

## Its Celebration in the Churches.

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### **The Day Which Commemorates the Resurrection—How it Will be Observed—The Music, the Flowers and the Pomp and Display Which Will Attend the Festival.**

The greatest of all the festivals of the Church occurs on Sunday, when Easter, the day which commemorates the rising from the dead of our blessed Lord and Saviour, will be observed throughout the Christian world. Very dear and precious to the heart of the faithful is this day—the culmination of the forty days of penitence and gloom, breaking in as it does at the end of a week of sorrow incomparable and chasing away every vestige of heartache and soul weariness with the fullness of its irradiating brightness. It is the sunny day in the church year, the brightest of all the red-letter days, coming with the budding of Springtime, when Nature herself in all her plenitude typifies the resurrection. With the breaking of the early morning of the holy day now so close at hand, the first day of the week, and in this instance the first day of the calendar month as well, the joyousness of the Easter feast will be upon all the churches, but especially upon those of the Episcopal and Romanist faith. In these latter all the pomp and ceremonial of which an elaborately devised form of ritual admits will

be availed of to make of the approaching festival a season of unexampled splendor and display. With altars beautifully bedecked and brilliantly lighted; with holy priests arrayed in gorgeous vestments; with flowers and savory incense and splendid music, and in the presence of multitudes of reverent worshipers the day will be celebrated. This in the large and wealthy congregations; but in the smaller, the more lowly, the prayers and praises which will be uttered will be no whit less fervent, nor will the joyousness be in anywise diminished though the altar bear but a single spray of Spring blossoms placed there by loving hands. How and in what manner the Easter of two days hence will be commemorated in our Churches the record given below tells fully. Our readers may have their choice of high or low services; of matins or of high celebrations; of services whereat the sweet young voices of children carol forth their Easter lays or of those where the best that money can procure or art provide is set before them. In either choice they will be sure of satisfaction.

#### **The Episcopal Churches.**

To those familiar with festival occurrences it will be at once apparent that in the Episcopal churches generally there is a marked advance this year in the character of the music over former seasons. The record is as follows:

##### **ST. ANN'S.**

The Easter services in St. Ann's on the Heights will be characterized by all the splendor which attaches to the high celebrations in this church. The Rev. Noah Hunt Schenck, D. D., will officiate, and Mr. Dudley Buck, organist and choirmaster, direct the music, which will be very brilliant. The choir comprises Mrs. Kate Reed, soprano; Miss Lizzie P. Schott, contralto; Mr. J. O. Meacham, tenor; Mr. Henry S. Brown, basso, and large chorus. After the first of May the music in St. Ann's will be under the direction of Mr. A. H. Messiter, organist and musical director of Trinity Church, New York.

##### **HOLY TRINITY.**

Anthem—"Christ our Passover".....Fitzhugh  
 Te Deum in D Major.....Mercadante  
 Jubilate, in D Major.....Fitzhugh  
 Anthem—"Lift up your heads".....Handel  
 Kyrie Eleison.....Garrett  
 Anthem—"They have taken away my Lord".....Stainer  
 Sermon.  
 Ascription—"Gloria".....Haydn  
 Offertory anthem—"O! joyful light".....Tours  
 Hymn—"At the Lamb's high feast".....Hopkins  
     • Holy Communion.  
 Sanctus in D.....Garrett  
 Hymn 243.....Old tune  
 Gloria in excelsis.

#### GRACE CHAPEL.

The Rev. R. H. L. Tighe, pastor, will preach in Grace Chapel, High street near Gold, on "The Risen Christ." The singing in this church is congregational, led by a volunteer choir, Miss Grace F. Havens being organist. In the evening the Easter festival of the Sunday School will occur.

#### The Catholic Churches.

A noticeable circumstance in the selections of Easter music in the churches of this communion is the tendency toward the more solid and churchly style of music—the drawing upon the oratorios of Handel and Haydn, and the doing away with the frothy style of compositions. The principal services will be as given herewith :

#### ST. PETER'S.

So extensive notice was recently given in these columns of the new "*Messe du Sacre Cœur de Jesus*" of Gounod, to be sung in St. Peter's Church, Hicks and Warren streets, on Sunday, that more mention is sufficient for the purposes of this article. The mass, as also the entire service, will be under the direction of Mr. Augustin Cortada, organist and musical director, the choir comprising Mrs. R. B. Hall and Miss Mary McCue, sopranis; Mrs. James Furey, contralto; Mr. Joseph Garriga, tenor; Mr. James Furey, baritone; Mr. E. Burns, basso, and large chorus.

#### OLD TRINITY, NEW YORK.

There will be three services in Trinity Church, Broadway and Wall street, at half past seven, nine and eleven o'clock. At the latter Hummel's Mass in E flat will be sung, the accompaniment by the Philharmonic orchestra, with Christmas Anthems by Gounod and Gade. The music will be under the direction of Mr. A. H. Messiter, organist and musical director.

#### Roman Catholic Churches.

Early masses will usher in the dawn of Christmas morning in the churches of this denomination, and later on the high feast will be celebrated with all the splendor of circumstance at command. The order of service in the principal churches which follows offers a wide field for choice.

#### ST. PETER'S.

The musical services in St. Peter's Church, Hicks and Warren streets, are always very fine on high festival days, and for the approaching holiday Mr. Augustin Cortada, organist and musical director, has arranged an exceptionally fine programme, as follows :

Hymn—"Adeste Fideles".....	Novello
Grand Mass.....	A. Guilmant
Offertory—"Veni Creator".....	Glorza
Introit—"Quam Dilecta".....	Mercadante
Postlude—Impromptu.....	Organ

The grand mass of Alexandre Guilmant, organist of the Trinity Church, Paris, will be sung for the first time in America on this occasion. It is constructed largely in the old church style, with some of the modern forms. The "Credo," especially, is very fine, and beside a fine "Crucifixus" for male voices has an elegant fugue to end with. The offertory is a new Christmas anthem, by Glorza, for three male voices. The soloists will be Mrs. R. B. Hall and Miss M. McCue, soprani; Mrs. James Furey, contralto; Signori Joseph Garriga and Nicolo Macanini, tenori; Messrs. James Furey and Edward Burns, bassi, assisted by a chorus of thirty voices.

#### ST. THERESA.

At the Church of St. Theresa, Clason avenue and Butler street, high mass will be celebrated by the pastor, Rev. Father McNamoe. Giorza's Mass in F, for four voices will be sung, under the direction of Miss Marie Lynch, organist, by the choir of the church, which embraces Miss M. Kehoe and Miss M. Burns, soprani; Miss S. McGeehan and Miss Burns, contralti; Mr. G. Shaw, tenor, and Messrs. E. Gannon and W. Savage, bassi. At the Offertory "Adoremus te" from Lambillotte's four voice mass will be given. Prelude and postlude for organ, by Miss Lynch, complete the musical programme.

#### ST. STEPHEN'S.

Mr. M. Hallam, organist and musical director of St. Stephen's Church, Summit and Hicks street, has arranged a very fine service for Christmas, which will be given by Miss A. Mesereau, soprano; Mrs. Logan, contralto; Mr. Charles Lockwood, tenor, and Signor R. Bongiorno, basso, assisted by a chorus of forty voices and an orchestra of fourteen pieces. This is the programme:

Introduction.....	Organ
Mass.....	von Weber
Introit—"Veni Creator".....	Handel
Offertory—"Adeste Fideles".....	Novello
Postlude.....	Orchestra and organ

#### CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART.