



St Mary's Magazine

Mar 2020

Prayer.

Prayer is talking with God and listening to God. Some people have grumbled that I say some prayers rather slowly.

Firstly prayer is not a race. When we talk with our friends, in general we do not rush our words out as if we were having a race to get the most words out in the smallest amount of time.

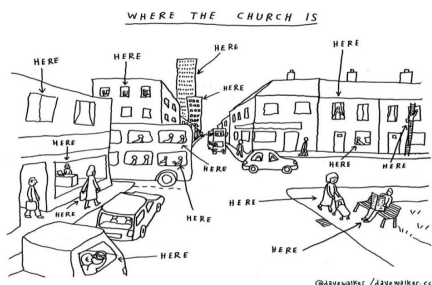


Secondly it is always good to think about what we are saying. It is very easy to say prayers by rote but it is good to slow down and think about what we are saying. Slowing down our spoken prayers can give us the opportunity to see what the prayers are saying to us, a chance to reflect on their message. It will also allow the prayers to 'speak to us'. God speaks in our heart in many ways and taking time with prayer is one of those ways.

Thirdly, surely, we should be glad to give God a little time in our busy lives. Mass in particular is not a race to the finish. It is a sacred time, a time to listen to the word of God, a time to receive His most precious gift: His body and Blood, a time to reflect on God's great gift of Salvation.

Often when I say the Divine office and I am alone I will say it out loud, allowing the psalms and prayer to 'speak to me', allowing various words and phrases to catch my attention and reflect on them. It is also the same with our familiar prayers, often a word or phrase can get our attention and cause us to reflect on what God is saying.

Fr. James



Prayer of St Ignatius Loyola

Dearest Lord,
teach me to be generous;
teach me to serve You as You deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for reward
save that of knowing I am doing Your Will.

The Association for the Propagation of the Faith – APF

The APF was founded in 1822 in Britain by Pauline - Marie Jaricot who inspired people to donate one penny a week to support overseas Mission. From these small steps the APF grew to become the Pope's charity for world mission in the UK and now works alongside the Mill Hill Missionaries under the name Missio.

The spirit of donating small amounts day by day continues, and its most visible sign is the Red Box now present in over 200,000 Catholic homes in Britain. These donations fund the APF and Mill Hill Missionaries in the poorest parts of the world, especially Africa and India. They help pay for the provision of health care, education, agricultural advice, clean water and of course the Spiritual needs of those they serve. The other "Arms" of Missio train priests, help the poorest children and bring all together in Prayer. Missio recently took the lead in the Pope's Extraordinary Month of Mission throughout October 2019.

At the most recent count St Mary's and St Lucy's have approximately 42 active Box holders. This figure includes myself as Local Secretary and 6 Promoters - I'm also one of those - who collect the donations from their "flocks" in various ways, all of which are legal I assure you! The figure is approximate as boxes seem to "go walkabouts", similar to TV remote controls, and then reappear; although not all of them unfortunately. Our numbers have fallen over the years as people move, forget they



have a box or sadly die. Parishioners also donate directly to APF via their website, www.missio.org.uk and by Direct Debit. Nationwide, these latter methods are increasing as banks continue to withdraw facilities in branches as well as close banks; they clearly want to remove the human factor. Post Office branches accept cash and cheques, but are often extremely busy with long waits. I have to declare an interest here; I'm the one who pays the cash and cheques in. I suspect traditional banking, as my generation knows it, will almost disappear and computers will rule the roost. But regardless of this, we can still give to APF using whichever method suits us the best. A further important point – donations can be Gift Aided.

It's not all one-way traffic! APF publishes 3 magazines quarterly, "Mission Today", together with a calendar at Christmas. These are delivered by the Promoters who can clear the boxes at the same time, although we are flexible about how and when this is done. Each Promoter has their own system; it matters not as long as the money comes in. I also leave copies in each church as "bait" and occasionally I get a bite!

There are literally thousands of charities seeking support from us; it seems a new one arrives almost daily. I ask you to consider APF as they work in some of the most impoverished countries in the world and have done so for many years. The experience they have thus gained puts them in the forefront of charitable organisations – they know what they are doing! As a Catholic body they work in both the spiritual and secular domains. They train priests who could possibly spend time in Britain providing our spiritual needs, as already happens in our Diocese with priests from Bamenda filling the many gaps due to the shortage of indigenous vocations. In short, they are a genuine Christian Charity.

If you are interested in making a donation(s) in either of the ways mentioned above please contact me: Norman Street, Local Secretary Missio, phone 01420 86334; email - salisbury293@icloud.com I have forms for Direct Debit and Gift Aid, plus of course Red Boxes if you prefer a more traditional way of giving.

Norman Street

"I want you to be concerned about your next-door neighbour. Do you know your next-door neighbour?" *Mother Teresa*

Growing Up in Jane Austen's house

(Part 5)

In the early days, Jane's donkey cart was housed in the wash house but is now in the building where the village baker had his bake house. He used well water for all baking and would deliver a lovely hot load into our back door.

The baker and his wife lived in the cottage next to what is now 'Cassandra's Cup'. The latter being their shop and post office. The baker's wife and a daughter-in-law ran the shop, their two sons did deliveries. They also had an area of Jane Austen's garden as a chicken run.



My Grandfather worked at Chawton House and also ran the working men's club, housed in the room used now as entry into the main museum. This room was the first and only room opened to the public.

One of my aunts was the first curator, joined later by a neighbour. A bell was installed to summon my aunt when any 'Janite' wished to view. This could happen anytime and especially at meal times!!

The middle family had moved to Alton and this allowed the sealed door downstairs to be opened, making clear access for my aunt from

Church Online
NOT CANCELED

Quiet Time With God
NOT CANCELED

Praying For The Sick
NOT CANCELED

Checking On A Friend
NOT CANCELED

Helping Others
NOT CANCELED

Being The Church
NOW MORE THAN EVER

our own rooms.

It was a very good day when the owner had the indoor toilet installed.

Pam Barbour

CPMM Ministry of Youth

The 6th and last module of the Certificate of Parish Mission and Ministry is all about our duty to the younger members of the parish.

We have a duty to help our young people to learn about God's love. As well as that, young people are the lifeblood of the Church and without them the Church will stagnate and die. If we look at the Bible, young people have often responded to God. For instance, David, in 1 Samuel 16: 18, is an unlikely hero but his trust in God is such that he overcomes his enemy. Mary is, of course, a prime example of a young woman who accepts and trusts in God and agrees to be the mother of Jesus.

It can be difficult sometimes for adults to allow young people to speak up within our communities and to listen to them with an open mind. Youth ministry could be a place where they are valued for themselves and their innate sense of fairness and justice can be channelled. As each individual travels on their faith journey, it should also provide a safe and non-judgemental arena so that young people can ask questions, express doubts and give them space and time so that, hopefully, they will find their own answers.

In all work with youth, it is not so much a question of leading them down the right path as walking alongside them, getting to know them and developing the relationship in order to help them grow spiritually and personally.

In our own parish, how are we helping our young people? We have programmes for First Holy Communion and Confirmation but could we be doing more? Is there a call for something more or volunteers who would be prepared to give their time to this ministry? Are we hearing our young peoples' voices? Are our young people trying to make themselves heard? It works both ways.

Life and Death

The 1946 film 'A matter of Life and Death' about Love and Eternity, ends with this poem by Sir Walter Scott..

*In peace love tunes the shepherd's reed,
In war he mounts the warrior's steed,*

*In halls in gay attire is seen,
In hamlets dances on the green,
Love rules the court, the camp, the grove,
And men below and saints above,
For Love is Heaven and Heaven is Love.*

Tom Barbour

Prayer

If you already pray regularly, that is good. Pray that God will increase your faith and help you to know His Church more fully. Pray that He will guide you, show you the truth and give you strength to follow that truth. Pray for those who don't pray and don't know and follow the truth.



Prayer can be hard, it can be tiring but we need to learn what types of prayer work for us, as an individual and follow that. Our way of praying will change with time and what helps now may not help in the future so we have to be open to all types of prayer. Prayer doesn't need to always be a formal time, such as in the mass. We can pray anywhere and at any time, even while we are stuck in a traffic jam.

It is always good to start with the prayers we know, said slowly so that the words can penetrate our hearts and minds. It is also good as we pray to see what strikes us and follow them in a prayerful way.

It is important to pray regularly. At least when you get up and when you go to bed. Remember to entrust our day to him and thank him for all the blessings he gives us each day, always praying for an increase in our faith. When praying, remember to be honest, don't try and fool ourselves and God by pretending to be something or somebody we are not.

If we do pray and we try and do what we know to be right, then God will give us everything that we need. He will guide us



and bring us to share in his own glorious life, united with his Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of

his Holy Spirit - now, in this world, and in the unending joy of heaven.

St. Paul writes, 'Glory be to him whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine' Eph 3:20

Fr James

Catholic Literary Giants

Thought it might be interesting to find some well know authors and poets who are also Catholics. It is not an exhaustive list and is in no particular order, so if anybody knows of others let me know.

J R R Tolkien	G K Chesterton
Graham Greene	Evelyn Waugh
Hillaire Belloc	Gerald Manley Hopkins
Oscar Wilde	Dorothy Day
Honore de Balzac	James Joyce
Joyce Kilmer	Siegfried Sassoon
Dame Edith Sitwell	Ernest Hemingway
Jules Verne	Anne Rice
Frank McCourt	Rumer Godden
Alfred Noyes	Victor Hugo
Dean Koontz	Maeve Binchy
Tennessee Williams	Colm Toibin
Robert Frost	Sylvia Plath
Emily Dickinson	

The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveller, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less travelled by,
And that has made all the difference.

Robert Frost

Rededication of England to Mary

This will take place in cathedrals and churches throughout the country on 29th March at Mid-day.

Why is England called the Dowry of Mary?

On the Feast of Corpus Christi 1381, King Richard II dedicated England to Mary in a ceremony at Westminster Abbey in thanksgiving for his kingdom being saved at the time of the Peasants' Revolt.



England received the title 'Mary's Dowry'; meaning that England was 'set aside' as a gift – a dowry – for Our Lady under her guidance and protection.

How can I take part?

Well, we'd like you to join us as we give ourselves, as the people of this country, to Mary. On the day of Re-dedication we can respond in two ways; by making a personal promise and a communal entrustment.

Information on these can be found on the website; <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/ behold-2020/>

Magazine

Where can you leave contributions? Addressed to Anne Bothwell, these can be left at the office, the choir seats or at the back of the church. Please ensure that all contributions are named. Thank you.

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr James
Anne Bothwell,
David Hudec,
Cathie Joseph,
Steve Joseph
David Parkinson