

# 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.*

## September 13th 2009: TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



### WHAT KIND OF MESSIAH IS HE?

Our Lord had not only to overcome the misunderstanding of His followers, as we heard a few weeks ago when many of His disciples refused to accept His teaching about receiving His flesh and blood in Holy Communion. In today's Gospel even the faithful St. Peter needs to be rebuked quite sharply because, despite his trust in Our Lord and his faith in Him as God's Son and Messiah, Peter still has some merely human expectations of what kind of Messiah Jesus will be. When Our Lord sadly asked His Apostles if they, too, would leave Him on account of His teaching about the Eucharist, it was Peter who spoke up, saying, "Lord, to whom should we go? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe. We know that You are the holy One of God." Similarly in today's Gospel, when Our Lord asked: "Who do **you** say that I am?" it was Peter who answered immediately, "You are the Christ!", which means the Messiah, or "Anointed One of God". Then, now knowing that the Apostles, led by Peter, believed in His divine origin and mission, Our Lord began to teach them that, as the Messiah, He would have to suffer greatly and die a cruel death yet in the end rise from the dead. Peter was indignant, saying, "this must not happen to You, Lord!" Our Lord's reaction was to rebuke Peter severely before the other Apostles, saying, "Get behind me, Satan!", which means, "follow behind me, Opponent! Don't stand like an obstacle in my path! Your way of thinking is man's, not God's." Peter needed to be rebuked in the presence of the others because Our Lord had already made it clear to them that Peter was their leader. If Peter harboured a wrong idea of the Messiah, so would the others.

### LIFE WEEK

Today begins our **Life Week**. Each day during the week the Oratory Primary schoolchildren will be running events to raise money for the work of Life and to help explain and understand the importance of that work both in the Church and in society. Life works to build up the Civilisation of Love against the constant encroachments of the culture of death. Each day from tomorrow until next Sunday inclusive we will hold the yearly "Siege of Jericho", based on the events surrounding the capture of Jericho by the Chosen People when they entered into the Land promised them by Almighty God after they had left slavery in Egypt. (see the Book of Joshua ch. 6) The people were ordered to follow the priests around the city walls once each day for six days and on the seventh to go round seven times in all with accompaniment of musical instruments. This brought about the peaceful surrender of that great city to the Hebrews with out the need for armed conflict. Our prayer is intended to bring about a change of heart both among those who seek and those who perform abortions in those terrible places of death. Please support this peaceful action of prayer and help eventually to bring about an end to this injustice. On the seventh and last day we will process seven times around the block on which the clinic stands praying and singing hymns.

On Friday evening in the Lower Cloister Hall Dr Carus and Margaret Parsons on Life will explain their work and how they help couples in practising NFP (Natural Family Planning) and in overcoming fertility difficulties. All are welcome. Leaflets explaining the purpose of the meeting and the work of Life are to be found at the church doors.

### ST. THERESE'S RELICS

Next Saturday and Sunday St. Therese of Lisieux's relics will repose in St. Chad's Cathedral, attended by the Carmelite Sisters of her own order. There is a full programme of events throughout the day and night of those two days and details are available at the Church doors as well as on the Notice Boards. From St. Chad's the relics will be taken to the Church of the Sacred Heart and St. Theresa at Coleshill. Once again details are available on the same leaflets at the church doors.

St. Therese was personally dispensed by the Pope to enter Carmel at the early age of fifteen and died when only 24 years old. She wrote an account of her own life at her Superior's command. Because of its extraordinary profundity, Therese was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope John Paul II. She had already been declared Patron Saint of the Church's Missions by Pope Pius XI on account of her dedication of her sufferings to the work of the missions in her lifetime. Let's make good use of her visit to Birmingham and ask her prayers for all our many intentions: the choice of a new Archbishop; the Cause of Cardinal Newman; peace in the world; the triumph of the Gospel of Life over the culture of death, and many others!

## Sunday September 13th: Twenty-fourth 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. **Vespers and Benediction**

## TWENTY-FOURTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME: Liturgical Calendar

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

*Tuesday 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 14th September: The Exaltation of The Holy Cross (Red)**

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

**Tuesday 15th September: Our Lady of Sorrows. (White)**

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

**Wednesday 16th September: St Cornelius, Pope & Martyr, and St Cyprian, Bishop & Martyr. Memoria. (Red)**

**St. Cornelius** (d.253) and **St Cyprian** (d.258): Christians were still enduring heavy persecution when Pope Cornelius was forced into exile which contributed to his death, thus he has always been counted amongst the martyrs. He had favoured gentleness and forgiveness to those who wished to repent of having turned away from the Church during persecution, a view disputed by several of the bishops of the Church. Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, wrote on Church matters and supported Pope Cornelius' pastoral strategy explaining the divine origins of the Pope's role as head of the Church. Cyprian was martyred under the Emperor Decius. Both saints are included in the Roman Canon of the Mass.

**Thursday 17th September: FERIA. (Green). Optional memoria of St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church. (White)**

**St Robert Bellarmine** (1542-1621) Born at Montepulciano, Italy, he joined the Jesuits. He became an apologist (i.e. a defender of the Church's Doctrine). His advice to his friend Galileo, when he was confusing science and scripture was sadly ignored. He was a theological advisor to popes and is a Doctor of the Church.

**Friday 18th September: FERIA. (Green)**

**Saturday 19th September: FERIA. (Green) Optional memorias of St Januarius, Bishop & Martyr. (Red); or of St Theodore of Canterbury, Bishop. (White)**

- **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 (Twenty-fifth Sunday) at 5.45 p.m.**

**St Januarius** (d.304) Bishop of Benevento, he was beheaded during the Diocletian persecutions. His remains were eventually enshrined at Naples, the City of which he is the Patron Saint. The liquefaction of some of his blood preserved in a small phial is a well-known miraculous phenomenon occurring every year on his feast day.

**St Theodore of Canterbury** (602-90) A Greek, he was educated at Tarsus before becoming a monk in Rome. At age twenty-six, the Pope appointed him to the See of Canterbury. Renowned for his charity, scholarship and pastoral zeal, he travelled the country and unified the Anglo-Saxon Church.

**September 20th: The Twenty-fifth 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**

**Please pray for the sick:** Paul Beesley, Maureen Edwards, Michael McCann, Philip McCann, David Pritchard, James Foynes, William O'Leary, Marie Staunton, Connie Hayward, Carolyn Knight, Ray Colquhoun and May Colquhoun.

**Of your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently:** Winifred Haynes and Patrick Crawford.

**and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now:** Fr Peter Allen, Patty Drinkwater, Winifred Hammond, Nellie McGough, Anthony Osborne, Mary Clarkson, Demmy Murphy, Patricia Ruttle and Margaret Ives.

**The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, September 19th/20th, The Twenty-fifth Sunday:**

Saturday 5.45 p.m.: Jennie Hardwick  
Sunday 8.30 a.m.: Margaret Hawkins  
12.00 p.m.: Dulcie Robinson  
5.30 p.m.: Simon Stacey

**Collections:**

23rd Sunday: 6th September, 2009

Offertory: £1277.00

Second: DDF £452.00

Retiring Collection: Little Sisters of the Poor:

The amount will be published next week  
**Many thanks**

**TODAY**

**TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION** will be towards the Expenses of Cardinal Newman's Beatification.

**CLOISTER SALES** to raise funds for LIFE FERTILITY CARE will be held both this weekend and next weekend.

**The PIETY STALL** will be open this weekend after all Masses on Sunday, (but not on Saturday evening of 12th.)

**SUNDAY 5.30 p.m. MASS CHOIR** resumes after the Summer break today. If you wish to sing, please be in the Back Gallery by 5 p.m. New members are always welcome. No previous experience needed!

**A NIGERIAN MASS** will take place at St Philip Neri, Smethwick at 2 p.m. today For more information and to confirm attendance please contact Chiji on 07846787814

or email: thankGodalmighty@hotmail.com

**THIS WEEK**

**—ORATORY LIFE WEEK—**

... takes place from September 13th to 20th, including:

**1. The seven-day "SIEGE OF JERICHO"** around the abortion clinic on Arthur Road will take place each afternoon during this week Each Afternoon from Monday 14th to Saturday 19th there will be Mass in St. Philip's chapel at 3 p.m. Thence all gather outside the Clinic on Arthur Road for a procession during which the Rosary will be prayed. On Sunday 20th September there will be no extra Mass in the afternoon, but a procession will take place around the clinic seven times commencing at 2 p.m. in Arthur Road.

**2. A Fertility and Life Issues meeting**, especially suited to those recently married or preparing for marriage, but at which **everybody is welcome**, will be held on **Friday September 18th at 7.30 p.m.** in the

**ADORATION AT REDNAL** will **not** take place this week but will resume next Wednesday, 23rd September.

**ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX'S** relics will be in St. Chad's Cathedral on 19th and 20th September, in the presence of the Carmelite Sisters from Wolverhampton. On 19th September, they will arrive at St Chad's 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. during which there will be a special Midnight Mass for youth on the beginning of Sunday 20th September followed by a half-hour's quiet prayer (1 a.m.-1.30 a.m.) and an opportunity to meet the Carmelite Sisters. The relics will remain in the Cathedral throughout Sunday 20th and will leave after a Farewell Mass at 6.30 a.m. on Monday 21st. The following day, Monday September 21st, the relics will be visiting The Sacred Heart and St. Therese, Coleshill arriving at 9.30 a.m. There will be Mass at noon and at 7 p.m., Exposition from 3 -4 p.m. and an all-night vigil commencing at 10 p.m. On Tuesday 22nd., the closing Mass will be at 10 a.m. (The relics will also be visiting the Oxford Oratory from Wednesday 7th October until the afternoon of Thursday 8th October.)

**The Friends of the Poor Clares' MICHAELMAS FAYRE** at the Convent in Rising Lane, Baddesley Clinton, is on Saturday 19th from 10 a.m.—12 noon. Fun for all the family. See poster for more details.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**The ANNUAL NEWMAN PILGRIMAGE TO LITTLEMORE** to commemorate the reception of Cardinal Newman into the Catholic Church will take place on Saturday, October 10th and will include Mass at the Church of Blessed Dominic Barberi at which the preacher will be Bishop Philip Boyce. Booking forms are to be found

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK by St. John Vianney (Patron of Priests):**

My children, the Sacrament of Orders seems to relate to no one among you, and yet it relates to everyone. This Sacrament raises man up to God. What is a priest! A man who holds the place of God -- a man who is invested with all the powers of God. "Go," said Our Lord to the priest; "as My Father sent Me, I send you. All power has been given Me in Heaven and on earth. Go then, teach all nations. . . . He who listens to you, listens to Me; he who despises you despises Me. " When the priest remits sins, he does not say, "God pardons you"; he says, "I absolve you. " At the Consecration, he does not say, "This is the Body of Our Lord;" he says, "This is My Body. "