



## Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Montmartre OSB

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### *Christmas Newsletter 2019*

*Dear Friends,*

**“When the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the Law to redeem those who were under the Law.” (Gal. 4:4.)**

As the scripture tells us, “there is a time and place for everything,” (Eccl. 3: 1-8) and God, who does everything according to its right time and proper order does likewise in the time He chooses to send His Son. As St. Paul tells us He has a purpose in sending Him - To redeem. When the angel Gabriel appeared to St.

Joseph in a dream, he said to him “you shall call His name Jesus (*which means Saviour*) for He is the one who will save His people from their sins.” (Mt. 1:21) this is His mission from the very moment that Mary gave her consent to be the Mother of God. To save, To redeem! This is the one and only motivation for the Incarnation. No wonder the Church during the Christmas season in her liturgy joyfully sings **“Oh wonder! our human nature is united with God.....” (Vespers Antiphon) It is truly a wonder, something on which to reflect all the days of our life.**

During this holy season of Advent our Holy Mother the Church, invites us to reflect, through the sacred liturgy on the wonder and joyful expectation of the nearness of our salvation. “Our salvation is drawing near, our God will come to save us,” so we watch and wait in silence with Mary, our Mother with eager longing for the birth of her Son, “He who is the one who will save his people from their sins.” (*ibid*) It is also a time to reflect a little deeper than perhaps at other times during the liturgical cycle on the love God has for us and how much each human person is worth in the eyes of God that He would send His Son in the likeness of sinful flesh for the very purpose of giving us a share in His very own Life. How marvellous! It certainly is something in which to rejoice!

**“ .....The God unseen now appears plainly,  
The Word now presents himself speechless,  
The Strong One now makes himself powerless,  
A Poor One, the King of the heavens.....**

**This God become Man, who descended**

**To raise us with him to the Godhead.” (Christmas Vespers Hymn)**

Something else in which to rejoice is the good weather we have had during the summer and until now. It has been very nice to see families (and individuals) taking advantage of it by sharing time together as a family in outdoor activities. However, nicer still is to see people coming in to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, even if only for a brief while. The chapel is open all day and all are welcome to join us for daily Holy Mass and the Divine Office as well as adoration. Our retreat centre and cottage have been very busy and advanced bookings are becoming more essential than ever, especially for the cottage. It has been nice to welcome various groups from various places, some not so local, but whether local or not everyone is welcome. Some groups have organised themselves, while others have brought a priest with them to give conferences/ spiritual direction etc. and some people have come by themselves privately. We also have groups (ladies and gentlemen separate nights) coming to spend the night in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. If you would like to join any of these groups or even start your own, or perhaps you might like to have a set time during the day, please contact Mother Prioress.

We have also started the Tyburn Association of Adoration here at the Benedictine Monastery. The Association first started in 1964 as an All-Night Vigil Group helping the Tyburn Community re-start Night Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament exposed which had been abandoned during the war. At the proposal of the Tyburn Nuns, the group began the Association and it became fully formed on 4th February 1967. Its members share in the sisters' eucharistic vocation of giving Jesus a perpetual homage of love, praise, and reparation in the Sacrament of His love. If you would like more information or would like to join, please contact Mother Prioress.

Another feature of our monastery is the Tearoom and the Museum which continue to be open every Friday and Saturday afternoon after the 12 midday Mass until 4pm. If you wish to purchase anything from the shop in the tearoom outside of the tearoom opening hours or from the monastery shop in the portress office you can do so by ringing the doorbell outside of the Divine

Office and Mass times. If you are not local we are happy to send to you what you require if you let us know. We have a variety of devotional and spiritual reading books as well as cards and gifts for any occasion.

We had the great joy of welcoming our Mother General, Mother Gertrudis and our two new Tyburn Monks, Rev. Fathers Manuel and Hector to our monastery on 16th September who stayed here until 30th September. During the time they were here they had an 8 day retreat in preparation for their admission to the novitiate on 3rd October, the feast of Blessed Columba Marmion OSB. They now have the names of Rev. Fathers Benito Maria and Bernardo Maria respectively. The day before they left here there was an afternoon session attended by a good number of friends of the monastery and other interested persons, "Come and meet the Tyburn Monks"- Talk and Tea, during which they gave a presentation on their mission with photos and time for questions, after which refreshments were served to everyone by our faithful helpers which was very much appreciated.



Once again we had a very successful strawberry tea in the summer and more recently, Christmas Fayre thanks to the generosity of our faithful helpers, without whose support these events would never come to fruitful completion. We are most grateful to all our friends and benefactors who have very generously supported us throughout the past year. Thanks to your generosity we have been able to replace more windows and some radiators. However, we still have Roofing Leaks, and more windows still need to be replaced and other necessary maintenance work need to be carried out. As a token of our gratitude the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered once a month for you and your families.

If you would like to make a donation by cheque, please make it payable to Benedictine Monastery. You can make an online donation on our website: <https://www.tyburnconvent.org.uk/largsdonations>

To finish off this year of 2019, the most important and exciting news is that we had the great joy of celebrating the monastic profession of Sr. Mary Ethelburga on 7th December. The chief celebrant was the Abbot of Nunraw Abbey, Rt. Rev. Dom Mark Caira OCR.

Several friends and supporters of the monastery, and the Nigerian community in Glasgow attended the ceremony. It was solemn and joyful.



Abbot Mark Caira,  
Mother General and  
Mother M. Ethelburga



Finally we wish you and all your loved ones every grace and blessing for a truly holy and happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

Mother Prioress and community.