

THE ORATORY—dedicated to THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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Registered as a Charity

Parish Weekly Newsletter



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

July 19th 2009: THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

The Provost writes:

“FOR HE IS OUR PEACE”.

These days from mid-July and through the month of August are, for many of us, the time of year when we seek to go on holiday. It is an opportunity, whether with our family or with friends, to take some time to be away from the daily round of work and school and find for ourselves often much needed rest and recreation. For many, with the effects of the recession being felt, this year's holidays may well be spent nearer home (the Americans have a word for this: it's a “staycation”!) but even this should still be a valuable time.

Rest for our bodies should bring with it rest and recreation for our souls as well. We need both so that we might be restored to both physical and spiritual vitality, in order that we might better fulfill the tasks God has given us. We find echoes of all this in this Sunday's Gospel: “*You must come away...and rest for a while*” Our Lord tells the apostles. His disciples were overworked, tired, hungry – they needed to recuperate for a while. Even so, when they reached the place Our Lord thought would be deserted, the people had got there before Him and so He had to continue “*to teach them at some length*”.

The lessons here for us are many. Firstly, we do not go on holiday to get away from our Saviour: He goes with us, that we might try to draw refreshment from Him. “*He is our peace*” as St Paul tells us in this Sunday's Second Reading, and we will not find true peace, true happiness, true rest, if we look for these things apart from Him. This is what our own St Philip also taught his followers. It is so easy for us to wander about in



ignorance, seeking nourishment for our spirits where none is to be had, until we realise that only the Good Shepherd can give us the compassionate care we really need.

Secondly, we learn from this Gospel that we are never on holiday from our faith. We do not go on holiday in order not to go to Mass, not to say our prayers or to pretend we are not Catholics. Just as on arriving Our Lord felt moved to teach the crowds once more, so when we are away from our usual environs, we might find an opportunity given us to bear witness to Christ to others, or perhaps we might come across someone whom we can help to find peace or direction in their lives. In that sense we are never “on holiday” - we are always ready to do something for our Redeemer and for the sheep He came to save. True compassion is always available - we don't leave it at home while we are away!

BEATIFICATION NEWS:

Several Internet sites this week have already decided the date and place of our Cardinal's Beatification. Suffice to say that this is news to us! The procedures indicate that the Oratory, in conjunction with our Bishops, must present a possible date and place to the Vatican for their approval. As most of the Vatican departments are now in holiday mode, it is not really likely that any decision will be made just yet. When it is, we will let you know straight away!

Some of the greatest interest in the forthcoming Beatification has come, of course, from the Oratories around the world. We have had many congratulatory messages and many Fathers have already indicated that they hope to be present with some of the people from their parishes. It is perhaps appropriate that we have staying with us for a few weeks two members of a prospective Oratory in Cincinnati in the USA. They are called Fr Lawrence and Brother John. Please pray for them and for the success of their venture - and say hello to them should you come across them during their visit!

MISSION APPEAL:

We welcome this weekend Brother Andrew Ferris, of the Sacred Heart Fathers, who will be preaching at all Masses and appealing for your support for his Congregation's missionary work. I am sure you will respond in your usual generous fashion.

Sunday July 19th: Sixteenth 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. *Solemn Vespers and Benediction*

SIXTEENTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME: Liturgical Calendar

Year 2 or B of the Lectionary at Mass and Psalter Week 4

Monday 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. 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 20th July: Feria. (Green) Optional memoria of St Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr. (Red)

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

St Apollinaris (1st cent) From Antioch, Turkey, he was probably a disciple of St Peter's and became the first Bishop of Ravenna in Italy. During the persecutions under the Emperor Vespasian, he was set upon by a mob and died shortly after.

Tuesday 21st July: Feria. (Green) Optional memoria of St Laurence of Brindisi, Priest. (White)

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

St Laurence of Brindisi (1559-1619): Born near Naples, he joined the Capuchin Franciscans studying at the University of Padua, where he also acquired a number of languages. A gifted theologian, he had great success preaching in Northern Italy and had similar successes after being assigned to work with Jews and Lutherans. In 1601, as chaplain to the forces fighting invading Turks, he led the troops into battle holding a crucifix and the resulting victory was attributed to this. He served as a peacemaker in several disputes between royal families in Europe.

Wednesday 22nd July: St Mary Magdalene. Memoria. (White)

St Mary Magdalene: St Luke's Gospel tells us that Our Lord drove out seven devils from her and that she became one of His most devoted followers. Present at the foot of the Cross she was the first person to whom Our Lord appeared following the Resurrection.

Thursday 23rd July: St Bridget of Sweden, Patroness of Europe. Feast. (White)

St Bridget of Sweden (1303-73): Of Swedish royal blood she was married at 13 and had eight children. Following her husband's death she founded the Order of the Holy saviour—the *Bridgettines* at Vadstena which became an important religious centre. She was a visionary and lived an austere life ministering to the needy. She became an adviser to the Pope, insisting on the restoration of the papacy to Rome from Avignon.

Friday 24th July: Feria. (Green). Optional memoria of St Sharbel Makhluf, Priest. (White) St John Boste, English Martyr.

St Sharbel Makhluf (d.1898): Son of a Lebanese mule driver, he became a monk. He was devoted to the Blessed Sacrament and was renowned for his holiness and austerity, living the last 25 years of his life as a hermit.

St John Boste (d. 1594) An Anglican minister and fellow of Queens College, Oxford he converted and became a priest. He was so successful in his work, he became the object of a massive manhunt but he was betrayed by an apostate Catholic who tricked him by requesting the Sacraments. He was tortured then hanged, drawn and quartered.

Saturday 25th July: St James, Apostle. Feast. (Red)

- **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 (Seventeenth Sunday) at 5.45 p.m.**

St James was the brother of St John and was one of the three apostles whom Our Lord chose to witness the Transfiguration and to accompany him to the Garden of Olives. He preached in Spain and was the first of the Apostles to be martyred.

July 26th: Seventeenth 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. Solemn Vespers and Benediction**

Please pray for the sick: Michael Drew, Frank Moore, John Aston, Lin Greenhalgh, William O'Leary, Connie Hayward, Patrick Walshe, Pat Healey, John Rose, Carole Halls, Celia Fernandez, Michael McCann and Sr Francis Clare.

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

and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now: Fr Louis Brodeur of this Oratory, Muriel Rose, Roger Kelly, Anthony Jukes, Len Robbottam, Isabel Kuzminski, Michael Hegarty and Mary & Charles Holland

The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, July 25th/26th, The Seventeenth Sunday of the Year:

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

Collections:

Fifteenth Sunday: 12th July, 2009

Offertory: £1,388

Second: Apostleship of the Sea: £736

Thank you

TODAY

TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION: A MISSION APPEAL by the Sacred Heart Fathers, will be made at all Sunday Masses this weekend 18th/19th July.

The PIETY STALL is open after all Sunday Masses, including the Saturday evening Mass.

PRO-LIFE PETITION to stop secondary schools being used as abortion referral centres. The concerns are: (1) The Government has given a clear remit to school nurses and advisers to refer children for abortions without informing parents; (2) It is insisting that information on obtaining abortions is included in sex education lessons; (3) It wants to establish school-based sexual 'health' clinics in secondary schools. **Please sign this very important petition if you have not already done so.**

THIS WEEK

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AT REDNAL will not take place during the remainder of the month of July.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AWARENESS RAISING DAY ABOUT DEMENTIA, organised by Father Hudson's Society, will take place on Saturday 1st August at St Joseph's Care Home in Coleshill. It is aimed primarily at those who are caring for a family member with dementia. The day will be free of charge and lunch will be provided. To book a place, or for more details, please contact Sally Scattergood at St Joseph's on 01675 434000 or at stjosephs2@fatherhudsons.org.uk

ROSARY RALLY TO PRAY FOR WORLD PEACE & FOR YOUNG PEOPLE will be taking place at Grace Dieu Manor, Leicestershire, on Sunday 16th August commencing with Mass at 3 p.m. and including Exposition, Blessing of the Sick and Benediction.

VISITS OF ST THÉRÈSE'S RELICS: The relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux will be visiting the diocese during September and October. On 19th September, they will arrive at St Chad's Cathedral at 2 p.m. There will be a Mass with Anointing of the Sick at 4.30 p.m., Benediction at 7.30 p.m. and all-night Vigil commencing at 9 p.m. They will remain in the Cathedral throughout Sunday 20th and will leave after a Farewell Mass at 6.30 a.m. on Monday 21st. More details of the weekend's events will be shown in due course. The relics will also be visiting the Oxford Oratory from Wednesday 7th October until the afternoon of Thursday 8th October

NOTICES

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: There are still a few places left on the GOBS pilgrimage 21st-29th August 2009 - by coach & ferry. Total cost £395, Deposit (non-returnable) £50 to book a place. Contact Maggie O'Rourke 01603443850 or Andrew Parkes 0121-688-4154

CLOISTER SALE for the GRAND ORDER OF BABYSITTERS (GOBS) Thank you to all who helped and supported the sale last weekend, which raised £633.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA: Sun 6th - Saturday 12th September: Basic cost (excluding travel to and from Luton) is £360 (sharing). Please speak to Stephanie on 0121 454 0496 if you are interested.

HOLDERS OF RED BOXES: It would be much appreciated if you would you collect your replacement boxes from the Sacristy.

VACANCIES — Oratory Primary School

Required for September 09: Two classroom Assistants (Level 2/ Level 3). Further details available on request.

Visits to the school are most welcome.

Call 454 0600 and ask for Mrs C. Dickinson