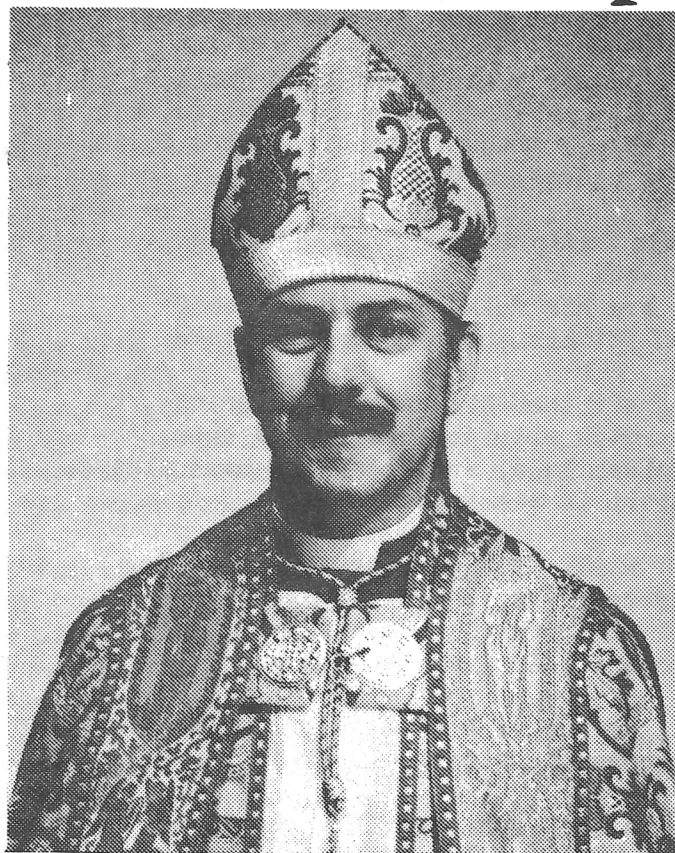


Church of the ~ Beloved Disciple



The ANNIVERSARY of the
Dedication of the church
and the consecration of
Bishop clement

Beloved Disciple

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1975

Procession to the Church

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell,
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
Without our aid He did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy His courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless His name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good,
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

(Repeat above stanzas until procession
reaches the altar.)

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God Whom Heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the angel host,
Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

Our Organist today is Kenneth Vanderbilt.

HYMNS: The Church is One Foundation

Holy God We Praise Thy Name

Rise Up O Men of God

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones--Te Deum

The flowers on the altar today, on this the First Anniversary of the consecration of Bishop Robert M. Clement, are given by Mr. Fred Martin to the glory of God and in memory of Lawrence Blythe.

The flowers at our St. John Shrine, where the relics of the Eucharistic Catholic Church are displayed, were given by Del Kempf, Mina Davis, Henry Devito, David Jones, Miki Shiranti, Forrest Heckert, and Hank Herfel in honor of the Second Anniversary of the dedication of our building.

We are honored to have as our guest today Bishop George A. Hyde, the founder of the Eucharistic Catholic Church. We are grateful for his presence here today and thank God for the work he so courageously began almost thirty years ago.

Our heartfelt love and thanks go out today to dear Archbishop Marchenna and Bishop Williams, the brave prelates who broke the barriers of misunderstanding and bigotry when they consecrated Bishop Clement a year ago today.

The clergy especially thank all the parishoners who have, in any way, given of their time, energy, and substance to make possible the tremendous improvements in the church building over the last two years.

The fantastic success of the banquet last night was due to the hard work of the Entertainment Committee. They deserve great big hugs and kisses from all of us and, now, a good night's sleep.

THE EUCHARISTIC CATHOLIC CHURCH

348 West 14th Street, New York, New York 10014 Phone 212 242-6616

Most Rev. Robert M. Clement, S.T.D.
Bishop of New York, Eucharistic Catholic

Right Rev. John Noble, D.D., Vicar General
Very Rev. Leo M. Joseph, D.D., Chancellor

SUNDAY SERVICES:

9:00 A.M. Morning Liturgy

2:00 P.M. Parish Eucharist

Coffee Hour follows service

7:00 P.M. Evening Liturgy

Two of the most important events in the Life of the Church in any time and place are the dedication of the first church building and the consecration of the first Bishop for that community.

Today the anniversary of both of these occasions is being celebrated simultaneously by the gay community in New York City. On this day we commemorate the dedication of the building owned by the Church of the Beloved Disciple and the first anniversary of the consecration of the Most Rev. Robert M. Clement, the founding pastor of Beloved Disciple, as Bishop of New York of the Eucharistic Catholic Church.

Now into the sixth year of our existence as a parish working in the gay community, we at Beloved Disciple reflect on those years with rightful pride in our accomplishments, and thank God for His many blessings. As we look back to the events that led up to the acquisition of our own church, two years ago today, we see the tragedy of our situation, having just been put out on the streets without notice by the church from which we rented space, turned into a monumental victory. As we commemorate the first service in our own home we can see the continuing faith that has turned a deteriorated, almost useless building into a center of spiritual and social activity for the gay community. We look hopefully to the future, as much work remains to be done.

The greatest milestone in this story of faith was the consecration of Bishop Clement by Archbishop Richard A. Marchenna, which took place one year ago today. This raised the work of Beloved Disciple from the status of a simple parish to that of a complete ecclesiastical jurisdiction, taking up the work of the Eucharistic Catholic Church which was started in 1946. Not only was this a much deserved recognition of the accomplishments of Beloved Disciple's founder, but it gave his work the potential for growth without dependence on any other established church body.

These events are not only important to us, but historic to all Christianity, because they are both "firsts" – the first church in the sacramental tradition to be dedicated as a spiritual home for God's gay children; and the first openly gay priest to receive the apostolic episcopate to serve as bishop in the gay community.