August, 2010.

Services in the Chapel of St. George with St. James unless otherwise indicated:

<table>
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<th>Service</th>
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<td>Solemn Mass (Meson on the Square)</td>
<td>1045  (Sundays)</td>
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<td>Weekday Mass (Mon-Sat)</td>
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<td>Evensong with Benediction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Requiem Mass (Monthly)</td>
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<td>Saints’ Days, Holy Days and “Fiestas”</td>
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The worshipping Community of this parish meets in the Chapel, St. George’s Presbytery, Calle Almería 13, Aguadulce, Sevilla, Spain and on Sundays at the Meson on the Square (formerly Oscar's Restaurant), Fuente de Piedra, Malaga.

I mentioned in last month's Newsletter, the visit to the beautiful Llandaff Cathedral and the affect which the figure of Christ in Majesty has on all who enter that building. I thought it only fair to share my photograph of the nave leading up to the high altar with you all, especially if you have never seen it before. The whole beauty of this building is intensified by the 20th century addition.

As many of you know already, our Parish Reader suffered a severe medical problem last month. On Thursday the 22nd July, whilst doing work on his house, Derek felt severe pains in his chest. Fortunately, he was able to alert his wife, who was just about to leave to visit family, and she rushed him to the hospital in Antequera. They decided there that Derek's problem was too serious for them to handle and he was helicoptered to the Carlos Haya Clinic in Malaga where he underwent emergency surgery to repair the main Aorta by taking a healthy vein from his leg and repairing the artery. This was after doubts had been expressed by the doctors in Antequera that he would even survive the helicopter flight. With the effective prayerful support of the Church, for which we are very thankful, and the wonderful care of the Spanish Health Service, Derek continues to make fast and amazing progress. However, initially, this situation put into doubt the plans we had made for his Ordination. It was planned that he would be made Deacon at the Diocesan Conference Mass on the 7th October. The good news is that the doctors have told Derek that he will be able to fly by October and that should not be a hindrance to the original plans. His ordination to Priesthood will take place on the 9th October.
(Venue still to be arranged), together with the Sacrament of Confirmation to be conferred on Christine Watson, and his Derek's first Mass on Sunday the 10th October.

Christine Watson made her commitment to Christ and to His Body, the Church, some time after the funeral of her late husband, Frank. She has been a faithful receiver of blessings at Communion over the past many months and it will be a great pleasure to welcome her fully into the Body of Christ, together with those who will come to support her in this regard. Derek, as you know, has been my Parish Reader for some years and has been obliged to leap into the deep end on several occasions when my heart has decided to give me a few warnings that it would appreciate some greater TLC!! Derek has studied hard and long, has assisted at Mass, has ably led Mattins in my sometimes enforced, sometimes intended, absences, and we are looking forward to working together in the parish to further God's work amongst the English-speaking people in this part of Spain. In addition to that, Christine is secretary of our branch of the Royal British Legion of which Derek is also an active member, so that organisation will be well-represented at the service on the 9th October. It goes without saying, that should you find yourself in or would like to visit Spain for this service, then accommodation will be found if a little warning comes our way. Needless to say, we are indebted to our Bishop-Visitor, Bishop Samuel Banzana not just for making the time and the long journey but for being so supportive of the candidates culminating in this remarkable service in October. The town venue where the Ordination will take place will not have seen anything quite so Traditional (liturgically speaking) for some years! I ask, therefore, for your prayers for Christine and Derek and for Bishop Samuel who will go on to the United States after leaving us for a Bishops' conference.

One of the more pleasant tasks I have undertaken since our last Newsletter have been two services where couples have renewed their marriage vows. The first was on the 13th July when Evelyn and Keith Black in Ribera Baja, near Puente Genil used the service to celebrate their silver wedding and on that special day to renew their commitment to each other (picture below). The day was beautiful with many of their family and friends thronging their garden where we held the service. Evelyn was “given away” this time by her brother-in-law and the whole day was topped off with a welcome lunch at a nearby restaurant! Evelyn's brother-in-law and his wife and family are all Oldham Athletic supporters, so the conversations as well as the day were inspirational. An excellent meal in the Restaurante Ribero Genil followed and international links were forged with half the congregation/guests being Spanish and half British! The second Renewal took place during the Mass on Trinity VII on the 18th July and therefore in our usual venue, The Meson on the Square. This was a double Renewal and all four are members of our branch of the Royal British Legion, Glen and Jennifer Glaves and George and Pamela Franklin. Two Renewal Services within five days of each other is a trend I hope continues!!This was even more poignant as, the following day, Glen and George were heading for Oporto in Portugal then to make Pilgrimage on foot to Santiago de Compostela, resting place of our joint-patron, St. James. Just prior to the final Blessing at Mass, a form of “Benediction for those going on Pilgrimage” was used which rounded the service off beautifully and the Records of Pilgrimage for them both duly authorised and signed and the Pilgrims commissioned.
Pilgrimage is very special. When we lived in Manchester we made regular parish pilgrimages to Walsingham which were all excellent, under the spiritual guidance of Fr. Keith Butterworth. The journey however, (not on foot!!) by coach was tortuous as there are no motorways to speak of going across country to Norfolk. To make the journey even more poignant, the driver normally took us through Nottinghamshire and past Kelham to reach Walsingham. It was always very sad to see the old house of the Society of the Sacred Mission, where I spent some time, now used by Nottinghamshire County Council as administrative offices and that amazing chapel now transformed into a restaurant. How sad. However, we all perked up when we reached the shrine at Walsingham and spent the day in worship and prayer. It seems totally correct that the patroness of our Diocese of Europe is Our Lady of Walsingham and we continue the devotion shown towards her in our Anglican past.

One item in the news of late was the search for and eventual discovering of a man who had murdered one person, shot his ex-girlfriend, blinded a serving police officer and terrorised a whole town in Northumberland. He was eventually cornered and a stand-off occurred culminating in his shooting himself in the head and ending his own life. For everyone involved this was an unnecessary tragedy, but the response of certain members of the public who posted comments in support of the murderer on “Facebook” was amazing. “Sadly missed” was a comment frequently made by people who had never known him! Raol Moat, the man involved, was, as Prime Minister David Cameron said in Parliament, a callous murderer and he for one could not understand the swell of sympathy shown on “Facebook” for him. But, then, is that not a reflection on today's Society which seems to have its values totally back to front? I heard the other day that there is a plan to build an Islamic Centre (a mere 13 storeys high) and a mosque yards from the site of Ground Zero in New York as a “tribute” to those who died. Considering 2900+ people were massacred there, granted a handful of seemingly expendable Muslims included, purely as a result of Islamic teaching and expectancies, is this not a grave affront and insult to those who died there, as well as those who were embedded in the Pentagon and those brave people who, rather than allow Islamics to fulfil their murderous intentions, brought down the third aircraft by their rebelling against the evil hijackers? How soon we forget – yet this affrontery is due to be built and opened on the 10th anniversary of 9/11. Somehow, I can't see the New Yorkers standing for that. Lilly-livered politicians in the USA, including now their President who seems to wave the Muslim flag far more than the banners of Christ, might see it as a “tribute” but that is not how it will be viewed in the Islamic world. To add yet further insult to injury, they call this the Cordoba Project. Cordoba, as most of you who read this Newsletter will know, was the former capital of Moorish Spain where they built the largest and most famous mosque at that time in the west. Construction began in the year 785 but, symbolically, the Muslims razed to the ground the Basilica of San Vicente in order to build their edifice on a former Christian holy site. Ground Zero may not be consecrated ground but the blood of 3000 innocent people massacred there make it sacred to their memory. When the mosque in Cordoba was re-taken with the city in 1236 by King Ferdinand III, instead of razing the building, they re-consecrated the site changing the centre of the building into a recognisable Gothic Choir but keeping the outer shell intact to house various side chapels. King Ferdinand decreed that on re-taking Cordoba, their entrance to the city would have the royal banners preceded by the Cross of Christ to show not merely a victory, but a restoration of the Christian Faith over mere territorial conquest. He also abstained himself from the re-consecration of the Cathedral to show deference to the Eternal King whose Presence after the Mass of Dedication would consecrate every stone of the building into a site consecrated to Him. Just a final footnote, some weeks ago a group of Austrian (?) Muslims totally insensitive to the fact that the building is now a Christian Cathedral “invaded” the building with their prayer mats and tried to
disturb worshippers and visitors alike by their holding Muslim prayers and caterwauling in the building. They were quickly ejected by the Security Guards who protect the Cathedral amidst cries and shouts of protest from the Muslims and cheers and encouragement from the worshippers, visitors and onlookers. People fail to realise that in this part of Spain feelings still run deep about the Moorish invasion here, despite the length of intervening time. I can't help thinking that if the Christians of Cordoba had “invaded” the mosque in 786, a year into its building, and set up an altar and proceeded to offer Christian prayers and worship, they would have been much more than merely ejected! Perhaps we should try it in the Blue Mosque in Istanbul, formerly the Cathedral of Saint Sophia, and see how far we get? I hope some of our American readers will confirm that the Cordoba Project has been abandoned due to public opinion as was the plan to build a huge mosque in London to dwarf the new stadia being constructed for the Olympic Games in 2012, now abandoned due public protest. It seems that Islam is highly sensitive to the merest perceived criticism yet oblivious to the insults it wields in western Christian circles.

Finally, may I pass on the news that Fr. John Milnes, with whom I worked for may years in Manchester has been elevated to the Episcopate and will serve his Church in the capacity of an Assistant Bishop. We wish him well in his task and pray for him and the congregation of St. John the Baptist, Hale of which he is also parish priest. John is a very spiritual and kind man and we pray for his ministry and new role in the Church.

Please send any written contributions to Fr. David, (financial ones will help, too!) Cheques should be made payable to “The Parish of St. George with St. James” and sent to:
Fr. David Worsley, Parish Priest,
Tel: (0034) 954 816 668 [land line] or (0034) 627 168 614 [mobile]
Derek Cantellow, Reader, Tel: (0034) 616 019 747
And, of course the dreaded E-mail thingy: georgeandjimmy@aol.com
But which saves us considerable expense!

For further information on the Holy Catholic Church – Western Rite, please contact Fr. David at the above address and contact numbers or consult our web-site on www.holycatholicanglican.org