 921-2939

## SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Sunday, June 2nd

SOLEMN MASS & PROCESSION  
OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
11:00 a.m.

Sermon: Fr. Edgar F. Wells

*Mariazeller-Messe*

Joseph Haydn

*Motet: Ego sum Panis Juan Esquivel*

*Motet: Laudate Dominum Wolfgang*

*Amadeus Mozart*

*Motet: O sacrum convivium Olivier*

*Messiaen*



## CONTRIBUTIONS to AVE are gratefully acknowledged:

Please make checks payable to the  
CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Joseph Anthony Mazzeo, \$25.00; William P. Haithcoat, \$25.00; Dennis E. Stark, \$10.00; L.M. Lasham, \$20.00; The Rev. Whitney W. Gilbert, \$50.00; Charles E. LoRe, Jr., \$10.00; The Rev. Herbert Allen Willborn, \$25.00; The Rev. Kent Pinneo, \$50.00; Robert C. or Suzanne Hulst Clawson, \$100.00; Charles Nelson, \$15.00; Robert A. Hughes \$10.00; The Rev. Warren C. Platt \$10.00.

## A REPORT ON CENTENNIAL RESTORATION

It is said that the wheels of the Church grind exceedingly slowly, but exceedingly fine. I think that might be said also of architects and project direction for the restoration and preservation of historic buildings. Without the constraints of interest payments that commercial construction must be constantly aware of, non-project (and municipal) projects creep along at a snail's pace. Witness how long it took to build the new High School for the Performing Arts--and it still isn't right.

I recently had an extended conversation with my counterpart at the Henry Street Settlement and she tells me of her frustration with what seems to be endless planning and seemingly little progress. You can see what has been happening these past several months by looking at the drawings for roof renovations in four areas:

The rear Parish House roof, the two flat Rectory roofs and the east gutter of the Lady Chapel. All are areas where water has entered the buildings because of the deterioration of the "built-up" roofing. These roofs all exceed the number of layers of roofing that can be legally applied. Now they have to be stripped to the "bare boards" and the opportunity is here to redo them with State of the Art insulation and roofing materials and if all goes well in the bidding process--we have sent specifications to five firms. We expect the work to begin in April when the weather is warmer.

What's next you ask? Well, that is up to you and the Trustees. If payments on your pledges to the Restoration Fund continue to come in on schedule and if a large long term loan is arranged, then work on the main Church roof and gutters will be next, followed by repainting and cleaning of the 46th Street facade. Then it may be possible to undertake some interior work.

It has become necessary for me to go on Disability because of my health, but I will continue to work with Larry Jones, our project director on the restoration of our beloved buildings. Pray for this work as it slowly moves forward.

Faithfully,



Bill Anderson

## 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 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 George Handy at 212-757-1071.

### 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 Dean 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 (718) 858-5797.

**CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN**

145 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-8591

After prayerful consideration of the needs of my church and of God's gift to me, I pledge for 1991:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] weekly [ ] monthly [ ] annually

[ ] want envelope [ ] do not want envelope

NAME: *(Please Print)* \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
(No.) (Street) (Apt.)

I am a [ ] Parishioner of St. Mary's [ ] Friend of St. Mary's

Please check within each appropriate box. This pledge may be changed by notifying the Treasurer.

Signature

Date

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS?**

*Please check the address label on the outside of the back 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: *(Please Print)* \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
(No.) (Street) (Apt.)

Former Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
(No.) (Street) (Apt.)

**DIRECTORY**

**CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN**

139 West 46th Street ● New York ● New York ● 10036-8591

The Church is open for prayer and meditation  
 Monday-Fridays: 7 a.m. - 9 a.m., 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
 Saturdays: 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
 Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

**RECTORY**

144 West 47th Street ● New York ● New York ● 10036-8591  
 THE REVEREND EDGAR F. WELLS, Rector  
 THE REVEREND GARY LAWLER, Curate  
 (212) 869-5831

**PARISH OFFICE**

145 West 46th Street ● New York ● New York ● 10036-8591

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

**MISSION HOUSE**

133 West 46th Street ● New York ● New York ● 10036-8591

The Rev'd Allan Jackson ..... 840-0354  
 Mr. Kyler W. Brown, Director of Music ..... 921-2939  
 Mr. George H. Blackshire, Hospitality..... (718) 858-5797  
 Mr. Philip Dean Parker, Tours..... 582-0807  
 Morehead – McKim, Funeral Directors..... 744-2500

*The Church of Saint Mary depends for its operation 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.*

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