

THE SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

1ST READING: EXODUS 34. 4-6, 8-9

Although the Old Testament does not reveal the mystery of the Blessed Trinity today's 1st Reading shows God beginning to reveal Himself and man welcoming that revelation. That is the basis of our relationship with God and underlies all our religious feasts and celebrations. This would reach its fulfilment with Jesus coming to show us the Father and our responding with loving faith.

Responsorial Psalm: Daniel 3. 52-56: "To you glory and praise for evermore."

During the past months, we have celebrated God sending His Son into the world to live among, to die and rise for our salvation. Last week we celebrated the risen Lord sending the Holy Spirit into the world to share with us the salvation Jesus has one for us. In different ways, each member of the Triune God is involved in our salvation. As we celebrate the feast of the Blessed Trinity it is fitting that we should join Daniel, rescued from the fiery furnace, in praising the God of glory and majesty, the God of our salvation.

2ND READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 11. 11-13

This Reading contains St. Paul's most explicit reference to the Blessed Trinity, which is used in the familiar blessing, "The grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

GOSPEL: 3. 16-18:

Today's feast of the Blessed Trinity should be taken with last week's celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Together they not only tell us what God is in Himself, but also about His plan of salvation for us. In different ways, all three persons of the Blessed Trinity are involved. Today's Gospel tells us the Father sent His Son into the world, not to condemn but to save it. God's saving action is inspired by His love for us. Through the Holy Spirit God's salvation is handed on to people throughout the world and of every generation. But for each of us there's the decisive question, "Will we welcome or reject God's salvation?" He will ratify our choice and give us what we really want.

NEXT SUNDAY –

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF THE LORD (YEAR A) - SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"I have no taste for corruptible food nor for the pleasures of this life. I desire the bread of God, which is the flesh of Jesus Christ, who was of the seed of David; and for drink I desire his blood, which is love incorruptible"

-St. Ignatius of Antioch

A word from Pope Francis

"Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God."

THE WORD AT WORK: OUR WEEKLY REFLECTION

THOUGHTS ON THE HOLY TRINITY

Just before He ascended to Heaven the risen Lord commissioned His followers to continue His work. ***"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*** (Matt. 28. 19-20). The Church was to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Blessed Trinity -the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Though He would no longer be visibly present Jesus would always be with us.

So, what does being baptised in the name of the Blessed Trinity mean for us? Well, our names denote who we are. I belong to the Clarke family. Baptism in the name of the Blessed Trinity gives us our identity, as God's children, who enjoy the very life of the Blessed Trinity. Through the life-giving sacrament of baptism we are raised beyond our human, creaturely limitations to share the very life of the Blessed Trinity and are called to share its happiness. The Trinity makes its home in us, and we in the Trinity. Each of us – our very selves - becomes God's temple, His sacred dwelling place.

As God's children, there's a family resemblance between us and God. We've been made in His image and likeness. Our perfection and happiness lies in becoming ever more like God –in knowing and loving God as He really is, living lovingly as God lives. That means becoming like the Trinitarian God, and knowing and loving God as Trinity.

So, what is the Trinity like? The simple answer is –nothing on earth! God is completely different from the physical world in which we live. He transcends the whole of His creation. In other words, God is mysterious.

But let's not panic! We're used to living with mysteries in our daily lives. We don't fully understand ourselves, let alone anybody else. We're constantly being taken by surprise. But that doesn't prevent us loving each other. In fact, the mystery makes us much more interesting to know and love. We can destroy love by too much analysis – by trying to define and categorise people. So, we shouldn't be put off by God being the greatest of all mysteries. Instead, we should welcome, love and praise the mystery of the Trinity, which is God. We want to be loved for ourselves, as we really are, and not as some fantasy of us -so does God. It's exceedingly insulting to love a fantasy, rather than welcome the real person. If we try to force God to fit into our limited understanding of Him we will end up with fashioning our own god. That would-be idolatry.

God has revealed something of Himself by attributing to each member of the Blessed Trinity a different way of being involved in our salvation... the Father – Creator; the Son – Saviour; the Holy Spirit – Sanctifier!

In John's Gospel, we're told that God loved the world so much that He sent His Only Son into the world to save us. The Son expressed God's love for us by becoming one of us and sacrificed His human life so that we could share His divine life. No one could show us greater love than that! And after ascending to heaven Jesus sent God's Spirit into the world so that we could receive the divine happiness which He'd won for us on the cross. Without the activity of each member of the Blessed Trinity our lives as Christians would be meaningless, impossible.

Obviously, there's much more that could be said about the Blessed Trinity. But in the end, we have to admit that God can't be pinned down by intellectual analysis and definitions -nor can we! We will draw far closer to God by welcoming Him with love as He is in Himself –as the mysterious Blessed Trinity. We will know, love and praise God much, much better in heaven. That will be our eternal happiness.

Isidore O.P.



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

SUNDAY 11TH JUNE 2017

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

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

A WORD FROM THE PRIOR ...

I've had a lot of catching up to do this past week. With pastoral and teaching commitments of various kinds to juggle around, it's very easy for correspondence and requests to start piling up. The days and weeks just fly past, and it can be hard to keep up.

This past week has been no different, and it will be a while before it calms down towards a summer break comes into view. But what an eventful week it was. Last Sunday we awoke to the dreadful news of another senseless attack with not a shred of reason about it. Then there is the uncertainty that has come following the General Election results. These things unsettle us – deeply, and rightly. But we are people of faith, so we must be people of prayer.

Things are getting busy as we prepare for Blackfriars Market. The news that we are already almost half way to our target of £10,000 is good news indeed. It shows that when we come together as a community in faith and charity that wonderful things can happen. Many thanks to you all for the great work being put in, and for the great achievement it is realizing.

We remain grateful for your kind support. Be intent on prayer, and all that may happen will turn to our good.

Fr David

BLACKFRIARS MARKET – THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

The final countdown is on, with just two weeks left until our Market on Sunday 25 June. **We are just floating around the £4,000 mark** for our cash totals for Blackfriars Market to date, and there are plenty of goods coming in to ensure it will be another consummate success. We still have a way to go before we reach the magic target of £10,000, so do keep up the super effort.

MAKING THE MARKET A SUCCESS – WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Last weekend we launched our 'Spot the Ball' competition - forms are available from the shop and the tables by the doors. Entries due by 2pm on Sunday June 25. **Meanwhile, please keep the donations coming in:** raffle prizes, bottled goods, bric-a-brac, toiletries, unwanted gifts, toys, good books and DVDs will be most welcome. Thank you so much to those who have donated already - it is vital that we receive donations early so that we can plan the various stalls and competitions - please hand your donations to any member of the community.

BLACKFRIARS MARKET – WHAT IT HAS DONE ALREADY

Since May 2014, Blackfriars Market has raised more than £40,000 for Holy Cross Priory. This has helped us to carry out much of the remedial repair works around the premises which had fallen into severe neglect. With your help, we have been able to make a real difference. A successful Blackfriars Market will help us to continue this important work and build for the future.

NOTICE BOARD

BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to have your child baptised, please attend one of our baptism preparation sessions. The next is Sunday 2 July after the 10:30am Mass in St Clement's Hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONFIRMATION

Please get in touch with the Priory Office if members of your family wish to celebrate these sacraments.

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

SAFEGUARDING – KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

We remind you once again that Holy Cross is only safe for our children and vulnerable adults if we make it so. We ask each family to ensure their children are supervised at all times, and are accompanied by a trusted and responsible adult known to the child. Please also support us in discouraging children in running and climbing on the premises.

ABUSE AND AGGRESSION

In recent times, we have experienced a small but unfortunate number of aggravated incidents against our staff, volunteers, and parishioners. All such incidents are recorded and reported. If you are the target of such an incident, please report it immediately. We will not tolerate any such incidents.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR 2017

We will celebrate **First Holy Communion at 10:30am Mass on Sunday 25 June**. There is a meeting today following the 10:30am Mass in the Hall for parents and their children who have registered for this year. If you regularly attend Mass here, and your child has already made their First Holy Communion elsewhere, we encourage you to let your child take part in this ceremony also, so that we as a parish community can support them at this special moment in their lives. Please also speak to us if your child is ready for Holy Communion next year. Children aged 7 and above are ready to prepare for this special moment.

MIDSUMMER EVENING WALK

We have arranged an evening walk through Bradgate Park (approx. 3 miles) on Wednesday 21st June. Meet at Roecliffe Rd car park (Cropston side of park) at 6.15pm. This will be a medium paced walk mainly on footpaths. Suitable footwear needed. (and your own refreshments) After the walk, we will go to the Badgers Sett pub in Cropston for a drink. Cooked meals are also available there until 10pm. It would be great if you could join us for this event. For more details or to arrange a lift if needed please contact Tony or Liz Scarborough through the office.

BREAKFAST CLUB AND MEET FOR A TREAT

The next Breakfast Club and Meet for a Treat will be on Sunday 2nd July. These are great monthly opportunities to build our community, so do come along.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Blackfriars Market Sunday 25th June
- Midsummer walk, Wednesday 21 June
- Our Holy Hour, each Sunday at 6pm
- Organ recitals, first Friday of each month at 1:15pm

THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Fr David Rocks OP PP *Prior*; Fr Isidore Clarke OP;

Fr Fabian Radcliffe OP; Fr Robert Gay OP CC *Subprior*, *Bursar*.

Office Administrator: *Mrs Rachael Powell* – leicester.admin@english.op.org

Lay University Chaplain: *Mr George Ralph* – george.ralph@english.op.org

Director of Music: *Mr Thomas Keogh* – thomas@thomaskeogh.co.uk

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

Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW. Tel: 0116 252 1501

For more details, visit: 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:

£ 1,112.30

(Gift aided: £ 335.50)

Woodhouse Collection

£ 174.55

(Gift aided: £92.00)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!**