

# HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH



SUNDAY 7 AUGUST 2016

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

· A ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH · THE DOMINICAN PRESENCE IN LEICESTER SINCE 1247 ·

## FROM THE PRIOR'S DESK

*The jovial sounds of the Caribbean Festival fill the air surrounding Holy Cross, as we try to sign off the newsletter for another week. It is great to see people enjoying themselves, and to celebrate the beautiful days of summer.*

*Several weeks into the summer holidays, I hear that some of our children are beginning to miss being at school! A time of rest is often needed, but the familiarity of routine does give us a sense of security. This applies to our living out of our faith, too. The regular routine of our prayer life, structured around our ordinary schedules, helps us to remain constant when things are difficult for us, and when things are going well.*

*In the coming week, we have lots of feasts to celebrate. Monday is St Dominic's Day, and we have our special 12:30pm Mass, with Solemn Benediction and Vespers in the evening. This week, we also have St Theresa Benedicta of the Cross, St Lawrence, and St Clare, before the Assumption next weekend. All these feasts give us a break from the regular liturgical routine, but they all serve to help us focus our prayer and devotion to the Mystery of Faith.*

*I'm preparing to set off on holiday, just as some people arrive back. It is nice to spend time in a different way, so that we can return to our ordinary routine with a renewed commitment. Time like this can help us to recharge ourselves, to change for the better. Thanks for the newsletters from elsewhere, keep them coming, and keep in touch!*

Fr David

## UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY IN LEICESTER

One of the great apostolates we are privileged to exercise here at Holy Cross is **chaplaincy to our two universities, DMU and the University of Leicester**. As part of our **development programme, On Firm Foundations**, we are looking towards development of this important ministry over the summer months and in the academic year ahead. Over the next few weeks, we'll be **asking for volunteers** to help us welcome the next crop of students during freshers' weeks. We would also like to hear ideas about how we can **get more involved** in the life of our universities as a parish community. Please email our **Lay Chaplain** to the Universities, **George Ralph**, at the email address: [george.ralph@english.op.org](mailto:george.ralph@english.op.org)



**IUBILÆUM 800 1216- 2016**  
**ORDO PRÆDICATORUM**

## NOTICE BOARD

### BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to have your child baptised, please attend one of our baptism preparation sessions. The next is TODAY, Sunday 7 August, after the 10:30am Mass in St Clement's Hall.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONFIRMATION

Forms for children and young people who wish to receive these sacraments in the new academic year (2016-17) are now in the Church. Please fill in and return.

### MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony should make an appointment with the Parish Priest in the first instance.

### BECOMING CATHOLIC

Any adult who wishes to become a Catholic or receive Confirmation should join our RCIA programme, which begins in the Autumn Term.

### VISITING THE SICK

The Faithful who are sick and housebound can arrange a visit from a priest or special minister by calling 0116 252 1501.

### FAMILY VISITS

Families who would like a house blessing or a pastoral visit at home, can make arrangements by calling 0116

## HOLY CROSS ASSEMBLY AND QUESTIONNAIRE

You will be aware from previous announcements that the Holy Cross Assembly will take place on **Saturday 15th October 2016**. Everyone is **warmly invited** to attend this important event. The Assembly is an opportunity to gather together as a community to discuss the life of our parish and to think together about **how we can build on the good** we already do in order to make things even better. We strongly encourage you and your families to attend this important event in the life of our parish - we would very much like to hear your views and ideas.

To begin the process of gathering people's views the **Pastoral Core Group** has produced a **questionnaire** which is currently being piloted in the Woodhouse community and will be issued to all those who attend Holy Cross following the summer break and in readiness for the Assembly. Please make every effort to **complete the questionnaire** as fully as possible when it comes out and to **attend the Assembly** on 15th October. **Lunch will be provided.**

## THE MERCY TOUR – SATURDAY 13 AUGUST

Some young people are involved in evangelisation for **the Year of Mercy** through this initiative, which will visit **Holy Cross on 13 August**. They will **engage in street evangelisation**, before welcoming people to Holy Cross in the evening to **pray and experience God's mercy**. Please contact George if you wish to get involved: [george.ralph@english.op.org](mailto:george.ralph@english.op.org)

## BEEN TO MASS WHILE ON HOLIDAY?

If you're on holiday, do **make an effort to get to Mass** somewhere. Please pick up a newsletter, and **bring it back for Fr David**. Let's see how many different places we can cover.

## SOLEMNITY OF OUR HOLY FATHER ST DOMINIC

This **Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> August**, Solemn Mass at 12:30pm, and Solemn Vespers and Benediction at 6:45pm. Please come and pray with us for this special day in our 800<sup>th</sup> Year!

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## THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Fr David Rocks OP PP *Prior*; Fr Isidore Clarke OP; Fr Fabian Radcliffe OP;  
Fr Neil Ferguson OP; Fr Thomas Crean OP; Fr Gregory Murphy OP;  
Fr Robert Gay OP CC *Subprior, Bursar*.

Office Administrator: *Mrs Rachael Powell* – [leicester.admin@english.op.org](mailto:leicester.admin@english.op.org)  
Lay University Chaplain: *Mr George Ralph* – [george.ralph@english.op.org](mailto:george.ralph@english.op.org)  
Director of Music: *Mr Thomas Keogh* – [thomas@thomaskeogh.co.uk](mailto:thomas@thomaskeogh.co.uk)

For the Office Administrator, please call **0116 252 1501**

**Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW. Tel: 0116 255 3856**

For more details, visit: [www.holycrossleicester.org](http://www.holycrossleicester.org)

## MASS TIMES

### Sundays:

8am; 10:30am (sung);  
12:30pm (old rite);  
7pm

### Weekdays:

8am (old rite);  
12:30pm; 6:10pm

### Saturdays:

8am (old rite);  
10am; 12.30pm;  
*6:10pm Vigil Mass for Sunday*

## CONFESSION

### Saturdays:

10:30-11:30am  
5:00-6:00pm

## MONEY MATTERS

Last week's collections:

**£ 885.38**

(Gift aided: £ 346.50)

**Woodhouse Community**

**£ 111.74**

(Gift aided: £82.00)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED SUPPORT!**



# THE SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

## READINGS FOR THE 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

### 1<sup>ST</sup> READING WISDOM

These are some of the words used by the Jews to celebrate God's deliverance of them at Passover. It is a meditation on the biblical story of the Exodus, showing God's care of His own people and the 'unwisdom' of idolatry, especially that of the Egyptians from whom God rescued His people on "that night", the night of their escape from Egyptian slavery. They embarked on a journey into the unknown, led by their God, confident that all would be well. This anticipates the emphasis in the Passover liturgy, celebrated by our Jewish friends each year, in memory of the Exodus: "Therefore we are bound to give thanks, to praise, to glorify, to honour, to exalt, and to bless ... so let us say: Hallelujah."

### 2<sup>ND</sup> READING HEBREWS

For the next few weeks, the second reading is from the Letter to the Hebrews, which is more a sermon on who Christ is, rather than a letter. In today's section, Abraham and Sarah are held up as examples of faith.

### GOSPEL READING LUKE

Stand ready, we are told, for we do not know when Christ will return. Today's gospel makes for uncomfortable reading, reminding us of serious matters, such as keeping our lifestyle simple, giving to those less fortunate than ourselves, making good use of the time given us, being ready for the return of the Lord, and warnings of punishment. The opening verses conclude a long section about the proper use of possessions, where Jesus exhorts us to seek true values, making ourselves "rich in the sight of God", for "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also". The heart is the biblical centre of a person's being, pointing to what is most important.

## DOMINICAN RITE MASS (EXTRAORDINARY FORM) XII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### GOSPEL LUKE 10:23-37

hearing and seeing must be understood simply and plainly as external seeing and hearing, namely, that they saw Christ and his office, heard his preaching, and witnessed the miracles he performed among the Jews. The Jews also beheld these things with their natural eyes and some of them indeed experienced them in part in their hearts. But in fact they did not recognize him as the Christ, like the Apostles did.

### NEXT SUNDAY –

#### TWENTIETH SUNDAY *PER ANNUM*; THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (EF)

*'IN ORDER TO MAKE GOOD USE OF TIME WE MUST LOVE ARDENTLY AND CONSTANTLY;  
WE MUST SURRENDER OURSELVES ENTIRELY TO LOVE, LEAVING IT TO ACT FOR US.  
BE SATISFIED TO ADHERE TO IT IN EVERYTHING, BUT ALWAYS WITH PROFOUND HUMILITY.'*

**ST. MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE**

# THE WORD AT WORK: OUR WEEKLY REFLECTION

## A DOMINICAN ROAD MAP – SETTING A COURSE

*Following the much-appreciated series on the Corporal Works of Mercy from the Twin Clarke Team, Fr David Rocks OP takes up the mantle, beginning a series of reflections on the Dominican way of life.*

With over 120 years of Dominican life lived between them, the Clarke twins are going to be a tough act to follow! Nonetheless, I'll do my best. Of course, I should have the confidence to know that I am never diminished by the preaching of my brothers – it is something we all share in together. That's the Dominican way.

Over the next number of weeks, I want to reflect with you about the Dominican way of life. I think this is particularly appropriate, especially in this 800<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Year. I hope it will be an exercise that will be of benefit to you, that you might gain a better understanding of the way our Order works, and of its mission in the life of the Church. In so doing, I hope it will also be a useful exercise for me. A Jubilee Year is always a time for renewal, and as I prepare to commence my 15<sup>th</sup> year in the Dominican Habit, I'm hoping this will be a revision exercise, reminding me of the essential parts of my Dominican calling, and inspiring me to refreshment and new growth.

The thing is that the Dominican Order is hard to pin down. Some other orders and congregations are based on a clearly articulated Rule of their founder, or on a vision for some specific apostolic work, arising from a need in the life of the Church. Many movements within the Church follow a charismatic leader, whose clear example and steadfast devotion to their calling is constantly before their followers, even generations later. For us Dominicans, it's not that clear cut. The cult of our founder is modestly conceived within our Order, and the Rule that we follow, our constitutions, are not the work of one visionary. In fact, they are the work of many Dominicans, who constantly write them, down through the centuries. That's what our General Chapter in Bologna these past weeks was for – to reflect on our rule of life and enhance it!

This is not at all to say that St Dominic was not a man of vision, or that he and his early followers were lacking in vision. It is because the purpose of our Order is one that touches the whole Church, in every time and place. It is because it begins with the person in themselves, inspiring conversion of heart, and sharing that with others through preaching.

As Dominicans, we tend to avoid using terms like 'spirituality' and 'charism' to describe our way of life. As an Order of Mercy, we realise that the whole person needs to change, and we are constantly seeking to live a radically new kind of life. At the same time, we're called to preach that to each other. As we go through the next few weeks, we will reflect on various different aspects of the Dominican way of life. I hope it will act as a road map for us, as we continue to grow in grace together. We will consider Dominicans and mercy, the four pillars of our life, the way we make our laws and the way we do our work.

So many different people benefit from our Dominican way of living, which is still in a process of refining and perfecting after 800 years. I hope you will be pleased to join me in continuing that process, as we reflect on the Way of the Preacher over these next few weeks.

*Fr David Rocks O.P.*