

THE ORATORY—dedicated to THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

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Registered as a Charity

Parish Weekly Newsletter

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May 30th 2010: SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



THE ORIGIN AND THE GOAL OF ALL CREATION

Now that we have celebrated the mysteries of our Redemption in the first half of the Church's year, today we seem to take a look back. At Christmas we recalled that until God sent us His Son, born of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we knew of Him only what He had revealed in the Old Testament. Once Christ had shown us His human face, we then saw the "image of the Father", as He taught the Apostles to see Himself.

In the celebration of His Passion, Death and Resurrection at Lent and Easter we have once again seen Him as the One who reunites fallen human nature with our heavenly Father. Indeed, it is Christ who has taught us to call God "our Father", and we could not properly do so had he not allowed us and encouraged us to do so.

In His Ascension to heaven, we have rejoiced to learn that at last eternal life with God is open to us, thanks to Him. We also recall His promise not to leave us as orphans but to come back again, and to send us the Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth and to make us holy as He is holy.

At Pentecost we have just celebrated the fulfilment of all that Christ has won for us, now at last "poured into our hearts" by the coming of the Holy Spirit who, like the Father and His only Son, is true God from true God. Thus, in the conclusion of Easter which Pentecost is, the fullness of God's saving work and of His revelation of Himself has at last been made known to us.

GOD IS PERSONAL

What then have we learned from this series of feasts and celebrations? That God is One we already know. That much has been revealed from the very beginning. God has always shown Himself to be more than a "force". He is personal. But in sending us, first of all His Son, and then, secondly, His Holy Spirit, He reveals Himself as three within the one single godhead.

We can never fully understand such a great mystery, but we are able to gain a glimpse from the coming of the Son and Holy Spirit. When we call God "Father", we are giving Him a name which has actually always belonged to Him, because He has always had a Son. It is otherwise with men. Men can only become fathers when they beget a child, so there is always a time beforehand when they are not yet fathers. But God's fatherhood is eternal, because His Son is co-eternal with Him.

So in what sense is the Son of God "begotten"? It is in the sense that the Son is the *perfect copy of His Father*. For instance, when we see a resemblance between a father and his son, we always say that the son is like his father, not the other way around. That is because we recognise not simply that a human father existed before his son, but also that the son's likeness to his father depends on his father, who has given him his life and identity. Note that we are speaking only of the relationship between father and son because it helps us to understand what is meant by speaking of God as being "Father" and "Son"; so if we do not mention the role of a human mother in this context it is not because it is of less importance to us.

Now in the case of God the Father and His Son, the likeness is total, and has never had any beginning or development. Moreover, the bond of love that unites the Father and Son is so complete that it is also personal—it is the Holy Spirit. This Spirit not only unites Father and Son in a personal bond of love, but is also "poured into our hearts", as St. Paul puts it in today's Second Reading, so that we, too, can share the inner life of the three divine persons of the One God in a way that goes beyond all understanding. That gift of the Holy Spirit which we received in our baptism and confirmation continues to make God's presence a reality in the hearts, souls, minds and even the bodies of all those who live life according to God's Will. It is the same Holy Spirit who will bring us safely through this life, God willing, into an ever greater union with the Father and the Son, until we become one with Him and with all redeemed humanity in the glory of heaven which Christ has won for us.

Sunday May 30th: The Most Holy Trinity (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)*
- 5.30 p.m. *Sung Congregational Mass*
- 7.30 p.m. *Solemn Vespers and Benediction*

Liturgical Calendar

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

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

Holy Hour: Each Weekday except Monday 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.

Monday 31st May: The Visitation of Our Lady, Feast. (White) Bank holiday

- **Holy Mass at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. only**
- **No evening Mass or Devotions**

Tuesday 1st June: St Justin Martyr. Memoria. (Red)

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

St Justin (100-165) was a Palestinian Greek who, having studied philosophy, was converted to faith in Christ. He wrote two notable “Apologies”, or “defences” of his faith from which we learn a great deal about the faith and practice of 2nd century Christians

Wednesday 2nd June: Feria. (Green) or optional **Memoria of Ss. Marcellinus and Peter, martyrs,** (Red)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**

Ss Marcellinus & Peter were Roman martyrs under the emperor Diocletian (c. 304 A.D.)

Thursday 3rd June: St Charles Lwanga and companions, martyrs of Uganda, Memoria. (Red) **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**

- **8 p.m. High Mass of Corpus Christi (see below)**

St Charles Lwanga and many other young men were put to death by the pagan king Mwanga in Uganda in the 19th century when they denounced the king’s immorality.

Friday 4th June: Feria. (Green)

- **Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m.**
- **Benediction in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, 8 p.m.**

Saturday 5th June: St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr. (Red).

- **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 (Corpus Christi) at 5.45 p.m.**

St Boniface (675-755) whose English name is Winfrith, was born in Crediton, Devon, and became a monk in Exeter. He was ordained a bishop and took the Pope’s name “Boniface” to preach the faith to the pagan tribes of the Netherlands and Germany. He was martyred for the faith and is buried at Fulda. He is the patron Saint of Germany.

June 6th: Solemnity of The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ: (White)

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)**
- **4.00 p.m. Corpus Christi Procession**
- **5.30 p.m. Sung Congregational in English**
- **7.30 p.m. Vespers and Benediction**

Please pray for the sick: Sr Catherine Murphy, May Colquhoun, Sandra Green, Kevan Bleach, Maurice Hynes, Pat Cartwright, James Foynes, Michael McCann, Philip McCann and Tony Farmer.

Of your charity please pray for those who have died recently: Liz Eddins;

and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now: Fr Stephen Dessain of this Oratory, James Darby, Barbara Le Geyt, Sean Fleming, Mary McCarthy and Agnes McGuine ss.

The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, June 5th/6th
Corpus Christi:

Saturday 5.45 p.m: Jenni Hardwick
Sunday 8.30 a.m.: Margaret Hawkins
12.00 p.m.: Chris Sammons
5.30 p.m.: Jason Mahoney

Collections:

Pentecost: 23rd May, 2010
Offertory: £1,440
Second: Newman Cause: £825

Thank you

TODAY

THE SECOND COLLECTION will be for the Diocesan Development Fund.
IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT EASTER DUTIES: The Church requires all Catholics who have made their First Communion to receive Holy Communion during the Easter season and also, in preparation of this, to go to Confession. Of course, we should receive Holy Communion as frequently as possible, however these “Easter Duties” are the minimum requirement set by the Church. Today is the final day for fulfilling them.

ORATORY PATRICIANS meet today at 3.15 in the Oratory House. The talk and discussion will be on ‘Scandals in the Church’. All are welcome.

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 (except Monday this week, as it is a Bank Holiday) until further notice 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 take place on Wednesday beginning at 3 p.m. and ending with Benediction at c. 5 p.m. (There will be no Mass.)

CORPUS CHRISTI: (1) on Thursday there will be a High Mass (1962 Missal) at 8 p.m. followed by an indoor Procession of the Blessed Sacrament.

(2) Corpus Christi Sunday is June 6th. **The annual Outdoor Blessed Sacrament Procession will take place at 4 p.m. on Sunday 6th. Please do your very best to attend with your families, and encourage friends in other parishes to join us in this act of love and homage to Our Lord.** On Saturday 5th June, we would be most grateful to receive fresh roses/ rose petals which will be strewn before the Blessed Sacrament during the procession or money for purchasing roses.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS: The children of Year 3 of the Oratory Primary School will make their First Holy Communion at the 12 noon Mass on Sunday June 13th.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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 to the Oratory at times to be announced. 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.**

VIGIL OF REPARATION IN HONOUR OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY will take place in the Cloister buildings on the night of the 11th June. High Mass will be at 8 p.m. on Friday (the Feast of the Sacred Heart) and the Vigil will be held in the cloister chapel until 3 a.m. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 9.00 p.m. prayers and the Vigil will end with Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO EVESHAM with blessing of the sick, takes place on Saturday 12th June. Please see the poster for details.

SOCIETY OF ST HUGH OF LINCOLN will meet on Saturday 12th June at 2 p.m. in the Oratory House. All are welcome.

ORATORY YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (open to those aged 20—35) meet on Thursday 10th June at 7.30 p.m. in the Oratory House. The talk “*Finding Love in a Superficial Age: the true meaning of Chastity*” will be given by Robert Colquhoun.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED will be hosting an event on Saturday 27th June in the Upper Cloister Hall. “*The Light of The World*” will be an opportunity to hear first-hand accounts of the challenges facing Christians around the world. Talks will begin at 2 p.m. and will end with the 5.30 p.m. Mass. The main guest speaker will be Fr Samir Kahil Samir SJ who will speak on Christianity and Islam in the Middle East. The event is free **but you must reserve a seat.** (You cannot turn up on the day having not done so as space is limited). **To reserve a place, please call 0208 642 8668, or at www.acnuk.org/birmingham. (The Oratory will not be taking bookings)**

Now that Paschaltide is over, we return to praying the “Angelus” in the morning, at midday, and in the evening:

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. R. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary....

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. R. Be it done unto me according to your word. Hail Mary...

V. And the Word was made flesh. R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the Glory of His Resurrection.

Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.