

Newsletter - September 2022

Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady - Walsingham <shrine@walsingham.org.uk>

Wed 28/09/2022 17:48

To: parishpriest@sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk <parishpriest@sacredheartdroitwich.org.uk>

## The Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady Walsingham - England's Nazareth

# Newsletter - September 2022

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## From the Rector

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On the first Sunday of September we were able to hold the Dowry of Mary Pilgrimage once more. It was a particular pleasure for me, because it hadn't happened since before COVID, and therefore, not in my two years at the shrine.

We put out all our flags, so that all our pilgrims might recognise their own. It was a very happy occasion as any unsuspecting visitor to the village would affirm, as they witnessed our joy-filled pilgrims singing and dancing down the high street towards the 'Abbey' grounds for Benediction and prayers for the conversion of England on the site of the Holy House. Bishop Hopes was joined by Archbishop George Stack, recently retired from Cardiff, who preached.

The shrine shared the sombre mood of the nation on the death of Queen Elizabeth, and we offered a Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of her soul in the Chapel of Reconciliation two days after her death, and joined in the Ecumenical Service of Remembrance in St Mary's Anglican Church on the eve of her funeral. Her Christian faith and understanding of her calling to serve the nation and commonwealth is an inspiration to us all.

Our patronal feast, on 24th September, began, as usual in recent years, with Ecumenical Vespers at the Anglican shrine on the eve of the Solemnity of Our Lady of Walsingham. Each year, we take our ikon down to the Anglican shrine, where it's placed on the altar next to theirs. Those with an eye for detail will notice that although they are similar, they are different, in that they, as it were, face each other. This speaks of our hope and prayer that one day we shall be in Full Communion with each other and – if it be God's Will – rebuild the Holy House.

This year, the feast coincided with the Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage. Because of this – and a goodly number of other pilgrims – we celebrated Mass 'facing outwards'. At this point in the day, the weather was kind, which unfortunately, couldn't be said for the procession down the Holy Mile, when we were blessed with rain! Cardinal Vincent Nichols was the principal celebrant and preached at Mass, and Bishop John Sherrington celebrated Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament under the remaining eastern arch of the old priory.

Once again, the Prayer for England, along with a Prayer for a safe journey home, were said at the site of

the Holy House. Having Westminster's Diocesan Pilgrimage in Walsingham was a timely reminder that, in a few weeks' time, their Cathedral will host the final visit of the Dowry Tour. Readers may remember that this creative initiative reached every Cathedral in England, but one, when COVID struck in 2020. Westminster was to be the final visit and the climax of the tour. Well, 28th & 29th October will see the statue of Our lady of Walsingham visit Bentley's fine Cathedral, and the Dowry Tour will be complete.

Who knows what graces God may give us all! Perhaps we shall see you there.

***Mgr Philip Moger***



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## Events

# THE CARMELITE RETREAT



WALSINGHAM

**14TH - 16TH OCTOBER**

[www.dowryhouse.org.uk](http://www.dowryhouse.org.uk)

## **Carmelite Retreat 2022**

October 14th-16th

We are delighted to announce that we will be joined again this year by Fr Matthew Blake OCD. Fr Matthew is an experienced retreat giver and Carmelite friar. This year, he will speak to us about the life and writings of St Elizabeth of the Trinity.

In St Elizabeth's own words: "The object of this retreat is to make us more like our adored Master, and even more, to become so one with Him that we may say: 'I live no longer I, but He lives in me'".

Price per person for the weekend:

Ensuite: £170

Standard: £140

Budget room: £125


Our retreat rates are full board from Friday supper to Sunday lunch and include refreshments, use of the beautiful prayer spaces here in Walsingham and attendance at the excellent talks by Fr Matthew.

For more information, or to book your place, please  
email [dowryhouse@walsingham.org.uk](mailto:dowryhouse@walsingham.org.uk)

Find out more

The Herts Circle of the Newman Association will be hosting a talk about **Walsingham**: its history and mission today, to be given by the author Edmund Matyjaszek at the parish hall, Ss Alban and Stephen Church, St Albans, Beaconsfield Road AL1 3RB on Saturday 15th October at 11 am.

The talk is free but donations would be welcomed. There is some parking available at the church and in Beaconsfield Road; also at the nearby City Station train station



**ENGLAND :  
THE DOWRY  
OF MARY**

**MEANING  
& MISSION**

**Booklets**  
A4 £5.00  
A5 £3.50  
available from

St Pauls Bookshop,  
Westminster

or order direct from

Edmund Matyjaszek:  
ems@emsbase.co.uk  
07860 756 127

*"...incredible. ...No one has ever put into words the meaning of England as Mary's Dowry as you have."*

Antonia Moffat  
Walsingham Shrine

In light of the rededication of England as Mary's Dowry on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020, the Isle of Wight Catholic History Society sponsored the publication of a sumptuously illustrated 24 page A4 booklet by Edmund Matyjaszek, author of "The Rosary: England's Prayer" (St Pauls Publishing), who writes:

*"This ancient title was first publicly proclaimed by King Richard II in 1381. In the months preceding the 2020 re-dedication, the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham toured all English Cathedrals, it was during this time I was invited to give a talk to the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom, and to the Catholic Women's League at their AGM. This booklet is a record of those talks, and is both a historical survey of the Dowry and a personal journey of how I came to understand its meaning and mission."*

With the forthcoming visit of the Shrine Statue to Westminster Cathedral in October 2022, Edmund is available to give talks to parishes and groups. Talks are free of charge . FORTHCOMING TALK:

Date:	Saturday, October 15 <sup>th</sup> 2022
Time:	11am
Location:	SS Alban & Stephen Church Hall Beaconsfield Road, St Albans AL1 3RB

***IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BOOK FOR  
THE ANNUAL RETREAT!!***



**THE WALSINGHAM ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL RETREAT 2022**

**"COME HOLY SPIRIT:  
LIVING THE SPIRITUAL LIFE FRUITFULLY"**

*Leader: The Revd A J Kingham, BD, JCD, MCL, PhD*

*(Member of the Guild of Chaplains*

*at Our Lady's Shrine in Walsingham.)*

Monday 10th to Friday 14th October 2022

***CONTACT THE RECEPTION TEAM ON  
01328 820217***

***OR EMAIL***

***[reservations@walsingham.org.uk](mailto:reservations@walsingham.org.uk)***

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DOWRY TOUR OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

# WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

28<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022

Walsingham

Westminster  
Cathedral

*"When England goes back to Walsingham,  
Our Lady will come back to England."*

Pope Leo XIII when he signed the Rescript for the Restoration  
of Our Lady of Walsingham's Shrine in 1897

[www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)

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## Thank you!

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We would like to thank you all for your generous support over the last few months! If you would like to contribute to the running of the Shrine, we would greatly appreciate your help!

If you are unable to visit the Shrine in person, there are a number of things you can do to participate online:



**Light a candle**



**Request a Mass**



**Visit our Shop**



**Watch live!**

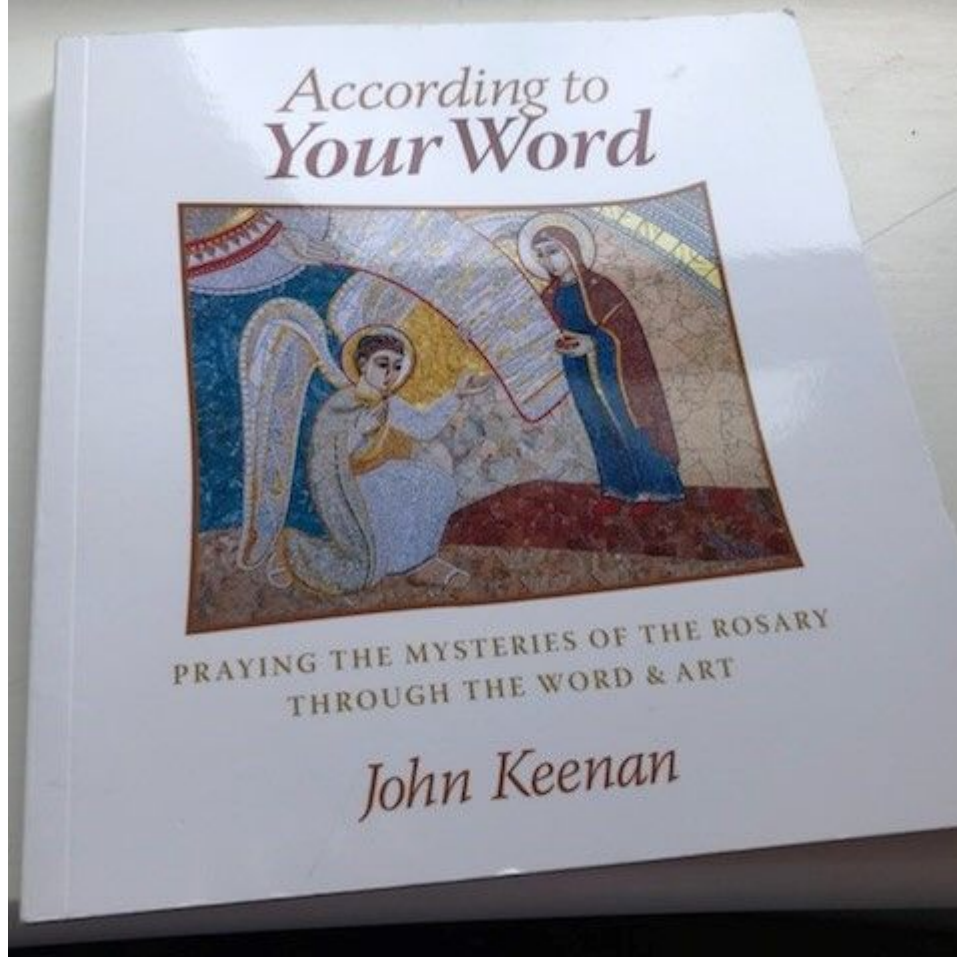
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## **From our Shop**

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**The two, current best selling books  
in the Slipper Chapel Shop!**





**According to Your Word - Rosary Meditations**

**by Bishop John Keenan**

**Praying the Mysteries of the Rosary through The Word & Art**

**by Antonia Moffat**

Bishop John Keenan, Bishop of Paisley in Scotland has formulated in heartfelt words the most beautiful reflections on all the sacred Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary - the Joyful, the Luminous the Sorrowful, and the Glorious.

Each set of Mysteries is given a key verse from Scripture and then each Mystery is given a meditation which is divided into 3 sections ... Listen, Ponder & Pray. They invite us to place our lives into the Immaculate Heart of Mary and to walk with her ever more securely into the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

**“O Blessed Rosary of Mary, sweet chain that unites us to God ...”** *Bl. Bartholomew Longo*

This is an innovative and inspired way of helping us to meditate with Scripture more deeply on each Mystery of the Rosary. For the Rosary is a Walk through the Life of Jesus with Mary.

The reader is led into a journey ‘**According to Your Word**’, where you are invited to ponder Scripture and use it to understand more clearly what the Lord is saying to you at this very moment in your life. A life full of never ending

complexities, changes, challenges, hopes, joys, amidst sorrows, griefs and great sufferings!

Bishop John helps us to meander with Jesus and Mary through their lives, and invites us to unite our own lives with theirs. The simplicity and sensitivity of the meditations speaks to the depths of heart, mind and soul. The words are heartfelt, compassionate, full of Trust in the loving Mercy of God and come from a Bishop's prayerful heart, so immersed in the daily praying of the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Added to this are the exquisite and beautiful Icons of Fr. Marco Runic SJ which bring to artistic life, the life giving meditations. Sometimes when praying the Rosary, you may wish to use just one of the sections, at other times all of them. When leading the Rosary you might use all, and at times just one section.

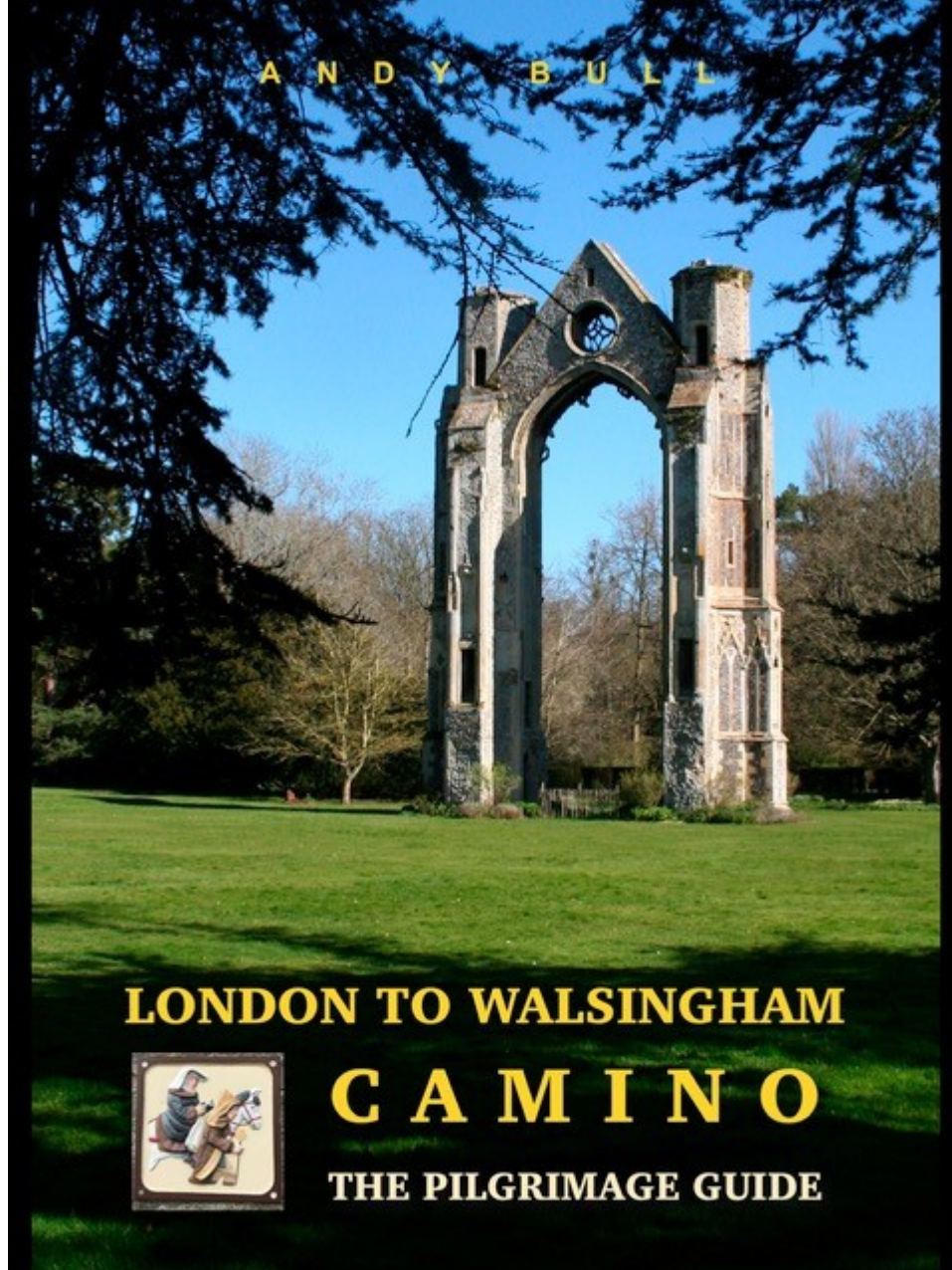
There is something Eternal and consoling about this book which no words can express.

The Daughters of St. Paul in inviting Bishop John to write these Rosary meditations, to unite with the Icons of Fr. Marco, have paved the way for a new spiritual classic on the Rosary.

I cannot recommend this Rosary book of Meditations highly enough!

**“The Rosary is the Prayer dearest to Mary, most loved by the Saints, most frequently used by Christian peoples, most honoured by God with astounding wonders, most enriched with great promises by the Virgin.”** *Blessed Bartholomew Longo, Apostle of the Holy Rosary.*

**Purchase from our Shop**



**Book Review by Antonia Moffat  
- London to Walsingham Camino -  
The Pilgrimage Guide by Andy Bull**

The London to Walsingham Camino Pilgrimage Guide is exceptional in its presentation, highlighting the historical context of the ancient Pilgrim Routes, alongside the spiritual reasons as to why people have made pilgrimage to Walsingham over so many centuries. It eloquently speaks to us of the often unknown spiritual heritage of England. Perhaps lost jewel to be rediscovered! The book is fascinating on myriads of levels with insights from some of the great British authors which have the capacity to open us to the depths of our great literary heritage along side the spiritual one.

The book is enhanced by beautiful photos and the author's personal testimonies of each section of the 13 designated parts of the Camino. The attention to detail and clarity of practical information will enable any Camino Pilgrim to start out with confidence. The author gives clear access to

downloadable route instructions, nearby transport and access links, and reassuring information as to nearby accommodation, shopping opportunities, cafes and other food outlets.

May *Buen Camino* resound in your ears as you start - as has resounded for centuries in the ears of those who have walked to the Shrine of the Mother of God in Walsingham! In English "Good Camino" or rather "Blessed Camino!"

Purchase from our Shop

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## Support Our Lady's Shrine

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# We need your **help**

It costs £3,000 per day to run the Shrine. Please support our stewardship of this special place by making a donation.

It's easy to **help**

[walsingham.org.uk/help](http://walsingham.org.uk/help)

Text **Mary** To **70470**

Phone **01328 801 048**

For further information and other ways you can support the Shrine visit:

[www.walsingham.org.uk/donate](http://www.walsingham.org.uk/donate)

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