

## ‘Ordinary Time’

**F**OR most of us there are times of excitement and celebration, followed by long periods of the humdrum routine of our daily lives. The festivities of Christmastide have ended, the decorations have been removed and life has returned to ‘normal.’ Children and teachers, for example, have gone back to school.

The prayer-life of the church – the liturgy – reflects this rhythm of preparation for celebration, then the celebration itself, and this being followed by a long period when nothing dramatic seems to happen. Advent and Lent prepare us for the celebration of the birthday of our saviour and for the Paschal Mystery of his death and resurrection. These festivals are followed by what is known as ‘Ordinary Time.’ That has just begun, now that we’ve completed Christmastide.

‘Ordinary Time’ sounds dull and unimportant. Dull it may be, unimportant certainly not. To think that would mean that most of our time didn’t really matter, because it’s so humdrum and routine, with our achieving nothing spectacular.

But let’s remember that was true of Jesus’ short life. For about thirty of his roughly thirty-three years he shared the same life as any working class person in the provincial town of Nazareth. During those long years of ‘Ordinary Time’ Jesus did nothing dramatic. And yet that time was not wasted. During those years of his ‘hidden life’ Jesus grew from childhood to becoming a mature adult. He learnt about his Jewish faith and experienced what it meant to be human. Like any child he discovered the wonder of the world in which he lived. He would draw on all this experience when he began to preach. And in the routine of his domestic and working life he expressed his love for his heavenly Father and for people. That was how he served God during that period. For him ‘Ordinary Time’ was sacred time.

The same should be true for us. It’s precisely in the routine of our daily life that God approaches us and we draw close to him. We don’t need to do anything spectacular to express our love for God and each other. Even the trivial and mundane have eternal value when blessed by God. Our constancy in loving service in our humdrum lives is what really matters. That’s what makes our ‘Ordinary Time’ sacred time.

During the ‘Ordinary Time’ of the liturgy we have continuous readings from one of the Synoptic Gospels. Next Sunday we will start reflecting on Mark’s Gospel. His insights about Christ and his teaching will help to deepen our understanding of what it means for us to be real Christians. This should assist us in transforming our dull, prosaic ‘Ordinary Time’ into sacred time.

Isidore O.P.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

18 January 2015

### The Newsletter of **HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER**

[www.holycrossleicester.org](http://www.holycrossleicester.org)



<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!
<b>At 11am – page nos in Missale:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mass Ordinary, p 13; Mass Proper, p 114</li><li>• Sung setting: English Mass; Credo III, p 210</li><li>• Communion motet: Cantate Domino <i>Pitoni</i></li></ul>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	1 Samuel 3: 3-10. 19
<b>Psalm <math>\text{℟}</math>:</b>	<b>Declare the Lord’s marvellous works among all the peoples!</b> (Ps 96)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20
<b>Alleluia <math>\text{V}</math>:</b>	God has called us through the Gospel, to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
<b>Gospel:</b>	John 1:35-42
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	<i>Either:</i> You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst. <i>Or:</i> We have come to know and to believe in the love that God has for us.

**Baptism Preparation:** the next session is on **1 February**; please come to the sacristy at the end of the 9.30am Mass. If you wish to have your child baptised at Holy Cross, you need to attend one of these sessions, usually held on the first Sunday of each month.

**The 9.30 and 11.00 Sunday Masses.** **PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME:** the meeting planned for Wednesday has had to be postponed as it would clash with the Churches Together AGM. It will now be held on **Monday 26 January at 7.30pm** when we will meet to develop the next steps for the combined 10.30 Mass, particularly the various ministries – reading, serving, singing, etc.

**News from the Parish Shop.** Holy Cross Christmas Puddings are now on sale at half price – £2.50 – to clear. An opportunity for another feast before Lent!

*The shop is open after the 12.30pm Masses during the week, on Saturdays from 11am until after the 12.30pm Mass, and after every Sunday Mass. The shop is in the room beyond the sacristy.*

*Please join us in the Parish Hall after the 9.30 and 11.00am Sunday Masses for tea, coffee, fruit-juice etc. There is the opportunity for a chat with members of the Dominican Community and parishioners. We particularly welcome new students and other visitors.*

#### **The new 10.30 Mass will start on Shrove Sunday, 15 February**

We will come together in celebration of our community, following Mass with pancakes, and a bring and share lunch. During Lent we will begin the process of working together to establish a new, strong and vibrant Eucharistic Community at 10.30am.

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £1191.07 (of which £465.50 was Gift Aided and £725.57 was not) and in addition the parish receives approximately £240 per week in donations made by standing order, nearly all of which are Gift Aided; SVP £1.14; Friends of Holy Cross £2.44; Holy Souls £32.77; Grenada Church Restoration £20.00.

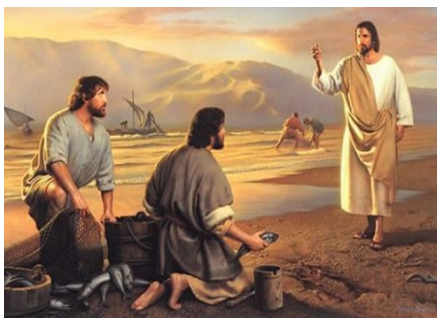
This Sunday there is a retiring collection for the Priory buildings and maintenance fund.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

On Sunday evenings you are very welcome to join us for Holy Hour from 6.00 pm – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Compline and Benediction. Mass follows at 7.00 pm.

The Liturgical Calendar 2015 for the Dominican English Province for the whole of 2015 is now available at <http://english.op.org/news-and-events/liturgical-calendar.htm>.

**Sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp.** If you are willing to sponsor the sanctuary lamp to burn for your intentions for one week, please pick up an envelope. The friars will pray for this intention each day. The minimum suggested donation is £10.



**Today's Gospel: Jesus looked hard at Simon and said, "You are Simon, son of John; you are to be called Cephas" – meaning Rock.**

**VACANCY:** St Teresa's Catholic Primary School, Nottingham, are seeking to appoint a School Business Manager – further details are available from the school (tel: 0115 915 5762 / [admin@st-teresas.nottingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-teresas.nottingham.sch.uk)). The closing date for applications is 26th January.

**Friars Preachers.** The Advent issue of this, the Newsletter of the Dominicans in England and Scotland, is available on the tables by the doors. Please help yourself to a copy. Topics in this issue include a report on the Dominican Youth Pilgrimage, an Update from Iraq, and a brief study of the 'Quiet Virtues'. And there are details of how you may help support the general work of the friars and the Dominicans' Training Fund.

**Appeal for Refugees & Asylum Seekers.** Refugees and Asylum Seekers remain in urgent need of food donations to respond to the emergency needs of destitute asylum seekers and refugees in Leicester. The full list of items needed to support these destitute and vulnerable people is:

- ◆ **Tinned goods:** tomatoes/ kidney beans/ chick peas/ tuna/ mackerel/ corned beef/ tinned fruit/ tinned vegetables/ baked beans/ soup;
- ◆ **Dried foods:** rice/ maize meal/ lentils/ cous cous/ dried fruit/ noodles/ sugar/ porridge/ flour/ pasta;
- ◆ **Long life goods:** cooking oil/ cereal bars/ nuts/ cereal/ crisps/ indian savoury mix/ chocolate/ biscuits;
- ◆ **Drinks:** fruit juice/ tea/ coffee/ drinking chocolate/ dried milk/ long-life milk/ squash/ water;
- ◆ **Toiletries:** toothpaste/ toothbrushes/ soap/ toilet paper/ shampoo/ sanitary towels/ face and body creams/ shaving equipment;
- ◆ **Baby items:** nappies/ baby wipes/ oil/ baby milk/ baby food jars/ baby bath liquid;
- ◆ **Also:** tin openers/ cutlery/ crockery/ pans/ towels/ sleeping bags/ t-shirts/ supermarket and other shopping vouchers/ mobile telephone top-up vouchers/ writing paper/ envelopes/ stamps.

Please leave these items in the sacristy after any Mass. Thank you.

Year 1	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 2
Sunday	Second Sunday per annum. Today is Peace Day. Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins.	
	Vigil 18.10	Patsy & Jake Gallagher's intentions
	8.00	
	Sung 9.30	
	Solemn 11.00	✠ Maria Fernandes
	OP Rite 12.30	Pro populo
	19.00	
Monday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00	
	12.30	
	18.10	
Tuesday	Bl Cyprian Tansi, Priest	
	OP Rite 8.00	✠ Dead of the Order of Preachers
	12.30	Bridie & Pat Gurney - intentions
	18.10	
Wednesday	St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr	
	OP Rite 8.00	
	12.30	
	18.10	
Thursday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00	
	12.30	
	18.10	✠ Mrs Mary Collier (anniversary)
Friday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00	
	12.30	✠ Mr Hilario Gonsalves
	18.10	
Saturday	St Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	
	OP Rite 8.00	
	10.00	
	12.30	
<b>Next Sunday – Third Sunday per annum. Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity ends. Readings:</b>		
	John 3:1-5.10	1 Corinthians 7:29-31
		Mark 1:14-20

**National March for Life.** There will be a meeting at 7pm on Thursday 22 January at St Joseph's Convent, Uppingham Road, Leicester LE5 6RA (next to St Joseph's Church) to discuss plans for the 2015 National March for Life, which organisers are hoping to be the biggest to date. March for Life started three years ago in Birmingham and now attracts hundreds of people united in defence of the unborn child. This is a great and easy way to join others to peacefully raise awareness of the nearly 200,000 abortions taking place in the UK every year. Please do attend the meeting on 22 January to help us plan for this great event. For more details contact Francisca Martinez on 07943 711549 or Sr Lelia Walsh on [stjoseph-leicester@ntl.com](mailto:stjoseph-leicester@ntl.com).

The Kirby Muxloe Players present **Sleeping Beauty**, 'a magical pantomime adventure' from 25 to 31 January at the Village Hall, Station Road. Tickets (£8) from 07804 435 235 and see [www.kirbyplayers.co.uk](http://www.kirbyplayers.co.uk).

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
<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 (Dominican Rite)
18.00 Exposition, Rosary, Compline & Benediction
19.00 Mass
<b>MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS</b>
7.30 Lauds
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
11.00*Devotions & Exposition
12.15*Benediction
12.30 Mass (Rosary at 12.00)
18.10 Mass followed by Vespers
<b>*WEDNESDAYS ONLY</b>
<b>SATURDAYS</b>
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
9.00 Lauds
10.00 Mass
10.30 Devotions & Exposition
10.30 Confessions until 11.30
12.30 Mass (Rosary at 12.00)
17.00 Confessions until 18.00
17.45 Vespers
18.10 Vigil Mass for Sunday
<b>HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION</b>
18.10 (previous day) Vigil Mass followed by Vespers
7.30 Lauds
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
12.30 Mass
18.10 Mass followed by Vespers
<b>BANK HOLIDAYS</b>
7.30 Lauds
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
12.30 Mass, after which the church is closed
<b>Royal Infirmary 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 at the LRI Chaplains' Office. Messages may not be picked up until the end of the day.
<b>Universities' Chaplain:</b> Fr David Rocks: 0116 252 1512
<b>Baptism Preparation:</b> 1st Sunday of month after the 9.30 Mass.
<b>Baptisms:</b> Saturday afternoons.
<b>Parish Website:</b> <a href="http://www.holycrossleicester.org">www.holycrossleicester.org</a>
<b>Website &amp; Newsletter Editors:</b> <a href="mailto:web@holycrossleicester.org">web@holycrossleicester.org</a> <a href="mailto:holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com">holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com</a>
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