TYBURN TALK SACRED HEART 2023

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Dear Friends of Tyburn,

"Oh, if we could but understand the love that burns in the Heart of Jesus for us! He has loved us so much, that if all men, all the angels, and all the saints were to unite, with all their energies, they could not arrive at the thousandth part of the love that Jesus bears to us. He loves us infinitely more than we love ourselves. He has loved us even to excess: They spoke of His decease which He was to accomplish in Jerusalem. And what greater excess of love could there be than for God to die for His creatures? He has loved us to the greatest degree: Having loved His own . . . He loved them unto the end; since, after having loved us from eternity, - for there never was a moment from eternity when God did not

think of us and did not love each one of us: I have loved thee with an everlasting love, -- for the love of us He made himself man, and chose a life of sufferings and the death on the cross for our sake. Therefore He has loved us more than His honour, more than His repose, and more than His life; for He sacrificed everything to show us the love that He bears us. And is not this an excess of love sufficient to stupefy with astonishment the angels of paradise for all eternity? This love has induced Him also to remain with us in the Holy Sacrament as on a throne of love; for He remains there under the appearance of a small piece of bread, shut up in a ciborium, where He seems to remain in a perfect annihilation of His majesty, without movement, and without the use of His senses; so that it seems that He performs no other office there than that of loving men. Love makes us desire the constant presence of the object of our love. It is this love and this desire that makes Jesus Christ reside with us in the Most Holy Sacrament. It seemed too short a time to this loving Saviour to have been only thirty-three years with men on earth; therefore, in order to show His desire of being constantly with us, He thought right to perform the greatest of all miracles, in the institution of the Holy Eucharist. But the work of redemption was already completed, men had already become reconciled to God; for what purpose, then, did Jesus remain on earth in this Sacrament? Ah, He remains there because He cannot bear to separate Himself from us, as He has said that He takes a delight in us. Again, this love has induced Him even to become the food of our souls, so as to unite Himself to us, and to make His Heart and ours as one: He that eateth My Flesh and drinketh My Blood, abideth in Me and I in him. O wonder! O excess of divine love! It was said by a servant of God, If anything could shake my faith in the Eucharist, it would not be the doubt as to how the bread could become flesh, or how Jesus could be in several places and confined into so small a space, because I should answer that God can do everything; but if I were asked how He could love men so much as to make Himself their food, I have nothing else to answer but that this is a mystery of faith above my comprehension, and that the love of Jesus cannot be understood. O love of Jesus, do Thou make Thyself known to men and do Thou make Thyself loved!" *Meditation II THE LOVING HEART OF JESUS Saint Alphonsus de Liguori*

Unity Vespers

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Week (January 18-25), we held our annual Solemn Vespers for Unity on Sunday 22nd January at 4:00 pm. The Presiding Minister was Rev. Dom Thomas Stapleford, O.S.B. and the Preacher was Rev. Philip Corbett Vicar of All Saints. Refreshments afterwards downstairs were enjoyed by everyone.



The restored paintings.

Pícture Restoration

With the help of a legacy left to us for the Shrine of the Martyrs, we were able to have two pictures from the Crypt restored. They are now apparently just finished and we are awaiting their return. Hopefully by the time you read this newsletter they will be back gracing the the walls of the Martyrs Shrine.



Martyrs' Crypt

As has been a tradition for a long time, many groups from different schools and parishes in London and beyond visit the crypt to learn about the Tyburn Martyrs, to pay respect to their courageous witness and venerate the holy relics. To mention just a few, Tyburn received visitors

from: St. Joseph's Catholic school in Luton, Farleigh Catholic school in and Westminster Andover Cathedral school in London. On the 22nd of April a group from St. Mary and St. Ethelburga parish in Barking led by Fr. Neil Brett came for a day visit to Tyburn. By Divine Providence, for it has not been organised or arranged in advance, a Holy Mass was celebrated in the crypt for this group by Father David Marsden, one of the Sacred Heart Fathers from Stockport, who happened to arrive at Tyburn on the same day. And why is that so significant, one might ask? Well, complimenting a crypt tour and a talk about the sacrifice of the martyrs, Father David's priestly



vocation became a living example, of the martyrs' blood being the seed from which faith of future generations grows. While standing at the



framed list of "Eighty - Five blessed Martyrs of England, Wales and Scotland beati fied by Pope John Paul II", Fr. David pointed at the name of Blessed Edward Bamber, a priest who gave his life for his Catholic faith and the Church on the 7th August 1646 at age 46. "My grandfathers' mother was а Bamber", declared father, with a joyful smile and delight in his voice.

Tyburn Martyrs' Commemoration 4th May

 4^{TH} of May bought the Commemoration of the Tyburn Martyrs starting with the Divine Office of None. We had a special ceremony after None which ended in the Crypt of the Martyrs. After refreshments, we had the Divine Office of Vespers followed by Benediction. A good many people turned up as usual to honour the Martyrs.

"<u>Farm" News</u>

We recently had an intriguing surprise regarding some baby rabbits. Lizzie (our only blue-eyed rabbit) who is



a pure white colour gave birth to some baby rabbits. Her "husband" was Boliath (also a pure white rabbit). What was our amazement when we saw a litter of coloured rabbits!

We deduce that Lizzie has coloured ancestors somewhere in her lineage. Three of the baby rabbits are a benedictine black and white and three are brown and white.







We have been collecting eggs from

our hens, putting them into incubators and successfully hatching them. One of our hens sat on her own eggs but raised only three chicks. We even had a batch hatch over Holy Saurday



and Easter Sunday – great timing!





We now have some solar lights that come on at night to light up the statue we have in our garden of Our Lady of Lourdes. It is very effective and beautiful when dark.

125 Years Later...!



March 4th 2023 marked the 125 year anniversary of the foundation of our Congregation of the Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Montmartre, Order of St Benedict by Servant of God Mother Mary Adele Garnier (Mother Foundress). On the feast of the Holy Lance and Nails. The celebration began with Holy Mass, which was the "Sun" of Mother Foundress' life. Tyburn convent was filled with the voices of laity and Nuns



in singing our entrance hymn (by St John Henry Newman): "Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise: in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways"

a hymn that places God's ... incarnation ("God's presence and his very self") above every other divine gift. God's willingness not only to understand our existence but also to show us how to live it is Newman who wrote, generous love that deserves only our praise. And indeed, we did just that and more as we entered into the Sacrifice of the Mass, celebrated by Abbot Cuthbert Brogan, OSB. The concelebrants were, Fr Barry Braum, Tyburn Convent Chaplain and three other Priests - Fr Keith, Fr Andrew and



Fr Alexander (visiting from Canada). The Mass in commemoration of the foundation of our Congregation was completed by the singing of the Te Deum at the end. This was important as this was the canticle of thanksgiving Mother Foundress sang with her Sisters before she shared the good news about the approbation of the foundation of our Congregation.

The ceremonies continued with a Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to Mother Foundress' Tomb and then to the Tyburn Martyr's Crypt where



Benediction was given and a brief time of silent prayer observed.



On looking down from above (as Mother Garnier must have been too) one could see 125 guests and more gathered in the Garth from all walks of life including religious, benefactors; family, friends and vigilants (Tyburn Association of Adoration - a lay movement which shares the perpetual adoration with our Community).



As the procession continued to the crypt, followed by a further Benediction at the Tyburn Martyrs altar - the spirit of the martyrs joined us in the Divine Praises with their powerful intercession for the return of England to the faith of her fathers, fortifying us in also saying: "Oh good



Jesus what will you do with my heart". After being nourished by the Bread of Angels, it was time to feast on international cuisines. It was special to be able to join in eating with our guests and to chat with everyone.

Very Rev.Mother Marilla,

OSB, Mother General of our Congregation gave a moving speech, and the first slicing of the cakes was performed by our Community – much to the merriment of onlookers!

The day ended with people with smiles, renewed departing hope and firmness in Faith with an ardent desire to continue to adore Jesus in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. This momentous Jubilee brought qood about memories which through the Sacred Heart of Jesus will forever remain imprinted in our Hearts.



Our Lady of Pontmain

France has been blessed with a number of Marian apparitions. You immediately think of Lourdes. Then there is the vision of La Salette and the devotion of the miraculous medal. It was it in the 13th century that Our Blessed Lady appeared to St Dominic in Languedoc and started the Holy Rosary devotion. However, in a quiet area of north west France, where Brittany meets Normandy, another apparition took place, less known but just as valid. Our Blessed Lady appeared in the quiet and remote village of Pontmain.

To understand the significance of Pontmain, you must turn the clock back over 150 years.

The year is 1870. The Franco Prussian war has just started. By January 1871, the Prussians had advanced well into France; Paris was being besieged. Pontmain, moreover had other problems. In recent years, life had been very difficult for the people of Pontmain. There had been epidemics of typhoid and smallpox, which had taken their toll. This was an area where the people had prayed to God and God had been silent. The people were losing hope. A new priest, Abbe Michel Guerin, had arrived several years before and worked tirelessly encouraging the people in their faith to the point of renovating the church in the village. To add to their problems, the Prussians had reached Laval and were sweeping all before them. The only thing that lay between France and its total capitulation, was the little and insignificant village of Pontmain.

January 17th 1871 started as any other day started. The people awoke to the same hard life as the day before. During the day, history tells us that an earthquake was recorded in the area. The people also had the might of the Prussian army bearing down on them. And God was still silent. If ever the people of Pontmain needed a miracle it was now. But, unbeknown to them, for the people of Pontmain their world was about to change.

It all started to happen just before 6.00 on the evening of January 17th 1871.

In the village of Pontmain lived Cesar Barbedette, his wife, Victoire and their two sons, Eugene, aged 12, and Joseph, aged 10. A third son was away fighting the war.

The two boys were helping their father in the barn when the elder, Eugène, walked over towards the door to look out. As he gazed at the star studded sky, he suddenly saw an apparition of a beautiful woman smiling at him; she was wearing a blue gown covered with golden stars, and a black veil under a golden crown. (The design on the gown mirrored the design on the ceiling in the village church that had been restored several years before.) His brother and father came out to join him. His brother could see the beautiful woman, the father could not. Others joined them. All the children could see this beautiful woman, but the adults could not. It became obvious from the children's reaction that they could see something spectacular. One of the strangest facts in this Apparition, is that it was only the children who could see Our Blessed Lady. She was not visible to adults. Children who arrived after the Barbadette children had seen the apparition and had not spoken to the Barbedette children described the Apparition in exactly the same way. The villagers started to sing hymns to the Blessed Virgin. As they sang the hymns, slight changes occurred in the apparition. Word quickly spread and people gathered around to pray. It was said that as the crowd prayed the Rosary, the stars on her gown multiplied until the gown was entirely golden. The children described a banner unfolding which read, `*But pray, my children. God will hear you in time. My Son allows Himself to be touched.'* . This apparition was to last three hours.

The significance of the apparition, and its effect were immediate. The Prussian advanced stopped with the Prussian commander, General von Schmidt, saying that there is an invisible woman barring the way. Not long afterwards, an armistice was signed bringing an end to the hostilities.

The children who witnessed the apparition who were; Joseph, became a priest of the Congregation of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Eugene, became a secular priest, Jean-Marie Lebosse became a nun and the other girl assisted Eugene as his housekeeper.

You may ask, 'What is the connection between the miracle at Pontmain and Tyburn. When news of the Apparition reached Mother Adele Garnier, the foundress of the Tyburn Nuns, she hastened to Pontmain and spoke to the witnesses who had seen the Apparition. As she was a woman gifted with artistic skills, she drew a picture of the woman in the Apparition based on what the witnesses had told her. Her depiction of the Lady in the Apparition became the official drawing of the Apparition and all images of Our Lady of Pontmain are based on Mother Marie Adele's depiction of the Apparition. Such a statue is to be found in the crypt of Tyburn Convent.

The village of Pontmain has kept all its original rustic charm and quaintness. The barn of the Barbedette family is still standing, as is the church renovated by Fr Guerin, and you can still see the dark blue ceiling decorated with the golden stars that were to be seen on the clothing of Our Blessed Lady in the apparition. It should be remembered that this ceiling was painted several years before the apparition occurred. The apparition was fully approved by the Vatican in Sept 1872. It was due to the apparition and message at Pontmain, that Our Blessed Lady was given the title, Our Lady of Hope, the title that was given to the basilica built there in 1908.

Novena to Our Lady of Hope

I am the mother of fair love, and of fear, and of knowledge, and of holy hope. In me is all grace of the way and of the truth; in me is all hope of life and of virtue. Come to me all that desire me and be filled with my fruits (*Sirach 24: 24-26*). O Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Grace, Hope of the world. Hear us, your children, who cry to you.

Let Us Pray

O God, who by the marvellous protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary has strengthened us firmly in hope, grant we beseech You, that by persevering in prayer at her admonition, we may obtain the favours we devoutly implore. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to Our Lady of Hope

O Mary, my Mother, I kneel before you with heavy heart. The burden of my sins oppresses me. The knowledge of my weakness discourages me. I am beset by fears and temptations of every sort. Yet I am so attached to the things of this world that instead of longing for Heaven I am filled with dread at the thought of death.

O Mother of Mercy, have pity on me in my distress. You are all-powerful with your Divine Son. He can refuse no request of your Immaculate Heart. Show yourself a true Mother to me by being my advocate before His throne. O Refuge of Sinners and Hope of the Hopeless, to whom shall I turn if not you? Obtain for me, then, O Mother of Hope, the grace of true sorrow for my sins, the gift of perfect resignation to God's Holy Will, and the courage to take up my cross and follow Jesus. Beg of His Sacred Heart the special favour that I ask in this novena.

(Make your request.)

But above all I pray, O dearest Mother, that through your most powerful intercession my heart may be filled with Holy Hope, so that in life's darkest hour I may never fail to trust in God my Saviour, but by walking in the way of His commandments I may merit to be united with Him, and with you in the eternal joys of Heaven. Amen.

Mary, our Hope, have pity on us.

Hope of the Hopeless, pray for us.

3 Hail Marys

Devotion to Our Lady of Hope is one of the oldest Marian devotions. The first shrine bearing that title was erected at Mezieres in the year 930. On January 17, 1871, Our Lady of Hope appeared in the French village of Pontmain. There she reveals herself as the 'Madonna of the Crucifix' and gave the world her message of 'Hope through Prayer and the Cross. ' The basilica built at Pontmain by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate is one of the great French pilgrimage places, noted for its miracles of grace.



Our Lady of Pontmain (Apparition column)



Mother of Hope, Our Lady of Peace

Most gracious Virgin Mary, by your apparition at Pontmain, you remind us of the importance of prayer,

you fortified in our hearts the hope and trust in God,

and you gave us peace.

Listen now with favour to our fervent prayers,

so that peace may be restored in our hearts,

in our families,

in our country and in all nations: PEACE, the fruit of justice, truth and charity.

Inflame in our souls the wish to live fully our Christian faith, without any compromise, in all circumstances of our life.

Help us to understand our brethren and to love them in God from the depth of our hearts. Amen.





<u>Raffle</u>

We have again this year some very good cash raffle prizes. We are very grateful for your support in purchasing tickets as all the proceeds qo towards the never ending upkeep and maintenance of Tyburn Convent.

Tickets can also be bought online: <u>https://www.tyburnconvent.org.uk/raffletickets</u>

<u>Thank You!</u>

We are very grateful to all our friends and benefactors for all the support you have given to our Community and Congregation. Thank you for your prayers, sacrifices, volunteering time to help out in various ways, and donations. We have been given gifts of all shapes and sizes, even a very large "bottle" of popcorn...which caused some merriment at recreation time!

We wish you all a Happy Solemnity of the Sacred Heart. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered as usual on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart for all our friends and benefactors living and deceased. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us and on our families and friends, Amen!

The Tyburn Nuns

Please pass Tyburn Talk on to a friend!

Donations for Tyburn Convent can be made by cash, cheque (made payable to Tyburn Convent) or through our website:

https://www.tyburnconvent.org.uk/donations (on the dropdown menu choose Tyburn Convent, London)