

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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November 14th 2010: THE THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR and REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



NATION WILL FIGHT AGAINST NATION

Remembrance Sunday brings to mind the many wars that have been fought since the beginning of the human race—in fact, since Cain killed his brother Abel. First of all we call to mind the millions of men and women who have died in all those wars. War seems always to have been a sad part of history. In a particular way, of course, this Sunday, with its custom of two minutes' silent prayer, is intended to recall the Armistice which ended the First World War in November 1918. At that time, that most terrible of wars was supposed to be the last war which could ever be fought. The machinery of warfare developed by the beginning of the twentieth century was so appallingly efficient that no longer could hundreds of men be killed in a single day's fighting, but thousands in mere minutes.

In 1917, when it seemed to many that the opposing sides in the First World War were so evenly matched that they would only be able to grind on endlessly in a mutually destructive stalemate, Our Lady appeared to three young children in Portugal and foretold that the Great War would soon end. And so it proved. A year after the appearances at Fatima the Armistice was signed. However, Our Lady also made another prophecy at Fatima about war; she said that *unless men turned away from offending God, another even more terrible war would break out in the reign of pope Pius XI*. In 1917 the reigning Pope was still Benedict XV, who had succeeded Pope Saint Pius X only three years earlier in 1914. Another Pope called Pius XI was still known only to God sometime in the future. Yet so it proved, when the Second World War broke out at the very end of Pius XI's reign in 1939. Our Lady's prophecy came true exactly as she had warned.

What we can learn from this message of Our Lady's at Fatima is the truth that, underlying the facts and events of war, which historians study, there is another and yet deeper truth—that war is not only a terrible scourge to mankind, but is in some way connected with human rejection of God. The Second World War came about because of the evils of totalitarianism, in which the State replaced both God and human conscience. By the time it was declared, it was vital that it be fought to free Europe from the horrors of Nazism. Yet it was still a terrible scourge for all countries that took part in it. Societies suffer terrible upheavals in wartime, and this country and the rest of Europe and America were no exception. Moreover, though Nazism was defeated, Russian atheistic Communism grew immensely more powerful, thus also fulfilling yet another prophecy of our Lady at Fatima, that *unless the Pope consecrated Russia to her Immaculate Heart, Russia would spread her errors throughout the world*. So today, even though the Cold War is over, our society has adopted the atheism of the old Communist powers through glorifying sin and declaring war on innocent life, whether young or old.

In today's Gospel Our Lord foretells that *"Nation will fight against nation....there will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there..."* Do these words signify the present time? Yes. But not necessarily in the narrow sense of *only* the 20th and 21st centuries. As well as wars, disease and famine are sadly all too commonplace in our world. But look how many famines, like wars, are caused by human greed and malice.

On Remembrance Sunday we pray first and foremost for the dead who have fallen in war, particularly in the last hundred years. But we must also remember to pray for the peace that can only come if mankind turns away from sin and back to God, and if we heed the warnings of Our Lord in the Gospel, which His holy Mother draws to our attention and re-emphasised in a special way in her appearances at Fatima.

Sunday November 14th: The Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Green)

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| • 8.30 a.m. <i>Low Mass</i> | • 12.00 p.m. <i>(Families with young children)</i> |
| • 9.30 a.m. <i>Latin Low Mass—1962 Missal</i> | • 5.30 p.m. <i>Sung Congregational English Mass</i> |
| • 10.30 a.m. <i>Solemn Requiem for those fallen in war</i> | • 6.30 p.m. <i>Vespers and Benediction</i> |

Liturgical Calendar

Year 2 of the Lectionary at Weekday Mass and Psalter Week 1 in the Divine Office

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

Holy Hour: Each morning from 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

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

(For Saturday and Sunday: see over)

Monday 15th November: Feria (Green) Optional memoria of St Albert the Great, Bishop & Doctor of the Church. (White)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m. – 9 a.m. ? Rosary after 12.45 and 5.45 Mass**
- **Blessing with St Philip's relic at c. 6.20 p.m.**

St Albert the Great (C.1200-80) A German Dominican, he taught theology and science and he was the first to recognise the brilliance of Thomas Aquinas, who was his pupil. He became Provincial of the German Dominicans and Bishop of Regensburg. A prolific writer, he is known as "the great" because of his exceptional mastery of a wide-range of topics.

Tuesday 16th November: Feria. (Green) Optional memorias of St Edmund of Abingdon; or of St Margaret of Scotland; or of St Gertrude. (White)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m. – 9 a.m. ? Rosary after 12.45 and 5.45 Mass**
- **Benediction at 8 p.m.**

St Edmund (1180-1242) He had been a professor at Oxford before he was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. Henry III opposed Edmund's adherence to good discipline and to Rome, forcing his exile to Pontigny, where he died a holy death. Even in his lifetime, he was reputed to be a man of great holiness who had heavenly visions.

St Margaret (c.1045-93) An English princess, she spent her early life in exile at the court of (St) Stephen of Hungary before returning to the court of (St) Edward the Confessor. She married Malcolm of Scotland and was renowned for her acts of piety and great love of the poor. She reformed abuses prevalent at the time, and promoted education and the arts.

St Gertrude (1227-1301) A mystic, she had great devotion to the Sacred Heart which she fostered throughout the Church by her writings, still highly recommended.

Wednesday 17th November: Feria. (Green). Optional memorias of St Elizabeth of Hungary; or of St Hilda; or of St Hugh of Lincoln. (White)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m. – 9 a.m. ? Rosary after 12.45 and 5.45 Mass**

St Elizabeth of Hungary (1207-31) Widowed at the age of twenty, she became a Franciscan Tertiary and devoted the remainder of her short life to charitable works.

St Hilda (d.680) Abbess at Whitby, she hosted the famous synod at which the Anglo-Saxon Church conclusively adopted Roman customs including the date of celebrating Easter.

St Hugh (1135-1200) Bishop of Lincoln, he rebuilt the diocese which had become neglected. He was a man of justice and supported the oppressed, especially the Jews and the poor and sick. He is buried in the Cathedral he built which still stands today.

Thursday 18th November: Feria. (Green). Optional memoria of the Dedication of the Basilicas of SS Peter & Paul. (White).

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m. – 9 a.m. ? Rosary after 12.45 and 5.45 Mass**

Dedication of the Basilicas of SS Peter & Paul These two great Basilicas were built in the 4th century by order of Emperor Constantine over the burial sites of the two Apostles.

Friday 19th November: Feria. (Green)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m. – 9 a.m. ? Rosary after 12.45 and 5.45 Mass**
- **Stations of the Cross for the Faithful Departed after the 5.45 Mass**

Saturday 20th November: Our Lady on Saturday (White); or Feria. (Green).

- **Low Masses: at 8 a.m., and in Latin (EF) at 9.30 a.m. in the Shrine.**
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30—concluding with Benediction at 10.45 a.m.**
- **Pilgrim Mass at 11 a.m. followed by prayers in Bl John Henry's Shrine.**
- **Confessions from 11 a.m. to 12 noon & from 5.30 p.m.**
- **First Mass of Sunday (Solemnity of Christ the King) at 5.30 p.m.**

November 21st: The Solemnity of Christ the King (White)

Mass & Service Times:

- **8.30 a.m. Low Mass**
- **9.30 a.m. Low Latin Mass (1962 missal)**
- **10.30 a.m. Solemn High Mass**
- **12.00 noon Family Mass**
- **5.30 p.m. Sung Congregational English Mass**
- **6.30 p.m. Solemn Vespers and Benediction (please note new time)**

Please pray for the sick: Estelle Hindley, David Jenkins, Karen Ratchford, Yvonne Pilsbury, Louise Pilsbury, Jacqueline Griffiths, James Foyne, Nick Usher-Somers, Tony Colquhoun, Miles Drew, Carolyn Knight, Wendy Eddy, Leroy McCoy, John, Michael and Philip McCann and Brenda Molloy.

Of your charity please pray for those who have died recently: Rita Waltho, Edna Dean and Michael Friederberg;
and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now: Elizabeth Snape, Nance Dunn, Patrick Wilkie, Sean O'Driscoll, Cicely Moody and Kathleen Cunningham.

The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, November 20th/21st Solemnity of Christ the King

Saturday 5.30 p.m.: Jenni Hardwick
Sunday 8.30 a.m.: Murray Wilson-Browne
12.00 p.m.: Morag Marinoni
5.30 p.m.: Simon Stacey

Collections last week:

Thirty-second Sunday of Ordinary time:
7th November, 2010

Offertory: £1,505
Second Collection: Johnson Fund: £947
Organ (for shrine) Fund £81
Many thanks

TODAY

The SECOND COLLECTION will be for Cause of Blessed John Henry Newman. **ORATORY PATRICIANS' DISCUSSION GROUP** meets at 3.15 p.m. in the Oratory House. The topic is "Same-sex Attraction." All are welcome.

THE PIETY STALL is now open all day on Saturdays from 10.30 a.m., after all Sunday morning Masses and on Sunday afternoons. In the run-up to Christmas, we are again open after the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses. Medals, rosaries and other commemorative items of Bl John Henry Newman are on sale, together with books about him, and of his own writings. **Christmas cards (including those sold on behalf of Aid to the Church in Need), Nativity sets, Advent Calendars, calendars, diaries and other Christmas items are on sale.** In two weeks time, we will also be selling this year's Royal Mail religious Christmas postage stamps. (Please remember, you help to support the Oratory by using our shop.)

THIS WEEK

There will be a HOLY HOUR from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. each day this week, and Adoration from 8.30 a.m. to 10.45 a.m. on Saturday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are prayed for the Faithful Departed on Fridays in November after the 5.45 Mass.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION will meet on Wednesday 24 November at Newman House, 29 Harrisons Rd, B15., commencing with Holy mass at 7.30 p.m. Afterwards, Sr Margaret Walsh will speak on her work with asylum seekers in the West Midlands and there will be input from Family Doctors in this field. Although primarily aimed at those involved in healthcare, the meeting is open to ALL, including students in all faculties. There will be a (free) light buffet and for catering, please email John Kelly: kellyj1931@googlegmail.com no later than three days before the meeting if you will be attending.

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS (Vernon Rd) **SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PANTO & PARTY** will be on Wednesday 15 December commencing at 1.30 p.m. "We would like to invite you to join us for festive food and drink, Father Christmas, Bingo, good company and a great fun filled afternoon". Please call Sheila Pellowe on 0121 454 0895 if you would like to attend. **Our ADVENT TALKS** will take place on Saturdays, November 27th, December 4th, 11th, and 18th immediately after the Prayers in the Shrine which follow the 11 a.m. Mass. (i.e. about 12.15 p.m.)

NOTICES

CARE HOME VACANCY: Sisters of Charity of Saint Paul - Annie Bright Weston House, 6 Norfolk Rd has a vacancy for an elderly lady. For more details please ring Mrs Tina Boyland on 454 1289.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES organised by the Knights of Malta, Hospitaller Limited, takes place from Friday April 29th to Friday May 6th 2011. Each year they take sick, disabled and aged pilgrims, providing nursing and medical care. Invitations are invited from those categories. The accommodation is in the Accueil Notre Dame, and pilgrims are asked to make a contribution of £260 towards the cost of £550, but this can be reduced in cases of need. Anything over £260 would be gratefully received to help those who can afford very little. For booking form etc please contact Adrian de Redman: 0121 608 5496
OPENING TIMES OF BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN'S SHRINE: Please note that the shrine is open when the church is open. On Saturdays and Sundays, this will be all day. During the week, at present, the church will be open at usual times. (Generally, half to three-quarters of an hour before and after services.)

We are also still recruiting volunteers to help us keep the church and shrine open to visitors. Donations and offers of voluntary help may be made at any time to Fr Richard by writing to him at the Oratory House or by emailing him: rd@oxorat.org