

“Ite Missa est” or “What’s next?”

Have you, like me, found it strange that the verbs ‘to raise’ and ‘to raze’ sound the same, but have very different meanings? To raze a building means you don’t have a building any more! English can be fun and, well, daft. Our language has a word ‘mass’ and our religion has ‘the Mass’. They, too, aren’t the same thing. The OED says ‘mass’ is “a coherent body of matter of indefinite shape ... a dense aggregation (that’s, ‘collection’) of objects ... a large number”. I’m saying that’s not what is meant by you at Holy Mass ... though it’s nice when you are a large number and I’d rather have you coherent than dense and the collection is appreciated. But those things aren’t what makes the Mass. It’s not called ‘Mass’ because you ‘aggregate’, become a gathering together of disparate elements (though, look around, that is probably what you see! You Holy Crossers are catholic with a lowercase ‘c’ too).

It’s called Mass because of what happens at the end, not because of what we look like as we arrive. The final words of the Mass in Latin are ‘*ite missa est*’ which becomes ‘go’ (*ite*), ‘the Mass’ (*missa*), ‘is’ (*est*), ‘ended’ ... there’s no Latin for ‘ended’. So, it’s ‘go, the Mass is’.

Missa is from the verb *mittere* which means ‘to send’. Other words come from this verb ... mission and missionary, missive, missile. They are all things ‘sent’. And the final words of the Mass are the ‘dismissal’. They are the words that send you out of the church (small ‘c’), but those words don’t dismiss you from being the (big ‘c’) Church. You carry on being that. You are ‘sent’ to take what you’ve just celebrated into the world you live in. The Mass is called that because it’s about being sent.

The Nottingham diocese has a new name for its Pastoral Plan: “Handing on our Faith”. Some of us are discussing what this might mean for Holy Cross. We know that lots of you go out and do lots to put your faith into action in our city. You hand on your faith in many ways, making it active. Others will want to know how they might do more. Will you let the Parish Council know what you are doing? And when you have, we can let those who want to get more active know what the possibilities are.

fr Tony

5th Sunday of Easter

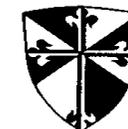
Year A

20 April 2008

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 David	Patrick Cobbert, RIP	Fr Isidore
8:00am	Fr Isidore	Greg & Virginia Polker, in thanksgiving	Fr Tony
9:30am Family	Fr Fabian	<i>Pro Populo</i>	Fr David
11:00am Solemn	Fr Tony	Book of Prayer intentions	Fr Euan
7:00pm	Fr Fabian	Daniel Collins, RIP	Fr Euan

SUNDAYS IN TERM (from today): MASS FOR STUDENTS at 5pm (in the Church).

Sunday Evening Services	19 April	Confessions	26 April
5:45 Rosary	Fr Tony	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Fabian
6:15 Sung Latin Compline	Fr David	4:00 - 5:00pm	Fr Leon
6:40 Benediction	Fr Isidore	7:00 - 7:20pm	Fr Euan

Entrance Antiphon:	Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous deeds; he has revealed to the nations his saving power, alleluia.
1st Reading:	Acts 6: 1-7
Psalm Response:	May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (Ps 32)
2nd Reading:	1 Peter 2: 4-9
Alleluia:	Jesus said: “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.” At 11:00 - Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again. Death has no power over him any more.
Gospel:	John 14: 1-12
Communion Antiphon:	I am the vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; he who lives in me, and I in him, will bear much fruit. At 11:00 - Have I been with you all the time Philip, and you still do not know me? To have seen me is to have seen the Father, alleluia. Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? Alleluia, alleluia.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend: Offertory Collection £1056.22; SVP £9.12; St. Martin's Missions £7.22; Holy Souls £3.63; Grenada £5.44.

This week there will be a retiring collection for the second instalment of our Diocesan quota. Next week there will be a retiring collection for the Missionaries of the Company of Mary (Montfort Missionaries). They were founded by St Louis Marie de Montfort in the 18th century and carry out their mission in more than 30 countries worldwide. Please give generously.

BLACKFRIARS MARKET. This is our main annual fund raising event, and will be held on **Saturday 10 May**. Items are needed for all the stalls, eg. Bric-a-brac, jewellery, cakes and books but, please, no second-hand clothes. Plastic bags for donations will be handed out next weekend. Please scour your house this week for gifts!

Gift Aid. As you probably know, in his last budget as Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown announced that the basic rate of income tax would be reduced from 22% to 20%, with effect from 6 April 2008. Although that was good news for many taxpayers, it was bad news for charities, because the Gift Aid we reclaim was to go down from 28.2% (i.e. 22/78) to 25% (i.e. 20/80). The good news for charities is that Alistair Darling in the budget announced that the "Gift Aid rate" would be unhooked from the basic rate of income tax and stay at 22% for the next three tax years. So at least until 5 April 2011, charities will continue to be able to claim back 28.2% on Gift Aid donations.

200 Club, March draw. 1st prize, £150: W Andrade. 2nd prize, £100: D Sweeney. 3rd prize, £50: V Bryan. Congratulations!

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

The week ahead...		
Monday:	St Anselm of Canterbury, bishop, doctor - <i>optional</i>	
Tuesday:	Easter feria	
Wednesday:	ST GEORGE, LAYMAN, MARTYR, PATRON OF ENGLAND, solemnity	
Thursday:	St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest, martyr <i>or</i> St Adalbert, bishop, martyr <i>or</i> the Conversion of St Augustine, bishop, doctor - <i>all optional</i>	
Friday:	ST MARK, EVANGELIST, feast	
Saturday:	Easter feria	
Next Sunday's Readings: 5 th Sunday of Easter		
Acts 8: 5-8. 14-17	1 Peter 3: 15-18	John 14: 15-21

2008 Pro-Life Chain. This is being organised by SPUC (the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children) in Narborough on Saturday 26 April from 11am to 1pm at the Narborough/Enderby roundabout on the B4114. The chain is a peaceful and silent kerbside vigil where the pro-life message may be witnessed by passing motorists. Please join the chain. More information is available from Teresa Van Kroonenburg on 288 8986.

40th anniversary of the Abortion Act. A service of Hope, Healing and Remembrance will be held on Sunday 27 April at 4pm at Our Lady of Victories Church, Market Harborough. It will also be supported by the Anglican and Free Churches. More details from Maureen Douglas on 01858 431157.

The Catholic Children's Society. Bishop Malcolm and the Trustees of the Catholic Children's Society, Nottingham, have announced that the Society intends to merge with Family Care, its equivalent Anglican agency, to form a broad-based Christian family support organisation. The merger will take effect in October and has been brought about as a result of the implementation of the Government's Sexual Orientation Regulations. Bishop Malcolm encourages people to support the new Agency, as it not only continues its much-needed work of finding families for some of the most vulnerable children, but also develops new services to support family life.

Situation Vacant. A Project Leader for the "Praying with your children at home" project is required by the diocese, based at Mackworth, Derby. Details on the noticeboard.

Sacred Heart Church's 125th anniversary year. There will be a Fun Quiz at St Paul's Polish Centre, Wakerley Road, on Thursday 24 April at 7:30pm. Details on the noticeboard.

Whit Sunday at 11am. The choir Coro Nostro will assist us in the celebration of this major feast by singing one of Mozart's Masses at the 11am Mass.

Flat available: three rooms in quiet family home, Western Park. Would suit professional lady/female student. Tel: 285 6998.

House-share available in Humberstone area to share with professional. Close to City centre bus routes and car park available. Fully furnished with bills included. Tel: 0796 333 5367. Available immediately.

Light Bearers Ministries: A new prayer line has been set up for anyone who simply needs someone to talk to or for prayerful guidance, support and for your prayer requests. It is a free, confidential service. However, all donations towards this new ministry will be kindly appreciated. Contact: Jessica on 0784 727 9141 (8pm to 11am daily), or email jessielightbearer@hotmail.co.uk.

 Services at Holy Cross during the week:
Mass: Monday to Saturday, at 10:00am (with sermon) & 12:40pm.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday 10:30am - 12:30pm
with Rosary and simple Benediction at 12:15pm.
 On Mondays to Fridays the church is open from 8am until 4pm.
