

# NETWORK

MAGAZINE

THE PARISH  
of  
ST. WILFRID  
HARROGATE



October 2009

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*Dear Friends*

I was very pleased to be able to be part of our parish's Walsingham Pilgrimage; this year the last weekend of September. Those who travelled to England's Nazareth with me were properly refreshed, challenged and inspired anew in our lives with the good news of Jesus as the Incarnate Lord.

For some Christians, devotion to the Blessed Virgin can be puzzling and controversial, despite this being the daily practice of more than three quarters of the world's Christians, and as old as the faith itself. As we were reminded this year at Walsingham, proper devotion to Mary is never anything less than the proclamation of Jesus himself; true God and true man and continuing both God and man in his new and risen life.

From its earliest days, the Church has been tempted to lapse into one of two particular errors, both equally false. Doceticism or "seeming" tends towards a view of God who merely appeared to be a human being. For how could God really be a man? Arianism is the opposite; this thinking leads us to an understanding of Jesus as a very special man, but not God. For how could a creature be God?

In 431, the Church's Council of Ephesus declared that Mary was to be known as "Theotokos" – God-bearer, or Mother of God, as we often say in the West. Why? In order to address such errors of faith. In describing Mary, we describe Jesus. For Christians, Jesus is the way

we know God; he is God fully and finally revealed. His life is our life in gift and promise.

Walsingham is a full and rich experience of Christian worship and Christian society and, ultimately, it should not surprise us to realise that the place is not really about Mary at all. It's about Jesus; because everything she is points to him. Walsingham proclaims the Incarnation of God as man.

The Shrine proclaims, in our own land and culture, the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and his reign alone which is coming. May this faith continue to grow and be known in our lives and in our communities.

*Fr John*

# THE PARISH CHURCH OF SAINT WILFRID, HARROGATE

## Calendar & Intentions List for October 2009

|     |                  |                               |                            |   |
|-----|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 1.  | Thursday         | S Therese of Lisieux          | Carmelite Order            | W |
| 2.  | Friday           | Guardian Angels               | Diocesan Synod             | W |
| 3.  | Saturday         | <i>of Our Lady</i>            | Shrine OLW                 | W |
| 4.  | <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Trinity 17</b>             | <b>our Parish</b>          | G |
| 5.  | Monday           |                               | Legal Professionals        | G |
| 6.  | Tuesday          | S Bruno                       | Carthusian Order           | W |
| 7.  | wednesday        |                               | Healing                    | G |
| 8.  | Thursday         |                               | Saltergate Governors       | G |
| 9.  | Friday           | S Denys, etc                  | Iraq                       | R |
| 10. | Saturday         | S Paulinus                    | Friends of S Wilfrid's     | W |
| 11. | <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>S Wilfrid of Ripon</b>     | <b>our Parish</b>          | W |
| 12. | Monday           |                               | Military Nurses            | G |
| 13. | Tuesday          | S Edward the Confessor        | HM The Queen               | W |
| 14. | wednesday        |                               | Farmers                    | G |
| 15. | Thursday         | S Teresa of Avila             | Spiritual Directors        | W |
| 16. | Friday           | <i>of the Precious Blood</i>  | Our Servers & HC Ministers | R |
| 17. | Saturday         | S Ignatius of Antioch         | Our Bishops                | R |
| 18. | <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>S Luke</b>                 | <b>our Parish</b>          | R |
| 19. | Monday           |                               | Physicians                 | G |
| 20. | Tuesday          |                               | The Poor & Hungry          | G |
| 21. | wednesday        |                               | Local Businesses           | G |
| 22. | Thursday         |                               | RAF Menwith Hill           | G |
| 23. | Friday           | <i>of the Holy Cross</i>      | SSC                        | R |
| 24. | Saturday         | <i>of Our Lady</i>            | The Newly Married          | W |
| 25. | <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Last after Trinity</b>     | <b>our Parish</b>          | G |
| 26. | Monday           | SS Chad & Cedd                | Lichfield Diocese          | W |
| 27. | Tuesday          |                               | Emergency Services         | G |
| 28. | <b>wednesday</b> | <b>SS Simon &amp; Jude</b>    | Faithfulness               | R |
| 29. | Thursday         |                               | Our Choir & Musicians      | G |
| 30. | Friday           |                               | The Lonely & Afraid        | G |
| 31. | Saturday         | Our Lady, Queen of All Saints | Christian Unity            | W |

**Please take this list away with you for your diary and your kind prayers**