



St. Michael's Bulletin



Saint Michael's is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity N. 234216

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THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY August 15th 2010.
5.30 pm Holy Souls

9.00 am Our Parish Family
Monday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass
Wednesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass
Friday 9.00 am Eucharistic Service

1030 am Holy Souls.
Tuesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass
Thursday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass
Saturday 5.30 pm Holy Souls.

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FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS.

Lord, send Your Healing Spirit on all who are sick or distressed: Claudina Rodrigues, Eugenie Micotti, Mike Coulehan, Harry Littlefair, Nancy Keogh, Gerald Scullane, Jason Thatcher, David Roberts, Marie Evans, Rita Conlon, Margaret Keane, Siobhain Moran, Maureen Vinall, Frank O'Donnell, Gwen Payne, Denis Goodchild, Margaret Munter, Michael O'Neil, Mike Nolan, Josephine Clay, Barry Haggar, Joseph Smith, John Fry and Theresa Dulson

Bring them Your healing and peace.

FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY.

We pray for all who died recently; for all those killed in wars, disasters and accidents throughout the world: for all victims of terrorism and oppression, and for those who die of starvation or neglect. We pray for Lily Dougan, Kathleen McGuire, Arthur Burge, Doris Rzne, and Eva Abraham, whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Grant them the joy of Your Presence

THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY.

Today we celebrate the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven. It is our belief that having completed her earthly life Mary was taken up, body and soul, into heavenly glory. From the earliest days of Christianity there was an understanding that Mary had no earthly grave because her body was taken to the glory of heaven to be with her Son, sharing the rewards He won for us by His life, death and resurrection. The doctrine of the Assumption was first formulated in the 4th Century and by the 7th century was widely known and accepted by all Christians. I am told, but have never seen it myself, that in Ely Cathedral there is a very fine representation in stone of Our Lady, assumed into Heaven. It was part of the general consciousness of believers that Mary was now in the glory of Heaven. The feast is also known as The Dormition, or "falling asleep". In our own country the feast, known as Mary-Mass, was suppressed in 1549 because it took labourers away from their work. On the Continent and particularly among the Greeks, it continues to be celebrated with great rejoicing.

FLOODS IN PAKISTAN AND CHINA

We cannot have failed to see the awful scenes, first from Pakistan and then from China, of the utter devastation which has been wrought by the unprecedented amount of rain water they have had, which has turned into powerful torrents taking away their homes and in some cases their families and cattle. It is difficult to imagine that 14,000,000 people have been affected in this way in Pakistan alone, let alone the numbers involved in China and Tibet. **I have put the swing-bin at the back of church, and will leave it there until after next week so that we can make our own personal contribution to alleviating, even if in only a small way, the suffering of these poor people and help them make a new beginning.**

"THE WORK"

There is a group of nuns based at Littlemore in Oxford whose expertise is the life and teachings of Cardinal Newman. I have invited them down to us for St Michael's feastday at the end of September to talk to us about the importance and relevance of Cardinal Newman and his teachings. I have yet to confirm with them all the details of their visit to us, but I hope that we will be able to begin with Mass and a meeting on the Friday evening and have another session on Saturday midday followed by a shared lunch. I will also ask them to speak to us at each Mass over the week-end so that those who are not able to come along to the talks will be able to learn of Newman's importance to us in the 21st Century

And on Sunday we shall have a Shared Parish Lunch in the hall at 1200 noon. More details later.

BRIAN THEOBALD.

Brian Theobald wishes to thank you all for your kind encouragement to him as he begins his training for the Diaconate. Brian promises to keep us all informed of his progress and we hope through this process to come to a deeper understanding not only of the Diaconate, but also of our own place and vocations in the great plan of God.