



A Message from the President

The Rev'd William H. Swatos, Jr., Ph.D.

Canon Theologian of the Diocese of Quincy

Email Communiqué
Society of King Charles the Martyr

American Region

4 January 2013

Anniversary of Death of T. S. Eliot

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Greetings of the New Year! May 2013 be a year in which the work of the SKCM grows and prospers! You will note that we have dated this *Communiqué* marking the death of author Thomas Stearns Eliot, O.M., who entered the nearer presence 4 January 1965. Eliot embraced Anglo-Catholicism in 1927 as a solution to spiritual desolation and achieving saving faith, worshipping at St. Stephen's, Gloucester Road, London. He was a Life Member of the SKCM-UK and is arguably the most generally well-known member of the Society even to the present.

The present is indeed upon us in the life of SKCM in the American Region as we are trying to gather up the last of 2013 dues, which are now payable, and also to prepare for the 2013 Annual Mass at All Saints' Parish (Ashmont) in Boston.

A majority of the members with current year dues obligations have already paid their dues, plus a number of others have prepaid. Thank you. Record support for the 2013 Annual Mass continues, and we've already welcomed three new Life Members. Remember that the "due date for dues" is January 30 - or 15 January if you are making an Annual Mass donation and want to be listed in the printed program.

Our XXX Annual Mass is now 22 days away: 11 a.m. on 26 January. A buffet luncheon will follow at \$15 per person. Checks may be sent to All Saints' Parish Office, 209 Ashmont Street, Dorchester Center, MA 02124 (note 'S.K.C.M.' on your check's memo line); please observe their 15 January deadline. If you need local information, please contact the parish office at <http://allsaints.net/> or by phone at 617-436-6370. And don't forget to schedule local Masses on or near the 30 January martyrdom anniversary date, if you possibly can.

Traditionally, January is the best membership growth month for the Society. We added five new members during the last quarter of 2012, so we are off to a good start for this fiscal year! Here are some suggestions: every member recruit a new member ... order Society membership flyers for your tract rack (email the Treasurer/Membership Secretary at Ameraca453@aol.com) ... form a SKCM chapter if you already have a core group ... post on the Facebook SKCM page to help give more visibility to the Society (contact Doug Ruff at douglassruff@aol.com or John Covert at covert@covert.org for assistance, if needed) ... if you already have a SKCM presence in your parish, put a link on your parish website to the SKCM website, www.skcm-usa.org (please use this address rather than the one in the UK).

The following article was prepared by Dr. Wuonola to share more details about the Sorocold volume, *Supplications of Saints*, a recent acquisition that has come to the Society, mentioned in a prior *Communiqué*, and the basis of its importance to us.

Blessings on the 10TH Day of Christmas.

Fr. Bill Swatos, President

S.K.C.M. (AMERICAN REGION) MEMBERSHIP [\$15 PER ANNUM, CURRENT AND FUTURE YEARS] AND INQUIRIES:
DAVID LEWIS, FAAO, TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, AMERACA453@AOL.COM.
MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES SKCM NEWS (SEMIANNUAL) AND CHURCH & KING (ANNUAL).

THIS COMMUNIQUÉ (PERIODIC) IS PROVIDED AS A PDF.

***Supplications of Saints* by Thomas Sorocold**

by Mark A. Wuonola, Ph.D.

Father Swatos wrote in the *Email Communiqué* (9 July 2012) of the Society's permanent loan of its copy of Sorocold's *Supplications of Saints* to the Rosenbach Library and Museum in Philadelphia. The book has a strong connection to King Charles I, a connection about which Society members may wish to know more. This particular copy of the book also has interesting connections with Philadelphia and the member who donated it.

Thomas Sorocold (or Sorrocold) lived from 1561 to 1617. He is known for one book of prayers, *Supplications of Saints*, first published in 1608. The book was hugely popular, and went through at least forty-five editions by 1754. In the dedication, he called it "My poore myte of devotions", and according to an article of that title by Elisabeth Anne Jocz (news-letter of the Fisher Library of the University of Toronto Libraries), "was read and used by everyone from kings and queens to the poor."

Because many small, cheap copies were printed and carried about in people's pockets, like paperback books, they got dog-eared and wore out, hence their comparative rarity. The Society's copy is only about 2½ x 4½" and ¼" thick, yet it contains about 250 pages. It is printed on thin paper, like Bible paper, but of lower quality. Jocz writes, "An indication of the popularity of this work is that no copy is known before 1612 and, of the remaining editions only twenty-two are extant up to 1700 and of these most are known in only one, two, or three copies. The rest must have been read to destruction as they seem not to have survived." The copy given to the Society dates from the Restoration period (*i.e.*, 1662-85).

Sorocold was one of the beneficiaries of the so-called Nowell Bounty, the estate of prosperous lawyer Robert Nowell of Read Hall, Lancashire. After his death on 6 February 1569, his brother Alexander Nowell, Dean of Saint Paul's, distributed "to Thomas Sorocold, Scholare* of Manchester, commendid* by certen* gent. of Lancashire and of Mr. [Oliver] Carter [fellow and sub-warden of Manchester College], the vijth of December 1576 x^s." [*sic] Sorocold "obviously put his ten shillings to good use" according to Jocz. He was admitted at Brasenose College, Oxford (1578), matriculated (1579), graduated B.A. (1583) and M.A. (1585), and was ordained. After serving at various places throughout Lancashire, including the Earl of Derby's private chapel at Lathom House, he was brought by the Lord Keeper, Sir Thomas Egerton, to the attention of Queen Elizabeth, who presented him with the living of S. Mildred's in the Poultry [Market] in 1590.¹ He remained its rector until his death in December 1617, and was buried there on 12 December. (S. Mildred's burned in the London Fire of 1666, and was rebuilt by Wren at which time it was consolidated with S. Mary Colechurch; the Wren church was demolished in 1872.)

The book's frontispiece, missing from most surviving copies, is a woodcut of Queen Elizabeth. Editions of the work from 1617 contain the dedication:

"To Prince Charles His most Excellent Highnesse . . . From the Rectory of S. Mildred in the Poultry, London, the first of February Anno 1617. Your Grace in all submission Tho. Sorocold."

The first two pages reproduced here tell the story of Prince Charles and his elder sister Elizabeth speaking well of the first edition. The dedication states that Elizabeth made use of the prayers "long before the translation of her unto that climate [the Palatinate]".

Supplications of Saints is organized into four sections:

1. "Private prayers for morning, noon and evening, every day in the week"
2. "Prayers for divers purposes, to bee uttered with company"
3. "Prayers in the names of divers parties, of severall estates"
4. "Divers thanksgivings and graces"

Some of the prayers had been written by Queen Elizabeth, including three for the Navy. Most would appear to have been composed by Sorocold, while some are adapted from the Book of Common Prayer, including that for the King and for the Royal Family, shown on the third of the pages reproduced here.

There are records of the book's use well into the XVIII Century, Hearne² relating that he remembered a very pious lady who used to give away great numbers yearly to the poor.

Supplications of Saints came into the Society's possession in 2009 through the generosity of The Rev'd Kent L. Haley³, who was ordained deacon at S. Mark's Church, Portland OR, in January 1949, the Tercentenary of the Royal Martyrdom. The Sorocold book was a diaconal ordination gift to him from The Rev'd Reginald A'Court Simmonds, rector of S. Mark's. The book had come to Portland from Philadelphia, where since 1871 it had belonged to The Rev'd Henry R. Percival, rector of the Church of the Evangelists, Catherine Street. Fr. Percival fabricated for the antique book a cover of vellum adorned with his own calligraphy. Evangelists was a locus of Caroline devotion at the turn of the century: it housed the first known Shrine of King Charles the Martyr in the Americas, dedicated at a splendid service, First Evensong of S. Charles, on 29 January 1897.

A member of the Percival family moved to Portland, Oregon, and founded the Parish of S. Mark, patterning its architecture on the Church of the Evangelists.

The rare book, which had been in Fr. Haley's possession for sixty years, was given to the Society under certain conditions, which the Rosenbach will honor in perpetuity. Under their curation, it will be possible for it to be exhibited publicly from time to time.⁴

¹S. MILDRED (MILDRETH), ABBESS, c. 700, feast-day 13 July, was the daughter of King Merewalh of Mercia and Domne Eafe, a Kentish princess. She was educated at Chelles near Paris and returned to England to become a nun at Minster-in-Thanel, an abbey founded on land given by King Egbert of Kent. Mildred succeeded her mother as abbess before 694 and was buried in the abbey church. Her incorrupt body was moved to a new church of SS. Peter & Paul before 748; her tomb there became a pilgrimage site. Her relics were removed to S. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury, in 1035 and according to William of Malmesbury (c. 1090-1143) were venerated above all there. In 1937 Minster Court on the site of the successor to S. Mildred's Abbey was occupied by Benedictine nuns from Eichstätt Abbey, Germany.

²THOMAS HEARNE (1678-1735), historical antiquary, librarian of the Bodleian, and author of *Reliquia Bodleiana*, might have held high office in Oxford University but for his staunch Jacobitism; he refused to take the oath of allegiance to King George I.

³THE REV'D KENT LAMBERT HALEY, BENEFACTOR, was born in 1917 in Seattle. He studied at Oregon State University (B.S., 1940), attended seminary at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific (B.D., 1949), and was ordained deacon (Jan. 1949 by Bishop Karl M. Block, IV California) and priest (July 1950 by Bishop Benjamin D. Dagwell, IV Oregon). Fr. Haley served as curate of S. Mark (1949-50), vicar (1950-4) & rector (1954-66) of S. Peter, Portland; assistant at S. Mary (1967-71), Eugene; and then as vicar of S. Timothy, Salem. Fr. Haley, now retired, is a priest of ACA/TAC, and author of *A Short History of the Oregon Electric Railway*. He resides in Keizer, Oregon and was designated a Benefactor of the American Region, S.K.C.M., in 2009.

⁴THE ROSENBACH LIBRARY AND MUSEUM is at 2008-2010 Delancey Place, Philadelphia PA 19103; (215)732-1600; www.rosenbach.org

Acknowledgement: The Jocz article was found by J. Douglass Ruff, Esq., Vice-President (then Secretary of the Board & Treasurer) of the American Region. He also identified the Rosenbach as a suitable repository for the book.