



## *email Communiqué*

**Society of King Charles the Martyr - American Region**  
***Preparing for Christmas & Our Annual Mass - December 2021***

ISSN 2153-6120

BACK ISSUES OF *SKCM NEWS* AND THE *EMAIL COMMUNIQUÉ* ARE POSTED  
AT THE AMERICAN REGION'S WEBSITE, [www.skcm-usa.org](http://www.skcm-usa.org)

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## **Christmas, the Cross & the Royal Martyr**

“And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”



In St John's Gospel we are told that if all the things that Jesus said or did were written, there would not be enough books in the world to contain the stories. Therefore, whatever words the evangelists use, we assume they were chosen for a reason and that nothing is superfluous. St Luke tells us no less than three times that Our Lord Jesus Christ was laid in a *manger*. Contemplation on this early throne for Our King led to the connection between the wood of the crib and the wood of the cross. It's an important connection to make as we remember that Jesus Christ was born so that he might die for the sins of the world. The gift of Christ wasn't simply a birth; the story does not end here. The gift of Christ is the cross.

As we conclude the holy season of Advent and prepare to meet Jesus Christ in the manger, may we also contemplate the wood of his Cross. In doing so, may we remember his companions who followed him in death. Immediately after the Nativity,

we remember St Stephen, St John, and the Holy Innocents. The church calls us to think on how our birth in Jesus Christ comes from our death to sin.

While Charles I is certainly not Jesus Christ, we commemorate the events in his life because they are waypoints toward his martyrdom. His birth, his baptism, and his coronation are significant in that they establish the man who would ultimately offer his life for the sake of Christ and his Church. His earthly crown was exchanged for a heavenly one. Charles gave his life for Christ and gave us the gift of his holy example and even now, his intercession in heaven.

I pray that as we kneel before the manger of Christ, we will keep in mind the hard wood of the cross on which was hung the world's salvation and how we are all called to bear, with the Lord's help, the burden of our own cross. May St Charles, King and Martyr inspire us to be a gift to those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit by our presence and intercession here on earth.

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

## Our 29 January 2022 Annual Mass & Luncheon

### **SOCIETY OF KING CHARLES THE MARTYR AMERICAN REGION**

### ***39th ANNUAL SOLEMN MASS OF S. CHARLES, K.M.***



**REMEMBER!**

**You are invited to join us at  
TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
Clarksville (near Nashville), Tennessee USA  
11 a.m., Saturday, 29 January 2022  
Solemn Mass with choir & orchestra**

**+ WATCH NEXT MONTH FOR STREAMING INFORMATION +**

**Preaching:** Bishop John Bauerschmidt of TN  
**Celebrant:** Fr Roger Senechal, TN Chapter Chaplain  
For Friday reception/hotel/luncheon info: go to [www.tnskcm.org](http://www.tnskcm.org), click on  
Events; **note new mailing address for Greg Smith** is PO Box 31046  
Clarksville TN 37040.  
**Local info:** [gregsmithdtm@gmail.com](mailto:gregsmithdtm@gmail.com) or website above

## An Invitation to Promote Your Local RMD Observance

The Board of Trustees continues to encourage more Royal Martyr Day celebrations in the US and Canada as well as to make those celebrations better known, both before and after. Thus, we again are offering to **advertise in advance those local observances that are made known to the Society** – in addition, of course, to the Society’s official Annual Mass & Luncheon that moves from place to place each year.

To this end, in an early-to-mid January edition of the *email Communique* we will be reporting on any locally planned **Royal Martyr Day observances or related** that are sent to us. Thus, you are invited to send in any report, skeletal or detailed, with a **24 December deadline**. Also, the June *SKCM News* will as usual report on celebrations held.

**This will be a great opportunity for you to give visibility to your plans**, thus increasing access to the purpose of our Society. Just respond to [membership@skcm-usa.org](mailto:membership@skcm-usa.org), or post to the Friends of the SKCM Facebook Group, and we’ll take it from there as well as help you with any liturgical resources (many members and friends already know the Society’s website, [www.skcm-usa.org](http://www.skcm-usa.org))!



## Preview of Royal Martyr Day Observances in Great Britain

**SOCIETY OF KING CHARLES THE MARTYR:** The Society’s usual observances will be held on **29 January**, (the 30<sup>th</sup> falling on a Sunday in 2022), with 11:40 am Commemoration of S. Charles’ Martyrdom at the **Banqueting House** entrance, followed by noon Sung Mass and Veneration of the Relics inside the Banqueting House. Contact: The Revd James Hill, SSC, SKCM Chairman, [frjameshill@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:frjameshill@hotmail.co.uk). Watch for any local updates.



**ROYAL MARTYR CHURCH UNION: 11.30 am Solemn Eucharist on Saturday 29 January 2022** at St Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield, London EC1. Celebrant: The Lord Bishop of Southwark; preacher: The Reverend Geoffrey Harbord, incoming Precentor of Sheffield Cathedral. **11:30 am Sung Eucharist on Tuesday, 1 February 2022** in St Mary’s Cathedral, Palmerston Place, in Edinburgh. Celebrant: the Provost, the Very Revd John Conway; Prof Jolyon Mitchell of the University of Edinburgh will give the address. For further

information including luncheons details etc please contact David Roberts, RMCU Secretary and Treasurer, [robertssopwellnunnery@btinternet.com](mailto:robertssopwellnunnery@btinternet.com).

**ROYAL STUART SOCIETY: 11 am on 30 January** will be the usual service at the statue in Trafalgar Square with chaplain, bugler and piper. **5 pm on 30 January:** the Society also will lay a wreath above the vault containing the remains of the King during Evensong at St George's Chapel Windsor Castle. On **8 February**, in the afternoon subject to Abbey confirmation, the Society will hold a short Service of Commemoration at the tomb of Queen Mary Stuart in Westminster Abbey. Contact: Hugh Macpherson, Principal Secretary, at [principal-secretary@royalstuartssociety.com](mailto:principal-secretary@royalstuartssociety.com).

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

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