

The Newsletter of
HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER

Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247



IN these Sunday Gospels we have Jesus preaching to the people. When we come to church, and listen, we become the people He preaches to. What he preaches, again and again, is what is called the 'Kingdom of God'. We aren't hearing His words, but words in English replacing what he says.

The word 'Kingdom' suggests a place, 'somewhere' else, where God is. A better word, to replace what He says, might be, the 'Reign' of God. That can make us think of some, future, 'time', when God will 'appear'.

Jesus might have meant all this, but more than this. We could try another word, for what He says; a word like 'Regimen'. A regimen is a way of life. That would mean us, living very close to God, and with God's will. It would be something, for us, to do, here and now. Many of the parables would make more sense like this.

However, He might have meant a lot more even than that. He once or twice seems to mean by 'Kingdom of God' – Himself. He said 'The Kingdom of God is among you' – not 'within' you, as some have it.

He meant, Himself. God, 'here and now', was right in front of them. This was what people could not, and would not, see. They had Him crucified for saying it. It comes down to our deepest feelings. You must either follow, or reject this.

How do you think of God? Do you think of God? If you don't think of God at all you imagine a vague 'spirit', like the air; a 'no-body'. You feel 'It' as a 'mystery', like deep dark space, frightening, eternally silent. You fear an 'absentee landlord', to pay rent to, and never see, or want to see.

Or are we ready to 'have' Him, as one of ourselves, living, and dying, among us? Jesus, we learn so much about, in His life and death and life after death? Can we believe Him, how He comes, so much, into our lives, in Holy Communion? Can we really take Him home, and have Him at home, all week? Learn from Him how close at hand to us, and concerned with us, God is?

We will do, especially if we are close at hand, and concerned, for each other. It seems the way to find this out. Many of the parables say just that.

fr Duncan OP

Entrance Antiphon:	God himself is my help. The Lord upholds my life. I will offer you a willing sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness.
At 11am – page nos in Missale:	•Mass Ordinary, p 13; Mass Proper, p 134 •Sung setting: Mass IX <i>Cum Jubilo</i> , p 208 ; Credo III, p 216 •Communion motet: Si iniquitates <i>Wesley</i> •Sortie: Allegro (4me Symphonie) <i>Vierne</i>
1st Reading:	Wisdom 12:13. 16-19
Psalm R:	The seed that fell into good soil yielded a hundredfold. (Ps 65)
2nd Reading:	Romans 8:26-27
Alleluia:	The seed is the word of God, and the sower is Christ; all who find him will abide for ever.
Gospel:	Matthew 13:24-43
Communion Antiphon:	<u>Either</u> – The Lord keeps in our minds the wonderful things he has done. He is compassion and love; he always provides for his faithful. <u>Or</u> – I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and sit down to supper with him, and he with 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.**

We urgently need support in sponsoring both the mega-raffle and the cash draw at Blackfriars' Market. If any individual or business could provide £100 sponsorship, or something of similar value as a prize, please contact Jeff on 0116 243 1289 or talk to Fr Fabian. Meanwhile, the level of sponsorship promised so far is expected to rise to over £750 in the next couple of weeks; details to follow soon. Thank you all for your help.

SEE THE NOTICEBOARDS FOR DETAILS OF:

- A couple of evenings with John Florance (of Radio Leicester) on Wednesday 20 July and Wednesday 17 August at 7.30pm in St Martin's House by Leicester Cathedral;
- The National Grandparents Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 23 July;
- Rejoice Week at Leicester Cathedral from 25-30 July;
- The Association of Our Lady of Mount Carmel's 25th Rosary Rally, at Grace Dieu Manor (near Coalville) on Sunday 21 August, commencing at 3pm with concelebrated Mass;
- 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.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £1191.28; SVP £10.81; Friends of Holy Cross £11.41; Holy Souls £19.80; Grenada Church Restoration £3.70. The retiring collection for the Apostleship of the Sea came to £293.83.

Next week there is a retiring collection for the Day for Life.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

“The Sacrifice of the Mass”. There will be a discussion morning led by the Provincial, Fr John Farrell OP, organised by the Lay Dominicans, on Saturday 24 September from 10am in St Clement's Hall. All are welcome. Details from Patrick and Janet Doyle on 01482 802020 and janandpatdoyle@yahoo.co.uk, and see noticeboard.

The fourth *Evangelium* conference for Catholics aged 18-35, organised in association with the CTS, is taking place at the Oratory School, Reading from 5th-7th August. This is a unique opportunity to hear many fine speakers, including Bishop Mark Davies of Shrewsbury and Joanna Bogle, and to meet Catholics from all over the country. Speak to Fr Thomas for more information, call 01834 812643 or visit www.evangelium.co.uk.

Today's Gospel: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field ...”

Thanks to everyone who has signed the SPUC petition about primary school sex education. Please do sign the petition if you haven't already. Many Thanks.

Around the Bible in 80 weeks. We have now completed our study of the New Testament and will be taking a break until the Autumn before starting the Old Testament. The whole series so far may be seen on the parish website.

A day on the theme “Raising Awareness of Dementia” led by Deacon Anthony Sullivan, will be held on Saturday 15th October 10am - 2pm at Holy Trinity Community and Partnership Centre, Newark NG24 4AU. This will be an opportunity to explore the spiritual needs of people living with dementia, and their carers. For more details and bookings, please contact Christina Mottram cj.mottram@ntlworld.com 0116 221 3066. Also see noticeboard.

Forthcoming parish events for your diary

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

VACANCY: The Briars Youth Retreat Centre, Crich, Derbyshire, are looking for a Programme Leader. See noticeboard. Closing date 29 July.