

# 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.*

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## July 4th 2010: FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### THE SEVENTY-TWO DISCIPLES

During His earthly ministry Our Lord chose twelve "Apostles" to whom He gave special power and authority to forgive sins in His name and to baptise, preach and sanctify God's new people. But also we hear in today's Gospel about seventy-two other disciples (or followers) who, during His ministry, were sent out in pairs by Christ both to preach that God's kingdom was now very near, and to heal the sick. Since we know that the Apostles are forerunners of the bishops of the Universal Church, it might be tempting to see the seventy-two disciples as the forerunners of the priesthood. But this is not the case. The powers given to the seventy-two were different from those of the priesthood, and they were connected simply with preparing immediately for Our Lord's coming into that district. On the other hand, the Apostles were empowered to continue Our Lord's ministry after His Ascension into heaven, for which they were given the Holy Spirit to forgive sins, to celebrate the Mass, to preach the Good News – in short, they were given the power to teach, sanctify and govern God's holy people for all time and in all the world until His return in glory on the Last Day. It is this authority, passed on by the Apostles to the Bishops, that they in turn share with the priests of the Church today.

### Evil Spirits

When these seventy-two returned to Him, they rejoiced that their mission had been a success, thanks to the power of Christ's Holy Name, by which they found they were able to cast out many devils. Our Lord tells them that it is far more important that they are numbered amongst those destined for heaven than that they have been given power over Satan and his wicked angels. At first it looks as though Our Lord is saying that the Devil doesn't really matter. Getting to heaven is a far greater reason for rejoicing than any power or authority on earth, even power over evil spirits. But this does not mean that Our Lord discounts the power of the Evil One. On the contrary, there are many occasions throughout the Gospels, beginning with His temptations in the desert, when Our Lord confronts and put to flight the "Lord of the World".

It has become fashionable in recent years to downplay, if not completely discount, the malice of the Devil. Some people, even some theologians, have suggested that he does not exist. Evil, they say, is all inside men's minds and hearts. It is human action that is the sole cause of evil, not intelligent spiritual beings who hate God and us and all God's plans for us.

This is a great mistake and a source of immense harm to so many people. When we stop believing that we have a highly intelligent, powerful and untiring hateful enemy, we become complacent and far more open to attack by him. Our Lord knew full well both the malice and subtlety of the Devil. That is what He set Himself to oppose him with such determination. But if the Devil is so powerful and so full of hatred, why is he not more obvious? It all depends on what you think as "obvious". Given the amount of hatred, confusion, selfishness and terror in the world, can anyone doubt that humanity is in serious trouble? The truth is that the Devil does not need to make himself openly known to continue to have a devastating effect on mankind. In fact, the more hidden he is, the easier for him. If you were a General fighting a war against a powerful enemy, would you risk open battle if you knew you could do much more damage by staying hidden? Moreover, the Devil knows two things: first, that his power is limited by one thing only: the power of Almighty God; second, that his time for doing damage to us is getting shorter every day. He wants to bring as many people down with him into ruin as possible in the time remaining before the Second Coming. Therefore, he wants to keep as many people away from the grace and power of God as he can, in order to destroy them and take them with him to eternal damnation. **The one thing that can stop him is God's power. We have nothing to fear from the Devil as long as we turn to God constantly for help.** We cannot survive the perils of this short life without God's grace in the Mass and the Sacraments. We need to follow the saving teaching of Christ and His Church in order to avoid the traps Satan sets for us all the time.

In today's Gospel we learn that the Devil hates and fears even Our Lord's Name. He is also terrified of anyone wholly given to God. We should turn to Our Lady in our temptations, because of all creatures, she is the one Satan fears the most. He is utterly powerless against the Mother of God. So pray to her for help whenever you are tempted in any way whatever.

### **Sunday July 4th: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)**

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| • 8.30 a.m. <b>Low Mass</b>                   | • 12.00 p.m. <b>(Families with young children)</b> |
| • 9.30 a.m. <b>Latin Low Mass—1962 Missal</b> | • 5.30 p.m. <b>Sung Congregational Mass</b>        |
| • 10.30 a.m. <b>High Mass</b>                 | • 7.30 p.m. <b>Vespers and Benediction</b>         |

### **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 7.45 p.m. (for Saturdays: see over)*

*Holy Hour: Each Weekday from 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.*

*Benediction on Tuesday at 8 p.m.*

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

**Monday 5th July: Feria. (Green).** Optional memorias of *St Anthony Zaccaria, Priest. (White); or of Bl George Nichols and Companions, Martyrs. (Red)*

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**
- **Blessing with St Philip's relic at 8 p.m.**

**St Anthony Mary Zaccaria** (1502-39) He became a priest having been a doctor, and moved to Milan to the church of St Barnabas and in 1530 he co-founded the Barnabites, a congregation under the patronage of St Paul and, in particular, his preaching relating to the Holy Eucharist. St Anthony popularised the Forty Hours devotion.

**Bl George Nichols & Comps:** George Nichols was born in Oxford. Following his conversion, he became a priest in 1584. He worked in Oxford with great success until his arrest in 1589, with another priest, Richard Yaxley, and two laymen, Thomas Belson and Humphrey Pritchard, who had been part of an underground movement which helped priests. They were all tortured before being executed in 1539.

**Tuesday 6th July: Feria. (Green).** Optional memoria of *St Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr. (Red)*

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

**St Maria Goretti** (1890-1902) Born in Nettuno, between Rome and Naples, she was a known for her kindness and devotion. She was murdered (when only twelve) for refusing to succumb to her next-door neighbour when he raped her. What was more important, however, was her forgiveness of her attacker. Not only did she forgive him as she lay dying in hospital, but after her death, her unrepentant attacker was visited by Maria in a dream and he when he awoke, he was a changed man. He was present at her Canonisation in 1950.

**Wednesday 7th July: Feria. (Green).**

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**

**Thursday 8th July: Feria. (Green).**

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**

**Friday 9th July: Feria. (Green)** Optional memoria of *St Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions, Martyrs. (Red)*

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

**Sts Augustine Zhao Rong & Comps:** We commemorate 120 native Chinese Catholics who were martyred in China between 1648 and 1930. St Augustine had been a soldier in the Chinese army before his conversion and ordination to the priesthood. He was cruelly tortured before being put to death in 1815.

**Saturday 10th July: Our Lady on Saturday. (White); or Feria. (Green)**

- **Low Mass at 8 a.m.**
- **Latin Mass 1962 Missal at 9.30 a.m. in St Philip's Chapel**
- **Low Mass at 11 a.m.**
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30—10.45 a.m.**
- **Benediction at 10.45 a.m.**
- **Confessions from 11 a.m. to 12 noon & from 5.30 p.m.**
- **First Mass of Sunday (Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time) at 5.45 p.m.**

## **July 11th: the Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time: (Green)**

### **Mass & Service Times:**

- **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**
- **5.30 p.m. Sung Congregational in English**
- **7.30 p.m. Vespers and Benediction**

**Please pray for the sick:** Brenda Molloy, John Rose, Teresa Wills, Thelma Havelin, May Colquhoun, Barbara Jarvis, Kathleen Sugré, Kevan Bleach, Maurice Hynes, James Foynes, Michael McCann, Philip McCann, David Pritchard, Carolyn Knight, and Tony Farmer.

**Of your charity please pray for those who have died recently:** Margaret Martinell;

**and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now:** Fr Henry Hayward, Melinda Pulisciano, Dominic Adams, Michael Hegarty, Leonard Roebottom, Ann McCann, William Corbett and Sydney Mee

**The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, July 10th/11th 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Saturday 5.45 p.m:* Bridget Hogan  
*Sunday 8.30 a.m.:* Peter Bateman  
*12.00 p.m.:* Dennis Wood  
*5.30 p.m.:* Jason Mahoney

### **Collections:**

**13th Sunday of the Year: 27th June, 2010**  
Offertory: £1,376

Second: Costs of the Beatification: £660

Ss. Peter & Paul £353

*Many thanks*

### **TODAY**

**THE SECOND COLLECTION today will be for the Beatification THE PIETY STALL: ON SALE TODAY EXCLUSIVELY HERE IN THE UK is the acclaimed DVD about Fatima "The 13th Day". The film has been described as "The Best Film Ever Made About Fatima" and is a remarkable retelling of the story. Also, new in stock is the acclaimed film "No Greater Love", a documentary film about the life of the Carmelite nuns in London.**

### **THIS WEEK**

**There will be A HOLY HOUR** from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. each weekday morning to pray for the success of Cardinal Newman's beatification and the Pope's visit. **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** in the Cloister Chapel will not take place this week.

**BIRMINGHAM BACH CHOIR** will be giving a concert in church on Saturday at 7.30 p.m. (Please note: the Oratory does not deal with any ticket sales). **"HUMAN DIGNITY IN A CHANGING EUROPE—A Christian Response"** is the subject of a Study Assembly at St Chad's Cathedral from 6th—10th July. Please see the posters for details.

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**THE POPE'S VISIT:** When our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, comes to the Oratory on 19th September, straight after the beatification, he will be the first pilgrim to pray in the new shrine that will be in St Philip's Chapel. This is a tremendous honour, not only for Cardinal Newman, but also for our parish and community. For obvious reasons the visit will be very short and it will be completely private. We are looking for donations to set up Blessed John Henry Newman's shrine and to fund the redecoration of St Philip's Chapel, making it ready to receive the relics of Blessed John Henry and to welcome the Holy Father. We are also looking to recruit a team of volun-

teers to help us keep the church and shrine open to visitors after the beatification. There will be a second collection for this in the coming weeks, but donations and offers of voluntary help may be made at anytime to Fr Richard by writing to him at the Oratory House or by emailing him [rd@oxorat.org](mailto:rd@oxorat.org) *In the case of donations, we would strongly urge those of you who are taxpayers to complete a Gift Aid form (to be found at the doors of the church) as we can increase your donation by claiming money back from Revenue & Customs.*

**SEA SUNDAY IS 11th JULY and the second collection next weekend will be for the Apostleship of the Sea.** The Vatican has decreed this year, the 90th year of the AOS, as the "Year of the Sea farer". Please take a Gift Aid envelope for your donation to the second collection next weekend.

**A DAY WITH MARY:** will be held here on Saturday 17th July commencing at 10 a.m. It is a day of instruction, devotion and intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. The day will include a procession and crowning of Our Lady's statue; Exposition; Rosaries; Act of Consecration; enrolment in the Brown Scapular; Mass; Confession; Benediction.

**THE BEATIFICATION OF CARDINAL NEWMAN** will be on Sunday 19th September and it is essential that you book on a coach in order to gain access to the Beatification site. Travel to and from the site will be £15. Coaches will leave from and return *not* to the Oratory as previously stated, but at certain pick-up points around Birmingham. Full details will be given in due course. Forms are to be found at the back of church and completed forms must be returned to the Oratory in an envelope marked **"Beatification"**. Please do *not* send to Pax Travel.

### **NOTICES**

**APF RED BOX HOLDERS** are asked to co-operate with your collectors in exchanging your red boxes, as the quarter has just ended. We take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and generosity to the Missionary work of the Church throughout the world.