

STAMPED WITH THE SEAL

In today's second reading, St Paul uses the phrase, 'stamped with the seal'. He says that those who had heard the word of truth, the gospel of salvation, and had believed in Christ, had been marked or stamped with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit, the pledge of our redemption as God's own people. Later in this Letter he uses the same image, as we will hear four Sundays from now: 'do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption'.

What is this all about? St Paul is trying to describe the presence of the Holy Spirit in us by using an image from everyday life. In his day, if someone went to a shop or warehouse to buy some goods, he might not take them away with him there and then. Instead, he would make a down payment and put his seal on those particular packages, leaving them there until he could conveniently collect them. From then on, those goods were his. They were no longer the property of the manufacturer or the shop owner, but of the man who had paid for them, even though they had not yet been delivered to him.

This explains what St Paul means when he says: 'you were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit'. He says that we are like goods which someone has bought and paid for and marked with his seal, but which have not yet been delivered. We are still in the shop or warehouse, he says, but we don't really belong there and we won't remain there long. Our true owner will come to collect us soon.

We have been bought by the death and resurrection of Jesus. So we now belong to him, and the sign of that is the gift to us of the Holy Spirit. It is through the Holy Spirit that we can say: 'Abba, Father', and truly mean it. The gift of the Holy Spirit marks us as now belonging to Christ and no longer to the power of evil. But though we now belong to Him, we still remain in the old situation. We always need to be quite sure where we really belong, and try to live appropriately, even if it is sometimes a struggle. We should remember who we really belong to now, who has paid for us, and whose seal we bear.

Fr Fabian OP

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

12 July 2015

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

www.holycrossleicester.org



Entrance Antiphon:	Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.
1st Reading:	Amos 7:12-15
Psalm 118:	<i>At 10.30: Let us see O Lord your mercy and give us your saving help. Otherwise: Show us your merciful love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation. (Ps 85)</i>
2nd Reading:	Ephesians 1:3-14
Alleluia:	May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might know what is the hope to which he has called us.
Gospel:	Mark 6:7-13
Communion Antiphon:	<i>Either: Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him. Or: Come to me, all who labour and are burdened, and I will refresh you, says the Lord.</i>

Baptism Preparation: the next session is on **2 August**; 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.

The Assisted Dying Bill will be debated in Parliament on 11th September. It is important that MPs attend the debate in order to oppose the proposals. Countries which have already legalised assisted suicide have fully embraced a culture of death. Just days ago the Dutch Paediatric Association said that allowing teenagers to ask for euthanasia discriminates against younger children and is asking that the age limit for doctor-assisted death be removed. To avoid that becoming reality in the UK please write now to your MP and ask him or her to attend the debate on 11th September. Please write before MPs leave for their summer recess on 21st July. For guidance on what to write please visit <http://notoassistedsuicide.org.uk/>. To help distribute leaflets locally about the Bill please contact Francisca Martinez on 07943 711549.

Everyone is invited to join in the Annual Rosary Rally at Grace Dieu Manor, to pray for World Peace and the Young People of our Diocese, on **Sunday 23 August**, beginning with Mass at 3pm. After a break for refreshments, the Rally resumes at 5pm with the crowning of a statue of Our Lady, Rosary procession, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of the sick, and Benediction. Grace Dieu Manor, LE67 5UG, is on the A512 about 3 miles from Junction 23 of the M1 motorway in the direction of Ashby. You should bring a folding chair or stool. Information from michaellstatham@hotmail.com, 01530 223529.

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.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £1014.28 (of which £379.80 was Gift Aided and £634.48 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; Solidarity Fund £0.70; Friends of Holy Cross £3.80; Holy Souls £40.26; Grenada Church Restoration £ - . The retiring collection for the fabric of the Priory came to £248.12.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

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

Summer Nights. The Kirby Muxloe Players present this musical from Wednesday 29 July to Saturday 1 August, 7.30pm, in the Village Hall. Tickets £8 from 07804 435235 and see www.kirbyplayers.co.uk.

Meister Eckhart and Divine Justice. The annual conference of the Eckhart Society will take place in Leeds from 4 to 6 September, including talks by three Dominicans, including Fr Greg. For details see www.eckhartsociety.org.



Today's Gospel: Jesus sent the Twelve out in pairs, "... if people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them."

World Youth Day July 2016 - Krakow: Would you like to be part of a local group? Will you be 18 years old by July of next year? Cost: approx £400 including travel, accommodation, all events, meals and insurance. Contact: Angela on angelab1066@yahoo.ie or 07758 270044, or Elvira on elviraveve@yahoo.co.uk.

News from the Parish Shop:

- ◆ The July edition of the Diocesan newspaper, *Catholic Voice*, is now available, price 20p.
- ◆ The latest issue of *The Vatican, past and Present* is available for £3.50. This glossy magazine has articles on the Pope's encyclical on climate change *Laudato Si'*, the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Migrants and Itinerant Peoples, and on the Apostleship of the Sea.

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.

Friars Preachers. The Summer 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 Walsingham pilgrimage and an article on Exploring Science and Religion by Fr Robert Verrill OP. And there are details of how you may help support the general work of the friars and the Dominicans' Training Fund.

Evangelium Conference. Set in the beautiful grounds of the Oratory School in Reading, the acclaimed Evangelium Conference combines a unique weekend break with the opportunity to learn more about the Catholic faith, assisting participants to live, share, and defend the faith today. Talks and workshops are combined with daily Mass, eucharistic adoration, and social events. The conference is intended especially for young Catholics age 18 - 35. From 31 July to 2 August. See www.evangelium.co.uk/conference-posts-go-here/.

Year 1	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 3
Sunday	Fifteenth Sunday per annum. Today is Sea Sunday	
Vigil	18.10 Irena & Roman Olszewski 8.00 Prayers to the Blessed Trinity	
Sung	10.30	
OP Rite	12.30 <i>Pro populo</i> 19.00	
Monday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 ☩ Holy Souls 12.30 ☩ Hilario Gonsalves 18.10	
Tuesday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 ☩ Dead of the Order of Preachers 12.30 In thanksgiving to St Thomas Becket 18.10 ☩ Holy Souls	
Wednesday	St Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church	
OP Rite	8.00 ☩ Holy Souls 12.30 ☩ Tom Costello 18.10	
Thursday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 ☩ Barbara Fowell 12.30 Maureen Fernandes 18.10 ☩ Holy Souls	
Friday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 ☩ Holy Souls 12.30 ☩ Mrs Maria Gonzalves 18.10	
Saturday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 10.00 ☩ Holy Souls 12.30	
Next Sunday – Sixteenth Sunday per annum. Readings:		
	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Ephesians 2:13-18
		Mark 6:30-34

The LeicesterShire Historic Churches Trust was formed in 1964, and is an independent charity. Its trustees (which include Fr Fabian) and helpers are volunteers. The majority of the Trust's income comes from legacies and the annual Ride+Stride which, since 1989, has raised more than £800,000 for historic churches in the City and County (and Holy Cross has been a beneficiary). This year's Ride and Stride day is Saturday 12 September and, nearer the time, there will be information on how you can participate.

Asylum Seekers and Refugees remain in urgent need of food donations to respond to their emergency needs; these people in Leicester are often destitute. To help, please leave your gifts in the sacristy after any Mass – non perishable goods such as tinned and dried foods are mostly wanted, but please see that goods are not significantly past their sell-by date. Please note that if clothing is to be given it must not be in such a condition to need cleaning or washing before use; in fact it should ideally be new or nearly new. The main thrust of the appeal is for food and items of personal use, although other things such as towels and baby clothing are acceptable. Please keep giving generously to support these vulnerable people. Thank you.

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.
Parish Website: www.holycrossleicester.org Website & Newsletter Editors: web@holycrossleicester.org holycrossnewsletter@gmail.com
CONTACT DETAILS Holy Cross Priory 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW Priory phone: 0116 255 3856 For home visits/recorded times of services: 0116 255 3856 Fax: 0116 255 5552 Parish Priest Fr David Rocks 0116 252 1512 leicester@english.op.org