



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

SUNDAY 11 AUGUST 2019

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

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

A WORD FROM THE PRIOR ...

August is a month full of beautiful feasts to celebrate. Fresh from our celebration of St Dominic last week, we look forward to the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady. We've got a few plans to make this special, so please join us for the prayer vigil and the social gathering following the midday Mass.

The Assumption is a feast that gives us great hope, since we witness the wonderful gifts of grace coming to completion and perfection in the living body and soul of Our Blessed Lady. She is the perfect model of discipleship, and in her humility and fidelity she allows her whole being to be a vessel of evangelization for Her Son.

It's great to have our student brothers with us. During this month of August, we will be guided by them in reflecting on the theme of discipleship, and how it can help us to be vessels of evangelization. Please do take time to support the various initiatives planned during their time with us. Don't forget to sign up for Br Luke's Ordination, which is just a few weeks away.

Be intent on prayer, and whatever may happen will turn to our good.

Fr David

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY – THIS THURSDAY

Thursday of this week (15 August) we celebrate the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady. This is a holyday of obligation, which means we are required to attend Mass on the day. Mass times are as follows: 6:10pm Vigil (Wednesday); 8am (Dominican Rite); 12:30pm; 6:10pm. There will be a celebration lunch after 12:30pm Mass.

PRAYER VIGIL FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION

On Wednesday evening (14 August), we will hold a prayer vigil in preparation for the solemnity, from 7pm – 8pm. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and reflections on the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. We will reflect on Our Lady as the perfect disciple, and ask her intercession as we seek to renew and enliven our own discipleship in our families and communities, during this time of renewal.

ORDINATION OF FR LUKE DOHERTY OP – 7 SEPTEMBER 2019

Bro Luke will be ordained to the Priesthood in St Dominic's London by Archbishop Malcolm on Saturday 7 September, together with Bro Toby Lees. A coach will depart from Holy Cross at 8:30am on the day. Please put your name down to attend, as we require a healthy number of people to show their support, the list is in the Shop or please email the office on leicester.admin@english.op.org. Fr Luke will celebrate his First Mass on Monday 9 September at 6.00pm at Holy Cross.

WHO IS BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI?

Next Tuesday, 20 August, we will host an evening to discuss more about the Frassati Centre plans, with a light supper. Please do come along to find out more. St Clement's Hall from 7pm. During the evening, Br Bede Mullens OP will speak to us about his recent pilgrimage to the lands of Frassati and who he is. Hope to see you there!

NOTICE BOARD

BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to have your child baptised, please attend one of our baptism preparation sessions. The next will be on Sunday 8 September 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 will begin again in the Autumn.

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

STUDENT PLACEMENTS AT HOLY CROSS

During the summer months, our Dominican students for the priesthood take the opportunity to visit our different foundations and experience the different aspects of the life of our Order, as well as enriching our life and ministry by their presence and example. This week, Br Bede Mullens OP will offer a short retreat with reflections on the Rosary around the Discipleship of our Lady and the Glorious Mysteries. This will take place daily just after 12:30pm Mass.

DEVELOPING THE FRASSATI CENTRE

We have been busy developing plans for a new pastoral centre here at Holy Cross – ***The Frassati Centre for Preaching and Evangelisation***. This would seek to breathe new life into the original church buildings that we knew as the 'Holy Cross Centre'. We've assembled £180k so far to develop these buildings, and we are seeking to embark on a major fundraising project as we look towards our bicentenary. **Update this week:** we are grateful to all those who have assisted us in obtaining quotations that we will now present to the Provincial and his Council during their meeting in August for approval and decision. Hopefully we will get things started very soon.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL

If you or a family member are going into hospital, please let us know by informing the priory office, especially if you would like to receive pastoral support during your time of illness. The priests are able to liaise with the chaplaincy offices in our hospital, to ensure you will receive the pastoral care you need. Perhaps you would like to celebrate the Sacrament of the Sick in advance of your hospital stay, which can be done in your home or at the church.

40 HOURS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

We will hold 40 hours of Eucharistic Adoration beginning with the evening Mass at on Wednesday 21 August and ending on Sunday 25 August. The object of this will be to pray for a renewal in our discipleship and ask the Lord's blessing on our way forward.

The timings are as follows:

Wednesday 22: Mass of Exposition 6:10pm. Adoration until 10pm

Thursday 23, Friday 24: Adoration between 8am and 6pm (Masses as usual)

Saturday 25: Adoration between 10am and 6pm (Masses as usual)

Sunday 26: Adoration between 8am and 7pm (Masses as usual)

Sign-up lists will be made available during this week, so please join us for this time of continuous prayer. There will be various opportunities to contribute to the success of this sacred time of preparation.

THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Fr David Rocks OP PP *Prior* Fr Tony Rattigan OP *Bursar*;

Fr Nicholas Crowe OP *Subprior*; Fr Matthew Jarvis OP CC; Bro Luke Doherty OP

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

Lay University Chaplain: *vacant*

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:

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:

£ 991.41

(Gift aided: £287.76)

Woodhouse Collection

£ 89.00

(Gift aided: £62.00)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

19 SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – DO NOT BE AFRAID

A THOUGHT FOR THIS SUNDAY

This Sunday's Gospel (Lk 12:32-48) speaks to us about the desire for the definitive encounter with Christ, a desire that keeps us ever ready, alert in spirit, for we anticipate this encounter with all our heart, with all our being. This is a fundamental aspect of life. It is a desire that we all share, whether explicit or secret, we have hidden in our heart; we all harbour this desire in our heart.

It is also important to see Jesus' teaching in the actual context in which he transmitted it. In this case, Luke the Evangelist shows us Jesus walking with his disciples to Jerusalem, walking to his death and resurrection at Easter, and on this journey he teaches them, confiding to them what he himself carries in his heart, the deep attitude of his heart: detachment from earthly possessions, his trust in the Father's Providence and, indeed, his innermost watchfulness, all the while working for the Kingdom of God. For Jesus it is waiting for his return to the Father's house. For us it is waiting for Christ himself who will come to take us to the everlasting celebration, as he did for his Mother, Mary Most Holy; he took her up to Heaven with him.

– *Pope Benedict XVI*

Responsorial Psalm: Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own

THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS OF THE CHURCH

Moved by love and wishing to reconcile the human race to yourself, you gave us your only-begotten Son. He became our mediator and our justice by taking on all our injustice and sin out of obedience to your will, eternal Father, just as you willed that he take on our human nature. What an immeasurably profound love! Your Son went down from the heights of his divinity to the depths of our humanity. Can anyone's heart remain closed and hardened after this?

We image your divinity, but you image our humanity in that union of the two which you have worked in a man. You have veiled the Godhead in a cloud, in the clay of our humanity. Only your love could so dignify the flesh of Adam. And so by reason of this immeasurable love I beg, with all the strength of my soul, that you freely extend your mercy to all your lowly creatures.

– *From the dialogue On Divine Providence by Saint Catherine of Siena*

CONTEMPORARY WITNESS

Our society should be one in which human beings can truly flourish, and that is far more than can be achieved by subscribing to a transient secular philosophy or to a misplaced confidence in the nation's inherent greatness, let alone a vague optimism that the market will, in time, solve the only problems that really matter. We need solid grounds for believing in ourselves and grounds for genuine, lasting hope. We can only truly believe in ourselves if we first believe in God and in what His Son has promised to those who love and obey Him. The gospel insists that we be prepared, ready to greet the Lord when he comes again as Judge. Now is the time to perfect our response to His great love for us, the love which we see in his willingness to suffer and die as a man to save us from our individual and collective rebellion. For those who turn to Jesus Christ there truly is no need to be afraid.

– *Fr John Patrick Kenrick OP*

20 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

“The higher we go, the better we shall hear the voice of Christ.”

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati OP

TOWARDS A CULTURE OF EVANGELISATION

SEEKING RENEWAL AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR DOMINICAN LIFE AND MISSION

Fr David shares some thoughts about developing the Dominican life and mission of Holy Cross.

The month of August is a time of holiday, when the usual routines are put on hold. Some of us are lucky enough to get some time away, while others need to remain at their posts. We should remember especially all those who find this time of year to be burdensome. But with the better weather and the time for a change, it's an opportunity to put some shape on our plans for the new academic year.

August is also a month of beautiful feast days. In addition to the Solemnity of Our Holy Father St Dominic, we celebrate St Clare, St Lawrence, and St Rose of Lima amongst others. These all provide us with wonderful examples of virtuous discipleship and following of Christ. Of course, the crowning glory of these feast days is the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady, together with the feast of Her Queenship a week later. Reflecting on Our Lady as the perfect disciple is something we so often do throughout the varied liturgical seasons of the year, but at these changed 'holiday' periods we have the opportunity to reflect about how the discipleship of Our Lady completely changed her life. As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption, we witness her bodily glory and we see the promise of future glory that shines forth for us through the lives of the Saints.

So during this month of August, as we prepare to 'gear up' for the year ahead, we have this opportunity to see what needs to change in our lives if we are to be better disciples. But what does it mean to be a disciple? For us, as a Dominican Parish and Dominican Community, it means renewing our efforts to contemplate the true glory of God and his creation, and to share the fruits of our contemplation with others. I'd like to share four important words with you for how we might go about our development of this: **discipleship, humility, fidelity, and evangelisation**. I would like to spend some time reflecting on these.

Discipleship involves our initial response to the Lord's call to each one of us. It is the freshness of that calling which sustains us and encourages us to remain steadfast. I would like to link this theme of discipleship to the ***Dominican pillar of prayer***. It is prayer that is always our first response to our encounter with Christ – to communicate with him and to become rooted in our relationship with him.

Humility is an illusive virtue, as it is hard for us to cling to it, or possess it in any sense. It draws us into a constant relationship of learning. It is for that reason that I would like to link it to the ***Dominican pillar of study***. Study in our tradition does not always mean great academic pursuit, but calls us to constant reflection on the Word of God as it is presented to us in the life and liturgy of the Church.

Fidelity calls us to a development of our relationship to the Lord who calls us. Recognising that our unity with Christ is mirrored and enhanced by our communion with his call to others, we are inspired to encourage and support one another in being faithful to our calling. I would like to link this aspect to our ***Dominican pillar of community***. We are a community of faith, a community of fidelity in seeking to be at one with Christ and with one another as we cherish and revere the Word of God that we are called to preach.

Evangelisation is the objective of our preaching. Evangelisation is nothing more than sharing the fruits of our contemplation. These fruits are rooted in our prayer, study, and community. They are nourished by our discipleship, our humility, our fidelity. That a wonderful transformation is happening in all our lives by God's gift of repentance is an abundance of fruit that we ought to share, we must share, we have to share, and we will share, with others. For this reason, I want to link this word with the ***Dominican pillar of Mission***.

The newly elected Master of the Order, Fr Gerard Timoner OP, has said that ***"Mission is not what we do, it's who we are."***

If that's not a challenge that we can accept, I don't know what is

Fr David OP