



REMEMBER!

email Communiqué

**Society of King Charles the Martyr - American Region
14 December 2018 – St John of the Cross**

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Charles I & St John of the Cross - Faithful Facing Death

One does not immediately think of similarities between St John of the Cross and Charles I. St John was born into abject poverty, Charles into privilege and wealth. They were separated by 500 years and competing cultures. The Anglo-Spanish conflict would erupt at the end of John's life and carry into the beginning of Charles' life.

However, both lives were marked by similar tragedies beginning with the deaths of their elder brothers, in John's case, two years after the death of his father at age three. The deaths of the elder brothers would affect the entirety of their lives. Additionally, both John and



Charles lacked a stable home environment in their early youth. John's mother was forced to move extensively to find work as a weaver to support her family. Charles was left behind by his family over fears of his fragile health when James I ascended to the throne of England. Only after his brother Henry's death, did people begin to take notice of him.

In Medina del Campo, John was exposed to the newly founded Society of Jesus and eventually entered the Carmelite Order. Intending to enter the strict Carthusian Order where he would live in silent contemplation, Providence led him to meet Teresa of Avila who asked him to work with her to restore the Order to its earlier stricter observances. This experience moved John to begin a similar reform for men, at which time he changed his name from John of St Matthias to John of the Cross.

These changes to a “Primitive Rule” led to escalating tensions within the Carmelite Order. One night in December 1577 St John was taken prisoner and removed from Avila to the Carmelite monastery in Toledo where he was tried before a court of his fellow friars. He remained imprisoned under extremely harsh conditions for nine months before making his escape, during which time he composed the bulk of his famous *Spiritual Canticle*.

After the Pope authorized separating the Order into Discalced and Calced Carmelites, John of the Cross was elected to draw up the constitution of the Discalced Carmelites. Eventually worn out by compromised health from his imprisonment and extensive travels establishing new monasteries, St John went to his reward 14 December 1591.



The similarities in the lives of the two Saints is obvious. For both, the crucible of suffering led them to look outside of their experiences to eventually find God in the midst of their struggle. The “dark night of the soul” tests the strength of will and the desire for God. Although the *Eikon Basilike* is not written in a theological manner, it does express a desire of the soul to remain faithful to the example of Our Lord while facing death.

- The Rev'd Canon Jonathan J. D. Ostman,
SSC, OL, Vice President – Devotional Programs

Local Observances in North America

Our initial list of reported commemoration plans follows. We'll be publishing an updated list on 10 January 2019, so if you wish to be added to that list or desire to update your information please email membership@skcm-usa.org by **Friday, 21 December**:

ST. ANDREW'S ANGLICAN CHURCH (REC), VERSAILLES, KY: The Rev. Deacon J. Todd Renner will be saying Morning Prayer in honor of the Royal Martyr on Wednesday, 30 January 2019, at 07:00 EST. Please let him know at todd.renner@woodfordfinancial.net if you have any questions or need more information.

GRACE & ST. PETER'S CHURCH (TEC), BALTIMORE, MD: At 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 30 January 2019, a Sung Mass will be celebrated at Grace & St. Peter's Church in Baltimore in remembrance of Charles Stuart, KM. The setting of the Ordinary will be William Byrd's Mass for Three Voices, offered by select members of the parish's choir, directed by Mr. David Lawrie. The celebrant and preacher will be the Rev. Christopher Pyles. The service will conclude with the offering of prayers at the King Charles the Martyr shrine in the rear of the nave. Other local Episcopal churches have been invited to attend, as well as the Ordinariate parish of Mt. Calvary. A reception will follow in the rectory dining room. Located in Baltimore's historic Mt. Vernon neighborhood, Grace & St. Peter's was the first brownstone

church built in Baltimore in 1852. For further information please contact Fr. Pyles at cvpyles@aol.com.

ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH (TEC), WINSTON-SALEM, NC: St Timothy's will celebrate the Feast of King Charles the Martyr with a sung mass on January 30 at 6pm. The mass setting will be from Palestrina's *Missa Brevis in F*. The celebrant and preacher will be the rector (and SKCM-AR president), Fr Steve Rice (email frsteve@sttimothys.ws).

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH (TEC), RICHMOND, VA: This parish will be hosting an Annual Mass on Monday evening, January 28th. The church is located at 1101 Forest Avenue, Richmond, VA 23229. Contact John Alley for further info at jalley@veritasschool.com.

ST. JOHN'S IN THE VILLAGE (TEC), NEW YORK, NY: The Eucharist will be celebrated at 6:15 pm on Wednesday, 30 January 2019 according to the rite of the Scottish Prayer Book, introduced (some might say unsuccessfully) by King Charles in 1637. The Celebrant will be the Rev. Graeme Napier MA (Oxon), sometime Chaplain of the Royal Stuart Society (UK). The Eucharist is followed by appropriate drinks and by a long-table dinner in St John's Gallery. The church address is 218 W 11th St, New York, NY 10014. Those interested in joining in the dinner are encouraged to RSVP by email to admin@stjvny.org or by phone at (212) 243-6192.

The 36th Annual SKCM-AR Royal Martyr Day Mass

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

11 a.m., Saturday, 26 January 2019

**You are invited to join us at
NASHOTAH HOUSE
Nashotah, Wisconsin USA**

*Buffet Luncheon reservations: \$25 by 18 January;
checks to "Nashotah House" - memo "SKCM"*

Send to Nashotah House at 2777 Mission Road, Nashotah, WI 53058 USA
Website: www.nashotah.edu ... Contact: 262-646-6520 or apryor@nashotah.edu

Luncheon reservation not required to attend Mass only

Martyrdom Observances in Great Britain

We are pleased to share the following information on Martyrdom Commemorations in Great Britain, including for the benefit of SKCM-AR members who may desire to attend same:

SOCIETY OF KING CHARLES THE MARTYR: Observance of the Feast of the Martyrdom: Wednesday 30th January 2019, **Banqueting House, Whitehall:** 11.40am Commemoration of S. Charles' Martyrdom at the entrance of the Banqueting House, followed by Noon Sung Mass with Veneration of the Relics inside the Banqueting House.

The Society's relics of S. Charles are placed upon the altar for the Mass and may be venerated and viewed after the service. A choir, usually from King's College, London sings at the Mass. The Banqueting House is where S. Charles was kept for several hours on the day of his decollation. It is a magnificent setting for the Mass: the architect was Inigo Jones and the ceiling adorned by the great paintings of Rubens.

The Society is very grateful to the Historic Royal Palaces for their permission to hold the Mass. Access to the Banqueting House for the commemoration and Mass is free of charge. The costs of the service are considerable and donations gratefully received. SKCM also provides a bookstall after the Mass when materials are available. See www.skcm.org for further details on the SKCM in the UK.



ROYAL MARTYR CHURCH UNION: Eucharistic Commemorations in Great Britain in January and February 2019:

11.30 am, Thursday 31 January: **St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh** - Solemn Eucharist: celebrant, the Very Reverend John Conway, Provost of Edinburgh; preacher, the Reverend Giles Dove, Chaplain of Glenalmond College.



11.30 am, Saturday 2 February (anniversary of King Charles's Westminster Coronation, 1626): **St Mark's, Regent's Park, London NW1** (new location - nearest Underground, Camden Town) - Solemn Eucharist with Candlemas ceremonies: celebrant, the Bishop of Southwark, the Right Reverend Christopher Chessun, President of the RMCU; preacher, the Reverend Marcus Walker, Rector of Great St Bartholomew, City of London.

Light refreshments after both services. For more information contact David Roberts, Secretary and Treasurer RMCU, at robertssopwellnunnery@btinternet.com.

ROYAL STUART SOCIETY: We will have our Service of the Commemoration of the Martyrdom of King Charles I on January 30th at 11.00am under the equestrian statue of the King in **Trafalgar Square**. The ceremony will be conducted by our Anglican Chaplain Father Alan Gyle. Our Chairman Lord Aylmer will lay a wreath. A piper and bugler will be in attendance. Wreaths will also be laid on behalf of the Memorial of Merit and the Crown of Stuart.

In the evening The Society will attend Choral Evensong at the **Queen's Free Chapel of St. George, Windsor Castle**. Lord Aylmer will lay a wreath over the royal vault during the service. Anyone wishing to attend should meet at the Castle main gate at 4.45.

On February 8th at 2.15 members and guests will assemble in **Westminster Abbey**. At 2.30 Canon Jamie Hawkey will conduct a short service of remembrance at the



tomb of Queen Mary Stuart, a wreath will be laid by Lord Aylmer. This will be followed by our AGM at **St. Saviour's Church Pimlico** at 3.30pm.

Further details: contact Hugh Macpherson, Principal Secretary, Royal Stuart Society, at principal-secretary@royalstuartssociety.com.

Society News

Looking for ideas for Christmas gifts? Go to the Society's list of goods on our website where there are some "good" possibilities. Especially attractive may be neckties and bow ties, a ladies' scarf, and Anglican Daily Prayers.

Interested in Life Membership? If so, you will be joining 16% of our 437 members in doing so, including some members (like one who did so this morning) who have joined the Society as Life Members. A one-time payment of \$360 (age 65 and up, \$250) means no future dues. This can be done through our website using our PayPal account.

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

WWW.SKCM-USA.ORG

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