

# Isle of Wight Catholic History Society

Under the Patronage of St. Wilfrid, Apostle of the Isle of Wight

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## June 2025 Newsletter

In this newsletter we focus on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, as this month we celebrate the 350th anniversary celebrations of the apparitions to St Margaret Mary in Paray-le-Monial, France, on 27 June.

You will also find articles / reports on:-

St. Michael's, Bembridge – 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Visit to the IoW of Relics of saints associated with Scotland.

Poems on Walsingham & Walking to Quarr

IoW Martyrs – a family visit

Summer Events at Quarr Abbey

Canon Gerard Flynn R.I.P.



## JUNE – MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART

June is a wonderful month for Church anniversaries / celebrations. The Sacraments (Confirmation, Holy Orders, First Confession and Communion) are usually celebrated in this month. Many of our old family photographs depict these wonderful Sacraments from the past. How many of us recall these uplifting events which were once the highlight of Catholic parish life? Most of these celebrations had a prominent place for our children, our churches and in our parish schools. Sadly, today these celebrations have declined in terms of numbers and solemnity. Nevertheless, most parishes (or pastoral areas) now have First Communion programmes to undertake sacramental preparation, which was once provided in our schools.

We remember that this month is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Catholics were always encouraged to have the Sacred Heart statue /

image in a prominent place of honour in their homes. Our Catholic schools had a statue of the Sacred Heart in the school hall, adorned with flowers. Today (thankfully) all our Island churches have Sacred Heart statues. Why not visit the statue after Mass, light a candle and meditate on the Sacred Heart of Jesus that loves each of us so dearly?

It was in June, 1675, that Our Lord appeared to the French Visitation nun, St. Margaret Mary Alcoque. Our Lord said to her:

***"Behold this Heart, which loves men so much.***

***Yet in return I receive ingratitude, irreverence, sacrilege and a coldness and contempt which they exhibit for me in this Sacrament of love."***

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## COMMEMORATING THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APPARITIONS OF THE SACRED HEART

During the octave of Corpus Christi in 1675, the vision known as the "great revelation" took place. Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alcoque and revealed the mysteries of His Sacred Heart, saying, "Behold the heart which has so loved men that it has spared nothing, even to exhausting and consuming itself, in order to testify its love; and in return, I receive from most men the most grievous ingratitude."

Hence this month marks the 350th anniversary of this apparition.

This apparition deepened St. Margaret Mary's understanding of Jesus' love and compassion, and it paved the way for the widespread devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the Catholic Church.

As we commemorate this anniversary, we reflect on the significance of the Sacred Heart devotion in our lives. The Eucharist lies at the heart of this devotion, highlighting its centrality in our faith journey. Let's renew our devotion to the Sacred Heart through prayer, reflection, and acts of love, and spread Jesus' message of love and mercy.

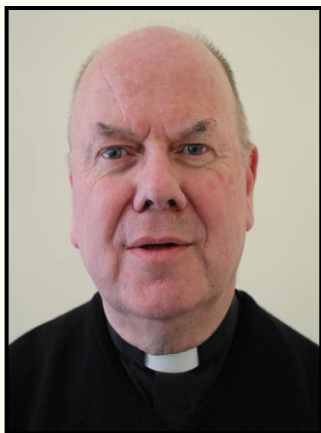
Catholic churches usually have a statue or image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Do you know where it is in your church? In this month of the Sacred Heart and at the time of this special anniversary, why not make a point of lighting a candle and praying before the Sacred Heart statue

Here on the Island our Catholic Church in Shanklin is dedicated to the Sacred Heart. The first church was built in 1898. The present church dates from 1957. In addition, the monastery at St. Cecilia's Abbey is also dedicated to the Sacred Heart. We often forget that although the abbey church is dedicated to St. Cecilia, the nuns continue with the Sacred Heart patronage which they brought with them when they moved from Ventnor to Ryde in 1922.

Finally, in St. Mary's, Ryde, there is a fine Sacred Heart Chapel built in 1898 (picture – right) and constructed with marble and alabaster, with fine stained glass windows depicting saints noted for their love of God; namely, Sts. John the Evangelist, Margaret Mary (French Visitation nun), Mary Magdalene and Augustine of Hippo. The chapel was consecrated by Bishop Vertue of Portsmouth.



## CANON GERARD FLYNN R.I.P.



We were saddened to hear of the death of Canon Gerard Flynn. In 2007 he came to the Island as Parish Priest of St Saviour, Totland and St Thomas of Canterbury, Newport. He was also Coordinating Pastor for the Isle of Wight for a five year period. Canon Gerard was a keen supporter of our Island CHS. In 2015 he went as Parish Priest to St Michael and All Angels, Leigh Park, Havant for ten years and he died whilst still an active priest for this parish. In addition, he was made a

Canon to the Cathedral Chapter in October 2018. He served on the Council of Priests for many years. Canon Gerard was the Vocations Director for twenty years, from 2004. Please remember Canon Flynn in your prayers.

*Requiescat in pace*

## A HYMN IN HONOUR OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

Many older Catholics will remember this beautiful hymn in honour of the Sacred Heart that was once a regular feature of Catholic devotional life.

Children would have sung this in school assemblies.

Sadly, it is rarely heard in our churches or schools today

1 *To Jesus' Heart all burning With fervent love for man,  
My heart, with fondest yearning, Shall raise the joyful strain.*

*While ages course along, Blest be, with loudest song,  
The Sacred Heart of Jesus, By ev'ry heart and tongue,  
The Sacred Heart of Jesus, by ev'ry heart and tongue.*

2 *O Heart for me on fire With love no man can speak,  
My yet untold desire God gives me for Thy sake. [Chorus]*

3 *Too true! I have forsak'n Thy flock, by willful sin,  
Yet now let me be tak'n Back to Thy fold again. [Chorus]*

4 *As Thou art meek and lowly, And ever pure of heart,  
So may my heart be wholly Of Thine the counterpart. [Chorus]*

Written and composed by Aloys Schloer (1805-52)

## RELICS OF ST ANDREW, ST MARGARET AND ST COLUMBA

The Knights of St Columba have organised a tour of these relics and they will be here on the Island at St Thomas of Canterbury church Newport for the 12 noon Mass on Tuesday 16th September.

The relics of these saints associated with Scotland are currently touring various locations in the UK as part of a National Relic Tour organized by the Knights of St. Columba. These relics, which are considered sacred by Catholics, offer an opportunity for believers to deepen their faith and connect with the spiritual legacy of these important figures.

**St. Andrew:** The patron saint of Scotland, his relics have a special significance in the country's history and spiritual heritage.

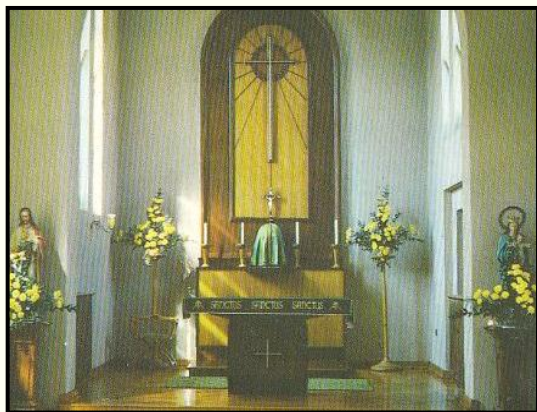
**St. Margaret:** Queen of Scotland, her relics represent her piety, charitable works, and unwavering faith.

**St. Columba:** An Irish missionary, his relics symbolize his dedication to spreading the Gospel and his influence on Scottish Christianity.

Please make a note of this special occasion and try to attend this Mass  
and venerate the saints' relics

## ST ANTHONY'S CONVENT, SHANKLIN

The former convent in Beatrice Avenue, Shanklin, was founded in 1898, and run by the Sisters of Mercy who established a school in the town and went on to teach in others across the Island. The last two remaining nuns, Sister Bernadette and Sister Martin had lived at the convent for 56 years but a decline in numbers saw the pair move to another convent in Worthing, in March 2012. The convent, with its own chapel (see below) played an important role on the Island as a



meeting / discussion place for various groups, Sacramental preparation, Days of Recollection and for convalescent accommodation. Sadly, the closure and sale of such convents is not unfamiliar today when it appears increasingly difficult to attract young people to the religious

life. After St. Dominic's Priory at Carisbrooke, the Sisters of Christ at East Cowes and the Presentation Sisters at Ryde, all having closed and departed the Island in recent years, all we have left are our two Benedictine abbeys at Quarr and St. Cecilia's and the Verbum Dei Sisters at Carisbrooke.

Nevertheless, this is a time to give thanks for the work of the Sisters of Mercy in Shanklin in their 115 years ministry.

Some people will remember Sister Martin (Maura Walsh). She died peacefully in St Mary's Care Home, Worthing. She will be remembered by all her past pupils from St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School, Ventnor with great affection and as a greatly valued teacher and member of the community

*Requiescat in pace.*



# REMEMBERING OUR ISLAND MARTYRS

A descendent of one of the two IoW martyrs visited Cowes in the last week of April. Kenneth Marsden is a descendant of the family of Blessed William Marsden, who was executed together with Blessed Robert Anderton at (or near) Cowes in April 1586.

These two Island martyrs were beatified in 1929 by Pope Pius XI. Kenneth came to Cowes to see his ancestor's memorial together with friends from the Veterans and Community Gallery; - an organisation that assist servicemen in a variety of art and culture projects. After Mass in the church, a procession walked with Fr. Jonathan Redvers Harris (parish priest) to the Martyrs memorial in the church garden. This memorial was erected and blessed by Fr. Michael Purbrick (parish priest) in July, 2003.



Eighty four year old Kenneth Marsden (in black) is standing near Fr. Jonathan. Father led prayers at the memorial and spoke about the sacrifice made by the two martyrs for the faith. The Service concluded with the singing of the "Salve Regina", before the group went for lunch in the church hall.



# ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH – 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

21st June marked the diamond jubilee of this church in Bembridge. For the golden jubilee, ten years ago, a Solemn Mass was offered by Bishop Philip Egan. The congregation were able to give thanks for the blessings received over the past fifty years. In his sermon at the Mass, the Bishop spoke about a church as a House of God, different to any other building. He also asked the congregation to remember *"those who have gone before us, who made the building of this church possible, by their labour, commitment, determination and generosity and their devotion to Almighty God and His Church"*.



Before 1965 Catholics of Bembridge worshipped in the former Methodist church, which they purchased in 1935. With the growing Catholic population, a new church was required and the present St. Michael's in Walls Road was opened and blessed with much rejoicing one week later on the Second Sunday after Pentecost, 1965. The parish priest, Canon

Daniel Cogan, celebrated this first Mass followed by the singing of the "Te Deum". The design of the sanctuary allowed for easy adaptation between the Old and the New Rite of Mass.

The picture (above) shows Fr. Anthony Glaysher, with Deacon Gary May, and some of members of St. Michael's community who have a long association with the church; including three who were present at the first Mass in 1965.

(Right) St. Michael's Church, Bembridge



# THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Looking back through our church history, it is easy to see that the focal point of parish life was often the First Communion Day and the annual Corpus Christi procession, - a public manifestation of our belief in the real presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Many of us still have photographs of the procession going around the local streets with the Blessed



Corpus Christi Procession with Benediction in St. Mary's Church garden, 2012

Sacrament carried by the priest beneath the canopy; marshalled by the Guild of the Blessed Sacrament, with children dropping flower petals as a floral carpet, and the singing of the time-honoured hymns "Sweet Sacrament Divine" and "O Bread of Heaven". These annual processions lost their impetus after Vatican II, but, thankfully, there is evidence of a gradual restoration of late.



At Mass on Corpus Christi (Thursday) at St. Thomas's, Cowes, Fr. Jonathan reminded the faithful of the close association between this feast and Maundy Thursday, when the Holy Eucharist was instituted. He emphasised the significance of transubstantiation, - the bread and the wine becoming Our Lord's Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. After the Mass, there was a procession around the church with the Blessed Sacrament carried in the monstrance by Fr. Jonathan (photo left) whilst the

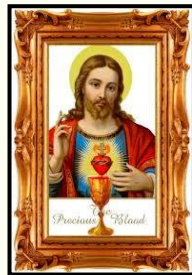
congregation followed singing "Sweet Sacrament Divine".



# **JULY - MONTH OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD**

In the traditional Roman calendar 1<sup>st</sup> July marks the Feast of the Precious Blood. Devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus is one of the oldest devotions in the Church. Bishop Philip Egan reminds us of Pope St. John XXIII's desire to have:-

*“a vibrant devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus, the price of our redemption, and the pledge of our salvation and eternal life”.*



Our Blessed Mother adored the Most Precious Blood of her infant Son on the day of His circumcision as the first drops of His Precious Blood were shed amongst many tears for the salvation of our sinful humanity.



During His public life, hers was the heart He sought for consolation at the end of His long, tiring journeys of preaching to his own people who many times treated him with anger, ridicule or indifference. After the Passion and death of her beloved Son, Our Sorrowful Mother walked the Via Dolorosa again and again consoling her Son in his bitter sacrifice and adoring His Precious Blood poured out willingly with such great

love, amidst the violence and hatred, to save us all.

This day marks the dedication of Westminster Cathedral (left) – England's premier cathedral – dedicated to the Precious Blood of Christ.

## **Prayer in honour of the Most Precious Blood of Christ**

*Blood of Jesus, inebriate me! O Jesus, my Beloved Saviour,  
ever present in the Tabernacle, to be the strength, the joy  
and the food of souls, I come to consecrate myself to Thy Precious Blood,  
and to pledge Thee my sincere love and steadfast fidelity.  
Pierced with sorrow at the remembrance of Thy sufferings,  
the contemplation of the Cross, I offer Thee my heart and soul,  
which I place in Thy care. Help me to attain eternal salvation by meditating on  
Thy sufferings on the Cross, from which Thy Precious Blood flowed, so that I  
may avoid all the temptations of sin, live a life in Thy likeness,  
and be ready for Thy calling whenever You shall choose.  
Most Precious Blood of Christ. Save me from temptation and sin.*

# POPE LEO XIV

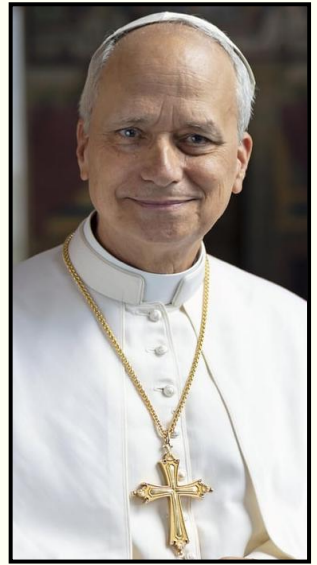
How many of us remember this hymn  
(written by Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman)  
that was once heard regularly in our churches,  
especially, in Pre-Vatican II days.

*Full in the panting heart of Rome  
Beneath the apostle's crowning dome.  
From pilgrim's lips that kiss the ground,  
Breathes in all tongues one only sound:  
GOD BLESS OUR POPE, GOD BLESS OUR POPE,  
GOD BLESS OUR POPE, THE GREAT THE GOOD!*

*The golden roof, the marble walls,  
The Vatican's majestic halls,  
The note redoubles, till it fills  
With echoes sweet the seven hills  
GOD BLESS OUR POPE, GOD BLESS OUR POPE,  
GOD BLESS OUR POPE, THE GREAT THE GOOD!*

*Then surging through each hallowed gate,  
Where martyrs glory, in peace await  
It sweeps beyond the solemn plain,  
Peals over Alps, across the main.  
GOD BLESS OUR POPE, GOD BLESS OUR POPE,  
GOD BLESS OUR POPE, THE GREAT THE GOOD!*

*From torrid south to frozen north,  
The wave harmonious stretches forth,  
Yet strikes no chord more true to Rome's,  
Than rings within our hearts and homes.  
GOD BLESS OUR POPE, GOD BLESS OUR POPE,  
GOD BLESS OUR POPE, THE GREAT THE GOOD!*



**Cathedral Discovery Centre, Portsmouth**

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# JULY SAINTS

## St. Swithun - Feast 15<sup>th</sup> July

St. Swithun (or Swithin, Old English: *Swīþhūn*;) He was an Anglo-Saxon bishop of Winchester and subsequently patron saint of Winchester Cathedral. His historical importance as bishop is overshadowed by his reputation for posthumous miracle-working. According to tradition, the weather on his feast day (15<sup>th</sup> July) will continue for forty days. He was moved from his grave to an indoor shrine in the Old Minster at Winchester in 971. His body was



probably later split between a number of smaller shrines. His head was certainly detached and, in the Middle Ages, taken to Canterbury Cathedral. Peterborough Abbey also had an arm. His main shrine was transferred into the new Norman cathedral at Winchester in 1093. At the Reformation his shrine was demolished.

As he was Bishop of Winchester, there are many dedications to Swithun at churches throughout the south of England. He is also commemorated by having St Swithin's Lane in the City of London, St Swithun's School for girls in Winchester and St. Swithun's quadrangle in Magdalen College, Oxford named after him.

### COLLECT from the Mass of St. Swithun:-

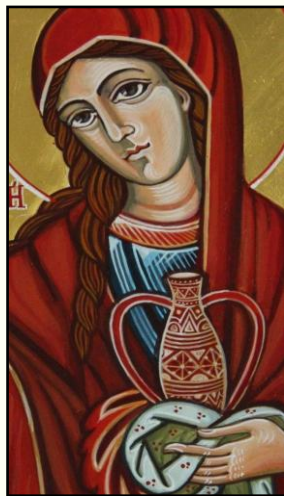
*“O God, who didst make blessed Swithun, Thy Confessor and Bishop, an illustrious preacher of Thy Word, and through him didst bestow a new spiritual offspring upon Thy Church, grant, we beseech Thee, that through his merits and prayers, we may be able to practise by Thine aid what he taught both in word and in deed. Through Our Lord . . .”*

## St. Mary Magdalene – 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Pope Francis raised the celebration of the memorial of St. Mary Magdalene to the dignity of a liturgical Feast, recognizing the importance of her role as the "apostle to the apostles."

St. Mary's, Ryde is a rare example of a church with two stained glass windows which depict St. Mary Magdalene. One is from 1860 and is on the south side of the sanctuary. The second is 1898 and is in the Sacred Heart Chapel.

The Church, both in the East and the West, has always regarded Saint Mary Magdalene the first witness of the Lord's resurrection and the first evangelist, and with the greatest reverence has always honoured her although in diverse ways.



### Collect from the Mass of St. Mary Magdalene

*"May we be helped by the intercession of blessed Mary Magdalene, we beseech Thee O Lord, who in answer to her prayers, didst raise her brother Lazarus to life, after he had been dead for four days. Who livest and reignest ....."*

### PERSONAL ORDINARIATE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM



Inaugurated by Pope Benedict

For details of Ordinariate Masses on the Island

Please contact Fr. Jonathan Redvers Harris.

E. mail. [jonathan.redversharris@ordinariate.org.uk](mailto:jonathan.redversharris@ordinariate.org.uk)

Tel. 07847521717

## The Stable - Tea Room, Newport Street, Ryde

(opposite Mellish's Post Office, High Street: behind Fired Art)

Snacks and Light Lunches. Home Made Soup of the Day, Ploughman's Lunches, Ice Creams and Desserts, Cream Teas, Cakes

*Open Tuesday to Saturday 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m*

# THE APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA

We celebrate Sea Sunday on 13<sup>th</sup> July. We recall the debt our society owes to these workers, as we depend on them to ensure the transportation of almost everything we use or consume. Despite the efforts of governments and organisations such as the Apostleship of the Sea, there are still many unresolved situations affecting the life and dignity of fishers and seafarers. The church asks us to be mindful of all those whose livelihoods depend on the sea; and of the Church's commitment and solidarity alongside them. Encouraging all those who minister to seafarers we are reminded of St. Paul's words:

*'Don't let evil defeat you, but defeat evil with good'* (Rom 12:21).

Let us remember that Our Lady is the Star of the Sea; Stella Maris as *'model and compass'* to intercede for all seafarers and those who minister to them:-

*'so that we may be protected from every risk and danger'.*

The Sea Sunday collection taken in Catholic churches supports the AoS in 39 ports, with chaplains and with over 60 active ship visitors. The AoS as a charity receives a major part of its income from Sea Sunday collections.



**Our Lady, Star of the Sea**



Some will remember that it was on Sea Sunday 2003, that the Island Martyrs' memorial was solemnly blessed by Fr. Michael Purbrick at Cowes. (Picture – left).

It was appropriate for this ceremony to be held on Sea Sunday as the two martyr-priests were betrayed and subsequently executed as a result of a storm at sea, when they were heard praying for deliverance. Read about their life & martyrdom on [www.iow-chs.org](http://www.iow-chs.org) (IoW People).



A booklet, by Dr. Paul Severn, on the lives of the two martyrs is available at St. Thomas's Church and from our society.

On Sea Sunday, 2016, Fr. Anthony Glaysheer blessed the sea beside Ryde Pier and prayed that all seafarers would be safe (picture below).



## RADIO MARIA ENGLAND

This radio station has been recommended to us. Radio Maria England is a 24hr Catholic Radio Station broadcasting programmes expressing the Christian faith. It aims to support Catholics and others in their spiritual life and witness to those who wish to learn more about Catholicism. It is part of the World Family of Radio Maria, formed in 1998 in response to the apparitions and messages of Our Lady in Medjugorje and Fatima.



On its podcast there's a veritable library of talks on the Catholic Faith.

Do please explore this new media which promotes not only Catholic history, but also Catholic liturgy and devotions. <https://radiomariaengland.uk>

# Quarr Abbey

Feast of St. Benedict

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> July**

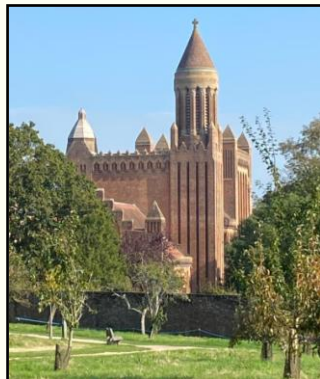
Solemn Mass at both Quarr &  
St. Cecilia's Abbeys at 10am.

Vespers & Benediction at 5-00pm



## Service times at Quarr Abbey

|                      |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Vigils               | 05:30                         |
| Lauds                | 07:00                         |
| Weekday Mass         | 09:00                         |
| Sunday & Holydays    | 10.00                         |
| Sext & Angelus       | 13.00                         |
| Weekday None         | 14.20                         |
| Sunday None          | 16.15                         |
| Vespers              | 17.00                         |
| Exposition Thursdays | 19.30                         |
| Compline             | 20:00                         |
| Confessions:         | 10.00am to 11.00am. Saturdays |



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There is much happening this Summer at Quarr, including  
guided tours of the abbey every Wednesday at 11-00am.  
Meet outside the bookshop.

In addition there are interesting guest speakers on  
*“Celebration Quarr Abbey and the Isle of Wight in Art”*  
this Thursday (26<sup>th</sup> June)  
and celebrating the  
*“History of the Island”*  
on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> June.

Check the abbey's website for details: <https://quarrabbey.org/visit/events/>



## Quarr Abbey Bookshop & Tearoom

Quarr Abbey has the most comprehensive Catholic bookshop / repository  
on the Island

### ***"QUARR ABBEY FRIENDS ASSOCIATION"***

The abbey has a *"Friends Association"*. It aims to support the liturgy and spiritual life of the abbey; bring together people who love and care for the abbey; raise its profile and encourage visitors; and help to enhance and maintain the abbey's historic buildings.

Information on the *"Friends of Quarr Abbey"* can be found on its website

[www.quarrabbey.org](http://www.quarrabbey.org)

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## **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE (CONFESSION)**

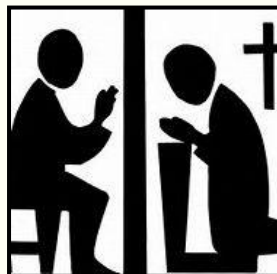
It is increasingly difficult to find Confessions  
advertised or available during this time of Covid.

They are heard though every Saturday  
(10-00am to 11-00am) at Quarr Abbey.

Our Lord said to His apostles:-

*"Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven".*

(John 20: 23)



# POETRY PAGE

## *To Quarr for the Assumption*

By Peter Clarke of Ryde

*To Solemn Vespers for the Assumption,  
At Quarr upon this day.  
I walked and witnessed God's creation  
Through the woods along the way.  
This is what I saw, on Assumption Day at Quarr.*

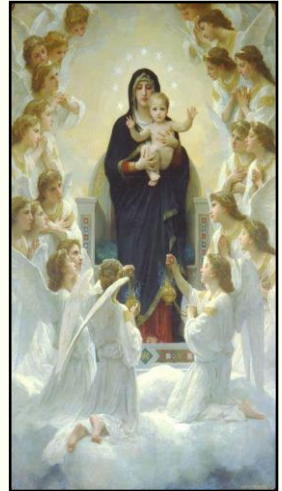
*The village of Binstead to my left  
And the ships of the Solent on my right,  
Ahead the wooded lanes and fields  
With the natural beauty of the Wight.  
This is what I saw, on Assumption Day at Quarr.*

*The rabbit settled in the long grass,  
A sparrow with its nest of hay,  
The birds singing in the trees,  
Nature's activities this Summer's day.  
This is what I saw, on Assumption Day at Quarr.*

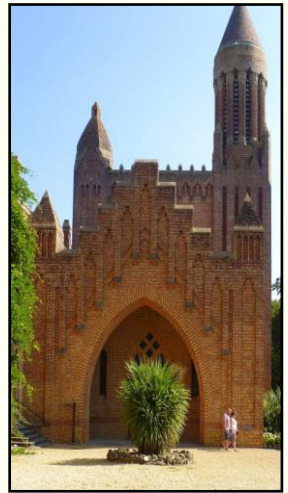
*The blackbird's nest of mud and grass  
Then a magpie appeared in a hedge  
Suddenly a dove's there on a gate  
And a duck drinking at the water's edge  
This is what I saw, on Assumption Day at Quarr.*

*The sun was ablaze, radiating above,  
Beneath ... the shingle, rocks and sand.  
En route to exalt the Assumption  
With rosary beads in my hand.  
This is what I saw, on Assumption Day at Quarr.*

*Holy Cross Church emerges from the trees,  
Once served from Quarr in days gone by.  
Now surrounded by graves and headstones  
And beneath the earth, their mortal bodies lie.  
This is what I saw, on Assumption Day at Quarr.*



*And now appears the old abbey ruins  
 Dedicated to the Mother of God;  
 She ..... the blossoming flower  
 As portrayed by Aaron's rod.  
 This is what I saw, on Assumption Day at Quarr.  
 Whence Cistercians and time honoured chant,  
 Now ruins forlorn and crumbling.  
 A reminder of a once proud abbey church  
 With prayer and psalms from monks chanting.  
 This is what I saw, on Assumption Day at Quarr.  
 And now the red brick abbey appear in sight  
 Its giant bell calling the monks to pray  
 "Dixit Dominus, Domino meo"  
 As Vespers starts on this Assumption day.  
 This is what I saw, as I took the road to Quarr.*



(Written after a Catholic History group walk to Quarr on Assumption Day, 2009)

## Poem for the Assumption - The Queen of Flowers

*I would bring flowers to lay at your bare feet,  
 Roses unthorned, and marigolds all hued  
 With the sun; a dainty delicate primrose,  
 Bluebells transparent with the colour of the sky  
 Orchids that bloom exotic, sumptuous,  
 Sweet friesia, pale lilac, irises in bloom,  
 Lightly dangling fuchsia, red-stained poppies,  
 Honeysuckle spilling over the garden wall.  
 I'd lay them heaped in profusion,  
 Cascades of colour, garlands, bunches –  
 Fragrant, multiple, abundant with innocence.  
 And with these flowers all my praise.*



This poem was written by Ed Matyjaszek of Ryde and a copy can  
 be seen on the wall of the Lady Chapel in St. Mary's Church



# *To the Sacred Heart*

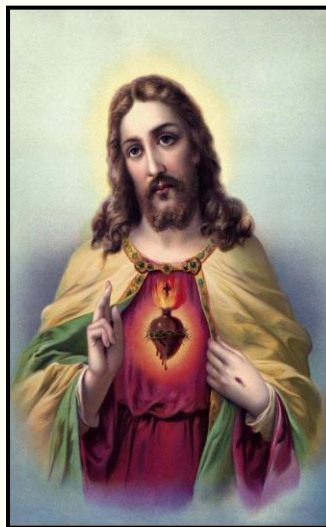
**(June is the Month of the Most Sacred Heart)**

By Peter Ransom of Ryde

*Of the Heart of Him who is bliss  
We know not Him as we say this  
He is our all, our hope, our aim  
The Heart of God who to us came*

*Born pure by who is pure in all  
He lived to give and to us call  
The Word made Flesh who is the way  
A Heart of love came to the fray*

*For God is One and in this Three  
As God and Son as Heart was He  
One in Three but was one God true  
Of God He was and as God knew*



*The way to Him for us to live  
So, we may love and in this give  
To God in three and one true light  
The Heart is the Word by His right*

*For our sine He gave Him as King  
By death on a cross He did bring  
To all who save this gift so brave  
His life to take our sin and save*

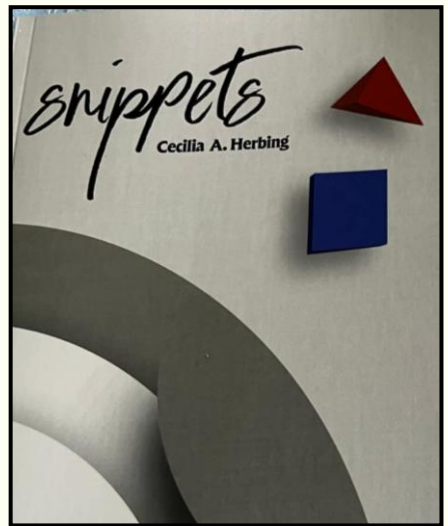
*From death He rose to make us free  
To live in Him and know and see  
When we die in Him we will know  
Hid life and we will grow and grow*

Photograph of the Sacred Heart Chapel in St. Mary's, Ryde.  
Architect ... Canon A.J. Scholes ... Built and consecrated in 1898

# *“Snippets”*

This new book by Cecilia Herbing evaluates the different and various aspects of her life and how, with God’s help, she has dealt with them and overcome any problems that ensued. The Book Launch, followed by lunch, was held in St. Mary’s Hall.

Copies of the book are available from Cecilia. E.mail [herbingca@gmail.com](mailto:herbingca@gmail.com)



## THE CHANGING FACE OF RYDE HIGH STREET

These photos show part of the High Street today and in 1900. The most consistent aspect of these photos is St. Mary’s Church (built in 1846). Whilst all the shops / houses have changed, our church looks exactly of same. See below.



# SIGNIFICANT DATES / ANNIVERSARIES

## June

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> June  | Opening & First Mass in St. Mary's, Ryde (Trinity Sunday 1846)   |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> June | Anniversary of the consecration of Sacred Heart, Shanklin (1988)   |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> June | St. Thomas's, Cowes opened for first Mass. (Trinity Sunday 1797)   |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> June | Opening & First Mass in St. Joseph's Church, Niton (1969).   |
| 21 June               | Opening of (the present) St. Michael's Church, Bembridge (1965)  |
| 23 June               | Consecration of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sacred Heart Church, Shanklin (1911)   |
| 25 June               | Anniversary of arrival of the first Benedictine monks at Quarr (1907)<br>Opening of (and first Mass) St. Patrick's, Sandown (1929)<br>Anniversary - Ordination of Fr. Jonathan Redvers Harris (2011) |
| 26 June               | Laying of the foundation stone. Present S. Heart, Shanklin (1956)<br>Inaugural Mass of the Ordinariate on the Isle of Wight (2011)   |
| 27 June               | First (Post Reformation) Episcopal visitation to Ryde (1847)   |
| 28 June               | Opening of the present Church of the Sacred Heart, Shanklin. (1957)  |

## July

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 11 July | Feast of St. Benedict. Author of the Rule which is followed at the Island's two Benedictine abbeys.<br>Final Mass (offered by Bishop Hollis) at St. Joseph's, Niton (2007)<br>Appointment of Philip Egan as Bp. of Portsmouth (2012) |
| 13 July | Blessing of the Island Martyrs' Memorial at Cowes (2003)   |
| 15 July | Consecration - John H. King - auxillary Bp. of Portsmouth (1938)   |
| 17 July | Final Mass and closure of Holy Cross Church, Seaview (2011)  |
| 20 July | Anniversary - Ordination of Fr. Emmanuel - Newport/Totland (1996)  |
| 25 July | Inauguration of John Vertue as first Bp. of Portsmouth (1882)  |
| 29 July | Anniversary of Inauguration of Diocesan Synod (1884)   |
| 30 July | Opening of the second Sacred Heart Church, Shanklin (1907)   |



## OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

On Wednesday 25th June there's a last-Wednesday-in-the-month 8-00pm Polish Novena of Prayer at St David's, East Cowes to the Mother of Perpetual Help.  
All welcome and copies available in English.

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# KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE CHS

Keep in touch with the CHS by visiting our web site (updated weekly) and our two Facebook pages (updated daily). Details at the front of this newsletter. Plenty to read about. We mention just three stories on our website with anniversaries at this time:-

## Websites of Pastoral Area and two of our Island parishes:-

[www.swiow.org.uk/welcome.htm](http://www.swiow.org.uk/welcome.htm)

South Wight

[www.stmarysryde.org.uk](http://www.stmarysryde.org.uk)

St. Mary's, Ryde

[www.iowrccchurch.org.uk/pastoralarea.htm](http://www.iowrccchurch.org.uk/pastoralarea.htm)

Island Pastoral Area

## Abbey websites

[www.quarrabbey.org](http://www.quarrabbey.org)

Quarr Abbey

[www.stceciliassabbey.org.uk](http://www.stceciliassabbey.org.uk)

St. Cecilia's Abbey

## Facebook pages of two of our Island parishes:-

[www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Shanklin-IoW-109361220728878/](https://www.facebook.com/Sacred-Heart-Shanklin-IoW-109361220728878/) Sacred Heart

[www.facebook.com/stsaviourtotland/](https://www.facebook.com/stsaviourtotland/)

St. Saviour's

[www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicIOW](https://www.facebook.com/StThomasCatholicIOW)

St. Thomas's, Newport

Finally, and as always, thank you once again for your support of the CHS. Our next CHS will appear in late August.

We would be delighted to receive any articles / information / photographs of events relating to Catholic history and culture from all areas of the Island. Once again, we would be delighted if people copy any of our E. news or website articles to promote in their parishes. There is no need to ask for specific permission.

*Peter* (on behalf of IoW Catholic History Society)

The Isle of Wight Catholic History Society is an independent association promoting the Catholic history and culture of the Island. Any views and opinions recorded in this newsletter, and on the CHS website are those of its members.

The Society is pleased to publicise (at its own discretion) articles and events contributed by other groups / societies or individuals, which have a Catholic / Christian ethos.

The Society welcomes all contributions from members as well as any factual corrections.