



A Message from the President

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Email Communiqué

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

17 January 2017

***State Service Purportedly Abolished
(1859)***

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BACK ISSUES OF *SKCM NEWS* AND THE *EMAIL COMMUNIQUÉ* ARE POSTED AT THE AMERICAN REGION'S WEBSITE, WWW.SKCM-USA.ORG

Greetings in the name of the Royal Martyr—

As Royal Martyr Day approaches, we note a similar sad occurrence that took place a century later – the beheading on 21 January 1793 of King Louis XVI of France. But today we take particular notice of the purported abolition in 1859 of the State Service for Charles I. Here is the background ...

On 26 April 1661, less than a year following the Restoration (29 May 1660), the Canterbury and York Convocations together decreed his formal canonization by a threefold method i.e., by appointing the anniversary of his martyrdom to be kept (adding the name of "K. Charles, Martyr", to the Kalendar of the new Book of Common Prayer), the compilation of an Office proper for his Feast-day, and the dedication of churches under his patronage. The State Service for 30 January was also designed to be inserted into the Book of Common Prayer then in preparation, which would become the 1662 BCP. That State Service provides materials for special Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, and Holy Communion services on that day — propers to replace and supplement the regular parts of those services, a special psalm to use instead of the Venite, special collects, and so on. It is 'customized' to suit the remembrance of King Charles the Martyr, who is called 'saint' and 'martyr' throughout the services. It is contained in the Society's Liturgical Manual, available with other Society goods and in the hands of many members.



The [Anniversary Days Observance Act 1859](#) removed the service, along with those of [Gunpowder Plot](#) and the Restoration, as purportedly being of political rather than religious character. However, the unauthorized omission of the Feast from the Kalendar was the work of the printers instructed by the Home Secretary alone. The Society very definitely continues the observance of the Feast, as well as makes available and encourages the use of the State Services as noted above and supports the dedication of churches under his patronage.

The Society is continuing to assemble a talent pool for all volunteer roles. Thus, we are also asking if you have special skills and interests or would like to propose other members that could be helpful to the Society. We need to engage not only our many new members but also all members with time, talent and a sense of commitment to our cause. Some possibilities: social media skills ... financial development/planned giving ... membership development ... identifying and/or writing relevant articles for the *SKCM News* or *email Communiqué*... devotional materials contributions ... marketing ... starting and working with chapters. If you have particular skills and interests that you would like to share with the Society, or would like to suggest other skills or members, please let the Nominating Committee (c/o membership@skcm-usa.org) know by **27 January**.

Our roster of **Life Members** has now grown again, to 56 out of our total current membership of 401 (itself up by two since the last *Communique* was published). We welcome Julian Brandt, Brantley B. Knowles, and Philip Terzian for taking this step of confidence in the Society.

A few reminders:

- + Our **AM & L** at Saint Clement's Church in Philadelphia will take place in another 11 days (see further information below). If you desire to attend the luncheon, the deadline for making reservations with the church is 21 January. At this time I'm aware of at least four current or former SKCM trustees who will be in attendance. Thanks go to the 50+ members who have given financial support to the Society's expenses for this Mass, totaling over \$3,800.
- + Don't forget to plan, promote, and celebrate **Royal Martyr Day** on or around 30 January. Our SKCM News editor will be interested in a report on your observance; please email to editors@skcm-usa.org. If you need resources for that observance, check our website's goods list and/or contact membership@skcm-usa.org. We thank St. Andrew's Fort Thomas KY, Christ Church New Haven CT, both TEC, and St. Nicholas (ACA) in W. Seneca NY that have already notified us that they will be holding observances.
- + As I mentioned last month, this is an ideal time to recruit new members. If you need our new tract rack brochure, with a built-in membership form, you may order same through the website or get a copy-ready version from membership@skcm-usa.org.
- + If you haven't paid your 2017 dues yet, please do so. The good news is that the pace of payments is running ahead of last year at this time. Thank you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below should you have any questions, ideas or concerns.

Fr. Bill Swatos, President
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S.K.C.M. (AMERICAN REGION): SOCIETY WEBSITE: WWW.SKCM-USA.ORG
TO SUBMIT ARTICLES & INQUIRIES TO THE SKCM NEWS, PLEASE CONTACT EDITORS@SKCM-USA.ORG.

**SOCIETY OF KING CHARLES THE MARTYR
XXXIV ANNUAL SOLEMN MASS OF S. CHARLES, K.M.**

11 a.m., Saturday, 28 January 2017 + S. Clement's, Philadelphia, PA

Rector, The Rev'd Richard Alton + Preacher, The Rt. Rev'd Rodney Michel, D.D.

Coronation Mass in C Major, KV 317, by W. A. Mozart, with orchestra

Anthem: *O Lord, Grant the King a Long Life*, by Thomas Weelkes, sung by the S. Clement's Choir

Te Deum in B-Flat, by Sir Charles Villiers Stanford

Followed by BUFFET LUNCHEON + Reservations required for luncheon; \$20/person

Make check to "S. Clement's" - memo line "SKCM"

Send to the church by 21 Jan. at 2013 Appletree St., Philadelphia PA 19103

Church contact: rector@s-clements.org; 215-563-1876 + www.saintclementsphiladelphia.org