

“PRAISE BE....”

These words open St Francis of Assisi’s famous canticle in praise of God’s wonderful creation. Pope Francis has chosen them as a fitting title for his eagerly-awaited encyclical on the environment. Addressing it to the whole world, he sets out to help us to have a change of heart. He wants us to develop a reverence for the world in which we live - and with that reverence, a sense of responsibility.

There are three themes dominating this encyclical. Firstly, a sense of reverence for the whole of creation, and above all for its creator. Secondly, God has made us people guardians of His handiwork, with the responsibility of using, preserving, developing and handing on to future generations an environment, with its resources.

But we are failing in our care for what Pope Francis calls, “Our Common Home.” We are damaging the environment; our pollution of the atmosphere is at least partly responsible for global warming. We are very wasteful of the earth’s natural resources, and unjust in their distribution. This is the third theme, which provoked Pope Francis to write this encyclical.

Firstly, reverence for the whole of creation. God has loved into existence each and every part of it. That makes even the smallest creature precious to Him. Each reflects and gives glory to God, simply by being itself. That gives it a dignity of its own; it should be valued not simply because it is useful to man.

That means that we, to whom God has entrusted His creatures, should show each and every one of them the same loving respect as does their maker. That means that we must strive to protect endangered species, and the delicate balance of ecosystems in which they and we live. Our world is God’s world. With Jacob we should exclaim, **“How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven, and I did not know it,”** (Gen. 28. 16-17). The Son of God has even made our world His home!

Pope Francis calls all of us to recognise the damage we are doing to our world, to God’s world - before it’s too late. He stresses the triple relationships between the loving creative God, the environment in which He has placed us, and us people, whom He has appointed as its guardians. The sins of selfishness and shortsightedness have disrupted this delicate balance. Individualism has caused us to forget that we belong not only to one human family, but to God’s single family. That makes us responsible for each other and for the God-given world in which we all live.

Pope Francis calls us to appreciate God’s wonderful gift of the world He has created, to cherish it, to develop it and hand it on, in a better condition, to future generations. This will not only enriches our lives as human beings, but is also an essential dimension of Christian spirituality.

Isidore O.P.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

26 July 2015

The Newsletter of HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER

www.holycrossleicester.org



Entrance Antiphon:	God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.
1st Reading:	2 Kings 4:42-44
Psalm 118: Ps 144 (145)	<i>At 10.30 am Mass:</i> You open wide your hand O Lord and grant our desires. <i>Otherwise:</i> You open your hand to feed us, Lord; you answer all our needs.
2nd Reading:	Ephesians 4:1-6
Alleluia:	A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.
Gospel:	John 6:1-15
Communion Antiphon:	Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits. <i>Or:</i> Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.

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.

Companions of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (CoM). The CoM is a key volunteer force for the charitable work of the Order of Malta in the UK. The CoM is keen to establish a Branch in Leicester and the East Midlands. Those who would like to join in the CoM’s mission ‘to practise our faith and to practise charity’ are invited to meet Richard Fynes in the Parish Centre after the 10.30 Mass on **Sunday, 9 August**. Richard will be helping to co-ordinate the CoM’s work in the area and he can be contacted by email at fynesclinton@yahoo.com.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £963.27 (of which £255.00 was Gift Aided and £708.27 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 £ - ; Friends of Holy Cross £ - ; Holy Souls £ - ; Grenada Church Restoration £ - .

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:
The feeding of the five thousand

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 August edition of the Diocesan newspaper, *Catholic News*, 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.

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/.

Rosmini Centre: Wednesdays 6.00-7.00 pm. Adoration and Intercession. **Changes**— Fr. David Tobin leaves for Rugby and Fr. Binu Palakapally will take over in coordinating the Centre in mid August. Fr. Ted Mullen stays as Fr. President of Ratcliffe College. Fr. David will be working on the spirituality and teaching of Blessed Rosmini.

Year I	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 1
Sunday	Seventeenth Sunday per annum.	
Vigil	18.10 † Holy Souls 8.00	
Sung	10.30 † Jennifer Kibambo's mother (Malawi)	
OP Rite	12.30 Fraternity of St Peter 19.00 <i>Pro populo</i>	
Monday	Bl Robert Nutter, Priest and Martyr	
OP Rite	8.00 12.30 † Pauline Boyde 18.10	
Tuesday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 † Dead of the Order of Preachers 12.30 Mrs Sharon Peats's intentions 18.10	
Wednesday	St Martha	
OP Rite	8.00 12.30 † Holy Souls 18.10	
Thursday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 12.30 † Holy Souls 18.10	
Friday	St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest	
OP Rite	8.00 † Ann Dodsley (Day of burial) 12.30 18.10	
Saturday	St Alphonsus Mary Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	
OP Rite	8.00 Bernice - spiritual & temporal welfare 10.00 12.30 † Holy Souls	
Next Sunday – Eighteenth Sunday per annum. Readings:		
Exodus 16:2-4.12-15	Ephesians 4:17.20-24	John 6:24-35

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.

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service (NRCDES) are seeking to appoint a new Director of Education. Further details are available from either Julie Sweeney - julie.sweeney@nottingham-des.org.uk - or from the Diocesan Education Service website - www.nottingham-des.org.uk. Closing date 10th September 2015.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration is a very important way of preparing for Mass and of deepening our understanding of the Mass. It takes place at Holy Cross on Sundays from 6.00-7.00 pm, on Wednesdays from 11.00am and on Saturdays from 10.30am.

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