

Dowry (N°8, Autumn 2010)

"O Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God and our most gracious Queen and Mother, look down in mercy upon England thy Dowry." (Cardinal Wiseman)



(Picture: Baptism by Fr J. Olivier, FSSP at the London Oratory on 11th September 2010.)

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Editorial: a papal visit of historical magnitude

Your Holiness, on this truly historic first State Visit to Britain you have spoken to a nation of six million Catholics but you have been heard by a nation of more than 60 million citizens and by many millions more all around the world. Such are the words spoken by British Prime Minister David Cameron at Birmingham Airport, in his farewell address to the Holy Father on Sunday 19th September 2010.

We cannot be too thankful to God for the immense success of this papal visit, especially after months of implicit and sometimes more than explicit opposition at various levels in the country. The uncertainties and changes of schedule during the official preparation made it difficult for very large numbers to attend the ceremonies. All the more remarkable is the fact that thousands did flock at every corner of Britain, from Edinburgh to Glasgow, from London to Birmingham to see Pope Benedict XVI, while the Welsh people would send to Westminster Our Lady of the Taper as their Ambassadors, to bring back to them the blessing of Christ's Vicar.

Our Fraternity joined in with its limited means, but with a prayerful heart. With our parishioners in Reading we prayed a novena in preparation for the Holy Father's historic visit, culminating on Friday 17th September in a vigil of Eucharistic adoration at St William of York Church from 8pm to midnight. The day after, we led our registered group of pilgrims (and another unregistered one) to Hyde Park for the Papal Vigil.

It started with a memorable EF Sung Mass in the Martyrs' Crypt at Tyburn. The Crypt was packed with over a hundred faithful, many having to stand throughout. Fr Simon Leworthy, FSSP heard many confessions during the Mass. Later on, in his sermon during the vigil,

Pope Benedict referred to Tyburn: *“Not far from here, at Tyburn, great numbers of our brothers and sisters died for the faith; the witness of their fidelity to the end was ever more powerful than the inspired words that so many of them spoke before surrendering everything to the Lord.”*

Highly significant was the choice of that north east corner of Hyde Park for the largest London gathering during the papal visit in Great-Britain. It is there indeed that the gibbet or ‘Tyburn Tree’ used to stand, upon which so many English, Welsh and Irish martyrs died; as late as 1681 in the case of St Oliver Plunkett, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland. One can still pray on the actual site marked by a circular stone with the inscription ‘The site of + Tyburn Tree’ (on the traffic island at the junction of Edgware Road, Marble Arch and Oxford Street). As the platform where the Holy Father stood at Hyde Park was facing north, he could truly see in front of him the hallowed spot of Tyburn. We like to think of St Edmund Campion, of St John Houghton or St Robert Southwell gazing towards the pastures south

beyond the curious crowd at the last instant before their martyrdom, offering up their lives out of fidelity to Christ and to His Holy Church. In their supernatural hope, they knew that God would grant their sacrifice a fecundity which in their time and even for centuries could not have been foreseen. Like the prophets of old, they may have seen coming towards them through hazy light a radiant figure whose features they could not discern, but whose presence proved that their prayer for their country and people had been heard.

A great many decades later, looking south like them, their infamous and now glorious Tree behind us, we have harvested the fruit of their martyrdom, that is, of their charity, when we looked upon the Bishop of Rome, Vicar of Christ, for the first time ever welcomed in this Kingdom as a Head of State, in what has been unanimously hailed as a visit of historical magnitude. Undoubtedly the Holy Martyrs were with us when the

Immaculate Host was elevated during Mass in their Crypt, under the rough baldachin which replicates the Tyburn Tree; undoubtedly they were with us when with a crowd so much larger than on the day of their witness and far from hostile this time, we knelt in adoration before the Eucharistic Lamb carried before us by His gentle Vicar.

As in Cologne in 2005 or in Sydney in 2008, the Eucharistic Vigil with Pope Benedict XVI was a very profound event, as thousands of people fell on their knees, adoring Our Lord truly present in the Host, led in prayer and in faith by His Vicar on earth.

It now depends on us Catholic faithful and clergy in Great Britain, to make sure those days of grace will bear good and lasting fruit in Our

Lady's Dowry. It seems that vocations are on the rise, and surely the average Catholic feels more confident, now that he or she has seen the Church so officially acknowledged and revered in the person of Her visible Head. We should not expect magic recipes however, but rather use more frequently and devotedly the means of sanctification made available for us, in particular: prayer, doctrinal formation, Confession and Eucharistic devotion (weekday Holy Communion and Eucharistic Adoration). Our Fraternity is glad to contribute to this and thanks you all for your support and collaboration.

May the Holy Martyrs intercede for us, that when we stand before Our Lord at our individual judgment they may not be ashamed of the use we will have made of the freedom of worship they merited for us at such great expense.

Yours devotedly in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,

Fr Armand de Malleray,
Superior of the English FSSP Apostolate
18th October 2010, St John Fisher House, Reading



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Blessed John Henry, pray for us

At our motherhouse in Bavaria, during the retreat in September, a pleasing surprise was to hear Blessed John Henry Newman's *Sermons on Christ* as table reading. It struck me that the recently beatified Cardinal was being read in an international seminary relatively far from his native England (if it weren't for daily *Ryanair* flights), and for the benefit of seminarians, not (yet) all trained theologians. Newman does write in a very accessible manner indeed, and whatever topic he is focusing on, his genuinely Catholic perspective makes his writings appealing even for people of a different culture and language. For us in Great Britain, we can rely on him as a providential intercessor for the unity of the Church as we prepare to welcome new fellow Catholics joining the Ordinariate as of January. Blessed John Henry is also for all of us, already Catholics or not, a guide in the quest for truth, against the dictatorship of relativism. I would like to develop for you these thoughts as expressed in a brief homily I was invited to give at the Oratory School in Reading, the very school founded by Blessed John Henry, after solemn Vespers of his feast.

–Dear Fr Chaplain, dear Friends, students and staff: In this very chapel about one year ago, we enjoyed a moving performance of the *Dream of Gerontius*, Newman's poem put to music by fellow-Catholic Elgar. As we remember, it describes with force and beauty the voyage of a soul after separation from the body, from earth to judgment and purgatory. There were several hundred of us, including your families, sitting here during this orchestral performance. Some of us may sadly have died since then. They could tell us if the beautiful music we heard was not only beautiful, but also true. They could tell us if there are such things as life after death, judgment, purgatory, hell, heaven or even God. Do these things exist? Either they do, or they do not. It is important to find out. Indifference to such significant matters as eternal destiny would be foolish.

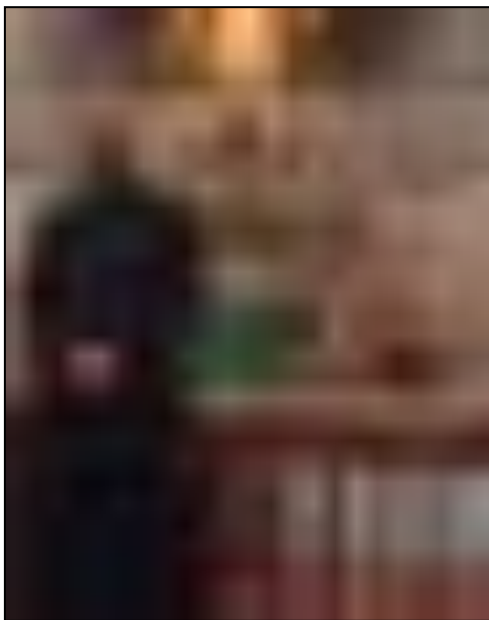
Yes, we know, some people believe these things to be true. But can one not be sincerely mistaken? Sincerity is a good beginning. Sincerity is surely better than lies and deception. But sincerity is not enough. Sincerity does not guarantee truth.

In his Anglican youth, Blessed John Henry Newman, the great founder of your school, believed that the doctrines he had been taught were true (as indeed some were). That great mind of his was also a very honest mind, free from bias, and from ambition. His courageous quest for truth may be the richest legacy left by John Henry. The venerable Pius XII wrote with this in mind to Archbishop of Westminster Bernard Griffin on 12th April 1945: –*Beyond question, Worshipful Brother, among the many important gifts which will make a later posterity honour the greatness of John Henry Newman, this is his chief title to fame. 'The mind,' we are told, 'knows no food more*

appetizing than discovery of the truth' (*Lactantius, De Falsa Religione, i. 1; Migne, P.L. VI, c. 118*). *What shall we say, then, of truth in matters of religious belief, so intimately bound up with every man's hope of eternal salvation? To search out such truth as this with all care, hunt it down with all eagerness, is a task for great and generous hearts; to possess it fully, is to win enlargement and satisfaction of mind.*"

One day a man asked another the question: –"What is truth?" That was in Jerusalem, on Good Friday, and that man was Pontius Pilate questioning Our Blessed Lord. Philosophers rightly define truth as the adaequation of the mind with the thing – *adaequatio rei et intellectus*. Is our mind not the norm of truth, then? Indeed not: our mind is designed to know things as they are in themselves – that is, as God created them. Thus our intellect resembles God's intellect. You may think that these philosophical statements are remote from the concrete circumstances of our lives. On the contrary, they are of great importance, as I will illustrate by three examples. If our

intellect, so as to be true, is not to seek the objective essence of things, but rather if it is in itself the very norm of truth, then it may indeed state that human beings in their mothers' wombs are not yet human beings and can be disposed of. It may also state that law-abiding citizens with Jewish blood are infra-human persons, thus to be denied any right including the right to live. It may state that what our eyes will see as bread in the monstrance on the altar cannot be believed to be God and therefore, under penalty of death, should not be worshipped in this realm. Truth, dear friends, is more than a concept easily twisted by astute minds. Truth is a Person. Newman rejoiced in this, and with joy found peace.



(Picture: The sanctuary of the beautiful University Church in Dublin founded by Blessed John Henry. After a recollection given there on 23rd June 2007, Parish Priest Fr Walsh offered Fr de Malleray a volume he had just had printed of Newman's *University Sermons* preached in the same church.)

In conclusion, let us not think that holiness is for great thinkers only. Provided we try humbly to correspond with God's will for us, we will work wonders in His plan of redemption of the world. A striking example of this is Blessed Dominic Barberi. This intellectually less endowed Passionist priest, originally a poor shepherd from Italy, speaking broken English and mocked by crowds in his attempts to convert England, was the instrument chosen by God to bring about the providential conversion of the great John Henry, as took place very near here, in Littlemore. Fr Dominic Barberi had just come in from the wet and cold. It was late at night on October 9th 1845 and Fr Dominic was trying to dry himself in front of the fire. And Newman was on his knees requesting of Dominic Barberi that he be received into the Church. Dear Friends, you will see that you do not need to be an intellectual genius to aspire to the joy of sanctity, but that you must seek the truth in your service of God. Then will you find lasting happiness and genuine freedom, as Our Lord Himself promised us : *'You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free'* (John 8:32)".

Inauguration of St John Fisher House

Home, sweet home! Our new house is now officially inaugurated. On Sunday 3rd October, after the Solemn High Mass sung by FSSP Superior General Very Rev Fr John M. Berg at St William of York on the external solemnity of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, several dozens of faithful managed to squeeze inside St John Fisher House for this exceptional occasion. People had travelled sometimes from afar (Kent, Bristol, Wales or even Co. Durham).

Accompanied by Fr de Malleray who was carrying the aspergillum, Fr Berg blessed the house from basement to loft while Fr Leworthy was leading the faithful in praying the Holy Rosary. Then Fr Berg thanked the faithful and benefactors for their generous support. Several main benefactors who wish to remain anonymous were present and were able to speak in private with Fr Berg.

In attendance were Leo Darroch, Chairman of the Una Voce International Federation, and Dr Joseph Shaw, Chairman of the Latin Mass Society. The Superior General expressed the thanks of the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter to Dr Shaw, as the Latin Mass Society had donated £30,000 for the purchase of St John Fisher House. Let all LMS benefactors and others be assured of our wholehearted gratitude for their support during our *Haven for Priests* Campaign.

Its success was by no means guaranteed, when one considers that: 1) the FSSP was a tiny institution in England and thus with no possibility of widely reaching out to benefactors; 2) those benefactors who heard about our Campaign had lower resources due to the economic recession, and thus demonstrated an all the more deeper faith and generosity in supporting our project.

(Picture: Fr Berg standing between Dr Shaw and Leo Darroch. On either side, the doors of the House oratory are wide opened: they are beautiful solid oak neo-Gothic doors reclaimed from a disused church. They give the impression that the newly built extension has been there for a long time. They also match with the oak altar donated by a generous benefactress. Another benefactress has donated the beautiful neo-Gothic candlesticks.)

A buffet lunch was offered and all our guests were able to walk up and down the house to visit every single room – a unique occasion, as at least the priests' quarters will not be accessible to guests in the future. Children seem to have found particular pleasure in running from one floor to the other and playing hide and seek.

It was a true joy for us FSSP clergy to see this house now filled with people, after so many months during which only noise and dust had been our daily visitors. Once again, thanks be to God and to all of you who support our ministry in Our Lady's Dowry.

On 11th October, we hold a special day of inauguration for Clergy. We were a dozen priests at our House on the feast of the Divine Motherhood of Our Lady. Fr de Malleray gave a spiritual conference on that theme for his confreres in the House oratory, concluded by a prayer.

Priests had travelled from the Portsmouth diocese and from neighbouring dioceses, including Westminster and Clifton. Priest friends from Poland and Kenya then staying in London also attended. Our local Parish Priest Canon John O'Shea came as well: we were glad to be able for the first time to return invitations to our local confreres.

Fr de Malleray showed the house to the priests and explained the various stages of refurbishing and building (no priest-holes were found). After lunch, priests sat in smaller groups for coffee and chat, departing before traffic would build up. It was very significant for us to have this house used officially to welcome clergy, thus fulfilling one of its essential functions as a *Haven for priests*. Deo gratias.



Are you the 50th?

On FSSP vocations boom, by Fr Armand de Malleray

MEN WANTED: FOR HAZARDOUS JOURNEY. SMALL WAGES, BITTER COLD, LONG MONTHS OF COMPLETE DARKNESS, CONSTANT DANGER, SAFE RETURN DOUBTFUL. HONOUR AND RECOGNITION IN CASE OF SUCCESS. SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON. This is the ad that famous Anglo-Irish explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton allegedly placed in a London newspaper seeking recruits for his 1914 Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition. Who do you think would answer such an ad? Would you answer it? Shackleton actually received more than 5,000 replies, for only 27 places.

If just a century ago British and Irish men were flocking to take part in so challenging an undertaking, simply to discover untrodden snow and to win a place in history, what will our young Britons and Irishmen do nowadays in order to ascend to the very altar of God and enter eternal glory? If their ancestors answered such a risky ad, it was surely in part because they trusted in the man who had signed it. A greater Man may be calling you to join his Crew.

In any case, His Vicars on earth have successively visited, approved and encouraged the places and the formation offered by the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter in its two international seminaries. Pope John Paul II blessed the corner stone of our seminary in Wigratzbad and a crucifix (the definitive building was not yet started) for our seminary in America. Pope Benedict XVI when still Cardinal Ratzinger spent the Easter Vigil with us in Wigratzbad and having stayed overnight, he offered a pontifical high Mass in the *usus antiquior* on Easter Sunday 1990. As Pope now, on 28th February 2010, he had the following encouragement expressed to our American seminary in the most formal way, that is, as written by His Cardinal Secretary of State and read by His Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith during the ceremony of inauguration of our new seminary chapel:

“Your Eminence, The Holy Father has been informed that on the 3rd of March 2010, you will dedicate the chapel of Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary in the Diocese of Lincoln. He asks you kindly to convey his greetings and warm good wishes to the members of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, the Rector, faculty and students and all assembled for the happy occasion. His Holiness prays that the new chapel will always be respected as a sacred dwelling where Almighty God is glorified in His majesty, a centre from which the beauty and richness of the Catholic faith are proclaimed with conviction, and a place where seminarians and teachers alike are inspired to the pursuit of

holiness and ever-deeper communion with the Lord and His Church. He encourages them to strive through the discipline of prayer and study to be conformed to the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5), to discern His will in their lives and to respond generously to His call to serve Him as preachers of His Gospel, ministers of His Sacraments and heralds of His mercy and love for the poor and sinners. With these sentiments, the Holy Father invokes upon the seminary community and its friends and benefactors the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and imparts the requested Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of wisdom, joy and peace in the Lord. I am happy to add my own prayerful good wishes for the occasion. Yours sincerely in Christ: Tarcisio Cardinal Bertone, Secretary of State”.

On numerous occasions, Cardinal Heads of Roman Dicasteries, the closest collaborators of the Sovereign Pontiffs, have travelled to our houses of formation either to stay with us or to ordain our priests. These include the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for Clergy, the Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship.

In October 1988, only three months after our foundation, the Holy Father has granted us the status of pontifical right which, among other effects, puts our seminaries under the direct authority of our own Superior General and of the Holy See via the *Ecclesia Dei* Commission, once the diocesan bishop has granted us his permission to open a seminary in his diocese. Already the Bishops of Augsburg (Germany), of Scranton and Lincoln (U.S.A.) have granted us such permissions. The Cardinal Archbishops of Lyon (France) and of Sydney (Australia) and the Bishop of Girardot (Columbia) respectively have granted us permission to open a First Year Seminary and a Year of Discernment in their dioceses. For logistical reasons our seminarians from Scranton have now moved to Lincoln and those from Lyon to Wigratzbad, but we mention these various permissions inasmuch as they express the formal support of diocesan bishops on several continents.

In 2006, the Holy See had definitely approved our *Constitutions* which state that: “0. The Fraternity devotes itself to all the works of priestly formation, and all that relates to it, first for the members of the Fraternity, but also for other candidates for the priesthood, with the agreement of their bishops. It will ensure that the formation to the priesthood reaches its principal object, the sanctity of the priest, which is prepared by a healthy spiritual and intellectual formation. It will be obtained above all else by



(Picture: Very Rev Fr Josef Bisig, then FSSP Superior General, with Mgr Philippe Tournyol du Clos, FSSP – both among our 12 co-founders, present the corner stone and crucifix to be blessed by Pope John-Paul II during a private audience on 12th September 1999.)

sacramental grace which sanctifies the priest continually, if he cooperates with it using the means the Church offers by the Conciliar Decree *Presbyterorum ordinis*, n. 18. The philosophical and theological studies in the seminary will be founded on the principles and the method of Saint Thomas Aquinas, and will thus be conformed to the desires and prescriptions so often renewed by popes, councils, and the Code of Canon Law. Thus the seminarians will carefully avoid modern errors as much in philosophy as in theology. (See Pius X, *Pascendi*, AAS 40 (1907), 596 ff.; Pius XII, *Humani generis*, AAS 42 (1950), 561 ff; Paul VI, *Mysterium fidei*, AAS 57 (1965), 753 ff.). 11. In the Fraternity, the formation of priests will be conformed to the dispositions of the *ratio studiorum* promulgated by the Holy See. A directory specifies the curriculum at the seminary, in conformity with the law.”

This definitive approval of our *Constitutions* provides our members and our applicants with a clear and permanent definition of our institute’s identity, a true asset in our times when the very notion of the priesthood is blurred in the mind of so many, as pointed out by Pope Benedict XVI:

–The theme of priestly identity, the subject of your first study day, is crucial to the exercise of the priestly ministry, today and in the future. In an epoch like our own, so "polycentric" and inclined to blur every conception of identity, deemed by many contrary to freedom and democracy, it is important to keep clearly in mind the theological particularity of the Ordained Ministry to avoid succumbing to the temptation to reduce it to the prevalent cultural categories.

In a context of widespread secularization, which is gradually excluding God from the public sphere and tendentially also from the common social conscience, the priest often

appears "foreign" to the common perception. This is precisely because of the most fundamental aspects of his ministry, such as, being a man of the sacred, removed from the world to intercede on behalf of the world and being appointed to this mission by God and not by men (cf. Heb 5:1).

For this reason it is important to overcome dangerous forms of reductionism. In recent decades these have used categories that are functionalist rather than ontological and have introduced the priest almost as a "social worker", at the risk of betraying Christ's Priesthood itself.

Just as the hermeneutics of continuity are proving ever more urgent for a satisfactory understanding of the Second Vatican Council's texts, likewise a hermeneutic we might describe as "of priestly continuity" appears necessary. This has come down to our day, starting from Jesus of Nazareth, Lord and Christ, and passing through the 2,000 years of the history of greatness and holiness, of culture and devotion which the Priesthood has written in the world” (cf *Address* at a Conference organised by the Congregation for the Clergy, 12th March 2010).

For several years the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter has been blessed with numerous vocations – notably, over 40 new seminarians on each of the last three years. This autumn 2010 brings an even more generous response from God to your prayers for vocations with a record-breaking number of 49 admitted. If you are not the 50th, please pray for him and for many more. These 49 include 3 Britons, one of whom was prevented from joining this year, due to imperative work commitment.

It does not include the more numerous applicants who could not be admitted this year. When vocations are so rare, one would spontaneously wish to admit all those who apply. All applicants indeed would possess some of the following qualities – piety, intellectual abilities, human experience, emotional and psychological balance, generosity, good health, sufficient detachment from creatures, freedom from debt, lasting Catholic practice and specific attraction towards the Roman traditions of Holy Mother Church. Selecting the candidates is a difficult task for the priests involved, as they have to assess primarily if God is calling this or that particular individual to His service in general, and through our Fraternity in particular. As the available space and resources are limited, those whose vocation seems more obvious get selected first.



(Picture: Cardinal Ratzinger in our mother house and European seminary in Wigratzbad, Easter Sunday 1990.)

Seminary Rectors and collaborators surely need our prayers to help them discern what is best for the Church and for the applicants, as it could harm the Church and damage souls if a man were admitted to a seminary when God calls him elsewhere. It could also damage a seminarian’s vocation if his formation were interrupted for reasons bearing no relation to his person, such as an unforeseen lack of room or the need of a local parish for a tonsured catechist or sacristan (once ordained deacons though, our seminarians are sent in

parishes as part of the official curriculum). This explains why we choose not to accept a candidate unless all practical conditions for his continuous formation are secured, as much as depends on us.

One should also point out that, realistically, the Superiors don’t expect every applicant to be perfect from the day he slips his application form into the post box. Indeed the 7-year formation curriculum is designed to improve every seminarian gradually, respectfully and peacefully. This takes place through the formal teaching of spirituality, philosophy and theology and through spiritual direction. But the daily Gregorian liturgy, the horarium and customs of the seminary and the brotherhood among the several dozens of aspirants to the priesthood provide a ceaseless stream of formation permeating the mind and soul of seminarians in an altogether human, concrete and gracious fashion.

So here we are, trying to picture this quite overwhelming fact: this autumn nearly half a hundred young men have

packed their bags, kissed good-bye and flown from all over the world to Lincoln in Nebraska and to Wigratzbad in Bavaria for their very first year at seminary. Meritoriously one hundred parents have dried their eyes and offered to God the sons for whose future they may have laid different plans. How many siblings, how many grandparents and godparents, how many anonymous souls – through their prayers, through their sacrifices, through their examples – have collaborated in the communion of saints to bring about this moving outcome?

As General Chaplain of the Confraternity of St Peter, I address here our heartfelt thanks to our 3,500 members worldwide – including 100 consecrated persons (priests, seminarians and religious) – for their daily prayers and yearly Holy Masses offered (nearly 10 Masses a day!) for priestly vocations. Please keep up and possibly intensify your prayers for even more excellent vocations! There are over 180 members of the Confraternity of St Peter in Great-Britain and Ireland, including 8 parish priests and 4 Anglican ministers. (Find more about the Confraternity of St Peter on <http://fssp.org/en/confraternite.htm>).

Certainly, entering seminary is but the beginning of a 7-year process of formation. But it is a decisive step, which expresses depth, courage and generosity. At a time when people travel more easily than when Sir Ernest Shackleton was posting his famous advert, the period of formation to the priesthood is by no means the perilous adventure described by the arctic explorer. Leaving one's native country to spend terms of study in Bavaria or Nebraska is nothing strange, when a large proportion of Irish and British clergy spend years in formation in their respective colleges in Rome or Valladolid, not to mention other pontifical universities or theological institutions in Louvain, Fribourg, Washington or Ottawa, where clergy from these Isles

are sent for further studies. It would indeed be strange if those called to walk in the footsteps of the Apostles, after Abraham and Moses and before the martyrs of Douai – were unwilling to spend time abroad, when so many lay students learning secular topics eagerly expatriate in *Erasmus* programs or in gap years.

We now take the liberty of transposing Sir Ernest's virile but very 'horizontal' challenge into Catholic and supernatural terms: –MEN WANTED: FOR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY. ETERNAL REWARD, ENLIGHTENING OF INTELLECT, SAFETY IN GRACE AND BROTHERHOOD, TIME OFF EVERY THREE MONTHS. GROWTH IN KNOWLEDGE, IN HUMILITY AND IN FILIAL LOVE FOR GOD GUARANTEED. FSSP SEMINARIES". We only now add some practical aspects which would have clashed a bit in the enumeration above, but which may be of interest nonetheless : central heating, en-suite shower rooms, professional kitchen staff, private

football grounds (Denton) or nearby mountains and lake Constance (Wigratzbad); rise at 6am, lights out at 10pm followed by grand silence; no Internet or television or guests in bedrooms; no mobile phones; free afternoon on Wednesdays and Sundays, monthly community excursion; weekly spiritual direction, 5-day preached retreat at beginning of term, 4 weeks apostolate each year in parishes or youth camps; Divine office prayed in choir 3 to 4 times a day plus daily Holy Mass in the EF of the Roman Rite always; cassock normally worn all the time from the second year. Lastly, we have just built a large chapel with choir stalls sitting 100 in our American seminary, and are adding a 30-room new dormitory wing in our European seminary.

Please pray for First Year British seminarians Alex and Mark who began their formation three months ago in Nebraska and Bavaria respectively; for Second Year British seminarian James tonsured last month in Wigratzbad; for Third Year British seminarian Ian ordained Porter and Lector last month in November in Nebraska; and for British Deacon Matthew McCarthy to be ordained a priest on 21st May 2011 in Nebraska: come and pray with and for him in London for his First Solemn High Mass at home, on Saturday 28th May 2011 at St James Spanish Place, 3pm.



(Picture: Prefect Emeritus of the Congregation for Clergy and President of the Ecclesia Dei Commission Cardinal Castrillon Hoyos with four FSSP priests just ordained by him at our FSSP seminary in Lincoln, NE on 30th May 2008.)

In conclusion, we now let one of our five British seminarians describe for you his recent ceremony of Tonsure and Clothing:

–Benedictus Deus!

Thanks to the presence of friends and family, generous in spirit, time and wallet, receiving the tonsure felt like a four-day-event, happy throughout. On Saturday Archbishop Wolfgang Haas of Liechtenstein blessed cassocks and surplices for 17 of us. We put on the black, praying: –that these Thy servants who will be clothed in this vestment... will be recognised as dedicated to Thee". From now on it is, God willing, cassock and

Roman collar for me every day. Seeing a priest or seminarian in clerical dress is a delight for those who love the Church; it is a sign of God's order in the world for those who are astray; and it is a constant cause for us who wear it to remember what we are called to be.

Then the bishop cut five chunks of hair from the head of each tonsurandi—front, back, left, right, crown, thus making the sign of the Cross—this to remind us of the Five Wounds of Christ. While the bishop cut we repeated after him words from *Psalm 15*: –*Dominus pars haereditatis meae, et calicis mei; tu es qui restitues haereditatem meam mihi*". It means we no longer seek our fortune, security or home in the things of this passing world, but instead all we want from life is God Himself.

Then the choir chanted *Psalm 23*, singing –This is the generation of them that seek him, of them that seek the face of the God of Jacob." Those last six words show how

personal this is: the Almighty, the Transcendent, the Ungraspable and Unknowable has shown Himself to the world in the flesh so that we can know Him. To know Jesus is to know God the Father, for Jesus shares the self-same essence with the Father and with the Spirit. Here we put on the surplice, all white, and are to wear it whenever we serve in the sanctuary as a sign of having put on Christ: –May the Lord put on thee the new man, whom according to God is created in justice and in the holiness of truth.” We pray: –so that even as they are changed in outward appearance, He may likewise grant them an increase of virtue” (i.e. change on the inside).

Repeatedly we pray in remembrance that all this is done by His power, not ours; by His goodness, not ours; of His mercy and according to His Plan, not ours. Because if we

fix our eyes on the human being, some may be scandalized, saying in their hearts: –How can this wretched man, this moral cripple, be on the path to the priesthood!?” And finding the idea too stupid, too outrageous, they reject the reality of the priesthood, or even of God. But when we fix our eyes on God it is simple to see: with Him all things are possible, even the filling of earthen vessels with grace, the strengthening of the weak, the salvation of sinners. Our part is to co-operate.

Then the bishop gave a crucifix to each candidate. During the offertory I stared at mine, realising with new force: –Jesus, You have given all of Yourself to me. I want to give all myself to You.” This is the exchange He asks of us, and it is unspeakably good!

Thanks for all your prayers, which are keeping me afloat. You are all in mine. God is good! Love in Christ, James.”

Priestly ordinations in the FSSP over the last 11 years (in parentheses are the FSSP priests ordained from the UK):

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Average
Total	12	15	12 (1)	19	17	7	14 (1)	8	12	9 (2)	12 (1)	? (1)	12

Priests’ training session in Ireland

Report on the Training Session at Ards Friary – 20-22 October, 2010, by Fr Simon Leworthy, FSSP

A rds is a delightful place in northern County Donegal; and the Capuchin Friary there partakes of the delight. It is built on a bend in the river estuary that leads to the Atlantic coast, surrounded by woodland and replete with lovely views and sandy beaches. The friary is home to a community of Capuchin Franciscans who operate it successfully as a much-used Retreat and Conference Centre.

It was at this delightful place that the Latin Mass Society of Ireland recently held a three day Training Session for priests who wished to learn how to celebrate the traditional Latin Mass; or who desired a refresher course in the Mass rubrics and in ecclesiastical Latin.

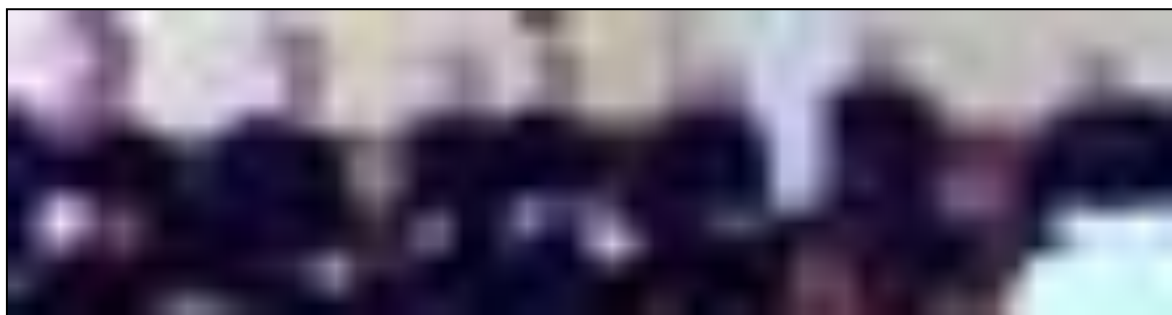
The Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter was pleased

to be able to conduct the course in concert with the LMS and to work again with the O’Muirgheann family, who facilitated the event. We were glad to be able to put into the hands of the priests attending, the well-produced Low Mass Training DVD produced by the Fraternity as well as other excellent materials – such as a basic course in ecclesiastical Latin and a step by step rubrical explanation of the Mass – provided by the LMS.

We rejoiced to have seven priests attending the course – two from within Eire and five from Northern Ireland. The good Fathers enjoyed their stay at Ards and were pleased to be able to relax convivially with like-minded priests over the three days, sharing in the communal life of Chapel and Refectory. All were full of enthusiasm for the Extraordinary Form of the

Roman Rite; and all intend to continue practising so they can commence public celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass. Indeed, according to reports – for good news travels fast – some have already taken concrete steps in this regard.

It must be said that the venue for the Training Session added greatly to its success. Being held, as it was, in the homely and friendly atmosphere of Ards Friary, where the Capuchin monks and staff are always very welcoming, we were able to relax and



(Picture: Irish clergy taking notes during the LMSI liturgical session in Ards led by Fr Simon Leworthy, FSSP.)

get on with the real business of the Session: ‘learning the Mass’, as one well-known and much-used training manual puts it.

The experience gained from the Ards Training Session, in October, 2010, marked for some of the participants a concrete beginning to the joy of celebrating Holy Mass according to the ancient norms of liturgical usage that go back to Pope St Gregory’s time. For others it was a further step in perfecting the liturgical skills needed to celebrate the Mass with the beauty and reverence it deserves by its very nature as the worship ‘in spirit and in truth’ desired by God. Indeed, in view of both these worthy ends, a further Training Session for priests has already been planned at Ards Friary, from 11-14 July, 2011.

Esteban de Murillo at the Wallace Collection

By Margaret-Mary Fitzgerald

Our tour of the works of Murillo at the Wallace Collection began with Fr. Armand explaining something of the artist's life. Bartolome-Esteban Murillo (1617-1682) was a Spanish Baroque painter, meek and humble, who had many commissions for churches, monasteries and Seville Cathedral, showing great empathy for the religious nature of this work, and not seeking commissions from high society or the court.

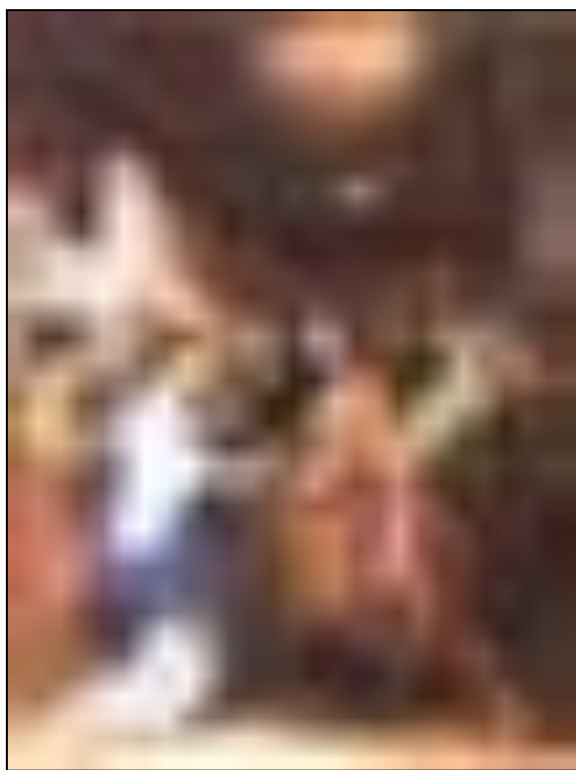
We looked at seven Murillos, starting with the Old Testament story of *Joseph and his Brethren*. As his brothers are tying up the boy Joseph, ready to fling him down the well, we can sense the jealousy that he is their father's favourite and their hatred because they are fed up with his dreams of what appears to them as Joseph's self-aggrandisement; the sun, the moon and the stars worshipping him, etc. Joseph dressed in white, his coat of many colours cast into the corner of the canvas, is very frightened and turns towards a bright cloud in the sky, as though appealing for assistance and mercy.

The *Espousal of Mary and Joseph*: This depicts a truly beautiful image of the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph in the rich interior of the temple with Rabbi and congregation. The couple face each other, holding hands. As a sign from Heaven that this indeed is the one chosen to be Our Lady's husband, the Holy Spirit appears immediately above the head and blossoming staff of St. Joseph – a symbol of his chastity. Murillo has added to this scene a thrilling sense of drama and competition. Looking among the party, one can see a pecking order of suitors: in the foreground an extravagantly dressed man has his back to us. His baton is not blossoming, but he is looking at another, less fortunate (and less well-dressed) than he, who in disappointment that he has lost the contest, is seen breaking his own barren staff over his knee.

The *Adoration of the Shepherds*: Jesus in His crib of rough wood and straw gazes at a cross, shaped by the rafters of the roof of the poor stable. Also in his direct vision upwards, baby angels dance joyfully in adoration. The Holy Parents, and the shepherds representing four different ages of man, kneel and bow before the King of Heaven and Earth – except the youngest shepherd. He is but a lad and smiles delightedly up at his mother. She has brought the two turtle doves which will be used as the traditional offering of the poor for the ceremony of Our Lady's purification, forty days later. A bound lamb has also been brought by the shepherds, symbolising Christ's later

sacrifice and we see too the ox and ass and – a symbol of fidelity – the shepherds' faithful sheep-dog.

The Holy Family and St. John the Baptist: This painting hung for many years in a sacristy of Seville Cathedral. The infant Christ is showing His mother the scroll given to Him by his cousin St. John the Baptist bearing the words: "Ecce Agnus Dei" – Behold the Lamb of God". The meek and innocent lamb beside St. John is a symbol of the future sacrifices of Christ's Passion and of the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist. St. John is carrying a cruciform staff and is dressed as he will be as an adult in the desert, in wild animal skins. St. Joseph looks on, glancing at this scene and being enlightened as to its meaning by the prophetic scriptures he has been reading, resting on a stone, with his hand marking the appropriate pages.



(Picture: *Espousal of Mary and Joseph*, by Murillo, Wallace Collection, London.)

The Charity of St. Thomas of Villanueva: St. Thomas (1488-1555) was an Augustinian friar who became Archbishop of Valencia in 1544 and is seen here giving alms to a semi-naked beggar. Scion of a wealthy family, from his youth Thomas had an abiding love for the poor, even though he became confessor and counsellor to the Spanish King and Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V. The composition of the picture is most attractive, the outstretched hand of the beggar arousing our sympathy, as well as that of the saint, and we are pleased to see a little child walking off, with his arm aloft too, as he shows his mother the coin that he has just received from St. Thomas.

The Virgin in Glory with Saints Adoring – Our Lady and the infant Jesus appear in glory and celestial light, surrounded by angels, whilst

in the darker tones of the lower part of the picture, representing earth, we find St. John the Baptist and St. Francis of Assisi. The two female saints in the composition are the patron saints of Seville, St. Justa and St. Rufina (3rd century), daughters of a poor potter who refused to let pagans buy his wares for use in the temple of Venus. They destroyed the image of Venus and were accused of sacrilege by the Roman governor, who put them to death. They are identified by their earthenware pots, martyrs' palms and haloes.

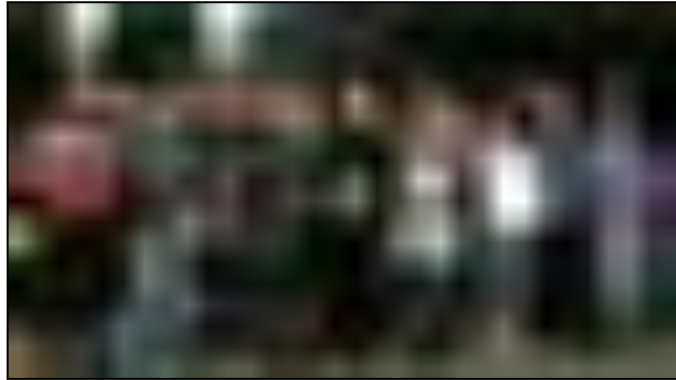
Lack of space prevents a detailed description of *The Annunciation* save to say that in the foreground of that lovely picture is a basket of bread, somewhat of a Murillo "trademark" (there was also one in the picture of *Joseph and his Brethren*), with the addition here of a pair of scissors, respectively indicative, perhaps, of the future Eucharistic sacrifice and of the shedding of Christ's Most Precious Blood.

Extraordinary biker

Formerly administrator of the cathedral of Northampton, Canon Denis McSwiney is a long time supporter of the Extraordinary Form liturgy, which he celebrates with a missionary spirit also manifesting in his ministry to bikers. He has welcomed the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter in his parish of Sacred Heart in Flitwick.

Motorbikes: I have been riding motorbikes for many years. My first bike was a *BSA Gold Star*. Over the years I have met many other bikers and have established lasting friendships. The *Triumph Rocket III* is a very heavy bike, capable of great speed, so safety is a must. As a biker you are accepted by other riders, regardless of age. I am often asked questions about the Faith, the Church, as well as questions about other related topics. It is an opportunity to speak of God and the promise of His salvation. I have also been asked to visit the injured in hospital, celebrate baptisms and, sadly, assist at funerals.

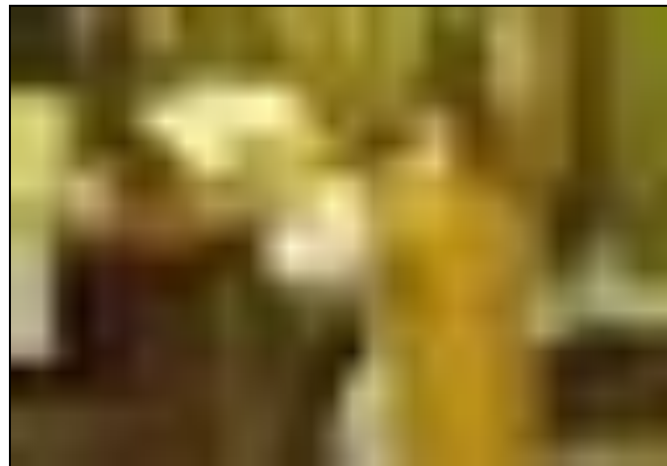
The Latin Mass: I served in St John Parish Luton from 1990 to 1996. In 1992 some parishioners requested Mass in the Traditional Form. I had served Mass as a boy and was promoted to MC at High Mass. I was given a book on the rubrics, and with help from Fr Thwaites, S.J., I offered my first traditional Mass on the 25th March 1992. It was a great joy to rediscover this Rite of Holy Mass and now I offer the Latin Mass on a regular basis



here and in other parishes when asked to help.

Here in Flitwick, we have the Latin Mass every Sunday at 5pm and it is a great blessing for our parish. The priests from the Fraternity of St Peter travel here from Reading, and I would like to thank them for their support.

I was very ill, and in hospital at the beginning of the year – complications from diabetes. Fr Leworthy, FSSP visited me in Bedford Hospital and it was a comfort to have prayer and a blessing. I thank God, and Our Lady, for being able to work again in the Parish. I wish the Fraternity every blessing in their new home in Reading.



Cherish the Latin Mass, and above all, support its celebration by your presence. Let us pray for one another.

Fr Denis

(Pictures: Canon McSwiney with bikers – above – and offering Mass in the EF form in his parish church of Flitwick – left.)

Youth apostolate

The weekend before the Holy Father's historic visit to Great-Britain, over 30 young adults met at Douai Abbey, Berks. for an international youth gathering with the *Juventutem* movement (10-11-12 September 2010). Damian Barker (juventutemcatholicam@yahoo.co.uk), the indefatigable leader of Young Catholic Adults (part of *Juventutem*) coordinated the preparation. For the first time, Young Catholic Adults (YCA) hosted the International *Juventutem* Conference. The weekend was more successful than ever with about 70 people present for High Mass in the Extraordinary Form and a Marian procession on Saturday September 11. The week-end featured a succession of beautiful liturgies, doctrinal conferences and recreation. At the request of the young people, the talks focused on explaining the prayers of the Mass found in the EF Roman missal.

There were four members of the clergy present: Fr Armand de Malleray, FSSP, Ecclesiastical Assistant of the *Juventutem* International Federation, Fr Simon Leworthy, FSSP, Fr Alexander Redman from the Diocese of Clifton and Rev Juan Thomas, FSSP, a Canadian seminarian from Wigratzbad, Germany, on pastoral training in England. Regrettably Fr Charles Mwongera, chaplain to the *Juventutem* group in Kenya, was prevented from arriving on time due to visa restrictions and landed in Heathrow one day after the weekend was over. However, he and Fr de Malleray met in Reading later on and were able to catch up. *Juventutem* Treasurer Cosimo Damiano Marti was present, with several young Swiss.

Again we express our heartfelt thanks to the Benedictine monks of Douai Abbey for their friendly welcome, especially the Rev Sacristan and Guest Master. Also, we thank the Rt Rev

Fr Abbot for his permission to have for the first time a solemn high Mass offered in the *usus antiquior* at the high altar of the abbey church. Holy Mass in the Extraordinary Form was offered each of the three days by Fr de Malleray for the group. Some of the young people sang during Mass and for Benediction. One of them, a trained organist from Switzerland, played beautifully during our liturgies. A priest was also available for confessions and spiritual direction at various times

during the week-end. After the Friday afternoon Mass and supper, Fr de Malleray gave the first talk on 'How God is present in the Holy Eucharist'. It was followed by a social gathering, attended by all the youth and clergy.

On Saturday 11th September, the programme started with morning prayer in the church at 7.30am, followed by breakfast. From 9 to 10am, Fr de Malleray gave his second conference on the beginning of the Mass, from the Preparatory Prayers until the Creed. At 11am, Solemn High Mass was offered in the Abbey church by Fr de Malleray, assisted by Fr Leworthy, FSSP as Deacon and Fr Redman as Subdeacon. The 'Ensemble 1685', boasting no fewer than 16 singers, sang Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina's *Missa Ave Regina Coelorum*. The young people attending the week-end served the Solemn High Mass, led by Rev Juan Tomas, FSSP and Dr Matthew Doyle, a young father of a family present with his wife and children. A Marian procession around the extensive grounds of the Abbey followed Mass. After lunch, Fr de Malleray's third conference was on the Offertory of the Mass. In the afternoon there was time for outside walk and recreation, while Rev. Juan Tomas, FSSP led an optional workshop on how to serve Low Mass, followed by Holy Rosary. Before Vespers and dinner, a third doctrinal conference focused on the Canon of the Mass. After a two-hour Eucharistic adoration, all met socially and later (or much later for some of us) went to bed. On the Sunday, after morning



(All three pictures: Juventutem YCA weekend in Douai Abbey, September 2010 - courtesy M. Doyle & Seth Phipps.)

prayer and breakfast, Fr de Malleray delivered the 5th and final conference on the prayers of the Mass on the Communion and Dismissal. After this, Father offered a Sung Mass in the Abbey parish church. Recitation of the Rosary followed and all eventually met in a nearby pub for lunch and farewell.

Whereas last year a large proportion of the young adults attending the weekend had not stayed the night, this time nearly

all of them spent the whole duration of the weekend within the premises, which enabled them to

benefit more fully from all the activities provided. It is interesting that several of them had merely heard about the Juventutem weekend through their parishes where no Extraordinary Form is offered, or on the Internet. Contact details were exchanged and a Juventutem group has now started to meet in London once a month for an informal meal

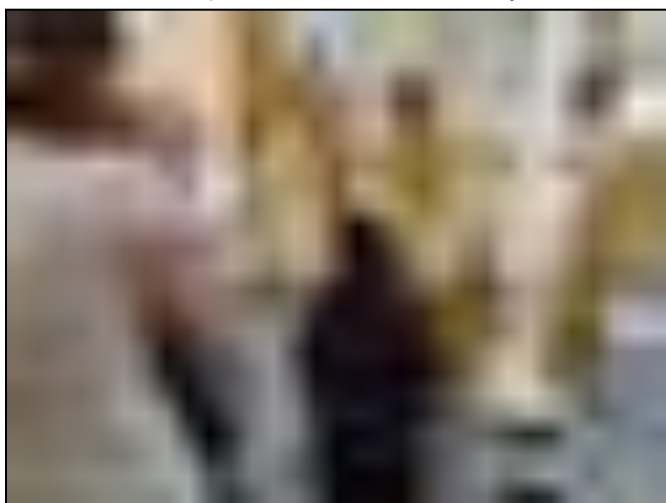
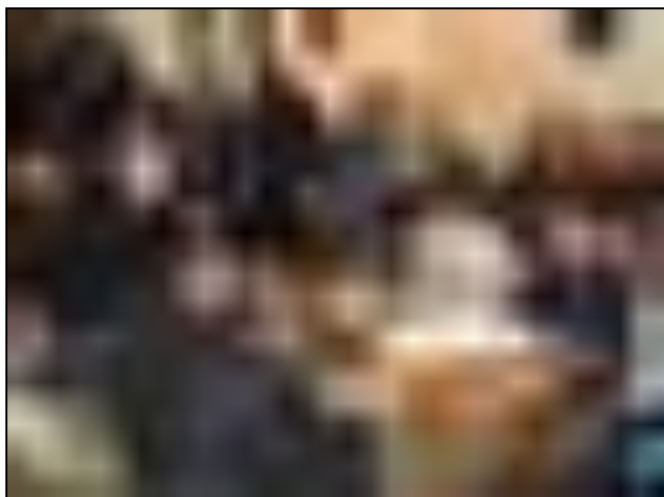
after an EF Mass at Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane (see details on the Juventutem London Facebook group) or via www.juventutem.org.

All young people from age 16 and young adults are welcome to register for the World youth Day in Spain (9th- 21st August 2011) with Juventutem, the international movement of young adults attracted to the Extraordinary Form of the Roman rite. Cost per

person is expected to be €250 (airfare not included) for those that will only come for WYD Madrid, and less than €400 for the full programme, which is the best way to prepare for WYD and derive maximum benefit. One in every thousand youths attended WYD 2005 in Cologne (1,000/1,000,000) and WYD 2008 in Sydney (250/250,000) with Juventutem, plus dozens of Cardinals, Bishops, priests and seminarians. Read our reports and see pictures and videos on www.juventutem.org on WYD 2005 and WYD 2008. Juventutem will spend the first week at the former Carmel of Amorebieta-Etxano, 15 miles from Bilbao, before travelling south to Madrid.

We welcome students (16-22) as well as young adults (22-32). Distinct programmes will be organised for each age groups. During the second week in Madrid as usual Juventutem will partake in the main official ceremonies. We will also have our own Masses (daily in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman rite) and catechesis. We also expect to be allocated an animation centre where we can display and share with other youths our Extraordinary Form charism.

Also, a Juventutem international gathering will take place in Fribourg, Switzerland, on 4th, 5th and 6th March 2011. Young adults from Britain and Ireland are welcome to attend as has been the case in 2009 and 2008 (see pictures and reports on www.juventutem.org).



Ongoing ministry

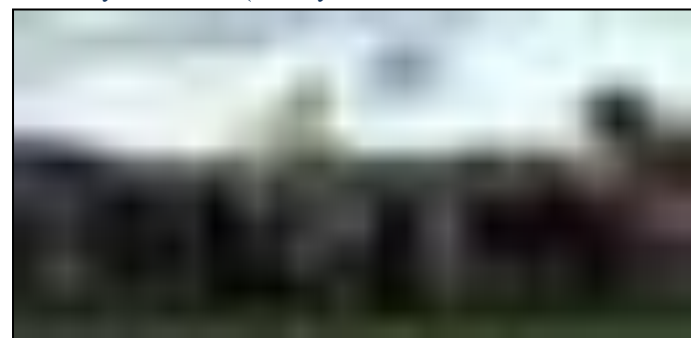
Our regular ministry includes daily Mass and Confessions; spiritual direction; catechism; monthly groups of doctrine and prayer for ladies, also for gentlemen; monthly Holy Hour for priestly ministry and vocations; monthly travelling to the Isle of Wight and to Ireland; monthly overnight stay in Flitwick; monthly doctrinal talk to the French-speaking faithful in London; and normally four retreats preached every year (Advent, Lent, Summer – and Autumn youth week-end); plus regular meetings with individuals or families, and help for discernment for possible vocations. Listed below are some occasional or exceptional events which have occurred since the last issue of Dowry.

3-4 September: Fr Jacques Olivier, FSSP travels to London to give a talk to parents on ‘Children’s sanctity’. He also baptises twin sisters at the Brompton Oratory.

7-18 September: FSSP Canadian seminarian Rev Tomas on training stage in Reading. He visited families and faithful in Reading and in Oxford, helped Fr de Malleray with designing the oratory at St John Fisher House, and was involved in the Juventutem week-end in Douai Abbey. The beginning of term in Wigratzbad did not allow Rev Tomas to partake in the Holy Father’s Vigil in Hyde Park as he had to depart the same day.

10-12 September: Juventutem youth weekend in Douai Abbey (cf article).

17-19 September: Papal weekend (cf Editorial and pictures right and below). We thank the Tyburn nuns who kindly welcomed us and offered refreshments after Mass in the Martyrs’ Crypt. We met on the pavement for practical information and to unfold our two flags of the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (thank you to our valiant standard bearers



Edward, James and Andrew), which would be a most useful means of not getting lost in the crowd. Our group then walked across the street and through the gates to the area where the Vigil was to take place. Regrettably some in our group had no official badges and had to stand outside the gates during the Vigil, despite the fact that at least one quarter of the inside area remained empty. During a couple of hours before the Holy Father’s arrival, we were able to pray together (not much, because the loudspeakers spoke loud indeed), to chat, eat some sandwiches and meet up with many other friends and clergy from other groups. Many thanks to Lauren Mills who efficiently coordinated the registrations.

20-24 September: Fr Antony Sumich, FSSP stays at St John Fisher House. A New-Zealander, Fr Sumich is our fellow priest posted in our personal parish in Nigeria. During his stay he visited the London Oratory and had the privilege of being the very first priest to offer Mass on the new altar dedicated to Blessed John Henry Newman.

20-25 September: Fr de Malleray’s yearly retreat, this time at the FSSP mother house in Wigratzbad, Germany.

2-5 October: FSSP Superior General Very Rev. Fr John M. Berg visits England. The main occasion is the inauguration of St John Fisher House, base to the apostolate of the FSSP in England and Wales. In Northampton, Fr Berg and Fr de Malleray are invited for lunch by Bishop Peter Doyle who is glad to hear about the regular ministry of the FSSP in Flitwick. In Portsmouth, Fr Berg and Fr de Malleray thank Bishop Crispian Hollis for having allowed the canonical establishment of St John Fisher House on 1st August 2010. They gave to the Bishop a letter expressing the gratitude of the faithful and signed by several of them.

3 October: Inauguration of St John Fisher House (cf article).

5-7 October: FSSP General Bursar and General Assistant Fr Charles Van Vliet, FSSP visited St John Fisher House for the first time. He had a meeting with our contractor and approved of the work being done. Fr Van Vliet went through the accounts and had a formal meeting with other trustees of the FSSP England charity. He also met our Gift-aid Officer. He was appreciative of the generous support of the faithful.

9 October: Talk by Fr de Malleray on Murillo at the Wallace collection in London.

10 October: a diocesan clergy friend visits us and stays the night at St John Fisher House.

11 October: Clergy inauguration of St John Fisher House (cf article).

11 October, 5.30pm: Fr de Malleray was invited to deliver a homily on Blessed John Henry Newman at the Oratory School founded by him in Reading (cf article). All the 370 students plus staff were assembled in the main chapel. After Solemn Vespers of the new beatified founder, led by the chaplain Mgr Conlon, Fr de Malleray preached on Newman and the quest for truth. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed, after which Fr de Malleray stayed for supper in the staff refectory.

13 October: Fr de Malleray and Fr Leworthy attended a clergy recollection at Wickenden Manor, an Opus Dei retreat centre in Sussex.

16 October: Fr de Malleray and Fr Leworthy took part in the Rosary Crusade of Reparation, a procession of several thousands of faithful from Westminster Cathedral to the Brompton Oratory. What a beautiful witness to carry a big statue of Our Lady, praying the rosary and singing hymns across central London at the busiest of times – Saturday afternoon! A little miracle is the patient behaviour and often supportive reactions of the Harrods and Sloane Street fashion customers and drivers when the police stop traffic to allow our procession to proceed. As one is not aware of similar Catholic witness in London every year, one would expect many more Catholics to attend, led by their pastors. There were a dozen members of the clergy walking. At the Brompton Oratory, Fr de Malleray was requested to hear confessions and later to assist at solemn Benediction. Clergy and Crusade staff later met for refreshments. Please make sure you book this event for next October. Ave Maria.

21 October: Fr de Malleray takes part in an afternoon of prayer in Reading with the Heralds of the Gospel (<http://heraldsgospelsinengland.blogspot.com/>).

25 October: Fr Sumich calls at Reading (conveniently accessible from Heathrow by direct 'Rail Air' buses) on his way back to Nigeria. Supper with him, Fr Leworthy back from Ireland and Fr de Malleray. Fr Sumich enjoys 'his last night in a real bed' for a long time.

26-30 October: Fr de Malleray in France for pastoral commitments and ongoing formation: 40 French FSSP priests attended a session on 'Canonical aspects of the sacrament of matrimony'. The session is also an important occasion for us to catch up with confrères. Opening of new FSSP apostolates in Caen and Tours are announced. The session took place during the school holidays at the 'Institut Croix des Vents St Joseph', the boarding school for boys run by the FSSP (cf www.croixdesvents.com and *Dowry* N°5) – formerly the Sées diocesan seminary.

30 October: At Fr Michael Brown's invitation, on the feast of the Douai martyrs, Fr Leworthy preaches a day of recollection for about 30 lay people in Newcastle. This feast has an added poignancy this year given the uncertainty over the future of Ushaw College, the northern successor of Douai. The conference started at 10am and included time for confessions. It was open to anyone who would like to come. 'Other parts of the country have days of recollection organised by the LMS but this is the first time we have attempted this in the North East', wrote Fr Michael Brown. After the conference, Fr Leworthy was the Celebrant at a Solemn High Mass at St Joseph's, Gateshead at 12 noon. The Mass had been organised by 'The Group Of Priests Of Hexham And Newcastle Who Meet For Lunch Once A Month Who Like The Extraordinary Form' (aka TGOPOHANWFMFLOAMWLTEF) and the local LMS. People were invited to bring a packed lunch for after the Mass. Many thanks to Fr Adrian Dixon, the parish priest of St Joseph's for letting us use his church for this event.

7 November: Fr de Malleray baptises young Juliana Therese di Falco at Chesham Bois (cf picture below). Parish Priest Fr Davenport was very welcoming and Fr de Malleray thanked him for the possibility of baptising in his parish. About 50 faithful attended the ceremony, including many children. Godparents were Patrick and Colette Oliver. Michelle Di Falco (Juliana's mother) sent Fr de Malleray the following feedback: *'I had some lovely compliments back from friends who have never seen an old rite baptism before and were very impressed [...] They were very pleased to have each part explained to them'*. Also, as allowed in the EF Ritual, Fr de Malleray said several of the prayers in English – not the exorcisms though. After the ceremony, all gathered to celebrate in a nearby parish hall.

9 November: Fr de Malleray and Fr Leworthy were invited to attend the yearly 'Clergy evening' of the Reading Circle of the Catenians. This took place at the Sonning Golf Club. The dinner was excellent and joyful. At least thirty Catenians were present. Two Catenians attend our liturgical activities at St William of York. It was good to catch up with about 10 other fellow clergy, including our Parish Priest Canon John O'Shea

and other priests from the neighbourhood. Fr Leworthy was glad to talk with Fr. Giles Goward his fellow student while at university in Rome. Fr Goward is currently the Parish Priest of Our Lady & St Anne in Caversham, a Marian shrine dating back to before the Norman Conquest (www.ourladyandstanne.org.uk).

11 November: lunch with an Anglican minister who intends to join the Ordinariate under the provision of

Anglicanorum Cœtibus. It seems that some Anglicans use the cycle of liturgical readings still in force in the 1962 Roman missal (Extraordinary Form of the Roman rite).

14 November: after Sunday Mass at St William of York, general assembly with volunteers to set up a list of coordinators for the various tasks in which the priests request assistance, e.g. schola, altar servers, sacristy, church cleaning, Sunday coffee and parish hall set up, ushers to welcome newcomers, meals and cleaning at St John Fisher House, etc. Most of these tasks were already taken care of with generosity and competence, but the completion of work at St John Fisher House and the thankful building up of our ministry called for a more detailed and formal organisation. This list of volunteers will function as our 'EF community council' and will undoubtedly be of great help to the two priests.

16 November: Fr de Malleray and Fr Leworthy attend a clergy day at St Bede's, Southwark Archdiocese on the theme: *'Practical ways of keeping up the momentum of Pope Benedict's visit'*. About 20 clergy were present, including well-known bloggers Fr Tim Finigan and Fr John Zulhsdorf. After challenging talks by several priests, the clergy gathered in the church for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament led by Fr Andrew Southwell, assisted by Fr de Malleray as MC. A convivial lunch followed.

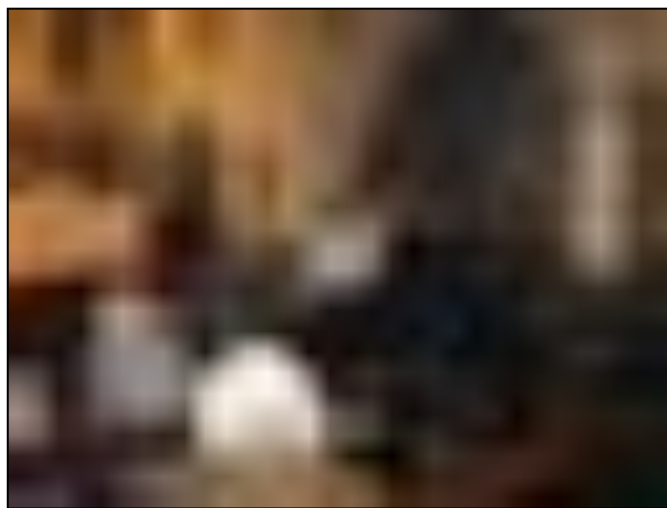


20 November: Fr de Malleray and Fr Leworthy attend the Confirmations organised by the LMS at St James Spanish Place in London. Fr de Malleray hears confessions before the ceremony, and both priests seat in choir afterwards. Five persons prepared by the FSSP received the Holy Spirit on that occasion. Both priests thanked Bishop George Stack for having conferred the sacrament.

Also at St James', the priests meet again with the Sons of the Most Holy Redeemer, who had travelled down from the Orkney Islands. Fr de Malleray congratulates them for their excellent publications, saying he used for his private retreat their recent volume on St Alphonsus De Liguori *Great Lovers of Solitude*. One could not too much recommend their 'The Desert will flower' Press, which sends worldwide some very inspirational and Catholic popular literature. Please pray for this religious community, and have recourse to their publications for the lasting benefit of your souls. Blog: <http://papastronsay.blogspot.com>. Address: Golgotha Monastery Island, Papa Stronsay, KW17 2AR, Orkney Islands.

23 November: Fr de Malleray on private recollection at Douai Abbey.

27 November: altar servers' training session at St John Fisher House. David Forster, from the recently founded Society of St Tarcisius, was one of our tutors. We were up to 16 present, including three clergy. The coordinator of the Archconfraternity of St Stephen had travelled from Westminster for the occasion. Several of our pupils had come from a distance. After a 9am Low Mass (votive Mass of the Holy Innocents, in the perspective of day of prayer for every nascent life asked by Pope Benedict for that vigil of Advent), we started with our 2-hour morning session. It was followed by a packed lunch and by another 2-hour afternoon session. We had three workshops and Low Mass and one on Sung Mass. One participant was due to serve Low Mass the very day after in Guilford, for Fr Aaron Spinelli's first parish EF Mass. Further altar serving sessions at St John Fisher House will be announced.



29 November: Fr Leworthy gives an Advent day of recollection at St Mary's Church in Ryde, on the Isle of Wight (cf picture above, courtesy P. Clarke). The day included talks, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, devotions, confessions, etc. It concluded with Holy Mass.

29-30 November: LMS General Chaplain Fr Andrew Southwell visits St John Fisher House for the first time. Fr de Malleray tells him the gratitude of the FSSP to LMS benefactors. Fr Southwell is the Celebrant at Mass at St William of York, also his own feast day.

30 November: Fr de Malleray offers Mass at the Good Counsel Network oratory in London and shares lunch with the staff. One can only praise and recommend the wonderful work done by this charity to guide pregnant mothers in difficult situations and assist them after childbirth. Please visit them on www.goodcounselnet.co.uk.

4 December: Fr Leworthy baptises young Amy Black at St William of York, Reading.

Forthcoming events

Advent silent retreat at Douai Abbey on 10-12 December 2010 on the theme 'St Joseph, a model of virtues', by Fr Armand de Malleray: 33 persons booked in already.

Vocations discernment week-end at St John Fisher House on 17-19 December 2010: 8 young men booked in.

Juventutem youths international week-end on 4-6 March 2011 in Fribourg, Switzerland. All students, young professionals are welcome for three days of prayer, social gatherings, doctrinal formation and beautiful liturgies. Contact and info via www.juventutem.org.

Art for Souls tour: Saturday 22nd January 2011, National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London. We meet inside the Sainsbury Wing Entrance Hall at 1.45pm for 2pm. Nearest underground: Charing Cross, Leicester Square. Theme: *Landscapes, mirrors of God*. Duration: 1 hour. Led by Fr de Malleray, FSSP. Entrance and tour free for all.

Lenten silent Retreat: Friday 25th March 2011 at 5pm (Annunciation) – Monday 28th March 2011 at 2pm.

Theme: 'The prayers of the Mass' (please bring a traditional hand missal). Retreat Master: Fr de Malleray, FSSP.

Prices: (including £10 for the FSSP and the remainder for the Abbey, also including 20% VAT): per person with full board accommodation: £180 for a single room; £136 per person for a shared room. Significant discounts granted on request by the Abbey for students, unemployed etc.

Booking: please send a £20 deposit cheque made payable to FSSP ENGLAND to: FSSP Lenten Retreat, 17, Eastern Avenue, Reading, Berks., RG1 5RU. No further payment to be made until the end of the retreat when you meet with the Guest Master.

Inquiries: malleray@fssp.org or by post.

Holy Mass in the Extraordinary Form each of the 4 days (at 6pm on the Friday).

Please specify any special requirements (diet, mobility).

Location: Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 5TQ, England. Nearest railway station: Midgham. Abbey website: <http://www.douaiabbey.org.uk/>.

Juventutem youth meeting in London, near Corpus Christi Church, Maiden Lane on Friday evening 14th January and 11th February 2011. These evenings are for people aged 18-35. Of course, everybody is welcome to come to the Mass before, organised by Good Counsel Network every second Friday of the month, by kind permission of the Parish Priest. Always at 6.30pm. Always at Corpus Christi Maiden Lane. Always the Traditional Latin Mass. Do come along! Contact Sean : wrightsc@live.co.uk or google Juventutem London Facebook.

Priestly ordination of British deacon Rev Mr Matthew McCarthy, FSSP on Saturday 21st May 2011 in Lincoln, Nebraska. Obviously further away than Wigratzbad in Bavaria, Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary is still fairly accessible from the UK to either Lincoln or Omaha with one connecting flight in Chicago or Newark. Some British faithful have already planned to attend and will have the opportunity of admiring the recently consecrated chapel of the seminary. Information: www.fsspols.org.

First Solemn High Mass back in England of then-Fr Matthew McCarthy, FSSP: Saturday 28th May 2011, 3pm; at St James's Church, Spanish Place, 22 George Street, London W1U 3QY - kindly welcomed by Parish Priest Fr Christopher Colven. Followed by First blessings, and refreshments in Parish Hall. Come and pray with and for this newly ordained British priest and for more priestly vocations.

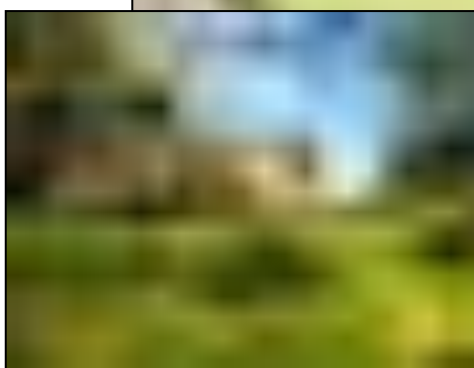
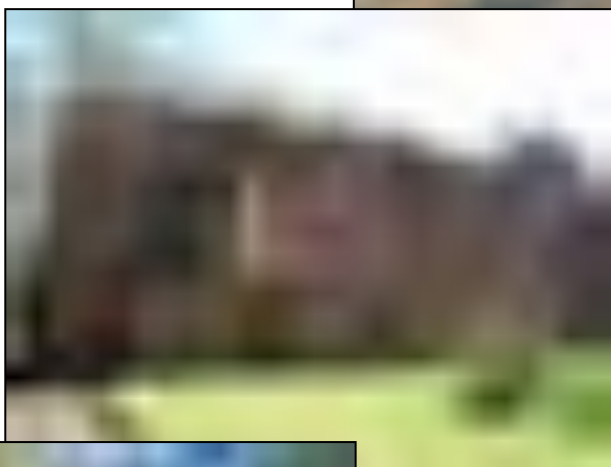
International 'Pilgrimage of Christendom' from Paris to Chartres in France on Pentecost weekend: 11-13 June 2011. Make friends with 8,000 young pilgrims and take a glimpse of Christendom 'live' during the 70mile walk across the French countryside. Don't be left behind! Register now to take part in the largest all-walking yearly Catholic pilgrimage on a weekend with dozens of young people from Britain and Ireland. Info: www.nd-chretiente.com. (With the British group by coach from Westminster and back again, Thursday 9th to Tuesday 14th). Enquiries: chartres@duc-in-altum.co.uk. The prices are extraordinarily good value for money and the British pilgrimage is financially supported by the Latin Mass Society, making possible some sponsored places for those who can't afford it. If you are between 16 and 36 year old, you may like to walk there with *Juventutem*: please contact Grace Readings on 07817974018 or by email: grace.escargot@gmail.com.

Publications by the FSSP

1) Two superb DVD's on the Extraordinary Form of the Roman rite, made in association between the FSSP and EWTN:

EF Mass tutorial DVD (ideal gift for clergy, seminarians, altar servers and laity in general): now £15 each instead of £19 (or even buy 02 copies for £29). Postage included. Can be played on all computers equipped with DVD-player. The best EF Mass tutorial DVD filmed professionally at the EWTN studio in Alabama, with the official support of the

Clergy Silent Summer retreat.
Starts Monday 4th July 2011, 2pm – ends Friday 8th July 2011, 2pm (4 nights).



Theme:

–**Priestly meditations on the prayers of the Roman Missal**’.

Schedule:

Silent retreat;

meals with table reading on the theme of the retreat; includes one conference in the morning and another one in the afternoon; possibility of private meeting with the Retreat Master and of confession; Possibility of attending Eucharistic Adoration with the local contemplative religious community. Common recitation of Compline (EF Breviary) and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will also take place.

Location: Cold Ash pastoral centre, run by the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary: The Ridge, Thatcham, RG18 9HU, England. We will have the guests' wing available for us, with access to the 19th century chapel (with three eastward facing altars); there are also nice grounds and woodlands.

Cost per person: £220 (includes: £200 for Cold Ash centre for single room full board, and £20 for FSSP).

N.B. Priests choosing to offer their private Mass in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite should either bring with them all the items they need or contact Fr de Malleray well in advance.

World Youth Day 2011 in Spain with *Juventutem*: 9-21 August 2011 (cf article). Join the English-speaking youths from Britain and Ireland, accompanied by Fr de Malleray, FSSP and diocesan clergy accustomed to the EF liturgy. Info: www.juventutem.org.

Pontifical Ecclesia Dei Commission: our FSSP & EWTN two-disc DVD set on the ceremony of Low Mass in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite. Ideal for clergy wanting to learn or improve, as well as for altar servers and laity at large.

Order (only within the UK) your copy now: Please send a £15 cheque made payable to 'FSSP ENGLAND' to: St John Fisher House, FSSP DVD, 17 Eastern Avenue, Reading RG1 5RU. Or even receive 02 copies for £29 only (postage included).

Please include your full contact details in your order. Orders from outside the UK: <http://www.fsspDVD.com/>

OLGS chapel solemn Dedicace 2-DVD set, in NTSC[#] Region 0 format now available. Consecration ceremony and Pontifical Mass which followed. With commentary by Rev. Calvin Goodwin, FSSP and Rev. Justin Nolan, FSSP. Recaptures the beauty and solemnity of the consecration of the heart and jewel of the seminary. Price: £8 (postage included). Please send cheque made payable to ‘FSSP England’ to: St John Fisher House, FSSP DVD, 17 Eastern Avenue, Reading RG1 5RU. Running time is 4.5 hours. Orders from outside the UK: <http://www.fsspols.org/dvd.html>
[Also, see hundreds of pictures sorted by the various stages of construction on <http://www.fsspols.org/chapel.html>.]

Blessed Karl Leisner booklet:

A young German deacon martyred in Dachau, who was ordained a priest in secret in the camp and died after having

offered Holy Mass once. We hope that it will help foster vocations to the priesthood. We give this booklet free. However, donations to cover the cost are welcome. Please send cheque payable to ‘FSSP England’ to our address. Please contact us if you would like to receive more booklets to give out.

2) Special clergy resources:

Practice for your next Sung Mass listening to recordings of Epistles and Gospels of the complete liturgical year and feast while following on your computer screen with images of Gregorian score with neumes: <http://www.fsspols.org/liturgical2.html>

Mass training kits: assembled to combine into a single easy-to-use package what are the most useful resources for priests who want to learn the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite. Four separate kits are available in order to provide priests at various levels of experience with the precise resources they need. <http://store.fraternitypublications.com/prtrki.html>

Kindly support our apostolate

Bequest: Because ‘FSSP England’ is a registered charity (number 1129964 – official full name: Fraternitas Sacerdotalis Sancti Petri Limited), any legacy to ‘FSSP England’ will be exempt from Inheritance Tax and will reduce the overall tax liability of your estate. Please contact on our behalf Rev Mr Stephen Morgan, also a Trustee of ‘FSSP England’: Diocesan Office, St Edmund’s House, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth PO1 3QA, England.

Funding from outside the UK also possible: please contact us.

Please note that all your donations will be used for the development of our ministry in England and Wales exclusively. We thank wholeheartedly all our benefactors for their trust in our mission. Since we are not financially supported by the dioceses at this stage, your donations and your prayer are vital for us. May the good God reward you already in this life and surely in the next.

With our prayers for a saintly Advent,

Rev Fr Armand de Malleray, FSSP, and Rev Fr Simon Leworthy, FSSP

**Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter, St John Fisher House,
17 Eastern Avenue, Reading, RG1 5RU, Berks., England.
Telephone: 0118 966 5284 - Internet : www.fssp.co.uk
Email: malleray@fssp.org ; slwthy@hotmail.com**

The ‘FSSP ENGLAND’ account details are:
Bank: Lloyds TSB Bank plc
Branch: Southsea, Palmerston Road
Sort code: 30-93-04
Account number: 02027225
Account name: FSSP England
Cheques made payable to:
FSSP ENGLAND
(to be posted to our address below).

Prayer of the Confraternity of St Peter

Following a decade of the Rosary:

V. Remember, O Lord, Thy congregation. R. Which Thou hast possessed from the beginning. Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus, born to give testimony to the Truth, Thou who lovest unto the end those whom Thou hast chosen, kindly hear our prayers for our pastors.

Thou who knowest all things, knowest that they love Thee and can do all things in Thee who strengthens them.

Sanctify them in Truth. Pour into them, we beseech Thee, the Spirit whom Thou didst give to Thy apostles, who would make them, in all things, like unto Thee.

Receive the homage of love which they offer up to Thee, who hast graciously received the threefold confession of Peter.

And so that a pure oblation may everywhere be offered without ceasing unto the Most Holy Trinity, graciously enrich their number and keep them in Thy love, who art one with the Father and the Holy Ghost, to whom be glory and honour forever. Amen.

Members of the Confraternity commit themselves to

- every day: 1) pray one decade of the holy rosary for the sanctification of our priests and for our priestly vocations, 2) and recite the *Prayer of the Confraternity*;

- every year: 3) have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered once for these intentions.