

THE SPIRIT IN EAST ANGLIA



26TH JUNE — SAINT OF THE DAY

St Anthelm

He was born near Chambery in 1107. When he was thirty years old he became a Carthusian monk at Portes. Only two years after joining the order he was made the prior of the Grande Chartreuse, the motherhouse of his order. Anthelm continued in his office for twenty-four years, barring a period of a few years when he was a hermit. After that period, in 1152, Anthelm returned to the Grand Chartreuse, and helped defend the sitting Pope Alexander against the antipope Victor IV. Alexander III appointed Anthelm bishop of Belley in 1163. In that position, he is said to have been fearless and uncompromising, working to reform the clergy and regulate the affairs of the diocese. One example of his fearlessness occurred in 1175, when Anthelm excommunicated Count Humbert of Maurienne for having taken one priest captive and murdering another priest who had tried to free him. Humbert appealed his excommunication to Pope Alexander III who reversed Humbert's excommunication. Anthelm, who believed that Humbert was not penitent for his misconduct, withdrew from his diocese in protest. Pope Alexander then commissioned Anthelm to travel to England to try to reconcile Henry II of England and Thomas Becket. Anthelm's health was such that he was unable to take the journey. Anthelm returned to Belley to help care for the poor and the lepers of the area.

Anthelm died at Belley in 1178. On his deathbed, he received Humbert, and recognized that at that time Humbert truly had repented of his earlier acts.

**CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL
NEWSLETTER No 2 - 2010
FOR THE DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA**

DAYS OF RENEWAL IN 2010

ON

Saturday 23th October 2010

LED BY

ROS POWELL

At

?

Location later!

**THIS DAY WILL INCLUDE
*Mass, Eucharistic Adoration,
Confession & Prayer Ministry***

***Tea and coffee provided.
Please bring a packed lunch***

VISIT — www.ccr.eastanglia.org.uk

NEW DAWN AT WALSINGHAM 2010

MONDAY 2ND
TO
SATURDAY 7TH
AUGUST

- Daily Mass
- Praise & Worship
- Rosary Walk & Mass at original site of Holy House at Priory Grounds
- Healing & Reconciliation Services
- International Speakers
- Choose from over 40 Workshops
- Ministry for Young Adults
- Children's Ministry
- Candlelight Procession
- Opportunities for private prayer and Adoration
- Good Christian Fellowship

**For full details go to
www.newdawn.org.uk**

ARE YOU HAVING A 'JEREMIAH' MOMENT?

Reflections on the talk given by Father Bill Keogh on 13th March.

If you are having a 'Jeremiah' moment, and all of us are prone to despair and despondency at some time or other in our lives, then the words given by Father Bill at the last Renewal Day are for you. Fr Bill reminded us how our world today is full of doom and gloom, dramas and disasters. Even our Christian Faith is being marginalised, humiliated, abandoned, and rejected. Fr Bill likened these events in our world today to those that caused the Prophet Jeremiah so much despair and despondency in the late 7th century before Christ, when his people had lost their vision and were in great crisis.

I personally felt very encouraged to think that Jeremiah, one of the great prophets, could feel incensed, angry and despondent, just as we sometimes do. Everything Jeremiah tried to do seem to become dust and ashes. But he never gave up. The word of God would never let him go. He kept faith in God. Our times have a parallel with those of Jeremiah, for they, too, are times of great disintegration.

Fr Bill's message was one of hope. Jeremiah never lost sight of God and neither should we. Our despondency is our poor and inadequate gift that he likened to the two loaves and fishes of the New Testament story which Jesus multiplied. We must bring these 'gifts' to the Altar and place them at the foot of the Cross and God will multiply them and make us changed people in the power of the Holy Spirit. "When you come poor you will leave rich and empowered." Our human history is not beyond redemption however dark it may seem. The power of the Cross can redeem anything. With our trust in God's mercy and forgiveness our faith will enable us to achieve great things.

Father Bill illustrated this message with examples of some of our modern day saints and holy people such as Sr Faustina, Maximilian Kolbe, and his own experiences visiting Auschwitz. He emphasised how evil can be used to achieve good. He also talked about one of the first things Pope John XXIII did when he was elected. He visited the Regina Coeli Prison, a high security prison in Rome. He told the despondent, hopeless inmates: "The Word of God is here for you. You are called to something new, something different. You are to know that your sins are forgiven. You have a new hope." One of the inmates asked him. "Is there any hope for me?" Fr Bill said this question is relevant to all of us today. The Pope didn't answer the man; he just reached out and embraced him. If these men are forgiven then surely we, too, can be forgiven. For God's magnificent power is greater in weakness. "He comes to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable".

If we do not die we cannot be raised up:-

“If a grain of wheat falls onto the earth and does not die it remains a grain of wheat. But if it dies it brings forth new life. (John 12.24).

Using Sr Faustina 's life of contemplation as an example, Fr Bill reminded us that we must enter into Gods silence and listen to His word – we need to be disengaged from the trauma of our time in order to fully achieve this. God speaks to the human heart if we would but listen.

To end the morning session Father Bill broke into song:-

“Come back to me with all your heart, don't let fear keep us apart.....”

He sang the whole of this beautiful hymn that holds such wonderful words of forgiveness, love and optimism.

During Mass Father gave a wonderful sermon on the Prodigal son and proceeded to talk about Prodigal Fathers and their sins including those of the Fathers of the Church. He spoke with great humility, sensitivity and openness.

This great love of God that is so manifest in Father Bill was evident again during the Praise before the afternoon session. Father stood in the aisle before the Altar praising with the rest of us, his whole body swaying in a gentle dance that exuded humility and joy.

During the afternoon session Fr Bill gave us more examples, this time of ordinary human beings whom he had encountered, who had experienced extraordinary sufferings, and how their strong faith achieved great witness to God's overwhelming power.

In conclusion, Fr Bill's message was to assure us that the word of God will never release its hold on us if we keep our eyes fixed on the Lamb on the Cross. Extraordinary, miraculous and powerful things will happen, and we must remember that we are called to something new, to something different whenever we bring our weakness before the Lord. Above all, our sins are never too great to be forgiven for God's love for us is so munificent.

“ For I alone know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29.11)

These words to Jeremiah are equally valid for us today.

Anne Murrin

HAVE YOU EVER ASK YOURSELF?

WHO AM I

There is no one quite like me in all the world.

Before anyone had ever thought of me I was in God's plan - His plan of Creation.

From the desire in the Father heart of God He loved me into being.

Body, mind and spirit He created me unique in every detail, and let me enter into the world that would become my growing place.

He welcomed me, watched and cared for me, shared my first smiles and tears.

He provided and protected me in each stage of my existence.

As I stretched and kicked and grew every one of my movements He noted.

He was there when my early thoughts formed the first words upon my lips co-ordinating sense and sound, and He never left me.

All my fears and pains my joys and delight are kept in His memory.

Not one day of my life has escaped from His love for me.

I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Am I not happy with His handiwork?

He has placed so much beauty within me. to discover, so much potential for love and to be loved.

He has sown seeds of goodness and purity, tenderness and humility in my heart.

Allow them to grow to take root and mature.

His gift of life to me is rich in abundance.

Every limb of my body He chose, every organ is especially me.

He made the colour of my eyes and determined the number of hairs on my head.

Even the blood in my veins - all the cells in my body are of His making, but more so He has given me a personality - a temperament - my senses, emotions and intellect, understanding and reason - such talents and gifts and the freedom to choose and He is ready to give me so much more whenever I am ready to receive.

He says "Come" especially if I am unhappy, "Come let me hold you and show you and teach you and make you whole".

For my pain is His pain and my joy is His and His delight is to see me fulfilled to see me become that perfect being that one day I shall surely be.

His plan for me goes to the end of time.

It holds within it the upward climb - my pilgrim journey of coming and going and turning around - of cleansing, forgiving, purifying - the suffering of Jesus, the cross and the dying, the living and rising and sanctifying.

(Adapted from a reflection by Karin Castle)



PRAYER FOR NEW LIFE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your beloved Son, Jesus, to show your love for me and to bring me back to you.

Lord Jesus, in dying for me you took on yourself all my sinfulness, and all my brokenness, so that I would know your complete forgiveness, and be healed, and made whole, in you. I renounce Satan and his kingdom of darkness.

I repent of all my sins, and I turn my back on everything that stands between us. Be first in my life, which I now commit to you. Help me to walk with you in your kingdom of light, and enjoy the fullness of life which you came to give me.

Holy Spirit, you bring me new life. Please open my heart to you, so that I may live in all the power and joy of your love, to the glory of my Father in heaven.

Come Holy Spirit.

Without prayer the Town Pastors would not go out.

Town Pastors has grown considerably since its inception in Ipswich in June 2006, and has developed close working relationships with the police, Local Authority and, not least, the clubbers themselves.

In some ways the organisation came of age during the problems of five murders at the end of 2006, when Town Pastors played an important role in helping maintain calm on the streets of Ipswich in what was a very difficult time.

“The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighbourhood” (John 1:14 The Message Bible)

Richard Cavanagh

*The best thing about the future is
that it comes
one day at a time*

THE YEAR OF THE PRIEST A FOOTNOTE FROM FR GORDON.

When I arrived home after our last 'Renewal Day' I opened my mail. Firstly there was an Ordination Anniversary card from Michael our Bishop on my 13th anniversary and adding my years as a priest in C of E I have had the honour of being in Holy Orders for 48 years.

On the weekend February 20th & 21st we had the Bishop's Visitation I spent 30 minutes with Bishop Michael and a good deal of our discussion centred on Renewal in the Diocese. ***His view seems to be that Charismatic Renewal is gradually decreasing*** from a peak when it was a strong point in most denominations some 20 plus years ago.

When it came to looking at the Renewal in the Diocese today it is a sad fact that no Priests (apart from Myself) openly support Renewal Prayer Groups in their parishes or at the THREE days held at Bowthorpe.

Let all of us who have found so much uplift in every aspect of life through being "FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT". pray daily for our diocesan clergy and that we may find some of them experiencing Renewal in their lives. Do keep praying for our Priests and for vocations to train for the Priesthood.

Shame must be felt by us all as more and more accusations of Abuse are at the forefront of the daily news and there is now some involvement of the Holy Father. We have too many priests misbehaving, some finding themselves in court and even worse, serve a jail sentence.

On the other hand I thank God for lifting the burden off a priest who I laid hands on and anointed. I believe that if everyone who has experienced Baptism in the Holy Spirit, or perhaps you use another of the several titles given to the experience, "EVANGELISED in a gentle way to family & friends the renewal movement would NOT be in decline but find new life and power that will glorify God.

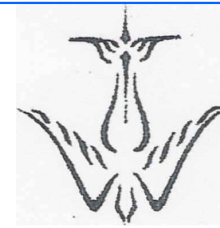
Recently I have taken the Sunday & Weekday Masses at the U.E.A. at the request of the Chaplain Marian Housart. 80% of those coming on Thursday lunch time are foreign people and on Sunday I would estimate two thirds of a packed out chapel would be from overseas. What conclusion do I draw? Young people in general like vitality in worship and therefore go to a fellowship where they can move and take an active role in the worship. Two hours in 'active' worship for some uplifts & recharges those attending, where as the more 'sedate' liturgy generally on offer in our churches and chaplaincies leaves youngsters unmoved. So I know several faithful young church members who have left home for their further education have joined one of the many 'new' churches that have flourished in cities, towns and some even in villages.

Do pray about these crucial issues.
May God Bless you all

Fr Gordon



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