

March 2006 Newsletter

S. CLEMENT'S CHURCH

2013 Appletree Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

Telephone: (215) 563-1876 www.s-clements.org

The Rev'd Canon W. Gordon Reid, *Rector*

The Rev'd Richard Wall, *Curate*

The Rev'd Lawrence R. Sipe, *Honorary Assisting Priest*

Peter Richard Conte, Organist & Choirmaster

Bernard Kunkel, *Associate Organist*

From the Rector

My dear People,

The number of pledges we have received this year is slightly down on last year, so I am writing this to all members of S Clement's, to remind you that it is not only our duty but also our joy to be generous givers to the work and witness of our church. Because of the increased costs of our essentials—the clergy, the choir and music, the upkeep of the buildings, etc—we have to try and make our budget balance by increasing the support we give to S Clement's.

I know many of you already give sacrificially, but this is not true of all our worshippers. Our level of giving is very far below that of many other parishes of the Diocese. Of course, many other parishes are doing charitable work among the poor and needy to which parishioners give willingly, while S Clement's present commitment to such mission work is minimal. We are trying to address this with, among other things, our Practical Works Group.

Another cause for concern is the very small number of members of the Corporation of S Clement's Church. This consists of those members who have worshipped regularly at S Clement's for the past two years and during these two years have been regular contributors as recorded in the books of the parish. Some members have been attending for much longer, but have not made a proper pledge or otherwise given in an identifiable way. You may say, why does this matter, as long as the money comes in? One of the reasons it matters is that full membership in S Clement's of many more

people will allow more to take part in maintaining the life and work of the parish.

Those who pledge "properly," as it were, feel much more identified with all that goes on in our church and are concerned for its future existence. If the number of full members continues to decrease through death or moving away from the area, the future of the parish will be in peril. The wonderful legacies of past benefactors will not sustain us for ever.

I urge those of you who are already full pledging members to review your giving, and if your circumstances permit, increase your pledge. At the same time I urge those of you who have never made a pledge to make one now and so qualify for full membership in S Clement's. You can do this even if you are unable to get to S Clement's very often. Friends of S Clement's are also welcome to make a pledge or donation.

A Pledge Form for 2006 is printed on the following page. Please give this your prayerful consideration, and please feel free to speak to me or one of the Churchwardens if you have any questions regarding pledging.

Thank you very much.

Your friend and Rector,

S. Clement's Church, Philadelphia

2006 Annual Pledge Form

I/We make the following pledge to the Worship, Ministry, and General Operation of S
Clement's Church, Philadelphia for the Year of Our Lord 2006:

\$ _____ per envelope or \$ _____ per year [select one]

*There are 60 envelopes in each packet: 52 for Sundays and 8 for major Holy Days.
Pledges may also be paid monthly or quarterly.*

Signed: _____ Date _____

March News & Notes

Ash Wednesday: Low Mass 7.00 a.m. & 12.10 p.m. and High Mass at 7.00 p.m. Ashes will be imposed at all Masses.

Lent Lunches: Every Thursday in Lent (beginning 2nd March) in the Rectory after the 12.10 p.m. Mass. The Rector will serve a lunch of soup, bread and cheese. Donations will be given to the Church of the Crucifixion at 8th & Bainbridge Streets. This is Fr Hofmeister's old church, which is almost defunct but which our Deanery, and especially S Mark's, Locust Street, Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Square and S Clement's want to help to restore.

Stations: Stations of the Cross will be our Lenten Devotion every Friday in Lent (beginning 3rd March), followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 p.m.

Lent Course: Fr Wall is conducting a Study Group in Moral Theology—"What to Think about What we Do"—on such subjects as crime and punishment, medical ethics, etc. This will be on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. in the Anchor Room, beginning Sunday 19th February.

Missions to Seafarers: Our Preacher on Sunday, 5th March will be Fr James Von Dreele, Chaplain to the Seaman's Mission in Philadelphia.

A.G.M.: The Annual General Meeting of the Corporation of S Clement's Church will take place on Sunday, 5th March following the High Mass. Elections for members of Vestry will be held, along with reports from the various activities of the parish.

KALENDAR

March 2006 – *S. Joseph, Spouse of Our Lady.*

- 1 W Ash Wednesday. S David, B.C. *Fast & Abs.* [That we may keep a good Lent]
- 2 Th S Chad, B.C. *Of the feria. Fast.* [Rowan, Archbishop of Canterbury & The Church of England]
- 3 F S Katherine Drexel, V. *S Ælred, Ab. Of the feria. Fast & Abs.* [Those who work for the poor and marginalised]
- 4 Sa S Casimir, C. *S Lucius, P.M. Of the feria. Fast.* [Renewal of the Church in Eastern Europe]
- 5 Su **Lent I.** [Parish]
- 6 M Ss Perpetua & Felicity, MM. *Of the feria. Fast.* [The Friends of S Clement's]
- 7 Tu S Thomas Aquinas, C.D. *Of the feria. Fast.* [Catholic teaching in Universities & Colleges]
- 8 W S John of God, C. *Ember Day. Fast & Abs.* [Those in the health care professions]
- 9 Th S Frances of Rome, W. *Of the feria. Fast.* [Increase of vocations to the Religious life]
- 10 F Forty Holy Martyrs. *Ember Day. Fast & Abs.* [Those who are persecuted for the Faith]
- 11 Sa Ember Day. *Fast & Abs.* [For more frequent use of the Sacrament of Penance]
- 12 Su **Lent II.** *S Gregory I, P.C.D.* [Parish]
- 13 M Feria. *Fast.* [Pope Benedict XVI]
- 14 Tu Feria. *Fast.* [The Guild of All Souls]
- 15 W Feria. *Fast.* [The Servers' Guild]
- 16 Th Feria. *Fast.* [The Organists & Choir]
- 17 F S Patrick, B.C. *Of the feria. Fast & Abs.* [The Church in Ireland]
- 18 Sa S Cyril of Jerusalem, B.C.D. *Of the feria. Fast.* [The Living Rosary of Our Lady & S. Dominic]
- 19 Su **Lent III.** [Parish]
- 20 M **S Joseph**, Spouse of the BVM. *Of the feria.* [For S Joseph's intercession for the Church]
- 21 Tu S Benedict, Abt. *Of the feria. Fast.* [All Benedictines]
- 22 W S Isidore, C. *Of the feria. Fast.* [Renewal of rural life]
- 23 Th Feria. *Fast.* [The Church in the Holy Land]
- 24 F S Gabriel, Archangel. *Of the feria. Fast & Abs.* [The Society of Mary]
- 25 Sa **Annunciation BVM.** *Of the feria. Fast.* [The Parish]
- 26 Su **Lent IV.** *Rose Sunday.* [Parish]
- 27 M S John Damascene, C.D. *Of the feria. Fast.* [The Orthodox Church]
- 28 Tu S John of Capistrano, C. *Of the feria. Fast.* [Oppressed Christians in the Balkan countries]
- 29 W Feria. *Fast.* [Fidelity to the Lenten Fast]
- 30 Th Feria. *Fast.* [Increase in devotion to the Sacred Passion]
- 31 F Feria. *Fast & Abs.* [The Bishop & Diocese of Pennsylvania]

Agenda:

- 1 March Ash Wednesday: Low Mass, 7.00 a.m. & 12.10 p.m. High Mass, 7.00 p.m. Ashes imposed at all Masses.
- 2 March Lent Lunch of soup, bread & cheese in the Rectory following the 12.10 p.m. Low Mass.
- 3 March Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 p.m.
- 5 March Annual Meeting of the Corporation of S Clement's Church following High Mass.
- 9 March Lent Lunch in the Rectory following the 12.10 p.m. Low Mass.
- 10 March Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 p.m.
- 13 March **Station at S. Clemente:** Litany, High Mass of the Lenten Feria & Veneration of the Relic of the True Cross, 7.00 pm.
- 16 March Lent Lunch in the Rectory following the 12.10 p.m. Low Mass.
- 17 March Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 p.m.
- 20 March **Feast of S Joseph,** Spouse of the BVM (transferred). Low Mass, 12.10 p.m., High Mass, 7.00 p.m.
- 21 March Monthly meeting of Vestry, 7.00 p.m. [Anchor Room]
- 23 March Lent Lunch in the Rector following the 12.10 p.m. Low Mass.
- 24 March Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 p.m.
- 25 March **Annunciation BVM.** Procession & High Mass, 11.00 a.m.
- 26 March **Rose Sunday. Eucharistic Quiet Day.** Our Conductor will be The Very Rev'd Richard Giles,, Dean of the Philadelphia Cathedral. The Day will begin with the First Address at 10 a.m., then Dean Giles will preach at the High Mass in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament Exposed at 11 am, which will be followed by a Silent Lunch in the Parish Hall. The Second and Third Addresses will be at 2 and 3 pm. The Day will conclude with Solemn Vespers & Benediction at 4 pm. Please sign the list on the notice board in the Narthex if you are attending the Lunch, to assist in planning.
- 30 March Lent Lunch in the Rectory following the 12.10 p.m. Low Mass.
- 31 March Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 pm

MUSIC FOR THE MONTH – MARCH 2006

1st March, Ash Wednesday:

Ordinary: *William Byrd*, Mass for Five Voices

Motet: *Gregorio Allegri*, Miserere

Organ: *Johann Sebastian Bach*, Aus tiefer Not
Bach, Ich ruf' zu dir

5th March, Lent I:

Ordinary: *Johannes Brahms*, Missa Canonica

Tract: *H. Walford Davies*, Qui habitat

Motet: *Brahms*, Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren

Organ: *Brahms*, Fugue in a-flat
Brahms, Fugue in g

12th March, Lent II:

Ordinary: *Philippus de Monte*, Missa 'O Altitudo Divitiarum'

Motet: *Tomás Luis de Victoria*, Resplenduit facies ejus

Organ: *Max Reger*, Benedictus
Reger, Introduction & Passacaglia in d

19th March, Lent III:

Ordinary: *Orlandus Lassus*, Missa super Frère Thibault

Motet: *Francesco Milani*, Ave verum Corpus

Organ: *Marcel Dupré*, Audi, benigne Conditor
Johann Sebastian Bach, Vater unser im Himmelreich

25th March, Annunciation BVM:

Ordinary: *Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*, Missa Assumpta est Maria

Motet: *Tomás Luis de Victoria*, Vidi speciosam

Organ: *Alexandré Guilmant*, Ave Maria
Jehan Alain, Litanies

26th March, Lent IV:

Ordinary: *Claudio Monteverdi*, Missa 'In Illo Tempore' á sei voce

Motet: *Monteverdi*, Laudate pueri

Organ: *Maurice Duruflé*, Prelude & Fugue on the name 'Alain'
Sir Edward Elgar, Imperial March

An Introduction to Christian Moral Reasoning

Sundays, Anchor Room, 9.30 am, Father Wall

Revised schedule (due to the snow storm on 12th February)

Part One: Christian Moral Concepts

February 19th – What is a Christian ethic?

February 26th – The Bible and Moral Authority

March 5th – Natural Law & Conscience

March 12th – Love

Part Two: Applying Christian Ethics

March 19th – The Church, State & Punishment

April 2nd – The Just War Tradition & Christian Pacifism

April 23rd – Christianity & Medicine

April 30th – God & Dogs: Moral Theology & Animals

My Lenten Rule

Lent is the forty days before Easter when the Church bids us take stock of our spiritual lives and resolve to follow Our Lord Jesus Christ in resisting temptation by prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Below are some of the ways we can begin to do this at S Clement's this coming Lent. No one need do all of the following, but one or two of them would do us all a power of good.

Fasting & Abstinence

Every weekday in Lent (but not the Sundays) is a day of fasting, meaning that the amount of food eaten is reduced, or some sort of food is given up. This can be sweets or alcohol or some favourite food. The money saved on such items can be given to the Church or a charity.

This Lent I resolve to:

Mass

Lent is a good time to add a weekday Mass to your usual devotions. Masses are at 7.00 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays; 12.10 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, and 10.00 a.m. on Saturdays.

This Lent I resolve to:

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday in Lent at 6.30 p.m. we follow the Way of the Cross round the 14 Stations on the walls of the church, meditating on what Our Lord suffered for us. You can also perform this devotion privately. This devotion is followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

This Lent I resolve to:

Daily Office & Spiritual Reading

The clergy are all bound to read Morning and Evening Prayer daily, but many lay people also find this a great help in their spiritual lives. The Prayer Book offices of Mattins and Evensong give us a balanced diet of psalms and scripture readings and help to lead on to our more personal prayers.

Evensong is said every day at 5.30 p.m. followed by the Novena of intercessions at the Shrine of Our Lady of Clemency. Some of you might like to join the clergy for this on some days.

This Lent I resolve to:

Confession

Lent is a good time to take stock of our lives and to note our sins and failings and bring them to the foot of the Cross to confess them. The clergy will be especially willing to hear confessions and give spiritual guidance during Lent. Confessions are heard before the High Mass and by appointment.

This Lent I resolve to:

Good Works

As well as giving things up for Lent, it is a good thing to take on some special service such as visiting the sick or writing a letter a day to old friends or helping a neighbour in some way. We can also practise almsgiving by giving to the poor and needy, either to those known to us or through the Church.

This Lent I resolve to:

Study

Lent is a good time to make a special study of something to do with the Faith. Fr Wall is conducting a class in Christian Ethics on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. which will cover many interesting topics. It begins just before Lent on Sunday, 26th February.

It is also helpful to many to choose a book for Lent—either from the Bible or another spiritual book—and read a few pages a day.

This Lent I resolve to:

Quiet Day

The Dean of the Cathedral, The Very Rev'd Richard Giles, will conduct a Quiet Day on Mid-Lent Sunday, 26th March. This will begin at 10.00 a.m. and will consist of High Mass in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament Exposed, a silent lunch, three meditations, time for silent prayer or reading, and will end at 4.00 p.m. with Vespers & Benediction. Whatever else you do this Lent, try to set aside these few hours for God, present with us in the Most Holy Sacrament.

This Lent I resolve to:

Anglo-Catholic Devotional Societies

*adapted from The S Stephen, the newsletter of S Stephen's Church, Providence, Rhode Island
by Fr John Alexander, Rector*

Recently, we have been talking about reviving some of the Anglo-Catholic devotional societies that were once a mainstay of parish life. So, it seems opportune to attempt to address the questions: What are these Anglo-Catholic devotional Societies? How did they originate? And what purposes do they serve?

Since the Middle Ages, members of the Church have joined together to form voluntary associations for pious and charitable purposes. In addition to the medieval guilds—membership in which was based on a shared trade or craft—there also developed devotional societies for the laity known as *confraternities* or *sodalities*.

The nineteenth century Catholic Revival saw the foundation of dozens of such devotional societies in the Church of England. Firmly rooted in parish life, these societies generally sought to promote some neglected aspect of Catholic doctrine and practice. A number of them crossed the Atlantic to gain a foothold in the Episcopal Church, where they generally established independent self-governing branches.

While many of the original Anglo-Catholic devotional societies have not survived, others have flourished and continue a vigorous existence today. The four most prominent are the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, the Guild of All Souls, the Society of Mary and the Society of King Charles the Martyr.

Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament

Arguably the oldest Catholic devotional society in the Anglican Communion, the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament (CBS) was founded in 1862 by the Rev'd Thomas T. Carter, Vicar of Clewer, who became its first president.

In 1865, Carter admitted to the Confraternity the young American priest Charles Grafton, who in 1867 admitted other associates at S Paul's Chapel in New York, and in 1868 established the

first American ward at the Church of the Advent, Boston. In the same year, an independent American branch of the Society was formally established at a meeting at Trinity Chapel, New York, on the Feast of Corpus Christi.

The principal objectives of the CBS are to promote (1) the honour and adoration due to Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood; (2) prayer for one another at the Eucharist; (3) careful preparation for and reception of Holy Communion, and (4) the reverent and dignified celebration of the Eucharist, and the reservation and veneration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Members promise to take part in the celebration of the Eucharist on all Sundays and major Holy Days, and to promote daily celebration of the Eucharist where possible. The CBS has also supplied Eucharistic vestments, vessels, and tabernacles to parishes and missions throughout the world.

Guild of All Souls

The Guild of All Souls (GAS) was founded in England on 15th March, 1873, at S James' Church, Hatcham, in South London. Its first president was the Rev'd Arthur Tooth (who also figures prominently in Anglo-Catholic history as one of the Ritualist priests prosecuted and imprisoned in the 1870s under the provisions of the Public Worship Regulation Act). The English Council of the Guild gave approval for the formation of an American branch in 1884, which became fully independent and self-governing in 1888.

The Guild of All Souls seeks to promote the Church's teaching concerning the Faithful Departed. It promotes intercessory prayer and the offering of Mass for the souls of the departed. The chief privilege of membership in the Guild of All Souls is that one will be prayed for annually on the anniversary of one's death. The Guild publishes an

intercession paper listing the names of departed members by date of death. Guild members are also expected to support all devotions for the faithful departed in their parish church.

Society of Mary

The Society of Mary (SOM) was formed in the Church of England in 1931 by the union of its parent societies, the Confraternity of Our Lady (founded in 1880) and the League of Our Lady (founded in 1902). It has members all over the world and is not confined to Anglicans alone. In 1962 the General Council in England gave permission for the establishment of a regional organization in the United States.

The objects of the Society are (1) to love and honour Mary; (2) to spread devotion to her in reparation for past neglect and misunderstanding, and (3) to take Mary as a model in purity, personal relationships, and family life. Members of the Society promise to keep a rule of life that includes special devotions such as the Angelus, the Rosary, and the litany and Anthems of Our Lady; praying for departed members of the Society; and attending Mass on the principal Feasts of Our Lady.

Society of King Charles the Martyr

The Society of King Charles the Martyr (SKCM) was founded in England in 1894 by the Hon. Mrs Greville-Nugent and Fr James Fish, Rector of St Margaret's Patten Church, London. Fr Fish had in 1890 revived the Feast of King Charles in his parish. In subsequent years, this observance was moved to the Banqueting Hall, Whitehall, where

Charles had been beheaded on 30th January 1649. The annual High Mass of the Society is now offered there every year on that date. The American branch of the Society dates from 1949.

The objectives of the Society include (1) Promotion of the observance of the Feast of King Charles; (2) work for reinstatement of the Feast of King Charles in the Kalendar of *The Book of Common Prayer* from which it was removed in 1859; (3) propagation of knowledge about the life and times of King Charles and the debt Anglicanism owes to him for his faithfulness unto death in defense of the Church and apostolic ministry, and (4) support of efforts to build and equip churches dedicated to King Charles the Martyr (both in England and overseas).

Conclusion

Anglo-Catholic devotional societies can enrich parish life in a number of ways. A ward or chapter functioning within a parish can provide opportunities for its members to attend Mass and pray together, to meet for fellowship and study, and to undertake worthwhile projects in the parish and the wider community.

These devotional societies also provide opportunities to get together with members in other parishes both nearby and far away, an important vehicle for networking and building relationships with like-minded Anglo-Catholics around the country.

Ed. note: Parishioners may be interested to know that wards of the CBS, GAS and SOM at St Clement's were among the first of each of these in the United States.