



# HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER 2019

30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

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

## A WORD FROM THE PRIOR ...

*If you're here an hour early, you might have forgotten to put the clock back. At least I hope you haven't put it forward! October has raged through with a blast, and the winter is well and truly on its way. We can put our heads down and get ourselves ready for the months ahead. There's plenty to keep us all busy as we develop our various projects.*

*Thanks to all who have supported the various events during the month of October to promote the Holy Rosary. I hope that we have succeeded in encouraging one another to take up this simple but very powerful devotion and commitment to prayer in our daily lives.*

*There's quite a bit happening in the next week. Do remember the holyday on Friday and return your November Dead Lists. There's a nice concert to enjoy on Saturday, and the All Saints party for our children. Then of course there's the planning for Blackfriars Market.*

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

*Fr David*

## BLACKFRIARS MARKET – SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER 2019

The Advent "Blackfriars Market" will take place on Advent Sunday, 1 December 2019. This year, when we celebrate our 200<sup>th</sup> Year, we're hoping to reach the ambitious target of £10K for the Advent event, so that we can drive forward our plans for redevelopment and renewal in this important year for us.

## MARKET COUNTDOWN

Please see the flyers and posters for details of what you can enjoy at the market. Here are some of the important preparations with which we would appreciate your help:

**Next Sunday, November 3 - please collect your flyer and pick up a bottle bag from the tables near the doors.**

Sunday November 10 - bring back your bottle bag with any soft or alcoholic bottled drink and collect your raffle tickets to buy or sell.

Other donations can be brought in at any time: good books/dvds; chocolate and sweets; toys and games; bric-a-brac; unwanted gifts; raffle prizes; cakes etc.

**Sunday November 17 - please collect a 'sponsorship' envelope by which you can pledge financial support for the market.**

Sunday November 24 - please bring in your sponsorship envelope and hand to any member of the community.

**Donations for the cake stall can be brought in at any time.**

Saturday November 30 - from 3-6pm, setting up in Blackfriars' Hall (the large hall in the centre, next door)

## 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 2 November 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 255 3856.

### FAMILY VISITS

Families who would like a house blessing or a pastoral visit at home, can make arrangements by calling 0116 255 3856

## LETTER CONCERNING IICSA AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

IICSA is the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and is working to establish the truth about the grave wrongs done to children in the past, and ensuring that best practice is in place to prevent this in the future. IICSA has been investigating the practices of the Catholic Church. This week, IICSA are examining current safeguarding standards and practice in the Catholic Church and assessing the effectiveness of these. ***Please see copies of a letter from +Patrick our Bishop that outline his reflections on the matter.*** We pray that lessons will be decisively learned.

## SCRIPTURE STUDIES FOR THIS TERM

Fr Matthew will lead the scripture study for this term on Tuesday evenings, beginning at 7pm in St Clement's. This term will look at the book of Jonah. Please join us for this special course of studies.

## FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER – SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

Friday of this week, 1 November, is a Holyday of Obligation and so we are obliged to attend Mass. Masses at Holy Cross – 6:10pm Vigil on Thursday; 8am in the Dominican Rite; 12:30pm; 6:10pm.

## ALL SAINTS PARTY FOR CHILDREN

This will take place in the halls next Saturday from 2-5pm. Please encourage the children to bring things relating to their favourite saint, or come dressed as them.

## THE FRASSATI CENTRE – DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

We are making progress with architectural drawings and contractors are collaborating. We have already begun to address some of the drainage and damp issues in the building. An important step forward is the development of a vision for the apostolate of this new initiative.

## CONFIRMATION AND SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Bishop Patrick will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Monday 24 February 2020 at 7pm. We are now receiving names of young people of secondary school age who would like to make confirmation this year. Information about the programme of preparation will be announced soon. We also invite any university students or adults who require confirmation to make themselves known to us. During the month of October, we will be enrolling for various sacramental programmes.

## LOOKING FORWARD – THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

- Saturday 2 November – All Souls Day. November Dead List envelopes are now available
- Sunday 3 November, Solemn Inauguration of St Martin Novena at 10:30am.

## UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER CHAMBER CHOIR

Please join us next Saturday, 2 November, for a concert in church at 1:15pm.

### THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Fr David Rocks OP PP *Prior*; Fr Tony Rattigan OP *Bursar*;  
Fr Matthew Jarvis OP CC; Fr Luke Doherty OP

Office Administrator: *vacant* – [leicester.admin@english.op.org](mailto:leicester.admin@english.op.org)

Lay University Chaplain: *vacant*

Director of Music: *Mr Thomas Keogh* – [thomas@thomaskeogh.co.uk](mailto:thomas@thomaskeogh.co.uk)

For the Office Administrator, please call **0116 255 3856**

**Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW. Tel: 0116 255 3856**

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:

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:

**£ 1299.75**

(Gift aided: £410)

### Woodhouse Collection

**£ 130**

(Gift aided: £130)

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED SUPPORT!*

# 30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – HUMILITY

## A THOUGHT FOR THIS SUNDAY

The parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector speaks so clearly to us that it needs little commentary. We can recognise the deep implications Luke saw in this story, when we situate it within the compilation made by the evangelist - that we have followed during the past weeks. As Jesus courageously takes the road to meet his fate, he is giving his final instructions to the disciples he will leave behind. Faith, he has taught them is an obedient openness to God's coming in their lives, and to the plan of God about to reach its moment of climax. Their prayer should be the living expression of this faith, teaching them to trust in the Father who will show his care for them – whatever the difficulties they may have to face. In the end they should see themselves as God's 'unprofitable servants'. Today's short parable sums up what his teaching should have brought home to them – in a few words, everything depends, in the end, not on our own efforts, but upon the grace and mercy of God. It is this outlook that has shaped the lives of the outstanding disciples of Jesus, one after the other, down through the ages.

– *John Thornhill SM*

Responsorial Psalm: This poor man called, the Lord heard him.

## THE WISDOM OF THE SAINTS OF THE CHURCH

Yet unexplored regions of the abysses and inexpressible realms of the deep are subject to his laws. The mass of the boundless sea, joined together by his ordinance in a single expanse, does not overflow its prescribed limits but flows as he commanded it. For he said: *Thus far shall you come, and your waves will be halted here.* The ocean, impassable for men, and the worlds beyond it are governed by the same edicts of the Lord.

The seasons, spring, summer, autumn and winter, follow one another in harmony. The quarters from which the winds blow function in due season without the least deviation. And the ever-flowing springs, created for our health as well as our enjoyment, unfailingly offer their breasts to sustain human life. The tiniest of living creatures meet together in harmony and peace. The great Creator and Lord of the universe commanded all these things to be established in peace and harmony, in his goodness to all, and in overflowing measure to us who seek refuge in his mercies through our Lord Jesus Christ; to him be glory and majesty for ever and ever. Amen.

– *Pope St Clement I to the Corinthians*

## CONTEMPORARY WITNESS

There will be times when we think that we go through the show of religious practise, but then fail to practise the virtues: times when we feel very pleased with ourselves, and look down at others; times when we feel conscious of our short comings, and that we are not worthy to come to church; and times when we feel let down by others in the church, and that is a waste of time going.

If we fall into one or more of these, then we fall into hypocrisy. In which case, the gospel tells us we should be like the tax-collector. Jesus does not say that the Tax-collector is a virtuous man. Jesus does not say that the tax collector is not a hypocrite in his own way. What is good about the tax collector, according to Jesus, is that he admits his faults and his hypocrisy, he is humble, and asks God for mercy. This is what Jesus asks of us all, whether we are in church today or not. Instead of concerning ourselves with what others do, we should acknowledge our faults, and ask for mercy.

– *Fr David McLean OP*

**NEXT SUNDAY: 31 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)**

*“As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live.”*

*Pope St John Paul II*

# SAINT JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

## SOME THOUGHTS FROM THE NEWLY CANONISED SAINT

*As we mark the historic occasion of the canonisation of St John Henry Newman, publish a Homily given by +Robert, Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle. May St John Henry Newman intercede for the Church in our country.*

Perhaps we should ask ourselves what kind of saint Newman is and what he can say to the Church in our day. It was Pope St Paul VI, who said: "guided solely by love of the truth and fidelity to Christ he arrived at the fulness of wisdom and peace." It was in other words the saintly Cardinal's relentless and heroic search for truth and holiness which brings us to this morning's celebration.

It was while the young John Henry was still at school in Ealing that he underwent what he later called his first conversion. In 1816 he became in his own words convinced of the existence of "myself and my creator". This was no mere intellectual realisation but an inner conviction that he was subject to a divine authority and bound by a definite dogma. He surrendered himself completely to God's will and began his lifelong search for truth and holiness. He now had "that vision of the Unseen which is the Christian life." He felt himself to be God's creature, and responsible to Him – God's possession not his own. It was this first conversion that was to inform the life of our new saint.

We often think of the turning point in Newman's life to be his reception into full communion with the Catholic Church in October 1845 but it was for him a natural progression of growth into his ideals. It cost him much to give up his family, friends and a career but his lifelong dictum was "Holiness rather than peace" and it is this determination that made him a saint. The pursuit of holiness and truth were for St John Henry the driving force of his life. We see throughout his long life how he championed the cause of revealed truth and was fearless in proclaiming it not only by his many writings but also by the institutions he established. He did much to promote the Christian cause in bringing the Congregation of the Oratory to England, founding a University in Ireland and a school in Edgbaston. He worked tirelessly as a Parish Priest and had a fatherly care for his Oratorian community. He guided countless people with letters of spiritual direction and counsel. He gave light to those who were searching for the truth and continues to do so through his published works of theology, philosophy, sermons and prayers.

Newman also had a great gift of friendship. His motto "Heart speaks to heart" shows that like Philip he achieved his aims through friendship as well as a spirit of prayer and promoting the importance of beauty in art and music. There are those who see him as the dry intellectual in opposition to the charismatic and joking Philip Neri. Nonetheless John Henry who was firstly a son of St Philip was imbued like Philip with a charism of making personal contact with individuals together with a profound psychological insight and love of each of them in order to bring them to a deeper friendship with God. Both made this the major pillar of their apostolate.

St John Henry Newman was buried on 19 August 1890. 20,000 people lined the streets of Birmingham to pay their last respects. The Times gave him a full-page obituary and messages of condolence poured into the Birmingham Oratory from every corner of the world. A hundred and twenty-nine years later he still commands the same love and respect. His gift of friendship continues.

It is moving to see so many people from different nations and backgrounds giving thanks for the Canonisation. The presence of many bishops, priests, religious and lay faithful gathered here in Rome over the weekend is itself a fitting tribute to this great son of the Church. Today is a great day for the Congregation of the Oratory throughout the world and for the Church in England and Wales. John Henry is the first English Confessor to be canonized since the Reformation. More importantly, Newman now belongs to the whole Church, to all those men and women from many different parts of the world who draw inspiration and help from him. We welcome especially the representatives from the Church of England which formed the new saint in faith and was so dear to him for half his life.

Newman speaks to us in different ways as preacher, writer, theologian and pastor. But however he speaks to us we are united in giving thanks that his life and legacy is now a gift to the Universal Church.