



A Message from the President

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Canon Theologian of the Diocese of Quincy

Email Communiqué

**Society of King Charles the Martyr
American Region**

11 August 2016

John Henry Newman, Card.Pr., 1890

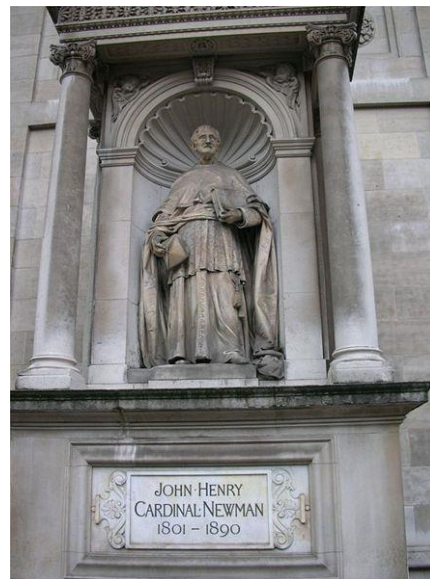
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Dear Friends in the Cause of King Charles the Martyr:

Today marks the 126th anniversary of the passing from this life of Blessed John Henry Newman (1801-1890), a very important figure in 19th century English religious history. He was an eminent theologian in both the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches. A leader of the Oxford Movement in Anglicanism, from whence arose the various devotional societies including our own SKCM, he subsequently moved from the Church of England into the Roman Catholic Church, ultimately being created a cardinal by Pope Leo XIII in 1845.

In addition to his major role in the Anglo-Catholic wing of Anglicanism, his impact extends to the 2012 formation of the Ordinariates in the Roman Catholic Church to which a number of our members belong. Among other things, Newman was noted for the "Tracts for the Times," the poem "The Dream of Gerontius," and the hymns "Lead, Kindly Light" and "Praise to the Holiest in the Height" which so many of us have sung.



O God, who bestowed on the Priest Blessed John Henry Newman the grace to follow your kindly light and find peace in your Church; graciously grant that, through his intercession and example, we may be led out of shadows and images into the fullness of your truth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

As I promised in our last *email Communique*, "Watch our next edition for more news on what is going on, even during this comparatively quiet time for the Society. Board members are involved in a number of initiatives for which we expect to have news." There is indeed a lot going on. Last week, the Society's Board of Trustees met for a periodic conference call meeting, with these highlights:

- + We **welcomed** Jonathan Jensen of FL, Bp. Daniel Martins of IL, Phoebe Pettingell of RI, and Gregory Smith of TN to their first meeting as trustees.
- + A **fiscal year surplus** of \$3,000+ is anticipated for the second year in a row, this time due particularly to higher-than-expected unrestricted contributions and Life Memberships and lower-than-anticipated SKCM News expenses. We then adopted a **2016-17 budget** anticipating a surplus of \$2,132 which, during discussion, was added by consensus to the general advertising and promotion line item.
- + Our current membership is 389, with 31 new or reinstated members but a similar number of suspensions, deaths, and resignations. Since we are facing essentially zero growth this year, we will be increasing attention to **retaining as well as recruiting new members**. Following a review of current initiatives, including

trustee mentoring of new member, we created a special committee to develop recommendations on membership; Bp. Ackerman, Ms. Pettingell, Mr. Smith, and I are serving on this committee.

- + We took and began specific actions pertaining to **chapters**, which have the potential of being more important as centers of Society membership and programmatic growth. We noted that 65% of our members are solo members in their local churches. The remaining 35% are in 38 local churches in which there are two or more members. We've identified active, former and prospective new chapters and are working with at least one forming chapter at this time. We adopted bylaws provisions formalizing chapters in the Society and are developing guidelines designed to bring the bylaws "alive" particularly in devotional program ideas as well as in options for local structuring.
- + We gratefully noted that not only Forward in Faith North America members but also ACNA, ACA, APA, ACC, APCK, the Canadian portion of the UECNA, and the Diocese of the Holy Cross as well as the current Anglican Church of Canada and Church of England calendars currently observe 30 January as **Royal Martyr Day**. Although an important initial step was taken by The Episcopal Church last year, it is probable that further action may not take place until subsequent to the 2018 General Convention, with the delay caused by administrative rather than negative factors.
- + We authorized discussions with several potential venues for the 2018/2019/2020 **Annual Masses & Luncheons**. Watch for announcements soon.
- + We named the following members to be named to a project team to develop material on **additional Caroline devotional opportunities** and report back on same, i.e., Charles Coulombe of Arcadia CA (Chairman), Arthur Bousfield of Toronto ON, Froilan Diaz of Irvine CA, Patrick Rothwell of Washington DC, Garry Toffoli of Toronto ON, and Channing Nickell of Wichita Falls TX. Bp. Ackerman will serve as Board liaison. Their contributions will assist us as we seek to expand not only local observation of Royal Martyr Day on 30 January but also devotional opportunities on other dates, all in more places.
- + We'll be looking at possible items that would be advantageous to the Society to make available as **free website downloads**. Member suggestions are invited.
- + The Board will meet again in October.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at skcm@skcm-usa.org should you have any questions, ideas, or concerns. And thank you for your continuing support of the Society and its devotional work.

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SOCIETY WEBSITE: WWW.SKCM-USA.ORG

*S.K.C.M. (AMERICAN REGION) MEMBERSHIP [\$15 PER ANNUM] AND INQUIRIES:
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