

A Message from your Parish Priest

At the end of this last week I had the joy of celebrating two weddings in the parish; one in Carlton, and the other in Selby. They were beautiful events for the couples getting married, but also for their immediate and extended families, and for the friends who joined them to celebrate the happiness of the occasion.

What is it about a wedding day which makes it spread its joy so widely? I suppose there is the pleasure we all take in the happiness of others. Perhaps it is also that in a young couple embarking on a shared life together there is always a rich measure of hope and confidence for the future. I also think, though, that there is a particular human quality which is embodied in a wedding day which we find peculiarly attractive. The quality I am thinking of is generosity.

Human beings can easily fall into the temptation of selfishness, making themselves the centre of their universe. When a couple stands before God's altar and pronounces the vows of their marriage, something happens which banishes that tendency in all of us to put ourselves first. This is doubtless why God declared in the Garden of Eden, "It is not good that man should be alone." It is also what Our Lord meant when He observed that "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

There is no giving in thinking only of oneself. There is no generosity as great as the generosity which makes a young man or woman want to share, not just their "worldly goods", but their whole lives, their very selves, with another person.

The words which bind one person to the other in marriage are tiny words: "I do", "I will". Taken in isolation, those small sentences might convey the very essence of selfishness. But context is all. When a young person on their wedding day says "I do", they are promising to take another person and to love and cherish them "as long as they both shall live." They explicitly take into account the unknown circumstances in which they will have to fulfil their vow. Life may bring them better or worse, richer or poorer, sickness and health. That is the mixture of fortune which constitutes the lot of most people in the course of the years. It is the extraordinary generosity inherent in being prepared to make such a commitment which draws down on a couple the particular blessing of God. And the blessing of God is another aspect of what marriage is all about.

Frequently you will come across people who feel that they can give themselves to one another in a less formal way. We all know many couples who live together and bring children into the world without getting married. We might be tempted to think that their generosity involves getting a great deal back in return. Will they be able, we ask ourselves, to withstand the troubles which will inevitably come their way from time to time? Nevertheless, I suppose it may be the case that some people do make a genuine commitment one to another, and love each other deeply, without the formalities of marriage. What they never receive, however, is the blessing of God, and when things get tough, as they surely will in every relationship, it is not on our strength alone that we need to rely. We must be able to lean on the strength which comes from the sacramental grace which our vows have drawn down for us from heaven.

Marriage is one of the greatest and noblest Christian vocations. When God truly pours into a young person's heart the gift of love for another, He calls them to the commitment of marriage. He longs to give to them the blessing which will enable them to face a lifetime together, and will bring them a kind of happiness unlike any other. It is the particular tragedy of our age that so many whom God is calling to marriage, fail to answer His call. In other, earlier days, perhaps the tragedy was that there were those who married out of routine expectations, when they did not really have the calling from God. When God's blessing does descend on a couple, though, we see it at work not just on their wedding day, but throughout their lives, from the bearing and bringing up of their children, to the care they give to each other in sickness and old age. It is a wonderful thing to see. No wonder we rejoice at a wedding.

With every blessing, Monsignor Smith



THE PARISH OF St MARY'S, SELBY and CARLTON

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MASS SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

Saturday:

10.00am-10.30am (in Selby)

5.15pm-5.45pm (in Selby)

And on request in Carlton.

The Readings for the Sunday

Mass are on page 143.

Preface 8 of Sundays in

Ordinary Time: Page 68

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

Every day before week-day

Mass and at 5pm on Sunday

(With Benediction)



Exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament:

Saturday:

10.00am-10.30am

5.15pm-5.45pm

(in Selby during confessions)

Marriages and Baptisms

By appointment. Please see the priest after Mass to make arrangements

SATURDAY OCTOBER	17 th	6:00pm	Selby	Margarita Goralczyk	Vigil Mass
SUNDAY	18 th	9.30am 11:15am 5.00pm	Selby Carlton Selby	John Leedham (Ann.) Pro Populo Rosary and Benediction	29th Sunday in the Year
MONDAY	19 th	10.00am	Selby	Beatty and Peter Woodall	Ss. Jean de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues etc...
TUESDAY	20 th	9.30am	Carlton	Mieczyslaw Kosnik	Feria
WEDNESDAY	21 st	10.00am	Selby	Fr Peter Dawber (B'day Ann.)	Feria
THURSDAY	22 nd			N.B. No Mass To-day	St John Paul II
FRIDAY	23 rd	10.00am	Selby	Veronica Dobson	Feria
SATURDAY	24 th	9.30am 6:00pm	Selby Selby	Yorkshire Brethren Walter Trybala	Mass of Our Lady Vigil Mass
SUNDAY OCTOBER	25 th	9.30am 11:15am	Selby Carlton	Pro Populo Kathleen and Ron Stapleton	30th Sunday in the Year

OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy, Baffam Lane, Selby YO8 9AX
Tel: 01757 706616 Email: admin@sm.bkcat.uk Headmistress: Mrs L. Bird

YOUR OFFERINGS THIS WEEK

Sunday 11th October £910.81 (Including Standing Orders), Donation of £100 (Delia's Stall)

Many Thanks for your Generosity.

The retiring collection this week is for World Mission Sunday.

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT

The parish quiz night will take place on Friday 23rd October at 7.00pm in the parish centre. Tickets are on sale after Mass.

PLEASE PRAY

For the repose of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur around this time, especially:

Peter Wetherell, Maggie Thurlow, Stanislaw Mizgalski, Baby Clegg, Judith Merrills, Mieczyslaw Kosnik, Ruby Laverack, Kathleen Hartley, Anne Thorp, Dolly Hamilton, Cath Ramsay, Fr Kenneth Hawley (Selby 1995-99), Veronica Mary Dobson, Pte Thomas Cassidy, Paul Caine, Gordon Jackson.
Please remember also in your prayers Tracy Wharvell, Megan Argyll and François Paul Dajoux who have sadly died. The funeral services will take place on Thursday 22nd October at 2.00pm for Megan (In Selby), and on Friday 23rd October at 12.30pm for Tracy (In Carlton).

May they Rest in Peace. Amen

DEAD LIST

Envelopes are available at the back of church.

SCRIPTURE COURSE

We are planning a short, 5-week, scripture course. The sessions will take place on Tuesday evenings, repeated on Wednesday mornings (for those who do not come out in the dark) The course commences on Tuesday 3rd November at 6.30pm and will focus on the Gospel of St Mark, which will provide the Sunday gospels for the coming year. John O'Neill, one of our parishioners will lead the course, and there are sign-up forms at the back of each church.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please remember very specially in your prayers those who are sick:

Maureen McDonnell, Gerry McCrossan, Shirley Harrison and Jean Wilson, Zita Birchwood, Breda Gallagher, Irene Bradshaw, Pat Lynch, André Joseph Gudgeon, Lesley Stripe and Patrick Tracey.

MASSES RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK

Leslie John Bartham (Ann.), Mary Stronach (Ann.), Fr Peter Dawber (B'day Ann.), Kathleen and Ron Stapleton, Ellen and Lewis Tuck, Dennis and Pat Bartholomew.

SELBY SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The First Confessions for our year four children will take place on 12th December this year. Preparation sessions will begin on the week-end of 7th/8th November.

First Confessions for year three children in the spring, and First Holy Communions on the week-end of 19th/20th June.

Enrolment Forms will be available – and completed – at the initial parents meetings. The parents meeting for the year 4 First Confessions will take place at 7.00pm on Monday 2nd November.

CARLTON NEWS

- We are hoping to form a small group to enhance the singing during the Sunday morning Mass in St Mary's, Carlton. If Interested please see Chris Gilbert before or after Mass.
- We also plan to have a Christmas Raffle this year with tickets on sale from 15th November. Any donations for prizes will be gratefully received.
- We also plan to give the church a good clean on Saturday 14th November, between 9am and 12.30pm If you are free to lend a hand please contact Margaret who is organizing jobs. (Tel: 01405 862986)

Mass Offerings, Notices and News Items for the Parish Bulletin should be given to Monsignor Smith by Wednesday evening.

Leeds Diocese Charity Registration No. 249404