

# THE ORATORY—dedicated to THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

141 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 8UE

Registered as a Charity

## Parish Weekly Newsletter

*This newsletter is available in large-print format. Ask at the Sacristy.*

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## June 20th 2010: TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

We are more familiar with the famous scene of today's Gospel in St. Matthew's version which we will hear once again in a few days' time on Ss. Peter's and Paul's Day. It is the occasion when Our Lord asked the Apostles "who do people say I am?" and they replied that the people thought He was John the Baptist or Elijah, or yet another of the great prophets of past times come back to life. When Our Lord then went on to ask them "who do YOU say I am?", it is Peter who answers, "You are the Christ!"

But whereas St Matthew then tells us what Our Lord said to Peter in reply, St. Luke omits Our Lord's words to Peter and goes on, first to recount His command that they keep silent about His true identity, and then His discourse about the cross which He will have to suffer, saying, *"The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders, and chief priests and scribes, and be killed,"* Yet this is not the end, for He rounds off this prediction by saying: that *"on the third day [I will] be raised."*

Why did Our Lord command silence before going on to predict His sufferings and resurrection? There are two reasons for this silence. First, it was so that His true path as the Christ, the Son of David and King of Israel, might not be mistaken for a glorious, worldly kingship. There were so many times in Our Lord's life when He had worked a great miracle and was about to be taken by force by the enthusiastic crowd to be their triumphant leader. Our Lord always resisted them. He knew that this path was not for Him, because it would not lead to our salvation. Only the way of suffering leads to the resurrection and everlasting life.

But there is a second reason, and it is no less significant than the first. For Our Lord goes on to say not only to His Apostles, **but to everyone:** *"If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."* These words are very difficult to accept. Remember how Peter remonstrated with Jesus about His prediction of the Passion, saying "God forbid that such things should happen to You, Lord!" But Our Lord rebuked Peter very sharply, for the way of the Cross is not only necessary for Himself as the Redeemer, but also for all those who wish to share in the victory of His Cross. This is what He meant when he said: *"For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake, he will save it."* The way of the Cross is not attractive to us, yet it is the only way that we can reach victory over sin and death. Our Lord wants us to understand how not only His own sufferings win our redemption, but also how our own very different sufferings can become part of our journey into eternal life.

### TIMETABLE CHANGES

Please take some time to read carefully the first item in the "Notices" section on the other side of this page, concerning proposed changes to the times of Devotions and other services here at the Oratory. First, you will see that no changes are being proposed to Masses on Sundays and ordinary weekdays. Secondly, you will also see that before anything is done to alter any of these times, we want to hear from you how this might affect you; whether you think these changes would help you to take part in these services, or whether they would hinder you.

### Sunday June 20th: Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

- 8.30 a.m. **Low Mass**
- 9.30 a.m. **Latin Low Mass—1962 Missal**
- 10.30 a.m. **High Mass**
- 12.00 p.m. **(Families with young children)**
- 5.30 p.m. **Sung Congregational Mass**
- 7.30 p.m. **Solemn Vespers and Benediction**

### Liturgical Calendar

*Year 2 of the Lectionary at Weekday Mass and Psalter Week 4 in the Divine Office*  
*Monday to Friday: Masses at 7.30 a.m., 12.45 p.m. and 5.45 p.m. Rosary 7.45 p.m.*

*Holy Hour: Each Weekday from 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.*

*Benediction on Tuesday at 8 p.m., and Fridays, in June in Honour of the Sacred Heart, at 8 p.m.*

*Confessions are heard from 12.30 p.m. and from 5.30 p.m. until the end of Mass.*

**Monday 21st June: St Aloysius Gonzaga, Priest. Memoria. (Green); or St John Rigby, English Martyr. (Red)**

**\*Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. \*Blessing with St Philip's relic at 8 p.m.**

**St Aloysius Gonzaga** (1568-91) Son of an Italian nobleman and soldier, he was expected to join the military but he abhorred violence and he joined the Jesuits at only 17. Many attested to his holiness as he cared for plague victims. He died aged 23.

**St John Rigby** (d. 1600) A layman from near Wigan, he had occasionally 'conformed' by attending protestant services, but repented and was responsible for several conversions. Caught and sentenced, he declared his loyalty to the Queen but added: "If it be treason to be reconciled to God, God's will be done." He was hanged drawn & quartered.

**Tuesday 22nd June: Sts John Fisher and Thomas More, English Martyrs. Feast. (Red)**

**\*Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. \*Sung Mass at 5.45 p.m. \*Benediction at 8 p.m.**

**St John Fisher** (1459-1535) Bishop of Rochester and friend of Thomas More, he was the only one of the Catholic English bishops who refused to take the Oath of Supremacy, or to acknowledge Henry VIII's divorce from Catherine of Aragon. He was elevated to Cardinal by the Pope, who hoped to ease the King's treatment of Fisher, but it had the reverse effect on the proud king. **St Thomas More** (1478-1535) Henry VIII's very good friend and adviser until the fall-out over Henry's divorce and the Oath of Supremacy, said that he "...died the King's good servant, but God's first". They were both beheaded.

**Wednesday 23rd June: Feria. (Green). Optional Memorias of St Ethelreda, Abbess. (White); or of St Thomas Garnet, English Martyr. (Red)**

**\*Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**

**St Ethelreda** (d. 679) An Anglo-Saxon princess and twice widowed before joining a convent, she founded a double monastery at Ely.

**St Thomas Garnett** (d. 1608) As a secular priest, he was imprisoned for nine months and then left to join the Jesuits at Louvain. Determined to minister in England, he returned but was soon caught and charged for being a priest. Like many of the martyrs he was offered freedom and even riches if he signed the Oath of Supremacy, and his refusal resulted in his being hanged, drawn and quartered.

**Thursday 24th June: The Solemnity of the Birth of St John the Baptist. (White)**

**\*Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. \*Sung Mass at 5.45 p.m.**

**Friday 25th June: Feria. (Green)**

**\*Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. \*Benediction in Honour of the Sacred Heart at 8 p.m.**

**Saturday 26th June: Our Lady on Saturday. (White); or Feria. (Green)**

- **Low Mass at 8 a.m.**
- **Latin Mass 1962 Missal at 9.30 a.m. in St Philip's Chapel**
- **Low Mass at 11 a.m.**
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30—10.45 a.m.**
- **Benediction at 10.45 a.m.**
- **Confessions from 11 a.m. to 12 noon & from 5.30 p.m.**
- **First Mass of Sunday (Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time) at 5.45 p.m.**

**June 27th: the Thirteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time: (Green)**

#### **Mass & Service Times:**

- **8.30 a.m. Low Mass**
- **9.30 a.m. Latin Low Mass 1962 Missal**
- **10.30 a.m. High Mass**
- **12.00 p.m. Families with young children**
- **5.30 p.m. Sung Congregational in English**
- **7.30 p.m. Vespers and Benediction**

**Please pray for the sick** Barbara Jarvis, Kathleen Sugré, Thelma Havelin, **Patrick Sharkey, Sandra Green**, Kevan Bleach, Maurice Hynes, James Foynes, Michael McCann, Philip McCann, David Pritchard, Carolyn Knight, May Colquhoun and Tony Farmer. **Of your charity please pray for those who have died recently:** Fr Liam Fanning, Sr Catherine Murphy, Mary Bolland and Michael Young; **and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now:** Fred Jarvis, Joseph Keegan, May McGuire and David & Catherine Jackson.

Diane Mathers funeral is on Tuesday at 10.30 a.m.  
Reception of remains: before Mass.

**The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, June 26th/27th 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday 5.45 p.m:** Jenni Hardwick  
**Sunday 8.30 a.m.:** Murray Wilson-Browne  
**12.00 p.m.:** Dennis Wood  
**5.30 p.m.:** Jason Mahoney

#### **Collections:**

**11th Sunday of the Year: 13th June, 2010**  
Offertory: £1,575

Second: Music in our church: £798

**Thank you**

#### **TODAY**

**THE SECOND COLLECTION** will be for Cardinal Newman's beatification. **THE PIETY STALL** is open after all Sunday Masses and has a wide selection of cards, piety items, gifts for baptisms, etc., prayer books and other books for all ages and DVDs etc

#### **THIS WEEK**

**There will be A HOLY HOUR** from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. each weekday morning until further notice to pray for the success of Cardinal Newman's beatification and the Pope's visit.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** in the Cloister Chapel will take place on **Monday** beginning at 3 p.m. and ending with Benediction at c. 5 p.m. (There will be *no* Mass.)

**BENEDICTION IN HONOUR OF THE SACRED HEART** is on Friday at 8 p.m. (following the Rosary at 7.45 p.m. as usual.)

**EX CATHEDRA CONCERT:** Vespers by Candlelight, takes place here on Wednesday 23rd June. at 9 p.m. Ticket enquiries should be made to 2364455 (not the Oratory).

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED** will be hosting an event next Sunday in the Upper Cloister Hall. "*The Light of The World*" will be an opportunity to hear first-hand accounts of the challenges facing Christians around the world. Talks begin at 2 p.m. and the event will end with the 5.30 p.m. Mass. The main guest speaker will be Fr Samir Kahil Samir SJ who will speak on Christianity and Islam in the Middle East. The event is free **but you must reserve a seat. (You cannot turn up on the day having not done so as space is limited) . To reserve a place, please call 0208 642 8668, or at [www.acnuk.org/birmingham](http://www.acnuk.org/birmingham).**

**A DAY WITH MARY:** will be held here on Saturday 17th July commencing at 10 a.m. It is a day of instruction, devotion and intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. The day will include a procession and crowning of Our Lady's statue; Exposition; Rosaries; Act of Consecration; enrolment in the Brown Scapular; Mass; Confession; Benediction. Please see the poster.

**THE BEATIFICATION OF CARDINAL NEWMAN** will be on Sunday 19th September and it is essential that you book on a coach in order to gain

access to the Beatification site. Travel to and from the site will be £15. Coaches will leave from and return *not* to the Oratory as previously stated, but at certain pick-up points around Birmingham. Full details will be given in due course. Forms are to be found at the back of church and completed **forms must be returned to the Oratory in an envelope marked "Beatification". Please do not send to Pax Travel.**

#### **NOTICES**

**TIMETABLE CHANGES:** The Fathers are thinking of making some changes to the timetable of services at the Oratory and would like to hear your views before we come to any decisions. We are not considering any changes to regular Mass times on Weekdays or Sundays. Most of the changes we would like to implement concern Devotions and Holy Day service times. At the moment these tend to take place at 8 pm, which we think is rather late, especially in the winter. We would like to propose having Devotions (like Tuesday Benediction or St Philip's Relic) after the 5.45 pm Mass (e.g. at 6.15 pm). On Holy Days of Obligation and some other days of devotion we would like to have the High Mass at 7.00 pm. On Sundays, and Holy Days that have First Vespers, we would also like to have Vespers at 6.30 pm. If you have any thoughts about these proposals, or any suggestions of your own, please write to Fr Richard at the Oratory House or email him [rd@oxorat.org](mailto:rd@oxorat.org)

**THE MARYVALE INSTITUTE**, Kingstanding, wishes to appoint a course secretary/Graduate assistant for the postgraduate programmes in teacher training. The position is currently three days per week, with possible extension to full time. For further details please see the website [www.maryvale.ac.uk](http://www.maryvale.ac.uk) or contact the registrar, [registry@maryvale.ac.uk](mailto:registry@maryvale.ac.uk)

**The PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE** is available for all who wish to welcome Our Lady to their home. Our Lady's prayers are all powerful with God. She will not only pray for our deepest needs and intentions, but will also help us to find the way to renew prayer in our lives. At Fatima, Our Lady emphasised the importance of the Rosary. Leading to the Beatification, we ask those who have the Statue to especially include in their prayers the Oratory, its Priests and its congregation. *Forms are at the church doors.*

The Statue of Our Lady of Fatima was specially blessed when the Oratory was consecrated to The Immaculate Heart of Mary.