

# HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH



SUNDAY 28 AUGUST 2016

22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

· A ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH · THE DOMINICAN PRESENCE IN LEICESTER SINCE 1247 ·

## FROM THE PRIOR'S DESK

*"The more we strive to secure a common good corresponding to the real needs of our neighbours, the more effectively we love them". – so wrote Pope Benedict XVI in his last encyclical, Caritas in veritate. How often has Pope Francis recalled us to this wonderful theme, urging us to express our Christianity more through service of one another than through just words. Words can be empty, but service brings fulfillment, proving the authenticity of our words.*

*Over the last number of years, I've developed a greater appreciation of the service of others within our community here at Holy Cross. It is always touching when someone seeks to ease your burden through lending a hand. Many of these acts of service go unnoticed by colleagues, but they are known to God. And a kind offer can change perspective for one who feels alone or under pressure.*

*In this Year of Mercy, we are called to a deeper reflection on the quality of our Christian service, and so to love each other more effectively, as Pope Benedict suggested. The Dominican Jubilee provides a further opportunity for us to reflect on our own charism and spirituality for service in our preaching.*

*On Saturday 3 September at 11am, +Patrick our Bishop will celebrate a special Mass at Nottingham Cathedral. During that Mass, he wishes to extend God's mercy especially to all those lay people who are involved in any kind of service in our Diocese. It would be wonderful if many of those who serve us at Holy Cross with such generosity could be present there.*

Fr David

## HOLY CROSS DAY – SUNDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

This year we will celebrate our Patronal Feast on Sunday 11 September. The Solemn Mass will be celebrated at 10:30am, and we will be joined by our new Fr Provincial, Fr Martin Ganeri OP. There will be the Procession of the Relic of the True Cross after Mass. Please bring food and drinks to share after the Mass in the Hall. This special Feast Day is an opportunity for us to recognise all the important elements that make up the Holy Cross Family, and the great diversity of work that goes into maintaining and developing the many good things that mark us as a Dominican parish community here in the centre of Leicester. Please join us at the Solemn Mass and help to make our celebration joyful!



**IUBILÆUM 800 1216- 2016**  
ORDO PRÆDICATORUM

## NOTICE BOARD

### BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to have your child baptised, please attend one of our baptism preparation sessions. The next is on Sunday 4 September, after the 10:30am Mass in St Clement's Hall.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONFIRMATION

Forms for children and young people who wish to receive these sacraments in the new academic year (2016-17) are now in the Church. Please fill in and return.

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony should make an appointment with the Parish Priest in the first instance.

### BECOMING CATHOLIC

Any adult who wishes to become a Catholic or receive Confirmation should join our RCIA programme, which begins in the Autumn Term.

### VISITING THE SICK

The Faithful who are sick and housebound can arrange a visit from a priest or special minister by calling 0116 252 1501.

### FAMILY VISITS

Families who would like a house blessing or a pastoral visit at home, can make arrangements by calling 0116 252 1501

## HOLY CROSS ASSEMBLY AND QUESTIONNAIRE

You will be aware from previous announcements that the Holy Cross Assembly will take place on **Saturday 15th October 2016**. Everyone is **warmly invited** to attend this important event. The Assembly is an opportunity to gather together as a community to discuss the life of our parish and to think together about **how we can build on the good** we already do in order to make things even better. We strongly encourage you and your families to attend this important event in the life of our parish - we would very much like to hear your views and ideas.

To begin the process of gathering people's views the **Pastoral Core Group** has produced a **questionnaire** which is currently being piloted in the Woodhouse community and will be issued to all those who attend Holy Cross following the summer break and in readiness for the Assembly. Please make every effort to **complete the questionnaire** as fully as possible when it comes out and to **attend the Assembly** on 15th October. **Lunch will be provided.**

## SEPTEMBER'S ORGAN RECITAL

This recital will be given on Wednesday 7 September at 7.30pm by Tim Lees.

## RIDE & STRIDE

This year's event takes place on Saturday 10 September. Anyone wishing to join a group of walkers should meet at St James the Greater, London Road, at 9.45am for 10am, visiting eleven places of worship, and ending at the Cathedral. All are welcome and can do as much or as little of the walk as they wish.

## PRAYING FOR LIFE

A new prayer initiative for the preservation and sanctity of life is beginning in Thurmaston. Please contact [pmurphy28@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pmurphy28@hotmail.co.uk) for further details.

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## THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Fr David Rocks OP PP *Prior*; Fr Isidore Clarke OP; Fr Fabian Radcliffe OP;  
Fr Neil Ferguson OP; Fr Thomas Crean OP; Fr Gregory Murphy OP;  
Fr Robert Gay OP CC *Subprior, Bursar*.

Office Administrator: *Mrs Rachael Powell* – [leicester.admin@english.op.org](mailto:leicester.admin@english.op.org)  
Lay University Chaplain: *Mr George Ralph* – [george.ralph@english.op.org](mailto:george.ralph@english.op.org)  
Director of Music: *Mr Thomas Keogh* – [thomas@thomaskeogh.co.uk](mailto:thomas@thomaskeogh.co.uk)

For the Office Administrator, please call **0116 252 1501**

**Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW. Tel: 0116 255 385**

For more details, visit: [www.holycrossleicester.org](http://www.holycrossleicester.org)

## MASS TIMES

### Sundays:

8am; 10:30am (sung);  
12:30pm (old rite);  
7pm

### Weekdays:

8am (old rite);  
12:30pm; 6:10pm

### Saturdays:

8am (old rite);  
10am; 12.30pm;  
*6:10pm Vigil Mass for  
Sunday*

## CONFESSION

### Saturdays:

10:30-11:30am  
5:00-6:00pm

## MONEY MATTERS

Last week's collections:

**£ 1524.22**

(Gift aided: £ 997.30)

**Woodhouse  
Community**

**£ 142.50**

(Gift aided: £83.00)

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED SUPPORT!*



# THE SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

## READINGS FOR THE 22<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY

1<sup>ST</sup> READING: ECCLESIASTICUS 3:19-21,30-31.

The sage reminds us that humility before God and our neighbour is both a pleasing thing and a sensible one too.

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2<sup>ND</sup> READING: HEBREWS 12:18-19, 22-24

St Paul presents us with a beautiful, poetic description of heaven, and teaches us that the beatific vision is the enjoyment of God himself, in communion with all the redeemed.

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 14:1,7-14.

Taking up the theme of the first reading, Our Lord emphasizes the both the necessity and wisdom of humility. He also teaches that a generous heart should be part of the Christian's make up.

## DOMINICAN RITE MASS, XV SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EPISTLE: GALATIANS 5:25-26; 6:1-10

St Paul teaches that humility is necessary to avoid vainglory, and that we are called to bear one another's burdens.

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GOSPEL: Luke 7:11-16

The Lord's miracle of raising the widow's son is a foretaste of the final resurrection, when our bodies and souls will be reunited in the great judgement.

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### NEXT SUNDAY –

**TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY *PER ANNUM*; SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (EF)**

The many wonders of creation can only fill us with astonishment and admiration. But when we speak of the most holy Eucharist we can say that here is to be found the miracle of divine love for us.... Has there been, or will there ever be, a nobler or more magnanimous love than that which He has shown us in the sacrament of love?

*St John Vianney*

### ***The Jubilee Prayer***

God, Father of mercy, who called your servant St Dominic 800 years ago to found the Order of Preachers in the service of your Gospel, renew within the Church as we celebrate this Jubilee the Spirit of the Risen Christ, that we might faithfully and joyfully walk with St. Dominic as pilgrims and preachers of grace. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# THE WORD AT WORK: OUR WEEKLY REFLECTION

## A DOMINICAN ROAD MAP – A LIFE OF PRAYER

*Fr David continues his series of reflections on the Dominican way of life, inspired by the 800<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of our Order and the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.*

It is said of St Dominic that he spoke only “to God or of God”. By this, we can know that those who engaged with St Dominic in the course of his life could recognise that he had attained a relationship with God that meant he was constantly aware of God’s presence and holiness in every aspect of his life. His whole life was unified by his communication with God in prayer, which he communicated to others. St Thomas Aquinas put it quite succinctly when he said that the vocation of the Dominican Preacher is ‘to contemplate, and to bring to others the fruit of that contemplation.’

These images are very important and enriching for those who wish to follow the Dominican way. We are not called to find out clever facts and explain them to others. We are not called to search for profound insights and repeat them to others. This would be in many ways easy, and it does of course mark some of our task as preachers. We can share the spiritual and intellectual achievement of others, and rejoice in it, but it is worth so much more if we can ourselves possess it. The Dominican preacher has not done his work unless others are changed by his preaching. This can only happen if he is constantly changed by prayerful encounter with God.

The most important work of the Dominican Community is the observance of the Divine Office, the Prayer of the Church. Each Dominican is privileged to pray in the common celebration of the Office, several times each day, as provided by the Liturgy of the Church and at times appointed by the Priory Chapter. At these times, the Dominican Community gathers to sing the psalms and read the Scriptures. It is also known as the ‘Liturgy of the Hours’, because it sanctifies the different moments of the day. Each time the Dominican Community gathers to pray an hour of the Office, their ordinary work is transformed into a spiritual work – in every sense a divine office, something obliged of the preacher for prayerful transformation. The Dominican Community is united in this prayerful action, and seeks closer communion with God and with one another for the sacred work of preaching.

The breaking of a work pattern to share in these moments of community prayer sanctifies the Dominican’s daily routine. It also inspires within the individual preacher a desire to sanctify every moment of his living. The joyfulness of prayerful encounter with God is something that can be truly possessed by those who seek to contemplate the love of God through constant careful and prayerful attention to his presence in our lives. Engaging in such a sacred encounter will demand of the Dominican the act of charity which is preaching – the sharing with others these sacred fruits, through a holy way of life and the joyful expression of mercy.

What a wonderful opportunity we have to follow the example of St Dominic, and to speak only to God or of God! If we are able to attain to this, we can live a life that is totally transformed. Our appreciation of the beauty of creation and our own blessed calling within God’s design becomes more profound. Our desire to seek God’s salvation and to share his love with others becomes our motivation. Our love of God will grow because we will realise the extent to which he desires to be close to us. To be true preachers of grace, we must be people of prayer. Our opportunity to encounter God in this way is the privileged calling of the Dominican.

*Fr David Rocks O.P.*