

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

31st Sunday of the Year

Year C

4 November 2007

The Newsletter of HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER

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

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Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
7:30pm Vigil	Fr Isidore	For The People	Fr Euan
8:00am	Fr Euan	Hugh MacRory, RIP	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr David	John Walsh, Anniversary	Fr Euan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Leon	Audrey Hutchins, RIP	Fr Fabian
7:00pm	Fr Fabian	Thanksgiving for Lena, Isabella & Robert	Fr Tony

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

**NEXT SUNDAY IS REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AND THE 11:00 MASS WILL A
REQUIEM MASS FOR THE DEAD OF ALL WARS**

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

Entrance antiphon:	Do not abandon me, Lord. My God, do not go away from me! Hurry to help me, Lord, my Saviour.
1st Reading:	Wisdom 11:22 - 12:2
Psalms Response:	I will bless your name for ever, O God my King. (Ps 144)
2nd Reading:	Thessalonians 1:11 - 2:2
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia! Alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!
Gospel:	Luke 19: 1-10
Communion Antiphon:	Lord, you will show me the path of life and fill me with joy in your presence.

Money Matters: Last Weekend: Offertory Collection £1033.88; SVP £3.52; St. Martin's Missions £2.39; Holy Souls £0.89; Grenada £13.89.

➤ **MINI MARKET, ST CLEMENT'S HALL, ON SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 10:30 - 12:30 (AND AFTER THE 9:30 AND 11:00 MASSES ON THE SUNDAY).** There will be a variety of stalls: gifts, bric-a-brac, religious Christmas cards and a raffle. If you have anything you wish to donate to the mini-market, please either bring it to the church or priory the week before. All proceeds will go to the church refurbishment fund.

200 club October draw: Congratulations to this month's prizewinners! 1st prize £150: P Donnelly; 2nd £100: T Devlin; 3rd £50: Mrs C Kelly.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

This week's Feasts:

Monday	Feria
Tuesday	Bb Alphonsus Navarrete Benito, Alexius Sanbashi Saburō and Companions, Martyrs of Japan
Wednesday	All Saints of the Order of Preachers
Thursday	Commemoration of our Deceased Brothers and Sisters of the Order of Preachers
Friday	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
Saturday	St Leo the Great

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 today, 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.

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.

VERY LATE NOTICE (*Sorry about this - Ed*). Whilst living in France, our organist and choir director, David Cowen, studied the organ under the well-known French organist Sophie-Véronique Choplin. Ms Choplin, the co-titulaire at St-Sulpice, Paris, is coming to Nottingham this (Sunday) afternoon to give a recital at the Albert Hall. She is best known for her capability at the art of improvisation, and her programme will include two improvisations. The recital will be preceded at 2:15pm by an interview with David, and the programme proper begins at 2:45pm. Whilst in Nottingham you may wish to pop over the road to the Cathedral and purchase...

Cantate Domino, Nottingham Cathedral Choir's first CD (£10) - Choral music from the 16th to the 20th Century. See noticeboard in transept and www.priory.org.uk

Concerts at St Barnabas Cathedral - Sundays 11 November and 2 December at 3pm. See noticeboard in transept.

Come Lord Jesus! This is a day of silent prayer and reflection with the saints of Carmel in preparation for Advent and Christmas at Mount St Bernard's Abbey, on Saturday 17 November from 10am to 4pm. Book with Heather Ward on 0115 928 3603. See poster on transpt noticeboard.

Street Pastors is part of a national project, enabling Christians to help people out in the city centre at night. Most of the work tends to be with younger and homeless people. For more information ring the administrator at Bishop Street Methodist Church on 255 4111 or email leicester@streetpastors.org.uk

Come, be renewed in the Spirit is a day to celebrate 40 years of Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Nottingham Diocese. Saturday 17 November from 10:30am at Holy Family Church, Allestree. Further information from Anne on 01332 370265, and notice on noticeboard.

Christ in the Centre (the Good Friday pageant) has a Fun Drama Workshop Day at the All Nations Centre, Frog Island, on Saturday 10 November from 10am. See www.christinthecentre.co.uk or email swordkibworth@btinternet.com. Also poster on noticeboard.

Going to Scotland this month? James MacMillan will be giving a talk on 'Music, Modernity and the Search for the Sacred' at the (Dominican run) Catholic University Chaplaincy in Edinburgh on Saturday 17 November.

Services at Holy Cross during the week:

Mass: Mon - Sat, at 10:00am (with sermon) and 12:40pm.

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