

Christian Unity

WE are in the middle of the 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity'. We are invited to pray that all who have been baptised, or who profess themselves as Christian, may be united in one Church. It's as well to acknowledge openly that this octave of prayer can't have quite the same meaning for Catholics as for others. We believe that Christ has set up one, visible Church, His Kingdom on earth, and that this is the Catholic Church, of which we are members. After all, our Lord prayed just before His death, 'May they all be one'. God could not fail to grant this prayer, for as Christ says to His Father elsewhere, 'Thou hearest me always' (Jn. 11:42). On Pentecost Sunday, that prayer was answered, when the Holy Spirit came from heaven and made the 120 or so persons in the upper room into the mystical body of Christ, the Catholic Church.

The Church has grown from that day to this and now has more than a billion members on earth. But the storms of history have meant that there are today many people who acknowledge Christ as the Son of God but who are not members of the Catholic Church. We wish them to become members of it, to become our fellow Catholics.

Why? Not, I hope, from narrowly human motives, as if we just wanted 'our team' to be as big as possible! As the present Pope once remarked, 'truth is not decided by majority vote'. No, we should desire it, first of all because it is the will of God, who has set up just one Church, to be the image of His own perfect unity. Secondly, we should desire it for the good of those who are not yet Catholics. We don't want them to stand on the river-bank, or in the shallows, but to plunge into the full stream of God's grace! This means making use of the sacraments that Christ gives us in His Church, and heeding the sure teaching that He gives us through the pope and all faithful bishops. Thirdly, we should desire it for our own sake. The stronger the Church is, and the greater her number of convinced and active members, the more we are all helped in our journey towards eternity.

How is this to happen? Prayer is necessary, of course: hence this week. But also by personal invitation. We tend to be reticent about saying to those we know, 'have you ever thought of becoming a Catholic?' or 'are you happy with your own church?' In part this is due to respect for others' consciences. But in part it may be due to pusillanimity or even lack of faith. We should be a little more bold! After all, who is there who doesn't want to find his way home?

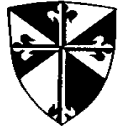
Fr Thomas OP

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

22 January 2012

The Newsletter of
HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER
Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247



Entrance Antiphon:	O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.
At 11am – page nos in Missale:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mass Ordinary, p 13; Mass Proper, p 115• Sung setting: Mass I <i>Lux et Origo</i>, p 205; Credo III, p 210• Communion motet: Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake <i>Farrant</i>• Organ sortie: <i>Praeludium con Fuga Böhm</i>
1st Reading:	John 3:1-5. 10
Psalm 88:	Make me know your ways, O Lord. (Ps 25)
2nd Reading:	1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Alleluia:	The kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel.
Gospel:	Mark 1:14-20
Communion Antiphon:	<i>Either:</i> Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. <i>Or:</i> I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.
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.	

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity: Canon Stephen Foster, formerly Precentor at Leicester Cathedral, and now Anglican Chaplain at Leicester University, will speak at the end of the 11 o'clock Mass today. Welcome!

White Flower Appeal – The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal this weekend. In common with the Catholic Church, SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The Society's work covers a wide spectrum of issues. It seeks to protect unborn children from abortion and defends disabled, elderly and incapacitated people from euthanasia and assisted suicide. SPUC also provides trained speakers for schools and offers pro-life support for teachers, parents and medical professionals. Please give generously to this very worthy cause.

Calling all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Holy Cross: The Renewal Days for 2012 are 28 April at Our Lady of Victories, Market Harborough and 12 May at St John Bosco, Leicester. Please contact Sica on 0775 88 44 918 or francisca@sicamartinez.plus.com if you wish to attend. Sica would also be grateful if you would provide her with your contact details (whether or not you can come to a Renewal Day) so that any further information can be sent directly to you. Alternatively please provide your details direct to Father Fabian.

This 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.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £970.46 (of which £379.80 Gift Aided and £590.66 not); SVP £17.32; Friends of Holy Cross £9.47; Holy Souls £22.65; Grenada Church Restoration £26.90.

Today there will be a retiring collection for SPUC's White Flower Appeal (see note above, and apologies for no advance notification last week). Next week there will be a retiring collection for Sick and Retired Priests of the Diocese.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

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.

Vacancy: South Nottingham Catholic Academy Trust is seeking to appoint a faithful, enthusiastic and practising Catholic to the post of School Chaplain from 1 September 2012 on a full time, all year round basis. For an application pack please visit The Becket School website: www.becketonline.co.uk. The closing date is **TOMORROW** Monday 23 January (9am).



Today's Gospel: "Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men."

9.30 Mass Music – if you would like to be more involved in our playing and singing, please join the music group for Sunday tea and an informal practice from 3-5pm on Sunday January 29. Details from Jeff (jeffhenry@btopenworld.com or 0116 243 1289).

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 in aid of Parish Centre developments: Please buy your ticket (£5) after Mass today; tickets are selling well. The draw will take place at a major parish event on Wednesday February 29, from 7-9pm, details to follow, keep the date free.

What's On in the Holy Cross Parish? We are planning an event that will run after each Mass on the weekend of February 18/19. There will be free refreshments and the opportunity to find out what our various parish groups are doing and, if you wish, consider how you might like to get involved. Full details nearer the time. **Do you run a parish group?** We would like you to promote what you do at this event, at which you will be able to show parishioners what you do and, hopefully, enlist their support. To book a table, contact Jeff (jeffhenry@btopenworld.com or 0116 243 1289).

Forthcoming events for your diary

Sun 29 Jan	Informal practice for 9.30 Mass Music Group, 3 to 5pm. Details from Jeff Henry
18/19 Feb	'What's On in Holy Cross Parish'. Information event after all Masses in Parish Centre
Wed 29 Feb	Draw for Calendar Raffle at an event in the evening

Year II	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 3
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Duncan, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Thomas	
Sunday	3rd Sunday per annum	
Vigil	18.00 ✠ Mary & John Pinto	Fr Fabian
	8.00 ✠ Stella Brown	Fr Duncan
Family	9.30 The Moran family	Fr Fabian
Solemn	11.00 <i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Duncan
OP Rite	12.30 ✠ Stella Brown	Fr Thomas
	19.00 Special intention	Fr Thomas
Monday	Feria	
	10.00 Donor's intention	
	12.30 ✠ Patrick Walsh & Sheila Mullally	
Tuesday	St Francis de Sales, bishop	
	10.00 ✠ Dead of the Order of Preachers	
	12.30 Donor's intention	
Wednesday	THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL, APOSTLE. The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity ends today.	
	10.00 Mr & Mrs Sergio Pereira (wedding anniversary)	
	12.30 Liz & Luke Fahy	
Thursday	SS Timothy and Titus, bishops	
	10.00 Donor's intention	
	12.30 Donor's intention	
Friday	Feria	
	10.00 Donor's intention	
	12.30 ✠ Lorraine Burns	
Saturday	ST THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST, DOCTOR	
	10.00 ✠ De Silva family	
	12.30 Private intention	
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Thomas, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Duncan	
	WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. Holy Mass is offered in the Dominican rite from Monday to Saturday at 8am.	
Next Sunday – 4th Sunday per annum. Readings:		
Deuteronomy 18:15-20	1 Corinthians 7:32-35	Mark 1:21-28

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Nonna Henderson who died, aged 93, last weekend. May she rest in peace.

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 from <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.

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.
HOLIDAYS
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