

HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH



SUNDAY 3 JULY 2016

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

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

FROM THE PRIOR'S DESK – IN ITALY!

The Prior's Desk this week has moved temporarily to Florence, where we are on pilgrimage to some of the places associated with St Dominic and the beginnings of the Dominican Order. As we celebrate 800 years, it is a great privilege to have the opportunity to reflect on the riches of the Dominican tradition.

A hugely important part of our Dominican Mission is the Ministry of the Word. As part of our ongoing development of this weekly newsletter, this week we begin to offer short reflections and summaries of each of the readings at Mass, for both the Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms of the Roman Rite. We hope that these will help to focus our preparation for Mass.

This Sunday, on the sixth anniversary of my Presbyteral Ordination, I have the great privilege of offering Mass at the tomb of our Holy Father, St Dominic. I will certainly feel close to everyone at Holy Cross as I remember you all in the Mass. I ask St Dominic's intercession for the growth of our Dominican Apostolate at Holy Cross, and for the success of our forthcoming Holy Cross Assembly.

May we all faithfully and joyfully walk with St Dominic as pilgrims and preachers of grace.

Fr David

HOLY CROSS ASSEMBLY – SATURDAY 15 OCTOBER 2016

Our renewal programme, *On Firm Foundations*, seeks to develop our life and mission as a **Dominican Parish Community** as we look to the future. A major part of this is our planned **Holy Cross Assembly**, to which all are invited. It will take place on **Saturday 15 October 2016**, and will be facilitated by Fr Chris Thomas, and Mrs Julia Palmer, our Diocesan Director of Adult Formation. Please save the date, and pray for its success!

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Following the retirement of **Miss Julia Christy** as Headteacher of Holy Cross School, **Ms Gail Neill** has been appointed as Interim Headteacher. Ms Neill has previously served as Head of Bishop Ellis School, and more recently as Director of Education for our Diocese. **Please pray for Ms Neill** and her family, and for our whole school community, as term draws to a close.



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 Sunday 3 July, 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 252 1501

PRAYERS FOR THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Please pray for our brothers **Matthew Jarvis** and **Oliver Keenan**, who will be ordained to the Priesthood in the Priory in Oxford by Archbishop Malcolm next **Sunday, 10 July**. Please pray for all our **Dominican Students in formation**, and for **vocations to our Order**. Please also pray for the repose of the soul of **Fr Piers Linley OP**, of our London Community, whose funeral will be celebrated on Wednesday 13 July at St Dominic's in Haverstock Hill.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING AND AWARENESS

The safeguarding of our children and vulnerable adults is a key priority at Holy Cross. As part of our ongoing review of safeguarding, **Mr John Creedon**, our **Diocesan Safeguarding Leader**, will conduct safeguarding training on **Monday 11 July at 7:30pm** in the Hall. **All those involved in parish ministry with children and vulnerable adults should attend.**

WINDING DOWN FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS

At this time of year, there is the inevitable winding down of various groups, apostolates, and regular meetings, as we all seek some time for a holiday. **It is a good opportunity to thank everyone** for the commitment and dedication that goes into keeping everything going at Holy Cross. As we look forward to the **Holy Cross Assembly**, we hope and pray that the new academic year will bring **fresh enthusiasm** to our efforts to grow and develop our ministry at Holy Cross. We hope that everyone will be able to enjoy some pleasant **recreation time**, and we pray that all our parish community will remain **safe and well** in the weeks ahead.

MATTERS MUSICAL

Our Organ Recital Series continues this Wednesday, 5 July, with a recital at 7:30pm by Timothy Guntrip. These recitals, lasting about an hour, conclude with a glass of wine and are very enjoyable. Please come and bring friends. A performance of Brahms's *German Requiem* is planned for September.

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
Lay University Chaplain: *Mr George Ralph* – george.ralph@english.op.org
Director of Music: *Mr Thomas Keogh* – 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

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:

Holy Cross Parish

£ 1,126.54
(Gift aided: £ 393.50)

Ss Peter & Paul Holyday

£ 421.56
(Gift aided: £39.00)

Woodhouse Community

£ 90.40
(Gift aided: £38.90)

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!*



THE SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

READINGS FOR THE 14TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

1ST READING ISAIAH 66:10-14

In this reading Isaiah prophesies the comforting of Jerusalem and her glorification after a time of severe trials. In the sacred scriptures Jerusalem not only means the earthly city, but is almost always an image of the heavenly city. Here they city is compared to a nursing mother, one of the sources for our image of "our holy mother the Church". Sacred Scripture ends with a beautiful vision of the heavenly Jerusalem in the book of Revelation.

2ND READING GALATIANS 6:14-18

St Paul always focuses on the centrality of the Cross. The Cross is now the central reality in our lives, and it transcends all cultural and ethnic differences. It has been suggested that the marks on his body which Paul talks about could be the stigmata. At the very least, they are the scars of the wounds he has sustained being beaten for professing the Crucified Christ. At 2 Cor 11:24 Paul says: "Five times I received from the Jewish leaders the forty lashes minus one."

GOSPEL READING LUKE 10:1-12, 17-20.

Jesus echoes the action Moses who appointed 70 elders to help guide the people of Israel in the desert. The Sanhedrin, the council of elders in the Jerusalem Temple, also had 70 members. Here Jesus is clearly indicating he intends to institute a new structure to serve the Gospel. There may also be a reference to the 70 nations apart from Israel listed in Genesis 10. Symbolically then, Jesus is instituting the ministry to the gentiles. Satan cannot halt the march of the Kingdom, and we can rejoice that our names are written in the book of life (Rev 13:8).

EXTRAORDINARY FORM (OP RITE) MASS READINGS, VII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EPISTLE ROMAN 6:19-23

St Paul forcefully reminds the Romans that sin can have damaging and dramatic consequences in our lives. If locked into a destructive and sinful way of life the only outcome can be spiritual death, which has an eternal duration. Eternal life is offered to us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

GOSPEL MATTHEW 7:15-21

Here our Lord teaches that we not only have to believe correctly, but we also have to try and conform our behaviour to God's will. The fruits we bear in our lives indicate the basic options we have taken. Following God's commandments helps us to flourish and bear good fruit for ourselves and others. We need to be attentive to our authentic pastors in the Church, rather than running after false messiahs.

NEXT SUNDAY –

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY *PER ANNUM*; EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (EF)

"BE INTENT ON PRAYER AND WHATEVER MAY HAPPEN WILL TURN TO OUR GOOD. CAST ALL YOUR CARES INTO THE ARMS OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE."

BLESSED EDMUND RICE

THE WORD AT WORK: OUR WEEKLY REFLECTION

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY (4): SHELTERING THE HOMELESS

The Twin Clarke team continue their series of reflections on the Corporal Works of Mercy in this Jubilee Year.

Behold, I stand at the door and knock (Rev 3:30)

These words, taken from the Book of Revelation, are rightly understood to refer to Jesus knocking at the door of our lives, waiting patiently for us to open and make Him welcome. We're warned against ignoring His knock or deliberately shutting Him out. But our lives may be too rowdy and busy for us to hear Him, or we may deliberately ignore His knock. We fear He would be too demanding and would be an inconvenient embarrassment. We've all heard sermons on these lines. Some of us have preached them. Afterwards we've probably resolved to make Jesus more welcome in our daily lives.

But let us remember that Jesus has made it very clear that He identifies with those in any kind of need. In other words, Jesus Himself identifies with the thousands of refugees and asylum seekers desperately fleeing their homeland, the run-away child, the tramp sleeping on the park bench. In them Jesus knocks on the doors of our lives, the doors of our affluent countries. In them Jesus begs for a home. In them Jesus begs to be made welcome. They need not just a roof over their heads, to protect them against the elements; they want the security of a place of their own, a place where they feel they belong, somewhere for them to have a decent quality of life. Most of us take all of this for granted for ourselves.

To be deaf to their plea for shelter, is to be deaf to these 'other Christs,' longing, needing to make their homes with us. In them we react to the same Jesus, who prayed that we would abide in Him and He in us. If we shut Him out from our lives He will shut us out from His. That's the clear, dire warning He gives at the end of chapter 25 of St. Matthew's Gospel.

In His own life on earth Jesus knew what it meant not to have a roof over His head. When there was no room at the inn He was born in a stable. Shortly afterwards, the Holy Family became refugees; they had to flee Herod's persecution and seek sanctuary in Egypt. In this they identified with all refugees. Speaking of His ministry as a wandering preacher Jesus said, ***"The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head"*** (Lk. 9:58).

That is the lot of so many thousands of homeless people today. Jesus identifies with each one of them. In each one of them He knocks and waits. Will we open up and give them a home? Will we make Jesus-in-them welcome?

As Individuals, we can't solve the heart-breaking problem of so many rootless, homeless people. But we can urge our national and local government to acts to provide them with homes. We can support and perhaps work with the various housing agencies and charities. But ideally, their homelands need to become sufficiently safe and prosperous, so that they can return, or better still, never need to leave.

But underlying our approach to the homeless must be the conviction that Jesus identifies with them in their need. Our attitude to them reflects our attitude to Him. If we shut them out, we shut Him out. In them Jesus appeals for our compassion. That should make us very uncomfortable!

Peter and Isidore Clarke O.P.