

## PENTECOST

**O**N the feast of the Passover Jews celebrate God's delivering them from slavery in Egypt. Fifty days later they celebrate the feast of Pentecost. Originally this was a harvest festival, but later it commemorated the gift of God's Law on Mt. Sinai. That provided the framework for the covenant relationship between God and the people he had liberated. Emancipation, covenant and the gathering in of God's people from the single drama of God's plan of salvation.

This plan reached its fulfilment in the Paschal mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. Pentecost, fifty days later, celebrated the Holy Spirit, promised by Christ, making Christ's salvation available to people of every race, class and colour.

The occasion was auspicious. Jews from the eastern Mediterranean lands, and speaking a variety of languages, had come to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast of Pentecost. When God's Spirit descended on Our Lady and the apostles, he fired them with such a zeal and eloquence that they courageously proclaimed the wonderful news of salvation through our crucified and risen Lord. The Spirit enabled people speaking different languages to understand them, to believe, and then, after the festival, to take their faith back home.

These first converts were the first fruits in the new creation of God's people. Through the Holy Spirit the in-gathering of God's harvest had begun. The language barriers, which keep us apart, were broken down, so that we could worship God with one mind and heart.

At the first Pentecost the Spirit got the infant Church off to a flying, dramatic start, enabling the handful of apostles to communicate God's saving truth. And the same Spirit touched the minds and hearts of those who heard the Good News, so that they could welcome and spread it.

The same Spirit who acted so dramatically at the first Pentecost is still with the Church today, and always will be. The Great Communicator enables us to come alive in Christ as we welcome his saving truth. Through the Spirit of Truth the Gospel is preached throughout the world to peoples speaking many different languages. And the Spirit moves them to welcome the Good News.

Today we celebrate the gift of the Spirit enabling us to come alive in Christ and to share the hope he has given us. Pentecost is the birthday of the Church.

Isidore O.P.

Pentecost

Year A

11 May 2008

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

Served by the Dominican Order: website [www.torch.op.org](http://www.torch.op.org)

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Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
7:30pm Vigil	Fr Isidore	Evelyn Dixon, RIP	Fr Isidore
8:00am	Fr David	John Irwin, RIP	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Fabian	50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Ann'y, Len & Bridget Smith	Fr Euan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Leon	<i>Pro Populo</i>	Fr Tony
7:00pm	Fr Tony	Robin Robiero	Fr Tony

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

Sunday Evening Services	10 May	Confessions	17 May
5:45 Rosary	Fr Isidore	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Tony
6:15 Sung Latin Compline	Fr Leon	4:00 - 5:00pm	Fr Leon
6:40 Benediction	Fr Fabian	7:00 - 7:20pm	Fr Fabian

<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	The Spirit of the Lord fills the whole world. It holds all things together and knows every word spoken by man, alleluia.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	Acts 2: 1-11
<b>Psalm Response:</b>	Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth. (Ps 103)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	1 Corinthians 12: 3-7. 12-13
<b>Sequence:</b>	Veni Sancte Spiritus - Holy Spirit, Lord of light...
<b>Alleluia:</b>	Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.
<b>Gospel:</b>	John 20: 19-23
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke of the great things God had done, alleluia. At 11:00 - Suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a mighty wind coming where they were sitting, alleluia. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking the wonderful works of God, alleluia, alleluia.

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last Weekend: Offertory Collection £1179.67; SVP £5.43; St. Martin's Missions £3.72; Holy Souls £5.33; Grenada £13.22.

**This week** there is a retiring collection for those unable to come to Blackfriars Market. This is an important way of supporting the occasion even if you cannot be there yourself. The money will go towards the upkeep of the church, and especially improvements to the lighting which will be more energy-efficient, thus saving us cost in the future (not to mention helping the environment).

**Next week** there is retiring collection for the education of future priests for the diocese.

200 Club, April draw. 1st prize, £150: No 79 T Devlin. 2nd prize, £100: No 91 Mrs Hart. 3rd prize, £50: No 192 G Andrade. Congratulations!

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

The week ahead...		
Monday:	SS Nereus and Achilleus, laymen, martyrs, <i>or</i> St Pancras, layman, martyr - <i>both optional</i>	
Tuesday:	Our Lady of Fatima - <i>optional</i>	
Wednesday:	ST MATTHIAS, APOSTLE	
Thursday:	THE DEDICATION OF OUR PRIORY CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, solemnity	
Friday:	St Simon Stock, priest, religious - <i>optional</i>	
Saturday:	Saturday Mass of Our Lady - <i>optional</i>	
Next Sunday:	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, solemnity. Readings:	
	Exodus 34: 4-6. 8-9	2 Corinthians 13: 11-13      John 3: 16-18

**'THE MUSIC OF STILLNESS':** Tuesday 17 June at St John the Baptist Clarendon Park Road at 7.30pm. Coro Nostro, who are singing at the 11am Mass today, perform works by Byrd, Tallis, de la Rue, Brahms, Elgar, Stanford, Parry, Poulenc, and the European premiere of 'There will be rest', a hauntingly beautiful piece by American composer and professor, Frank Ticheli.

**Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham.** Our parish joins the other priories and parishes of the English Dominicans for a pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham on Sunday 18 May. Transport from Holy Cross and back will cost £16, and we will leave at 8am. If you would like to join us please contact Fr Leon (252 1512) or approach one of the priests.

After consultation with the Commission for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Bishop Malcolm has decided that the Solemnity of Corpus Christi is the most appropriate occasion for Ministers to renew their annual commission within their respective parishes. So, our Holy Communion Ministers will do this on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, 25 May. After the 11am Mass there will be a Blessed Sacrament procession and Benediction.

Lecture morning for catechists and teachers, prepared for all those working alongside children, with particular interest for those teaching and co-ordinating RE programmes. "Exploring children's spirituality through the Mass". Tuesday 20th May - 10am to 2pm. To be held at the Rosmini Centre House of Prayer, Leicester, LE7 4SJ. For further details please contact Mrs Julia Joy at: [joy419@btinternet.com](mailto:joy419@btinternet.com)

## BLACKFRIARS MARKET

A big 'thank you' to all who supported the Market on Saturday. More information next week, and there is a retiring collection today for those who wish to support the market but were unable to be there.

**Parish Evening of Music** at the Holy Cross Centre, Saturday June 14th - 7 till late - featuring groups and individuals from the parish; Holy Cross Gospel Choir and anyone else who would like to perform. Plenty of sing-along opportunities for those who wish to join in! Bar open. Please bring snack finger-food to share. If you'd like to perform or need further details, please call Jeff Henry 0116 243 1289.



**MARY: Grace and Hope in Christ.** A morning to reflect on the role of Our Lady in salvation, and her place in the life and devotion of the Church. Led by Fr Eddy Jarosz of St Peter's, and Rev Chris Oxley of St Anne's. At St Anne's Church, Letchworth Road, on Saturday 31 May from 9:30am to 1pm. See noticeboard.

**Sing for Water.** Come and join over 200 voices to help raise money for Water Aid. At the Riverside Festival on Sunday 8 June. See noticeboard.

**Day of Prayer for China:** His Holiness Pope Benedict has requested that 24 May be kept as a day of prayer for the Church in China. The day has been chosen because Our Lady, Help of Christians, is venerated at the Marian Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai. His Holiness asks that "Catholics of the whole world - in particular those of Chinese origin - will demonstrate their fraternal solidarity and solicitude, asking the Lord of history for the gift of perseverance in witness" for the Church in China.

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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 (except Bank Holidays) the church is open from 8am until 4pm.

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