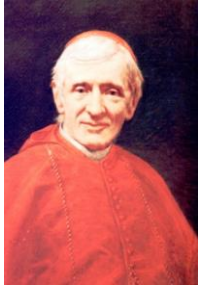


# Holy Innocents' Parish Pilgrimage to Oxford

## 10th October 2019



Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman began his Christian Ministry as an Anglican Minister. His thirst for further knowledge led him to study the writings of the early Church Fathers, and it was these that led him to the Catholic Church, as he said "The Church Fathers made me Catholic."

Pope Francis  
will canonise

Blessed Cardinal John Henry  
Newman in Rome on Sunday  
13<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Thursday 10th October Father  
Victor and 32 parishioners set  
off for Oxford to follow in  
Cardinal John Henry Newman's  
footsteps. Prayers on our  
journey put us into thoughtful  
mode about the day ahead. We  
arrived for Mass at the Oxford  
Oratory Church of St Aloysius  
Gonzaga.



<<<<<< There  
is a cabinet  
with artefacts  
and letters  
from John  
Henry  
Newman





Father Victor gives us a history of events.

#### Trinity College>>>>>>>

John Henry Newman was an undergraduate and scholar of Trinity from 1816–22, and the college's first Honorary Fellow, elected in 1877. Newman is a significant figure in the religious history of 19th century England; a theologian and poet, his role in the Oxford Movement of Anglicans (who hoped to return many pre-Reformation Catholic beliefs and rituals to the Church of England) and eventual reception into the Catholic Church made him a nationally-known figure by the mid-1830s. He is remembered as a preacher, pastor, controversialist, educational visionary, and one of the most significant modern theologians of the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches.



<<<<< Reflection in the Chapel.



In 1828 John Henry Newman became vicar of the University Church of St Mary the Virgin and his sermons became popular with undergraduates. From the present pulpit John Keble preached the assize sermon of 14 July 1833, which is considered to have started the Oxford Movement, an attempt to revive catholic spirituality in the church and university. The influence of the movement spread and affected

the practice and spirituality of the Church of England.

There is a memorial plaque to both the Anglican and Catholic Martyrs. Unity in dying for Christ. Lunch followed in the vault Café. We then walked on to Oriel College.

Cardinal Newman served as Chaplain of Oriel (1826-31, 1833-35) and as Vicar of the University Church (1828-1843). In 1836, discovering that the people of the nearby village of Littlemore, nominally part of his parish, had never had their own church, he built a chapel and a school in the village and served as its vicar until 1843.



<< Restful Chapel area to pray and contemplate



Beautiful stained glass windows tell the story of a faith journey. >>>>>>>>



<<< The coach then took us to Littlemore where John Henry Newman lived at The College at



Littlemore from 1842 – 1846, making it a place of quiet prayer and study for himself and some friends. It was at the College on 9th October, 1845 that Newman, the famous Anglican preacher, Fellow of Oriel College, and leading figure of the Oxford Movement was received into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church by Blessed Dominic Barberi, an Italian missionary priest, making his profession of faith in his own room. He said he was received into the ‘one true fold of the Redeemer.’

In 1987 the Fathers of the Birmingham

Oratory entrusted The College in Littlemore Oxford to the care of The Work. As with the other Newman Centres in Rome, Bregenz (Austria), and Budapest (Hungary), this centre in Littlemore aims at making the life and work of Blessed John Henry Newman known.

A registered Charity, The Society of The Work, was established and an International Centre of Newman Friends set up in 1988. The Spiritual Family The Work (FSO) began in 1938 in Belgium. The foundress, Mother Julia Verhaeghe (1910 – 1997), served the Church with her special gifts of generosity and discernment, inspiring and helping many to share in the Charism that she had received from God. The Work consists of a Priests’ Community and a Sisters’ Community and has houses in many European countries, in the United States and in the Holy Land.



<<< The gardens of Littlemore remain peaceful

John Henry Newman is received into full communion  
with the Catholic Church >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

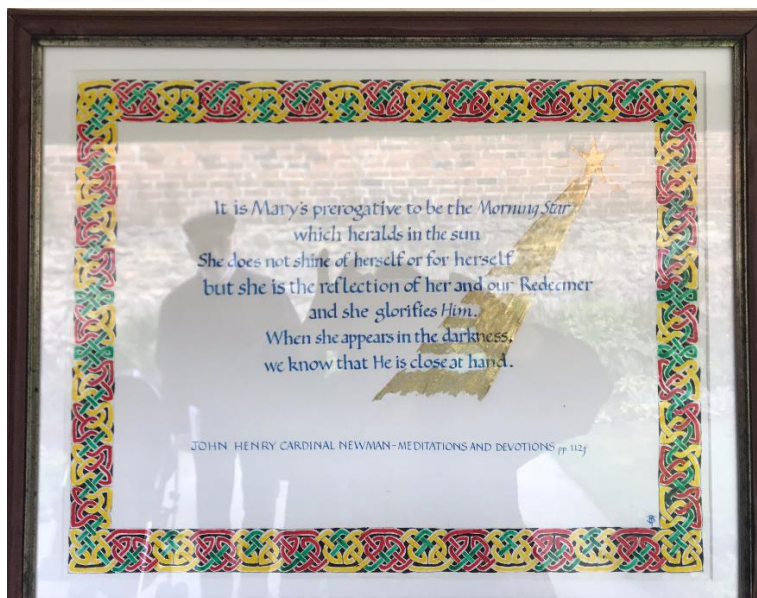


<<<<< John Henry Newman's writing desk at Littlemore at the International Centre of Newman Friends.

The Library >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>







<<<<<<<

A golden crown with multiple sharp, pointed spikes, resting on a green surface.

Now it was time to go to St Mary and St Nicholas Church to meet parishioners and have refreshments. We were made most welcome and a delicious array of cakes was provided for us. Father Victor led us in prayer and spoke of the unity that John Henry Newman has brought to both Catholics and Anglicans through his ministry.





A collage of 20 photographs documenting the 'Book of St Ervyns' project. The images show a man reading in a library, a portrait of a cardinal, the interior of a church with a checkered floor, people sitting in pews, a man speaking to a group, a stained glass window, a group of people, a blue logo with a cross and a sail, a large organ, a man holding a large orange, and a group of people at a table.





**Photos shown below taken by Benjamin H. Johnson III.**

**Message from Benjamin.....**

“Saint John Henry Newman Ecumenical Service” at St Mary & St Nicholas Church Littlemore on 10 Oct 2019. It was your pilgrimage + open display of our Harvest of Talents. Truly I cannot call it other than a Service of the Word.

The church and icons gave a sermon in concert with our words, songs and prayers.

The file will remain active for 60 days so please download the images you wish or complete file. Use the images in places as you feel God leads you to do.

The first two images are an introduction to my wonderful Vicar Revd Margreet Armitstead; one with Philip that greeted the group. I'm certain you have her details, but her contact information is on the visitor sheet you have. Remember at the time of the service she was in Rome for the canonisation that was a part of the celebration we held together.

Your words showed wisdom and your presence was powerful in proclaiming the Good News. Together as one people we of one Christian faith embraced Saint John Henry Newman, but more so glorified God for the gift. The gift of his life to all humanity - those in this Littlemore community that he served so diligently and others in this great nation and those in the wider global community that have grown to love and treasure him.

Regarding the images I am honoured to capture the moments that make memories - there are lots of them! I pray for bonding that brings us closer together that we may know and love each other more dearly as Christ Jesus would have us do. That through that love other churches will joint us and grow with us ecumenically as one community in God's church in God's personal care. God Bless.

Benjamin

Vicar Revd Margreet Armitstead >>>>>>>>





<<< Rev  
Margreet &  
Philip











**from *Meditations and Devotions*,  
"Meditations on Christian Doctrine,"  
"Hope in God—Creator", March 7, 1848**

**Saint John Henry Newman**

God knows me and calls me by my name....  
God has created me to do Him some definite service;  
He has committed some work to me  
which He has not committed to another.  
I have my mission—I never may know it in this life,  
but I shall be told it in the next.

Somehow I am necessary for His purposes...  
I have a part in this great work;  
I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection  
between persons.  
He has not created me for naught. I shall do good,  
I shall do His work;  
I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth  
in my own place, while not intending it,  
if I do but keep His commandments  
and serve Him in my calling.

Therefore I will trust Him.  
Whatever, wherever I am,  
I can never be thrown away.  
If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him;  
In perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him;  
If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him.  
My sickness, or perplexity, or sorrow may be  
necessary causes of some great end,  
which is quite beyond us.  
He does nothing in vain; He may prolong my life,  
He may shorten it;  
He knows what He is about.  
He may take away my friends,  
He may throw me among strangers,  
He may make me feel desolate,  
make my spirits sink, hide the future from me—  
still He knows what He is about....  
Let me be Thy blind instrument. I ask not to see—  
I ask not to know—I ask simply to be used.