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St. Mary's To Mark Tenth Anniversary

Long Years Of Effort, Much Fine Work Went Into Its Building

On Sunday members and friends will observe the tenth anniversary of the consecration of the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor with special services, a festal procession, choral eucharist and sermon by the Rev. Edward N. West, Canon Sacrist, of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine at the morning service at 11 o'clock. In the afternoon, from 4 to 6 there will be a parish tea for members and friends of the church.

Today the lovely Church of St. Mary of the Harbor, built and made beautiful by the community effort of its own fine artists and craftsmen who helped fashion its interior and create its garden, is a spot of charm in Provincetown and one which attracts visitors from many parts. But the church had a slow and somewhat laborious start.

About 42 years ago, in 1904, the first Episcopal services were held here, in Masonic Hall, with the Rev. Albert E. George officiating. In the following year a vested choir of 20 ladies was organized. In 1910 and 1911 the Star Theatre, long since torn down, was used for services and in 1911 the congregation was sufficiently important to warrant the official visit of Bishop Lawrence. In 1912 the Church of the Redeemer opened its doors to the Episcopalians and the following year a diocesan missionary, the Rev. W. W. Love gave considerable impetus to the development of the church here. In 1919 the present building was acquired and in 1922 the "Billow-crest", present parish house, was bought. Winter services began in 1919 and in 1926 they were being held in Marine Hall. In 1933, the Rev. Robert W. Nicholson, first full-time priest, was assigned to the church, and the next year the "Sand Bar Club" was bought and converted into the present chancel.

In 1936 the collection of buildings was remodeled into the present form and consecrated with special services and with Bishop Samuel Gavitt Babcock officiating. Next year the large cross in the garden was erected and dedicated to the memory of the men who lost their lives in the submarine S-4 disaster. In 1945 the mission became a self-supporting parish.

No small part of the friendly charm of the church lies in the fine artistic effort expended by noted people of the town. Among those who contributed work to be

seen in the chapel and other parts were Richard Miller, Frederick Waugh, Bill Boogar, Constance Bigelow, Edward Stanwood, Mildred MacMillan, Peter Hunt, Arnold Geissbuhler, Irene Millington, Coulton Waugh and Walter Cashman.



St. Mary of the Harbor - Protestant Episcopal Church - Opposite Anthony Street - 1948
Note Cross for Submarine S-4. (See next page)



East side of St. Mary's.

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May 30, 1948