

St Francis of Assisi, Baddesley Clinton

[Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216]

Fr John Sharp

www.sfachurch.co.uk

01564 782498

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

8th October 2017

PARISH LITURGY – MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

Saturday	6.00 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.30 am	Eva McGrory

Second Collection for CAFOD

Monday [Blessed John Henry Newman, priest]

9.00 am **No Mass**

Tuesday [St Paulinus of York, bishop]

9.00 am **No Mass**

Wednesday [St John XXIII, pope]

9.00 am Ruth Cox

Thursday [St Wilfrid, bishop]

9.00 am Private Intention

Friday [St Edward the Confessor]

9.00 am Hilda and Arthur Poole

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Mass until 10.00 am

Saturday [Feria (of Our Lady)]

9.00 am Private Intention

Confessions: Saturday, 4.30-5.00 pm

Please pray for the sick in our parish and for those who have died: **Lola Campbell** (recently departed); **Marie Ann Halligan; Marjorie Parsons; William Chinn; Sr M. Francis; Anna Maria O'Shea** (anniversaries).

Last Week's Collection: £319.86. Thank you.

Bible Study. Tuesday at 7.00 pm in the presbytery.

40 Days for Life is holding a vigil outside the Marie Stopes Abortion Clinic in Edgbaston, Birmingham, until 5 November. Please see the leaflets at the back of church for more details.

The contemplative life is divided into three parts: reading, prayer and meditation. God speaks to us in reading. We speak to God in prayer. When we meditate, angels come down to teach us so that we do not go wrong. They ascend in prayer and offer our own prayers to God, rejoicing when all goes well for us, acting as messengers between us and God. Prayer is a humble desire of the mind turned towards God which pleases him when it reaches him. Meditation on God and on godly things comes after reading, like the use of incense.

Reading depends on reason and inquiry into truth; it is like a good clear light shed on us. Prayer depends on praise and song, and contemplation is classed with prayer. Meditation relies on God's inspiration and understanding, his wisdom and aspiration....

A very contemplative person is often thought to be a fool, for his or her mind is so intent on unseen things, so inflamed by the love of Christ, that the very stance of the body changes. The contemplative seems to stand apart from all other human beings as a child of God, and to other people seems raving mad...

A devout soul which practises contemplation and is filled with everlasting love despises the vanities of this world, and wants only to enjoy Jesus and to be in the splendid company of the angels, undisturbed by worldly changes and troubles.

There is nothing better and more joyful than the grace of contemplation, which lifts us out of the habits and practices of this world, and brings us to God. The grace of contemplation is nothing other than the being of joy. And what is perfect joy but grace confirmed in us, so that we may stay joyful and happy in glorious eternity, living with saints and angels in endless joy? Above all, it means knowing God truly, and loving him perfectly. It means seeing his Majesty shining, and in all eternity loving with wonderful joy and melody him to whom be worship and joy and thanksgiving in the world of worlds. Amen.

Richard Rolle (1300-c.1349)
