

Today Salvation has Come

No generation has ever enjoyed the huge variety of experiences that we enjoy today. Our shops are filled with products from all around the world; we travel more widely than ever before, and through the media sights and sounds are brought to us that previous generations could only imagine. But for all this are we really satisfied? We prize freedom, and have freedoms to do things that still remain out of reach for most of the world's peoples, but is this true freedom? As our freedoms increase many of us feel increasingly trapped, unable to escape from the relentless cycle of consumption.

In today's Gospel (Luke 19: 1-10) we encounter one of the super rich of Jesus' time: the tax collector Zacchaeus. Here is a man who through his wealth enjoyed freedoms and privileges others could only dream of. Although on the one hand he was a hated collaborator with the Romans, the people must have envied his wealth and perhaps deferred to him because of the authority wealth can provide.

Famously Zacchaeus is too short to see Jesus and climbs a sycamore tree to gain a glimpse of the Lord. His physical lack of size matches his spiritual smallness. Although Zacchaeus appears to be the man who has it all, his preoccupation with making money has stunted his spiritual growth. The freedoms he enjoys do not free him, but imprison him in a narrow world where wealth has become his idol, and his vision has been reduced to the measure of money.

Zacchaeus is anxious to see what kind of a man Jesus is. We are not given a great insight into why Zacchaeus is interested in Jesus, but his interest is such that he is willing to climb a tree just to catch a glimpse of the Lord.

This one sight of Jesus is enough to change Zacchaeus' life for ever. Before his encounter with Jesus, Zacchaeus cannot see through the crowds, just as his spiritual shortness prevents him from seeing through the shallowness of his life. He cannot raise himself above the crowds by his own height, but needs to climb a tree. In the same way he cannot escape the emptiness of his own life, but needs to be raised by the love and compassion of Jesus Christ.

The good things of this world can crowd in upon us and prevent us from seeing through the emptiness of our own lives. For all the richness of the experiences we have, often they mean little to us, because our spiritual shortness prevents us from truly enjoying them. The super rich of this world, for all their apparent freedoms and privileges, are often little better (or perhaps worse!) than Zacchaeus. Yet Christ calls to each one of us and offers the hope that 'Today salvation has come to his house'. May we be ready to welcome him as Zacchaeus welcomed him in his home.

David Goodill OP

30th Sunday of the Year

Year C

28 October 2007

The Newsletter of HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER

Served by the Dominican Order: website <http://www.torch.op.org>



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Priory phone: (0116) 255 3856 Fax/recorded times of services: 255 5552

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Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
7:30pm Vigil	Fr Leon	Special Intention	Fr Isidore
8:00am	Fr Isidore	John Irwin	Fr Euan
9:30am Family	Fr David	Micheal Kelly	Fr David
11:00am Solemn	Fr Fabian	Molly, RIP	Fr Leon
7:00pm	Fr Fabian	For The People	Fr Fabian

SUNDAYS IN TERM: MASS FOR STUDENTS AT 5pm (in Holy Cross Church)

THURSDAY IS THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS AND A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION
- MASSES AT 6:15pm (vigil), 10:00am, 12:40 and 7:30pm.

Sunday Evening Services	27 th October	Confessions	3 rd November
5:45 Rosary	Fr David	10:30-11:30am	Fr David
6:15 Sung Latin Compline	Fr Leon	4:00-5:00pm	Fr Fabian
6:40 Benediction	Fr Fabian	7:00-7:20pm	Fr Leon

Entrance antiphon:	Let hearts rejoice who search for the Lord. Seek the Lord and his strength, seek always the face of the Lord.
1st Reading:	Ecclesiasticus 35: 12-14. 16-19
Psalm Response:	This poor man called; the Lord heard him. (Ps 33)
2nd Reading:	2 Timothy 4: 6-8. 16-18
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia! Alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!
Gospel:	Luke 18: 9-14
Communion Antiphon:	We will rejoice at the victory of God and make our boast in his great name.

Money Matters: Last Weekend: Offertory Collection £1012.95; SVP £14.27; St. Martin's Missions £5.47; Holy Souls £12.35; Grenada £9.99. Special collection for CAFOD on 7 October £1843.87; Mission Sunday collection last week £364.40.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - MINI MARKET ON SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 10:30 - 12:30 (AND AFTER THE 9:30 AND 11:00 MASSES ON THE SUNDAY). Do please make a note to come to the mini market in St Clement's Hall as it one of our main methods of fundraising - all proceeds will go to the church refurbishment fund.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

This week's Feasts:	
Monday	Feria
Tuesday	Bb Terence Albert O'Brien and Peter Higgins, Martyrs of Ireland
Wednesday	Feria
Thursday	ALL SAINTS - Holyday of Obligation (Mass times on front page)
Friday	All Souls - Commemoration of the Faithful Departed
Saturday	St Martin de Porres

First Friday Coffee Morning: Friday, 2 November, at 10:30am in the Church Hall. Tea & scones or coffee & cake, a chance to chat with other weekday Mass-goers and members of the Community; and, of course, a raffle. Money raised goes towards the care and maintenance of the church fabric.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY. Thank you very much for your generous support last week. Your prayers and donations will make a huge contribution to the growth of our Church and to caring for the poorest. Please pray for all those working in the overseas mission of the Church that they may remain courageous in bearing witness to Christ's message and His love for everyone, especially the most vulnerable. More information on www.missio.org.uk.

November is the month in which we remember especially those who have gone before us. The rosary and other prayers will be said at Gilroes Cemetery on Sunday 4 November and at Kirby Muxloe Cemetery on Sunday 11 November, in both cases commencing at 3pm. Further details from Fr Eddy Jarosz at St Peter's.

Resourcing the Advent Journey. An evening to focus on the themes and scripture readings of Advent and offer ideas and resources to enhance the journey through Advent for all ages. Monday 19 November at St Patrick's Parish Hall at 7:30pm (Fee £10; closing date for booking - 5 November). See the poster in the Wellington Street transept for details.

Scholarship for studies in Catholic Theology at Blackfriars, Oxford. The Catholic Women's League have generously given a bursary of £4000 to enable a lay man or woman to study Catholic Theology as a full-time student through the Blackfriars Studium in Oxford for two years. The successful applicant can either enrol for the two-year Diploma in Catholic Theology, for the one-year Certificate in Catholic Theology together with a period of studies not leading to a qualification, or may spend the two years taking tutorial and lecture courses without seeking a qualification. Preference will be given to an applicant who is able to commence studies in the coming Hilary term (January - March 2008), but applications will also be considered for the following Trinity term (April - June 2008) and Michaelmas term (October - December 2008). Anyone interested should contact the Studium Secretary, at Blackfriars, 64 St Giles, OXFORD OX1 3LY, for an application form.

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

We welcome the many new students who have just arrived in our city; and look forward to meeting again those who have returned to their studies. There is a Mass for students each Sunday at 5pm in the Lady Chapel with a gathering in the Old School House afterwards. Mass on campus (at 12.30pm) is on Monday and Friday at Leicester University and Tuesday and Thursday at De Montfort University.

Confirmation: We are looking to start a class for young persons wishing to be confirmed. The class will be for those in year 7 and above, and will take place on Sundays after the 9:30am mass. Confirmation will not be held at Holy Cross this year, but we will either join a nearby parish or go to the Cathedral in Nottingham. Those interested should speak to Fr David.

CORRECTION: Beautiful house to share: with one other. Close to City Centre with private gardens and parking. Tel: 0796 333 5367. Available immediately. Last week this notice appeared with the wrong phone number - it's right this time. Apologies to all concerned.

Please note that weekday Masses have now migrated from the Lady Chapel to the Weekday Chapel on the New Walk side of the church.

Services at Holy Cross during the week:
Mass: Mon - Sat, at 10:00am (with sermon) and 12:40pm.
Extra Masses for All Saints at 6:15pm (Wednesday) and 7:30pm (Thursday).

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday 10:30am - 12:30pm.
with Rosary and simple Benediction at 12:15pm.
