



email Communiqué

Society of King Charles the Martyr - American Region

27 March 2020

Accession to Throne of KCM: 27 March 1625;

Founding of SKCM: 27 March 1894

ISSN 2153-6120

BACK ISSUES OF *SKCM NEWS* AND THE *EMAIL COMMUNIQUÉ* ARE POSTED AT THE AMERICAN REGION'S WEBSITE,
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Called to Remember – Current Reminders, Caroline Devotion, & the Christian Faith

Writing about the King Charles I and the aims of our Society might seem to some to be a trifle at best and tone deaf at worst and that our calls for Remember should instead serve as reminders to Remember to stay inside! Remember to wash your hands! Remember social distancing! (All of which is very sound advice.) If I were to concede



that the Society of King Charles the Martyr is simply an eclectic monarchist fan club, I would agree. As a *devotional* society, our interest in the life and martyrdom of Charles Stuart connects us to his Christian faith. We are encouraged in the way he found solace in Jesus Christ in the midst of his own 'many and great dangers.' In a recent [article](#) on following Christ in the midst of plague, historian Tom Holland comments that the Royal Martyr visited Little Gidding three times, the last being just 3 years before his death as a refugee from the battle of Naseby. Through this Society, in what we say and even in what we wear, we promote the devotion of King Charles because

King Charles gives us an example of living and dying for Jesus Christ. It is his example that makes our work not a trifle at all. *From the devotions of Archbishop Laud:*

Deliver me, O Lord, from all my offences, and make me not a rebuke to the foolish. Take, I humbly beseech Thee, Thy plague away from Thy people, for we begin to be consumed by means of Thy heavy hand. And for Jesus Christ His sake lay neither me nor mine under this uncomfortable disease. Amen.

- *The Rev'd Steven C. Rice, Obl.S.B., D.Min., President*

Accession, Foundation, Annunciation, & Martyrdom

This writing comes to you first and foremost as a reminder that King Charles I's Accession to the Throne took place on 27 March 1625. It was also on 27 March 1894, when 27 March was Easter Tuesday – a very early Easter date in contrast to this year's later one – that Mrs Greville-Nugent and The Rev'd L.L. Fish founded the SKCM in 1894, thus making this year the 126th anniversary of the founding.

I note that in the current week we have just observed the Annunciation of the Archangel Gabriel to the Blessed Virgin Mary that God had chosen her to bear His Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, but as I read the lessons for the feast, I also remembered in the context of the lives of both King Charles, on the one hand, and Our Lord on the other, that there was in cases something to reflect upon in the prophecy of Simeon who, after he uttered the words that we now call the *Nunc dimittis* also spoke to Mary the words “and a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also” (cf. Luke 2: 29-35).



Perhaps the lesson for us as Christians is that virtue must be its own reward. I believe that King Charles understood that, and because of that, when it came to 1649, he could face the events of 30 January with the calmness he showed. He was a Christian man to whom the cross and resurrection mattered far more than an earthly crown. By dying as he did, he not only ultimately saved Catholic worship and orders in England, but he also gave inspiration to men and women in time since both to believe and to live as though there is more to real life than earthly rewards. In the remaining days of Lent, you might want to consider adding the following Prayer for the Society of King Charles the Martyr composed by our recently deceased brother, the Rev'd John B. Pahls, Jr. OL, Ben.:

O Almighty and everliving God, who hast called us to steadfastness in the Faith once delivered unto the Saints, and courage to uphold the same in the World, after the example of the King and Martyr *Charles*: We humbly beseech Thee to bestow Thy blessing upon this Society, that all its members may ever promote the thankful

remembrance of his faithfulness unto death, and strive without ceasing for the building up of the Faith, Order, and Godly life of the Church, and that, persevering unto the end as did our Royal Patron, we may with him inherit the incorruptible crown of eternal life, which Thou hast promised to those who follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth, even Thy Son JESUS CHRIST our LORD, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the HOLY GHOST, ever, one GOD, world without end. *Amen.*

[From a message by The Rev'd Canon William H. Swatos, Jr., PhD, OL, then SKCM-AR President, in the email Communique edition six years ago, with contextual dates edited]

Society Identifiers: Lapel Pin & Charm Redesigned, Rosette Restocked – Now Available for Your Purchase

For those who have put off purchasing a SKCM lapel pin or charm, we have recently redesigned both. The SKCM logo, with a more recognizable van Dyck image, is set against a dark royal blue background. “King Charles the Martyr” is in antique brass lettering. Additionally, the lapel pin comes in a presentation box for storage. Both the lapel pin and charm are slightly larger than the previous versions.

We are also pleased to inform you that the lapel rosettes are back in stock. Rosettes are always a good conversation starter (as are the lapel pins), allowing members to advertise the Society discretely at public functions.



The new lapel pins with presentation box are priced at a very reasonable \$9; the charms at \$5 and the lapel rosettes at \$12 (same price as before).

To place your order, just go to the Society website and order through same, using the Society's PayPal account. Or you may use the updated order form included with this edition and mail it with your payment to the address shown there.

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

The Royal Martyr & Sacred Healing

Posted in the Friends of King Charles the Martyr Group in Facebook by Andrew Warburton: “At this time especially our devotion and prayers with/to Charles take on deeper meaning—Charles was associated with sacred healing in life and in death, and healing is what we pray for now, whether through grace or science or awareness of our togetherness.”

Almighty God, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ went about doing good, and healing all manner of sickness and disease among the people: Continue, we beseech thee, this his gracious work among us, (especially in ...); cheer, heal, and sanctify the sick; grant to the physicians, surgeons, and nurses wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience; and send down thy blessing upon all who labour to prevent suffering and to forward thy purposes of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



**REMEMBER!
BRING IN A NEW MEMBER
THIS YEAR!**

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

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[ADD UPDATED GOODS ORDER FORM]