A Message from your Parish Priest

In 1963, Ronald Blythe published a book called "The Age of Illusion". It was a fascinating series of studies of the people who dominated public life in Britain between the two World Wars. Though all of these people were household names in their day, many would be only very dimly remembered today.

Blythe dedicated the first chapter of his book to someone who hardly fits in with the rest at all: a person who, unlike the others, was utterly unknown at the time, and yet is, this Sunday, remembered by everyone. The chapter is entitled "A Great Day for Westminster Abbey." It tells the story of the "Unknown Warrior" who was buried there with the full honours of the state "because," as his epitaph says, "he had done good toward God and towards his house."

Blythe chose to begin his book about prominent people between the wars by writing about one who never lived to see the world they inhabited. He did so because, in many ways, the anonymous soldier and the hundreds of thousands he represented had far more influence on those years than anyone else.

What lessons did people learn from the great mass of the dead of the Great War? It is an interesting question, and difficult to answer simply. As we read on from chapter to chapter through the stories of the most important people of their day, we get glimpses of the complexity of the response. Some people tried as hard as they could to return things to the way they had been before the slaughter of the trenches. Some attempted to forget the terrible experience of death and destruction in a whirl of fun and excitement. For some, particularly as the political situation darkened through the Nineteen-Thirties, there was an increasingly desperate and ultimately vain desire to maintain peace by burying their heads in the sand. Small wonder Ronald Blythe chose to describe those years as "The Age of Illusion."

But how ought a person to react to trauma on such an unfathomable scale? How would we? How do we? Once again this year we keep our Remembrance Sunday. Its poignancy never seems to lessen. It moves us, in a curious way, as much as ever it has. Naturally, the nature of our remembrance has changed. As we contemplate the tomb in Westminster Abbey in the Twenty-First Century, we do so in a new certainty that it contains an unknown warrior, since no one now living could possibly have known him. We cannot know "his story," so we are concerned to a greater extent with "history".

The particular genius of Remembrance Sunday lies in its refusal to allow this history to become a dry matter of dates and statistics. Our Remembrance is an insistence that behind the increasingly strange names of half-forgotten battles lies a story of real people, of suffering and grief, of courage and sacrifice, of dirt and squalor. Can we learn from our remembrance? Who can know for sure?

There is something we most certainly can do, however. We can pray – for poor humanity, which has suffered so much, and inflicted such suffering. We can pray - for the people of our own day, that God will spare us from the evils of the past and kindle a light in the darkness of human hearts. We can pray – for peace in our world, for an end to hatred, for a growth in justice. Only by God's grace can a better world emerge. All our hope must be in Him rather than in the efforts of men, which in the end are so often "illusion." With every blessing,

Monsignor Smith

TALKS ON THE FAITH

In every parish, there are people at different stages of the journey of faith. Since I have been in this parish I have been approached by several people, who regularly come to Mass but have never been baptised, or who have not received some of the other sacraments. I want to issue an invitation to anyone in that position to get in touch with me. My hope would be to begin a series of talks on the faith. If people understand more about the faith they may possibly wish to take a step forward on their journey, perhaps by becoming members of the Church, or by receiving any sacraments they have so far lacked. If you think this may apply to you, please email the parish office and when I have an idea of interest, we can decide how to proceed.

THE PARISH OF St MARY'S, SELBY and CARLTON

Parish Priest: Very Rev. Monsignor D. Canon Smith MA
St Mary's Presbytery, Gowthorpe, Selby, YO8 4HS
Tel: 01757 703345
Email: office.stmary.selby@dioceseofleeds.org.uk
Website: www.stmarysselby.org.uk

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 152
Preface 2 "For the Dead": Page 72



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 7th NOVEMBER		6:00pm	Selby	Leslie John Bareham	**Vigil Mass**
SUNDAY 8th NOVEMBER		9.30am 11:15am	Selby Carlton	Pro Populo Thomas Alford	**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
MONDAY	9th	10.00am	Selby	Nina, Janek and Kuba	**Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**
TUESDAY	10th	9.30am	Carlton	Family Intention	St Leo the Great
WEDNESDAY	11th	10.00am	Selby	Dennis and Pat Bartholomew	St Martin of Tours
THURSDAY	12th			**N.B. No Mass To-day**	St Josaphat
FRIDAY	13th	**11.00am** **6.30pm**	Selby Selby	Thomas Alford Jerry Roche	**Requiem Mass** **Feria**
SATURDAY	14th	9.30am 6:00pm	Selby Selby	Yorkshire Brethren Peter Heald, Anne and James Stronach	Mass of Our Lady **Vigil Mass**
SUNDAY NOVEMBER	15th	9.30am 11:15am	Selby Carlton	Albert Cosgrove Pro Populo	**33rd 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 25th October: £910.02 (Including Standing Orders)
Sunday 1st November: £1082.64 (Including Standing Orders) ***Many Thanks for your Generosity.***
Funeral Donations in memory of the late Jill Penney: £80

PLEASE PRAY

For the repose of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur around this time, especially: Mary Sharlotte, Rose Marie Keeble, Peter Gallagher, Fr John Rigby (Selby 1853-1871), Fr Charles Gordon (Selby 1905-1909), Julia Mary Hally, Thomas Kehoe, Mary Cecilia Haynes.

Please remember also in your prayers Tommy Alford, Patrick Tracey, Philip Conniss and John Burrows who have sadly died.

May they Rest in Peace. Amen The Requiem Mass for Tommy Alford will take place on Friday, 13th November at 11.00am. Patrick Tracey's Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday, 19th November at 10.00am

CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA

On November 22nd at 2.00p.m. Tickets cost £15 each and include a glass of prosecco, small savouries, sandwiches, cakes, tea and coffee. There will also be a Christmas themed quiz. As places are limited, please do not buy a ticket unless you are attending.

DEAD LIST

Envelopes are available at the back of church. Please return as soon as possible.

SCRIPTURE COURSE

The short scripture course on St Mark's Gospel continues this week: Tuesday 10th November at 6.30pm, repeated the following morning, 11th November at 10.30am.

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, André Joseph Gudgeon, Lesley Stripe, Elizabeth McCauley and Eileen Cooke.

MASSES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK

The McGuire Family, the Deceased Members of the Milner Family, Thomas Alford (L.D.)

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The First Confessions for our year four children: **– Preparation commences this week-end (Saturday 4.45pm and Sunday 10.30am)**

First Confessions for year three children will take place in the spring, and First Holy Communions on the week-end of 19th/20th June.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place in St Mary's on Friday 5th March 2027. Anyone in year six or older if not yet confirmed should receive the sacrament on that day. There will be a **meeting for parents on Monday 9th November at 6.30pm.** It is essential that any child wishing to be confirmed is represented at that meeting.

CARLTON NEWS

- We plan to have a Christmas Raffle this year with tickets on sale from 15th November. We now have sufficient prize donations.
- We also plan to give the church a good clean on Saturday 14th November, between 9am and 12.30pm If you are free to lend a hand for an hour between these times please contact Margaret who is organizing jobs. (Tel: 01405 862986)

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