

The 2005 Church Club Tour of Historic Churches will be on Saturday May 14, 2005

We plan to meet the bus at 8:30 AM in the parking lot of the Diocesan Center and Cathedral of the Incarnation at Charles Street and University Parkway. We ask tour participants to car-pool to the extent possible due to the limited size of the lot in case there's another event scheduled for that day.

We shall return to the Cathedral by 3 PM.

We shall visit the following churches, each with a significant array of stained glass.

1. Church of St. Katherine of Alexandria, built 1882
2. Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, built 1911
3. Church of the Messiah, built 1921
4. St. John's Church, Huntington, built 1858-1877, and its Rectory, built 1857. St. John's organist will demonstrate the 1937 Möller organ.
We'll have catered box lunches here.
5. St. Mary's Church, Hampden, built 1873-1900. Louise Carlson will play its historic Adam Stein pipe organ, 1901.

The cost of the tour will be the same as last year's tour, \$42 per person, including lunch at St. John's. A reservation form is attached below for your convenience. The bus seats about 45 to 47 so make your paid reservations as soon as possible.

Questions? Call Jim Wollon at 410-879-6748 or e-mail at jtwollon@aol.com.

(cut here and return)

The Church Club Spring Bus Tour of 5 Baltimore City Episcopal Churches

Saturday 14 May 2005

I (We) _____ shall attend. How many? _____

Name(s): _____

Telephone number(s): _____

Amount enclosed (\$42 per person): \$ _____ (Make check payable to Church Club)

Send your paid reservation to: James Wollon
600 Craigs Corner Road
Havre de Grace, MD 21078

The Church of St. Katherine-of-Alexandria was founded by Mount Calvary Church in 1891. This church was built in 1882 as St. George's Church, the Bishop Whittingham Memorial. It was designed by Charles E. Cassell, one of Baltimore's major architects of the period, and the designer of many churches. Being a Virginia native, his practice included many Virginia works.

The half-timbering of the gable, infilled with brick, the turned timber work of the porches and the absence of multiple pointed arches over windows identify this design as a revival of 16th century English Tudor Gothic.

The large painting "Descent from the Cross" over the altar may be original to the church, or even older, its artist and origins unknown. The simple stained glass windows probably are original.

St. Katherine's moved here in 1911 after St. George's (and nearby St. Barnabas) closed, their assets combined to establish the Cathedral of the Incarnation.

The Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin was founded by Mount Calvary Church in 1873, originally near Mount Calvary, on Orchard Street near Madison Avenue. It moved to this its present site in 1964 after the previous parish, Ascension & Prince of Peace, moved to Randallstown.

This church was built in 1911 and designed in the late Gothic Revival style by Alfred Cookman Leach, a talented but not-so-well-known Baltimore architect. This example is an early 20th century interpretation of an early 16th century English village church. It contains a complete array of stained glass. The Parish House was built in 1925, designed by Mottu & White who designed a number of Episcopal church buildings, excellent architects in their day. Compare this Parish House's design with Nativity's on York Road in Cedarcroft – very similar in appearance, both by Mottu & White, both influenced by the Arts and Crafts style.

The banks of flat-headed windows in both structures link them to the Arts and Crafts style in English and American architecture.

The Church of the Messiah and its Parish House were built together in 1921, designed by Mottu & White, who designed a number of Episcopal churches, excellent architects in their day. This is an excellent example of an early 20th century interpretation of a great church in late medieval England, the late 1400s and early 1500s.

The first Church of the Messiah was the second Christ Church at Fayette & Gay Streets which Christ Church vacated in 1872 when it moved to St. Paul & Chase Streets. That church burned in the 1904 Baltimore fire, the only church burned in that fire, and Messiah promptly rebuilt on that site. The altar, pulpit, other chancel furniture and pews came from Messiah's post-fire church of 1904-05, as does the Tiffany glass of the Messiah above the altar, re-set later in the 20th century in glass matching the glass of the nave windows. The easterly window of the south aisle was made by the Gettier Studio, Baltimore's second stained glass studio, and the window opposite it was made by the Miller Studio, Baltimore's third stained glass studio. The other windows were made by Willet in Philadelphia..

St. John's Church, Huntington was built over time beginning with the nave in 1858, designed in the ecclesiological Gothic Revival style by John W. Priest of New York. Priest was one of the principal practitioners in America to follow the very authentic 12th century English medieval designs promulgated by the Ecclesiological Societies in England and America. Bishop Whittingham was a charter member of this Society and personally favored this style.

The tower was built just a little later. The transepts and chancel were built in 1877, designed by Henry M. Congdon of New York, Priest's sometime partner and successor.

In true English style, a cemetery adjoins the church.

The church contains a grand array of stained glass windows, some original, others added through its many years of life.

A great old Möller organ dates from 1937.

The Rectory was built in 1857, its architect not yet identified. It, too, is an outstanding example of the Gothic Revival but in a residential style rather than a ecclesiastical one.

The Parish House was built in 1866 and enlarged in 1914, its architect not yet identified.

St. Mary's Church, Hampden, was built over time following the same progression in building as seen at St. John's, Huntington. The nave was first, built in 1873 and designed in the ecclesiological Gothic Revival style by John J. Husband, a little-known but very talented Baltimore architect. The nave's design is based architecturally on 12th century English church designs. The transepts and chancel were built in 1900, designed by the rector, the Rev. F. Warden Denys, a talented amateur designer. A tower was started on the cemetery side in the 1900 building campaign but only its first 1½ stories got built. The entrance porch dates from 1922, designed in a very correct Gothic Revival style by, we believe, Wyatt & Nolting, one of Baltimore's leading firms whose practice spanned the years 1889 to 1944. In the 20th century, great projects such as the Washington Cathedral influenced the Gothic Revival style to move away from original interpretations of the medieval to very authentic re-creations of the medieval and this little porch is a perfect example.

In true English style a cemetery adjoins the church and this one has grown very large.

The church contains a grand array of stained glass windows, some original, others added through its many years of life.

The 1901 tracker-action organ dates from 1901, built by Adam Stein of Baltimore, one of America's significant organ builders of this period. We'll hear a brief demonstration of this antique by Louise Carlson.

The Parish House or Chapel, as parish houses were called in the 19th century, was built across the cemetery from the church in 1886, its architect not yet identified.