



**REMEMBER!**

## *email Communiqué*

**Society of King Charles the Martyr - American Region  
29 May 2020  
Restoration Day (1660), also known as Oak Apple Day**

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## **Celebrating the Restoration: The State Service on May 29th**

**A**mong the 'State Services' appended to the 1662 Prayer Book (and illegally removed by Royal Warrant in 1859) stands the "Form of Prayer with Thanksgiving to Almighty God for having put an end to the Great Rebellion, by the Restitution of the King and Royal Family, and the Restoration of the Government after many Years interruption; which unspeakable mercies were wonderfully completed upon the Twenty-ninth of May, in the year 1660."



The annual Restoration celebration on May 29<sup>th</sup> complements and in a sense completes the commemoration of King Charles the Martyr on January 30<sup>th</sup>. The cycle represents but one instance of the pattern of death and Resurrection set forth by Our Lord being repeated and re-experienced in manifold ways in the Church's life until His coming again. The beheading of King Charles reflects Good Friday; the Restoration reflects Easter.

To go a bit deeper, just as Good Friday not only preceded Easter but also made it possible, so also the Royal Martyrdom made the Restoration possible. Had Charles compromised with his enemies to save his life it is unlikely that the Church of England would have survived in any form bearing the marks of Catholic faith and Apostolic order. During the Interregnum, however, remembrance of the Martyr King kept alive the determination among a critical mass of the English people to bring back the Church and Monarchy at the first opportunity. In this sense, Charles died that the Church of England might live.

The Restoration had three aspects. It marked the return, first, of the King and Royal Family; second, of the Church of England; and third, of the British Constitution.

The King's return after a long exile was itself cause for celebration. The State Service for the Restoration thanks God 'for restoring to us, and to his own just and undoubted rights, our then most gracious Sovereign Lord, King Charles the Second, notwithstanding all the power and malice of his enemies ..."



The Restoration also brought back the Church of England, with its Prayer Book, its Sacraments, its calendar of festivals and fasts, and its apostolic ministry of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons—all of which had been lost during its suppression. Again, the State Service for May 29<sup>th</sup> thanks God, who "by placing [King Charles II] on the throne of these Kingdoms, didst also restore unto us the publick and free profession of thy true Religion and Worship ..."

And the Restoration brought back the British Constitution after years of turbulence, chaos, and military dictatorship. The State Service for January 30<sup>th</sup> praises God, who at the Restoration "didst restore to us our ancient government in Church and State." In other words, the Restoration marked the return not only of Church and Monarchy but also of *constitutional government itself*, which can legitimately take different forms in different times and places. Whatever the form, its survival should never be taken for granted.

For these reasons, the Restoration remains a fitting cause of celebration us in the twenty-first century United States. We need not be monarchists to rejoice in its blessings.

These reflections suggest some priorities for the SKCM's American Region. We do well to "remember" the Royal Martyr's faithful witness unto death. We do well to campaign for his inclusion in our Church calendars (in jurisdictions where this has not already been achieved). But most of all, our unique mission may be to do whatever we can to safeguard the treasures that the Royal Martyrdom and Restoration helped secure for us: constitutional government in the state; Catholic faith and order in the Church.

- The Rev. John D. Alexander, Ph.D., Ben., OL

(The author is the Superior of the Society of Mary's American Region.)

Note: The State Services for King Charles the Martyr and the Restoration are available online at:  
<http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bcp/1662/january30.pdf>  
<http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bcp/1662/may29.pdf>

The State Services and related material are also available in the Society's Liturgical Manual, which may be obtained through the SKCM-AR website.

## Honoring the Restoration: Our Spiritual Value

Recently, in the Society's Facebook group someone asked what membership in the Society of King Charles the Martyr has done for us spiritually. I thought it was a good, and important, question. As a devotional society, there should be a spiritual impact. I enjoy minutia about King Charles and the Royal Stuarts as much as the next person, but at the end of the day, how does this bring me closer to Jesus Christ? Of what spiritual value, for instance, is the Restoration of the Monarchy to an American?

My veneration of St Charles is not tied to his political decisions or even his belief in the divine right of the monarch. I find spiritual strength in the Royal Martyr's fidelity to the Church and her catholic faith and order in the midst of real personal danger. As a king, Charles defined privilege and power. Once someone experiences that kind of luxury, it is difficult to



relinquish. For me, that makes his willingness to sacrifice power, privilege, and ultimately his life all the more inspiring. We are conditioned to expect our leaders to compromise and capitulate for the sake of retaining power and influence. Our cynicism is reinforced every day by headlines – it doesn't matter what side of the political aisle you are on.

During this pandemic, I find my anxiety rising as my privileges, even my rights, are threatened. I am not allowed to publicly celebrate mass. I don't know when my church will be opened. And when it is, I don't know what restrictions I will be under. My sufferings cannot be compared with his (nor do I wish to even make that comparison), yet I find solidarity and strength for someone who was true to his conscience and Christ. I find spiritual strength in knowing that he gave up far more than I've been asked to, and yet he did not give up his fidelity to Christ and His Church.



I will commemorate the Restoration of the Monarchy not because I'm a fifth columnist wanting to overthrow our political system. Rather, I will honor the Restoration because the monarch is called to be the guardian to the catholic faith and practice of the Church. I will commemorate the Restoration because the very fact it exists reminds us that at one time, the guardian not only fought for the Church, but died for Her.

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

## COVID-19, the CARES Act & Supporting the Society

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, commonly referred to as the CARES Act, on March 19, 2020. Several provisions of the act included temporary incentives for taxpayers to infuse cash into qualified non-profits in the wake of crisis. It's important to note that these philanthropic incentives will expire at the end of 2020. Consider how you can take advantage of these incentives and make a gift to SKCM today. Your gift will be used to advance the work and mission of our Society.

### *1. Temporary charitable deduction for individuals*

Congress has created a temporary universal charitable giving deduction up to \$300 for individuals or \$600 for married couples who give to qualified charities during 2020. In other words, any taxpayer can claim up to \$300 (or \$600 for married) for qualified cash charitable contributions in 2020 from their adjusted gross income. SKCM-USA is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization.

### *2. Removal of individual cash gift limitations*

Another great temporary incentive for SKCM members is that donors can now claim 100% of all qualified cash gifts to a charity given in 2020. The previous rule was that individuals could deduct cash gifts up to 60% of an individual's adjusted gross income. There is an exception, however, gifts from donor advised funds will not count. The gifts must be made in cash.

### *3. Making a gift from your IRA*

Finally, if you are of age 70 1/2 or older and must take a distribution from your IRA that you do not need, consider making a gift to SKCM from your IRA and avoid any penalties for not taking a withdrawal. The CARES Act has suspended the minimum distribution requirement (MDR) to those retirees reaching 70 1/2 in 2020, as they will not have to take the MDR in 2021. Gifts from an IRA can significantly enhance the scope of the Society. When in doubt, please consult a qualified tax advisor for specific questions relating to your situation.

In the wake of this pandemic, it is highly probable that many people will be either revisiting or creating estate plans. The above and upcoming thoughts thus are submitted. Please contact the Society at [membership@skcm-usa.org](mailto:membership@skcm-usa.org) for further information.

- Chad M. Krouse, Ed.D.

**REMEMBER!**  
**BRING IN A NEW MEMBER**  
**THIS YEAR!**  
**A MEMBERSHIP FLYER/APPLICATION FORM**  
**IS ATTACHED FOR YOUR USE!**



## Archbishop Laud & Sacred Healing (Yet More)

Continuing from prayers shared during the last two editions of the Communique, here are additional prayers from *the Private Devotions of Dr. William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Martyr, Oxford, John Henry Parker, MDCCCXXXIX*:

O Lord, I beseech Thee favourably to hear the prayers of Thy humble servant; that I and my family, which are justly punished for our offences, may be mercifully delivered by Thy goodness from this and all other infection, both of soul and body; that so we may live both to serve and to praise Thee, to the glory of Thy great Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord and only Saviour. Amen.

O Lord God, Who hast wounded us for our sins, and consumed us for our transgressions, by Thy late heavy and long-continued visitation, and in the midst of that judgment remembering mercy, hast redeemed us from death; we offer up unto Thee ourselves, our souls and bodies, (which Thou hast now delivered,) to be a living sacrifice unto Thee. And here I offer up unto Thee, most merciful Father, in the name of all Thy people, all possible praise and thanks, and shall ever magnify Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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