

A Message from your Parish Priest

The month of October is dedicated every year, in Catholic parishes the world over, to the praying of the Holy Rosary. It is a devotion so distinctively Catholic that the Rosary beads are often seen as a badge of membership of the Church. We tend to receive rosary beads as gifts at our First Holy Communion, I often see rosaries hanging from the rear-view mirrors of people's cars. When I was chaplain to Wakefield Prison, the Catholic inmates frequently wore the beads around their necks as a sign of their faith.

Of course, the rosary is not an ornament. The beads are better viewed as a tool. They are not a thing to be worn or hung up, but a thing to be used as we say the great prayer of the Holy Rosary. The Rosary is a prayer originally associated with St Dominic, and with the order of friars which he founded. It has spread to every corner of the Catholic world, and is a way of praying which has helped countless people along the path of holiness.

If we want to grow closer to God, then prayer is essential to us. In prayer we come to God and pour out our hearts to a Father who loves us and delights in our company. Most of us, though, will have found it difficult to dedicate ourselves to our prayers as, in our better moments, we should like. We find our minds and our hands busy with so many things, that we sometimes despair of ever being able to advance in our prayer-life. Without a great deal of time and effort, we find ourselves muddling along with the same prayers we have been saying since we were children. We bore ourselves with the repetition of sentiments which perhaps have ceased to have much meaning for us. We are effectively grubbing along in a trough, but if we could only raise our eyes there is a whole world of prayer which will speak to our hearts and bring a new vigour to our life of faith. This is where the Holy Rosary can be such a tremendous help.

The first way of praying which we learn as children is the prayer of our lips. A human being is a person who talks, and it is hard for us to formulate thoughts at all without putting them into words. The Rosary begins with precisely those verbal prayers which we learned as children. It is at first a series of "Our Fathers", "Hail Marys", and "Glorias." These most familiar of all prayers, repeated over and over, have the effect of stilling our minds – as the handling of the beads stills our hands. As we recite the prayers, we are creating a space for our prayer to develop.

Almost as soon as we learned to speak, we began to ask. Any time we had the attention of our parents, we found we had things we wanted from them, things we needed. It is no different when we come to our Heavenly Father. He has so much to give, and we are in such great need, that there is no shame in approaching Him for help. Besides the simple petitions of the Rosary prayers, we can offer our recitation of the Rosary for any intention which is pressing on our minds.

Naturally, we cannot hope to concentrate on every word which comes from our lips during the Rosary. Nor need the intentions for which we offer it remain always at the forefront of our minds. The Rosary is dedicated to mysteries of our faith; joyful, sorrowful, glorious and luminous. As we try and bring our attention to rest for a moment on those things, perhaps some feelings may arise in our hearts, of gratitude, of sorrow for sins, of love. If any of this happens, for even the briefest and most fleeting instant, then our prayer has already reached a deeper level.

In the end, perhaps the words we are saying may fade into the background. We may forget some or all of the things we meant to ask for. The mysteries themselves may not occupy our thoughts very much. What remains, hopefully, is a sense of being contentedly in the presence of God, and dedicating to Him some time. He is there with us, and for a little while we are perfectly happy to be with Him. If we get to this stage, then the Rosary has served its purpose. It has lead us gently from the most basic prayers of our childhood to the most profound prayer of all where we are content simply to look at God, while He looks at us.

With every blessing,

Monsignor Smith



THE PARISH OF St MARY'S, SELBY and CARLTON

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MASS SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

Saturday:

10.00am-10.30am (in Selby)

5.15pm-5.45pm (in Selby)

And on request in Carlton.

The Readings for the Sunday

Mass are on page 137.

Preface 6 of Sundays in

Ordinary Time: Page 67

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

Every day before week-day

Mass and at 5pm on Sunday

(With Benediction)



Exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament:

Saturday:

10.00am-10.30am

5.15pm-5.45pm

(in Selby during confessions)

Marriages and Baptisms

By appointment. Please see the priest after Mass to make arrangements

SATURDAY OCTOBER	3 rd	6:00pm	Selby	Private Intention (H.J.)	Vigil Mass
SUNDAY	4 th	9.30am 11:15am 5.00pm	Selby Carlton Selby	Pro Populo Sandra Hugill Rosary and Benediction	27th Sunday in the Year
MONDAY	5 th	10.00am	Selby	Karolina's Intentions	St Faustina Kowalska
TUESDAY	6 th	9.30am	Carlton	Gerard Stronach	St Bruno
WEDNESDAY	7 th	10.00am	Selby	James Newman (B'day Int)	Our Lady of the Rosary
THURSDAY	8 th			N.B. No Mass To-day	Feria
FRIDAY	9 th	6.30pm	Selby	Peter Heald, Ann Stronach And James Stronach	St John Henry Newman
SATURDAY	10 th	9.30am 6:00pm	Selby Selby	Yorkshire Brethren Leon Kubiak	St Paulinus Vigil Mass
SUNDAY OCTOBER	11 th	9.30am 11:15am	Selby Carlton	Pro Populo Michael and Sandra Hugill	28th Sunday in the Year

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy, Baffam Lane, Selby YO8 9AX
Tel: 01757 706616 Email: admin@sm.bkcat.uk Headmistress: Mrs L. Bird

YOUR OFFERINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday 27th September £949.66 (Including Standing Orders)
Many Thanks for your Generosity.
Fr Wilson's Testimonial Collection raised the sum of £871.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT

The parish quiz night will take place on Friday 23rd October at 7.00pm in the parish centre. Tickets are on sale after Mass.

PLEASE PRAY

For the repose of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur around this time, especially:
Pte James Lynch, Marjorie McGuire, Veronica Stripe, Audrey Issatt, Maureen Arundell, Fr Keith Gibbs (Carlton 1953-54), Dorothea Backhouse, John McKiernan, Peter Heald, Giannina Toone, Steve Young, Mary Beaumont, Pte. Patrick Barrett, Catherine Jacquest, Timothy Randles, Margaret Hower, Pte. Joseph Freeman, Lance Cpl William Jinks, Canon Harold Parker (Selby 1985-86), John Paul Pearson

May they rest in peace.

Please remember also in your prayers Marina Fenton who has sadly died. Marina's Requiem Mass will take place on Monday 12th October at 11.00am

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

This Sunday morning, 4th October during the 9.30am Mass

COFFEE MORNING

This Sunday morning, 4th October, in the parish centre after 9.30am Mass

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please remember very specially in your prayers those who are sick:

Maureen McDonnell, Gerry McCrossan, Shirley Harrison and Jean Wilson, Zita Birchwood, Breda Gallagher, Irene Bradshaw, Pat Lynch and Patrick Tracey.

MASSES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK

Nina and Janek Kuba, Leon Kubiak, Sr Catherine Labouré CP, Miocyslaw Kosnik, Veronica Dobson, Eliza Mary Bolster and Thomas Cresham, Family Intention, Mary W. (healing)

SELBY SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The First Confessions for our year four children will take place on 12th December this year. Preparation sessions will begin on the week-end of 7th/8th November.

The First Confessions for our year three children will take place on 13th March next year. Preparation sessions will begin on the week-end of 6th/7th February.

First Holy Communion, for children in year four, will take place on the week-end of 19th/20th June next year. Preparation sessions will begin on the week-end of 17th/18th April.

The arrangements for Confirmation and for the Carlton children will follow later.

Enrolment Forms will be available – and completed – at the initial parents meetings which will be announced later.

CARLTON SINGERS

We are hoping to form a small group to enhance the singing during the Sunday morning Mass in St Mary's, Carlton. Chris Gilbert, one of our parishioners who has great experience in this area, including at the Manchester Oratory, has volunteered his services. Anyone interested in taking part, please speak to Chris before or after Mass.

Mass Offerings, Notices and News Items for the Parish Bulletin should be given to Monsignor Smith by Wednesday evening.

Leeds Diocese Charity Registration No. 249404