



St. Michael's Bulletin



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

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August 30TH 2009

THE TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Vigil of Sunday 5.30 pm Special Intention

9.00 am Our Parish family	1030 am Special Intention
Monday 9.00am Morning Prayer & Mass	Tuesday 9.00 am Eucharistic Service
Wednesday 9.00 am Eucharistic Service	Thursday 9.00 am Eucharistic Service
Friday 9.00 am Morning Prayer & Eucharistic Service	Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm Spec Intention
Friday 9.30am-Mass for the start of term Saint Martin's Primary School	

FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS.

Lord, send Your Healing Spirit on all who are in any way sick or distressed: we pray for Claudina Rodrigues, Eugenie Micotti, Joseph Bradley, Mike Coulehan, Harry Littlefair, Nancy Keogh, Gerald Scullane, Jason Thatcher, David Roberts, Marie Evans, Rita Conlon, Margaret Keane, Siobhain Moran, Maureen Vinnall, Frank O'Donnell, Gwen Payne, Judith Harris, Pat Walton, John Manning, and the Howson family.

Bring them Your healing and peace.

FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY.

We pray for Catherine Smith, Kenneth Davey and all who died recently: for all killed in wars, disasters and accidents: victims of terrorism and oppression, especially those who died at Locherbie, and for those who die of starvation or neglect. We pray for Lily Dougan, Kathleen McGuire, Arthur Burge and Eva Abraham, whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Grant them the joy of Your Presence.
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Venerating Her Memory

Some years ago, at my request, a priest serving a prison sentence sent me these notes on how Saint Therese of Lisieux saw her own Carmelite vocation.

"TO BE LOVE AT THE HEART OF THE CHURCH"

I would simply like to offer two examples of how she put this love into practice in prayer and action. Henri Pranzini was a notorious murderer justly executed for his crimes in 1887. While all around her were condemning him and baying for his blood, Therese, still only a teenager, and not yet in Carmel, prayed for his eternal happiness. She also asked God to give her a sign that he would show some sort of remorse and repentance. Imagine her joy when she read in her father's newspaper that, on the scaffold, Henri Pranzini had reverently kissed the chaplain's crucifix three times before he died. "Then", she concluded, "his soul went to receive the merciful sentence of Him who declared that there will be more joy over one sinner who does penance than over 99 just who do not need to repent." On a pilgrimage to Rome Therese lived in close proximity to more than 50 priests. She writes, "Having never lived close to them before, I could not understand the principle aim of the reform of Carmel (Intercession for Priests). To pray for sinners attracted me, but to pray for the souls of priests, whom I believed to be as pure as crystal, seemed puzzling to me. I began to understand my vocation in Italy. I learned there, that though their dignity raises them above the angels, they are nevertheless weak and fragile men."

One notorious example of weakness and fragility was Father Hyacinth Loyson. He was a renegade priest who had caused great scandal and grievously harmed the Catholic Church by his actions. The Catholic Press pilloried him and everyone, except Therese, condemned him. She made it her lifetime work, to love him and pray for him. On August 19th 1897, when she was dying, she offered the last holy communion of her life for him. These are just two examples of Therese's love in action. She lived her message. She lived her vocation. She lived and breathed her discovery of a good and loving God in whom she placed her childlike and unconditional trust.

Visit her relics, by all means, if you wish, but it is far more important that we follow her example. Fr Eddie

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:- *Never judge another man or woman until you have walked a mile in their moccasins.*

Native North American (Cherokee) proverb

May we all have a peaceful week. Fr Eddie