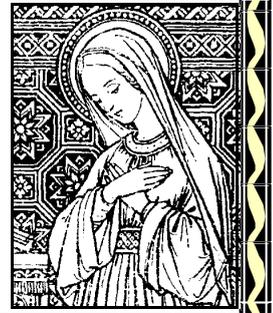


THE ORATORY—dedicated to THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

141 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 8UE

Registered as a Charity

Parish Weekly Newsletter



Telephone: 0121 454 0496

Fac simile: 0121 455 8160

E-mail: parish@theoratory.org.uk

Web-site: www.theoratory.org.uk

Oratory Primary School: web.oratory.bham.sch.uk

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

October 18th 2009: TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



CALLED TO SERVE

As many of you will have witnessed, Br. Lewis was ordained Deacon on Friday evening by Bishop Pargeter in the presence of many friends, relations and parishioners. One of the most important tasks entrusted to a Deacon at his ordination is the proclamation of the Gospel during the Liturgy. How fitting it is that the first Sunday Gospel Br. Lewis will proclaim tells of an occasion when Our Lord taught His Apostles a great lesson in service, the very words of which form part of the ordination rite of a new deacon: "The Son of Man Himself did not come to be served, but to serve."

These words formed part of the charge that the Bishop read out to Br. Lewis before solemnly laying his hands upon Br. Lewis's head and praying the prayer of consecration over him. These words from today's Gospel are a reminder to all who have been

ordained deacon, which includes all who are subsequently ordained priest or bishop, that like our Divine Master, we are not called to be served by others, but to serve them. What kind of service is Our Lord speaking of? Fr. Paul reminded us all at the end of the ordination, that Cardinal Newman had reflected on his own ordination as a deacon when he was still an Anglican, "I have the responsibility of souls upon me until my death". The care of souls—that is, guiding them, feeding them with the Sacraments and with the Truth Christ has entrusted to His Church—this is the special responsibility which is laid upon all those who are called to follow Our Lord in the ordained ministry. We bishops, priests and deacons will be judged by our Lord on how we have fulfilled that responsibility during this life.

No wonder Cardinal Newman was awestruck by the thought of the words "for ever", on the day he was ordained an Anglican deacon. It was even more the case when he was ordained as a Catholic deacon and priest some twenty years later. Nothing can ever take away from a man the special relationship with Christ which ordination lays upon him. That responsibility will remain with him throughout life and up to his judgement.

When the Apostles James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to ask for a special favour from Our Lord, He told them to make their request openly, saying to them, "What is it that you want from me?" They replied that they wanted to sit closest to Our Lord when He would at last come into His kingly glory, so that they could have the places of greatest honour, and outrank the other ten apostles. Our Lord's answer must have puzzled them, for He did not immediately either accept or refuse their request. Instead He did something that He often did with those who approached Him with a question—He put another back to them: "Can you drink the cup that I must drink, and be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?" Although they cannot have understood what He meant, they nevertheless said that they could do so. Then Our Lord answered them by telling them that they would indeed drink that cup and receive that baptism, but even so, He still could not promise them what they asked.

They must have felt cheated—having professed their readiness to accept whatever was necessary, they were now told they probably wouldn't get the prize they craved! Yet worse was to follow. The other ten found out what they had asked for and were, unsurprisingly, furious with the two upstarts! Our Lord used the occasion to teach all of them, both James and John and the ten others, the real meaning of His words: that a life of service and self-sacrifice awaited anyone who really wanted to follow Him, and, also very significantly, a share in the Cross. All true disciples must accept that Cup and that Baptism if they are to share in His glory. As we wish Br. Lewis "*ad multos annos*" - many long years of service of God's people—we pray that Our Lord will sustain him, and all the ordained ministers of the Church, in all their responsibilities for serving souls, with the gentle power of His sacramental grace, and bring us all safely to heavenly joy and glory.

Sunday October 18th: Twenty-ninth Sunday (Green)

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

TWENTY-NINTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME: Liturgical Calendar

Year 2 or B of the Lectionary at Mass and Psalter Week 1

Monday to Friday: Masses at 7.30 a.m., 12.45 p.m. and 5.45 p.m.

October Devotions (incl. Rosary) at 7.45 p.m..

Exposition on Saturday: 8.30–10.45 a.m.

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

Monday 19th October: Feria. (Green). *Optional memorias of St John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues and Companions, Martyrs. (Red); or of St Paul of the Cross, Priest. (White); or of St Frideswide, Abbess. (White). St Philip Howard, English Martyr.*

• **October Devotions at 7.45 p.m.**

Sts John de Brébeuf & Isaac Jogues and Comps (d 1649) Originally from France, John de Brébeuf and his companions, all Jesuits, worked amongst the Hurons (Nth American Indians) for many years, but were captured by the Iroquois and cruelly tortured prior to their deaths. Fr John had been responsible for the conversion of some seven thousand Indians and composed a dictionary and catechism in Huron.

St Paul of the Cross (1694-1775) Italian. Following a series of visions, he founded the Passionists dedicated to missionary work based on Our Lord's passion. The habit, still worn by the Order today, had been shown to St Paul in one of his visions.

St Philip Howard (1557-95) Earl of Arundel and a favourite of Elizabeth I's, his luke-warm attitude to the Church changed after he heard Edmund Campion in debate and he resolved to be reconciled to the Church. The Queen's suspicions led to his arrest and on the second occasion, to imprisonment in the Tower. She had refused his plea for a priest or relatives to visit, but sent messages that if he went 'to church even once', all his estates and honour would be restored to him. Although condemned to death, he suffered poor health and died in the Tower.

Tuesday 20th October: Feria. (Green)

• **October Devotions at 7.45 p.m.**

Wednesday 21st October: Feria. (Green)

• **October Devotions at 7.45 p.m.**

Thursday 22nd October: Feria (Green)

• **October Devotions at 7.45 p.m.**

Friday 23rd October: Feria. (Green) *Optional memoria of St John of Capistrano, Priest. (White)*

• **October Devotions at 7.45 p.m.**

St John Capistrano (1385-1458) An Italian lawyer, he joined the Franciscans and travelled throughout Europe preaching penance, and he establishing numerous Franciscan communities. When Mohammed II was threatening to take over Rome, the pope sent John to preach and to lead a crusade against the Turks who were defeated

Saturday 24th October: Our Lady on Saturday, (White); or Feria. (Green); or optional memoria of St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop. (White)

- **Masses at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.**
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30 to 10.45 a.m.**
- **Benediction at 10.45 a.m.**
- **Confessions from 10.55 a.m. to 12 noon & from 5.30 p.m.**
- **First Mass of Sunday (Thirtieth Sunday) at 5.45 p.m.**

St Anthony Mary Claret (1807-70) In 1849, he founded the Missionary Sons of Mary Immaculate (*Claretians*). He was appointed Archbishop of Santiago where his opposition to liberal factions in the Church led to several assassination attempts.

October 25th: The Thirtieth Sunday of the Year. (Green)

Mass & Service Times:

- **8.30 a.m. Low Mass**
- **9.30 a.m. Latin Low Mass 1962 Missal**
- **10.30 a.m. Latin 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: John Aston, Brendan Cummins, Maureen Edwards, May Roebuck, Paul Beesley, Michael McCann, Philip McCann, David Pritchard, James Foynes and Carolyn Knight.

Of your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently: Lauren Pringle

and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now: Fr John Norris of this Oratory, Fr Roland Connolly, Sr Carmela Pia Hayward, Josephine McMillan, Sheila Gaynor, Rose & John Nulty, Joseph Mitchell, Theresa McNamara, Patrick Mitchell, Hilda Jones and Helen Westbrook.

The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, October 24th/25th, The Thirtieth Sunday:

Saturday 5.45 p.m.: Anne Roebuck
Sunday 8.30 a.m.: Murray Wilson-Browne
12.00 p.m.: Morag Marinoni
5.30 p.m.: Simon Stacey

Collections:

27th Sunday: 11th October, 2009
Offertory: £1,262
Second: Newman Beatification Expenses: £607
Thank you

Today is World Mission Sunday and the Second Collection will be for the APF

TODAY

TODAY IS WORLD MISSION and the second collection will be for the APF (Association for the Propagation of the Faith). The monies raised by the Association are used to build schools, churches and seminaries overseas. You will be familiar with the 'Red Boxes'. **If you do not have one already, please consider taking one.** Boxes are at available at the church doors. *(Please ensure that you also fill in your details on the list with the boxes. Many thanks)*

The PIETY STALL will be open after all Sunday Masses (except after Saturday evening Mass). The bulk of our Christmas stock will be out very shortly. Meanwhile, **Christmas cards are on sale**, including those we are selling on behalf of Aid to the Church in Need.

THIS WEEK

OCTOBER—MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY: Please remember that you can obtain a **PLENARY INDULGENCE** each day in October by praying five decades of the Rosary in Church (see 'October Devotions' below) or as a family or in a specially formed group, or even a Partial Indulgence by praying fewer than five decades., or praying the Rosary on your own.

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS take place from Monday to Friday at 7.45 p.m., and include the Rosary, a short meditation and Benediction.

ADORATION AT REDNAL with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Wednesday, commencing with Mass at 2.30 p.m. and ending with Benediction at c. 4.40 p.m.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FR PETROC HOWELL'S golden jubilee of priestly ordination is on Sunday October 25th. He will preach at Mass at St Patrick's at 10:30 am on that day, Bishop Pargeter will also be present. An informal reception in St Patrick's school hall will follow. All welcome.

MORNING OF PRAYER AND WITNESS against abortion will take place on Saturday, 31st October commencing with Mass at 8 a.m., Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8.45, then walking to the Calthorpe (Abortion) Clinic in Arthur Road, and praying the Rosary for all those involved in abortion; returning to the Oratory for Benediction at 10.45. Refreshments will be available afterwards from the **WALSINGHAM ASSOCIATION COFFEE MORNING** in the Lower Cloister Hall on Saturday 31st October from 11 a.m. Please give this your support as the proceeds are very much needed for the Association's work

YEAR FOR PRIESTS—a reflection by Pope Benedict XVI

On the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, – a day traditionally devoted to prayer for the sanctification of the clergy –, the Pope inaugurated the "Year for Priests" in celebration of the 150th anniversary of John Mary Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests worldwide: "This Year is meant to deepen the commitment of all priests to interior renewal for a stronger and more incisive witness to the Gospel in today's world. "The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus", the saintly Curé of Ars would often say. This makes us reflect, first of all, with heartfelt gratitude on the immense gift which priests represent, not only for the Church, but also for humanity itself. I think of all those priests who quietly present Christ's words and actions each day to the faithful and to the whole world, striving to be one with the Lord in their thoughts and their will, their sentiments and their style of life. I pay tribute to their apostolic labours, their tireless and hidden service, their universal charity. And I praise the courageous fidelity of so many priests who, even amid difficulties and incomprehension, remain faithful to their vocation as "friends of Christ", whom he has called by name, chosen and sent."