



THE SCRIPTURES THIS WEEK

READINGS FOR THE 28TH SUNDAY

1ST READING: KINGS 5:14-17

In this beautiful incident from the Old Testament, Elisha the great prophet, cures Naaman the Syrian. The effect of this, as well as the healing of Naaman's body, is the turning of his mind and heart to the one true God of Israel. There is Spiritual health created, as well as physical.

2ND READING: TIMOTHY 2:8-13

The baptism theme is continued: if we die sacramentally with Christ in Baptism, then we shall be resurrected to reign with him in glory. Baptism is the first sign and instrument of our election, but we must be careful not to lose the relationship set up by it; "If we disown him, he will disown us."

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 17:11-19

Reflecting the first reading, the anonymous Samaritan is the only one who returns to thank Our Lord for his miraculous healing. Our Lord's gift of physical healing also brought him the greater gift of faith. Note how Jesus insists that they show themselves to the priests; no religious radicalism there then.

DOMINICAN RITE MASS: XXI SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EPISTLE: EPHESIANS: 6:10-17

St Paul reminds us that there are spiritual realities which are opposed to the Kingdom of God. We are all called by the Our Lord to participate in this spiritual warfare, knowing that with him as our King, we can be victorious.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:23-35

"Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." This parable graphically illustrates the petition of the Our Father. There is also a brief reference to Purgatory in the closing verses.

NEXT SUNDAY –

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY *PER ANNUM*; TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (EF)

*I have found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts,
there can be no more hurt, only more love.*

St Teresa of Calcutta

The Jubilee Prayer

God, Father of mercy, who called your servant St Dominic 800 years ago to found the Order of Preachers in the service of your Gospel, 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. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WORD AT WORK: OUR WEEKLY REFLECTION

3RD SPIRITUAL WORK OF MERCY – ADMONISHING THE SINNER

Our Twin Clarke Team return for their series on the Spiritual Works of Mercy as the Jubilee Year draws to a close. This series will be interspersed with reflections from Fr Greg on some of the Dominican Mystics.

Most of us hate having to correct someone. We fear that will create resentment and tension for the sake of a peace we're tempted to keep quiet.

But to fail to admonish the sinner (the 3rd Spiritual Work of Mercy) would show a serious lack of love and concern for the eternal salvation of one of God's children, for our brother or sister in Christ. Love demands that we should protect them from ruining their lives, when a timely warning could save them. St. James' letter tells us, "... **he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins,**" (James. 5. 20).

To avoiding confrontation for the sake of peace can be a sign of not really caring for those we claim to love. With every good parent we have to admit that the 'tough love' of admonishing the wrong-doer is difficult and painful for everyone. God knows we need to pray for prudence in giving advice; we also need to ask the Holy Spirit to touch the minds and hearts of those we are trying to help.

For me the best approach to correcting the sinner is to be found first in Jesus' graphic image of removing the plank and the splinter from someone's eye. Here He condemns our eagerness to correct other people's minor faults, especially when we are blind to our own major sins, (cf. Matt.7. 3-5).

So, before pointing out other people's lesser faults we must first recognise and correct our own greater ones. As we correct the sinner we must show him the same understanding and compassion as we hope to receive from God and those we have offended. That's very important for us priests when hearing confession.

Next, In the story of the woman taken in adultery Jesus shows the compassion we need when correcting the sinner, (cf. Jn. 8. 2-11). Instead of condemning her to death, as the Law required, He challenged any of her accusers, who was without sin, to cast the first stone. As He began to write in the dust, presumably a list of their sins, they all slipped away. Jesus then told the woman that He, too, would not condemn her. Not that He denied her sin, but in sparing her life and telling her to go and sin no more, He gave her the chance to make a fresh start. That's real compassionate, healing 'tough love!'

That's what this Spiritual Work of Admonishing the Sinner is all about. And that's the point St. Paul makes in his 2nd Letter to the Corinthians. After realising the difficulties and dangers in trying to correct the Corinthians, he concludes, "**I am writing these things which the lord gave me FOR BUILDING UP AND NOT FOR TEARING DOWN,**" (2 Cor. 13. 10.)

Peter and Isidore Clarke O.P.



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER 2016

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

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

FROM THE PRIOR'S DESK

It has been a busy few weeks, and everyone is beginning to look towards half-term. This is always an important milestone – much work has been accomplished, and that helps us to see what else we can do to improve things further. Resting at half-term is an opportunity to build on what has been started, and grow further.

It is just one more week until our Assembly, and the final preparations are beginning to be in place. The Assembly is also an opportunity to develop things further. When we look at everything that is accomplished by our community, it is rather impressive! The Assembly is a moment to reflect on that and to bring it forward. As it was once said, a lot done, more to do!

Grateful thanks to all those who have filled in the questionnaires. They are very helpful for us as we begin this new process of reflection on our Dominican life and ministry here at Holy Cross. I very much hope that we will be able to continue to listen to one another, and develop our ideas together, as we move forward and enter our third century here at Holy Cross.

This week in particular we remember some members of our parish community who are often forgotten. The prisoners celebrate Mass with Fr Robert each Wednesday and Thursday, and I hope that many of us will be willing to get involved in whatever way we can with Fr Robert's work there.

We wish a safe journey to all those who will be away for half term next Sunday. See you all at the Assembly!

Fr David

DEVOTION TO THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

Our **Living Rosary** Initiative is planned make the Rosary a greater part of our personal prayer, our family life, and our prayer as a community. *Please see the documents that explain how the Living Rosary works.* We also hope that many of you will join us on our **Rosary Pilgrimage to St Dominic's Priory in London, on Saturday 22 October.** The coach will leave the Priory here at 8am and the cost will be £15. On this occasion, **Cardinal Nichols** will institute our Priory there as a **Shrine to Our Lady of the Rosary.** Please place your names in the shop if you wish to join us for this wonderful and historic pilgrimage. We hope to establish the first decades in October.

NOTICE BOARD

BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to have your child baptised, please attend one of our baptism preparation sessions. The next is Sunday 2 October, 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



IUBILÆUM 800 1216-2016
ORDO PRÆDICATORUM

HOLY CROSS ASSEMBLY AND QUESTIONNAIRE

The Holy Cross Assembly is almost upon us! It takes place **next Saturday 15th October 2016, beginning with Mass at 10am**. Everyone is **warmly invited** to attend this important event. The Assembly is an opportunity to gather together as a community to discuss how we do things 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 community - we would very much like to hear your views and ideas.

CATHOLICISM 101 – A NEW PROGRAMME STARTING SOON

Using Bishop Barron's stunning series Catholicism, exploring our Catholic Faith, he journeys through many countries using art and the living Faith of Catholics, to help us discover the full meaning of our Faith. We will be using our beautifully refurbished St Clement's Hall to watch these films **each Thursday at 7pm**, beginning with a pizza, beginning on 13 October. Please take and share the flyers.

THINGS TO NOTE

- The Trustees of St Philip's Centre want a new member in June. Sheila Brucciani has the details.
- Italian Mass, once a month – this Friday, 14 October is the first one. Please see Fr Robert.

FR GREG – MOVING ON

This week we have learned that Fr Greg will leave us in Advent this year. The Bishop of Dunkeld in Scotland has asked Fr Greg to take up a new ministry in his native city, and Fr Provincial has agreed. Fr Greg has done great work in Leicester for more than five years, and particularly in our prisons and hospitals. He will be missed, but we will have opportunity to show him our gratitude.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR PRISONERS 9 – 15 OCTOBER

This takes place this week, and at our 10:30am Mass, Fr Robert, our new Prison Chaplain, will take his Oath of Office. The Second Collection will be for Prison Chaplaincy here in Leicester, and there will be opportunities to reflect on how we can all get involved with Fr Robert's work in different ways.

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 255 385

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:

£ 1008.91

(Gift aided: £ 423.24)

Woodhouse

£ 150.15

(Gift aided: £ 121.00)

Last week's second collection for the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham came to £153.06

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!