

Excerpts from Butler's *Lives of The Saints*

ST MARGARET WARD, MARTYR (A.D. 1588)

WHATEVER the attitude of those on the continent, English Catholics at home did not lag behind in opposition to the Great Armada of Spain or in preparation of defence against it; nationalist patriotism as we know it today was not then matured, but, even though one of Philip's admitted objects was to re-establish the Church, Catholics no more than anybody else wanted a Spanish invasion of England: the queen persecuted them, but she was still the queen. Nevertheless the defeat of the Armada at the end of July 1588 was followed at once by a more severe persecution, of which the first victims suffered in London on 28 August. Six new gallows were set up in various parts of the city, and each of them received its hallowing of innocent blood. On 30 August six died at Tyburn. One was a priest, four were laymen, and one, Margaret Ward, was a woman, and the only one of those who died in the aftermath of the Armada to have been canonized among the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales on 25 October 1970.

She was a gentlewoman, born at Congleton in Cheshire, in the service of another gentlewoman, Mrs Whittel in London, who was a close friend of the priests sent over from the seminaries on the continent. One of them, William Watson, was being brutally treated in the Bridewell prison. Watson was not an attractive character, being described by Fr Godfrey Anstruther, O.P. as having "a vivid imagination, a facile pen and little regard for the truth ... a great eccentric if not actually mad". He had, however, a remarkable ability to escape from prison, which he did on at least three occasions. In the first escape he was aided by Margaret Ward who smuggled a rope into Bridewell, hiding it in a clean shirt under a layer of food in a basket. In making use of it at two o'clock the following morning Watson fell breaking an arm and leg and making a considerable noise in the process. He was got away by a young Irish water-man, John Roche, whom Margaret had asked to procure a boat and who, to assist the priest's escape, changed clothes with him and so was himself arrested. The rope was traced back to Margaret and she was thrown into prison. She was strung up by the wrists so that only the tips of her toes were touching the ground, in which position she was held for so long that she became crippled. When they were charged, both Margaret and John refused to disclose the priest's whereabouts.

When they were brought to trial at Newgate on 26 August, eight days after their arrest, they were offered their liberty if they would ask the queen's pardon and promise to go to church. They replied that they had done nothing that could reasonably offend Her Majesty, and that it was against their conscience to attend a Protestant church. They were both condemned, and suffered martyrdom together four days later.

ST AIDAN, BISHOP OF LINDISFARNE (A.D. 651)

AIDAN was a native of Ireland, and is said to have been a disciple of St Senan on Scatterry Island, but nothing else is known with certainty of his early life, before he became a monk of Iona. He was well received by King Oswald, who bestowed on him for his episcopal seat the isle of Lindisfarne. By his actions he showed that he neither sought nor loved the things of this world, the presents which were made him by the king, or by the other rich men, he distributed among the poor. He rarely would go to the king's table, and never without taking with him one or two of his clergy, and always afterwards made haste away to get on with his work.

The centre of St Aidan's activity was the island of Lindisfarne, now generally called Holy Isle, off the coast of Northumberland, between Berwick and Bamburgh. Here he had his see and established a monastery under the Rule of St Columcille; it has not improperly been called the English Iona, for from it the paganism of Northumbria was gradually dispelled and barbarian customs undermined. St Aidan took to this monastery twelve English boys to be brought up there, and he was indefatigable in caring for the welfare of children and of slaves, for the manumission of many of whom he paid from alms bestowed on him. The great king St Oswald assisted his bishop in every possible way, as did St Oswin his successor, and when in 651 Oswin was murdered at Gilling, Aidan survived him only eleven days. He died at the royal castle at Bamburgh, which he used as a mission centre, leaning against a wall of the church where a tent had been set up to shelter him. He was first buried in the cemetery of Lindisfarne, but when the new church of St Peter was built there his body was translated into the sanctuary.



DONUT SOCIAL

Coffee & Donut Socials

Due to the Parish Picnic in September, we will start back with coffee and donuts in October, and go through June, to be held the 2nd Sunday of each month.

The Parish Council will order and pick up the donuts, milk, and juice.

The Band of the Month will be responsible for making the coffee (instructions on the inside wall of the cabinet where the coffee is), and set up/clean up.



CALLING ALL LADIES!

Join us for a
Women's Uplifting Evening!
This Special Event will be at the
St. Charles Welcome Center
September 17, 2023
5:00-7:00 PM

INVITE and BRING your girlfriends, mentors & other special ladies in your life as we spend the evening rejoicing us as
Fearfully & Wonderfully Made Women!
RSVP to Lois Stanley - email; cocoharv55@gmail.com

HOSTED BY MADISON/WARREN ECUMENICAL ASSOCIATION

FREE WILL DONATION

FALL KICKOFF

JOIN US FOR FAMILY FUN IN THE PARK

MUSIC  FOOD  FAMILY

MUSIC- 3:00PM, BY GRATEFUL HEARTS

FOOD SERVING- 4:00PM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

GRILLING BURGERS & HOT DOGS
WITH GREAT HOMEMADE SALADS & DESSERTS
DRINKS PROVIDED

PLAYGROUND, BANDSTAND &
PICNIC AREA

TRURO CITY PARK