

Marriage on earth and in heaven

The readings from the two forms of Mass complement each other well this Sunday. In the newer form we hear about the formation of the first woman, Eve, from the first man. This is not something that we could have discovered for ourselves; it is one of those things that we can only know because God has revealed it. According to St Thomas Aquinas, one of the reasons for it was “so that the man might love the woman more, and be more inseparably united to her, knowing that she had been formed from himself”. This was not necessary for the other animals, where male and female do not share a partnership for life.

In this way, God imprinted on the minds of our first parents, and all their descendants, the indissolubility of marriage. We just have to listen to the popular songs of all ages to see that human beings, whether they have faith or not, instinctively know that love between the sexes is meant to be exclusive and enduring. The marriage bond corresponds to this instinct. Once created, this bond lasts until death, in the eyes of God, whatever parliaments and law-courts may say. Yet history shows us how difficult in practice it is to uphold this truth, outside the Church. Even among the old people of God, divorce and re-marriage came to be tolerated until Christ told them that it was not to be so any more. For His grace makes possible what is impossible to nature.

The gospel in the traditional form of Mass recalls another truth about marriage. Between the baptized, it is a sign of Christ's union with His Church. “The kingdom of heaven is like to a king who made a marriage for his son”. So a Christian marriage is indissoluble for this reason too, because Christ will never divorce the Church. This parable tells us of a guest at this marriage-feast who was not wearing a wedding garment (we might think these days of someone who turned up for a wedding-reception wearing a dirty t-shirt). Of course the eternal marriage feast of heaven cannot be violated; but we share in it on earth through Holy Communion. So this parable reminds us of the importance of being clothed in charity, and living according to the law of Christ, when we come forward to receive Him in this way.

An important synod on the family begins in Rome tomorrow. Let us pray that the bishops will teach clearly what we need to hear.

Fr Thomas OP

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
– Rosary Sunday

Year B

4 October 2015

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

www.holycrossleicester.org



Entrance Antiphon:	Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.
1st Reading:	Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm R:	<i>At 10.30: May the Lord bless us all the days of our life. Otherwise: May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives. (Ps 128)</i>
2nd Reading:	Hebrews 2:9-11
Alleluia:	If we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.
Gospel:	Mark 10:2-16
Communion Antiphon:	<i>Either: The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him. Or: Though many, we are one bread, one body, for we all partake of the one Bread and one Chalice.</i>

Baptism Preparation: the next session is **TODAY**, Sunday 4 October; 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.

Refugee Crisis. Our response will be co-ordinated by Christina Mottram. Please see our website and Facebook page, or contact her on cj.mottram@ntlworld.com. There will be a retiring collection after all Masses today for charities helping to deal with the crisis.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary, and today is Rosary Sunday. Roses will be blessed and distributed at all Masses, and there will be a procession after the 10.30am Mass. The blessing and distribution of roses on the first Sunday of October is a long-standing Dominican custom. Throughout October we should be thinking about our devotions, and especially the praying of the Rosary, long associated with our holy father Dominic and the Order. We pray the Rosary here at Holy Cross every day at 12 noon, except Sundays when it is at 6pm. **Wednesday is the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary**, and there will be a Solemn Mass, sung in the Dominican Rite, at 7.15pm.

Children's Liturgy at the 10.30 Mass. The Children's Liturgy has begun again at the 10.30am Mass on Sundays and will continue each weekend until Christmas. This Liturgy is aimed at 1 to 10 year-olds and parents are encouraged to attend. The priest invites the children and parents to the Liturgy just before the Readings and we join Mass again at the Offertory. The Liturgy closely follows the Mass of the day with the same readings which we talk about and we sing the psalm and the alleluia. Any children who want to do a reading are encouraged to do so and the children receive a leaflet with the gospel reading and associated puzzles to take home. If you haven't joined us before or even if you are just visiting Holy Cross, you and your children will be very welcome.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £873.16 (of which £229.20 was Gift Aided and £643.96 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 £4.70; Friends of Holy Cross £4.21; Holy Souls £61.13; Grenada Church Restoration £ - . The collection for roses for distribution at all Masses today came to £141.70.

This week there is a retiring collection for charities helping to deal with the refugee crisis. One half will go to Leicester's City of Sanctuary, and the other half to Secours Catholique, a French relief agency. Please be as generous as you can.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation. If your children are of the age to receive these sacraments (7+ for First Communion and 12+ for Confirmation), please see Fr David immediately for forms and information on instruction.

Interested in becoming a Catholic? The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) course will begin on Monday 16 November at 7pm. This programme is aimed at those who are interested in becoming Catholics, whether they have not been baptised or baptised in a different Christian tradition, and it is geared to the reception of sacraments at Easter. It also caters for adult Catholics who have not been confirmed, or those who simply feel it is time for a refresher course. Please see Fr David.

Civic Service. Tomorrow, Monday 5 October, the High Sheriff will welcome Mr Justice Jeremy Baker to Leicester at a service here at 9.30am. Everyone is very welcome to attend the service and afterwards process to the Court at the top of Wellington Street for the reading of the Letters Patent.



Rosary Sunday is a special feast for Dominicans because of the tradition that Our Lady gave the Rosary to St. Dominic.

Welcome all students! Please come to the 6.10pm Vigil Mass on Saturdays, starting this weekend, which is followed each week by the Student Chaplaincy fellowship and meal. On Saturday 17 October this Mass will especially mark the opening of the new academic year.

Holy Cross Christmas puddings and other desserts are on sale again this year. As well as improving every Christmas dessert table, they also make great presents. As always, any funds raised will support our work in the church and priory. Puddings can be ordered in advance; order forms are on the entrance tables or in the shop.

Rosmini Centre: Saturday Morning Talk on Ecology on 10th October, "Misuse of Resource – Need for an Ecological Conversion", 10.30am for 11.00am to 1.00 pm; tea/coffee provided – shared lunch! Please do phone or e-mail if you are coming - 01509 813078 or rosminicentreinfo@gmail.com. The Rosmini Centre House of Prayer is at 433 Fosse Way, Ratcliffe on the Wreake, LE7 4SJ (half a mile north of Ratcliffe College on the A46).

St Paul's School Community invites all to celebrate our annual Family Mass to ask for God's blessing on the new academic year. Thursday 7th October at 7pm in the School Theatre, followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

Year I	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 3
Sunday	Twenty-seventh Sunday per annum	
Vigil	18.10 Irena & Roman Olszewski 8.00 Bunten family	
Sung	10.30 Rita McCormick's intentions	
OP Rite	12.30 ✕ Christopher Manktelow 19.00 <i>Pro populo</i>	
Monday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 ✕ Kate Riley 12.30 ✕ Jery D'Souza 18.10 ✕ Ugo Ricci	
Tuesday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 ✕ Dead of the Order of Preachers 12.30 ✕ Roy Jones 18.10 Peter Giorgio & NRCDES	
Wednesday	OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY. <i>There will be an extra Mass, a Solemn Mass sung in the Dominican Rite, at 19.15.</i>	
OP Rite	8.00 ✕ Barbara Fowell 12.30 ✕ Gloria's intentions 18.10 James Wyman (sick)	
Thursday	Feria	
OP Rite	8.00 Thanksgiving for graces, Infant of Prague 12.30 Maureen Fernandes 18.10 ✕ Tony O'Neill	
Friday	St Luis Beltrán (Louis Bertrand), Priest	
OP Rite	8.00 ✕ Peter Glyn-Smith 12.30 ✕ Thomas & Catherine Byrne 18.10 Private intention	
Saturday	St Paulinus, Bishop, and the Anglo-Saxon Saints of the Diocese	
OP Rite	8.00 ✕ Gill Dillon 10.00 ✕ Doris Bridgwood 12.30 Ellen Connell (sick)	
Next Sunday – Twenty-eighth Sunday per annum. Day of Prayer for Prisoners and their Dependants. Readings:		
Wisdom 7:7-11	Hebrews 4:12-13	Mark 10:17-30

The Leicester Theological Society's next talk, the Newman Ecumenical Lecture, will be given on **Friday 9 October** by Rev Bill Myers, author of *'The Thoughtful Heart: The Metaphysics of John Henry Newman'*, and the talk is entitled "Good, Happy and Free: Aquinas and Newman". Meetings are held here at Holy Cross, in St Clement's Hall on Fridays at 7:30pm. Visitors are welcome (£5; students no charge).

News from the Parish Shop:

- ◆ We have been asked by a poor parish in Malawi to sell some handmade rosaries on their behalf to raise much needed funds. These are available at £2.50.
- ◆ We now have stock of 2016 diaries (£2 and £3) and calendars (£1), all of which represent very good value.

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.

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