

## Society of Saint Pius X

St. Mary's House  
12 Ribblesdale Place  
Preston - PR1 3NA

Contact: Tel.: 01772 885 990 — Email: stmarys@fsspx.uk



### SAINT MARY'S NEWSLETTER



**DECEMBER 2016**

My Dear Faithful,

**A**dvent marks the start of a new liturgical year. Through her yearly liturgy, Holy Mother Church asks us to celebrate unceasingly all the feasts which must feed our Catholic faith. More than teaching us what to believe, the celebration of the feasts should bring to us all the graces we need in order to persevere in the practice of our faith and ultimately to secure our salvation. This is why the liturgy is following Our Lord's life as He is the Word Incarnate who sums up all holiness. Indeed, once He had become incarnate, the second person of the Blessed Trinity became priest and therefore mediator, like a bridge which makes the connection between men and God the Father.

If we repeat this series of feasts year after year it is because we must always draw from them more understanding and receive more effects than we have hitherto felt. This new liturgical year will help us to penetrate the meaning of these feasts in a more profound manner by being attentive to the texts of Mass, and then by applying their lessons in our daily lives.

In this way, it is time now for us to think again of the origin of the plan of Redemption which God wanted to perform for love of us. Because we are all children of Adam, the whole of mankind shares in the disgrace of Original Sin. During the Old Testament, man's attitude was to be afraid at the idea to look at God. The shame of the fall was still very heavy. But the love of God for our souls is greater than men thought. The God severe, that we may see sometimes in the Old Covenant, is in reality a God of mercy who stoops down to relieve the

miseries of our souls. He wants to attract our hearts by coming in the most simple way to the crib. Who would fear to approach a baby? What humility that God made man should deign to be born in a cold, obscure stable for animals.



Advent should increase in us the desire to say more intimate prayers to Our Lord. In order to do this properly there is an absolute condition, and that is silence. It is good to enjoy a bit of silence during the day, thinking of the love of God for us. God has many things to tell us but He speaks only in silence. If the more important silence is the inner one, this silence is impossible if exteriorly we live in perpetual noise. But if we make the effort to reduce the exterior noise; if we switch off the constant din of the media and combat the spirit of the world, we will suddenly find a new inner peace. Only then will we find proper time for prayer and reading. This should, as a consequence, allow us to hear what God has to tell us in particular, His message, His glad tidings.

May the Immaculate Virgin, whose feast we celebrate on 8th December, help us to prepare ourselves for the coming of her Divine Child at Christmas by these efforts. The very best preparation, if we want to acquire the spirit of the Church, is to eagerly embrace her beautiful and venerable liturgy of all time.

God bless you all and your families.

Father Vianney Vandendaele +

## Apparitions of Our Lady in 1917: 5th apparition

Location: Cova da Iria

Date: 13th September 1917

People present: 20,000 to 30,000



rope on, but only to wear it during the daytime.

- “Continue to pray the Rosary in order to obtain the end of the war. In October Our Lord will come, as well as Our Lady of Dolours and Our Lady of Carmel. Saint Joseph will appear with the Child Jesus to bless the world. God is pleased with your sacrifices. He does not

- I was told to ask you many things, the cure of some sick people, of a deaf-mute.

- Yes, I will cure some, but not others. [Because Our Lord does not want to believe them]. In October I will perform a miracle so that all may believe.

[- People would like to have here a little chapel.

- [From] half the money collected till today make two litters for our Lady of the Rosary; the other half is to help building the little chapel. I offered her two letters and a glass with scented water.

- They gave me this, if you want of them.

- This is not appropriate to heaven.]”

*Fatima in Lucia's own words, Fátima, p. 181-182 (IV Memoir); the section in square brackets comes from the parish priest's interrogation of 15 September 1917, Documentação Crítica de Fátima, I, pp. 21-22.*

## What Must We Do During The Consecration?

Keeping the head bowed low during the Elevation at Mass is almost a universal custom. Many are scrupulously conscientious not to look at the Sacred Host or the Chalice, lest thereby they might fail in reverence toward God. This practice originates in a good will, but is nevertheless not praiseworthy. Some people are under the impression that it is wrong to gaze at our Eucharistic God.

Holy Church holds an entirely different view: **she desires that we devoutly look at the Blessed Sacrament.** Otherwise, what signification would there be in the precept of the Church which obliges priests to elevate the Sacred Host after the Consecration high enough to be seen by the faithful?

How pleasing to God is the desire to gaze at Him, even though He is veiled by the Eucharistic species, can be judged from the revelations of **St. Gertrude.** This Saint received from Our Lord the assurance that for every look of love and devotion which we turn to the Sacred Host, we merit an increase of glory in Heaven; and when once we behold God face to face,

we shall participate in as many special joys as we shall have directed loving looks toward the Blessed Sacrament, or even shall have desired to when prevented. What a glorious promise!

An indulgence was granted by **St. Pius X** to all the faithful who gaze at the Sacred Host with faith, devotion and love, either at the Elevation of the Mass or when It is solemnly exposed in the monstrance, saying at the same time,

“My Lord and my God!”



Is not this gazing upon the Eucharistic Saviour a magnificent profession of our faith in the Divinity of Christ, such as was made by the incredulous **Thomas?** When St. Thomas said, “My Lord and my God!” we may be sure he did not keep his eyes cast

down, but looked with open an sincere gaze into the eyes of his Master.

How admirable it would be if the practice desired by St. Pius X were everywhere adopted, and if priests and teachers would train the young to observe it. A new, fruitful fountain of grace would then pour out

over our cold, materialistic world. Therefore, at the Elevation, at Benediction or whenever the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for the Faithful, look with sentiments of faith, hope and love upon **Jesu Hostia**.

(from *The Holy Eucharist — Our All*, by Fr. Lukas Etlin)

## The Secret of the Rosary

### A White Rose

#### For Priests

Dear ministers of the Most High, you my fellow priests who preach the truth of God and who teach the gospel to all nations, let me give you this little book as a white rose that I would like you to keep. The truths contained in it are set forth in a very simple and straightforward manner as you will see. Please keep them in your heart so that you yourselves may make a practice of the Holy Rosary and taste its fruit; and please have them always on your lips too so that you will always preach the Rosary and thus convert others by teaching them the excellence of this holy devotion.

I beg of you to beware of thinking of the Rosary as something of little importance—as do ignorant people and even several great but proud scholars. Far from being insignificant, the Rosary is a priceless treasure which is inspired by God.

Almighty God has given it to you because He wants you to use it as a means to convert the most hardened sinners and the most obstinate heretics. He has attached to it grace in this life and glory in the next. The saints have said it faithfully and the Popes have endorsed it.

When the Holy Spirit has revealed this secret to a priest and director of souls, how blessed is that priest! For the vast majority of people fail to know this secret or else only know it superficially. If such a priest really understands this secret he will say the Rosary every day and will encourage others to say it. God and His Blessed Mother will pour abundant

grace into his soul, so that he may become God's instrument for His glory; and his word, though simple, will do more good in one month than that of other preachers in several years.

Therefore, my dear brethren and fellow priests, it will not be enough for us to preach this devotion to others; we must practise it ourselves. Even if we firmly believed in the importance of the Holy Rosary but never said it ourselves, people could hardly be expected to act upon our advice, for no one can give what he does not have: "Jesus began to do and to teach." We ought to pattern ourselves on Our Blessed Lord, Who began by practising what He preached. We ought to emulate Saint Paul who knew and preached nothing but Jesus Crucified. This is really and truly what you will be doing if you preach the Holy Rosary. It is not just a conglomeration of Our Fathers and Hail Marys, but on the contrary it is a divine summary of the mysteries of the life, passion, death and glory of Jesus and Mary.

I could tell you at great length of the grace God gave me to know by experience the effectiveness of the preaching of the Holy Rosary and of how I have seen, with my own eyes, the most wonderful conversions it has brought about. I would gladly tell you all these things if I thought that it would move you to preach this beautiful devotion, in spite of the fact that priests are not in the habit of doing so these days. But instead of all this I think it will be quite enough for this little summary that I am writing if I tell you a few ancient but authentic stories about the Holy Rosary.



## Notices

### Immaculate Conception

Thursday 8th December



- ♦ Manchester: 12.30pm;
- ♦ Preston: 7pm.

### Nativity of Our Lord

Sunday 25th December



- ♦ Manchester: Midnight;
- ♦ Preston: 9am;
- ♦ Rhos-on-Sea: 1pm.

### Circumcision of Our Lord

Sunday 1st January



- ♦ Preston: 9.30am;
- ♦ Manchester: 12.30pm;
- ♦ Rhos-on-Sea: 5pm.

### Epiphany

Friday 6th January



- ♦ Manchester: 12.30pm;
- ♦ Preston: 7pm.

### Sunday Mass Schedule and Locations

#### PRESTON: Our Lady of Victories' Church

East Cliff, off Winckley Square - PR1 3NA

Every Sunday: 9.30am

#### MANCHESTER: Saint Pius X's Chapel

16 Deerpark Road, off Alexandra Road South - M16 8FR

Every Sunday: 12.30pm

#### LIVERPOOL: Saint Peter and Paul's Church

35 Upper Parliament Street - L8 7LA

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month: 5pm

#### RHOS-ON-SEA: Saint David's Chapel

Conwy Road (A547), Mochdre - LL28 5AA (North Wales)

1st Sunday of the month: 5pm

#### BINGLEY: The Little House

Market Street - BD16 2HP

3rd Sunday of the month: 5pm

### Ordinary Weekday Masses at Preston

(This schedule is subject to change; please check beforehand on the inside notice board or <http://fsspx.uk> — Mass Times)

Monday: variable

Tuesday: —

Wednesday: —

Thursday: —

1st Friday: 7pm

1st Saturday: Holy Hour at 10.30am & Mass at 12.15pm