

September 2010

Fellow Rosarians

In August I had the pleasure of being in Italy with a fellow priest. On the 4th August we were in Bologna and made our way to the Shrine of St. Dominic where my prayers were for you all; not only present members but those faithful members now departed this life.

Those of you who have visited the shrine will know how glorious it is and the feeling of prayer and piety that is almost overwhelming. One great joy was that the 4th August is the old feast and now we keep St. Dominic's day on the 8th. Much to my surprise the feast was being kept by the Dominicans who were being very traditional and in full habits. Perhaps the days of jeans and teeshirts are coming to an end !

"O God, who hast vouchsafed to make Thy Church illustrious by the merits and teaching of blessed Dominic Thy confessor. grant that through his intercession, the Church may not be deprived of all help and may ever advance in spiritual increase."

The final words in the old Martyrology state " . . . he propagated devotion to the Rosary, and saved the Western Church from heresy and anarchy. He died A.D. 1221" I rather think that the English Church needs his prayers and attention!

The ecumenical service held in Westminster Cathedral to honour St. John Roberts was interesting as Welsh was spoken for the first time in the Cathedral. Archbishop Rowan Williams addressed the congregation in both Welsh and English. He was joined by the Roman Catholic and Anglican Archbishops of Wales, all the Welsh Bishops and a number of clergy, Roman Catholic, Anglican and Orthodox. It was a very moving occasion. After the service icon pictures of St John Roberts were distributed and I requested a number to be distributed to members of the Living Rosary.

With every blessing, and may our Lady of the Rosary And St. Dominic keep you safe.
Father Dominic