

James Otis Sargent Huntington

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The Rev. **James Otis Sargent Huntington**, OHC (23 July 1854 – 28 June 1935), a priest of the Episcopal Church, was the founder of the Order of the Holy Cross, an Anglican Benedictine monastic order for men whose mother house is now located in West Park, New York.

He was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, the younger son of Frederick Dan and Hannah Huntington. While he was a child his father, a Unitarian minister, converted to the Episcopal Church, and in quick

succession was ordained deacon and priest, and then consecrated Bishop of Central New York. James went to Harvard, as his father did, and later studied at St. Andrew's Divinity School in Syracuse. He was ordained priest around 1880, and began work among working-class immigrants on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

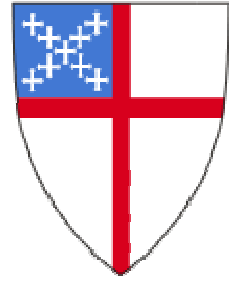
Soon after his ordination, Father Huntington attended a retreat in Philadelphia and began to feel called to the monastic life. In 1884 he founded the Order of the Holy Cross with two companions, Robert Dod and James Cameron. They continued working in the poorest sections of the East Side, where Father Huntington became involved in the labor union and land-tax movements. He was later a founder of the Church Association for the Advancement of the Interests of Labor, and was an early member of the Knights of Labor.

The Order of the Holy Cross chose Father Huntington as Superior for several non-consecutive terms, but most of his time and energy were used in parish and missionary work. Under his leadership the Order moved to Westminster, Maryland in the 1890s, and shortly after to West Park. The cornerstone for the Order's monastery, which now serves as its guest house, was laid in 1902, and the building was finished in 1904. Designed by Gothic-Revival Architect Henry Vaughan, it was the first building built for an Anglican religious order since the reign of Henry VIII. Father Huntington also founded St. Faith's Home for Wayward Girls, St. Andrew's School at Sewanee, Kent School, and the Mission in Liberia, Africa.

Father Huntington died on 28 June 1935, and is buried in the Monastery Church of St Augustine in West Park. The Episcopal Church commemorates his life annually on the anniversary of his entry into monastic life 25 November 1884.

The Lessons Appointed for Use
on the Feast of
James Otis Sargent Huntington

Priest and Monk, 1935
November 25



The Collect

O loving God, by your grace your servant James Huntington gathered a community dedicated to love and discipline and devotion to the holy Cross of our Savior Jesus Christ: Send your blessing on all who proclaim Christ crucified, and move the hearts of many to look upon him and be saved; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*

The First Lesson

Galatians 6:14-18

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule-- peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

The Psalm

Psalm 34:1-8 Page 627, BCP, *Benedicam Dominum*

- 1 I will bless the LORD at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the LORD; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; *
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the LORD heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the LORD encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!

The Gospel

John 6:34-38

The crowd said to Jesus, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me.