

# WEEKLY NEWS

✠ The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost ✠

## On Sundays

**Low Mass** is offered at 8 a.m. in S John's Chapel after which silence is kept in the chapel for **Centering Prayer**. At 10 o'clock we pray the **Rosary**. Throughout the summer **Terce** is recited in the church choir stalls at 10.30 followed by **Solemn or Sung Mass** at 11 and **Coffee Hour** just after Mass. **Vespers** is chanted in Latin at 3 p.m. in S John's Chapel followed by the **Novena** to Our Lady of Clemency and **Benediction** of the Blessed Sacrament.

## Weekdays

**Daily Mass** is offered Monday through Friday at 12.10 p.m. (10 a.m. on Saturdays and holidays). **Vespers** is recited in the Church at 5.30 p.m. Monday through Friday and at 3 p.m. on Saturdays followed by **Shrine Prayers** to Our Lady of Clemency.

*Service booklets for all services are published and available on the Usher's tables and at [www.s-clements.org](http://www.s-clements.org).*

## They that go down to the sea



**T**hey that go down to the sea in ships; and occupy their business in great waters; These men see the works of the LORD: and his wonders in the deep. For at his word the stormy wind ariseth: which lifteth up the waves thereof. They are carried up to the heav'n, and down again to the earth. Their soul melteth away because of the trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man; and are at their wits' end. So when

they cry unto the LORD in their trouble: He deliv'reth them out of their distress. For he maketh the storm to cease, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they are at rest: and so he bringeth them unto the haven where they would be.

This is the slightly altered version of verses from Psalm 107 set to remarkably beautiful choral and organ music by Herbert Sumsion for the Choir of Repton Preparatory School. That anthem has been playing in my head as I gaze upon the sea from a friendly and familiar perch in Ogunquit, Maine, thanking God for being able to resume a cherished routine with Barbara, Francis and Cocoa the Chihuahua.

I have with me and highly recommend to you Heather Lanier's latest book of poems — *Psalms of Unknowing* (Monkfish Book

## About today's Mass

Today's Epistle and Gospel insist that we should not allow our lives to be divided between the following of two opposing principles, the spirit and the flesh, God and money. We must choose God and the things of God. Whatever is useful and good will be given us in addition, by the ever-loving Providence of our Father in heaven who feeds the birds and arrays the lilies of the field.

It is the Holy Spirit, the creator within us of the new man, who inspires our choices. There is a continual struggle between our evil tendencies - pride, egoism, the desire for pleasure - which separate us from God, and all that, on the contrary, aspires after God and brings us nearer to Him.

Today's Collect is the expression of complete confidence and filial trust in God. The lively consciousness of human weakness does not interfere with the Christian's peace of mind; it only makes him repeat more insistently his joy at belonging to God and at living under His watchful protection. The Church precedes us in this path; she gives us hymns of confidence and faith to sing: "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. The angel of the Lord encamps around His people; taste and see How good the Lord is."

-- Dom G.Lefebvre, O.S.B.

Publishing Company, Rhinebeck, NY, 2023). Also Fr. Davison's latest *Astrobiology and Christian Doctrine, Exploring the Implications of Life in the Universe* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2023). When I return to you next week I'll be watching the mail for parishioner Anne Drury Hall's *Where the Muses Still Haunt, the Second Reading*, (St. Augustine's Press, South Bend Indiana, 2022). We are especially blessed that S Clement's is home to so many talented writers, scholars, artists and musicians. I hope we'll be able to spend time with all of them in the 2023-2024 season of Sunday Forums commencing September 17 when I plan to kick things off by thinking with you about the *Church as Teacher*, in a series exploring catechetical and mystagogical materials intended for robust pre and post-baptismal instruction in the early church. Talks are planned for 30 minutes.

Yours faithfully

— Father Alton

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## The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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This Friday, September 8 is the Feast of Our Lady's Birth. Join us online or in person for Mass at 12.10.

*Today the Virgin Theotokos Mary*

*The bridal chamber of the Heavenly Bridegroom*

*By the will of God is born of a barren woman,*

*Being prepared as the chariot of God the Word.*

*She was fore-ordained for this, since she is the divine gate and the true Mother of Life.*

