

HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH



SUNDAY 10 JULY 2016

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

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

FROM THE PRIOR'S DESK

I've spent most of the last week in Florence, Bologna, and Siena, on pilgrimage with about twenty people, visiting some of the sites from the early days of our Order. The great saints like Dominic and Catherine are complemented by the achievements of others – Fra Angelico, Antoninus, Savonarola. In 800 years, the Order has made such a contribution.

As I mentioned last week, on Sunday last I remembered you all at Mass on St Dominic's Altar at his tomb in Bologna. That same day, at the same time, the Dominican Community in Limerick, where my Dominican life began in 2002, celebrated Mass in their priory church for the last time, ending centuries of our presence in Limerick. The next day, it was announced that the care of the parishes we serve in Glasgow and Durham will be returned to diocesan clergy, while consideration is given to withdrawal from Newcastle. These are not the kind of decisions we want to make, and most especially not in this Jubilee Year.

But over the course of this weekend, 10 men are expected to be ordained as Dominican Priests in these neighbouring islands of ours, 8 in Ireland and 2 in England. This is a source of great joy, and please God our restructuring will enable us to enrich our way of living out our Dominican calling.

Here at Holy Cross, we are planning for the future, and seeking to develop and strengthen our Dominican presence in Leicester. Our preparations for the Holy Cross Assembly are of vital importance. Of course, we build On Firm Foundations, but we must realise that the future of our presence here is something we must work for now, together.

I know I speak for the whole of the Holy Cross Family when I say that we send our love and prayers to our Dominican Communities in Glasgow and Durham, and to the people they serve, at this time of sadness for them. We also pray for our new Dominican Priests, and ask the Lord to bless and sustain them in their service, encouraging their brothers.

Let's pray that God, the Father of mercies, will renew within the Church as we celebrate this jubilee, the spirit of the Risen Christ, that we might faithfully and joyfully walk with St Dominic as pilgrims and preachers of grace.

Fr David



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

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!

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 this **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 this **Monday 11 July at 7:30pm** in the Hall. **All those involved in parish ministry with children and vulnerable adults should attend.**

END OF TERM

Our schools have closed for the summer, and graduations begin this week at our Universities. We give thanks for everything that has been achieved over the past academic year, and we look forward in hope to the new term. We wish those who are leaving every blessing. As we all take our holiday time, let's all remain safe and well, and ask God to prepare our hearts to welcome new people and fresh challenges in the year that will come.

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**

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For more details, visit: www.holycrossleicester.org

Holy Cross is part of the English Province of the Order of Preachers.
Registered Charity No 231192 in England and Wales. SC039062 in Scotland

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

£ 913.25
(Gift aided: £ 330.70)

Second collection for Priory Fabric

£311.95

Woodhouse Community

£ 144.50
(Gift aided: £110.20)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!**



THE SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

READINGS FOR THE 15TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

1ST READING DEUTERONOMY 30:10-14

Moses reassures the people that God's Law is not beyond them. Because God writes the laws in our hearts, it is part of our very nature. We need God's help to understand it sometimes, because we are fallen. However, "the Word is very near you." Here Moses is speaking prophetically of the coming of Christ in the Incarnation

2ND READING COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

St Paul gives a beautiful summary of doctrine about the Incarnation. He includes Christ's eternal nature as God, his Incarnation, Passion, Death and Resurrection. From these great realities springs the Church, which is Christ's body.

GOSPEL READING LUKE 10:25-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan challenges us to consider who is our neighbour. However, it has a wider and deeper meaning. It is an allegory of our Fall and Redemption. The human race is the man lying half dead at the side of the road. Christ is our Good Samaritan, who picks us up, treats our wounds with the sacraments (symbolised by oil and wine), and places us in the inn, which is his Church. Christ pays the price for us, through his divinity and humanity, the two coins. The coins also symbolize the old and New Covenants.

DOMINICAN RITE MASS, VIII SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EPISTLE ROMAN 8:12-17

Paul reminds the Romans that they have received the Holy Spirit, who dwells within us and makes us the adopted children of God. The Spirit gives us the grace to confess the Blessed Trinity, and to become heirs to the Kingdom.

GOSPEL LUKE 16:1-9

The parable reminds us that one day we will have to give an account of our stewardship of the greater gifts that God has given us. Our Lord gives an ironic portrait of a rather shifty steward who uses his wiles to get out of a scrape. If the children of this world can be diligent in their cause, what about the children of light in God's cause?

NEXT SUNDAY –

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY *PER ANNUM*; NINTH 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

5TH CORPORAL WORK OF MERCY: SHELTERING THE HOMELESS

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

Mt. 25 **"I was sick and you visited me."** Never shall I forget the day I visited a young woman who was confined to her bed, paralysed. Young boys were enjoying themselves playing football on the pasture beside her board-and-shingle home. As I entered her bedroom I was bowled over by what I saw. Her small son was sitting by her bed – holding her hand. Not a word passed between them. There I saw an intensity of love that defied description. Words were superfluous as the little boy chose to comfort her, rather than play football with his friends.

Many a time Jesus put Himself out to be available to the sick. They sensed the compassion with which He gave so much of Himself to caring for them. As His disciples, we must make caring for the sick and distressed a priority in our pastoral ministry. Jesus Himself wanted, needed the support of loving companions during His Agony in the Garden and suffering on the cross. What He wanted them to do for Him He now wants us to do for the sick in our midst. We are to follow the example of that little boy who had to be at the bedside of his mother. His loving concern must have been such a healing consolation to her!

Jesus wants us to realise He could see Himself in the person of that sick mother in the small house in the tropical island of Grenada. ***'I was sick and you visited me, you came to see me... "Lord, When did we find you sick and go to see you?...In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me" (Matt. 25).*** Jesus must have loved that little boy, so very, very much!

St. James' Letter gives a greater richness and a profound spirituality to visiting the sick, ***'Anyone of you who is ill should send for the elders of the church, and they must anoint the sick person with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him. The prayer of faith will save the sick person and the Lord will raise him up again; and if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.'*** (James 5).

Through this Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, Jesus helps the seriously sick to enjoy serenity in looking forward to eventually meeting Him face to face in Heaven. Sometimes this Sacrament does cure their sickness, while at other times it enables them find peace and purpose in identifying with the crucified Christ and in sharing in His work of salvation.

The priest must be called once it is known that someone is gravely ill, though not necessarily dying. They have the right to receive the Sacraments of the Anointing of the Sick, Reconciliation, and, above all, Holy Communion. Also, those Catholics who are confined to their homes have the right to be regularly visited and have Holy Communion brought to them. It is the duty of the local Church to ensure that the sick and frail are not neglected –that through pastoral visits they are given a sense of belonging to the active worshipping community. Many a time have the family and friends gathered around the bed told me how much they have been comforted and consoled as they have shared in the loving prayers the Church has offered for their ailing, perhaps dying, loved ones. Especially during this Jubilee Year of Mercy let us all show Christ's love and compassion for the frail and sick.

Peter and Isidore Clarke O.P.