

I Will Not Be Silent

In this jubilee year of the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Order of Preachers, we might well ask what is the point of preaching? Today's reading and psalm impel us to this: 'About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch.'

We were founded to preach for the salvation of souls. The Psalm exhorts us to sing a new song to the Lord. What is new after eight hundred years of preaching? Surely in this year of mercy it is that which we seek in the words of profession into the Dominican Order, 'God's mercy and yours.'

Our preaching is a gift of the Spirit, according to St Paul in the second reading of today, the first Epistle to the Corinthians, Chapter 12. One person may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given to him or her, by the Spirit. Another person may have the gift of instruction, as a form of preaching, given to him or her by the same Spirit. Surely this is the scriptural basis of our charism of theological preaching, the calling to speak like St Dominic, who was said always to be speaking about God or to God.

In this jubilee year we also face the prospect of a Provincial Chapter which will be considering our places of preaching, for the present and the future. At the same time, we face, especially in England and Scotland, political issues over the future 'shape' of our land. This is both an internal matter, as regards the future of the United Kingdom, and an external matter as regards membership of the European Union.

In today's Gospel, Jesus, his mother and the disciples are invited to a wedding feast at Cana in Galilee. In the Gospel of St John, his preaching begins, both in word and deed, in response to a human need. 'Woman, why turn to me, my hour has not yet come' he says to his mother, and yet she responds by saying to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' In this way, the water is turned into wine.

His hour will come on the Cross and at his death, blood and water will issue from his sacred side. This has been taken by his believers to be a sign of the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist, already prefigured at the wedding feast at Cana. 'You have kept the best wine till now'. Washed in the water of rebirth, we are now nourished at the Lord's supper in the eating of his Body and the drinking of his Blood.

We are told at the end of today's Gospel, that Jesus let his glory be seen in this miracle, the first of the signs given by Jesus and that his disciples believed in him. We too are called to be believing disciples sent out by him to preach a word of mercy and hope, and to celebrate this in the sacraments, both to and for our human world.

Perhaps the preaching of wisdom and instruction is needed more now than ever before. We are exhorted in the psalm to tell among the nations, the glory of God, and his wonders among all his peoples. However, it needs to be done in a humble and sympathetic manner responding to the needs of those who hear us, just as Jesus did at the behest of his blessed mother in today's Gospel account.

We hope and pray that as a Province and as the Order of Preachers, we might be graced by the Spirit, with the vision and energy to sing a new song to the Lord, wherever and whenever it is needed. This includes working with those of other faiths and none in the building of a more just, loving and merciful world in the face of so much violence and hatred.

Fr Aelred Connelly OP, published on the Order's 'Torch' website.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

17 January 2016

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

www.holycrossleicester.org



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!
1st Reading:	Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm R:	Declare the Lord's marvellous works among all the peoples! (Ps 96)
2nd Reading:	1 Corinthians 12:4-11
Alleluia:	God has called us through the Gospel, to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Gospel:	John 2:1-11
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.

Baptism Preparation: the next session is on **Sunday 7 February**; please come to the sacristy at the end of the 10.30am Mass. If you wish to have your child baptised here, you need to attend one of these sessions, usually held on the first Sunday of each month.

Children's Liturgy: There will be a short 15-30min meeting in St Clement's Hall after the 10:30am Mass **TODAY**. It will primarily be to introduce the modest library we have at the minute for the children and encourage parents to borrow books. There is a £1 'deposit' as membership, fully refundable at any time, just to protect the books as we did fundraise for them and they are all new/like new. There will be tea, coffee, and small sweet things to celebrate. We will also speak to parents and see what they think of the liturgy, encourage volunteers or ideas, etc.

Holy Cross Gospel Choir has started its rehearsals for 2016. We always welcome newcomers and absolute beginners so, if you'd like to try something new and meet new people in a very relaxed setting, do come and join us. We're in St. Clement's Hall on Wellington Street on Tuesdays from 7.00 to 8.45pm. Contact Jeff (0116 243 1289) for more details.

Canonical Visitation of the Community. This will take place from Monday to Wednesday this week when the Prior Provincial, Fr John Farrell OP, will be visiting the Community here.

Quiz Night. A Quiz Night will be held to raise funds for the parish on Saturday 30 January at 7pm. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses.

Please join us in the Parish Hall after the 10.30am Sunday Mass each week 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.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £1095.29 (of which £421.00 was Gift Aided and £674.29 was not) (previous week £1049.00 of which £300.10 was Gift Aided and £748.90 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. For two weeks: Solidarity Fund £7.28; Friends of Holy Cross £18.30; Holy Souls £119.65; Grenada Church Restoration £20.00.

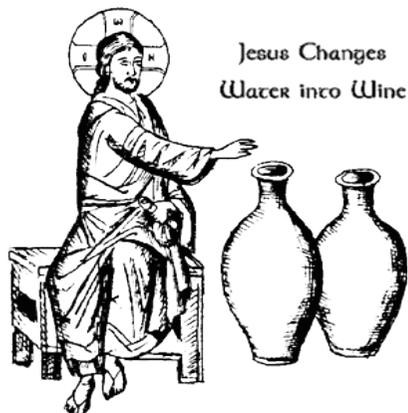
Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

There will be a service for Christian Unity Week at St Martin's Cathedral on Monday 25 January at 7.30pm. All are most welcome.

The Year of Mercy Parish Pilgrimage to Florence, Bologna and Siena will take place from 1 to 7 July. The cost will be £869, and Fr David has all the details.

VACANCY: The governors of St Benedict's Voluntary Academy, Derby, a secondary school, are seeking to appoint a deputy headteacher. For all further details please visit www.saintben.derby.sch.uk or contact Charlie Chamberlain at the school, tel: 01332 554295. Closing date 29th January.

Follow us on 'Facebook Holy Cross Priory Leicester (Dominicans)' for the latest news and updates on events here at Holy Cross.



"This was the first of the signs given by Jesus ... He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him" - *today's Gospel*

Appeal for Refugees & Asylum Seekers. As always we are very grateful for the generosity of those who give to this appeal. The need remains great. Recently there has been a mixture of clothing, dry groceries and baby items, but there is now rather more clothing than needed, so we do ask you to concentrate on goods that are going to be of immediate practical assistance to a person: mainly food (non perishable of course), toiletries, baby clothes and requirements. Please leave these items in the sacristy after any Mass. Thank you.

Interested in becoming a Catholic? The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) course takes place each **Tuesday** at 7pm. This programme is aimed at those who are interested in becoming Catholics, whether they have not been baptised or baptised in a different Christian tradition, and it is geared to the reception of sacraments at Easter. It also caters for adult Catholics who have not been confirmed, or those who simply feel it is time for a refresher course. Please see Fr David.

Mother Goose. The Kirby Muxloe Players present this pantomime adventure in the Village Hall from Sunday 24 January to Saturday 30 January at 2.30pm (Sunday and Saturday) and 7.30pm (Wednesday to Saturday). Tickets are £8. See www.kirbyplayers.co.uk or ring 07804 435235.

News from the Parish Shop

Don't forget to look in at the shop after Mass – the range of goods is extensive and we need to build on the bumper trading time we have had since the start of the year.

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.

Year II	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 2
Sunday	Second Sunday per annum. Today is Peace Day.	
	Vigil 18.10 ✕ Fr Martin Roden OP 8.00 Bunten family	
	Sung 10.30 Maureen Fernandes & family (thanksgiving)	
	OP Rite 12.30 <i>Pro populo</i> 19.00 ✕ Dorothy Martinez	
Monday	St Margaret of Hungary, Virgin, Nun. Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins.	
	OP Rite 8.00 ✕ Kathleen Parker 12.30 Paul Murphy 18.10 ✕ Lizzie O'Hagan	
Tuesday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 ✕ Dead of the Order of Preachers 12.30 ✕ Christine Hipwell 18.10 ✕ Irena & Roman Olszewski	
Wednesday	Bl Cyprian Tansi, Priest	
	OP Rite 8.00 ✕ Eileen Mannion 12.30 Paul Murphy 18.10 ✕ Ralph Berthiaume	
Thursday	St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr	
	OP Rite 8.00 Dora Nash 12.30 ✕ Hannah Way 18.10 ✕ Holy Souls	
Friday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 ✕ Mamie Collier 12.30 ✕ Mrs Fagan 18.10 Paul Murphy	
Saturday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 ✕ Lizzie O'Hagan 10.00 ✕ John Campbell 12.30 ✕ Hilario Gonsalves	
Next Sunday – Third Sunday per annum. Readings:		
Nehemiah 8:2-6.8-10	1 Corinthians 12:12-30	Luke 1:1-4.4:14-21

Cor et Lumen Christi. Damian Stayne is the founder of Cor et Lumen Christi, a community recognized by the Vatican. He is a very gifted teacher and preacher. He has a remarkable gift of physical healing miracles, seeing thousands healed through his ministry in more than 25 countries. He has considerable experience guiding people in prayer drawing on the rich tradition of the Church and his own life of faithfulness to regular intimate prayer. This year Pope Francis has invited us to celebrate a year of mercy. Pope St John Paul II wrote that humanity is "destined for grace and glory". We believe that God, seeing the battle Christians are experiencing in an often hostile secular culture, desires that we experience in new and wonderful ways his merciful grace and the beauty and power of his manifest glory among us. **There will be a 2-day event in Central London on 13 & 14 February.** The Registration fee is £15, and booking is compulsory. For details see www.coretlumenchristi.org or call 01932 565747.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
SUNDAYS 8.00 Mass 9.00 Lauds 10.30 Sung Mass 12.30 Mass (Dominican Rite) - sung on 1st Sundays 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
HOLYDAYS 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 10.30 Mass. Baptisms: Saturday afternoons.
Parish Website: www.holycrossleicester.org Website & Newsletter Editors: web@holycrossleicester.org holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com
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