

The Triduum

THE Holy Triduum (Latin for 'three days') is the three day period beginning on Maundy Thursday and ending on Easter Sunday night. Even before the Triduum, Lent has been pruning us, in preparation to enter the tomb of Christ, and share the joy of His resurrection. Three weeks before Lent, on Septuagesima, we stop saying 'Alleluia'. Music and flowers go from Ash Wednesday. From Passion Sunday all the statues and images are veiled. By Maundy Thursday night, the bells are silenced, and the Gloria is not sung anymore.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper (not 'Last Supper'!) begins our liturgy for the Triduum. We re-enact Jesus washing the feet of the twelve apostles, using - as the rubrics direct us - twelve men (this is a *re-enactment* after all). Then at the end of Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is reposed in the Lady chapel, and watching begins: '*Could you not watch with Me even one hour?*' The Mass does not end with a dismissal or conclusion. In fact, it simply does not end.

We see this on Good Friday, when the Liturgy of the Passion begins without a beginning, and ends without an ending; it continues the liturgy which had begun the night before. By now the altars have been stripped, and the tabernacle left empty, open, and uncovered. The crosses are the only things unveiled, and we genuflect to the Cross instead (the Blessed Sacrament not being in the tabernacle). This is a day of desolation – the only day of the year when even Mass is not celebrated! (Don't worry, there's still Communion though, consecrated the night before).

Then when all is dark, and everything is stripped from us (liturgically), the Easter Vigil begins (without a real beginning, because it continues the liturgy on Good Friday). It begins with a flame, which spreads and lights up the whole church. By candlelight we hear the ancient song, the *Exsultet*, proclaiming that Christ is risen on this night. The readings take us through salvation history, that everything is pointing to this moment on the first Easter. Then, at the *Gloria*, the bells are rung again, and music begins once again on the organ. This is liturgy at its most significant and powerful: communicating to us in the power of signs and symbols the great saving mysteries of our Faith. We re-enact the original Triduum of Christ's life, to share in the power of His passion and death, in the hope of the glory of His resurrection.

May your Triduum be blessed. Don't forget *Tenebrae* at 9am every morning of the Triduum: 1st, 2nd and 3rd April.

Fr Leon Pereira, O.P.

The Newsletter of
HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER
Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247



Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
6:00pm Vigil	Fr Duncan	Holy Souls	Next week at 8pm → Fr Leon
8:00am	Fr Isidore	Denis Connolly, RIP	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Fabian	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Duncan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Thomas	Holy Souls of Auschwitz & Treblinka	Fr Leon
12:30pm Old rite	Fr Leon	Holy Souls	Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	— —	No Mass now until next term	— —
7:00pm	Fr Fabian	Alistair Furey & Camilla Beckett thanksgiving	Fr Fabian

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	27 March	Confessions	3 April
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Leon	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Thomas
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	Fr Fabian	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr Duncan

DURING LENT: Confessions also on Sundays from 6:40 to 7:00pm (Fr Isidore this week)

SERVICE TIMES FOR HOLY WEEK AND THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM are all given on a sheet available by the doors. Please take as many as you need, and please do not ring the Priory asking about service times...
PLEASE NOTE the extra opportunities for Confession, and please do consider coming to *Tenebrae* at 9am on the three days of the Triduum.

Entrance Antiphon:	<u>At 11:00</u> – The children of Jerusalem welcomed Christ the King. They proclaimed the resurrection of life, and, waving olive branches, they loudly praised the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. When the people heard that Jesus was entering Jerusalem, they went to meet him and, waving olive branches they loudly praised the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. <u>Otherwise</u> – Six days before the solemn passover the Lord came to Jerusalem, and children waving palm branches ran out to welcome him. They loudly praised the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are you who have come to us so rich in love and mercy.
1st Reading:	Isaiah 50: 4-7
Psalm Response:	My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Ps 22)
2nd Reading:	Philippians 2: 6-11
Gradual (at 11:00) or Verse before Gospel:	Glory and praise to you, O Christ. ☩ Christ became obedient for us unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him: and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.
Gospel:	Luke 22:14 - 23:56
Communion Antiphon:	Father, if this cup may not pass, but I must drink it, then your will be done.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections – Offertory Collection £1216.09; SVP £9.40; Friends of Holy Cross £14.94; Holy Souls £6.72; Grenada Church Restoration £17.08. We have received with thanks a grant of £500 from the Leicester and Leicestershire Historic Churches Preservation Trust. This has been added to the McNabb Appeal for parish funds which now stands at £7745.01.

This week there is a retiring collection for Easter flowers for the church, and on Good Friday there will be the usual collection for the Holy Places of Palestine.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Pope Benedict's Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Ireland regarding the abuse of children and vulnerable young people. The full text of the letter may be downloaded from <http://www.catholicbishops.ie/>, the website of the Irish Bishops, and there are two reference copies on the tables near the entrances.

Holy Cross Country Walk. Easter Monday 5th April. Please join us for a springtime walk around beautiful Leicestershire countryside. Meet at Hungarton village church at 1.45pm for a 5 mile circular walk (approx 2 hours) across rolling fields. For more details or if you need a lift to Hungarton please contact Liz and Tony Scarborough tel 270 7953.

Churches Together in Leicester City Centre will meet at the Central Baptist Church, Charles Street, at 12:30pm on Thursday. All are welcome.

Are you looking for a piano? Look no further! We wish to dispose of the piano which is currently stored in the alcove by St Helena's altar (on the New Walk side of the church). No offer will be refused. See Fr Leon.

Independent Funeral Directors. A parishioner of St Thomas More has established the Aylestone & District independent funeral service. Information from Annie Gosling on 283 2500 or at 753 Aylestone Road, LE2 8TG.

Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Stone, and an illustrated talk on the Rosary by Fr Richard Conrad, OP. Saturday 29 May from 10am to 5pm. Details from Sr Angela Mary Leydon OP at St Dominic's Convent, Stone – see noticeboard.

An important one-day conference on Medical and Moral Issues around the end of life is taking place at London Metropolitan University on Monday 29 March. For more information, see the University website or contact Fr Thomas.

Please join us in the Parish Hall after the 9:30am and 11:00am Sunday Masses for tea, coffee, fruit-juice etc. There is the opportunity for a chat with members of the Dominican Community and with parishioners. We particularly welcome newly-arrived students and other visitors to our Parish.



Today's Gospel: Ride on, ride on in majesty.

Year II	The week ahead...	Psalter Week 2
<p>HOLY WEEK has as its purpose the remembrance of Christ's passion, beginning with his Messianic entrance into Jerusalem; there will be STATIONS OF THE CROSS on Wednesday (at 1pm), and CONFESSIONS on Sunday from 6:40 to 7:00pm (Fr Isidore this week). Also there will be Confessions heard every day this week at the times given on the Holy Week leaflet.</p>		
Monday:	Monday of Holy Week	
Tuesday:	Tuesday of Holy Week	
Wednesday:	Wednesday of Holy Week	
Thursday:	MAUNDY THURSDAY	
Friday:	GOOD FRIDAY: THE PASSION OF THE LORD. <i>Day of fasting and abstinence.</i>	
Saturday:	HOLY SATURDAY: EASTER VIGIL THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD	
<p>WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. Holy Mass will be offered in the older form from Monday to Wednesday at 8:30am.</p>		
Next Sunday – Easter Sunday. Readings:		
Acts 10: 34.37-43	Colossians 3: 1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5: 6-8	John 20: 1-9 or Luke 24: 13-35

OUR DEANERY LENTEN PROGRAMME concludes with the Mass of the Holy Oils at the Cathedral on Wednesday, at 11.30am.

Christ at the Centre. The organisers of the Good Friday drama in the city centre have been asking for volunteers to take on non-speaking roles or to be stewards, and they seek donations. Please contact Vic Allsop of Churches Together in Leicestershire on cedo@ctil.org.uk or 01664 434697, or see Fr Duncan.

The British Red Cross remains in urgent need of food donations to respond to the emergency needs of destitute asylum seekers in Leicester. To help, please leave your gifts after any Mass – non perishable goods such as tinned and dried foods are also mostly wanted. A full list of items may be seen on the noticeboard and in the Newsletter (14 March) on the website given for past Newsletters. Please keep giving generously to support these vulnerable people. Thank you.

Forthcoming events for your diary	
Sat 24 Apr	Karaoke evening, 7pm
Fri 7 May	2010 <i>Spes Unica</i> Lecture. Professor Luke Gormally, Senior Research Fellow at the Linacre Centre & Member of the Pontifical Academy for Life on 'Sex and the City: Chastity as a Social Virtue', 7:30pm, Blackfriars' Hall
Sat 8 May	BLACKFRIARS MARKET – NOTE THE DATE NOW!
Sat 15 May	'Day for the Year of the Priesthood', with the artist and writer Elizabeth Wang, and Fr Richard Duffield, Provost of the Birmingham Oratory.
Sat 15 May	Absolute beginners' Cha-cha, 7pm

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS
8.00 Lauds
10.00 Mass
12.30 Mass
17.45 Vespers
Old Rite Masses as announced.
Church is open from 8.00 - 18.00
WEDNESDAYS
10.30 Exposition until 12.30
11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & Benediction
SATURDAYS
9.00 Lauds
10.00 Mass
10.30 Novena to Our Lady
10.30 Confessions until 11.30
12.30 Mass
17.00 Confessions until 18.00
17.45 Vespers
18.00 Vigil Mass for Sunday
Old Rite Masses as announced.
HOLIDAYS
18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass
8.00 Lauds
10.00 Mass
12.30 Mass
17.45 Vespers
19.00 Mass
BANK HOLIDAYS (& MON TO FRI AROUND XTMAS & NEW YEAR)
8.00 Lauds
12.30 Mass, after which the church is closed
SUNDAYS
8.00 Mass
9.00 Lauds
9.30 Mass (Family)
11.00 Mass (Solemn: Latin on 2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Sundays)
12.30 Mass (Old rite in Latin)
17.00 Mass (for Students, term time only)
17.45 Vespers
18.00 Rosary
18.20 Sung Latin Compline
18.40 Benediction
19.00 Mass
Leicester Royal Infirmary Catholic Chaplaincy: For urgent visits, ask ward staff to bleep the Roman Catholic Chaplain. For non-urgent visits leave message at the Priory or the LRI Chaplains' Office. Messages may not be picked up until the end of the day.
Website for past Newsletters: holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk
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