

## STRIFE IN THE CITY

I am writing this on Wednesday afternoon; so it is too early yet to tell whether the street rioting of the past few days will have increased or subsided by the time you read it. But however things work out, we all want to understand, as far as we can, why this is happening: why there are these outbreaks of violence, destruction and looting, with injury and sometimes deaths. Can we make any sense of it all?

There is no shortage of explanations given by the newspapers and the media generally. Some of them are simplistic ('these people are just greedy brutal thugs who have to be contained'); some are more thoughtful, and put the blame on the inequalities of our society and its political structures. However much truth there is in this, it seems clear that our street riots are very different from the uprisings in Egypt, Libya and Syria in the past few months, which are clear protests against oppressive regimes.

If we take the widest view, however, the root problem is that we humans, wherever we are, are sinners; we all have the tendency to self-centredness and want to protect ourselves and our well-being, if necessary by force. So sinful people will inevitably create divided societies, in which those who are disadvantaged will rebel against those who are affluent.

This is not new. You can see it in the Old Testament, nearly 3,000 years ago. The prophet Amos speaks of the judgement of God against the rich who lounge around on their couches drinking the best wines, and have no concern for the poverty of their own people. Archaeology has illustrated this dramatically. Excavations in one ancient Israelite city show that at one period the city had an even spread of simple houses, all of much the same quality. But a hundred years later there were a few large and splendid mansions for the rich, while the majority of people lived in mean slum dwellings, hidden out of sight behind a massive wall. One of the Old Testament Psalms says: 'I can see nothing but violence and strife in the city ... it is full of wickedness and evil, it is full of sin' (Psalm 54).

We need also to take the near view. What is my reaction (and yours) to the people who have been rioting and destroying property in our own streets of Leicester? This afternoon I talked to a group of young people who were demonstrating by the Town Clock – 'Young People for Peace'. I am sure they were typical of the great majority, who want peace and harmony, not just in Leicester but everywhere. Maybe if the thousands of us who want peace were all to go out and fill the streets, singing and laughing and exuding good will, it would completely turn the tide. And at least some of the troublemakers could hardly fail to be affected by it.

But this provokes another thought. We are all involved one way or another in creating our society. But if we are honest we know we are all sinners before God. And sinful people create a divided society. We are all responsible for this, the influential and wealthy just as much as the rioters and looters. We all need to ask God's forgiveness for our failure to create a just and peaceful society. We all need to pray and work practically to bring this about.

Fr Fabian OP

## The Newsletter of HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER

Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247



<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	<i>Vigil:</i> All honour to you, Mary! Today you were raised above the choirs of angels to lasting glory with Christ. <i>Day:</i> <u>Either</u> – A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon beneath her feet, and a crown of twelve stars on her head. <i>Or</i> – Let us rejoice in the Lord and celebrate this feast in honour of the Virgin Mary, at whose assumption the angels rejoice, giving praise to the Son of God.
<b>At 11am – page nos in Missale:</b>	• Mass Ordinary, p 13; Mass Proper, p 186 • Sung setting: Mass IX <i>Cum Jubilo</i> , p 208; Credo III, p 216 • Communion motet: <i>Magnificat Nanini</i> • Sortie: Prelude and Fugue in E minor <i>Bach</i>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	<i>Vigil:</i> 1 Chronicles 15:3-4,15-16; 16:1-2. <i>Day:</i> Revelations 11:19a; 12:1-6a; 10
<b>Psalm 132:</b>	<i>Vigil:</i> Arise, O Lord, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. (Ps 132) <i>Day:</i> At your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir. (Ps 45)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	<i>Vigil:</i> 1 Corinthians 15: 54b-57. <i>Day:</i> 1 Corinthians 15: 20-27
<b>Alleluia:</b>	<i>Vigil:</i> Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it. <i>Day:</i> Mary has been taken up into heaven; the host of angels rejoices.
<b>Gospel:</b>	<i>Vigil:</i> Luke 11: 27-28. <i>Day:</i> Luke 1: 39-56
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	<i>Vigil:</i> Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary; she carried the Son of the eternal Father. <i>Day:</i> All generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me.

**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.**

Fr Leon will be returning to Holy Cross for the 12.30pm Mass on Saturday 3 September, after which we will make a presentation of the money collected for him. It will be an opportunity to thank him for all that he did in his time here.

**Thank you to all who have sponsored Blackfriars' Market** - including our new, main sponsor, Cummins' Solicitors. We have now raised close to £1000 for equipment, prizes, etc. If you would like to become a sponsor, please take an envelope from the tables and return it to any of the friars as soon as possible.

**In particular** we are looking for an individual or business to sponsor our 'mega-raffle' by providing either a first prize of around £150 or £150 in cash. Raffle tickets will be on sale from 1 September. Please contact Jeff on 0116 243 1289 or talk to Fr Fabian.

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £887.70; SVP £17.97; Friends of Holy Cross £16.82; Holy Souls £10.24; Grenada Church Restoration £5.20.

This week there is a retiring collection for the people of East Africa who are suffering from starvation. Please give as generously as you can. Next week there is a retiring collection for the third instalment of our Diocesan Quota, our contribution to the cost of running the diocese.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

The Legion of Mary are available to visit those who for various reasons are prevented from coming to Mass and desire some spiritual support. Please contact Matthew Woodfield on 0781 315 3221, if you would like to arrange a visit.

**For Sale:** one-bedroom flat in Court View, New Walk (2 minutes' walk from Holy Cross). Contact Linna Lam on (0116) 255 5922 or 07713 023687.



Today's Gospel: The Canaanite woman whose daughter was tormented by a devil.

Last Year's Ride & Stride day in September raised over £47,000 for the Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust. We have been a beneficiary of the Trust, and this year's event will be held on **Saturday 10 September**. How does it work? Cyclists and walkers seek sponsorship for the number of churches they visit on the event day. The money raised by each participant is shared equally between a church they nominate and the Trust. Riders and walkers plan their own routes using a list of open churches which, together with sponsorship forms, will be available nearer the time. Around 400 churches will be open, and this is a golden opportunity to visit churches not normally open outside service times. Put the date in your diary now!

Forthcoming parish events for your diary	
Sat 10 Sept	'Ride & Stride' day
Sat 24 Sept	"The Sacrifice of the Mass" - discussion led by Fr Provincial John Farrell OP in St Clement's Hall from 10am
Sat 1 Oct	Rock n Roll - Absolute Beginners' dance tuition and party
Sat 8 Oct	Blackfriars' Market
Sat 12 Nov	Parish Ceilidh
Sun 27 Nov	Advent Market
Sun 11 Dec	Parish Christmas Lunch

Year 1	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 4
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Thomas, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Peter	
Sunday	<b>THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>	
Vigil	18.00 ✠ Meena & Jack Gonsalves	Fr Isidore
	8.00 ✠ Sue Main	Fr Isidore
Family	9.30 ✠ Fr Sean Conarty	Fr Peter
Solemn *	11.00 Hugo Chavez Frias (Gloria)	Fr Duncan
OP Rite	12.30 ✠ O'Rawe & Holmes families	Fr Thomas
Students	17.00 <b>No Mass now until next term</b>	—
	19.00 <i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Gregory
	* The choir will be on holiday on 21 August	
Monday	Feria	
	10.00 ✠ Joe Keting	
	12.30 ✠ Michael Lyons (anniversary)	
Tuesday	Feria	
	10.00 ✠ Dead of the Order of Preachers	
	12.30 German Guerrero & Elvia Arango	
Wednesday	St Hyacinth of Poland, priest	
	10.00 ✠ O'Rawe & Holmes families	
	12.30 ✠ Holy Souls	
Thursday	Feria	
	10.00 Private intention	
	12.30 ✠ O'Rawe & Holmes families	
Friday	Feria	
	10.00 ✠ Malcolm Magee	
	12.30 ✠ Holy Souls	
Saturday	St Bernard, abbot, doctor	
	10.00 ✠ O'Rawe & Holmes families	
	12.30 ✠ Holy Souls	
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Thomas, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Isidore	
<b>WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN.</b> Holy Mass will be offered in the Dominican rite from Monday to Saturday at 8am.		
<b>Next Sunday – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday per annum. Readings:</b>		
Isaiah 22:19-23	Romans 11:33-36	Matthew 16:13-20

**SEE THE NOTICEBOARDS FOR DETAILS OF:**

- An evening with John Florance (of Radio Leicester) on Wednesday 17 August at 7.30pm in St Martin's House by Leicester Cathedral;
- The Association of Our Lady of Mount Carmel's 25<sup>th</sup> Rosary Rally, at Grace Dieu Manor (near Coalville) on Sunday 21 August, commencing at 3pm with concelebrated Mass;
- Blessed Tansi Pilgrimage at Mount Saint Bernard Abbey on Saturday 27 August at 11:00am.
- Our Lady Queen of Peace annual pilgrimage to Walsingham on Monday 29 August (ring Kath on 234 0103 to book seats on the coach);
- The Dowry of Mary Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Sunday 11 September;
- Towards Advent – a festival of Catholic Culture – on Saturday 19 November at Westminster Cathedral Hall.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
<b>MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS</b>
7.30 Lauds
10.00 Mass
12.30 Mass (Rosary at 12.00)
17.45 Vespers
Old Rite Masses as announced.
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>
10.30 Exposition until 12.30
11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & Benediction
<b>SATURDAYS</b>
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
Old Rite Masses as announced.
<b>HOLIDAYS</b>
18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass
7.30 Lauds
10.00 Mass
12.30 Mass
17.45 Vespers
19.00 Mass
<b>BANK HOLIDAYS (&amp; MON TO FRI AROUND XMAS &amp; NEW YEAR)</b>
7.30 Lauds
12.30 Mass, after which the church is closed
<b>SUNDAYS</b>
8.00 Mass
9.00 Lauds
9.30 Mass (Family)
11.00 Mass (Solemn: Latin on 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Leicester Royal Infirmary Catholic Chaplaincy:</b> For urgent visits, ask ward staff to bleep the Roman Catholic Chaplain. For non-urgent visits, leave a message at the Priory or the LRI Chaplains' Office. Messages may not be picked up until the end of the day.
<b>Parish Website:</b> <a href="http://www.holycrossleicester.org">www.holycrossleicester.org</a>
<b>Website &amp; Newsletter Editors:</b> <a href="mailto:holycrosswebsite@gmail.com">holycrosswebsite@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com">holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com</a>
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