

Many of us today don't think, very much, about kings and queens. News now is all about 'the people', 'the neighbours', 'unsung heroes', 'hidden heroines'... Most royal families disappeared a century ago. So did much 'deference', or thinking others as 'betters'. The Church too, re-discovered old ideas, like 'the people of God' and finds saints, now, in quite humble, ordinary people.

In the gospels themselves Jesus refused to be king. He told Pilate his kingdom wasn't 'of this world'. Very strangely, in today's gospel - on the cross - He accepted the poor thief's word, 'kingdom', then rewarded him - with the promise of 'paradise'. I suppose that, these days, when faith in heaven is faint, past Popes decided the Church should recognise this coming Kingdom of God. We hear the words of Jesus, to the thief, with joy.

We can think about His kingdom, what it will mean then for Him to have 'the whole world in His hands'. There are indications even in our kingdom how it may happen.

Our armed forces, law-courts, police, and civil servants are, in fact, loyal to the Queen - not the Government. This is a tremendous safeguard. It allows all our media, and our thinkers, writers and songsters to be (all too?) critical of the 'Establishment'. It gives us all so much freedom: if such loyalty is shown - to the 'right' person.

Loyalty to Christ will make us, even more, free. As the Queen's face 'appears' on every note and coin in our purses; to remind us of her 'position'; Jesus, in heaven, will appear in 'position' - in everyone; with everything.

Such details can help us try to imagine a world ruled by God, with Jesus everywhere. Listen for it in the Mass: 'an eternal and universal kingdom; of truth and life, holiness and grace, justice, love and peace'. It is not just possible; or to come. We start it here - every Mass.

fr Duncan OP

Last Sunday of Ordinary
Time - Christ the King

Year C

25 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	Special Intention	Fr Tony
8:00am	Fr Tony	Ashberry family and friends, RIP	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr David	Peter Leech, RIP	Fr Duncan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Duncan	For The People	Fr David
7:00pm	Fr Euan	Pat O'Hara, RIP	Fr Fabian

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

Sunday Evening Services	24 November	Confessions	1 December
5:45 Rosary	Fr Duncan	10:30-11:30am	Fr Tony
6:15 Sung Latin Compline	Fr Leon	4:00-5:00pm	Fr Duncan
6:40 Benediction	Fr Euan	7:00-7:20pm	Fr Leon

Entrance Antiphon:	The Lamb who was slain is worthy to receive strength and divinity, wisdom and power and honour: to him be glory and power for ever.
1st Reading:	2 Samuel 5: 1-3
Psalm Response:	I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to God's house." (Ps 121)
2nd Reading:	Colossians 1: 11-20
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia! Alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia! At 11.00: His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire ever be destroyed
Gospel:	Luke 23: 35-43
Communion Antiphon:	The Lord will reign for ever and will give his people the gift of peace.

Money Matters: Last Weekend: Offertory Collection £1121.80; SVP £12.56; St. Martin's Missions £3.08; Holy Souls £4.75; Grenada £2.51.

The latest is that last week's mini-market raised £530.51: there may be more to come. An especial thank you to all those who made it such a success.

There will be a collection as you leave Mass this week (and next week too). This week it will be for the Diocese Quota; which is the financial levy we must pay each year to the Nottingham Diocese. Next week the collection will be to support the Poor Parishes of the diocese.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

This week's Feasts		
Monday:	Feria	
Tuesday:	Feria	
Wednesday:	Feria	
Thursday:	Feria	
Friday:	St Andrew the Apostle, Patron of Scotland	
Saturday:	Our Lady's Saturday (<i>optional</i>)	
Next Sunday's Readings		
Isaiah 2: 1-5	Romans 13: 11-14	Matthew 24: 37-44

Refugee and Asylum Support: STOP PRESS - URGENT. There is a great need for toiletries, disposable nappies &c; please consider dropping off a tube of toothpaste or the like! The collection point after the 9:30 and 11:00 Sunday Masses is Holy Cross Centre. At the other Sunday Masses it is the Wellington Street entrance. We are very grateful to you for your support.

Short Advent Talks at Holy Cross - "The Origins of Christmastide". These talks will take place on Fridays after the 10:00 and 12:40 Masses. To start the ball rolling just before Advent begins, Fr Euan will speak on 'Christmas - Pagan Festival?' this Friday, 30 November.

Hassocks Galore! We have been very fortunate to obtain about 150 hassocks from the disused church of St Paul on Glenfield Road. These will be used to replace the uncomfortable kneeling stools in the side aisles, and fill any gaps in the nave. BUT they are rather dirty, and need a clean-up. **We would be very grateful if you would please take a few, clean them, and then return them to the weekday chapel.** They are stored in black bags in the alcove next to St Joseph's altar on the Wellington Street side of the church. As the proverb goes: Many hands make light work! After cleaning, they will be fitted with eyelets so that they can hang on hooks on the backs of the chairs.

PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH. There will be a meeting at 10.30 **this Sunday** in the Hall to make arrangements for the Parish Christmas lunch, which will be on Sunday 9th December at 12.30pm.

LEICESTER CATHOLIC STUDIES. Our Autumn session begins on Monday 26 November in Holy Cross Centre from 8:00pm to 9:30pm. Our speaker will be the Rt Rev Vivienne Faull, the Dean of Leicester Cathedral, and her subject is 'What will it take to regenerate Leicester?'

We congratulate our newly commissioned Holy Communion Ministers! The process of preparing new Holy Communion Ministers for commissioning in November next year begins soon. Applications for the formation weekend (due in late summer 2008) must be made by Easter. We need to recruit a few more Holy Communion ministers. If you are interested contact Fr Tony. The long period between applying and being trained is so applicants can have the necessary Criminal Records Bureau paperwork completed in time.

Remember Clockwise, Leicester's Credit Union? We used to have a Saturday morning collection point at Holy Cross until two years ago when the new offices were opened at 20 Pocklington's Walk. There is a shortage of volunteers to help out on Saturday mornings, and there is a risk that Saturday opening will have to cease. Volunteers can contact Teresa@clockwise.co.uk or phone 247 1740 for more details.

World AIDS Day - Saturday 1 December. There will be a service in Leicester Cathedral at which the Bishop of Leicester will preach. Details on the noticeboard.

Cafe Equitable - the theme is the Truth about Zimbabwe. 27th November at 7.15 - 9.00 pm at Bambu, 21 Welford Road.

On the 1st Sunday of Advent - 2nd December the **CAFOD Justice & Peace Group** will be promoting actions that you can do before Christmas to support CAFOD campaigns, and to be part of the live simply personal commitment to change. And on 3rd December 9.30am at Voluntary Action Leicester, Newarke St, there will be further discussions about **Leicester becoming the second "city of sanctuary" for refugees and asylum seekers** by coordinating both public and voluntary support efforts. To be involved with either please contact Christina Mottram on 0116 221 3066 or cj.mottram@ntlworld.com

Time Together is a mentoring scheme offering help and friendship to vulnerable refugees. The project offers refugees the chance to spend five hours a month with a mentor from the local community. If you would like to help, please contact Rose Panumudipo, the Mentoring Project Co-ordinator, at 7 Millstone Lane (tel 261 6216 or 078 1063 7469).

 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.
 During the winter months the church will be open from 8am each weekday until 3.30pm.
