

# **THE CHRONICLE**

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*Grace and Saint Peter's Church*  
*Baltimore's Traditional Anglo-Catholic Parish*

**May 2009**

## From the Rector

Dear Friends in Christ,

Easter was glorious. The music was wonderful and the flowers were beautiful. Our thanks should go to John Marks and his choir and to Robert Zimmerman and his workers. Ten children made their First Communion and two were Baptized at the Easter Vigil.

This May should remind us about living the Easter Life. The Fourth Sunday of Easter is the sixtieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. James K.S. Hom. We congratulate them on their happiness.

The School Fair is on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. It begins at 10:00 am. All sorts of plants and other things will be for sale. There will be all sorts of good food. Please come join us. The next Sunday we shall keep our Marian Procession. This is the fifth Sunday of Easter. All children are invited to walk in the May procession. Thus we visit the Shrine of our Lord's Mother and ours as well.

May 17<sup>th</sup> is Rogation Sunday, the Sunday before the Ascension. It reminds us to give thanks for all God's creation. It is followed by Rogation Monday and Tuesday. Then the Vigil of the Ascension is celebrated on Wednesday.

Father Donald Garfield used to refer to this part of the Church year as Processiontide. He always reminded me that a procession is not simply an aim less walk about the church. A Procession begins and ends at the Altar and visits a particular shrine that relates to the Feast being celebrated. Thus, On May 21<sup>st</sup>, the Day of the Ascension, we visit the Shrine of Christ the King. It is a reminder that the Ascension is the heavenly homecoming of Our Lord and celebrates His Ascension into heaven "to prepare a place for us." The Resurrection on Easter is fulfilled after the great forty days. A Procession and High Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 pm. Remember that this is a holy day of obligation: a day when all Christians are expected to attend Mass.

The Sunday after the Ascension is a time for waiting for the gifts of the Holy Spirit on Whitsunday.

On May 31<sup>th</sup> we celebrate the Day of Pentecost, the fiftieth day after Easter. It is also called Whitsunday. We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the people of God. As the Apostles were able to speak in other tongues, so shall the readings be read in Cantonese. Our able lector Raymond Lui will do the honors. We shall process to the Font, There we are reminded of the gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism and we rejoice in being called Christian. That afternoon at 4:30 there will be Solemn Evensong and Benediction followed by the annual Parish picnic. Please join us for this very important Feast of the Church Year.

I wish you a blessed Eastertide.

Faithfully yours,

*Frederick S. Thomas SSC*  
*Rector*

### **From Father Speer**

THE CHOIR OR CHANCEL is the architectural section of the church building standing between the nave and the sanctuary. As I enter the building from the west end, and look east toward the rising sun, my eye rises above the level of the nave and up to the level of the choir. We have already noticed the nave in the March Chronicle. The three-part design of the church building replicates the three-part design of the ancient Second Temple where Jesus was presented at the age of 40 days, where he conversed with the doctors of the law as a youth, and where he taught and preached during his public ministry.

The choir is the middle level of the building, higher than the nave but lower than the sanctuary. This middle section may be called the choir, for that is where the choir sings. Why is the choir designed antiphonally, that is, divided into halves, each facing each other, across the building? Because this is the traditional place in which members of the church recite the Daily Office of Matins and Evensong. The heart of the Daily Office is the recitation of Psalms and canticles, composed and performed in verses consisting of the back and forth of partners of prayer, in parallel form, the one answering the other.

Antiphonal singing and speaking are the lifeblood of the daily office. They keep it alive, exciting, interesting, and artistic. The Psalms especially are composed in parallel

members, the second contrasting or amplifying the first. “O come let us sing unto the Lord. Let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.” This beginning of Psalm 95 is typical. The second half of the verse picks up the theme of the first half and amplifies it.

It is typical of a traditional chapel in a school, college, or seminary, that the choir occupies most of the length of the east-west axis of the building. There may be a small court of the gentiles west of the choir, but the choir will take up perhaps three fifths or more of the length of the building. I miss the daily recitation of the Psalms and canticles in my own seminary chapel. Chapels in the Baltimore area having proper architectural choirs include the lovely chapel at Saint Mary’s Seminary in Roland Park (you think you are view Versailles as you view the building from the outside) and also the chapel of Saint Paul’s School in Brooklandville, up on the hill just north of the city.

The Chancel is another name of this architectural section between the nave and the sanctuary. This is the place where we chant the Psalms. As I enter the church from the west end, walk east through the main aisle of the nave, and step up into the chancel, God cancels the limits of my natural life here in earth, and raises me toward the heavenly country. From the choir of Chancel I look up into the Sanctuary, to the Altar, the heavenly country, and the Cross.

*Father Speer  
Priest Associate*

### **Grace and Saint Peter’s on the Web**

*Did you know that Grace and St Peter’s has a website?*

**The address is [www.graceandstpeter.org](http://www.graceandstpeter.org)**

On the website you can find information about upcoming services and concerts, read the Chronicle, find a parish calendar, view our photo gallery, and much more.

Long-time parishioners may be especially interested in viewing the photo gallery, which contains photographs of events from as long ago as the 1930s!

We would like to thank our very talented webmaster, Megan Amoss, for her hard work on the website.

## **May Music**

### **May 3 - Easter IV**

Communion Service in D Major - Leo Sowerby  
Brother James' Air - Gordon Jacob

### **May 10 - Easter V**

The Short Service - Adrian Batten  
If Ye Love Me - Thomas Tallis

### **May 17 - Easter VI**

Communion Service in C - John Ireland  
Greater Love Hath No Man - John Ireland

### **May 21 - Ascension Day**

*6:00 p.m. Procession and High Mass*  
Communion Service in C - William Mathias  
Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates - William Mathias

### **May 24 - Sunday After Ascension Day**

Communion Service in C - William Mathias  
O Sing Joyfully - Adrian Batten

### **May 31 - Pentecost**

*10:00 a.m. Procession and High Mass*  
Mass of the Quiet Hour - George Oldroyd  
Come Holy Ghost - Thomas Attwood

*4:30 p.m. Solemn Evensong and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament*  
*Followed by the Parish Picnic*  
Magnificat and Nunc dimittis in D Major - Herbert Brewer  
Come Holy Ghost, The Maker - Cedric Thorpe-Davie  
Preces & Responses - Heathcote Statham

## **The Holy Spirit**

### *The Last Message of Evelyn Underhill*

From the very beginning the Church has been sure that the series of events which were worked out in their inevitable end in Holy Week sum up and express the deepest secrets of the revelation of God to men. That means, of course, that Christianity can never be merely a pleasant or consoling religion. It is a stern business. It is concerned with the salvation, through sacrifice and love, of a world in which, as we can all see now, evil and cruelty are rampant. Its supreme symbol is the Crucifix – the total and loving self-giving of man to the redeeming purposes of God.

Because we are all the children of God we all have our part to play in his redemptive plan; and the Church consists of those loving souls who have accepted this obligation, with all its costs. Its members are all required to live, each in their own way, through the sufferings and self-abandonment of the Cross; as the only real contribution which they can make to the redemption of the world. Christians, like their Master, must be ready to accept the worst that evil and cruelty can do to them, and vanquish it by the power of love.

If sacrifice, total and self-giving to God's mysterious purpose, is what is asked of us, his answer to that sacrifice is the gift of power. Easter and Whitsuntide complete the Christian Mystery by showing us first our Lord himself and then his chosen apostles possessed of a new power – the power of the Spirit – which changed every situation in which they were placed. That supernatural power is still the inheritance of every Christian, and our idea of Christianity is distorted and incomplete unless we rely on it. We ought to pray for it; expect it, trust it; and as we do this, we shall gradually become more and more sure of it.

*This was the last letter Evelyn Underhill wrote to a prayer group she led, at Easter 1941.*

## May Mass Intentions

*May is the Month of Our Lady*

1 SS PHILIP AND JAMES, App MM	Pope Benedict
2 St Athanasius, BCD	Eugene, our Bishop
3 EASTER IV	Our Parish Family
4 St Monica, W	John our Bishop
5 St Pius V, PC	The Society of the Holy Cross (SSC)
6 St John Before the Latin Gate	The All Saints Sisters
7 St Stanislas, BM	The Church in Europe
8 Apparition of St Michael the Archangel	The St. Michael's Conference
9 St Gregory Nazianzus, BCD	The Joseph Richey House
10 EASTER V	Our Parish Family
11 Monthly Requiem	For the Faithful departed
12 St Pancras, M	The Church of England
13 St Robert Bellarmine, BCD	Nashotah House
14 St Boniface, M	Religious orders
15 St John Baptist de la Salle, C	The Church in France
16 St Simon Stock, C	English Christian witness
17 EASTER VI	Our Parish Family
18 Rogation Monday	For God's creation
19 St Dunstan, BC (Rogation Tuesday)	For a fruitful season
20 St Bernardine of Siena, C (Vigil)	Preparation for the Ascension
21 ASCENSION DAY (Holy Day of Obligation)	Thankfulness for Redemption
22 Octave	Holiness of Life
23 Octave	Church of the Ascension, Chicago
24 SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY	Our Parish Family
25 St Gregory VII, PC (Octave)	The Church in Italy
26 St Philip Neri, C (Octave)	The London Oratory
27 St Bede, CD (Octave)	Church historians
28 Octave Day (St Augustine of Canterbury, BCD)	For Archbishop Rowan
29 Feria	Grace and St. Peter's School
30 Vigil of Pentecost	Seminarians
31 PENTECOST	Our Parish Family

## **Daily Mass Schedule**

### **Sunday**

7:45 a.m. Matins & Low Mass

10:00 a.m. High Mass

5:00 p.m. Evensong

### **Monday**

6:00 p.m. Low Mass

### **Tuesday**

12:00 Noon Low Mass and Holy Unction

### **Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. Low Mass

### **Thursday**

6:00 p.m. Low Mass

### **Friday**

8:45 a.m. Sung Mass

6:00 p.m. Low Mass

### **Saturday**

12:00 Noon Low Mass

### **Grace and Saint Peter's Church**

The Rev'd Frederick S. Thomas, SSC, Rector

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