ST BEDE'S TRADITIONALIST COMMUNITY

Newsletter (March 2007 - No 25)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
NEXT SPECIAL SUNDAY: Sunday 18th March. Mass will be followed by the Blessing of Roses in the club room to celebrate Mothering Sunday.
FAMILY RETREAT: **Friday 13th April to Sunday 15th April** (Low Sunday), at Ardingly College.
CHARTRES2007: 25th to 29th May – Contact Francis Carey 0771-442-1330
SUMMER SCHOOL: Sunday 29th July to Sunday 5th August, at Ardingly College.

REASONS FOR ATTENDING THE TRADITIONAL RITE

"On the other hand, a common turning to the east during the Eucharistic prayer remains essential. This is not a case of something accidental, but of what is essential. Looking at the priests has no importance. What matters is looking together at the Lord. It is not now a question of dialogue but of common worship, of setting off towards the one who is to come. What corresponds with the reality of what is happening is not the closed circle but the common movement forward, expressed in a common direction for prayer." - The Holy Father writing as Cardinal Ratzinger in *The Spirit of the Liturgy*.

DEVOTIONS TO THE SACRED HEART
The Nine First Fridays

"I promise you, in the excessive mercy of my Heart that my all powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the first Friday for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance; they shall not die in my disgrace nor without receiving the sacraments; my divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in that last moment." — from the Promises of Our Lord to Saint Margaret Mary

Conditions required:

1. To make nine Holy Communions;
2. on the first Friday of the month (confession required within eight days);
3. for nine consecutive months, without interruption;
4. with the proper disposition;
5. with the intention of making reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and to obtain the fruit of this great promise.

THE PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS TO ST. MARGARET MARY

Many are the promises that the Sacred Heart of Jesus has made to His Servant St. Margaret Mary, in favour of His devoted ones, as is evident from her writings. The principal ones are as follows:

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will give peace in their families.
3. I will console them in all their troubles.
4. I will be their refuge in life and especially in death.
5. I will abundantly bless all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in my Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection
9. I will bless those places wherein the image of my Sacred Heart shall be exposed and venerated.
10. I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.
11. Persons who propagate this devotion shall have their names eternally written in my Heart.
12. In the excess of the mercy of my heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour.

Prayer of St. Margaret Mary

O Heart of love, I place my trust entirely in You.
Though I fear all things from my weakness,
I hope all things from Your goodness!

HAMISH FRASER – 20TH CENTURY LAY APOSTLE - 1913-1986

By: Stephen Smith

Traditionalists familiar with Michael Davies' writings might be interested to learn that his inspiration was the former Communist secret agent and convert Hamish Fraser whom many regard as the greatest lay apostle of the twentieth century.

Born the illegitimate son of an Inverness schoolmistress in 1913 and baptised into the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, from an early age he rejected both the unforgiving god of the Kirk and the injustice of unfettered post-Reformation liberal capitalism inspired by this deity. He wholeheartedly embraced a Marxist world-view and eschewing a professional career, he graduated from Edinburgh University to pursue a life as a full-time revolutionary.

After fighting in the Spanish Civil War and becoming the only British volunteer to become an International Brigades officer on the Spanish military wing of the KGB, he returned to Scotland before World War II started and became a Communist organiser on Clydeside. His booklet, "An Intelligent Socialist's Guide to World War II", intended to persuade Communists who regarded the conflict as a continuation of the anti-fascist crusade began in Spain that acceptance of the 1939 Nazi-Soviet Pact in line with the Moscow Party line was consistent with Marxist theory. However his intellectual honesty brought him to admit the sophistry of his reasoning and after leaving the Party in 1945, he entered Jordanhill College to train for teaching

There, his study and research forced him to reconsider his Marxist beliefs. His thirst for social justice that initially inspired his Communism was satisfied by his introduction by a family friend to Catholic Social Teaching. The encyclical letters Rerum Novarum (1891) and Quadragesimo Anno

(1931) taught him the principle of subsidiarity and the wisdom of the widest possible distribution of property and power among people to protect society from Communist totalitarianism. Finally convinced of the teachings of the Church that taught these principles and after a period of prayerful instruction, Fraser was received into the Church on June 4th 1948, feast of the Sacred Heart.

Immunized by his past against the temptation to regard Communism as a means to liberate the poor and oppressed from injustice, Fraser brought into the Church the same single-mindedness that characterized his life as a Communist; having never regarded politics as a spare-time activity whilst a Marxist, Fraser saw Catholicism as a world-view with which to permeate society under the Kingship of Christ and Catholic social teaching as the means to do so. He understood the application of social doctrine and the lay apostolate as inseparable from the message of Our Lady of Fatima – the offering to God of the penance of one's daily duty proper to one's state in life.

In his 1954 autobiography, "Fatal Star", Fraser criticised the tendency of many Catholics to regard the Church as incompetent to teach on temporal affairs and that the laity ought to be left to decide such matters for themselves especially in pursuing socialist ideas. He warned that such people represented "the Communist Fifth Column within the Church" exposing Her to the danger of infiltration.

After Vatican II groups such as CAFOD, Pax Christi and the Catholic Institute for International Relations" were criticised by Fraser for adopting this stance especially in their support for "liberation theology" which he decisively rejected as "revolutionary Marxism in a Christian guise" and which gained impetus from the 1962 Vatican-Moscow Pact concluded on the eve of Vatican II resulting in the Council's silence on Communism to accommodate the attendance of Russian Orthodox observers.

In 1965 Fraser founded his periodical "Approaches" to inform in social doctrine Catholics who worked autonomously from the hierarchy in the temporal order yet faithful Catholic principles; however he was soon marginalized by progressive forces within the Church whose rejection of authentic social teaching also led them to undermine the transmission of Catholic orthodoxy in schools, seminaries and teacher training institutes following Vatican II and thereby threaten the unity of the Church.

Fraser mounted a twin-pronged strategy of attack (advocating social doctrine to build a Catholic civilisation) and defence (upholding Catholic teaching on faith and morals within the Church) in response to this onslaught; such an approach attracted a young teacher named Michael Davies whose 1971 "Dossier on Catechetics" published as an Approaches Study Document was the first of his full-length books on Vatican II and the liturgical revolution.

Fraser complemented his writing with regular appearances at Catholic gatherings of those with like mind with whom he had made contact via Approaches. In the 1970s he organised study days throughout Britain and Ireland on social doctrine alongside organizations such as the Irish Family League (whose opposition to the secularization of Ireland Fraser always supported) and the CRUX organization. He also spoke at forums organized by The Wanderer and The Remnant as well as conducting lecture tours of the USA and India where he supported the All-India Laity Congress in their opposition to the "Hinduisation" of the Church in that country.

Although the accoutrements of Communist oppression in the former Iron Curtain countries have largely disappeared, it would be a mistake to regard the causes championed by Hamish Fraser as yesterday's battles. He would probably have unmasked the American neoconservative movement with its Trotskyite antecedents as another arm of the world-wide Revolution for which he once fought and which with his profound and traditional Catholic faith he later opposed until his death on October 17th 1986.

[Ed – I had the good fortune to walk with three of Hamish's grandsons about seven years ago on the Chartres Pilgrimage. Excellent company! One delightful story was that Hamish wrote a prayer for the conversion of modernist bishops and sent it to Cardinal Hume for his imprimatur! I assume that is what one might call a holy windup.]

HOW THE SAINTS SAID MASS
Blessed John of Alvernia

Researched by Fr Tom Crean - From The Little Flowers of St Francis

When he had begun the Mass, the further he preceded, the more did the love of Christ increase in Him, and the fervor of devotion, wherewith was given unto him an unspeakable feeling of God such as he himself knew not of, nor could thereafter tell forth with the tongue. Whereat fearing lest that fervour and feeling of God should so much increase that he needs must leave the Mass, he fell into much perplexity, and knew not what course to take, or to go on with the Mass, or to stand and wait. With great fear he set himself to go on with the Mass, and went as far as the Preface of Our Lady, when the divine illumination and the gracious sweetness of the love of God began so much to grow within him, that coming to the Qui pridie, he could scarce endure such sweetness. Having come at length to the act of consecration, and having said o! ne half of the words over the host, to wit: "Hoc est", he could by no means proceed further, but only repeated the same words, to wit: "Hoc est enim". And the reason wherefore he could proceed no further was this, that he felt and saw the presence of Christ with a great company of Angels, whose majesty he was not able to endure; and he saw that Christ entered not into the Host, or that the Host was not changed into the Body of Christ, until he should utter the other half of the words, to wit: "corpus meum." Wherefore as he abode in this anxiety and could proceed no further, the guardian and the other brothers and likewise many layfolk that were in the church for to hear Mass, drew near unto the altar: and were astonished to behold and see what things Brother John did: and many of them were weeping out of devotion. At last, after long space, to wit, when so it pleased God, Brother John uttered the words: "enim corp! us meum" in a loud voice; and straightaway the form of the bread vanished, and in the Host appeared Jesu Christ, the blessed one, incarnate and glorified, and showed forth to him the humility and love, which made Him to become incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and which makes Him every day to come into the hands of the priest when he consecrates the Host: for the which cause he was the more lifted up in sweetness of contemplation. Wherefore when he had elevated the Host and the consecrated chalice, he was rapt out of himself: and his soul being lifted up above all bodily feelings, his body fell backwards;

and if he had not been supported by the guardian who stood behind him, he would have fallen on his back upon the ground.

THANK GOD FOR LADIES WITH TYPEWRITERS?
Extracts from church bulletins

Our altar severs' football team is back in action Wednesday at 8:00 PM in the recreation hall. Come and watch them slaughter Christ the King.

THE WISDOM OF G.K. CHESTERTON

For it is a sin against the reason to tell men that to travel hopefully is better than to arrive; and when once they believe it, they travel hopefully no longer.

PROMOTE OUR NEXT SPECIAL SUNDAY

If you have a window, gatepost, tree, fence or similar, on which you can display the poster over and help promote the next Special Sunday, please do so. You can protect it from the elements by encasing it in cling film.

Editor: Graham Moorhouse, 118 Shepherds Lane, DARTFORD, DA1 2NN. Tel: 01322 409231 Email graham@cathud.com

REGULAR GIVING (STANDING ORDER)

The traditional Mass community at St Bede's is greatly blessed. We have one of the only parishes in the country where one may enjoy the classical Roman Rite, the rite of our forefathers, saints and martyrs, every day of the week with diocesan permission. We also most months have the huge privilege of being able to enjoy great works of music professionally presented in their original and intended setting.

It would be quite wrong to take all this for granted, or worse to treasure it in the fashion of a miser. We must commit ourselves to securing its future and to evangelizing. We need to promote what we have to increase our numbers, rekindle the lukewarm, bring home the lapsed and convert heretics and unbelievers.

The Church down the centuries has always used beauty and great art for the glory of God and to draw souls to Christ. Catholics have an obligation to evangelize, and publicizing these Masses is one very good way of doing so.

However, to do this properly we need financial support: ideally by way of regular committed donations against which we can budget. Our leaflet drops, ads, newsletter and choirs are currently finance by a very small number of generous individuals. We need to broaden our base with many more people making small donations of a few pounds a month.

THE MASSES ON OUR SPECIAL SUNDAYS ARE ALWAYS OFFERED FOR EACH AND EVERY ONE OF OUR BENEFACTORS.

To the manager _____ **Bank**

Branch address _____

_____

Please pay St Bede's Traditionalist Community the sum of:

amount in figures £ _____

amount in words _____

monthly until further notice commencing _____

Debit my account no. | | | | | | | | |

Sort code | | | |

Name:

Address:

Post Code:

Tel:

Email:

Signed _____ **Date** _____

CREDIT TO:

St Bede's Traditionalist Community, Sort Code 72-00-05, Account No: 78006189

Return completed form to:
Fr Andrew Southwell, St Bede's Catholic Church
58 Thornton Road, Clapham Park, SW12 0LF

Please join us

Sung Mass

In the Classical Roman Rite

Sung by Cantores Missae, a professional choir
under the direction of Charles Finch

Laetare Sunday

Sunday 18th March 2007 at 10:45 AM.

Juan Esquivel's

Missa Ave Virgo Sanctissima

Offertory motet: Trahe me post te – Guererro. Communion motet: Adoramus te Christe - Giovanni M. Nannino

Enjoy this beautiful sacred music within the setting for which it was composed

Confessions available during Mass

Families and children welcome

St Bede's Catholic Church

58 Thornton Road, Clapham Park, SW12 0LF

By Underground: Clapham South. By Rail: Streatham Hill
The following buses serve the area: 45, 57, 137, 255 & 417