The Ascension News

Vol. XXXI. Philadelphia June, 1917 No. 6

Church of the Ascension
Broad Street, Below South
All Seats Free

Services

Holy Communion
Every Sunday .............. 7.30 and 11.00 A.M.
Holy Days .............. 7.30 and 10.30 A.M.
Morning Prayer
Sundays .................. 10.30 A.M.
Daily .................. 10.00 A.M.

Evensong
Sundays (Choral) .............. 4.00 P.M.
Daily .................. 5.00 P.M.
Instructions in Bible and Prayer
Book, in the Church, by the Rector, Sundays .............. 3.00 P.M.
Sunday School and Bible Class 3.00 P.M.

All the Seats are Free at all Services. God's House is open to all its Children
The Church is always open for private prayer, and the Clergy can be seen after any service or by appointment.
J. E. CALDWELL & CO.
JEWELERS - SILVERSMITHS
STATIONERS
CHESTNUT and JUNIPER STREETS
PHILADELPHIA

WE GO EVERYWHERE
Telephones Dickinson 5036
Home 2705
Residence 3724 N. 13th Street

George W. Haines
HEATERS, RANGES & ROOFING
SHEET METAL WORK

J. Wolff Moore
FLORIST
1639 North Broad Street
Philadelphia

FRANK STEINER
Paint Store
Paints, Varnishes, Oils, Glass, Brushes, Etc.
House and Sign Painter
Gilding - Glazing
Brick Front Renovating and Froscoing
2733 Poplar Street

JAMES N. LONG
Heaters, Ranges, Mantels, Grates, Tiles, Etc.
Call and see the latest Improved Ranges
Repairing of all kinds of Heaters and Ranges
Rods Replaced and Repaired
Chimneys Rebuilt and Painted
No. 2 North 20th Street

THE ASCENSION NEWS

The Church of the Ascension
BROAD STREET, BELOW SOUTH STREET
Phone, Dickerson 5446

RECTOR
Rev. G. Woodside Hodge, D.D.
291 South Thirteenth Street

CURATE
Rev. Richard J. Morris
The Colonial, 11th and Spruce Streets

WARDENS
Thomas R. Neilson, M.D.
Millard F. Roberts

CHOIR MASTER AND ORGANIST
Henry L. T. Ullrich

SEXTON
Wm. J. Morgan
202 S. Atlhans Street

GUILD MEETINGS

Mondays, Junior St. John's Guild ................. 8.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, S. Agnes' Guild ..................... 7.00 P. M.
Tuesdays, Girls' Friendly Society ............... 8.00 P. M.
Third Tuesday, Brotherhood of St. Andrew .... 8.00 P. M.
Thursdays, St. John's Guild .................... 8.00 P. M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 3.00 P. M.
Superintendent .................................. The Curate

DEDICATION FESTIVAL.

Our annual parish Festival was celebrated as usual on Ascension day, with an anniversary in the evening, being the thirty-eighth occasion of the kind during the present Rectorship.

On Ascension day a year ago the Rector announced that it would probably be the last time such a celebration in the Parish would be held on that Feast, as the name of the Parish was to be changed, and it was to be made a Diocesan institution. Various things, however, have delayed the carrying out of this project, but things are now shaping themselves so that it is hoped rapid progress will soon be made. Formal consent has been given by the Bishop and Standing Committee and by the Diocesan Convention to the name of the Parish being changed, and it only remains to have it legally carried out by the civil court. When this is done and the architect's plans are approved by the Architectural Commission and by Mr. Watson, the executor of Mrs. Watson's will, the church will be placed in the hands of the Bishop to use according to the plans he has already formulated.

As the Church is to be called S. Mary's there would be no appropriateness in keeping Ascension day any longer as the parochial Festival. Probably the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, which occurs on February second, will be taken for that purpose. And as by a Canon adopted at the last General Convention the financial and statistical year of all our parishes is to be the civil year, that will be a very convenient time, as it will be so soon after closing our annual reports. This will give us another Dedication Festival within nine months, but after
that of course they will occur regularly at a year’s interval.

In studying the statistics of the past year it will be noticed that the number of Baptisms, Marriages, Confirmations, and Burials have been less than last year. These items naturally vary from year to year. But the number of registered Communions and the presence of the communicants still decreases, due to the continuous removals from this part of the city. We do not wonder that people do move to more attractive localities, but it makes the work of the churches which remain here much harder. And if people move away and yet retain their connection with us, as many of them do, we insist that they should still attend the Church and contribute to its support.

The ten Communicants of the parish who have died since last Ascension day, were: Mrs. Sadie Kelly, one of our old Sunday School girls, who had married and died, leaving two or three small children. The second was Edna Grace Reeves, the young wife of our Boy Scout Master. She had been married only a little over two years and had a baby boy. She had been confirmed in the Church the previous Easter. The third was George Ware, who had been confirmed some years ago, but owing to his occupation and the small size of the town he had not attended Church, and for his first Communion only saw him before his death. He was 18 years old and had continued working on the farm until he was 30. The fourth was an aged member of the Parish, Mrs. Cecelia Harrich Darlington. She was over eighty and had for many years been an inmate of Christ Church Hospital, but as long as she was able she came to regular Christmas and Easter Communion, and was always present when she was able. The fifth was Miss Adaline Lucy Acott, one of our Sunday School teachers, who died suddenly of pneumonia. Though she only became an attendant of the Church when the Rev. Mr. Morris became Curate, who had been her Rector, and though she lived at a great distance from the Church, she came to it very regularly and was most faithful in her duties to her class and in other Church work. We miss her presence very much. The sixth was Mrs. William C. Lloyd, formerly our Accounting Warden. He had been connected with the parish for many years, and during his residence held a Vestryman and Warden, and was at one time a churchwarden. He died in his 84th year. For some time his infirmities prevented his attendance at Church, but the Rector administered to him privately, and he was buried from the Church. The seventh was Mrs. Margaret Halley, transferred to this parish from All Saints’ Church, to which she had belonged, removed from 12th and Fitzwater Streets, but the state of her health never permitted her to attend the Church. The eighth was Mrs. Elizabeth Walker, who, with her husband and children, attended the Church when they lived here. Of late years she moved to a distance and could, rarely come to the Rector ministered to her on her deathbed and at her funeral. The ninth was John Barton Cooley. He had formerly belonged to the Methodist body, but was received into the Church during his last illness. The tenth was Mrs. Clara Elizabeth Hillinger. She had been connected with the Church since the Church of the Messiah at Broad and Federal Streets, had closed. The Rector gave her the Holy Communion on a number of occasions during her long illness, and was buried from the Church with a celebration of the Holy Communion. This should always take place at Christian burials.

In this connection we note the sudden death last December of our former Curate, the Rev. H. Page Dyer. He had served the Church in that capacity for twelve years, a devoted man, absorbed in his work, and many of our people were devotedly attached to him. May he and all those mentioned rest in peace and joy in that new life into which they have entered.

The Sunday School and Saturday Industrial School have been maintained with about the same attendance as previously. There is little opportunity for growth for them at present owing to the population by which the Church is surrounded being now almost altogether colored.

The Young People’s Guilds have been well sustained and made interesting. There is particular cause for congratulation in the large accession of members recently to our Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and to the reorganization of St. Agnes’ Guild for little girls as a Candidates’ class for the Girls’ Friendly Society. This is due to its Consecrated Secretary, Miss Flay.

The Woman’s Guild has not grown in numbers, but those belonging to it have done faithful work, and its receipts have been slightly more than last year. In regard to the Financial statistics, we find that the total receipts were some $1,200 in excess of last year. But his includes $1,000 received as a legacy for the Poor of the Parish, and the cost of a stained glass window placed in the Church of the Poor. Our receipts, therefore, were about the same as those of the previous year, which, considering our circumstances, is a matter for congratulation. As, however, we have a deficit of some $150 for the year, and nearly the same the year before, it is manifest that our receipts are some $300 less than our expenses, and some steps ought to be taken to permanently remedy this condition.

We have of course before us the prospect of the altered condition of the parish. If it is made, as we trust it will now shortly become, the Bishop’s Church, and the Church is enlarged and beautified, it is a promise and attract to it more people, so that we trust our report another year will be of improvement greatly in excess of anything we have known in the past.
PARISH NOTES.

Ascension day was kept as usual with a Choral Celebration in the morning, a
Choral Evensong at night with the Rector's Anniversary sermon. The attend-
ance was, as it generally has been, a disappointment. So great a day should be
better observed, and our people should manifest a greater interest in the affairs
of their parish. The number joining in the annual procession of Guilds was not
what it should have been. We would suppose that the members of the Guilds
would take a pride in turning out on such an occasion and make as good a
showing as they could.

The only occasion connected with our Parish Festival at which the attendance
was good, was the Parish Tea on Monday evening of May 21st. Our Sunday
School room was filled, and a very excellent entertainment was furnished by
some friends of Miss Ely, the head of the S. Agnes Guild. Our Choirmaster,
Mr. Ulrich, and Master Watson Mull, one of our choir boys, gave us also a
number of excellent songs. There was the usual ample repast of ice cream,
strawberries, cake and coffee, and dancing by the young people followed later.
Altogether it was a most enjoyable occasion, and one which we trust, serves
to cement our people together.

Sunday services. The daily service is discontinued this month, and the Sun-
day School and Sunday afternoon service after the second Sunday in the month.
The 7.30 and 10.30 A.M. services on Sundays and on all Holy days will be
continued without interruption, and prayers will be said at 10.45 A.M.,
generally on Wednesdays and Fridays during June and September. The Sun-
day School and Sunday afternoon service will be resumed on the third Sun-
day in September.

On Sunday afternoon, June 10th, the prizes for good attendance and etc. in
the Sunday School for the winter will be awarded.

The annual picnic of the parish will take place on Saturday, June 23rd. It
will be held as formerly on Burlington Island. Free transportation will be
provided for all the members of the Sunday School and of the Mothers' Meeting
from the Church to the Island and return. Entertainments will be given to
the children on the Island, but each person is expected to bring his or her lunch.
Members of the parish can join the picnic by paying their own expenses.
All will assemble in the Parish building by 7 A.M.

Should June 23rd prove stormy the picnic will take place the following Saturday.

The envelopes, sent out May 1st were for six months, and the benevolent side
of these are, three months for the Poor of the parish and three months for
parochial activities. The Rector depends on the receipts through these for
carrying on the Mothers' Meeting and other benevolent work of the parish, and
supporting the Parish Guilds, providing summer outings, and etc.

More envelopes needed. Out of over four hundred Communicants messages to
the parish only about one hundred and twenty-five are now using envelopes.
This is manifestly not a fair proportion of contributing members.

The members of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, who so earnestly conducted the
campaign to increase the Church attendance, are going to conduct another
such campaign to increase the number of those using envelopes and thus
remedy the trouble we have in regularly meeting our expenses. Ten men have
undertaken to get each ten new subscribers at ten cents a week each, which
would give us $500 a year more income.
Or where ten cents is thought too much
to give, two will be found who will give five cents each.
This is a small amount
enough for a young man. Even they can be able and willing to give that.
We trust success will come to this effort.

Letter from the Vestry. At its regular
meeting on May 3rd, the Vestry directed its Finance Committee, consisting

of Messrs. Newbold, French and Rob-
erts, to send out a circular letter to all
the registered members of the parish, informing them that they have a
deficit of $450 due at the end of our fiscal year to our Rector on account of his
salary, and asking for special contributions toward making it up, and also suggesting
that in order to avoid any deficit in the future each Communicant should in-
crease his or her annual contribution by one dollar. This would not be a burden
upon any one and would offset the additional support needed.

$187 have been received in response to the letter so far.

Enlistment for the Army. As far as we know we present the only men from
this parish who have yet enlisted for the Army, any branch of the service are
E. E. Brown, Stanley Atkins and James S. Hill. We trust the members of the
congregation will remember them in their prayers.

REPORT.

The following is the report of the Parish for the year ending May 1st, as
made to the Bishop:

Baptisms—Adults, 2; Infants, 10;
total, 12.
Confirmed—Males, 6; females, 6;
total, 12.
Communicants added—New, 15; by
transfer, 7; total, 22; died, 10; removed
by revision of list, 20; by transfer, 8;
total, 46; present number, 432.
Marriages—4.
Burials, 15.
Public Services—Sunday, 147; on
the other days, 600; total, 747.
Celebrations of Holy Communion—
247.
Children Catechised—Times, 108.
Sunday School—Officers and teachers,
9; scholars, 88.
Other Parish Agencies—Officers and
workers and members, 100; Industrial
School Teachers, 6; scholars, 48; Mothers'
Meeting, members, 16.
Money Receipts—Offerings for Par-
ish support, $4,711.82; offerings for

purposes outside the Parish, $1,582.07;
Investments, $554.24; other sources, enter-
tainment, etc., $1,287.55; Sunday
Schools and Guilds, $260.12; the poor,
$747.16; Women's Auxiliary, $313.50;
for Endowment Fund, $45.56; Legacy,
$1,000.00; total, $9,003.74.

Expenditures—Parochial current ex-
ceptions (including salaries of clergy,
music, fuel and lighting, care of church
buildings and grounds and ordinary repa-
ries of same), $4,526.44; interest on
mortgage, $569.34; support of the Sunday
and Industrial Schools and Guilds, $1,458.35;
for the Poor, $387.91; total; Endower-
ment Fund, $1,045.56; Pension Assess-
ment, $80; miscellaneous, $1,028.36;
total, $7,010.91.

Diocesan—Episcopal and Conven-
tion Fund, $200.00; Diocesan Missions,
$200.00; Episcopal Hospital, $140.02;
Bishop's Fund, $5,73; total, $430.22.

General Missions—Collections,
$309.81; Pension Fund, $200.00; War
Relief, $15.00; Theological education, $5;
Clergy Relief, $10; 2 Prize Book and
Tract Societies, $13.00; United offering,
$75.00; Periodical Club, $14.00; total,$1,215.09; Total for all objects,
$1,187.09.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A blue mark opposite this notice is a reminder that your subscription to the News is due and a renewal will be gratefully appreciated.

The following were received since the last issue.

Miss Beecher (2) Miss Halbrook
Miss Brown (2) Miss Hamilton
Mrs. Carpenter Miss Hamilton
Mrs. Shelton (2) Miss Macartney

NOTICE.

The Bishop of the Diocese invites all parishioners to attend the open-air
services on the side of the proposed Cathedral for the Diocese on the Park-
yway at 23rd Street each Sunday during the summer beginning June 3 at 5 P. M.

Preachers for the month of June: 3rd, The Rt. Rev. M. Rhelam-
Fiske, D.D.; 17th, The Rt. Rev. Etfe-
bert Talbot, D.D.; 24th, The Rev. H.
Percy Silver, D.D.