

ELECTION

'Election' is a word which has several different meanings. Perhaps the first idea it suggests to us is the election of members of Parliament or local government, especially at the moment, when the General Election is only a few weeks away. We 'elect' the person who will represent us at Westminster or in the Leicester City or County Council. The word comes from the Latin, 'electio', which means 'choice' or 'selection'. So we 'choose' or 'select' the one we prefer from a number of candidates. And the process by which we select a new Parliament or Council is called 'an election'.

Voting in an election is, of course, an important part of our responsibility as members of a democratic society. Many people, especially among the young, feel disillusioned about politics, and have given up voting. But to stop voting does not help in any way to right the wrongs of our society. Remember the saying: 'For evil to prevail, it only needs good people to do nothing'. Perhaps we underestimate the power of public opinion. If a sufficient number of people want something strongly, then it will certainly happen.

But there is another way in which the word 'election' is used, and there was a short note about this in last Sunday's Newsletter. It spoke of the RCIA* group from our parish which was going to Nottingham 'for the Rite of Election, thus beginning their final stage on the journey to becoming Catholics'. Nowadays, adults who are considering becoming Catholics, go through a period of enquiry and instruction for several months, leading up to Lent and Easter. By the beginning of Lent they will have completed their instruction in the Catholic faith, and will have decided whether or not they wish to ask for baptism and the other sacraments. On the first Sunday of Lent they come before the Bishop in the cathedral, and are formally asked if they wish 'to enter fully into the life of the Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist'. They reply: 'We do'. They then write their names in the Book of the Elect.

In this context, 'elect' and 'election' are not expressing our choice so much as God's choice. God chooses us to be his people, and we respond by our own choice and decision. But the initiative lies with God. You remember Jesus' words to the apostles: 'You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last' (John 15:16). This process of choice and election goes right back to early in the Old Testament. God chose Abraham to be the 'father of many nations'. God chose Moses to lead the descendants of Abraham out of slavery in Egypt, towards the Promised Land. God chose David to be King over his people, and to establish a dynasty from which would be born the Saviour of the world. God chose Mary to be the Mother of that Saviour and Mother of us all. And so it goes on now. God chooses each one of us, to be his friend; to be part of his Body, the Church; to inherit the Kingdom and finally to be at home in the heavenly Jerusalem. 'Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift' (2 Corinthians 9:15).

[*Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults]

Fr Fabian OP

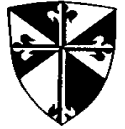
Second Sunday of Lent

Year B

1 March 2015

The Newsletter of HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER

www.holycrossleicester.org



Entrance Antiphon:	<i>Either:</i> Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me. <i>Or:</i> Remember your compassion, O Lord, and your merciful love, for they are from of old. Let not our enemies exult over us. Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.
1st Reading:	Genesis 22:1-2. 9a 10-13. 15-18
Psalms:	<i>At 10.30:</i> I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. <i>Otherwise:</i> I walk before the Lord in the land of the living. (Ps 25)
2nd Reading:	Romans 8:31b-34
Gospel:	Glory and praise to you, O Christ. From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Gospel:	Mark 9:2-10
Communion Antiphon:	This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.
Baptism Preparation: the next session is TODAY, 1 March ; please come to the sacristy at the end of the 10.30am 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.	

KING RICHARD III

- ◆ The allocation of seats is now in process for those who entered the ballot for the Mass on Monday 23 March.
- ◆ The renovation work on the church is proceeding apace, and work on the stonework should be finished by Tuesday. Work on the sound system will begin on Monday.
- ◆ **Please come and help to clean the church** on the next two Saturdays, 7 and 14 March, after the 12.30pm Mass. Furniture has to be moved, and much cleaning and polishing is needed to ensure that the church is spick and span.
- ◆ On Tuesday 24 March there will be a special Parish Mass for Richard III at 4pm, welcoming visitors to our city. Following that, the Dominican brethren will process to the Cathedral to sing Vespers for Richard III at 5.30pm, and you are invited to join the procession and attend Vespers.
- ◆ **Concert for a King - Music from the Time of Richard III.** There will be a concert of music and readings from the time of Richard III here in the church on Tuesday 24 March at 8.30pm. See overleaf.

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Please note that the dates have changed to 8-12 June. From Stansted, staying at the Agena Hotel. £425 per person sharing. Please contact Fr David.

During Lent this year, we are invited to work together on supporting a charity called 'Light for the Blind', which is a Catholic organisation running hospices for the destitute and poor in India. More information in the coming weeks.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £1267.97 (of which £511.00 was Gift Aided and £756.97 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 £4.10; Friends of Holy Cross £8.57; Holy Souls £3.22; Grenada Church Restoration £ - .

200 Club. January's winners were: 135, D Yates £150; 46, G Camp £100; and 117, C Kelly £50. Congratulations!

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

A Holy Week Retreat will be given by Fr Simon Gainé OP. More news soon.

Stations of the Cross. We hope to start Stations of the Cross once the refurbishment work is completed this week, on Wednesdays and Fridays after the 12.30pm Mass.

News from the Parish Shop. The March issue of 'Catholic News' is now available for 20p, and there is a 'Magnificat' booklet containing Lenten reflections for £2. We celebrate St Patrick's Day in just over two weeks. We now stock cards, rosettes, lapel pins, rosary bracelets, key rings, etc for the occasion. Hurry while stocks last!

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.

Rosmini Centre, Friday 6 March, HEALING MASS 7.00pm. Please telephone 01509 813078 if you wish to attend.

Concert for a King - Music from the Time of Richard III. The Ricardian Music Guild will present a concert by Aitone of early music which will be held here in the church on Tuesday 24 March at 8.30pm. The concert will pay homage to the life of King Richard III through the music of his time. The programme will include music that he might have heard when he lived, and will present this music in honour of his memory. The musical pieces will be interspersed with readings from contemporary accounts of King Richard III.

The occasion will be a bringing together of two important elements in the character of King Richard III: his deep and sincere religious devotion and his love of music. There will be no charge for the concert but donations will be accepted, the proceeds of which will be directed to the Leicester Cathedral King Richard III Appeal. **Reservations absolutely must be made** so that there will be a fair and equitable distribution of available seats on a first-come basis.

Reservations must be made through Eventbrite; for tickets visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/concert-for-a-king-music-from-the-time-of-richard-iii-tickets-641467647>, and to donate to the appeal please visit <http://don8.to/leic003>. Further information is available at: www.Aitone.org.uk or by contacting: Sonia Tower at stower@ovationtv.com or Rob Durk at rob@aitone.org.uk. See noticeboard. If you do not have access to the internet, please see Fr David.

On-Street Car Parking. Charges have not been applied, and will not apply until the notices on the machines and roadside signs are altered. So, check the signs if parking in Wellington Street.



Today's Gospel: In the presence of Peter, James and John, He was transfigured: His clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them.

Year 1	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 2
Sunday	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT. Prayers are asked for candidates for the sacraments.	
	Vigil 18.10 Pro populo	
	8.00 Bunten family	
	Sung 10.30 Maria Fernandez	
	OP Rite 12.30 The intentions of Fr Gallagher	
	19.00 † Bridget Furey	
Monday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 Private intention	
	12.30 Rose Gurney	
	18.10 Edmund Olaf Anita	
Tuesday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 † Dead of the Order of Preachers	
	12.30 † Joe & Bridget McGloin, & deceased family members	
	18.10 † Holy Souls	
Wednesday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 † Holy Souls	
	12.30 † David Laurel	
	18.10	
Thursday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 Bernice - spiritual & temporal welfare	
	12.30 † Emerciana Lobo	
	18.10	
Friday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 Bernice - in honour of Guardian Angels	
	12.30 Sr Leslie (birthday)	
	18.10 † Holy Souls	
Saturday	Feria	
	OP Rite 8.00 Bernice - Holy Souls in purgatory	
	10.00	
	12.30 † Holy Souls	
Next Sunday – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT. Prayers are asked for candidates for the sacraments. Readings:		
Exodus 17:3-7	Romans 5:1-2.5-8	John 4:5-42

Women's World Day of Prayer is on Friday 6 March: Praying for the Bahamas. There will be a service at the Central Baptist Church, Charles Street, at 11am, and all are welcome. Refreshments will be served after the service. See noticeboard and www.wwdp.org.uk.

There will be a Charity Quiz Night in aid of HCPT, the charity which gives people with disabilities the opportunity to visit Lourdes. Saturday 14 March at 7pm at Our Lady of Victories Church Hall, Lutterworth. Details from Cathy McManus on 01455 553774 or Anthony Riley on 01445 552131 or the.rileys29@gmail.com, and see noticeboard.

Please join us in the Parish Hall after the 10.30am Sunday Mass 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.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
SUNDAYS
8.00 Mass
9.00 Lauds
10.30 Sung Mass
12.30 Mass (Dominican Rite)
18.00 Exposition, Rosary, Compline & Benediction
19.00 Mass
MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS
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
*WEDNESDAYS ONLY
SATURDAYS
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
HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION
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
BANK HOLIDAYS
7.30 Lauds
8.00 Mass (Dominican Rite)
12.30 Mass, after which the church is closed
Royal Infirmary Chaplaincy: 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.
Universities' Chaplain: Fr David Rocks: 0116 252 1512
Baptism Preparation: 1st Sunday of month after the 10.30 Mass.
Baptisms: Saturday afternoons.
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