



REMEMBER!

email Communiqué

**Society of King Charles the Martyr - American Region
19 November 2017 – Nativity of S. Charles, K.M.**

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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

When Charles was born on 19th November 1600, the British monarchy was in transition. After the death of Henry VIII, the succession of Edward VI, a weak and diseased child, Mary, also of ill health and out of touch with her time, and then Elizabeth of somewhat doubtful legitimacy, had weakened both the power and the influence of the British crown.

James VI of Scotland, who had been crowned when still a baby, was acting king from his seventeenth year. Given his physical limitations, he had a sharp intellect and good judgement, which motivated him towards the recovery of royal power and more particularly the realization of the British Crown. James would also articulate the argument for the Divine Right of Kings, an argument to which Charles would also adhere. (*See the Scottish crown jewels later in this edition.*)

James and Anne of Denmark would see their first son, Henry, born in 1594, followed by a daughter Elizabeth, and then Charles, who was sickly and seemed hardly destined to live. The Queen bore him in Dunfermline Palace, given by James VI to Anne as a wedding present.



Upon the announcement of the death of Elizabeth in March of 1603, the royal family left Scotland for England, leaving Charles to remain at Dunfermline for another year. Once in England, Charles was placed under the care of Elizabeth, Lady Carey, who oversaw his development into a young man, eventually overcoming his inability to walk. By her insistence, Charles was kept from the life of the Court and kept active in the country, enjoying horsemanship, fencing and archery.

Charles had always looked up to his elder brother who was quite athletic, and this also motivated him to overcome his physical infirmities. However, when Charles was about to turn 12, Henry died suddenly in November of 1612, making Charles heir apparent. Charles, who was titled Duke of York when he was four, was now Duke of Cornwall and Duke of Rothesay, and would become Prince of Wales in November 1616.

The Mother Society in the UK has regarded today's Caroline observance as one of their three major occasions, the others being Royal Martyr Day and Restoration (Oak Apple) Day. For example, a few years ago the Society sponsored a Mass of the Nativity of S. Charles KM at 6pm at S. Katharine Cree, City of London, followed by the AGM of the Society for members of the Society.

The SKCM American Region Board of Trustees met by conference call on 17 October. The Board normally meets every four months. Here is a summary of the meeting, arranged by topic:

- **FINANCIAL:** FY 2016-17 closed on 30 September with a surplus of \$813 ... the Board adopted a balanced FY 2017-18 budget of \$14,743 ... created a Finance Committee to expand Board and membership participation in fiscal management, in addition to the Executive Committee working with the Treasurer to prepare the annual budget.
- **COMMUNICATIONS:** In a cooperative venture with the Society of Mary, the SKCM received good exposure at the recent joint synods of four Anglican Continuum jurisdictions ... future plans include a combined presence of the Society with other devotional societies at the next Episcopal Church General convention ... noted a change in Society goods pricing structure ... reviewed the status of the Society portrait (see below) ... discussed achieving greater Society visibility, initiating several actions ... reviewed the status of the email Communique.
- **ROYAL MARTYR DEVOTION:** Noted 2018 Annual Meeting and Luncheon promotion to date and content ... received and discussed a report on how to encourage more Royal Martyr Day and other Caroline observances, with further action to occur ... reviewed the activities of the Project Team on Additional Caroline Devotional Opportunities, to result in a holy card of Royal Martyr and other devotional materials.
- **MEMBERSHIP:** Closed the Fiscal Year with a Society membership of 397, a net growth of 7 (49 new members, an unusually high number of 36 dropouts with a fairly normal half dozen deaths and related dropouts) over the previous FY and 84 during the last four years ... we now have 15 bishops as members ... reviewed new member mentoring. *(At press time, Society membership is 401, including 286 laity and 115 clergy; dues payments and especially Annual Mass contributions are coming in very well.)*

Here is another reminder of the Society's 35th Annual North American Mass for Royal Martyr Day. With this posting comes a reminder that it is not too early for your own local parish or church to be planning its **local Mass of Remembrance for January**. The Society definitely encourages this devotional activity, as well as commemorations of other Caroline dates during the year. Any needed liturgical material is available from the Society:

SOCIETY OF KING CHARLES THE MARTYR
XXXV ANNUAL SOLEMN MASS OF SAINT CHARLES, K.M.

11 a.m., Saturday, 27 January 2018

St. Timothy's Anglican Church, Fort Worth, TX

Solemn Pontifical Mass in the Presence of a Greater Prelate

American Missal

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rt Rev'd Keith L. Ackerman, SSC, DD, Vicar;
The Rt Rev'd Jack Leo Iker, SSC, DD, Bishop of Fort Worth, *pontificating*

Choir of the Diocese of Fort Worth with Orchestra

Music under Direction of Tomi Godbee

Buffet Luncheon reservations: \$20 by 19 January;

checks to "St. Timothy's" - memo "SKCM"

Send to church at 4201 Mitchell Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76119

Contact: 817-536-7856 or info@sttimothysacc.com

Church website: www.sttimothysacc.com

For a number of years the Society had the tradition of loaning its **portrait of the Society's Patron** each year to the parish hosting our Annual Mass. The best-known likeness of the Martyr King is called 'King Charles I in Garter Robes'. The priceless original is in the Royal Collection at Windsor Castle and rarely if ever loaned or publicly displayed. Sir Anthony van Dyck, court painter to, and principal portraitist of King Charles I painted the original in 1636. Most often seen and reproduced in books is an early copy by Klut, hanging in the Staatliche Kunstmuseum Dresden, Gemaeldegalerie Alte Meister. The American Region's copy was painted in 1989 from a photographic image of the Dresden copy by nationally-known portrait artist, Thomas P. Curtis of Wisconsin. Mr Curtis is a member of the Society.



For logistical reasons, combined with the benefit of more Annual Mass host parishes having shrines to the Royal Martyr, for the past few years the portrait has not circulated per the recent pattern. We are pleased to announce that the portrait is now at home in a place of honor with the Society archives at Nashotah House, courtesy of SKCM member Dr David Sherwood, their librarian. We also thank our members Cn Barry Swain of Resurrection Parish New York City, VP John Covert, and Fr John Alexander of S. Stephen's Parish Providence RI for making this happen, we continue to thank Mr Curtis for his skillful creation of this work of art, and we are grateful to SKCM-AR Historian and Past President Dr Mark Wuonola for providing the above invaluable historical background.

Finally, watch for news soon on new buyer-friendly prices for some Society goods that will make particularly attractive **Christmas gifts**, plus free downloads from the Society website of liturgical materials and hymnody for use on **Royal Martyr Day**.

Thank you.



S.K.C.M. (AMERICAN REGION): WWW.SKCM-USA.ORG

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