

WEEKLY NEWS

✠ The Fifteenth 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.

Excitement in the Air!

This is such a busy and exciting time of the year with students and teachers returning to schools, friends and neighbors returning from vacations and, beginning next Sunday, the full compliment of ladies and gentlemen of our renowned choir affectionately known as the *Clementones* returning to their stalls in church. Each Sunday throughout the summer season a quartet of these fine singers led the chants and hymns and offered beautiful mass settings with one voice on a part, an arrangement requiring exceptional skill and brave, highly professional singing. One needn't stray far from Appletree Street to realize what a gift Peter Conte, Bernie Kunkel and their colleagues are to us and through our Youtube outreach, to a much broader community. Beginning today (and entirely funded this season through the generosity of the Organist & Choirmaster in collaboration and the Curtis Institute of Music) we are able to welcome Isabella (Isza) Wu to S Clement's as organ scholar for the 2023-24 season. She will be alternating between the Sunday 11 o'clock mass and 3 p.m. vespers playing organ repertoire and accompanying the choir, chant schola and congregation. As she enriches our program, I trust S Clement's will enhance Isza's musical and liturgical training.

Here at S Clement's there remains a formal correspondence between the classical liturgies we offer and the music they require, much of it based on the modes and melodies of Gregorian Chant we encounter in the minor propers of mass (*introits, graduals, alleluias, offertory and communion antiphons*) and frequently quoted in choral mass settings (*Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Agnus Dei*) and much organ repertoire as well.

Despite good intentions of the liturgical reformers who brought about the end of the time-honored yearly cycle of

About today's Mass

This Sunday's liturgy is pervaded by a sense of the confidence which inspires the Church in her prayer. The chants of today's Mass are appeals to the divine mercy, but mingled with them are phrases of thanksgiving, for it is certain that God will not fail to hear the prayers of His people.

The Gospel reminds us of the infinite goodness of Christ, strikingly shown, from both its human and divine sides, in the raising of the dead of the son of the widowed mother of Nain - a figure of the resurrections for those who have been buried in the death of sin.

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



lessons in favor of the *Novus Ordo's* three-year scheme, a lamentable rupture began to separate the faithful not only from chant in general but also from the explication of scripture in Bach's cantatas, motets and chorales, much other German and English hymnody, S Thomas Aquinas' *Catena Aurea*, and the *Plain and Parochial Sermons* of S John Henry Newman to name just a few favorites.

Here's a brief example to consider. Bach composed four cantatas for the 16th Sunday after Trinity (15th after Pentecost in our present missal) based on today's Gospel (Luke 7. 11-16) each one a musical and theological masterpiece meditating on the mystery of death itself. Here is the final chorale from Cantata 95:

<i>Weil du vom Tod erstanden bist,</i>	Since thou from death arisen art,
<i>Werd ich im Grab nicht bleiben;</i>	I'll in the grave not tarry;
<i>Dein letztes Wort mein Auffahrt ist,</i>	Thy final word my rising is,
<i>Todsfurcht kannst du vertreiben.</i>	Death's fear canst thou now banish.
<i>Denn wo du bist, da komm ich hin,</i>	For where thou art there will I come,
<i>Dass ich stets bei dir leb und bin;</i>	That I e'er with thee live and be;
<i>Drum fahr ich him mit Freuden.</i>	So I depart with pleasure.

Yours faithfully
— Father Alton

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

This Thursday we keep the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross with Low Mass at 12.10 p.m. and Sung Mass and Procession at 7 p.m. The relic of the true cross will be offered for veneration following both masses. Please do remember the Order of the Holy Cross in your prayers and their several oblates and many friends in this parish. Originally this feast was celebrated solely to honor the anniversary of the discovery of the Holy Cross by S Helena and the dedication of the basilica consecrated at Jerusalem on September 14 in the year 335, on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of Calvary. Fr. Lefebvre writes: *The liturgy of the Cross is a triumphant liturgy; in it the Church celebrates the emblem of our Redemption. The bronze serpent lifted up by Moses over the people, was a foreshadowing of the salvation that was to come when Jesus was lifted up on the Cross.*