

‘Ordinary Time’

FOR most of us there are times of excitement and celebration, followed by long periods of the humdrum routine of our daily lives. The festivities of Christmastide have ended, the decorations have been removed and life has returned to ‘normal.’ Children and teachers, for example, have gone back to school.

The prayer-life of the church – the liturgy – reflects this rhythm of preparation for celebration, then the celebration itself, and this being followed by a long period when nothing dramatic seems to happen. Advent and Lent prepare us for the celebration of the birthday of our saviour and for the Paschal Mystery of his death and resurrection. These festivals are followed by what is known as ‘Ordinary Time.’ That has just begun, now that we’ve completed Christmastide.

‘Ordinary Time’ sounds dull and unimportant. Dull it may be, unimportant certainly not. To think that would mean that most of our time didn’t really matter, because it’s so humdrum and routine, with our achieving nothing spectacular.

But let’s remember that was true of Jesus’ short life. For about thirty of his roughly thirty-three years he shared the same life as any working class person in the provincial town of Nazareth. During those long years of ‘Ordinary Time’ Jesus did nothing dramatic. And yet that time was not wasted. During those years of his ‘hidden life’ Jesus grew from childhood to becoming a mature adult. He learnt about his Jewish faith and experienced what it meant to be human. Like any child he discovered the wonder of the world in which he lived. He would draw on all this experience when he began to preach. And in the routine of his domestic and working life he expressed his love for his heavenly Father and for people. That was how he served God during that period. For him ‘Ordinary Time’ was sacred time.

The same should be true for us. It’s precisely in the routine of our daily life that God approaches us and we draw close to him. We don’t need to do anything spectacular to express our love for God and each other. Even the trivial and mundane have eternal value when blessed by God. Our constancy in loving service in our humdrum lives is what really matters. That’s what makes our ‘Ordinary Time’ sacred time.

During the ‘Ordinary Time’ of the liturgy we have continuous readings from one of the Synoptic Gospels. Next Sunday we will start reflecting on Mark’s Gospel. His insights about Christ and his teaching will help to deepen our understanding of what it means for us to be real Christians. This should assist us in transforming our dull, prosaic ‘Ordinary Time’ into sacred time.

Isidore O.P.

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

15 January 2012

The Newsletter of **HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER**

Serving Leicester’s Catholics since AD 1247



Entrance Antiphon:	All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!
At 11am – page nos in Missale:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mass Ordinary, p 13; Mass Proper, p 114• Sung setting: Mass XI <i>Orbis factor</i>, p 206; Credo III, p 210• Communion motet: Let Thy merciful ears <i>Mudd</i>• Organ sortie: Toccata in D minor BWV 538 (Dorian) <i>J S Bach</i>
1st Reading:	1 Samuel 3: 3b-10. 19
Psalm ̎:	Declare the Lord’s marvellous works among all the peoples! (Ps 96)
2nd Reading:	1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a. 17-20
Alleluia:	God has called us through the Gospel, to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Gospel:	John 1:35-42
Communion Antiphon:	<i>Either:</i> You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst. <i>Or:</i> We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us.
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. In addition to the Masses listed in the schedule on p 3, Holy Mass will be offered in the Dominican rite from Monday to Saturday at 8am.	

Next Sunday at the 11am Mass we will introduce a new Chant Mass to our repertoire. This is Mass I, at the back of *Missale*, known as *Lux et Origo* and is often, although not exclusively, associated with Eastertide. It is one of the more ancient Chant Masses, all of it being dated back to the tenth century. If you would like to listen to it in advance, the editor had no trouble in finding recordings on the internet simply by entering ‘you tube lux et origo’ into a search engine.

Newcomers are especially welcome to join the Holy Cross Gospel Choir. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 7-8.30pm in St. Clement’s Hall. Call Jeff for details (0116 243 1289) or just turn up on the night.

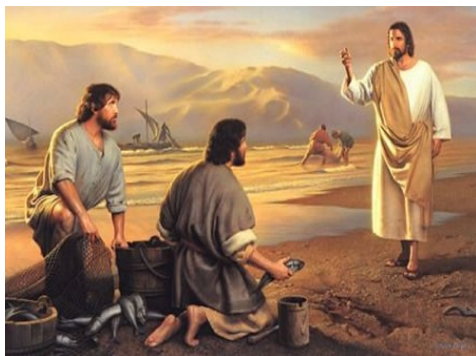
Calendar Raffle: up to £500 can be won in our new calendar raffle. Tickets are available, price £5, for every unsold date in this leap year. Choose the date you want and, if it’s available, buy a ticket for that date. A great gift for someone’s birthday or anniversary. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses. Proceeds will go to the parish centre renovations. Winners will be drawn on February 29, 2012.

Are you homeless and lonely on Saturdays? There is a ‘Saturday Stop-By’ from 11am to 2pm each Saturday at the Undercroft of St James the Greater, St James Terrace, at the back of the church, off Mayfield Road. There is hot food, company and indoor games. This is a joint project between St James the Greater Church and the Islamic Society of Britain’s Eat ‘n’ Meet project. See noticeboard. More information from 07989 698483 or salma.ravat@gmail.com.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £1030.65 (of which £306.95 Gift Aided and £723.70 not); SVP £42.72; Friends of Holy Cross £20.99; Holy Souls £11.35; Grenada Church Restoration £4.67.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Our Tuesday evening Latin class will resume on 17 January at 7pm in Blackfriars Hall. The class is wide-ranging and our ever-flexible tutor, Ray Fowell, is willing to tackle whatever class members would like to see. If you are interested in joining the class contact ray.fowell@btopenworld.com. *Floreat lingua Latina!*



Today's Gospel: Jesus looked hard at Simon and said, "You are Simon, son of John; you are to be called Cephas" – meaning Rock.

Vocation Discernment Weekend. Young women – ever wondered about being a Sister? The Franciscan Sisters Minoress are holding a retreat weekend 17-19 February at St Clare's Convent, Clay Cross S45 9AQ. Contact vocations@franciscansm.org or (02146) 862621. Also see poster for details. Closing date for applications: 28 January.

CATHOLIC PARLIAMENTARY AND PUBLIC POLICY INTERNSHIPS. For the last nine years the Catholics Bishops' Conference has organised Parliamentary and Public Policy Internships for recently graduated Catholics. This year they are looking to offer 8 internships: Five interns will be placed with Christian MPs at Westminster; two in Public Policy with CAFOD and CARITAS Social Action Network; and one in a media internship at Archbishop's House Westminster. All internships will run from September 2012 to July 2013 and include accommodation and subsistence allowances. Full details and an application form can be found at <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/interns>. Completed application forms must either be emailed to interns@cbcew.org.uk or posted to: Michaela Kelly, Head of HR, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX. The closing date is 5pm on 29th February 2012 and assessment days will be 28th and 29th March 2012. If you know anyone who may be interested in this opportunity, please encourage them to apply.

A Fund Raising Dance Event will be held at St Patrick's Parish Centre, 100 Beaumont Leys Lane LE4 2BD, on Friday 20th January at 8pm. It is a Taster Dance Evening – come along, warm-up and take part in an hour's lesson of Line Dancing, and continue to dance the night away with Irish Ceili and Set, Waltz and Social dance. Adm £5. And on Saturday 21st January, Mildred Beirne from Ireland will teach Irish Set Dance from 10.30am to 1pm & 2pm to 5pm – £5 per session, and followed by an Evening Ceili with the Ivy Leaf Ceili Band @ 8.30pm. Adm £7. No dance experience is required and proceeds for church funds. Contact: Jo 079 7735 1901 or Annie 075 7628 6995.

The Leicester Bach Choir will give an opportunity to come and sing (or just listen to) Thomas Tallis's 40-part motet *Spem in alium* on Saturday 21 January from 10am, with the performance at 4.45pm, at the church of St James the Greater, London Road. See noticeboard and the flyers on the tables by the doors.

The Liturgical Calendar 2012 for the Dominican English Province for the whole of 2012 is now available at <http://english.op.org/News.html>.

Year II	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 2
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Gregory, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Duncan	
Sunday	2 nd Sunday <i>per annum</i> . Peace Day: Prayers are recommended for peace on earth.	
Vigil	18.00 ✠ Irene Olszewska 8.00 ✠ John Foote	Fr Isidore Fr Isidore
Family	9.30 <i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Duncan
Solemn	11.00 Thanksgiving	Fr Gregory
OP Rite	12.30 ✠ Holy Souls 19.00 Valerie Dilkes	Fr Thomas Fr Duncan
Monday	Feria 10.00 ✠ Holy Souls 12.30 ✠ Holy Souls	
Tuesday	St Anthony, abbot 10.00 ✠ Dead of the Order of Preachers 12.30 ✠ Holy Souls	
Wednesday	St Margaret of Hungary, virgin. The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins today. Prayers are encouraged for the unity of Christians. 10.00 ✠ Holy Souls 12.30 ✠ Holy Souls	
Thursday	Feria 10.00 ✠ Holy Souls 12.30 ✠ Holy Souls	
Friday	Bl. Cyprian Iwene Tansi, priest, religious 10.00 ✠ Holy Souls 12.30 ✠ Holy Souls	
Saturday	St Agnes, virgin, martyr 10.00 ✠ Holy Souls 12.30 ✠ Pinto family	
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Dunmcan, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Thomas	
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. Holy Mass is offered in the Dominican rite from Monday to Saturday at 8am.		
Next Sunday – 3rd Sunday per annum. Readings:		
John 3:1-5. 10	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20

'Around the Bible in 80 Weeks'. Our series resumes this week with the Book of Tobit.

Time for you to make or update your Will? CAFOD is able to offer you the opportunity to do so FREE if your Will is straightforward, or at a discount if it is more complex. There are no strings attached – there is no obligation to remember CAFOD or any other charity: it is just CAFOD's way of thanking people for past donations, prayers and action, although they do point out that they have received over £2million during the last ten years from bequests. Please contact Marie or Maria at the CAFOD Nottingham office and they will send you a leaflet which explains what to do next. Or contact nottingham@cafod.org.uk, or 01664 424346, or 07779 804251.

The Kirby Muxloe Players present 'Beauty and the Beast' next week in the Village Hall. Tickets are still available for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 24 - 26 January. See noticeboard and flyers by the doors.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS 7.30 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass (Rosary at 12.00) 17.45 Vespers OP Rite Masses as announced.
WEDNESDAYS 10.30 Exposition until 12.30 11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & Benediction
SATURDAYS 9.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass 10.30 Novena to Our Lady 10.30 Confessions until 11.30 12.30 Mass (Rosary at 12.00) 17.00 Confessions until 18.00 17.45 Vespers 18.00 Vigil Mass for Sunday OP Rite Masses as announced.
HOLYDAYS 18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass 7.30 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers 19.00 Mass
BANK HOLIDAYS 7.30 Lauds 12.30 Mass, after which the church is closed
SUNDAYS 8.00 Mass 9.00 Lauds 9.30 Mass (Family) 11.00 Mass (Solemn: Latin on 2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Sundays) 12.30 Mass (OP rite in Latin) 17.45 Vespers 18.00 Rosary 18.20 Sung Latin Compline 18.40 Benediction 19.00 Mass
Royal Infirmary Chaplaincy: For urgent visits, ask ward staff to bleep the Roman Catholic Chaplain. For non-urgent visits, leave a message at the Priory or at the LRI Chaplains' Office. Messages may not be picked up until the end of the day.
Universities' Chaplain: Fr David Rocks: 0116 252 1512
Parish Website: www.holycrossleicester.org Website & Newsletter Editors: holycrosswebsite@gmail.com holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com
CONTACT DETAILS Holy Cross Priory 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW Priory phone: (0116) 255 3856 For home visits/recorded times of services: 255 3856 Fax: 255 5552 Parish Priest Fr Fabian Radcliffe 252 1515 & 07952 598735 leicester@english.op.org