

THE CHRONICLE

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

May 2010

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. Four children made their first Holy Communion on Holy Thursday and two were baptized and made their first Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil.

The School Fair is on May 1, beginning at 10:00 a.m. All sorts of plants and other things will be for sale. There will be all sorts of good food. Please come join us. Also on the first of May is the Annual Mass and meeting of the Society of Mary. The Mass will be at 11:00 a.m. at Mount Calvary Church on North Eutaw Street. Everyone is invited. Father John Jordan, who is the son of a classmate of mine and also a priest, will be the preacher.

On Sunday the 9th of May we shall keep our Marian procession. This is the sixth Sunday of Easter. All children are invited to walk in the May procession. We visit the Shrine of our Lord's Mother and ours as well.

May 13th is Ascension Day. Mass will be celebrated at 12:00 Noon and at 6:00 p.m. with High Mass followed by a reception in the Rectory. If you can bring a dish please speak to Fay Lee, Louise Tapper, or Nona Porter. The Vigil of the Ascension will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 30. "God is gone up with a heavenly noise." We give thanks to the Risen and Ascended Christ. Ascension marks the end of the forty days of Eastertide and the beginning of Ascensontide. Ascension Day is a Holy Day of Obligation.

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 aimless 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 Ascension Day, Thursday, May 13th, 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.

The Sunday after the Ascension is a time for waiting for the gifts of the Holy Spirit on Whitsunday. On May 23rd we celebrate the Day of Pentecost, the fiftieth day after Easter, 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 and English. Our able lector Raymond Lui will do the honors. We shall process to the Font, where we are reminded of the gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism and we rejoice in being called Christian. The last Sunday of May, the 30th, is the Feast of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity. We give thanks by processing to the Font.

I wish you a blessed Eastertide,

The Rev'd Frederick S. Thomas, SSC
Rector

ASCENSION DAY

Thursday, May 13

12:00 Noon Low Mass

6:00 p.m. Procession and High Mass

Ascension Day is a Holy Day of Obligation, a day when all Christians are expected to attend Mass.

From Father Speer

The Annunciation window is the second from the High Altar on the Gospel side of the nave of Grace and Saint Peter's Church. The two panels together tell the story of the Archangel Gabriel announcing to Our Lady that the Father has called her to be the Mother of God. The Annunciation gives to Catholics the voice of prayer three times daily: morning, noon, and evening. The first Joyful Mystery of the Holy Rosary, the Annunciation is both ordinary and extraordinary. It is the most ordinary event in human life for a woman to be with child. But it is the most extraordinary event in human life for her to be with child by the siring of the Holy Ghost. Saint Luke tells us this story in chapter two of his Gospel. The story gets its name from the Latin, *Angelus*, that is, the Angel announced unto Mary. And he says to her, "Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee."

On the right, the Archangel Gabriel, dressed in his white flight suit, flies to Mary's doorstep. Hearing his whirring wings, Mary answers the door. Hovering a bit off the ground, feet bare, Gabriel raises his right hand and announces the miracle to Mary, looking directly at her. On the left, the Holy Ghost, in the form of a dove, glides down toward the womb of Mary on beams of sunlight. See Mary, robed in green light, maroon and blue. Surrounded by lilies, her iconographic signature, her feet covered and her eyes modestly cast downward, she responds. The vase on the floor displays the fleur-de-lis, another of Our Lady's symbols. Mary prays the response of acceptance providing the model for each Christian striving simply to perform the will of God. "Behold the handmaid of the Lord," says she. "Be it unto me according to thy word." This is the Feast of the Incarnation, the Infleshment, of God.

This picture of the Mother of All Mothers Days is especially articulate on the twenty-fifth day of March, exactly nine months before the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, Christmas Day. A few verses after this story, and after the Visitation, Mary sings the Magnificat: "My soul doth magnify the Lord," giving voice to the first canticle the church sings daily at Evensong. The memorial on the window reads, "In loving memory of our parents Samuel S. and Elizabeth Keyser."

*Father Speer
Priest Associate*

If Elizabeth cried out with so loud a voice, "Blessed art thou among women" when Christ was but newly conceived in [Mary's] womb, what expressions of honour and admiration can we think sufficient now that Christ is in heaven, and that mother with him. Far be it from any Christian to derogate from the special privilege granted her, which is incommunicable to any other. We cannot bear too reverend a regard for the mother of our Lord, so long as we give her not that worship which is due to the Lord himself.

The Right Reverend John Pearson (1612-1686), Bishop of Chester in the Church of England, 1673-1686.

May Kalendar and Mass Intentions

May is the Month of Our Lady

1 SS PHILIP & JAMES, App. MM	Eugene, our Bishop
2 EASTER V	Our Parish Family
3 Invention of the Holy Cross	John, our Bishop
4 Martyrs of England and Wales	Rowan, Archbishop of Canterbury
5 St Pius V, PC	Pope Benedict
6 St John Before the Latin Gate	The Joseph Richey House
7 St Stanislas, BM	The Society of the Holy Cross
8 Apparition of St Michael	The All Saints Sisters
9 EASTER VI (MAY FESTIVAL)	Our Parish Family
10 Rogation Monday	The earth
11 Rogation Tuesday	The new crops
12 Vigil	A lively Faith
13 ASCENSION DAY	Our Parish Family
14 Octave	Holiness of Life
15 Octave (St Jean Baptiste de la Salle, C)	Religious orders
16 SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY	Our Parish Family
17 Octave	Grace & St. Peter's School
18 Monthly Requiem	The Faithful Departed
19 Octave (St Dunstan, BC)	The Church of England
20 Octave Day	The Church in Wales
21 Feria	Ascension Church, Chicago
22 Vigil	For those about to be Baptized
23 WHITSUNDAY	Our Parish Family
24 Whit Monday	Apostolic Zeal
25 Whit Tuesday	The Diocese of Maryland
26 Whit Wednesday (St Philip Neri, C)	The Church in Italy
27 Whit Thursday (St Bede, C)	Church Historians
28 Whit Friday (St Augustine of Canterbury, BC)	The See of Canterbury
29 Whit Saturday	Ordinands
30 TRINITY SUNDAY	Our Parish Family
31 QUEENSHIP BVM	Greater devotion to Our Lady

The Rosary will be offered this month on Saturday, May 8 at 11:30 a.m.

May Music Schedule

May 2 - Easter V

Missa Tertia (1944) - Lajos Bardos
Though I Speak With The Tongues Of Men - Edward Bairstow
From The End Of The Earth - Alan Hovhaness

May 9 - Easter VI

Communion Service in D - Everett Titcomb
O Living Bread - Percy Whitlock
The Holy Eucharist - William H. Harris

May 13 - Ascension Day

Missa della battaglia - Giovanni Francesco Anerio
Viri Galilei - Luca Marenzio
Ascendens Christus - Jakob Handl

May 16 – Sunday After Ascension Day

Mass in the Dorian Mode - Barrie Cabena
O God The King Of Glory - Henry Purcell
God Omnipotent Reigneth - Charles Wood

May 23 - Whitsunday

Communion Service in A Minor - Harold Darke
Listen Sweet Dove - Grayston Ives
Come Holy Ghost - Thomas Attwood

May 30 - Trinity Sunday

Communion Service in C - William Mathias
Holy Blessed Trinity - Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Hymn To The Trinity - Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Regina Coeli Laetare

These Latin words are the opening verse of the Easter anthem of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Queen of Heaven, be joyful! During the Easter season this anthem is recited every day instead of the Angelus, and after High Mass on Sundays. Although no one knows its authorship, and it can only be traced to the 12th century, the legend is that St Gregory the Great (d. 604) heard the words from angels as he walked barefoot in a great Easter procession at Rome.

Mary is queen because she is the chief woman in history and because her Son is king. Just as Jesus is said to be the new Adam, so Mary is said to be the new Eve. Just as Eve was born from Adam without a human mother, so Jesus was born from Mary without a human father. Just as the first Adam and Eve were free from all sin in the beginning, so it should be no wonder that Jesus and Mary were also free from sin. Indeed, Mary was washed by the redeeming blood of Jesus from the first moment of her existence. This is called the Immaculate Conception.

We address Mary in prayer and song because we share with her in the Communion of Saints. We do not suppose Mary or any of the faithful to be dead and gone. Instead, whoever believes in Mary's Son has eternal life. Mary is already with the Father, as we shall be one day. This is expressed in the [1979 Prayer Book] collect for her day, "O God, who hast taken to thyself the Blessed Virgin Mary." This is called the Assumption. Because Mary is the model of the church, the bride of Christ, what happens to her is meant to happen to all God's people.

The Rev'd Richard Phelps, SSC, Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, East Chicago, Indiana

Grace and Saint Peter's School
Spring Fair



Saturday, May 1



10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

7:45 a.m. Matins & Low Mass

9:30 a.m. Confessions

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

11:30 a.m. Rosary (First Saturday of the month or when noted)

12:00 Noon Low Mass

Grace and Saint Peter's Church

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

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