



REMEMBER!

email Communiqué

Society of King Charles the Martyr - American Region Royal Warrant Directing Use of 30 January Offices – 14 May 2018

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The month of May has a number of significant Caroline anniversaries. **1 May** marks the marriage of King Charles to Henrietta Maria De Bourbon by proxy at Notre Dame Cathedral in 1625, with the Duke of Buckingham standing in for Charles. It would be a month later that the two would marry in person at Canterbury. **7 May** marks the Exaltation of S. Charles, K.M., his statute replaced in the Guildhall Yard in 1660.

However, on **14 May 1662**, a Royal Warrant was issued directing the use of the Office for 30 January in all churches. Vernon Staley writes: "In the Act of Uniformity, *xiv. Carol. II.*, which authorised the revised Prayer Book of 1662, in which for the first time the commemoration of *King Charles the Martyr* on January 30 appeared, occur the words, following the quotation of the title-page of that Book -- "All which His Majesty having duly considered hath fully approved and allowed the same, and recommended to this present Parliament, that the said Book of Common Prayer, and the Form of Ordination and Consecration of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, with the Alterations and Additions, which have been so made and presented to his Majesty by the said Convocations [of the Provinces of Canterbury and York], be the Book, which shall be appointed to be used by all that Officiate in all Cathedral and Collegiate Chappells, and in all Chappells and Colledges and Halls in both the Universities, and the Colledges of Eaton and Winchester, and in all Parish-Churches and Chappells within the Kingdom of England.""



Staley points out that according to the Act of Uniformity, the commemoration of *King Charles the Martyr* was to stand on precisely the same footing as other red-letter days of January. such as The Circumcision, The Epiphany and The Conversion of S. Paul. During the reign of Queen Victoria, these services were discontinued, albeit without consent of the Church of England. As a result of her order given on 17 January 1859, the printers of the Book of Common Prayer removed the previous religious observances of 5 November (Gunpowder Plot), 30 January and **29 May** (Restoration of Charles II).

*When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion: then were we like unto them that dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter: and our tongue with joy.
Then said they among the heathen: The Lord hath done great things for them.
Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already: whereof we rejoice. (Ps 126.1-3)*

OAK APPLE DAY

This is indeed a busy time on the Caroline calendar! In fact, coming up later this month (on 29 May) will be **Restoration Day**, celebrating when the monarchy was restored with Charles II in 1660. It's also known as Oak Apple Day, The anniversary of the Stuart restoration to the English throne (29 May) in 1660, when oak apples or oak leaves were traditionally worn in memory of Charles II hiding in an



oak after the battle of Worcester. Although the public holiday was abolished in 1859, as noted above, Oak Apple Day continues to be celebrated in parts of England today.

This day was a time for dancing and parties. To show their support for monarchy, people wore sprigs of oak leaves or a sprig with an oak apple on (gall produced in oak buds by wasps.) Children would challenge each other to show their oak sprigs or apples, and those not wearing one would face some form of punishment, varying from one place to another. In some areas it was necessary to wear the oak sprig only until noon; after that, one

was safe. Favorite punishments included:

- ❖ *"Pinch-Bum Day" – a pinch on the bottom.*
- ❖ *"Nettle Day" – whipping with nettles.*

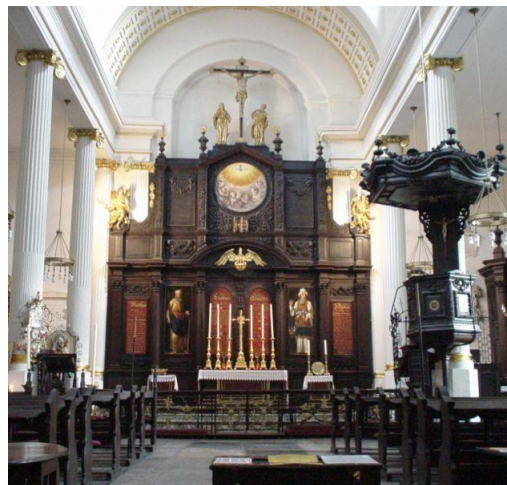
Today, Northhampton still remembers Charles II and his escape after the battle of Worcester. The town is also grateful to Charles II for giving the citizens one thousand tons of timber from the Royal forests of Whittlewood, after a great fire almost razed the town in 1675. A garland of oak-apples is laid at Charles II's statue each year.

London too celebrates 29 May at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, which Charles founded as a home for Army pensioners. The **Chelsea Pensioners parade** on this day for inspection by a member of the Royal Family in honour of King Charles II.

Castleton Garland Day is a custom that has been celebrated in Castleton for hundreds of years, originally, possibly as a fertility rite, but today it is said to commemorate the restoration of Charles II. The Garland is 3 feet high and is made from a wooden frame to which small bunches of wild flowers and leaves are tied. It is worn by a man dressed in Stuart costume.

More to our devotional point, Restoration Day is one of the three major events of our **Mother Society in the UK**, the other two being Royal Martyr Day and the Nativity of the Royal Martyr. An example would be last year, when on Saturday 27 May a Solemn High Mass for the Restoration was celebrated at 12 noon at S. Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge. The preacher was The Rev'd Dr Michael Brydon, Rector of Catsford and Crowhurst; the music was Missa Solemnis in A by Lepreost. The AGM of SKCM preceded the Mass at 11 am.

This brings us to a spring activity in which we can all participate ... see the next page!



IT'S TIME FOR A SPRING SALE!

We're featuring a sale of a half dozen items that are appropriate for commemorating the Royal Martyr, especially personally and pictorially.

L66 - The price of the **DVD of the Annual Mass** celebrated at Resurrection New York City has been reduced to \$4. Those of us who know this parish are aware of its fine liturgical style and also know that it is something to be shared with others.

E34 - While the price remains at an attractive \$4, our cloisssone' **enamel lapel pin**, when worn, is a good conversation piece about the Society. We could not resist including it now.

Four postcards are being **reduced to \$1** to further encourage their presence in more homes and offices and notes to family and friends:

S15 – **Equestrian portrait** of the Royal Martyr

S16 – Anthony van Dyck's familiar portrait of **Charles I in three positions (see below)**

S76 – Bernini's **bust engraving** of King Charles I

S77 – Also by van Dyck, **Charles I in ermine robes of state**

To order these or any other Society goods, just go to www.skcm-usa.org, our website, and take it from there. Thumbnail depictions of all goods are shown. One can use the Society's PayPal account and order electronically, or print out a goods list and place the order by mail and check. Remember: within the USA, there is no additional charge for shipping.



S.K.C.M. (AMERICAN REGION)

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