

A few years ago, when I was working in a youth retreat centre, I travelled by train to say Mass there. An elderly woman was sitting opposite me, and she asked where I was going. I told her all about the retreat centre and that I was a Catholic priest who worked there. When she discovered I worked with young people, she went on a rant about how awful modern youth were, and asked if I agreed. "Not at all," I replied, "I think young people are fantastic."

At the end of the Easter Vigil in Walsingham this year, which I celebrated with Student Cross, I had the same thought. The Catholic parish church was filled with people joyfully celebrating the Lord's Resurrection, so enjoying the celebration that the music group had to play three or four recessional hymns! The congregation mostly consisted of young people who had given a week of their lives to walk Student Cross, in order to have a very special experience of Christian community for Holy Week and Easter.

Student Cross is a pilgrimage which involves around three hundred people now, many of them young people, who walk from several cities around England and all converge on Walsingham to celebrate Easter. Most groups walk about 120 miles, carrying a heavy wooden cross and sleeping on village or church hall floors along the way. They set off on the Saturday before Palm Sunday and arrive on Good Friday afternoon in Walsingham before celebrating the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and the Easter Vigil, and joining the community at the Anglican Shrine for their Easter Eucharist.

During the week, each group (or 'leg' as they get called) celebrates its own liturgy, with morning and evening prayers each day, as well as Mass several times in the week. They eat and pray, walk and sleep together, often relaxing in the evenings over a glass of beer, singing songs and getting to know each other.

For many of the people who walk, it's the most intense experience of Christian community that they ever have. Each leg naturally grows very close, and the support and concern shown to each other is a wonderful part of the week. At each stop, the walkers make a Station of the Cross, with time for a reflection given by one of the people in the group. These can be light, but they are often tremendously profound and occasionally about the most difficult and painful things which are happening in that person's life. It's part of the trust and love that develops that people feel able to share their burdens with the others.

Because each leg takes very nearly the same route every year, we develop relationships with the people along the way. Some will come to the bottom of their gardens to smile and wave as we go by. One old woman knelt as we went by and called after us, "What you're doing is very important!" Some invite us in for a cup of tea and to use their loo. Some come to listen to us sing in the pubs where we gather in the evenings. And of course, some shout and jeer, though they're in the distinct minority.

All this is to say that Student Cross is a little slice, a brief experience, of the kind of Christian community that every parish is called to be, a group of people who pray and support each other in our Christian faith but who are also a sign to the world around us, calling people to faith and love, or even, in some, prompting that rejection which Christ told us his followers would experience.

One man last year drove past the leg with which I walk (Northern Leg, who begin walking in Nottingham) and shouted "Tree-huggers!" Well, I'm very proud to be a tree-hugger, if the tree in question is the Cross of Christ. As the prayer my leg say on taking up the cross each day reminds us, we should glory in nothing else.

Fr Peter O.P.



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%	<u>Either</u> – Like newborn children you should thirst for milk, on which your spirit can grow to strength, alleluia.
& ' (<u>Or</u> – Rejoice to the full in the glory that is yours, and give thanks to God who called you to his kingdom, alleluia.
&) *	•Mass Ordinary, p 13; Mass Proper, p 88
' +	•Sung setting: Mass IX (cum júbilo) p 208; Credo III, p 216
(•Communion motet: Now the green blade riseth
	•Sortie: Marche Triomphale
+(Acts 2:42-47
!) (+ , \$ + -) .
	(Ps 118)
+(1 Peter 1:3-9
/ (Victimae paschali laudes immolent Christiani... Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise... (p 86)
& (You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord; blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.
0 ' (John 20:19-31
))	Jesus spoke to Thomas: Put your hand here, and see the place of the nails.
& ' (Doubt no longer, but believe, alleluia.
1%%2 & " & ".	In addition to the Masses listed in the schedule on p 3, Holy Mass will be offered in the older form from 3).

4 , , so there will be NO MASS at 10am. Masses will be at 8am and 12.30pm after which the church will be closed.

%5)) are on Saturdays 7th and 14th May at St Peter's Church, Hinckley. Please let Sica know if you want to go and which date, tel/text 0775 88 44 918 or email to francisca@sicamartinez.plus.com.

. Fr Simon Gaine OP, former Prior of Blackfriars, Oxford, will speak on 'What can we do in Heaven?' on Friday 6 May at 7:30pm, in St Clement's Hall. All are very welcome. Car parking will be available in the gated office car park just up Wellington Street from St Clement's Hall.

64 , ' + , 6 will be held on 7 . *Donations required*: any bottles (wine/spirits), toys, quality gifts, quality bric-a-brac, unwanted teddy bears, chocolate, home made cakes, new candles, pot pouri, etc. , as they can't be sold or are difficult to sell: clothes, books, video cassettes and electronic equipment. , " 8

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) ! +) + 1 +). This will take place on Sunday 15 May, starting with Mass at 12 noon, followed by picnic lunch, Rosary procession, Vespers and Benediction. This year marks the 950th anniversary of pilgrimage to Walsingham. There will be a coach leaving from Wellington Street at 7.30am and the cost is £20. To book seats, please ring Keith Athaide on 07733 155360 3 , and then pay the £20 to any of the friars. You will need to bring a packed lunch. The coach should be back by about 8.30pm.



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 1 , on Saturday May 28. Meeting after the 10am Mass (no later than 10.45). All are welcome to join us. Further details to follow from the Parish Social Committee.

: on 6th May at 12:30pm, at the Militia Immaculata shop in town, preceded by confessions from 12. The purpose of these Masses is to encourage the devotion of the '5 first Saturdays', and to spread the message of Our Lady of Fatima.

whether modern 'theories of evolution' fit with Christian faith? Then come to " , on Tuesday May 10th. Dr. Thomas Seiler, a physicist, and Hugh Owen, Director of the Kolbe Center for the Study of Creation, will be critically examining some scientific dogmas. The evening starts at 7pm, in St Clement's Hall; entrance is free. It promises to be a most interesting evening!

% %): , a talk given by The Linacre Centre's Steven Barrie at 7pm at St Thomas More Church, Knighton Road LE2 3HN, on Tuesday 24 May. Entry is free to this event which is being organised by Leicester SPUC. Steven will be exploring the ethical issues surrounding the use of human embryos in biotechnology. For example, is selection ever justified? For details contact Leicester SPUC on 0775 88 44 918 or just turn up on the night.

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Fri 6 May	Spes Unica lecture, 7.30pm, St Clement's Hall
Sat 14 May	Blackfriars Market. Please bring donations and leave after any Mass.
Sun 15 May	Dominican Pilgrimage to Walsingham celebrating 950 years of pilgrimage to the site.
Sat 28 May	Parish Country Walk led by Fr Fabian. Details to follow.

)) . Heart Gives Unto Heart Catholic Internet Radio has organised a Roadshow featuring Stan Fortuna, Don Maclean and Edwin Fawcett. It includes an exhibition, opening after the 12.30pm Mass on Monday 23 May, featuring, amongst other things, icon prints by members of the British Association of Iconographers. Later that day, at 7.30pm, there will be a concert showcasing Catholic musicians and singers, and raising money for the radio station which is planned to go live in the autumn. See noticeboard and www.hguhroadshow.co.uk.

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Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Thomas, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Duncan	
	% # & ; % & % ('Divine Mercy Sunday')	
Vigil	18.00 Bridget & James Finnegan	
	8.00 Henry Dunn	
Family	9.30	
Solemn	11.00 Fernando Guerrero Family	
OP Rite	12.30 Thanksgiving	
Students	17.00 : + 5 ,	
	19.00 Gregory, Clara & Kate Athaide	
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	" ! # \$ % &	
	10.00	
	12.30 Mary Buxton	
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	10.00 Dead of the Order of Preachers	
	12.30 Madeleine McCann	
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	10.00 Connell family intentions	
	12.30 Bunten family	
	? ; \$ ' \$ +	
	10.00 Michael & Delores Galvin and family	
	12.30 Private intention	
	1 , %	
	10.00 Mary Buxton	
	12.30 Tom Ruddy	
	1 , %	
	10.00 Carmel Culhane	
	12.30 Anne Potterton (welfare)	
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30, and 17.00 to 18.00	
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	from 3)	
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Acts 2:14. 22-28	1 Peter 1:17-21	Luke 24:13-35

+ will meet at St Margaret's Church, St Margaret's Way, 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.

4 remains in urgent need of food donations to respond to the emergency needs of destitute asylum seekers in Leicester. To help, please leave your gifts after any Mass – non perishable goods such as tinned and dried foods are also mostly wanted. A full list of items may be seen on the noticeboard and in the Newsletter (13 February) on the parish website. Please keep giving generously to support these vulnerable people. Thank you.

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 7.30 Lauds
 10.00 Mass
 12.30 Mass
 17.45 Vespers
 Old Rite Masses as announced.
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 10.30 Exposition until 12.30
 11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet,
 Rosary & Benediction
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 9.00 Lauds
 10.00 Mass
 10.30 Novena to Our Lady
 10.30 Confessions until 11.30
 12.30 Mass
 17.00 Confessions until 18.00
 17.45 Vespers
 18.00 Vigil Mass for Sunday
 Old Rite Masses as announced.
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 18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass
 7.30 Lauds
 10.00 Mass
 12.30 Mass
 17.45 Vespers
 19.00 Mass
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 7.30 Lauds
 12.30 Mass, after which the
 church is closed
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 8.00 Mass
 9.00 Lauds
 9.30 Mass (Family)
 11.00 Mass (Solemn: Latin on
 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays)
 12.30 Mass (Old rite in Latin)
 17.00 Mass (for Students, term
 time only)
 17.45 Vespers
 18.00 Rosary
 18.20 Sung Latin Compline
 18.40 Benediction
 19.00 Mass
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 () For urgent
 visits, ask ward staff to bleep
 the Roman Catholic Chaplain.
 For non-urgent visits leave
 message at the Priory or the LRI
 Chaplains' Office. Messages may
 not be picked up until the end of
 the day.
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holycrosswebsite@gmail.com
holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com
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 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW
 Priory phone: (0116) 255 3856
 For home visits/recorded times
 of services: 255 3856
 Fax: 255 5552
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 Fr Leon Pereira: 252 1501
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