

No contemporary images exist of Mary (Molly) Brant (Konwatsijayenni/Degonwadonti)

## St. Mary's Service of Holy Eucharist

Including a reflection on the life and witness of

# MARY (MOLLY) BRANT (KONWATSIJAYENNI/DEGONWADONTI), WITNESS TO THE FAITH AMONG THE MOHAWKS, 1796

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 https://zoom.us/j/584949088 Meeting ID (recurring): 584 949 088

#### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Celebrant: God be with you People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Maker and lover of all creation, you endued Molly Brant with the gifts of justice and loyalty, and made her a wise and prudent clan mother in the household of the Mohawk nation: Draw us also toward the goal of our faith, that we may at last attain the full dignity of our nature in our true native land, where with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, in glory everlasting.

#### PSALM 111:2-10

The St. Helena Psalter

Great are your deeds, O God; they are studied by all who delight in them.

Your work is full of majesty and splendor, and your righteousness endures for ever.

You make your marvelous works to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

You give food to those who fear you; you are ever mindful of your covenant.

You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.

The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all your commandments are sure.

They stand fast for ever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

You sent redemption to your people; you commanded your covenant for ever; holy and awesome is your Name.

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom; those who act accordingly have a good understanding; God's praise endures for ever.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 19:28-30

Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

## REMEMBERING MARY (MOLLY) BRANT (KONWATSIJAYENNI/DEGONWADONTI)

Mary, or Molly Brant, known among the Mohawks as Konwatsijayenni, was an important presence among the Iroquois Confederacy during the time of the American Revolution. Baptized and raised as an Anglican due to the British presence in her tribal area, she spoke and wrote in English, and she sought to keep the Mohawks, as well as the other tribes of the Iroquois Nation, loyal to the British government during the Revolution.

Born to Peter Tehonwaghkwangeraghkwa and his wife Margaret, she moved west to Ohio with her family and lived there until her father's death. She and her brother Joseph took the name of their stepfather, Brant Kanagaradunkwa, who married their mother in 1753. Her stepfather was a friend of Sir William Johnson, the British Superintendent for North Indian Affairs. Mary met Sir William in 1759, and though they could not legally marry, she became his common law wife, and together they had nine children. She exerted influence among both the British and the Mohawks, and her voice was often sought among tribal councils and in treaty efforts.

Following her husband's death, the Oneidas and the Americans, in retaliation for her loyalty to the British and to the Anglican Church, destroyed her home. She and her children fled and were protected by the principal chief of the Five Nations, whose leaders respected her word and counsel.

In 1783, she moved to Kingston, Ontario, where the British Government rewarded her for her loyalty. A lifelong Anglican, she helped found St. George's Anglican Church in Kingston. At her death her tribesmen as well as the British with whom she had worked mourned her.

## **PRAYERS**

Prayers may be offered, silently or aloud.

## HOLY EUCHARIST

Form A (Enriching Our Worship, p. 65)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you. Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth, for the wonderful grace and virtue declared in all your saints, who have been the chosen vessels of your grace, and the lights of the world in their generations. And so we join the saints and angels in proclaiming your glory, as we say,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Loving God, we who have been redeemed by Christ, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

The Celebrant then continues

We now celebrate, O God, the memorial of Christ our Savior. By means of this holy bread and cup, we show forth the sacrifice of Christ's death, and proclaim the resurrection, until Christ

comes in glory. Gather us by this Holy Communion into one body in the Risen One, and make us a living sacrifice of praise. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. *AMEN*.

And now, in the words Christ taught us, we are bold to pray, saying,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil, For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Eternal and Life-Giving God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**BLESSING** 

THE PEACE