



THE CONFRATERNITY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

June, July, August 2022

BISHOP ROGER WRITES



A notice at the end of this Quarterly serves as a reminder of the Confraternity's National Festival to be held at St Stephen's, Gloucester Road in London on **Saturday 25th June**. It will be the first time we have met together for some time, of course, but also the last such opportunity in my time as Superior-General as two consecutive terms in office come to an end. It would be good if a few more of our members and friends could come along, even those from London and the Home Counties! Sadly, recent experience has shown that more turn out when the Festival is held outside the capital. So, please come, if you can. Following the Mass, lunch will be available. It will be a time to gather around the altar, as well as a welcome opportunity to renew friendships, and even make some new ones.

The Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament has been at the forefront in support of Catholic events in the life of the Church. It is fortunate that we have been able to do this through financial grants, as well as by encouraging CBS members to attend and join in these essential forms of Catholic witness. One of these, the annual Glastonbury Pilgrimage, has been something of great worth in the life of many Anglicans for nearly one hundred years now. It is important that the Glastonbury Pilgrimage is held once again this year after a regrettable but necessary absence of two years. Some of us feared that, should it be cancelled again, it might die and be forgotten. Getting people back to regular attendance physically at Mass after our experiences during these last couple of years is something, I know, with which clergy are struggling. Turning out for annual pilgrimages such as at Walsingham and Glastonbury is, I believe, a wonderful encouragement and sign that, although our faith may have been bruised, it is not exhausted. I commend the Pilgrimage on **Saturday 9th July** to you both for your prayer and for your support. The Bishop of Richborough, a staunch CBS member, will be the preacher, and the Pilgrimage theme is **All my hope on God is founded**. It is that firm hope which opens up the future to us. We are still God's pilgrim people, we continue faithfully on the march, and Alleluia remains our song!

BENEDICTION AND BIBLE

Following the article by Bishop David Hope in the last Quarterly, Fr Robert Mackley, the Vicar of Little St Mary's in Cambridge, offers this consideration of some OT foundations of Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Many years ago Bishop Michael Ramsey, in retirement, went to cover a service of Evensong and Benediction. 'I'm here to take the naughty service!' he announced to the churchwardens on his arrival, reflecting the idea that in the Church of England this is something contrary to our biblical inheritance, exactly the kind of thing our Articles of Religion inveigh against when they tell us that Jesus did not command us to lift up or carry about the Sacrament but rather that we should use it. No one disputes that statement but, when we do spend time before the Sacrament and it is lifted up to bless us, are we departing from scripture?

St Stephen tells the people in the Acts of the Apostles that "Our fathers had the tent of witness in the wilderness, even as he who spoke to Moses directed him to make it, according to the pattern that he had seen." He's telling them that before there was a Temple there was a Tabernacle, a tent in the wilderness between Egypt and the promised land that God's people used to worship God and that the design for that place of worship was given to Moses in a vision he had on Mount Sinai. In other words, the tent and what's inside it are patterned on heavenly realities. And in that tent, just as in the first temple (by the time Stephen's speaking we're onto the second temple) there were three main things: The Ark of the Covenant, the Golden Lampstand, and the Gold Table of the Bread of the Presence. It is the last of these that speaks directly to our interest in Benediction.

What on earth was the Bread of the Presence? Well, in the Book of Exodus God tells Moses to build the golden table of the Bread of the Presence immediately after the heavenly banquet that he and the elders of Israel participated in on Mount Sinai. As Exodus 24.9 says: 'Then Moses and Aaron and seventy of the elders of Israel went up and they saw the God of Israel... and they beheld God and ate and drank.' So the Bread of the Presence is a sort of memorial of the heavenly banquet where Moses and the elders in some sense 'saw' God and ate and drank in his presence.

That's not all, however, for the phrase *Bread of the Presence* is a translation of the Hebrew *lehem ha panim*, which, if you translate it literally doesn't mean Bread of the Presence, but actually Bread of the Face. The Bread is in some sense a visible sign of the face of God; and this makes sense because the command about it comes just after they have beheld God and eaten and drank with him. God commands Moses to construct the table for the Bread of the Presence according to the heavenly pattern that he saw on the mountain, because the earthly tabernacle or tent is a visible sign of the invisible, heavenly place of God, and the earthly Bread of the Presence is a visible sign of the invisible, heavenly face of God. In the Bread of the

Tabernacle it is God himself who acts as the host who presents himself to his believers, giving divine strength and divine life.

The instruction concerning the making of this Bread was that the priests should bake twelve small loaves, representing the 12 tribes of Israel and put incense with them on the table that, to quote Leviticus, 'it may go with the bread as a memorial portion to be offered by fire to the Lord.' Leviticus goes on: 'Every Sabbath Day Aaron shall set it in order before the Lord continually on behalf of the children of Israel as an everlasting covenant. And then Aaron and his sons shall eat it in the holy place.' In other words, the bread is a sign of the covenant between God and his people, his promises, his love to the twelve tribes of Israel, a perpetual sign that although they were no longer on Mount Sinai with God, he was with them and with them for ever.

This was the old Bread of the Presence; at the Last Supper Jesus does exactly the same and gives us the Eucharist to be the new Bread of the Presence, the Bread of the Face of God, the Bread of the New Covenant established by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and it is that Bread into whose presence we come at Exposition and Benediction.

Yet there's still one thing more that might help to explain why we have Benediction and indeed what Benediction is.

In our Lord's day it was customary for Jewish men to go up to Jerusalem to the Temple three times a year on the great feasts of Passover, Pentecost and Tabernacles in fulfilment of the command to Moses in the Book of Exodus (34.23). At each of these feasts the priests in the Temple would do something remarkable: they would remove the Golden Table of the Bread of the Presence from within the Holy Place and take it out into the Temple so that the Jewish pilgrims could see it. When they removed the Holy Bread the priests would elevate it and proclaim 'Behold God's love for you'.

This Bread truly was a sign of God's love because it was a sign of his covenant and the eating and drinking on Mount Sinai where God's people saw him and were not destroyed or harmed, but rather blessed.

When we have Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, therefore, we share in this thoroughly biblical tradition, now as sons and daughters of the new covenant, and the Bread of the Presence, the Covenant, the Bread of the Eucharist is held up before us and, as we are blessed, we seek to hear those same words: 'Behold God's love for you'. May those words sink deep into our hearts, as Jesus, the fulfilment of the promises and covenants of old, comes among us and shows us his love whenever we come to this act of worship.

Father Robert Mackley is District Superior of CBS District 8.

THE RELIGIOUS LIFE—BY BROTHER STEVEN HAWS CR

“God calls us, not because of anything he finds in us, but to make his glory manifest in our littleness. It is not what God calls us *from* but what he call us to *be*”.

This quote from Father Richard Meux Benson SSJE is a timely reminder that each one of us has something to offer, even our own littleness. God does not call us from something but calls us to be. Perhaps Father Benson had this quote in mind when he referred to his spiritual sons as being “men of the moment”.

As much as the Church needs more priests to serve the people of God, so is it that without the ministry and witness of the Religious Life, the Church is poorer. Currently many young Christians are searching for answers in their direction in life. A vocation to the Religious Life is one aspect that is radical which many would not even consider but for those who have answered God’s call to this way of life there is fulfilment and joy.

Monks and Nuns, Brothers/Sisters/Friars have been around for centuries dedicating themselves to a Life of Prayer, a Life of Service and a Life in Community sustained by the three fold vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience. Within the Church of England there have been Religious Communities of men and women for well over 160 years each with its own charism and rule of life whether it be from the Benedictine, Franciscan, Augustinian or Dominican tradition.

Over the past 30 years the number of Religious has decreased with fewer and fewer vocations coming forward. The age profile is high and there are more elderly and infirm amongst our number. More than a dozen communities well known to many have died out and no longer exist. How do we reverse the downward trend? Pray and be pro-active. There are some signs in parts of the country where a revival of monastic life is taking shape amongst our traditional communities but only a few have made that step. If you know single men and women or you are curious or interested to know more about the Religious Life, our next “Taster Day” will be on Saturday 1st October 2022 at S. Peter’s Church, Horbury, near Wakefield. Details can be found on the RooT website, to register contact: nunsandmonks@gmail.com

MONASTIC TASTER DAY



MONASTIC TASTER DAY

Saturday
October 1st

St Peter's Church
Horbury
Wakefield



Have you ever considered becoming a
MONK, NUN or FRIAR
in the Anglican Church?

To register contact: nunsandmonks@gmail.com

INTERCESSIONS

JUNE

- 1 S Justin - Boldness in bearing witness
- 2 Christ the King and Stella Maris, Blackpool
- 3 The Protomartyr, Blackpool
- 4 Ss Werburg and Winifred, Wirral and North Wales
- 5 **Pentecost – Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God**
- 6 The Precious Blood, Southport
- 7 The Precious Blood, Swinton and Pendlebury
- 8 The Holy Angels, Brentwood
- 9 The Saints of Essex, Colchester
- 10 The Sacred Passion, Romford
- 11 S Barnabas – Go, make disciples of all the Nations
- 12 **Trinity Sunday – Thanksgiving for God’s self-revelation**
- 13 S Anthony of Padua – For preachers
- 14 Christ the King, South Benfleet
- 15 S John Vianney, Mid-Essex
- 16 Corpus Christi – Thanksgiving for the Blessed Sacrament
- 17 S Anthony, Woodford Green
- 18 Our Lady with S Michael, Thorpe le Soken
- 19 **12th Sunday / Trinity 1 – Thanks for Jesus’ presence in the storms of life**
- 20 The Sacred Heart, Hammerfield
- 21 Our Lady, Letchworth
- 22 The Annunciation Brighton
- 23 The Church’s Unity
- 24 The Birth of John the Baptist – That we may rejoice in the Lord’s presence
- 25 S Saviour and S Peter, Eastbourne
- 26 **13th Sunday / Trinity 2 - Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you**
- 27 My Ward – its Superior and Members
- 28 The Transfiguration, Haywards Heath
- 29 Ss Peter & Paul – Those to be ordained
- 30 The Precious Blood, Horsham

JULY

- 1 S Anne, Hove
- 2 Ss Mary and Nicolas, Lancing College
- 3 **14th Sunday / Trinity 3 – That the Church may fulfil its prophetic role**
- 4 My Ward – its Superior & Members
- 5 Our Lady of Littlehampton.
- 6 Anima Christi, St Leonards on Sea
- 7 S Cuthman, Storrington Deanery
- 8 The Society Bishops
- 9 S Gabriel, Worthing
- 10 **15th Sunday / Trinity 4 – That we may spread the Good News of Christ**
- 11 S Benedict – All Religious
- 12 Our Lady & Corpus Christi, Cambridge
- 13 S Edmund, King & Martyr, Downham Market
- 14 S Mary, Great Yarmouth
- 15 S Bonaventure – Teachers of the Faith
- 16 Bishop Roger Jupp, our Superior-General
- 17 **16th Sunday / Trinity 5 – That our bishops may be true and faithful shepherds**
- 18 Our Lady, Walsingham
- 19 Ss Peter and Paul, Uppingham
- 20 Our Lady, at Saint Mary Steps, Exeter
- 21 Fr Darren Smith, our Treasurer General
- 22 S Mary Magdalene – That we may bear witness to the Resurrection
- 23 S Bridget – Christians in Sweden
- 24 **17th Sunday / Trinity 6 – Thanksgiving for the Lord who feeds us**
- 25 S James the Apostle - Pilgrims
- 26 Ss Anne and Jocachim - Grandparents
- 27 Fr Edward Martin, our Secretary-General
- 28 S Peter Plymouth
- 29 S Martha – Christian hospitality
- 30 The CBS Council-General
- 31 **18th Sunday / Trinity 7 – May we hunger for the bread Christ gives us**

INTERCESSIONS

AUGUST

- 1 S Margaret-Mary Alacoque, Cheltenham
- 2 The Little Flower, Longton
- 3 The CBS Trustees
- 4 S John Vianney – Parish Priests
- 5 Our Lady and S Andrew, Newcastle under Lyme
- 6 The Transfiguration – That we may listen to God’s Son
- 7 **19th Sunday / Trinity 8 – That the Lord may draw all to himself**
- 8 S Dominic – Christian Teachers
- 9 S Teresa Benedicta – Those persecuted for their faith in Christ
- 10 S Laurence – Deacons
- 11 S Clare – Franciscan sisters
- 12 Ss Mary and Dominic, Friar Park
- 13 The Holy Grail, Wolverhampton
- 14 **The Assumption – The Society of Mary**
- 15 The Sacred Heart, Lincoln
- 16 S Magnus, City of London
- 17 The Sacred Heart with S Andrew, East Finchley
- 18 Adoremus, Hanworth
- 19 Alexander Mackonochie, Holborn
- 20 S Bernard – Spiritual writers
- 21 **21st Sunday / Trinity 10 – That all may honour the Holy One of God**
- 22 Isolated Associates on the Superior-General’s List
- 23 Corpus Christi, Kenton
- 24 S Bartholomew – Bishops as successors of the Apostles
- 25 Our Lady and S George, Winchmore Hill
- 26 S Giles, Reading
- 27 S Monica – Mothers of wayward children
- 28 **22nd Sunday / Trinity 11 – That we may keep Christ’s law of love**
- 29 The Passion of S John Baptist – The Order of St John & its charitable foundations
- 30 The Love of Jesus, Wantage
- 31 S Francis, Derby

R.I.P.

We commend to God the souls of all Departed Associates of the Confraternity, especially the following who have died recently:

Priests Associate

Lay Associates

Granville Stone

Gerald Bateman

Please also pray for our new members

New Priests Associate

Father David Teasdale

Father Mark Soady

New Lay Associates

Margery Wiltshire

Would you like to contribute to the Quarterly, passing on your news to others, & sharing events? Then please forward any contributions to edward.martin@lincoln.anglican.org

Material for the next edition must be received by 1st August 2022
Registered Charity No 1082897

GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE 2022

SATURDAY
9TH JULY 2022
12 NOON



WWW.GLASTONBURYPIGRIMAGE.COM

To book your place please call 0121 382 5533
or email mary@additionalcurates.co.uk

*A weekend of talks, worship, study and
discussion with fellow discerners,
ordinands and clergy at
The Royal Foundation
of St Katharine, London.*



VOCATIONS CONFERENCE

August 26-28

for men considering a vocation to the priesthood

info@additionalcurates.co.uk

 vocationsnetwork  THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

NATIONAL FESTIVAL 2022

Saturday 25th June

12 Noon

To be held at St Stephen's Church
Gloucester Road,
London, SW7 4RL.

By the kind agreement of
Father Philip Barnes .
The celebrant and preacher
will be

Bishop Roger Jupp
Superior-General of CBS

COUNCIL GENERAL 2022

The Council General will take place in
London on

TUESDAY 11th OCTOBER 2022

