



UNFORGETTABLE!

Joy and devotion as the Province joins thousands to welcome Pope Benedict XVI

The British Province paid a full and active part in the Papal Visit last month, with schools, parishes, novices and other areas of the Jesuits' work participating. And there was unqualified praise for the organisation.

Many who took part commented on the contrast between the euphoria of the public's greeting for Pope Benedict and the reverence during the liturgies.

A pupil of St Aloysius' College, Glasgow, who took part in the Big Assembly at St Mary's College, Twickenham, described it as "a great opportunity". She wrote: "Our visit to London as a group of young Scottish Catholics will not be a visit which is easily forgotten. Coming together as a community in the presence of the Holy Father reminds us of the importance of faith in our lives, especially in a modern society which is constantly subject to criticism. I believe that many will not forget the bonds made on this trip, of new friendships as well as exploring our faith." Another pupil wrote simply: "I will not forget this experience".

Many of the Jesuit priests who took part in the events over the four days were involved in distributing the Eucharist. Fr Paul Hackett SJ travelled with a group of pilgrims



Clockwise from top left: pupils from St Aloysius' College, Glasgow; novices Ronan McCoy and Christian Keeley at Cofton Park; members of the Stonyhurst group; Fr Paul Hackett SJ and pilgrims

from Our Lady of the Rosary and Saint Columba, Kingussie, to the Mass in Bellahouston Park, Glasgow. "Communion time was especially memorable when I was guided to the appointed spot and I felt extremely privileged to help with the distribution to that huge congregation ... Altogether a wonderful spiritual experience and one which will endure."

The Director of Novices, Fr Paul Nicholson SJ, was one of the concelebrants at the Mass at Cofton Park, Birmingham, for the beatification of Cardinal John Henry

Newman. He too says that the distribution of the Eucharist will be a memory he will treasure. "At first I was sent a long way down the central 'aisle' that led from the altar to the furthest point of the crowd. With a number of priests nearby, we had soon offered communion or a blessing to all those nearby. But then, bringing the ciborium back to one of the marquees that had been designated as side-chapels, the steward I was assigned to suddenly veered off to a more remote corner where several hundred Vietnamese were gathered,

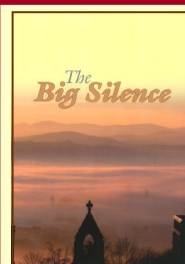
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JMI TAKES THE LEAD WITH EUROPEAN WEBMASTERS

Jesuit Media Initiatives (JMI) – the work of the British Province responsible for developing Thinking Faith and pray-as-you-go – is to take over the role of convenor of the Jesuit Webmasters conference for the next three years. The outgoing convenor, Fr Piaras Jackson SJ of the Irish Province, welcomed the expertise and creativity that the London-based team will be able to bring to the Jesuits’ work with the Internet in Europe. Piaras is editor of the online prayer website Sacred Space, which was co-developed by Fr Peter Scally SJ of JMI.

“The Internet is still young, and as it matures we realise that we Jesuits need to take account of developments and make the most of the available opportunities,” he said at the meeting of European Jesuit Webmasters held in the Manresa Centre for

Spirituality in Dublin last month.

In addition to inputs from Piaras, and there were presentations from Dermot Roantree of the Jesuit Communications Centre, Dublin, who addressed the meeting on emerging trends on the web; Antóin Ó Lachtnáin spoke about creative commons and the open network; Inyoung Cho SJ offered some insightful reflections on spirituality online; Fergus O’Donoghue SJ helped the group to consider the internet and the intellectual apostolate; and Dani Villaneuva SJ invited the group to



consider how they might support Magis 2011.

The annual meetings have taken place since 2005 and a number of European Provinces were represented at the event where participants spoke about the need to develop digital strategies and to have better rationales for how they engage with the possibilities the web offers. The annual gathering provides an opportunity for people to compare notes, consider collaborative projects and to review best practice on the web. It involved participants from Belgium, Slovenia, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Italy, Slovakia, the UK, Ireland and the United States.

The Web-masters are pictured left taking time off from their meeting to do some sight-seeing in Dublin. Source: AMDG. Photo: Philip Debruyne SJ



60 years in the Society of Jesus



Seven Jesuit brothers joined Brother Michael Hayward SJ recently to celebrate his diamond jubilee as a Jesuit.

Br Hayward, who hails originally from Wiltshire, entered the Society at Roehampton in 1952 and has spent many years involved in farming and

other ministries of service, in Britain, South Africa and Zimbabwe. He was transcribed to the Zimbabwe Province when it was set up in 1978, returning to Britain in 1994. Since then, he has assisted with administration and has served as Sacristan at St Wilfrid’s Church in Preston.

Brother Michael Hayward SJ is pictured here—front row, second left—with (l-r back row) Brothers Michael O’Connor (novice), David McGarry, Ted Coyle, Stephen Power, and (front row) Ken Vance, James Hodgkinson and Andrew Atkinson.



WIMBLEDON HEAD TO STEP DOWN

Father Adrian Porter SJ has announced that he will be stepping down as Head Master of Wimbledon College at the end of this school year. He has been asked by the Jesuit Provincial to make himself available for another job in the province after seven years as Head Master of Wimbledon College and nine years as Head Master of St Aloysius' College in Glasgow before that.

Wimbledon College of Arts) described his headship of Wimbledon College as "a great privilege ... Most of my life as a Jesuit has been spent in secondary education: at Marquette University High School in Milwaukee USA, at St Ignatius College Enfield, and then as Head Master of St Aloysius' College Glasgow before coming to Wimbledon. Working in schools can be very demanding but it is also immensely rewarding to see the young people entrusted to our care growing in maturity and wisdom (well, most of the time!). I have been fortunate to work with outstanding and generous colleagues, supported by parents committed to the Jesuit style of education. This has been especially so at Wimbledon College."

The governors will now begin the process of finding a new Head for Wimbledon College who, according to Dr Stone, will almost certainly be a lay person.

"The College will remain a Jesuit school and will retain its Jesuit ethos and trusteeship," wrote the Chair of Governors. "All of the other eight Jesuit schools in the UK now have lay heads and have been successful in building their unique Jesuit identity and success. The Jesuit community in Wimbledon will continue to provide support including priests to celebrate the sacraments and assist in the chaplaincy."



Writing to parents, the Chair of Governors, Dr Patrick Stone, said that Fr Porter will be greatly missed. "He has been an outstanding servant of Wimbledon College. Under Fr Porter's stewardship the school has gone from strength to strength. He has provided dynamic leadership and vision. The governors wish to express their thanks for his hard work and commitment to the school and the local community over the last seven years. "

In his letter to parents, Fr Porter (*pictured right with boys outside the*



'OUTSTANDING' BOY CHORISTERS SING FOR CHARITIES

The Chapel Choir of St John's Beaumont will give a charity concert in aid of the Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust and the Dermot Gogarty Memorial Trust at Beaumont House Hotel on Sunday 17 October.

St John's Beaumont has an outstanding choral tradition, with around 30 boys in the Chapel Choir, which headmaster Giles Delaney describes as "central to the school's religious ethos". The choristers performed at a Papal Mass in St Peter's Basilica in 2007 and embarked on a concert tour of Cologne over the summer. They have also recently worked with the composer Gabriel Jackson on a BBC composition project. In March of this year the Chapel Choir played a leading role in a Joint Jesuit Schools' Concert at St Ignatius Church, Stamford Hill along with seven other choirs from Jesuit Schools in the UK.

Dermot Gogarty was for 18 years the highly respected headmaster of St John's, until his tragic death in a car accident in November 2005. A Trust was established in his memory, a permanent fund to support initiatives suggested and developed by the boys in year 8 which would be of benefit to the community. The Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust (HCPT) was formed in 1956 when a young doctor, Michael Strode, took four children with disabilities to Lourdes. From the outset he insisted that the children should be treated just like other pilgrims, and should be accommodated in hotels rather than hospitals. Today, HCPT takes around 2,000 children with disabilities, or social or emotional needs, on a pilgrimage holiday to Lourdes each Easter.

Tickets are available from the School Office on 01784 432428 or tdunham@stjohnsbeaumont.co.uk. Tickets are £10 per adult/£5 per child in advance, £12/£6 on the door.



Unforgettable!

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and I was occupied there until the end of Mass. Meanwhile two of the novices (all of whom are accredited Eucharistic Ministers) had shown some initiative. Noticing a priest-free section of the congregation, they had asked for and received a supply of consecrated hosts from one of the chapels, and served the needs of their immediate neighbours there.”

For many who took part in the Papal events, involvement meant long journeys and early starts. The Jesuit novitiate’s response to the papal visit started with 11 novices standing in a rainy field at 1am on the Sunday morning. They were among a group of 850 volunteer stewards for the Beatification Mass which was to begin at 10am. The Stonyhurst contingent was likewise awakened in the early hours to make the journey to Birmingham. And the party from Glasgow—including Chaplain, Fr Gerard Gallen SJ—made an 11-hour



Stonyhurst Lower Line Girls’ housemistress, Miss Lindsay Fielding, took this photo of the Pope’s arrival in Cofton Park.

Fr Peter Griffiths SJ, parish priest at St Aloysius Church, Glasgow, was also impressed by the organisation that went into the distribution of Communion at the Bellahoustan event. “At the foot of the podium was a line of young pupils from local Catholic schools. As each priest approached, he was met by a boy and girl carrying a yellow umbrella. When my turn came, without a word being spoken, and without any hesitation, these young people led me through the arena to a particular area in the compound and to a post with a number on it. There, I distributed communion and then, the task done, I returned to the podium led by the two efficient young people.”

journey to attend the Big Assembly at St Mary’s College, Twickenham, thereby missing the Glasgow Mass. “The Scottish contingent gathered early in the morning, securing a good vantage point from which to view the leader of the Assembly!” says Gerry.

“When the Popemobile appeared there was a huge rush of excitement and adrenalin. The stewards who had been keen to keep the groups penned in within marked boxes on the grass had no chance, as the youngsters moved to show their appreciation for the Holy Father. Never has such enthusiasm been shown for the leader of a school assembly!”

Pontiff’s homily surprises and encourages

“The homily at Bellahoustan Park really struck a chord with me,” says 15 year old Catherine Canning from St Aloysius’ College, “because the Pope made the time to directly address the younger people instead of making one general comment. The Pope is always described as a shy and scholarly man and so I was not expecting to connect with his message in as much depth. However, I was proven wrong as the Pontiff engaged his congregation across the country. His message circulated around finding happiness within our faith. I was encouraged by the Holy Father because he reminded us that we can live a good life by coming closer to God and following the example of Jesus Christ.”

Karen Mitchell, a teacher of EAL at Stonyhurst College, was deeply affected by the Beatification Mass at Cofton Park. “My visit to Birmingham was a very special and moving experience which made me realise that I am not alone in my faith and am in fact part of a much larger group of people who share the same beliefs.”

Stonyhurst students at Cofton Park expressed similar sentiments. Fabian Twist said it was “a truly extraordinary experience to be in such a huge crowd that shared a common identity.” And Patrick Hoffman added: “The papal visit displayed all the magnificence of a Church with 2,000 years of history.”

Writing in the *Daily Telegraph*, Christopher Howse commented: “When the Pope came into sight, in chasuble and red-crossed pallium, a gold mitre of basketwork pattern on his head, one of the 50 boys and girls from Stonyhurst school, who had been waiting since 5.30am, whispered: “This is really worth it now.”



EDUCATION AS WISDOM

Scholastic Philip Harrison SJ was one of 19 Jesuit scholastics who attended the gathering of religious at St Mary's College, Twickenham



The prayer service began before the Pope arrived and included psalms, readings and music. The beautiful chapel of St Mary's, built in 1963, was a perfect setting for the service. The sun poured in through its stained glass as the choir sang a piece by Martin Forester and *Liebster Jesu* by J.S. Bach. After this time of prayer, three representatives of religious congregations involved in teaching addressed those assembled to meet the Pope. The last of these was the Jesuit Provincial, Fr Michael Holman SJ, who encouraged all of us gathered there to recall the hugely positive impact of Catholic schools founded both at home and abroad with a concern especially for the poor and marginalised. He spoke about Christ at work in the world, the Christ who is our hope and who makes out of history something new.

Suddenly, from outside the chapel, we heard the first shouts and cries welcoming the Pope. A great cheer rose up in anticipation of his arrival.

The congregation began to sing a setting of the Latin words, *Veni Sancte Spiritus* ('Come Holy Spirit'). The singing continued and grew into a crescendo. As the Pope walked in, surrounded by bishops,

monsignors and security guards, I was struck by the thought that he seemed so ordinary. Just a small man dressed in white. It was almost hard to see what the fuss was about! As soon as he began to speak, though, the significance of his presence began to sink in.

The Pope spoke eloquently and surprisingly about education, with the theme of education as wisdom, saying that education 'is about forming the human person, equipping him or her to live life to the full - in short it is about imparting wisdom.' He also credited St Columba, St Augustine and St Benedict as great teachers of the Church, making the connection between their work of missionary evangelisation and education. Perhaps most powerfully, he expressed a deep sentiment of gratitude to those present and to many others for their work with young people.

Those 20 or so minutes in the presence of the Pope have created for me a lasting memory, part of a collective memory of this visit for many Catholics. The significance of his visit surely goes beyond the words he has spoken over these few days. His visit is a gesture which reveals the Catholic Church today as a Church which is leaving behind the spirit of timidity that has marked the public expression of its values. In the Pope's presence, I felt part of a Church with an important message about the deep value of young people which needs to be heard in our society.

BBC confirms dates for retreat series

The BBC has confirmed the transmission dates of 'The Big Silence', a three-part series made by Tiger Aspect Productions for BBC2, much of which was filmed at St Beuno's Retreat Centre in Wales. 'The Big Silence' is a series about five men and women who believed that their lives were too hectic and struggled to build silence into their daily lives. For four months, they were introduced to the practice of daily silence and meditation, staying at Worth Abbey and St Beuno's, under the guidance of Abbot Christopher Jamison OSB and their Ignatian guides.

A 44-page booklet has been published by the British Jesuits to help people step back from their busy lives to experience stillness. Entitled 'Growing into Silence', it is written by Fr Paul Nicholson SJ and includes chapters by the four spiritual guides who took part in the TV series: Fr Tom McGuinness SJ, Fr Brendan Callaghan SJ, Sr Renate Düllman OP and Ruth Holgate.

"All of the volunteers were profoundly changed by the experience" writes Fr Nicholson in the introduction to the booklet. "'Growing into Silence' offers you the chance to follow up their experience in your own life. You can find out about the spiritual exercises that they undertook and consider following them yourself."

'Growing into Silence' is available from Way Books at £6 (UK including postage), £7.50 (Europe via Air Mail) and £10 for the rest of the world and, from 15 October, from www.growingintosilence.com.

'The Big Silence' will be broadcast on BBC2 on the three Fridays – October 22 and 29, and November 5.



ECO AWARD FOR EDINBURGH PARISH

Sacred Heart parish and the Lauriston Jesuit Centre in Edinburgh have been presented with two 'Eco Congregation' awards. The parish was the first Catholic parish in the archdiocese to receive an eco congregation award, and only the second Catholic church in Scotland to do so, while the Lauriston Jesuit Centre is the first church centre of any denomination to be given an award in its own right, separate from the church of which it is a part. The parish has been registered as an eco-congregation church for two years.

The award was made in recognition of Sacred Heart's work in conservation and the environment. "The priests take the opportunity to bring the environment into homilies," explains Fr Chris Boles SJ, Director of the Lauriston Centre. "Our children have eco-focal points at various times of the year; we celebrate a harvest festival each year; we regularly have bidding prayers on eco matters; we

marked the Copenhagen Earth Summit with bell ringing, part of a global action with churches all over the world (since we don't have church bells the children all took bells and rang them during the offertory procession!); our prayers for peace in Advent had a strong eco theme."

Children of the parish have designed posters to encourage re-cycling and energy-saving measures have been introduced throughout the church and the Jesuit Centre. "The programme at the Lauriston Centre has a lot of environmentally focussed events," says Fr Boles. "Our speakers have included Mary Colwell, Sean McDonagh, Alastair MacIntosh and Aubrey Manning. And special events have taken place: Ranger Guided Nature Walk, Dawn Chorus Experience, Visit to Dynamic Earth, Creation Vigil, and more. We have also done a very major refurbishment of the building with a lot of eco-measures."



Parish priest, Fr James Crampsey SJ, and Angela Campbell of the Lauriston Jesuit Centre in Edinburgh, after receiving the awards.

Photo: David Campbell



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DREAMS AND HARD WORK: The Message from Vatican Astronomer

The guest of honour at the annual St Aloysius' College Prize Giving was Brother Guy Consolmagno SJ, Curator of Meteorites at the Vatican Observatory.



In his opening remarks to an audience of 1,700 at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, he noted that hard work is often a virtue which is misunderstood. From his own days at school he recalled teachers and parents saying, 'You can be anything you want, but the trick is choosing what you want.' Fame, money, the adulation of the crowd, the respect of family? Making reference to the Ignatian concept of discernment, he noted the challenge that is presented to us all of finding what will truly make us happy, a happiness which is not just transient. 'God wants you to be happy. If you are lucky your passion will match your skills and if you are even luckier you will get paid for what you love to do. That passion will then fuel the hard work.'

Imagination, he told his audience is also an essential part of the mix. The astronomer asks, 'What is it like to

stand on one of the moons of Jupiter?' Dreaming comes first, then comes the hard work of finding out if the dream is true. What are the mathematical equations which represent the theory? He went on to tell the assembled pupils, 'Your job is to figure out what are the dreams that will fuel where you want to go. You may not end up where you think you will...It will probably be better! Take your dream a step further. Test your dream to see if it really is yours. Where does God want you to go? It is your work and your dream. No one can dream it for you!'

Br Consolmagno's energy, contagious sense of humour and professional acumen make him one of the finest international speakers of the day. His current talk *God's Mechanics: The Religious Life of Techies* is available on Google Talks.



POLITICS AND POLAR ADVENTURES:INSPIRING TALKS FOR MOUNT ST MARY’S STUDENTS

Leading names from the world of media, exploration and health are set to visit Mount St Mary’s College this autumn as part of a prestigious programme of events designed to inspire A level students .

They have already heard from Dr Simon Fisel, recognised as one of the world’s most eminent specialists in the field of fertility treatment. On October 14, Michael Crick, BBC Newsnight’s Political Editor will be the guest speaker. He says he hopes to inspire students, in particular from the school’s debating society on matters of politics, current affairs and the media.

On November 17, global explorer Tom Avery (*pictured right*) will be speaking to students about his many adventures around the world and challenges he has faced. Tom is a pioneering climber and ski mountaineer, who is one of only 41 people in history to have reached both the North and South poles on foot. He is also the youngest Briton to have been to both Poles.

Laurence McKell, head teacher at Mount St Mary’s said: “The speaker events are a part of our co-curricular programme, which aims to allow students to become more independent whilst challenging themselves with new experiences in order to be ambitious and creative. Mount St Mary’s ethos is to offer students with a creative approach to education continuously striving to provide pupils with an innovative way of learning whilst preparing them for life after school.”



JEWISH-CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING



Recently the Jesuit Institute South Africa (JISA) hosted Jerusalem-based Rabbi David Rosen (*above*), one of the leading figures in the interfaith movement, who once ministered to a congregation in the Cape. He spoke about the growth in the relationship between the Jewish and Catholic communities, particularly during the pontificate of John Paul II. And he pointed to the understanding that now exists between our two faiths as an example of how interreligious dialogue can heal even the most damaged of relationships.

JISA has also facilitated the visit of renowned Australian theologian Fr Gerry O’Collins SJ to South Africa. He addressed an audience of more than 80 on Christology at the University of the Free State.

One of the present challenges, he suggested, is to explore the place of Jesus in a pluralistic world. Fr O’Collins said that belief in Christ and worship of him in the early Church is another important area of contemporary study, a work of history rather than theology. The early Church had a ‘high Christology’, that is a belief in Jesus as Lord and the divine Son of the Father, he told his audience.



The newly appointed prefects at Stonyhurst College went on a retreat at Castlerigg Manor in the Lake District, to prepare for their year of service. The retreat was led by the College chaplains, Fr John Twist SJ and Sarah Young, and was an opportunity for the ‘Committee’, as they are known, to consider their role of leadership in the context of faith. Everyone appreciated Castlerigg’s Lakeland setting and enjoyed a bracing climb up Castlehead Fell!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER 2010

2: Ordination to the priesthood: Leonard Michael SJ, St Anselm's Church, Southall

9: Ordination to the priesthood: Justin Prabhu SJ, Chennai, India

12 – 14: Southern Ignatian Network conference, High Leigh, Hertfordshire

17 – 22: Jesuit schools retreat, Barmouth Villa

NOVEMBER 2010

5: Final Vows – Fr Dominic Robinson SJ, Farm Street Church

5 – 7: Explore Jesuit Life, Loyola Hall

8 – 11: JVC Community and Simple Lifestyle Residential - Barmouth Villa

11 – 13: Jesuit parishes conference, High Leigh conference centre, Herts

14: 30th anniversary of the Jesuit Refugee Service

JRS IS MOVING

JRS is leaving London Bridge to go to the East of London in January 2011. The good news is that the day centre receiving refugees will now be located at the same place as the office. They will also have more space to receive visitors. Moving takes a great deal of organisation; so they need some help in the office; if you feel like helping by contacting removal companies for quotes in November, for example, or helping with the packing, please contact them on: 020 7357 0974 or uk@jrs.net and ask to speak to Sou Huoy or Jonathan.

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick, undergoing medical treatment or are convalescing, including

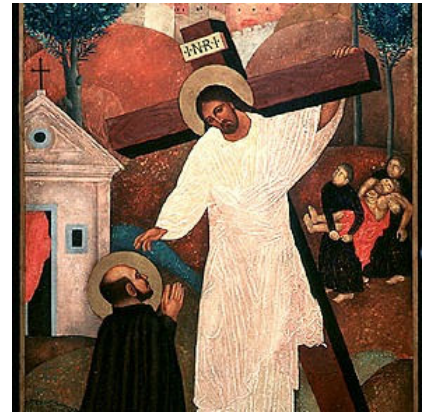
Fr David Smolira SJ, Fr Kevin McElhatton SJ, and Br Bill Jordan SJ. And also Juan Casas' father who is gravely ill in Colombia

And those who have died recently, including

Ugenio Phiri's mother, Margaret, who has died in Zimbabwe; Elizabeth ('Liz') Barry, former cook/ housekeeper in the novitiate in Harborne; and Eileen Moore, formerly Sr Eileen McColgan HHS, who died on 18 September 2010.

May they rest in peace.

EXPLORE JESUIT LIFE



5 – 7 November 2010

A weekend for those who would like to find out more about the Jesuits and their mission in the Church.

Loyola Hall
jesuit spirituality centre



FIRST VOWS AND ARRIVALS. Michael O'Connor, Shane Daly and Samuel Overloop pronounced their first vows as Jesuits at Manresa House on 4 September. Michael has now joined the parish team at Stamford Hill; Shane has begun his regency at St Ignatius College in Galway; and Samuel is undertaking a Masters programme in philosophy at Heythrop College. The six men now in their second year, Niall Leahy, Joe Keegan, Ronan McCoy, Jos Moons, Bart Baele and Hendrick Barnard, have been joined by first year novices, Christian Keeley, Mark McDevitt and Geoff te Braake of the British Province, Gavin Murphy of the Irish Province and Janis Melnikovs (Lithuania) Please keep them all in your prayers.