

# Latin Mass Society

in the Diocese of Middlesbrough

NEWSLETTER No 20  
September 2009

Again it has been a long time since the last newsletter. I have held off sending one, expecting to have some news about Masses in York. Unfortunately, the only news I have in this regard is that it is hoped that a regular Sunday Mass will resume in York soon. Fr Stephen Maughan, whom Bishop Draine has asked to take on this Mass, has not yet completed his training and I have been given no information when this might be. As soon as I get a start date, I will send out another newsletter.

## Masses in Middlesbrough

Fr William Charlton continues to celebrate Mass every Sunday at 6pm at the Church of St Alphonsus, North Ormesby in Middlesbrough. It is preceded by Rosary and Benediction at 5pm. This Mass deserves to be better attended than it is, so please make an effort to go to it and tell other people about it.

## Mass at Howden

Although no longer in the Middlesbrough Diocese, there is to be a sung Mass at the church of the Sacred Heart, Knedlington Road, Howden. It will be at 7.30pm on Tues 29th September, which is the Feast of St Michael the Archangel. If there are enough people, and they are in good singing form, we will sing, appropriately, Missa de Angelis. I am hoping that Mike Forbester of the Rudgate Singers will be able to come and sing the Propers. The Mass will be celebrated by Fr David Smith, who is parish priest of St Marie's in Halifax.

## Meeting with Bishop Draine

On 12th May, I had a meeting with Bishop Draine to review the provision of traditional liturgies in the diocese and talk about future initiatives. As at previous meetings, Bishop Draine was very hospitable and continues to be amenable to proposals to increase the provision for traditionally minded Catholics in the diocese. We discussed the possibility of a regular Sunday Mass in Hull. The bishop would be happy to see this happen, but he pointed out that the workload of most priests is such that there is only a tiny number of them that he can ask to take on extra duties. On top of this, we have the difficulty that there are very few diocesan priests who are currently able to celebrate, even a Low Mass, in the older form.

We discussed various other possibilities for publicising the existing Masses, and I am working on this subject.

## Training of Priests

In April, the Latin Mass Society organised a very successful training conference for the priests wishing to learn to say Mass in the *usus antiquior*. It took place over four days at Ushaw College in Durham. It was promoted amongst the priests of the seven dioceses of the Northern Province, the tutors also being mostly northern based. Nineteen priests attended as students and almost all made very good progress. Some were beginners and concentrated on

Low Mass, whilst others, who already had the basic skills, studied the correct way to sing a Missa Cantata. A third group was taught the intricacies of the solemn form of Mass.

Ushaw College turned out to be the ideal venue. Its magnificent St Cuthbert's Chapel is just perfect for fine liturgies. Besides a sung Mass each day, there was Lauds, Vespers, Compline, Benediction and devotions. Another useful feature of Ushaw College was the plentiful number of side altars, which were used for tuition, and where priests were able to say their private Masses.

A second training conference took place in August at All Saints' Pastoral Centre at London Colney in Hertfordshire, this time organised in association with the Diocese of Westminster. It was attended by over 20 priests, seven of whom celebrated their first extraordinary form Mass during the conference.

Regrettably, no priests from the Middlesbrough Diocese attended either of these conferences, and Middlesbrough remains the diocese in England and Wales with the fewest number of priests trained to say Mass in the older form. There will be two more training conferences in 2010, including one at Ushaw in April. If you know a priest who might be interested, please encourage him to attend.

Walsingham Pilgrimage.

This Takes place on Saturday 12th September. It starts in the Market Place at 2.30pm and the rosary will be recited during the procession to the Slipper Chapel. There will be a Solemn Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation at 3.30pm. This pilgrimage is always well worth attending.

Midnight Mass at Christmas

Fr Charlton is planning to sing Midnight Mass at Christmas in the *usus antiquior* at his parish church of St Alphonsus in Middlesbrough. Further details will be given in the next newsletter.

Paul Waddington  
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## NEWSFLASH

### York Masses to be Resumed

Starting on Sunday 11th October, Fr Stephen Maughan will be celebrating a **weekly** Sunday Mass in the older form of the Roman rite at the Church of the English Martyrs, Dalton Terrace, York. For the time being, it will be a Low Mass and will be at **6.30pm** (not 6.00pm as previously).

We are grateful to Bishop Draine for making this arrangement and to the celebrant, Fr Maughan, who has had to learn to celebrate in the *usus antiquior*. We are also grateful to Fr Minskip, the Parish Priest at English Martyrs.

Please attend this Mass if you are able, and also encourage others to do so. We need decent numbers to justify having it. Also, we are pressing for a regular Sunday Mass in Hull, and it is unlikely that the diocese will provide a priest to say a Mass in Hull if the York Mass is not well attended.

## Reminder: Missa Cantata in Howden

There will be a Sung Mass at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Knedlington Road, Howden at 7.30pm on Tues 29th September, the Feast of St Michael the Archangel. The celebrant will be Fr David Smith of the Leeds Diocese.

## Masses in Middlesbrough

Masses continue every Sunday at 6pm at the Church of St Alphonsus, North Ormsby, Middlesbrough. It is preceded by Rosary and Benediction at 5pm. The celebrant is Fr William Charlton. Fr Charlton has also started a schola in his parish. I am sure that he would be glad to hear from anyone able to sing plainchant or wishing to learn how to sing plainchant.

Paul Waddington