



REMEMBER!

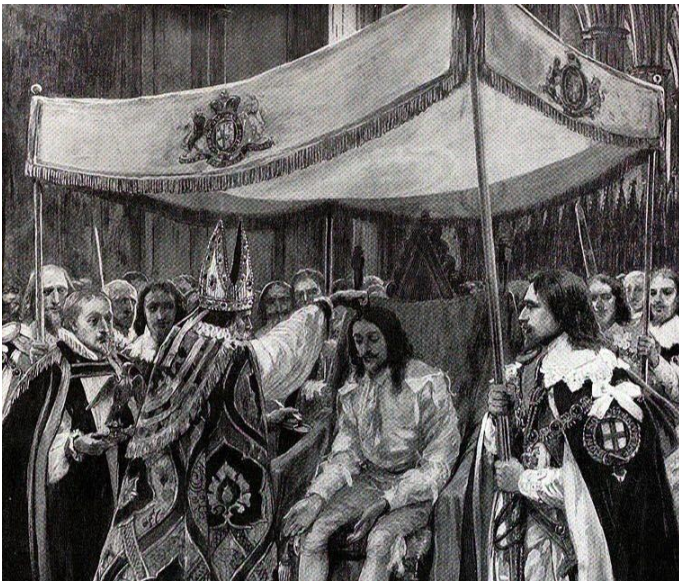
email Communiqué

Society of King Charles the Martyr - American Region Coronation & Martyrdom of Charles I

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At this time we mark both the beginning of Charles' kingship and its end. He was crowned King of England on 2 February 1626 – Candlemas - at Westminster Abbey, subsequently to be crowned King of the Scots on 18 June 1633. Some 23 years later, on 30 January 1649 as we know, his regicide occurred.



He wore white at his coronation. This was not the traditional color. The traditional purple velvet clothe was not available at the time. For this reason he was often called the “white king”.

Ant. King Charles said in his prayer: Let my sufferings satiate the malice of thine and thy Church's enemies * but let their cruelty never exceed the measure of my charity.

V. Hold fast that which thou hast

R. That no man take thy crown

O Lord we offer unto thee all praise and thanks for the glory of thy grace that shined forth in thine anointed servant Charles; and we beseech thee to give us all grace that by a careful studious imitation of this thy blessed Saint and Martyr, we may be made worthy to

receive benefit by his prayers, which he, in communion with the Church Catholic, offereth up unto thee for that part of it here Militant, through thy Son, our Blessed Saviour Jesus Christ.

The following hymn, sung in some places on Royal Martyr Day, picks up on the “white king” imagery which so well connects his Coronation to his final Martyrdom:

*At Candlemas in white arrayed He stood, the newly crowned,
Where music murmured, banners swayed, And Westminster its homage paid,
To blazoning trumpets' sound. To blazoning trumpets' sound.*

*When home they bore his coffin slow, The flaring torches' light
Revealed no sable pall, for lo! Over its gloom the loyal snow
Had cast a covering white. Had cast a covering white.*

*But whiter far than robe or pall, He bore to tragic goal,
Through battle, prison, judgment-hall, His one abiding coronal,
A white and Kingly soul. A white and Kingly soul.*

Blessed Lord, in whose sight the death of thy saints is precious, we magnify thy name for thine abundant grace bestowed upon thy servant, King Charles of England, by which he was enabled so cheerfully to follow the steps of his blessed Master and Savior, in a constant meek suffering of all barbarous indignities; even then, according to the same pattern, praying for his murderers, to the same our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Prayers courtesy to our member, Daniel Nieciecki.*)

Remember!

COMMEMORATING ROYAL MARTYR DAY ...

We recently invited our members and friends **let us know when local Royal Martyr Day observances are planned**, with their announcements to be shared in the Communique and then post-observance reports to be carried in the June *SKCM News*. We have heard from the following churches and are following up with all clergy members to update and supplement this list, but if you have any additional reports please submit them to membership@skcm-usa.org:

- + **IRVINE, CA:** Blessed John Henry Newman Ordinariate Catholic Church;
- + **LA MIRADA, CA:** Anglican Church of the Epiphany (ACNA);
- + **NEW HAVEN, CT:** Christ Church (TEC);
- + **LANTANA, FL:** Church of the Holy Guardian Angels (ACC);
- + **DUNWOODY, CA:** St. Barnabas' Anglican Church (APA);
- + **SPRINGFIELD, IL:** Cathedral Church of St. Paul (TEC);
- + **VERSAILLES, KY:** St. Andrew's Anglican Church (ACNA/REC);
- + **ANNAPOLIS, MD:** St Anne's (TEC);
- + **WINSTON-SALEM, NC:** St Timothy's Episcopal Church;
- + **WEST SENECA, NY:** St Nicholas Anglican Church (ACA);
- + **NEWPORT, RI:** St. John's Church (TEC);
- + **PROVIDENCE, RI:** S Stephen's Church (TEC);
- + **GREENVILLE, SC:** St. Andrew's Episcopal Church;
- + **CLARKSVILLE, TN:** The Tennessee Chapter at Trinity Episcopal Church;
- + **FORT WORTH, TX:** SKCM-AR Annual Mass at St Timothy's Church (ACNA) (*see much more about our Annual Mass below*);
- + **ROCKWALL, TX:** The Anglican Oratory of Lake Ray Hubbard (REC);
- + **MONTROSS, VA:** Holy Redeemer Anglican Church (UEC).
- + **NASHOTAH, WI:** Nashotah House.



... AND CELEBRATING OUR ANNUAL MASS & LUNCHEON IN FORT WORTH

An excellent attendance of 85 – similar to that enjoyed at the previous Annual Mass in Texas four years ago – celebrated Royal Martyr Day (translated) on Saturday, 27 January, at St Timothy's Anglican Church in Fort Worth, TX. Our Episcopal Patron and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, The Rt Rev'd Keith Lynn Ackerman, SSC, DD, OL, celebrated and preached, with SKCM-AR member The Rt Rev'd Jack Leo Iker, SSC, DD, Ben., OL, Bishop of Fort Worth, pontificating.

Bishop Ackerman's sermon included not only material on the significance of the Royal Martyr but also on the role and background of devotional societies such as the SKCM.



The Solemn Mass included such traditional liturgical features as the Asperges, Preparation by the sanctuary party, full propers, Last Gospel, and Angelus. With Byrd's *Mass for Four Voices* – a setting contemporary to Charles I and thus undoubtedly heard by him – sung by the choir, the hymnody included “On this most holy day of days,” “Let thy Blood in mercy poured,” and “Royal Charles, who chose to die.”



The luncheon, attended by 65, featured a superb English menu. Those who were not able to attend missed a feast of fun and note!

IN OTHER NEWS

We thank the 56 financial supporters of the Annual Mass – 24 Patrons, 22 Donors, and 10 Contributors – who contributed a record total of \$3,820 for its support. As is our custom, they will be listed and thanked in the June *SKCM News*.

The Society in North America now has **421 members – a record, at least in recent years** - 29 of them new since the beginning of our fiscal year on 1 October. At this point last year we had 20 new or reinstated members. Remember to keep recruiting!

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

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