

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.

Telephone: 0121 454 0496

Fac simile: 0121 455 8160

E-mail: parish@theoratory.org.uk

Web-site: www.theoratory.org.uk

Oratory Primary School contact:

dickinsonc@oratory.bham.sch.uk



April 11th 2010: OCTAVE OF EASTER: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



MEETING THE RISEN LORD

The Gospel of the first Sunday, or “eighth day”, after Easter, recounts the events both of the first Easter Day and of the same day at the beginning of the following week, as the Apostles experienced them, and as St. John the Evangelist tells us what took place.

On the evening of that first day of the week, the very day when Jesus rose from the dead, most of the Apostles had been huddled together, locked away in the Upper Room where they had met under such different circumstances the previous Thursday evening to celebrate the Last Supper Passover meal with their Master. Now they were together again, or most of them at any rate, but only for “fear of the Jews”. What had happened to their Lord would probably happen to them, too, if the Chief Priests could lay their hands on them. They were marked men. Jesus had finally been put to death as a supposed rebel. How could His followers not face a similar fate if they were caught?

They were far from being pleased at the news they had heard that morning, about the tomb where Jesus had been laid two nights ago now being strangely empty. Although St. John tells us that he saw the empty tomb for himself and “he believed” that Jesus was not dead any more, he was apparently alone in this faith among the remaining eleven Apostles; (don’t forget that one of their number had just committed suicide).

So when Jesus suddenly appeared in their presence, they were dumbfounded. They even thought they were seeing a ghost. But Jesus showed them He was flesh and blood by eating in their presence. Yet it was not only Judas who was no longer with them—Thomas also was not present on that evening. We do not know why he was absent. What matters is what happened next. Not surprisingly, when Thomas returned to join the others in the Upper Room, he refused to believe them when they said “we have seen the Lord!” We know what followed—how Jesus came back again and singled Thomas out and showed him that He was, indeed, truly alive, body and soul together. We also know Thomas’s profound exclamation of faith, which we also love to make our own at Mass: “*My Lord and my God!*”

But one special fact might otherwise be overlooked in these events: both these meetings between Our Lord and His Apostles took place on the **first day of two successive weeks**. Therefore we can see that it is Our Lord who has established the pattern so deeply grounded in the Church’s life—that we come together as members of His mystical body in order especially to meet Him, on the **first day of every week—Sunday**. ***It is Our Lord, therefore, who has made this day so holy, that we even observe it as a divine command, to come together to meet Him on this day by taking part in Holy Mass.***



During Paschaltide, instead of the *Angelus*, we pray Our Lady’s Easter Antiphon:

REGINA CAELI

*Regina Caeli, laetare, Alleluia!
Quia quem meruisti portare, Alleluia!
Resurrexit sicut dixit, Alleluia!
Ora pro nobis Deum, Alleluia!*

Then:

*Rejoice and be glad O Virgin Mary, Alleluia
For the Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!*

*Joy to you, O Queen of Heaven, Alleluia!
He whom you were fit to bear, Alleluia!
As He promised has arisen, Alleluia!
Pour for us to God your prayer, Alleluia!*

Let us pray: O God, who have graciously given joy to the world in the resurrection of your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ; grant, we pray, that through His mother the Virgin Mary, we may attain to the joys of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday April 11th: Divine Mercy Sunday (White)

- 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)
- 4.30 p.m. (part of Divine Mercy Devotion)
- 5.30 p.m. Sung Congregational Mass
- 7.30 p.m. Vespers and Benediction

Liturgical Calendar

Year 2 of the Lectionary at Weekday Mass and Psalter Week 2 in the Divine Office

Monday to Friday: Masses at 7.30 a.m., 12.45 p.m. and 5.45 p.m. Rosary at 7.45 p.m.

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

Monday 12th April: Monday of Easter (White)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**
- **Adoration in the Cloister Chapel; Holy Mass 2.30 p.m.—Benediction 4.30 p.m.**
- **Blessing with St Philip's relic at 8 p.m.**

Tuesday 13th April: Tuesday of Easter (White)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**
- **Benediction at 8 p.m.**

Wednesday 14th April: Wednesday of Easter (White)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**

Thursday 15th April: Thursday of Easter (White)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**

Friday 16th April: Friday of Easter (White)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**

Saturday 17th April: Saturday of Easter (White)

- **Masses at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.**
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30—10.45 a.m.**
- **Benediction at 10.45 a.m.**
- **Confessions from 1.55 a.m. to 12 noon & from 5.30 p.m.**
- **First Mass of Sunday (Third Sunday of Easter) at 5.45 p.m.**



April 18th: The Third Sunday of Easter : (White)

Mass & Service Times:

- **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 in English**
- **7.30 p.m. Solemn Vespers and Benediction**

Please pray for the sick Mary Shafer, Geoff Jones, Kevan Bleach, Pat Cartwright, Carolyn Knight, David Pritchard, Elizabeth Caswell, James Foynes, Michael McCann, Philip McCann and Tony Farmer.

Of your charity please pray for those who have died recently: Sr Teresa Hanly; **and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now:** Eugenio Cozzi, Margaret Brennan, Angela McKenna, Dee Par-ton, James O'Connor, Bill & Kitty Thatcher, Bernard & Hilda Wood and Martin & Mary Malone .

The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, April 17th/18th

The Third Sunday of Easter:

Saturday 5.45 p.m: Anne Roebuck

Sunday 8.30 a.m.: Murray Wilson-Browne

12.00 p.m.: Dennis Wood

5.30 p.m.: Brendan Cummins

Collections:

Easter Day : 4th April, 2010

Offertory: £1,845

Second: Offering for the Clergy at Easter: £3116

Many Thanks

TODAY

THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND will be for the expenses of Cardinal Newman's Beatification



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY AFTER-NOON: Takes place at 2.30 p.m. Confessions (from 2 p.m.), Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and other prayers will precede Mass at c. 4.30 p.m. (A Plenary Indulgence is attached to this devotion, under the usual conditions which are: Confession on the Feast, or within a few days before the feast day—prayer for the Holy Father's intentions—praying the Divine Mercy prayers on the Feast—sincere hatred of sin and firm purpose of amendment of life.

THE PIETY STALL is open after all Sunday Masses .

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 will take place on Monday afternoon in the Cloister Chapel. There will be Holy Mass (at 2.30 p.m.), the Divine Mercy Chaplet and other prayers and the afternoon will end with Benediction at c. 4.30 p.m.

The ALTAR SOCIETY meets on Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. in the Oratory House.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION is holding a Re-Union Buffet in the Old Hall at St Paul's School, Vernon Road on Saturday May 15th. Doors open at 12.30 p.m. for lunch at 1.00 p.m.

Please note that this is a Ticket Only event and *tickets must be purchased in advance by Saturday 24th April*. Cost £11.50. Please contact Mrs Pat Bishop, 97 Haunch Lane, Kings Heath B13 0NX: 0121 443 3274 for full details. The event is open to all former pupils.

ST CHAD'S CATHEDRAL is hosting a Fund Raising Dance in aid of Cathedral maintenance, on 1st May at The Parish Hall, St Anne's, Alcester Street. Doors open at 8 p.m. Tickets £4 at the door **THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM (Silver Jubilee Year)** will take place on Saturday May 8th and will be led by His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley and Bishop David McGough. A coach will pick up from The Oratory and the total cost of £25 includes a cooked evening meal. Please contact Anne Roebuck on 0121 454 0130 to book.

'IN VOCATION 2010' As part of the preparations for the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to England young men and women between the ages of 16-35 are invited to attend a unique national vocations discernment weekend at Oscott College to be held on 2-4 July. The event is aimed at any young adults who are serious about their faith and are seeking their vocation in life. For more details and booking forms please see www.invocation.org.uk The cost of the weekend is £50, but help may be available if the cost is prohibitive.

THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES will take place from Saturday 29th May to Friday /Saturday 4/5 June. There are three choices of travel: Train fares from £589, Coach fares from £394 and Air fares from £710. (There are reductions for children under 14 on train fares and under 10 for coach or air fares). Booking forms are available from the Oratory House; or for sick pilgrims, who will travel by air or Jumbulance, please apply to Miss Elizabeth McDonald, 210 Somerville Rd, Small Heath B10 9HB.

NOTICES

ANNIE BRIGHT WESTON RESIDENTIAL HOME (Sisters of Charity of St Paul) in Norfolk Road have another vacancy of a single bedroom for a lady over 65 years of age in their residential home. (Please note: this is not a nursing home). It has its own chapel and Mass is celebrated most days, with Benediction once a week. For further information, please contact the manager on 0121 454 1289.