



# Hostia

*Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Children in Great Britain & Ireland*



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**March 2024**

**Month of  
Saint Joseph**

*For those who  
die suddenly*

The  
Saint  
of  
the  
month

## Saint David Archbishop of Wales († 561)



**S**aint David, son of the Prince of Cardigan and Non in Wales, was born in that land in the later fifth century, and from his earliest years gave himself wholly to the service of God. He began his religious life on the island of Wight, under Saint Paulinus, a disciple of Saint Germanus, Bishop of Auxerre, sent to Britain by Pope Saint Celestine to arrest the ravages of the heresy of a certain abbot named Pelagius, in the same region. When his virtue had grown strong by practice, he went to preach on the mainland; he built a chapel at Glastonbury and founded twelve monasteries, the principal one in the valley of Ross.

When heresy began to reappear in the early years of the sixth century, the bishops of the region assembled at Cardiganshire and sent for Saint David, already known to the people through his virtues and miracles, to come from his cell and preach to them. The Saint obeyed, and it is related that as he preached, the ground beneath his feet rose and became

a hill, so that he was heard by a vast crowd. The heresy retreated and fell under the sword of the Spirit.

Saint David was elected Bishop of Caerleon. He could not resist the common will, but obtained that his see be transferred to a more retired location, today called Saint David, a lone and desert spot, where he would be able, with his monks, to serve God away from the tumults of the world.

When he was about eighty years of age, he recognized that his hour had come. As his agony closed, Our Lord stood before him in a vision, and the Saint cried out, *Take me up with Thee!* and so breathed forth his soul. The date was the 1<sup>st</sup> March 561. Many Saints of Ireland and Great Britain, who revered him as their spiritual father, were formed in his monasteries, whose strict rule of prayer and work nourished their virtue and recommended them to both God and men.

Saint David's feastday  
is on 1<sup>st</sup> March

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Dear Crusaders and Friends,

**W**e all need Saints we can imitate so that we may, in our turn, do things that we know please God greatly.

But many of them are not people to whom we relate easily: perhaps they were priests, monks and nuns, or holy kings and queens, hermits or soldiers, the great learned scholars of the church, founders of monasteries or martyrs who gave their lives for holding to truth and the faith.

There is one saint who is very easy to imitate and to whom we can relate. Saint Joseph. His sanctification is the fruit of very ordinary things. His life contains no extraordinary actions – though he was asked to make some difficult decisions – and at the end he simply died of old age.

Saint Joseph's daily life was that of a simple carpenter who wanted to spend time with his family. He was a saint because all the little things of ordinary life were done for God.

Every time he did a project for a client, he was using his God-given talents to the best of his abilities, producing excellent work as he promised, and charging the right price to cover his costs and give him a fair reward for his labours. This is how he gained lots of merits.

And don't think that all was made easy for him. People would have been very demanding when asking him to do a job and, perhaps even very difficult, never happy and often ungrateful. But Saint Joseph always responded to them with patience and kindness. He also kept his workshop in order, looking after his tools and never wasting anything.

He was a good husband for Our Lady and father for Our Lord, keeping the unity between the three of them by spending time together under the gaze of God.



How can you imitate Saint Joseph? Just by little things that will keep order in your life. Make your bed before you leave your bedroom, for instance; help with the meals by setting the table or doing the washing up; put away what you have used in the right place where you found it; give a hand to someone doing a job that takes quite a while and is more easily done when together with someone else. There are many things easy to do!

Enjoy the time in the family, also, praying as a family and doing things together. In your prayers, try and remember all the prayer intentions of the family, and of those you know who are having difficulties to face.

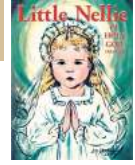
May the imitation of Saint Joseph, whose special day and feast is on 19<sup>th</sup> March, help you to have a good and spiritual Lent by making efforts in the ordinary aspects of life.

God bless you all.

Father Vianney Vandendaele +  
Chaplain of EC  
in Great Britain & Ireland

## I WANT HOLY GOD — LITTLE NELLIE

By Father Bernard des Ronces



### CHAPTER 8 — FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (2)

It was on 6<sup>th</sup> December, a First Friday of the month, consecrated to Jesus' Divine Heart at His express wish: day of love and reparation. It was the sixth Feria in Advent. On every shore of time, the ministers, monks and nuns of the Church were repeating in the office of the day the Canticle of Eternity: "*Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord!*". The Church recalled how one of the Angels of God, having taken a burning coal, mysteriously touched the lips of the prophet of the Emmanuel with it. And Her jubilation increased even more in the antiphon of the *Benedictus*: "Behold, He shall come who is both God and Man, from the house of David, and sit upon the throne, *alleluia*".

It was this canticle of "Holy God" that little Nellie had been repeating for weeks with a love not unworthy of the Seraphim. The Host of her First Communion was truly that burning coal which would complete the consuming of this lovable victim. The "throne" that the poor Irish orphan was going to offer to the eagerly awaited Messiah was that little

heart on fire with love and shining with purity – a *burning lily*, as Saint Peter Julien Eymard would have said.



But at that moment which combined so many providential coincidences, Nellie's joy was so vehement that those around her anxiously wondered if, in the extreme state of weakness to which she was reduced, this emotion would not make her incapable of accomplishing her heavenly dream.

She realised this herself and asked to be laid back on her bed, making an effort to remain calm and master the slight trembling that was shaking her little limbs. She recovered wonderfully and, in particular, the vomiting which they feared so much was avoided. The Community Mass had already been celebrated and the little invalid could only pay a short visit to the Lord's house. The Blessed Sacrament had been exposed and the Sacred Host was gleaming at the top of the altar. The whole Community, Sisters and children, waited in prayer for the little servant of Holy God. There she was now, carried in her mother's arms, dressed in white, crowned with roses and wrapped in a large muslin veil.

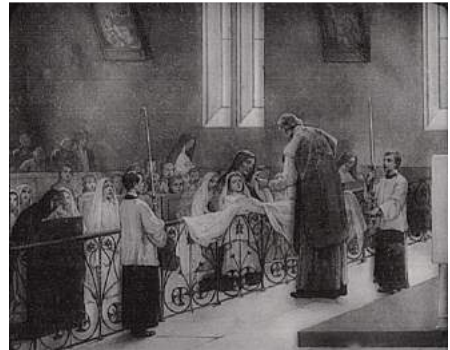
When dear little Nellie appeared in the chapel, a murmur of admiration broke from those in assistance, unable to restrain themselves. Every eye shed joyful tears.

But the happy child herself heard and saw nothing of what was taking place around her. Only one thought filled her with inexpressible joy. Holy God was going to come. She would no longer have to beg and weep to receive Him.

The priest was there. The Tabernacle opened; the ciborium

was uncovered. The little white Host appeared between the consecrated fingers: *Ecce Agnus Dei!*

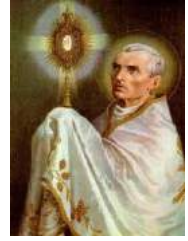
The angelic child opened her pure lips, presented her little tongue and Jesus descended into her little heart... Nellie made her First Communion!



“Literally hungering for her God”, writes Father Bury, “the child received Him from my hands in a transport of love. After having received the Sacred Host, she remained rapt in God for a considerable time”.

At that moment, an extraordinary light transfigured the little communicant's face and made it shine with heavenly splendor. This phenomenon – which was observed by a very large number of witnesses, both believers and unbelievers – was repeated several times during the thirty-two communions that Nellie received before entering into Eternal Light.

*To be continued.*

**EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTION****Jesus Meek and Humble of Heart (3)**

**M**eek in His heart and in His mind, Jesus was quite naturally so in His exterior demeanor. The meekness of Jesus was like the sweet fragrance of His charity and holiness. It controlled all the movements of His body. There was nothing violent about His gestures; they were dignified like His thoughts and feelings, of which they were the expression. He walked slowly, without precipitation; wisdom regulated everyone of His movements. His body, His bearing, His dress, everything about Him spoke of order, poise, and peace. It was the reign in Him of a meek modesty; for modesty is the meekness of the body as well as its glory. Our Saviour held His head in a modest attitude, that had nothing haughty, arrogant, or domineering about it; nor, on the other hand, was it too mean or too timid. Its attitude was that of a simple and unassuming modesty.

His eyes expressed no feeling of anger or indignation. They had a look of respect for superiors, of love for His Mother and Saint Joseph at Nazareth, of kindness for His disciples, of tender compassion for sinners, and of merciful forgiveness for His enemies.



Meekness was enthroned on His sacred lips. He opened them with modesty and gentle gravity. Our Saviour spoke little. No buffoonery, no word of raillery or of curiosity ever crossed His lips. All His words, like His thoughts, were the fruit of wisdom. He made use of expressions that were simple, always becoming and within the reach of His hearers, who for the most part were poor and ordinary folk.

Our Lord avoided any offensive personal remarks when He preached. He attacked only the vices of a school, of a caste, also the bad examples and scandals. He did not reveal hidden crimes or secret defects.

He did not shun those who hated Him. He left no duty undone, no truth unsaid out of fear, or to avoid being contradicted, or to please some personage or other. He was never hasty in making reproaches, nor did He utter any prophecy concerning Himself before the time set by His Father. He lived in unvarying simplicity and meekness with those who were to desert Him, although He knew who they were; since the time to speak had not yet come, the future was to Him as if He knew it not.

Our Lord was wonderfully patient with all the crowds that harassed Him. He was delightfully calm in the midst of all the agitations, requests, and unreasonable demands of an uncouth and earthly-minded people.



What is still more admirable is the great calm, gentleness, and kindness of Our Lord's life with disciples that were rude, unintelligent, touchy, selfish, and vain over their association with the Master. Our Lord showed the same love to all. He did not play favourites, nor was He especially familiar with anyone. Jesus was sweetness, meekness, and love.

If we compare our life to that of Jesus Christ, what a condemnation! Our self-love becomes edged like a sword when it deals with certain persons whose lives and characters are particularly offensive to our pride. These fits of impatience, these reproaches, and these trenchant airs all spring from our laziness, which wants promptly to get rid of or be freed from some obstacle, sacrifice or duty, and which makes us avoid them or finish them with precipitation.

## KNOW YOUR MASS





# KNOW YOUR MASS CHAPTER ONE: ALL DRESSED UP



**THE NEW TESTAMENT****The Annunciation (1)  
(Luke 1:26-38)**

**W**e know about original sin and how it came about. We know about the triple sentence pronounced by God against the serpent, the woman and Adam. The effects of the divine condemnation are to be felt by all generations, even to the end of the world. But there was a promise of salvation made us by God, and it kindles hope within us. God promised that the head of the serpent should one day be crushed, and that, too, by a woman.

The world had been in expectation for four thousand years, and the hope of its deliverance had been kept up in spite of all its crimes. During this time God had made use of prophecies and types as a renewal of the engagement He had entered into with mankind. Joachim's daughter Mary was the woman by whom was to be taken from our race the curse that lay upon it. God had decreed that she should be Immaculate, and thereby had set an irreconcilable enmity between her and the serpent. She, a daughter of Eve, would repair all the injury done by her mother's fall. She would co-operate, directly and really, in the victory which the Son of God was about to gain over His and our enemy.



It was at the hour of midnight when the most Holy Virgin was alone and absorbed in prayer that the Archangel Gabriel appeared before her and asked her, in the name of the Blessed Trinity, to consent to become the Mother of God. Let us assist, in spirit, at this wonderful interview between the Angel and the Virgin. And at the same time let us think of that other interview which took place between Eve and the serpent.

“Why,” said the serpent to Eve, “why has God commanded you that you should not eat of every tree of paradise?” His question implies impatience and a sollicitation to evil.

See, on the other hand, the Angel of light. See with what composure and peacefulness he approaches the Virgin of Nazareth, the new Eve. “Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with thee! Blessed art thou among women!” Such language is evidently of Heaven: none but an Angel could speak thus to Mary.

Eve imprudently listens to the tempter’s words. She enters into conversation with one that dares to ask her to question the justice of God’s commands. She has no mistrust in the serpent. This leads her to mistrust her Creator.



## THE HOLY GHOST OUR GREATEST FRIEND

### THE EXCEEDING BEAUTY OF OUR SOULS, MADE WORTHY TO RECEIVE THE HOLY GHOST



#### What Does God Think of Our Souls?

**L**et us see the immense value that our souls have in the eyes of God—the care, the love with which God has made them, how He has expended all the riches of His wisdom and power in adorning them and making them worthy residences of the Holy Ghost. Thus perhaps we shall more easily understand why it is that the Holy Ghost resides in us.

That we may the better realise this divine truth, let us see with what care God has prepared our souls to be the worthy tabernacles of the Holy Ghost. Many Christians too have little idea of the greatness and grandeur of their souls. We are composed of a body and soul. Our bodies are clay and into clay they return after death. Whatever beauty they have comes from the soul. Our souls are immortal, like to God Himself. Yet men, as an almost universal rule, give most attention to the care, the welfare, the happiness of their poor bodies. In every 24 hours, their main concern is for the needs, the comforts of these bodies. They rest them by long hours of sleep; they eat abundantly to nourish them; they give them every possible pleasure. If these bodies suffer the slightest pain or discomfort, they hasten to relieve it. They call doctors and use expensive remedies. But in all the 24 hours of the day, many think little or nothing at all of their souls.



The Holy Ghost comes into our souls in Baptism. He remains there forever. Day and night we carry Him about in our souls. Wherever we go, whatever we are doing, the Holy Ghost is really and truly with us. He only leaves us if we commit a mortal sin. By a deliberate mortal sin—oh, horror of horrors—we expel Him from our souls with all His Divine love and graces. In His place the devil comes and fills that glorious soul with all the horrible corruption and filth of Hell. If such an awful thing happens to any of us, let us throw ourselves on our knees and beg God's pardon and go to Confession. When our souls are washed in the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, the Holy Ghost will once again return to the soul, which He so tenderly loves and will once more fix His abode in it.

**HOLY SOULS CORNER****Apparition in America, 1859**

The following incident took place in America, in the year 1859. Near the village of Latrobe, there was an Abbey of the Benedictines. Within this Abbey, there occurred a series of apparitions from a deceased Benedictine who had not yet been released from Purgatory.

The American press related the story. But they made light of this very grave matter. There was great danger to the people reading what the press so flippantly told them, clearly expressing a disbelief in the story and in the existence of Purgatory. These Americans would either be scandalized by this bad attitude in their papers, or worse, become infected with it.



In order to put a stop to this, the Abbot Wimmer, superior of the house, addressed the following letter to the newspapers. "The following is a true statement of the case: On 10<sup>th</sup> September 1859, in our Abbey of St. Vincent, near Latrobe, a novice saw an apparition of a Benedictine in full choir dress. This apparition was repeated every day from September 18<sup>th</sup> until November 19<sup>th</sup>. It would take place either at eleven o'clock, at noon, or at two o'clock in the morning. It was only on 19<sup>th</sup> November that the novice, in presence of another member of the community, asked the spirit why he was appearing. "The spirit replied that he had been suffering in Purgatory for seventy-seven years because he did not offer seven Masses, which he was required to offer. The spirit added that he had already appeared at different times to seven other Benedictines, but not one of them came to his aid. If this novice did not help him now, he would have to wait in Purgatory for eleven more years before appearing to ask for help again.

"Having said all that, the spirit asked that the seven Masses be celebrated for him. Beyond this, the novice had to make a retreat for seven days, and keep strict silence. And for thirty days, he had to recite the psalm Miserere, three times each day - praying this psalm with his feet bare, and his arms extended in the form of a cross. All the conditions were fulfilled between the 20<sup>th</sup> November and the 25<sup>th</sup> December. And on that day, after the celebration of the last Mass, the apparition disappeared.

"During the period that the novice was helping this spirit, the latter appeared several times. He urged the novice to pray for the souls in Purgatory. For they suffer frightfully, and are extremely grateful to those who co-operate in freeing them. Sad to relate, the spirit added that, of the five priests who had died in our Abbey, not one had yet entered Heaven; all were suffering in Purgatory. I do not draw any conclusion, but this is correct."

## MY CATHOLIC FAITH

### Chapter 79. Souls in Purgatory

*We should be generous in helping the poor souls in Purgatory, who long for God. The best thing we can do for them is to have Masses offered for them. The Church puts no limit to the time during which we may pray or offer Masses for the suffering souls in Purgatory. If we cannot have a Mass said, we should at least hear Masses for our dear departed. If God so willed, a single Mass could release all the souls in Purgatory. We should offer Masses especially on All Souls' Day and on the anniversaries of death of our relatives and friends*



## Will all the souls in Purgatory go to Heaven?

**All the souls in Purgatory will go to Heaven some day;**

they will stay in Purgatory only as long as they have not atoned for all their sins.

1. The poor souls cannot help themselves, for their time for meriting ended at their death. They cannot therefore merit anything to satisfy for their sins.

This is why we, who can still merit by our good works, should offer some of them as suffrage for the poor souls, so that they may soon be delivered from their prison. We have the special obligation of helping with our prayers and sacrifices the souls of our dead relatives, friends, and benefactors.

2. Although they cannot merit anything for themselves, the poor souls intercede for us with their prayers to God.

Thus if we help them they repay us by their intercession. No one who has a devotion to the Holy souls in Purgatory has ever asked for their intercession in vain.



## LITURGY THIS MONTH

*The month of March  
is dedicated to Saint Joseph*

We pray St. Joseph for:

- Material well-being of the Family;
- Protection of house and property;
- The Fathers of families, their careers in particular;
- The Virtue of Purity and the Grace of a Good Death.

### March 3<sup>rd</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

Our life is a constant fight between good and evil, fidelity to Jesus or falling in the snares and traps of the devil.

### March 10<sup>th</sup>: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

By His death, Jesus will give us His Body as the sacred food of our souls.

### March 17<sup>th</sup>: Passion Sunday

The Crucifixes and the statues are veiled so we can concentrate on the Passion of Jesus.

### March 19<sup>th</sup>: St. Joseph

Our Saint watches and protects the Church and all the faithful.

### March 24<sup>th</sup>: Palm Sunday

Jesus walks into Jerusalem as a king to suffer His Passion and save us! We will follow the ceremonies of Holy Week as best as we can with our missal.

### March 28<sup>th</sup>: Maundy Thursday

Jesus institutes the Priesthood and the Holy Eucharist to remain always with us.

### March 29<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday

The Sacrifice of Jesus is essential for our salvation.

### March 30<sup>th</sup>: Holy Saturday

We remain in silence, in sadness and expectation of the Resurrection promised.

### March 31<sup>st</sup>: EASTER SUNDAY

Finally Jesus proves once and for all that He is God, rising from the dead of His own power. Day of Joy and Exultation, Sunday becomes the day of the Lord, Dominica in Latin.



## The Mysteries of the Rosary - 7



The Scourging at the Pillar



The Crusader prays, receives Communion, makes sacrifices and shows good example for the intention that is given him each month by Reverend Father Davide Pagliarani, successor of Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre as Superior General of the Society of Saint Pius X



PRAYER

## March 2024 Intention: For those who die suddenly

### Daily offering

*To be recited every morning when you wake up*



Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins.

I offer them particularly  
**for those who die suddenly**



COMMUNION



SACRIFICE



APOSTOLATE

## DECEMBER 2023 RESULTS

The Intention was for all our benefactors

	Treasure Sheets returned	Morning Offering	Masses	Communions		Sacrifices	Decades of the Rosary	Visits to Blessed Sacrament	15 mins of meditation	Good Example
				Sac.	Spirit.					
GB	9	204	112	96	206	319	1327	124	66	95
Ireland	6	154	39	39	672	634	1103	19	55	472

Remember that all the good works and prayers from your treasure sheets are given each month to Father Pagliarani and so that he may be able to offer them at his Mass on the first Saturday of every month.

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