



St James the Great & St Edmund Arrowsmith
Cell of the Holy House of Our Lady of Walsingham

**The Cell of the Holy House of Our Lady of
Walsingham, St James the Great
& St Edmund Arrowsmith**
Cell Superior: Fr. Rodney Middleton

Tuesday 16th October, 2012

Sixth Annual General Meeting.

Presiding Father Rodney Middleton
Secretary Mrs D Beesley.
Treasurer Father Robin Pettitt

Any member who did not attend last year's A.G.M were given a copy of the Minutes, Sec/Tres reports, Calendar and any other paperwork I gave out on the night. My apologies to Jean Mather who informed me that she could not attend and I omitted her name from the apologies list. 23 members were present. We have 48 members in our cell.

1st October 2011. 8 members of our cell went to St. Augustine of Canterbury, Tonge Moor, Bolton for their Annual Walsingham Festival with a Sung Mass and Benediction. The preacher was The Rt. Revd. Bishop Lindsay Urwin, Administrator of the Shrine O.L.O. Walsingham. The Bishop spoke of 'Holiness and Love' and what St. Therese of Lisieux said of Love, she knew that the church had a heart and that such a heart appeared to be aflame with love. Love drove members of the church into action, that if this love was extinguished, the apostles would have proclaimed the Gospel no longer and the Martyrs would have shed their blood no more. In one word 'love is Everlasting'. Our own Father Ian was Deacon at this service.

10/11th October; Father Rodney took 22 people of which were 12 members of our cell on a two day pilgrimage to Barcelona and Montserrat. This was a fantastic trip and our cell member David Martlew wrote all about it in the parish magazine. Rosary beads come in handy on a trip up the side of a mountain, ask me and I will tell you all about it.

15th October; Holywell and Pantasaph, 16 members of the cell went on this one day pilgrimage.

15th November; Barcelona and Montserrat Reunion with tapas, some beautiful photographs were shown with good memories and some photos should stay hidden!!!

8th December; The Immaculate Conception; The mass was followed by some members of the cell joining in with the Mothers' Union for a Christmas meal.

15th December: Our Christmas 'do' took place and thanks were given to all who supplied the raffle prizes. All prizes were claimed, we made £120.00 for our cell funds.

17th January 2012: The new year started off with our member Mrs Sue Korth who has transferred from St. Edwards cell, All Saints Sidley. Sue has moved up to this end of the country. We all wish her well.

17th January: Bill Wiswell gave a good and interesting presentation on his Missionary trip to Madagascar.

21st February : Shrove Tuesday, once again Father Rodney showed his skills with the pancakes!!!

26th March : The Annunciation mass was followed by our 'Easter Chocolate Raffle' which made £100 for our cell funds. Thanks were given to all for selling and buying tickets.

Anyone can fund raise from organizing or participating in a event, four of our members, Maureen, Gill, Ann and Doreen did just that with their own efforts raised £175.00 . Many thanks too you all.

3rd April : 11 members of our cell went to the Chrism Mass at Manchester Cathedral, this was Bishop Martyn Jarret's last Chrism mass as he retires in September this year.

Easter raffle and sales of Easter bunnies and Chicks brought in £275.00 for cell funds. This was a wonderful effort by all concerned.

26/28th April: Father Rodney took a party of 35 to Gibraltar, which included 15 members of our cell. We went to the shrine of Our Lady of Europe and Fr. Rodney celebrated mass there for us. It was a other wonderful trip. I was not sure about the monkeys though!!!!

4th May: Race night was unfortunately poorly attended due to members having other commitment but £502.25 was raised and a very good evening was had.

19th May : Once again our May Devotion was a wonderful day and supported very well. Our Speaker was Father Mark Nicholls. It was lovely to welcome home Father Mark and many thanks too you all for making the devotion an other wonderful success. There was a wonderful turn out r, people, there was 75 communicants and 45 people stayed for Benediction. Thanks were sent to Howard Barlow and the Ex-Choro singers, to Gordon Gerrard our organist at St. James and to the visiting clergy. Special thanks were given to Father Rodney and Father Robin for all their hard work in giving us another excellent day.

Many thanks were given to two members of our cell, Susan Martlew and Eileen Wiswell for the money they raised on their wonderful craft stall.

This day was also the 32nd anniversary of the healing of Alice Jones for which we all offer our prayers and thanks and we hold St. Pio of Pietrelcina in our prayers.

2nd June: Ladyewell Pilgrimage : The Society of Mary & Forward in Faith joint Pilgrimage to Ladyewell, Thirteen members of the cell went to this lovely service and it was wonderful to see The Chapel, Relic room and the gift shop all up and running again after the fire they had last year The little chapel opposite the relic room was available for private prayer and the Blessed Sacrament is reserved there. The Principal celebrant was The Rt Revd. Norman Banks ssc Bishop of Richborough and the Preacher was Father Paul Benfield ssc of St. Nicholas, Fleetwood.

4th June 2012 : The National Pilgrimage to Walsingham. Seven members of the cell attended this pilgrimage, my thanks to David Martlew who organised this and the Ladyewell events. The principal celebrant was Bishop Martyn Jarrett, bishop of Beverly this was his last national as he retires in September. And the preacher was Bishop Michael Langrish, Bishop of Exeter, Bishop Michael was suffragen bishop of Birkenhead from 1993 / 2000. His theme was based on ' the spirit is with you, do not be afraid'.

This was cell member Maureen Barnett's first visit to Walsingham and she enjoyed it so much that she booked and came on the parish pilgrimage.

10th June: Father Ian Wynne was ordained at the Liverpool Cathedral, Father Ian will now automatically become a Priest Associate member of Walsingham. This is an other great day in our church's history. Our prayers and best wishes are with him, his wife Ann and their sons Michael and David.

17th July : Social evening, in Father Robin's words ' get your money out' this evening raised £160 - people did get their money out and spent, spent, spent. Thank you everybody for an other wonderful evening.

Two of our members, Alan Prescott and Doris Wood celebrated ten years as associate members of Walsingham I send congratulations cards too them on behalf of us all.

6th/9th August; Parish Pilgrimage, 37 people went on pilgrimage to Walsingham. 21 of these were cell members. It was wonderful for us to hand over a cheque for £1.000 to Bishop Lindsay towards the work on St. Augustine's. He was delighted and asked for a photo of the two fathers and myself to go into the Walsingham Review to help encourage other cells in raising money for this project. I received a kiss from the bishop for all my hard work as secretary and that cheek still has not been washed! Father Rodney, Father Robin and myself would like to thank each and everyone of you for all your efforts in raising this money and also to many of the cell members who individually sent private donations. We hope all the clergy using the house will soon have comfortable beds. A visit to Norwich Cathedral and to St. Julian's Church took place. Julian of Norwich wrote her book, *The Revelations of Divine Love*, in a room attached to St. Julian's church - this was known as her cell. Pilgrims from all over the world still come today to kneel down in silence and to ponder on the words God spoke to her, 'All shall be well'. Once again a very enjoyable party night took place and the bishop joined us for a drink. Our eve of the Assumption service was held and afterwards we had drinks and nibbles, also a raffle took place and we raised £50.00. Four members of the H.C.P.T. came to our service and it nice to welcome them.

19th August: It was with great sadness to hear that our cell member Dot Mercer died today. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

8th September: Cell breakfast, book and jigsaw sale. The Eucharist followed at 12noon for the Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

24th September: Eucharist for the Feast of O.L.O.W 18 members were present on a very wet Monday evening. Thanks to all our clergy Father Rodney, Father Robin and Father Ian for all the services they have taken for us, especially on their days off

ROSARY GROUP. Our rosary group celebrated its fourth anniversary in July. The group is still going strong but unfortunately one of our members David Birmingham died. David was from St Oswald's Church in Ashton in Makerfield, and had attended regularly for the last two years. Our thoughts and prayers were sent to his family. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Some people find it very easy to pray the Rosary while others find it difficult. Some find it difficult to pray alone but easy to pray with others. Some find that visual aids help them contemplate - having pictures depicting the Mysteries help some people. Please feel free to come along and give it a try on Thursdays at 7pm. All are welcome.

From the secretary

As the song says 'women of a certain age' well this woman became 60 last month and can't believe how time is passing especially as we celebrate the 6th anniversary of our cell.

May I encourage you all to our devotion to Our lady by saying the Angelus daily as set out in the objects of the society.

My thanks to you all for the gifts, prizes and money given to our cell over the past year.

Once again we have had an extremely good and interesting year. I look forward to many more successful events as we strive to support the Shrine at Walsingham. Please hold all who work at the shrine in your prayers.

My thanks to Father Rodney, Father Robin, Father Ian and to you all for your prayers, help and continuing support.

St. Luke 1: 28 'Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee'.

Yours in prayer, Dot
(sec).