

# THE ORATORY—dedicated to THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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Registered as a Charity

## Parish Weekly Newsletter

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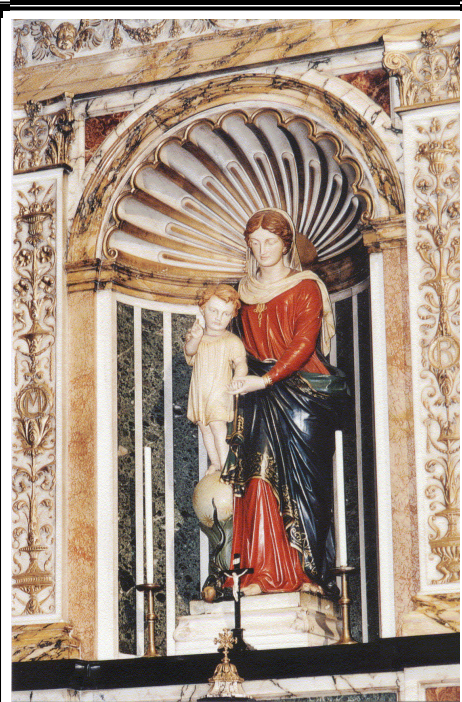
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*This newsletter is available in large-print format. Ask at the Sacristy.*

## September 27th 2009: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



### OUR LADY OF VICTORIES

On Thursday the month of October begins, the month of the Holy Rosary. As usual we will pray the Rosary during Devotions each weekday evening at 7.45 p.m. and meditate for a short time on some aspect of the Rosary and its mysteries in which we contemplate how God has brought us life in Christ through Mary.

Remember that a Plenary Indulgence may be gained by those who recite five decades of the Rosary in Church, as a family at home, as a religious community, or as a pious fraternity, or in general wherever several persons have gathered together for a good purpose. If fewer than five decades, even just one, are prayed together in this way, as is customary at the Primary School before the school day begins, for instance, then a partial indulgence is gained. But also remember that to gain any indulgence, which is a remission of the suffering due to us on account of our sins (*n.b. including those that have been confessed and absolved!*), we must go to confession and receive Holy Communion at least within a few days of confession, and pray for the Holy Father's intentions at the time we receive Communion.

The connection between the Rosary and the month of October goes back to the year 1571 when Pope St. Pius V appealed to all Christians to pray the Rosary to bring peace to the world from the threat of Turkish invasion and persecution. This appeal was heard and through the Rosary a great victory was won over the Turkish fleet at Lepanto on October 7th, which saved Christendom for another hundred years. This date is now the feast of the Holy Rosary.

Many centuries later at Fatima in Portugal, Our Lady appeared to three young shepherd children and impressed upon them the importance and power of the Rosary: "Say the Rosary every day...Pray, pray a lot and offer sacrifices for sinners...I am Our Lady of the Rosary. Only I will be able to help you....In the end My Immaculate Heart will triumph."

Of course, the Rosary isn't easy to pray! But that shouldn't put us off. Here is a helpful thought: Thursday is the feast of St. Theresa of Lisieux, the Little Flower, whose relics were venerated by so many of us last week here in Birmingham. It may surprise you to learn that she found prayer, and particularly the Rosary, very difficult. But she kept on trying. She once said: "The first thing I have to admit when asked how I pray, is that I am not good at it." That should give us a bit of courage! If even a great saint who is a Doctor of the Church, should have found prayer difficult, then we need not be ashamed to admit that we do, too. Of the Rosary she even said, "It's a terrible thing to admit, but saying the Rosary takes it out of me more than any hair shirt would; I say it so badly! Try as I will to force myself, I can't meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary, I just can't fix my mind on them. For a long time I was in despair about it. Now I don't distress myself so much; it seems to me that the Queen of Heaven, being my Mother, must be aware of my good intentions, and that's enough for her." **Note that, despite the fact that she found it difficult, she did not give up. So please keep on praying despite any difficulties you may find.**

The Holy Rosary is considered a perfect prayer because within it lies the awesome story of our salvation. With the Rosary in fact we meditate the mysteries of joy, of light, of sorrow and of the glory of Jesus and Mary. It's a simple prayer, humble like Our Lady. It's a prayer we can all say together with Her, the Mother of God. With the Hail Mary we invite Her to pray for us. Our Lady always grants our request. She joins Her prayer to ours. Therefore it becomes ever more useful, because what Mary asks She always receives, our Lord can never say no to whatever His Mother asks for. In every apparition, our heavenly Mother has invited us to say the Rosary as a powerful weapon against evil, to bring us to true peace. With our prayer made together with our heavenly Mother, we can obtain the great gift of bringing about a change of hearts and conversion. Each day, through this prayer we can drive from ourselves and from our homeland many dangers and many evils. **Pray at least a decade of the Rosary each October day, and please teach your children to do so with you!**

### Sunday September 27th: Twenty-sixth 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. Congregational Mass
- 7.30 p.m. Vespers and Benediction

### TWENTY-SIXTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME: Liturgical Calendar

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

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

Rosary at 7.45 p.m. Benediction on Tuesday.

October Devotions (incl. Rosary) on Thursday & Friday 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 28th September: Feria. (Green).** Optional memorias of *St Wencelaus, Martyr. (Red)*; or of *St Laurence Luiz & Companions, Martyrs. (Red)*

- **Blessing with St Philip's relic at 8 p.m.**

**St Wenceslaus** (907-29) Duke of Bohemia, he was murdered by his pagan brother, Boleslaus, who opposed his work to bring the Gospel to his people.

**St Laurence Ruiz & Comps** (d. 1633-37) Laurence joined a secret Dominican mission to Japan and was amongst those captured and terribly tortured by the Japanese before being killed. Laurence was the first Filipino to be canonised.

**Tuesday 29th September: Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels. Feast. (White)**

- **Benediction at 8 p.m.**

**The Holy Archangels: St Michael:** "Who is like God?", is defender of all who love and worship God; **St Gabriel:** "God's strength", was entrusted with the Annunciation, the most important announcement ever made; **St Raphael:** "God's healing", is entrusted with the ministry of healing.

**Wednesday 30th September: St Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church. Memoria. (White)**

**St. Jerome** (d. 420) wrote many important commentaries on the Bible and also assembled the "Vulgate", the standard Latin edition of the Bible, still in use today.

**Thursday 1st October: St Thérèse of the Child Jesus & the Holy Face, Virgin & Doctor of the Church. Memoria. (White)**

- **October Devotions at 7.45 p.m.**

**St Thérèse of Lisieux** (1873-97) The "Little Flower" became a Carmelite nun at age 15, by special dispensation of the Pope and died at only 24. Her autobiography *The Story of a Soul* shows us that sainthood is attainable by anyone, however ordinary.

**Friday 2nd October: The Guardian Angels. Memoria. (White) 'Harvest Fast Day'**

- **October Devotions at 7.45 p.m.**

Our Lord Himself speaks of the Angels appointed to each of us. The Devil, full of hatred for us has great intelligence and we need to be grateful for the powerful protection given us by our Guardian Angel. Also each country has a guardian angel, so please remember to pray to the Angel of England in these difficult times.

**Saturday 3rd October: Our Lady on Saturday. (White). Feria. (Green). Optional memoria of St Thomas of Cantilupe, 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 (Twenty-seventh Sunday) at 5.45 p.m.**

**St Thomas of Cantilupe** (d. 1282) Twice Chancellor of Oxford University, he was appointed Bishop of Hereford and soon became renowned for his sanctity, charity and reforming zeal.

## **October 4th: The Twenty-seventh 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**

**Please pray for the sick:** Chloe Heard, Connie Hayward, Agnes Broderick, Paul Beesley, Michael McCann, Philip McCann, David Pritchard, James Foynes, Carolyn Knight, Ray Colquhoun, May Colquhoun, Philip Nicklin and Sherryle Wenzel

**Of your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:** Grant Roberts and Susan Lord;

**and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now:** Fr Laurence Daly, Henry Aloysius Bowyer, Alfred Boswell, Nicola & Giovanni Cozzi, Henry Moran, Peter Rushe, Phyllis Gilrairie, Denny Murphy, Paul Quinn and Pippa Reid.

Susan Lord's funeral is on Wednesday at 12.45 p.m. Reception of remains: Tuesday at 4.30 p.m.

### **The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, October 3rd/4th, The Twenty-seventh Sunday:**

Saturday 5.45 p.m.: Jenni Hardwick  
Sunday 8.30 a.m.: Margaret Hawkins  
12.00 p.m.: Chris Sammons  
5.30 p.m.: Brendan Cummins

### **Collections:**

25th Sunday: 20th September, 2009  
Offertory: £1,414  
Second: "LIFE": £510

**Thank you**

### **TODAY**

**TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION will be for Fr Hudson's Society CANDLES FOR FORTY HOURS** which will take place from Tuesday 6th—Thursday 8th October, will be on sale outside the main church door, this weekend and next. Please also remember the **Altar Society blue collection box** (outside St Charles' chapel at the front of the church) **for your offerings for flowers** to adorn the Altar during this very special and important time in our annual calendar.

**The PIETY STALL** will be open this weekend after all Sunday Masses, including on Saturday evening.

### **THIS WEEK**

**Please note that the 12.45 p.m. Mass on Monday will be in St Philip's Chapel due to lighting repairs in the Sanctuary.**

**OCTOBER—MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY:** Please note on the front page the means of gaining a PLENARY INDULGENCE or even a Partial Indulgence by praying five (or fewer) decades each day, especially as a family or in Church.

**OCTOBER DEVOTIONS** commence on Thursday with the Rosary at 7.45 p.m., and include a short meditation and Benediction. They continue on weekday nights in October (apart from during Forty Hours).

**ADORATION AT REDNAL** resumes on Wednesday with Mass at 2.30 p.m., Exposition and ending with Benediction at c. 4.40 p.m.

**The SOCIETY OF ST HUGH** meets on Saturday 3rd October at 2 p.m. in the Oratory House. *All are welcome*

**NEWMAN ASSOCIATION** is holding a seminar on Saturday from

11.30 a.m. at St Dunstan's Church, King's Heath. The subject: Modernity and Modern Christianity. The speaker will be Fr R Darwen S. J. Take your own lunch. Hot drinks provided.

**ST PAUL'S OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION** welcomes all former pupils and staff to its annual Mass on Saturday at 2.30 p.m. at the Convent., followed by the AGM and cream tea. See poster.

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**THE SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:** Friday is 'Harvest Fast Day' for the Hungry & Needy of the World and the second collection next weekend will be for this purpose.

**The ANNUAL NEWMAN PILGRIMAGE TO LITTLEMORE** will take place on Saturday, October 10th and will include Mass at the Church of Blessed Dominic Barberi at which the preacher will be Bishop Philip Boyce. There will also be an opportunity for confession. Booking forms are to be found at the doors of the church.

### **NOTICES**

**APF REDBOX HOLDERS:** The year comes to an end on 30th September and **all boxes** need to be emptied. Please would you cooperate with your collector in getting your boxes exchanged when requested. *Many thanks.*

**EPIPHANY PRIZE DRAW:** Once again we will be offering a 1st prize of £500 and a 2nd of £100 and would be grateful for donations! Please address to Fr Guy.

**SUNDAY 5.30 p.m. MASS CHOIR:** If you wish to sing, please be in the Back Gallery by 5 p.m. No previous experience needed!

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK by St. John Vianney (Patron of Priests):**

My children, the Sacrament of Orders, which seems to relate to no one among you, truly relates to everyone. This Sacrament raises man up to God. What is a priest! A man who holds the place of God -- a man who is invested with all the powers of God. "Go," said Our Lord to the priest; "as My Father sent Me, I send you. All power has been given Me in Heaven and on earth. Go then, teach all nations. . . . He who listens to you, listens to Me; he who despises you despises Me." When the priest remits sins, he does not say, "God pardons you"; he says, "I absolve you." At the Consecration, he does not say, "This is the Body of Our Lord;" he says, "This is My Body."