

# THE ORATORY—dedicated to THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

141 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 8UE

Registered as a Charity

## Parish Weekly Newsletter

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

## October 26th 2008: THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR



**Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself**

the Books of the Prophets constitute an immediately recognisable later section of the Old Testament. The prophets' role throughout the history of the Jewish people was to recall them to repentance from sin, and thereby to restore their proper relationship with Almighty God, their Father. Hence, too, the presence at Our Lord's Transfiguration of the greatest of all the prophets, Elijah, along with Moses. Our Lord is the fulfilment of the entire teaching of the Old Testament, beginning with the Five Books of Moses in which the Chosen People receive God's Law, and of the Prophets through whom the Holy Spirit spoke to the Jews.

### HFE BILL—THE GOOD NEWS AND THE BAD

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill was given its third reading in the Commons last Wednesday. During the debate, Mr Edward Leigh, the MP for Gainsborough who spoke at the Pro-Life meeting held here a few weeks ago, told the House of Commons: **"I believe that human embryos are emphatically not just blobs of cells; they have the entire genetic make-up of a human being. I believe not that they are potential human beings, but that they are human beings with potential. ... There is something very dangerous in what we will undoubtedly do today. We are making ourselves less than human, in a sense, by viewing one part of human creation as a thing, a spare part, which I believe is extraordinarily dangerous."**

Meanwhile, a big thank-you to all who have played a part in the campaign against the bill. John Smeaton of SPUC writes that **"We are enormously grateful to people who have written to and telephoned their MPs, delivered leaflets, prayed, fasted and donated to the campaign against this bill. This has been a gruelling and drawn-out campaign - particularly against the pro-abortion amendments which have been hanging over us since the sudden postponement of the bill last July...The exclusion of these amendments is a great tribute to all those activists, clergy and others who have kept up the pressure on MPs and the prime minister. For month after month, it seemed there was no hope of avoiding the raft of pro-abortion amendments which were tabled by pro-abortion MPs, who were emboldened by the defeat of time-limit proposals in May. But our thousands of loyal supporters stuck at it. Tragically the bill represents a major new attack on the dignity and lives of human embryos created by in vitro fertilisation. Its deadly provisions will cost the lives countless tiny human beings. However, we thank God, and all our supporters and co-workers, that the abortion law has not also been made worse."**

The bill has to go back to the House of Lords, where peers can review the embryology amendments made in the Commons - and can try to lessen the damage of the bill - but sadly do not have scope to defeat it.

### And finally...CARDINAL NEWMAN'S CAUSE

The end of this week sees a series of special celebrations connected with the Cause for beatification of our Cardinal. The few remaining first Class relics of the Cardinal's hair will be placed, together with fragments of cloth from his grave, in the Upper Hall of the Cloister Buildings for veneration from Thursday night to Sunday morning. The Archbishop particularly asks that we take time to make a prayerful vigil in the presence of these precious relics, until the time when they will be solemnly carried in procession to the Church for Mass on Sunday, November 2nd, at the end of which His Grace the Archbishop will enshrine them in St. Charles's chapel until a permanent shrine can be prepared for them.

## Sunday October 26th: The Thirtieth Sunday of the Year (Green)

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

- |                                                   |                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| • 8.30 a.m. <b>Low Mass</b>                       | • 12.00 p.m. <b>(Families with young children)</b> |
| • 9.30 a.m. <b>1962 Rite Mass (in the church)</b> | • 5.30 p.m. <b>Sung Congregational Mass</b>        |
| • 10.30 a.m. <b>High Mass</b>                     | • 7.30 p.m. <b>Solemn Vespers and Benediction</b>  |

## THIRTIETH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME: Liturgical Calendar

**Monday to Friday: Masses at 7.30 a.m., 12.45 p.m. and 5.45 p.m. October Devotions at 8.00 p.m. (Not Friday)**

**Confessions are heard from 12.30 p.m. and from 5.30 p.m. until the end of Mass. (Please see over for exceptions this week)**

**Monday October 27th: Feria. (Green)**

- **October Devotions at 8.00 p.m.**

**Tuesday October 28th: Sts Simon and Jude, Apostles. Feast. (Red).**

- **October Devotions at 8.00 p.m.** Brothers of the Little Oratory meet in St Philip's Chapel after Benediction. New members welcome.

**Sts Simon & Jude** (1st C.) Simon is called the "Zealot" in the Gospels, to distinguish him from Simon Peter and the name may refer to his earlier connection with the Jewish resistance movement to the Romans. Jude, whose name was abbreviated from Judas, is distinguished from Judas Iscariot by the name "Thaddeus". Simon is said to have preached in Egypt and Persia. Jude is the author of an Epistle to the eastern Church. He is the patron of desperate causes because his epistle stresses that the faithful should persevere in harsh and difficult circumstances. It is thought that saints were martyred together in Persia.

**Wednesday October 29th: Feria. (Green)**

- **October Devotions at 8.00 p.m.**

**Thursday October 30th: Feria. (Green).**

- **October Devotions at 8.00 p.m.**

**Friday October 31st: Feria. (Green).**

- **Votive Mass of the Blessed Sacrament at 8 p.m.: Celebrant : His Lordship, Bishop William Kenney C.P.**

**Saturday November 1st: Our Lady on Saturday. Memoria. (White); or Feria. (Green)**

- **Votive Mass of Our Lady at 8 a.m. Celebrant: His Eminence, Cardinal Cormac Murphy O'Connor**
- **Votive Mass of St Philip Neri at 11 a.m. Celebrant: His Lordship, Philip Pargeter**
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30 to 10.30 a.m.**
- **Benediction at 10.30**
- **Confessions from 10.55 a.m. to 12 noon and from 5.30 p.m. until the end of Mass**
- **First Mass of Sunday: The Solemnity of All Saints, at 5.45 p.m.**

**Sunday November 2nd: The Solemnity of All Saints (White)**

**Mass & Service Times: PLEASE NOTE CHANGES FOR NOV 2nd (only)**

- **8.00 a.m. (Not 8.30) Low Mass**
- **11.00 a.m. Solemn High Mass**
- **12.15 p.m. AT THE ORATORY PRIMARY SCHOOL, Oliver Road**
- **4.30 p.m. Latin Low Mass (1962 Missal:)**
- **5.30 p.m. Sung Congregational Mass in English**
- **7.30 p.m. Vespers and Benediction**

**Please pray for the sick** Raymond Colquhoun, David Reynolds, Bridget Shields, Marie-Therese Jones, Ingeborg Parkes, Kim Potter, Maurice Hynes, Carole Halls, Margaret Casey and Frank McGuinness. **Of your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:** Kathleen Winkelman and Peggie McGrillen; **and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now:** Zillah Mary Nicholls, Edward Snape, John Acquaye, Rose & John Nulty and Philip Dobson.

**The following are requested to read next weekend, November 1st/2nd  
The Feast of All Saints:**

Saturday 5.45 p.m.: Anne Roebuck  
Sunday 8.00 a.m.: Margaret Hawkins  
5.30 p.m.: Brendan Cummins

**Collections:** Twenty-ninth Sunday, 19th October: Offertory: £1,315 Second: APF: £778  
*Thank you*

#### **TODAY**

**HAGLEY ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC** from Barnsley Road to Paradise Circus next Sunday morning, October 26th on account of a race. It will be possible to approach the Oratory by car from south of the Hagley Road ONLY via the Five Ways Roundabout, Ladywood Middleway, and Monument Road into Plough & Harrow Road, so please allow extra time for your journey. Extensive areas of Edgbaston will also be closed to traffic on account of this event. Phone 303 7398 for information.

**HOLY SOULS:** Papers are to be found at the doors of the church for you to place the names of the dead for whom you wish prayers to be offered during November, the month of the Holy Souls. Please then put your list in the special box at the Holy Souls' Altar (on the left-hand side of the church).

**The PIETY STALL** is open after all Sunday Masses, including the Vigil Mass on Saturday evening. It now has a large selection of *Advent calendars and wreaths, Christmas cards, gifts, calendars, diaries etc.* **Including cards etc being sold on behalf of Aid to the Church in Need.**

#### **THIS WEEK**

**OCTOBER DEVOTIONS** will be from Monday to Thursday this week, at 8 p.m., consisting of Rosary and Benediction. Please note the starting time, i.e. Rosary is not recited at the usual time of 7.45 p.m. since it forms part of the Devotions.

**FOURTH NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING FOR LIFE.** On Tuesday 28th October please pray and fast for the defeat of all attempts in parliament to liberalise the abortion laws. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. For information on the day of Prayer and Fasting contact: The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740. For information on lobbying your MP about the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill contact SPUC at [www.spuc.org.uk](http://www.spuc.org.uk) Tel 020 7091 7091. **Fasting** : Fast from all food except bread and water for the day, or fast from a particular food or luxury, e.g. chocolate, alcohol, cigarettes, TV. Fast from whatever you can given your state of health etc, but make sure it is something that involves a sacrifice to yourself. **Prayer** : We are asking people to say a Rosary (or an extra Rosary if you say it daily already). You could also offer

an extra effort such as going to Mass (or an extra Mass) on the day, or going to Adoration.

**FRIENDS OF CARDINAL NEWMAN AGM** is on Tuesday 28th October at 7.30 p.m. in the Lower Cloister Hall. Fr Paul will speak on "The present position of the Cause". All are welcome.

**ADORATION AT REDNAL** will take place this week on **Wednesday** beginning with Mass at 2.30 p.m.

#### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**VIGIL OF RECEPTION OF THE REMAINS OF CARDINAL NEWMAN:** It will be possible to venerate the remains before they are solemnly received into church at the High mass on Sunday (see below). The reliquary containing the remains will be in the Upper Cloister Hall and it will be possible to visit on Friday from 9 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**SPECIAL MASSES DURING THE VIGIL** will be celebrated at 8 p.m. on Friday, and at 8 a.m. and at 11 a.m. on Saturday. Please see the calendar above for full details.

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2nd: CARDINAL NEWMAN:** Attendance at the special Mass at 11 a.m. on November 2nd, the transferred Feast of All Saints, which will be celebrated by His Grace Archbishop Vincent Nichols and at which the Cardinal's remains will be solemnly received, **will be by ticket only.** Please note that **at the Archbishop's request there will be a special Mass schedule in operation on that Sunday morning: there will be no Masses at 8.30, 9.30 a.m. or 12 noon. Instead, Masses will be at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. only.** (The Masses on Saturday and Sunday evening will be at the usual times.) **There will be a low Mass at 12.15 p.m. in the Primary School, and a low Mass in Latin (1962 rite) at 4.30 p.m. in Church.**

**SOCIETY OF ST HUGH** meets on Saturday November 8th at 10.15 a.m. in the Oratory house. All are welcome.

**ALL SOULS DAY** is kept on Monday, November 3rd.

#### **NOTICES**

**The ORATORY EPIPHANY PRIZE DRAW** : Tickets will be on sale shortly and we would be glad to receive contributions of prizes, particularly for the First Prize of £500. Other gifts would be welcome but please note that they must be in new condition—i.e. unused!)