Greetings in the name of the Royal Martyr—

This edition of the Communique comes to update you on the annual organizational meeting of the Board. In recent years the Board of Trustees has met three times each year, including our required annual meeting between 15 January and 15 February where we (as the legal “members” of the corporation) elect the incoming trustees as well as choose the officers and transact other business. This we did last week.

The new line-up reflects two major principles. First, with myself a major advocate, we have broadened the leadership of the Society – our ability to work with the Board and other volunteers during the year – by activating the office of Chairman of the Board and dividing the Secretary-Treasurer position into two. Second, we have increased the sharing of personnel and ideas between us and other devotional societies, especially the Society of Mary. These features are designed to help us continue our programmatic and membership growth, involving more members in making this happen.

Here is our Board of Trustees for 2017-2018:

- The Rt. Rev’d Keith L Ackerman, SSC, DD, Ben., OL, of Keller, TX
- John R. Covert, OL, of Acton, MA
- Theodore Harvey, of Dallas, TX (New)
- Jonathan Jensen, DPhil, Ben., OL, of Naples, FL
- Richard J. Mammana, Jr., Ben., OL, of New Haven, CT
- The Rt. Rev’d Daniel Hayden Martins, DD, of Springfield, IL
- Phoebe Pettingell, Ben., OL, of Providence, RI
- The Rev’d Steven C. Rice, D.Min., of Winston-Salem, NC (New)
- Gregory V. Smith, MBA, OL, of Clarksville, TN
- The Rev’d Canon William H. Swatos, Jr., PhD, OL, of Galva, IL
- The Rev’d Martin C. Yost, SSC, of Providence, RI

We thanked the two retiring trustees - Earl (Baron) Fain IV, of Charleston, SC and David Lewis, FAAO, OL, of Arlington, VA – for their Board service. Both will continue to work for the Society in other capacities.
We elected the following officers for the ensuing term, with an asterisk preceding those who are not voting members of the Board:

The Rt. Rev’d Keith L. Ackerman, SSC, DD, Ben., OL, Episcopal Patron & Chairman of the Board
The Rev’d Canon William H. Swatos, Jr., PhD, OL, President
John R. Covert, OL, Vice President
Phoebe Pettingell, Ben., OL, Vice President
*David Lewis, FAAO, OL, of Arlington, VA, Treasurer/Administrator
*The Rev’d Canon Jonathan J. D. Ostman, SSC, OL, of Marshall, VA, Secretary
*J. Douglass Ruff, Esq., Ben., OL, of Chevy Chase, MD, General Counsel, Asst. Secretary, & Asst. Treasurer

Finally, reflecting that an increasing amount of Society activity is carried on by members who are not trustees or officers, we received a number of ideas for the deployment of people. The Executive Committee will handle actual assignments.

Watch for a report in the next *Communique* on other actions at the Board meeting.

In the meantime, thanks go to a number of people – to S Clement’s Philadelphia for a fine *Annual Mass & Luncheon* attended by 97 … at least two dozen parishes that have reported on their *Royal Martyr Day* observances, which will appear in the June *SKCM News* … 10 more *new Society members*, further raising our total to 412 … two more *Life Members*, Robert S. Clere and Elmer J. Dante, bringing the total to 58 … both numbers are all-time highs, at least during the last number of years.

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

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