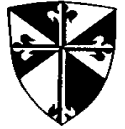


The Newsletter of  
**HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER**

*Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247*



**J**ESUS was crucified by very devout and religious people. They were shocked at things He said. He seemed to make Himself one with Almighty God. They thought this horrible blasphemy. He was a danger to the Holy People. There was also an angle into politics. He was rousing the People.

This would upset the Romans. They could have Him put to an atrocious death. But even after Resurrection, Ascension, Sending the Holy Spirit, people who loved and followed Him seemed to find it hard to take in what He said, or realise who He is, or believe He is – God.

It took strong preaching, and fierce struggles, and several Councils to place it in the Creed. We have to repeat at each Sunday Mass, He is 'true God, from true God'. Many of our 'other' Christian friends today think Him a very good man. They feel free to adapt His teachings today. This isn't possible to do. He is God, with Father and Spirit; God who was, and is, and ever shall be.

Some early Christians went the other way. They couldn't keep it together, that He is God, and man. He made such an impression, in His time, that many then thought He had been an Apparition, not a man at all. Our Muslim neighbours think something like this. He, 'Isa', couldn't have died on the cross. 'Allah took him'. It tells them in the Koran.

It became very significant that a woman was known to be His mother. Then the meaning of it sank in. The Greeks called her 'God-bearer'. We call her 'Mother of God'. It's shocking to say. It is the shocking truth. The child, the boy, the man, she knew as her son, is — Almighty God.

Writers of our lovely carols showed the imagination we need about this.

'Enough for Him, whom Cherubim worship night and day,  
 a breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay'.

Believing this brings us the truth that God is far nearer us than we think. I wouldn't dare say it, myself; but I have to say it, many times, at Mass — 'The Lord be with you'; and, at the Offertory — 'May we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled Himself, to share in our humanity'.

fr Duncan OP

<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	<i>Either:</i> Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth for ever. <i>Or:</i> Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God, Prince of peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.
<b>At 11am – page nos in Missale:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mass Ordinary, p 13; Mass Proper, p 55; Asperges p 42</li> <li>• Sung setting: Mass IX <i>Cum Jubilo</i>, p 208; Credo III, p 216</li> <li>• Alleluia: At various times in the past God spoke through the prophets; but in our time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son.</li> <li>• Communion motet: <i>Gaudete! Piae Cantiones</i></li> <li>• Organ sortie: <i>Les Enfants de Dieu Messiaen</i></li> </ul>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	Numbers 6:22-27
<b>Psalm <math>\text{R}</math>:</b>	<b>May God be gracious to us and bless us.</b> (Ps 67)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	Galatians 4:4-7
<b>Alleluia:</b>	In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son.
<b>Gospel:</b>	Luke 2:16-21
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and for ever.
<b>WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN.</b> In addition to the Masses listed in the schedule on p 3, Holy Mass will be offered in the Dominican rite from <b>Monday to Saturday at 8am.</b> <i>There will be an additional Mass, sung, for the Solemnity of the Epiphany, at 6pm on Friday 6 January.</i>	

**Monday is a Bank Holiday**, so there will only be Masses at 8am and 12.30pm after which the church will be closed. Normal times of services will resume on Tuesday.

**Calendar Raffle:** up to £500 can be won in our new calendar raffle. Tickets are available, price £5, for every unsold date in the 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.

**Churches Together in Leicester City Centre** will meet at St Nicholas Church, St Nicholas Circle, at 12:30pm on Thursday. Anyone looking for an opportunity for prayer is welcome. Our times of shared prayer provide us with an opportunity to pray for our city in all its rich diversity as well as an opportunity to meet one another after the worship for a chat over tea and coffee.

**MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – No information available at time of going to press. Details next week.**

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

**First Friday Coffee.** These gatherings are now successfully re-established, and thank you to all who came and helped at the beginning of this month. But please note that, exceptionally, there will be **no first Friday coffee in January**. Normal service will be resumed on Friday 3 February.

**Are you homeless and lonely on Saturdays?** There will be a 'Saturday Stop-By' from 11am to 2pm each Saturday, starting on 7 January, at the Undercroft of St James the Greater, St James Terrace, at the back of the church, off Mayfield Road. There will be 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](mailto:salma.ravat@gmail.com).

**Christ in the Centre 2012:** Planning is now under way for this major event on Good Friday. If you wish to help financially or in any other way, please contact Canon Barry Naylor at St Martin's House, next to Leicester Cathedral, and for information please visit [www.christinthecentre.co.uk](http://www.christinthecentre.co.uk).

**Inspirational Young People Wanted!** Do you know any young people from Leicester (shire), aged 13 to 19, who have made an outstanding contribution to their community, inspired others with their creativity and innovation in music, arts, technology or engineering, or excelled in sport or teamwork? If so, nominate them now for the Lord Lieutenant's Young People Award 2012. The closing date is 31 January. For a nomination form call the Lieutenancy Office at County Hall on 305 6060 or see [www.leics.gov.uk/llawards](http://www.leics.gov.uk/llawards).

**Red Cross Appeal for Refugees & Asylum Seekers.** The full list of items needed to support these destitute and vulnerable people is:

- ◆ **Tinned goods:** tomatoes/ kidney beans/ chick peas/ tuna/ mackerel/ corned beef/ tinned fruit/ tinned vegetables/ baked beans/ soup;
- ◆ **Dried foods:** rice/ maize meal/ lentils/ cous cous/ dried fruit/ noodles/ sugar/ porridge/ flour/ pasta;
- ◆ **Long life goods:** cooking oil/ cereal bars/ nuts/ cereal/ crisps/ indian savoury mix/ chocolate/ biscuits;
- ◆ **Drinks:** fruit juice/ tea/ coffee/ drinking chocolate/ dried milk/ long-life milk/ squash/ water;
- ◆ **Toiletries:** toothpaste/ toothbrushes/ soap/ toilet paper/ shampoo/ sanitary towels/ face and body creams/ shaving equipment;
- ◆ **Baby items:** nappies/ baby wipes/ oil/ baby milk/ baby food jars/ baby bath liquid;
- ◆ **Also:** tin openers/ cutlery/ crockery/ pans/ towels/ sleeping bags/ t-shirts/ supermarket and other shopping vouchers/ mobile telephone top-up vouchers/ writing paper/ envelopes/ stamps.

Please leave these items after any Mass. Thank you.



Hail, Holy Mother, who gave birth to the King, who rules heaven and earth for ever.

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	<b>HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, solemnity</b>	
	Vigil 18.00 Barbara & Wallace Andrade's intentions 8.00 <i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Gregory
	Family 9.30 ✠ Frank Cullen	Fr Isidore
	Solemn 11.00 ✠ Alvaro Henao V. family	Fr Duncan
	OP Rite 12.30 The Delahunty family private intention 19.00 ✠ Mrs Kitty Delahunty	Fr David Fr Thomas Fr Gregory
Monday	<b>SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, bishops and doctors (Bank Holiday)</b> 10.00 <i>There is no Mass at this time today</i> 12.30 Stapleton family	
Tuesday	<b>Christmas feria</b> 10.00 ✠ Dead of the Order of Preachers 12.30 ✠ Joseph	
Wednesday	<b>St Zedislava of Moravia, holy woman</b> 10.00 ✠ Brosnan Leen 12.30 ✠ Frank Cullen	
Thursday	<b>Christmas feria</b> 10.00 The Bunten family 12.30 ✠ Marian Julia Norton	
Friday	<b>Christmas feria. There will be an extra Mass at 6pm, sung in the Dominican rite, for the solemnity of the Epiphany.</b> 10.00 Mrs Helen Machean & family's intentions 12.30 ✠ Pauline Niland Quinn	
Saturday	<b>St Raymond of Penyafort, priest</b> 10.00 Bridget O'Dwyer 12.30 ✠ Andrade family	
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Isidore, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Gregory	
<b>WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN.</b> Holy Mass is offered in the Dominican rite from Monday to Saturday at 8am.		
<b>Next Sunday – EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, solemnity. Readings:</b>		
Isaiah 60:1-6	Ephesians 3:2-3a. 5-6	Mark 1:7-11

The Liturgical Calendar 2012 for the Dominican English Province (up to Lent) is now available at <http://english.op.org/News.html>.

**Flashing Fire.** The 101 days of perpetual Adoration taking place at Mother of God Church, New Parks, will be concluding at 3pm TODAY, Sunday 1 January. Visit [www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk](http://www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk) and see noticeboard.

**Faith Guiding:** St Philip's Centre, Evington Road, will be offering in February/March a free course for people who want to welcome visitors to places of worship and organise faith exhibitions and displays. Details from [maureen@stphilipscentre.co.uk](mailto:maureen@stphilipscentre.co.uk).



The Dominican Community wish all our parishioners and visitors a happy and holy New Year



REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
<b>MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS</b> 7.30 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass (Rosary at 12.00) 17.45 Vespers OP Rite Masses as announced.
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> 10.30 Exposition until 12.30 11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & Benediction
<b>SATURDAYS</b> 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.
<b>HOLIDAYS</b> 18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass 7.30 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers 19.00 Mass
<b>BANK HOLIDAYS</b> 7.30 Lauds 12.30 Mass, after which the church is closed
<b>SUNDAYS</b> 8.00 Mass 9.00 Lauds 9.30 Mass (Family) 11.00 Mass (Solemn: Latin on 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Royal Infirmary Chaplaincy:</b> 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.
<b>Universities' Chaplain:</b> Fr David Rocks: 0116 252 1512
<b>Parish Website:</b> <a href="http://www.holycrossleicester.org">www.holycrossleicester.org</a> <b>Website &amp; Newsletter Editors:</b> <a href="mailto:holycrosswebsite@gmail.com">holycrosswebsite@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com">holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com</a>
<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b> Holy Cross Priory 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW Priory phone: (0116) 252 3856 For home visits/recorded times of services: 252 3856 Fax: 255 5552 Parish Priest: Fr Fabian Radcliffe 252 1515 & 07952 598735 <a href="mailto:leicester@english.op.org">leicester@english.op.org</a>