

## Pope Benedict in Britain

If you're reading this, it is most likely that (1) there's a homily going on which you should be paying attention to, and (2) Pope Benedict has already arrived in Britain. Now that his visit is upon us, the atmosphere is changing. I'm delighted by the number of queries and good wishes reaching me. So many non-Catholics have been asking how to get tickets for papal events. Even at the supermarket, complete strangers are asking about the Pope and how to see him, including the lady at the meat-counter at Asda. How wonderful the openness that people are showing to him!

It is an honour to have a Pope who is extremely intelligent and charitable, speaks six languages fluently, preaches about having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and wages war against relativism and secularism. A shepherd of souls for over 55 years, he plays the piano, can read the Bible in the original Greek and Hebrew, and can easily bring together one million young people on a Sunday morning. The Pope now regularly draws more people at his weekly Angelus than John Paul II ever did.

And this is from a man who has been portrayed as 'Rottweiler' and 'Panzerkardinal' – all racist terms of course (imagine if he'd been brown and people called him 'Paki Pope'). Most people who dislike him invariably don't know a thing about him, nor have read his writings. All you have to do is listen to his alleged 'enemies', the people he had to discipline when he was still a Cardinal, and they will tell you what an honest, good, decent, charitable and fair man he is. And they will not have a word said against him.

Pope Benedict is a man with an undying commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. His book 'Jesus of Nazareth' is astonishing; it shows not only his deep humility, but also allows us a glimpse into his personal faith and devotion to Our Lord. The Pope is not afraid to speak the truth with love, even if it upsets certain individuals. On Good Friday, 2005, he said, "Evil draws its strength from indecision and the fear of what other people think." As a preacher of the Gospel I have often meditated on these words, especially in the darkest moments. It would be so easy to tell people what they want to hear, to allow them to continue in a state of 'unevangelized comfortableness', but that is not our apostolate. Jesus stirred people up, and they hated Him for it. We, His disciples, should expect nothing less. Earlier this year, the Pope said to the English bishops:

• If the full saving message of Christ is to be presented effectively and convincingly to the world, the Catholic community in your country **needs to speak with a united voice**.

• In a social milieu that encourages the expression of a variety of opinions on every question that arises, **it is important to recognise dissent for what it is, and not to mistake it for a mature contribution to a balanced and wide-ranging debate**. It is the truth revealed through Scripture and Tradition and articulated by the Church's Magisterium that sets us free.

• **I would ask you to be generous in implementing the provisions of the Apostolic Constitution *Anglicanorum Coetibus***, so as to assist those groups of Anglicans who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. I am convinced that, if given a warm and open-hearted welcome, **such groups will be a blessing for the entire Church**.

Fr Leon Pereira OP

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

19 September 2010

### The Newsletter of **HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER**

*Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247*



<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	I am the Saviour of the people, says the Lord. Whatever their troubles, I will answer their cry, and I will always be their Lord.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	Amos 8: 4-7
<b>Psalm 113:</b>	<b>Praise the Lord, who raises the poor from the dust. (Ps 113)</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	1 Timothy 2: 1-8
<b>Alleluia:</b>	<u>At 11:00</u> – Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. <u>Otherwise</u> – Though Jesus Christ was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.
<b>Gospel:</b>	Luke 16: 1-13
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	<u>Either</u> – You have laid down your precepts to be faithfully kept. May my footsteps be firm in keeping your commands. <u>Or (but not at 11.00)</u> – I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord, I know my sheep, and mine know me.

**Putting the Record Straight.** Please pick up a copy of the yellow leaflet which will give you ammunition when it comes to defending the Church and the pope against many of the accusations currently being made against them.

**Late Summer Ball** – This event is now sold out, so thanks to all who have bought or reserved tickets. We cannot allow entry without a ticket. Sorry to be so ruthless but our caterers have an exact number to work to. If you do not have a ticket, how about coming to our X Factor event instead? (See below).

**Holy X Factor** – Come and see some of Holy Cross Parish's finest singers in action and cast your vote for the very best! A great evening of entertainment and fine food, with the bar open too. Saturday October 30 from 7pm. Tickets only £5 – family tickets and concessions available. For further detail contact Jeff on 0116 243 1289.

**Calling All Singers** – If you would like to compete at the Holy X Factor event please pick up a form from the Wellington Street entrance or contact Jeff on 0116 243 1289.

**Holy Cross Social Group** – We are having our first meeting soon. We would love to welcome representatives from the vigil, 8am, student and 7pm Masses. Please contact Jeff on 0116 243 1289 or find us on Facebook.

**McNabb Appeal:** we are in need of prizes to raffle at the Summer Ball (all proceeds to church developments). It would be a great help if you could donate cash (envelopes available from the Wellington Street entrance), a good-quality bottle of whisky, or any fairtrade items (wine, chocolates, etc). Please pass items to any of the friars. Thank you.

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last Weekend's collections – Figures are not available yet (the Newsletter has had to go to press early).

Next week there is a retiring collection for the Dominican priests' training fund.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Have you considered joining the Parish 200 Club? It costs just £5 a month, and prizes of £150, £100 and £50 are paid out monthly. All proceeds go to the upkeep of the church. Membership forms are available by the doors of the church.

If you enjoy singing and would like to meet people and have some fun, then the **HOLY CROSS GOSPEL CHOIR** would like you to join them at their weekly workshop. **NEWCOMERS AND BEGINNERS ALWAYS VERY WELCOME.** Details from Jeff 0116 243 1289 or find us on Facebook!



A **Newman symposium** will be held on Saturday 25 September, from 10am to 5pm at St. Dominic's convent in Stone. Tea & coffee will be provided but please bring a picnic lunch. For more information contact [angelaleydon@btinternet.com](mailto:angelaleydon@btinternet.com).

The parable of the unjust steward: "Use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity."

**Forthcoming events for your diary**

Sat 25 Sep	Late Summer Ball – raising funds for the McNabb appeal (Ticket-holders only)
Sat 16 Oct	FACT session for young Catholics (18-35), 7pm
Sat 30 Oct	All Saints' Holy X Factor – a karaoke with a difference, 7pm

**Grenada church rebuilding: new photographs on display in the church.** As the latest pictures show this is almost complete and the church will be consecrated on 7th October. Fr Peter Clarke reports that they still need £100,000 in order to complete the project, which will include for new benches, statues, etc. The Grenada community and the English Dominican Province is deeply grateful for your generosity. The brethren ask you to continue to help them pay off the debt. To express their appreciation they are saying a monthly Mass for all their benefactors.

The **St Vincent de Paul Society** in England and Wales has around 10,000 members who, last year, made over 550,000 visits to those in need. **September is SVP Awareness Month** and the theme this year is "Holding their hopes in our hands". There are posters on the noticeboards. Finding, loving and serving God in our communities is fundamental to the Society's work. The SVP is always in need of new members to carry out this work, so if you would like to find out more, please contact Rosi Leivas at [rosi.leivas@o2.co.uk](mailto:rosi.leivas@o2.co.uk) or on 07542 904154 or visit [www.svp.org.uk](http://www.svp.org.uk). You can telephone National Office on 020 7407 4644 or email [info@svp.org.uk](mailto:info@svp.org.uk). The Holy Cross SVP Conference is reviewing its needs, and if you have suggestions and can help, please do make contact. Please also see the flyer enclosed with this Newsletter.

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 updated list of items may be seen on the noticeboard and in the Newsletter (29 August) on the website given for past Newsletters. Please keep giving generously to support these vulnerable people. Thank you.

Year II	This week's calendar & Mass Intentions	Psalter Week 1
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Duncan, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Leon	
Sunday	<b>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday per annum. Home Mission Day. Prayers are recommended for the spread of the Gospel in our own country.</b>	
Vigil	18.00 Virginia & Greg Polkey (wedding anniversary) 8.00 ✠ Florence, Caroline & Sarah Athaide	
Family	9.30 His Holiness Benedict XVI	
Solemn	11.00 His Holiness Benedict XVI	
OP Rite	12.30 David & Gloria Roberts	
Students	17.00 <b>No Mass now until next term</b> 19.00 <i>Pro populo</i>	
Monday	<b>Ss Andrew Kim, Paul Chong and companions</b> 10.00 John Paul Cooper 12.30 Thomas Bartlett	
Tuesday	<b>ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST</b> 10.00 ✠ Dead of the Order of Preachers 12.30 ✠ Carlito & Carlota de Silva	
Wednesday	<b>Feria</b> 10.00 Matthias Patrick Fong 12.30 Sophie & Ian Angrave	
Thursday	<b>St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest, religious</b> 10.00 Family welfare 12.30 ✠ Ina Healy	
Friday	<b>Our Lady of Walsingham</b> 10.00 Mary Reilly (sick) 12.30 ✠ Deceased friend	
Saturday	<b>Feria</b> 10.00 Pat Lucey's intentions 12.30 ✠ Jazcf Lubek	
Confessions	10.30 to 11.30 Fr Thomas, and 17.00 to 18.00 Fr Peter	
<b>WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN.</b> Holy Mass will be offered in the older form from Monday to Saturday at 8am		
<b>Next Sunday – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday per annum. Harvest Sunday. Prayers are recommended for the harvest, all fruits of human work, and the reverent use of creation. Readings:</b>		
Amos 6: 1.4-7	1 Timothy 6: 11-16	Luke 16: 19-31

**Ratcliffe College** is having an Open Morning on Saturday 9 October from 10am to 12 noon. For details see noticeboard. Scholarships and Bursaries are available for the September 2011 entry – details from the school.

**St Paul's School, Spencefield Lane,** is having an Open Evening on Thursday 30 September from 6pm to 8pm. See noticeboard, and details from the school office on 241 4057.

"Why should we believe in God in the world today?" Are you 18-35 and ever asked this question? Or has someone asked you and you've struggled to answer? If yes, why not come along to the first FACT session at Holy Cross, on **Saturday 16 October** from 7pm to 9pm. FACT is specially for young Catholics (18-35) and aims to give you the chance to learn more about your faith ... and get the skills to speak up for it. There'll be food and good company so why not give it a go? For more information contact Chris on 07817 805836 or look out for the postcards which we'll soon have available at the back of the church.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
<b>MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS</b> 7.30 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers Old Rite Masses as announced. Church is open from 7.30 - 18.00
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> 10.30 Exposition until 12.30 11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & Benediction
<b>SATURDAYS</b> 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.
<b>HOLIDAYS</b> 18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass 7.30 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers 19.00 Mass
<b>BANK HOLIDAYS (&amp; MON TO FRI AROUND XMAS &amp; NEW YEAR)</b> 7.30 Lauds 12.30 Mass, after which the church is closed
<b>SUNDAYS</b> 8.00 Mass 9.00 Lauds 9.30 Mass (Family) 11.00 Mass (Solemn: Latin on 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Leicester Royal Infirmary Catholic Chaplaincy:</b> 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.
<b>Website for past Newsletters:</b> <a href="http://holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk">holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk</a> <b>Tweets:</b> <a href="https://twitter.com/holycross_leic">twitter.com/holycross_leic</a>
<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b> Holy Cross Priory 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW Priory phone: (0116) 255 3856 For home visits: 255 3856 Fax/recorded times of services: 255 5552 Parish Priest: Fr Leon Pereira: 252 1501 <a href="mailto:leicester@english.op.org">leicester@english.op.org</a>