

Baptism of the Lord

In 2002 Pope St. John Paul II introduced five new mysteries of the Rosary. These he called the, ‘Luminous Mysteries.’ In each one Jesus throws light, during his public ministry, on God’s plan of salvation.

The Baptism of the Lord is the first of the ‘Luminous Mysteries’ and marks the beginning of Christ’s public ministry. With his baptism Jesus leaves the private, domestic life at Nazareth, and sets out to proclaim God’s salvation for the world. John the Baptist had already begun to prepare the way for Christ’s coming. He preached a baptism of repentance, which generated a great atmosphere of excitement and expectation. But John hadn’t expected that Jesus himself should ask to be baptised. After all, baptism was meant to prepare other people, who were sinners, for Christ’s coming. And He was no sinner! But Jesus insisted on being baptised. He wanted to identify with the whole of sinful humanity, to carry and remove the burden of our guilt.

Then, immediately after His baptism, something remarkable happened. The Spirit of God rested upon Jesus, in the form of a dove – the symbol of the peace God brought to the chaotic, destructive waters of the Flood. Jesus came to bring peace to our chaotic troubled lives. He wanted to enable us to make a fresh start. And the Father’s voice from heaven proclaimed, *‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.’* With these words the Father commissioned Jesus to act and speak in his name and with his divine authority. Christ’s baptism prepared him for His mission.

Today’s feast celebrates not just Christ’s baptism, but ours. Through our baptism we have been born from above – from God – and have become the children of God. Just as Jesus shared our human life through His birth at Bethlehem, so we share His divine life through our birth at baptism. We become God’s beloved sons or daughters, with whom He is well pleased.

Christ’s baptism and ours prepare us for mission. We are not simply called to a private, cosy relationship between each of us and God. But our baptism commissions us to share the faith we have received. Like Jesus, we are meant to be luminous – lights revealing the glory of God and the power of His salvation. Like Jesus we are called to dispel the darkness of ignorance and error. Now we should radiate the hope He has given us. For many people we may be the only light, revealing the hope Jesus has given us and what it means to follow Him.

If we live up to our vocation God will, indeed, be able to say, ‘This is my beloved son or daughter, with whom I am well pleased.’

Isidore O.P.

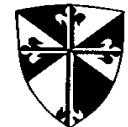
The Baptism of the Lord

Year B

11 January 2015

The Newsletter of HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER

www.holycrossleicester.org



Entrance Antiphon:	After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.
At 11am – page nos in Missale:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mass Ordinary, p 42; Mass Proper, p 61• Sung setting: Missa O quam gloriosum Victoria; Credo III, p 216• Motet: Locus iste Bruckner
1 st Reading:	Isaiah 42:1-4.6-7
Psalm Rx:	May the Lord bless his people with peace. (Ps 29)
2 nd Reading:	Acts 10:34-38
Alleluia Rx:	The heavens opened and the Father’s voice was heard: “This is my beloved Son, listen to him.”
Gospel:	Mark 1:7-11
Communion Antiphon:	Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Baptism Preparation: the next session is on 1 February; please come to the sacristy at the end of the 9.30am Mass. If you wish to have your child baptised at Holy Cross, you need to attend one of these sessions, usually held on the first Sunday of each month.

The 9.30 and 11.00 Sunday Masses. On Wednesday 21 January at 8pm there will be a meeting to develop the next steps for the combined 10.30 Mass, particularly the various ministries – reading, serving, singing, etc.

The new 10.30 Mass will start on Shrove Sunday, 15 February. We will come together in celebration of our community, following Mass with pancakes, and a bring and share lunch. During Lent we will begin the process of working together to establish a new, strong and vibrant Eucharistic Community at 10.30am.

Our new Director of Music is Mr Thomas Keogh, and is coming to us shortly from a previous post in Edgbaston. Welcome!

News from the Parish Shop. Catholic Diaries, containing also the Order of Mass, are available for £2.50 or £3, and there are plenty of calendars, either of Church Art for £1, or the Holy Cross calendar (containing photographs taken by members of the congregation) for £5.

The shop is open after the 12.30pm Masses during the week, on Saturdays from 11am until after the 12.30pm Mass, and after every Sunday Mass. The shop is in the room beyond the sacristy.

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



MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections — Offertory Collection £1018.52 (of which £356.00 was Gift Aided and £662.52 was not) and in addition the parish receives approximately £240 per week in donations made by standing order, nearly all of which are Gift Aided; SVP £7.88; Friends of Holy Cross £14.03; Holy Souls £11.11; Grenada Church Restoration £ - .

Next Sunday there is a retiring collection for the Priory buildings and maintenance fund.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

On Sunday evenings you are very welcome to join us for Holy Hour from 6.00 pm — Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Compline and Benediction. Mass follows at 7.00 pm.

The Liturgical Calendar 2015 for the Dominican English Province for the whole of 2015 is now available at <http://english.op.org/news-and-events/liturgical-calendar.htm>.

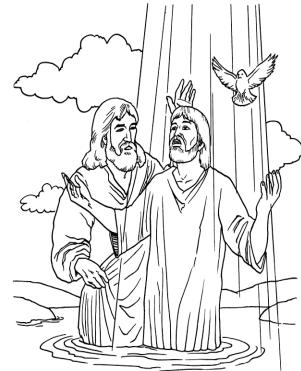
Sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp. If you are willing to sponsor the sanctuary lamp to burn for your intentions for one week, please pick up an envelope. The friars will pray for this intention each day. The minimum suggested donation is £10.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Bowe, who has recently died, and whose funeral was here at Holy Cross.

VACANCY: St Teresa's Catholic Primary School, Nottingham, are seeking to appoint a School Business Manager — further details are available from the school (tel: 0115 915 5762 / admin@st-teresas.nottingham.sch.uk). The closing date for applications is 26th January.

National March for Life. There will be a meeting at 7pm on Thursday 22 January at St Joseph's Convent, Uppingham Road, Leicester LE5 6RA (next to St Joseph's Church) to discuss plans for the 2015 National March for Life, which organisers are hoping to be the biggest to date. March for Life started three years ago in Birmingham and now attracts hundreds of people united in defence of the unborn child. This is a great and easy way to join others to peacefully raise awareness of the nearly 200,000 abortions taking place in the UK every year. Please do attend the meeting on 22 January to help us plan for this great event. For more details contact Francisca Martinez on 07943 711549 or Sr Lelia Walsh on stjoseph-leicester@ntl.com.

Asylum Seekers and Refugees remain in urgent need of food donations to respond to their emergency needs; these people in Leicester are often destitute. To help, please leave your gifts in the sacristy after any Mass — non perishable goods such as tinned and dried foods are mostly wanted, but please see that goods are not significantly past their sell-by date. A full list of items may be seen on the noticeboard. Please note that if clothing is to be given it must not be in such a condition to need cleaning or washing before use; in fact it should ideally be new or nearly new. The main thrust of the appeal is for food and items of personal use, although other things such as towels and baby clothing are acceptable. Please keep giving generously to support these vulnerable people. Thank you.



The Spirit, like a dove, descended on him and a voice came from heaven, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Year I	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 3/1
Sunday	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Vigil 18.10 ± Evelyn Haran 8.00 Bunten family Sung 9.30 ± Dympna Gallagher Solemn 11.00 <i>Pro populo</i> OP Rite 12.30 Bernice Litchfield's intentions 19.00 Jean Poyer (sick - recovering in hospital)	
		ORDINARY TIME
	Besides the times of year that have their own distinctive character, there remain in the yearly cycle thirty-three or thirty-four weeks in which no particular aspect of the mystery of Christ is celebrated, but rather the mystery of Christ itself is honoured in its fullness, especially on Sundays. During the first part of Ordinary Time, we are asked to pray for peace on Earth; Christian unity; the sick and those who care for them; victims of trafficking and those who work to combat it; students and teachers; and unemployed people.	
Monday	St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot OP Rite 8.00 ± Catarina Escalon 12.30 18.10 ± Paul Kaminski	
Tuesday	Feria OP Rite 8.00 ± Dead of the Order of Preachers 12.30 Hadyia Minas - Chemo treatment session 18.10	
Wednesday	Feria OP Rite 8.00 12.30 18.10	
Thursday	St Francisco Fernández de Capillas, Priest, Pedro Sans, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs of China OP Rite 8.00 12.30 18.10	
Friday	Feria OP Rite 8.00 ± Kathleen Parker 12.30 18.10	
Saturday	St Anthony, Abbot OP Rite 8.00 10.00 12.30	
Next Sunday — Second Sunday per annum. Readings:	1 Samuel 3:3-10.19	John 1:35-42

Correction! The date for Ash Wednesday given in last week's announcement of this year's Moveable Feasts should of course have been the eighteenth day of February. (*This is what comes of uncritically accepting the page headers in the Dominican Ordo!* - Ed.)

Please join us in the Parish Hall after the 9.30 and 11.00am Sunday Masses for tea, coffee, fruit-juice etc. There is the opportunity for a chat with members of the Dominican Community and parishioners. We particularly welcome new students and other visitors.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
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 (Dominican Rite)
18.00 Exposition, Rosary, Compline & Benediction
19.00 Mass
MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS
7.30 Lauds
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
11.00 Devotions & Exposition
12.15 Benediction
12.30 Mass (Rosary at 12.00)
18.10 Mass followed by Vespers
*WEDNESDAYS ONLY

SATURDAYS
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
9.00 Lauds
10.00 Mass
10.30 Devotions & Exposition
10.30 Confessions until 11.30
12.30 Mass (Rosary at 12.00)
17.00 Confessions until 18.00
17.45 Vespers
18.10 Vigil Mass for Sunday
HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION
18.10 (previous day) Vigil Mass followed by Vespers
7.30 Lauds
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
12.30 Mass
18.10 Mass followed by Vespers

BANK HOLIDAYS
7.30 Lauds
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
12.30 Mass, after which the church is closed

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

Baptism Preparation: 1st Sunday of month after the 9.30 Mass.

Baptisms: Saturday afternoons.

Parish Website:
www.holycrossleicester.org
Website & Newsletter Editors:
web@holycrossleicester.org
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: 0116 255 3856
Fax: 0116 255 5552
Parish Priest Fr David Rocks
0116 252 1512
leicester@english.op.org