Shroud of Turin Exhibition

Pam Moon

The Shroud of Turin Exhibition is a travelling exhibition which takes life-sized replicas of the Shroud of Turin to different venues. The exhibition uses the replicas, purchased from Barrie Schwortz, as visual aids to tell the story of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and to examine the mystery of the cloth. The first exhibition was in 2008 at St. Peter's Church, Little Aston, when Revd. Phil Moon was vicar there. By some miracle, Cardinal Archbishop Vincent Nichols, then Archbishop of Birmingham, attended. He kindly introduced the exhibition to Catholic cathedrals. He said the work would need a team of people, and God has provided a brilliant team!: Phil Moon, Steve and Jennie Upton, Brenda and Stuart Benton, Terry and Diane Battle, Luigi Antoniazzi and Philip Wong. Listed below are some of the many venues which have hosted the exhibition in recent years.

RC Cathedrals, England

Westminster Cathedral, London, St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Norwich St. Anne's, Leeds St. Barnabas, Nottingham Our Lady and St. Philip Howard, Arundel

Anglican Cathedrals

Coventry, Wells, Worcester

Portugal (two months)

Nossa Senhora da Encarnação, Lisbon; Cloister of the Museum, Torres Vedras

RC Cathedrals, Ireland

St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Dublin St. Mary and St Anne; Cork Marian Shrine, Knock, (in the Museum

Wales

The Cardiff Oratory of St. Philip Neri, Cardiff in Nazareth House Chapel (RC) St Mary's Priory, Abergavenny (Anglican)

Ahmadiyya Muslim

A presence in the five years before COVID, at Jalsa Salana, their annual Summer Convention

Other Events:

Numerous parish churches, for example: RC: St Peter's Leicester; Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford; OLEM, Cambridge; The Oratory, Oxford; Anglican: St. Mary and St. Chad, Brewood; St. George's, Rochdale; St. Augustine's, Thorpe Bay

Some schools, including St Bede's, Manchester (Manchester City F.C. Academy). Two prisons.

Permanent Exhibition of the Holy Shroud of Turin at the Church of St. Alban's on the Moors, Cardiff

Father Sebastian Jones

The Permanent Exhibition of the Holy Shroud of Turin has been another important step in spiritual and pastoral development at this Cardiff parish. Since the arrival of the Oratorian Fathers and Brothers in August 2019 their focus has been on renewal through reverence and devotion to Jesus Christ in the Gospel and the Sacraments and in their pastoral outreach to the surrounding housing estates and the largest Romani/Traveller campsite in Europe. The arrival of the replica of the Holy Shroud has been an important moment in the history of the Parish and City as the Holy Shroud of Turin gives a tangible reminder of the Suffering of Jesus Christ and hence God's love for us.



The siting of the replica in the Sacred Heart Chapel was considered important as there was still some memory in the Parish of earlier devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The presence of the replica of the Holy Shroud gave further focus for meditation and prayer, it tapped into that Catholic sense of Lenten and Good Friday devotion. Literacy is an enormous problem in the Romani/Traveller community and so the immediacy of the image of the Jesus Christ's sufferings before them has had a very powerful

catechetical effect. Many of the Romani/Travellers make a point after Holy Communion of standing before the exhibition with their children. Parents can be seen pointing out the various elements of the image to their children. Likewise, for the Parish School situated in one of the most deprived areas of Wales, small groups of children have been given a talk by one of the Fathers after the weekly Mass. Again, the powerful immediacy of the image and the lighting and presentation of the image designed and constructed by John Dymond, a local Catholic craftsman, has ensured that the image is framed so as to draw the observer's eye into the cabinet. The next stage is the design and construction of information panels and literature to accompany this permanent exhibition. Pam Moon has been instrumental in enabling this exhibition to come to the Cardiff Oratory. Without her involvement and the support of generous benefactors this could not have happened.

The church is open from 6:30am and closes at 6:00pm (Mon-Sat) Sunday (7:00am -1:00pm: 3:00pm-7:00pm). Groups and individuals are most welcome to visit. An expert presentation on the history of the Holy Shroud of Turin can be organised with prior notice, given by Luigi Antoniazzi. There is a hall adjacent to the church, available for groups to meet, refreshments can be organised, with prior notice. The hall holds a 100 people, there is also a member's bar, which can also be opened by prior arrangement. The church has loop and is accessible. There is plenty of parking around the church. [Satnav: St Alban's, Swinton Street CF24 2NT]

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