

Archbishop Vincent Nichols Gives His Stamp of Approval to Isle Of Man and Holy See Joint Cover for Papal Visit and Cardinal Newman Beatification

By Peter Jennings FRPSL, FRGS

The Isle of Man Post Office and the Post Office of the Holy See have issued a superb joint cover with special hand stamp cancellations to mark the beatification of Cardinal Newman by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI at Cofton Park, Birmingham, on Sunday 19 September 2010.

A limited edition of 2,500 numbered covers have been produced to mark this historic occasion.

Cofton Park is situated close to the Oratory Retreat Rednal where Cardinal Newman was buried in the community graveyard following his death, aged 89, on Monday 11 August 1890, at the Oratory House, Edgbaston, Birmingham, about eight miles away.

The Most Reverend Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster and President of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, gave his stamp of approval.

He said: "I am pleased to welcome the joint initiative of the Holy See and the Isle of Man in issuing a special cover for the postage stamp marking the Visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the United Kingdom and the Beatification of Cardinal John Henry Newman."

The former Archbishop of Birmingham 2000-2009, added: "These historical events are fittingly recorded by this memorable cover with its additional hand stamp."

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