

DAY	FEAST	MASS	INTENTION	DEVOTIONS AND ACTIVITIES
SAT 14th	Feria	12 noon 330pm 530pm	Maria Subotkiewich Nuptial Mass: Ekaterini and Ivan Sister Genevieve	Children's Adoration 10am Confessions after both Masses
SUN	Sunday 33B	930am	For the Parish	
MON 16th	St Richard Gwyn			
TUE 17th	St Elizabeth of Hungary	12 noon	Rosaleen Hunt	Catechism: Years 7 and 8, 4pm Stella Maris Catechumenate 730pm, Stella Maris
WED 18th	Feria	12 noon	Brenda Hartson RIP	School Governors: Blds and Finance. 7pm SVP 730pm, Stella Maris Eucharistic Adoration. 8pm-9pm
THU 19th	Feria	12 noon 930am Sch 5	Leslie Griffiths MM Desmond McCann RIP	Rosary, 1130am Open House, 2-4pm, Stella Maris
FRI 20th	Feria	12 noon	Fr Antony Jones	Exposition of Bl. Sacrament from 1230—415pm 3pm Holy Hour; 4pm Benediction
SAT 21st	Presentation of Our Lady	12 noon 530pm	Sister Jennifer Mary O'Mahoney RIP	Young People's Adoration. 10am Confessions: 415pm-515pm; after both Masses
SUN	Sunday 34B	9.30am	For the Parish	Reception

Thank you for Last Sunday's Collection: £728 of which £211 was gift-aided = £59 tax refund to Parish)
Thank you for Feed my Lambs:£239 (feeding some 300 starving Sudanese children for a week) **Well done!!**

EIN HARGLWYDDES SEREN Y MÔR OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA LLANDUDNO

35 LLOYD STREET. LL30 2YA

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2009

*may we know Christ more clearly
love him more dearly
and follow him more nearly*

Parish Priest	Fr Antony Jones Email: antonyjones23@googlemail.com	01492 860546
Parish Sister	Sr Jennifer Flat 1, Seren y Mor, 8 Caroline Road	07909442305 01492 877778
Parish Secretary	Mandy Rodrigues mandyrodrigues1@googlemail.com	07919972842
Chair of Parish Council	Sarah Dennison john.denvic@tiscali.co.uk	01492 877088
School Head	Elaine Dingsdale penaeth@bwilliamdavs.conwy.sch.uk	01492 875930
Stella Maris	John and Sarah Dennison john.denvic@tiscali.co.uk	01492 877088
Property Manager	John Dennison john.denvic@tiscali.co.uk	01492 877088
Parish Website	www.llandudno-catholic-church.org.uk	

Dear Parishioner,

We hear a lot about British Culture, American Culture these days. But have you ever stopped to think what we mean when we use this word Culture. What is it? What, after all, is “British Culture”?

Over the past few weeks, the Holy Father has been using his weekly audiences to reflect on the history of the Church in Europe and the great events and people that have shaped the Church’s story. This week he reflected on the part played by the great Benedictine monastery of Cluny in the south of France. And while on this subject, he focussed on the idea of Culture, showing how this great monastery had contributed to the formation of the Christian Culture of Europe.

He mentions four characteristics of culture, four ingredients, if you like.

1. The Primacy of the Spirit
2. Respect for human dignity
3. A commitment to peace
4. Authentic and integral humanism

His words made me reflect and apply these categories to “British Culture”.

1. THE PRIMACY OF THE SPIRIT.

This, the first characteristic the Holy Father lists, is almost completely missing from “British Culture”. Only in the rarest of instances would one find a

person in our present society putting spiritual values before material ones.

I know it has now become a cliché, but it is utterly true: on the whole the British people know only one value, the value of money. This value has utter supremacy over everything else. Let anything compete with it, even God himself, and money and the making of it will win the day. But how it impoverishes us!

Let someone get the offer of a job that excludes the possibility of attending Mass. The worship of God, as God prescribed it, loses out without a second thought or a moment’s deliberation.

The Primacy of the Spirit is behind all our Lord’s teachings. He heals the paralytic’s sins before he heals his body. The values of love, of justice, of mercy ... are what make a man in our Lord’s eyes, not his wallet or bank account or his education or prestige.

2. RESPECT FOR HUMAN DIGNITY.

We must give full marks to the Catholic Church for her constant banging on about this. What the Holy Father is saying is that there can be no real “culture” without a deep seated respect among us for our own dignity as human persons, spiritual beings made in the image and likeness of God.

What respect does our society show for

its own members when it is prepared to legislate for the destruction of human life in the womb; makes tentative provision for the putting down of the elderly and senile; allows human genes to be implanted into animals and permits untold experiments to be carried out on human embryos?

What respect for one another do we see in the jobs who make our streets so unsafe that the elderly and the young are often too afraid to venture out?

What respect for ourselves do we detect in all the pornography that fills the top shelves of every newsagent’s shop throughout the land?

3. COMMITMENT TO PEACE.

Are we Brits a peace loving nation? I, for one, do not think so. Why do we have to be always so deeply involved in other people’s wars? Why are not the Italians, for example, the leading lights in Iraq and Afghanistan? Why is it always us?

4. AUTHENTIC HUMANISM.

This is the fourth characteristic of Christian Culture, according to the Holy Father. By this, I think he means striving by every means possible, social, educational, political, spiritual, to get us all to reach our ultimate and fullest potential.

But this ideal is kaiboshed from the start (my computer underlines this

word in red, so if anyone knows how to spell it, please let me know!) Kaiboshed by the fact that our main value in life is financial. Thus all education and training is seen almost exclusively in terms of a job, and a job is all about salary. This is why so many people with degrees have a pretty firm grasp of their own subject but know next to nothing about anything else. The Pope is speaking about an education that leads to a full and rounded experience and appreciation of what it means to be truly human. Then jobs, ordinary jobs, become vocations in life.

I myself have come to the conclusion, which I have held for some time now, that there is no such thing any more as “British Culture”.

The Holy Father finished his address with an appeal to us all. He said, “**Rediscover, appreciate and defend the rich culture and Christian heritage that has been part of Europe for centuries**”.

The Catholic Church has a profound and expansive culture that we can all be immensely proud of. It stems from two thousand years of prayerful reflection on the mystery and the teachings of Jesus Christ, God’s only begotten Son, full of grace and truth. So let us seek to “rediscover, appreciate and defend this rich culture that is ours”, ours, not by reason of our Britishness, but by reason of our Catholicism. God bless you, **Fr Antony**