

## Jesus had Compassion

‘COMPASSION’ is a very powerful word in the Gospels. It means much more than being sorry for someone, but being moved to the very depths of our being. On several occasions Jesus was moved to such compassion. This always inspired him to act. When the widow of Nain mourned the death of her only son, Jesus restored his life. He cured the leper, isolated from the community by his disease. He fed the tired and hungry multitude.

Today’s Gospel tells us Jesus felt such compassion for the multitude, who were like sheep without a shepherd. Their religious leaders crushed them with the burden of a multitude of rules and regulations, which they couldn’t possibly know and observe. Instead of giving them hope in God’s love and mercy they were dismissed as sinners. No wonder Jesus felt a deep compassion for the multitude!

His compassion moved him to action. He gave those, who had been dismissed as worthless, hope of salvation, without needing to obey the mass of man-made rules. Next he chose 12 assistants, the apostles. They would continue his work after he had ascended to heaven. In other words, Jesus founded the Church. This would extend Christ’s mission beyond the Chosen People of Israel to the whole world.

Changing the image from sheep to the Lord’s harvest, Jesus tells us that God needs labourers to gather in the Lord’s harvest. You are constantly being told of the need for vocations to the priesthood and the religious life. There is certainly a great shortage of such people. And we need many more.

But we should remember that already we have millions of people throughout the world commissioned to share the Good News of salvation. That’s the responsibility of everyone who has been baptised. Each one of you is already a missionary preacher. You exercise that ministry in a variety of ways, as parents, teachers and carers.

If we become overwhelmed and depressed by the size of the task Christ has given us, let’s remember that he started with only a dozen apostles, who seemed to have the whole world against them. But Jesus promised to be with them, and us, always. And he promised to send the Spirit of Truth to guide us.

We are not acting alone in doing God’s work. Paul, the great missionary, who met with so much opposition, both from his fellow Christians and from others, urges us not to be discouraged in doing good. And let us not give in to ‘compassion fatigue,’ which makes us indifferent to the needs of others and so prevents us from coming to their aid.

Isidore O.P.

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

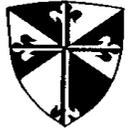
Year A (Weekdays II)

15 June 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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Parish Priest: Fr Leon Pereira: 252 1512 For home visits: 255 3856

Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
7:30pm Vigil	Fr Isidore	Irene Olszewska, RIP	Fr David
8:00am	Fr Euan	<i>Pro Populo</i>	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Leon	Book of Prayer Intentions	Fr David
11:00am Solemn	Fr Fabian	Frank Walsh, RIP	Fr Leon
7:00pm	Fr Fabian	Terry McGowan, RIP	Fr Leon

The Novena to Our Lady is each Saturday, at 6:45pm. It is taking place every week for nine Saturdays, leading up to the feast of the Assumption.

Books for recording your petitions and thanksgiving are in the Lady chapel.

Sunday Evening Services	14 June	Confessions	21 June
5:45 Rosary	Fr Euan	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Leon
6:15 Sung Latin Compline	Fr Leon	4:00 - 5:00pm	Fr Isidore
6:40 Benediction	Fr David	7:00 - 7:20pm	Fr David

<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	Lord, hear my voice when I call to you. You are my help; do not cast me off, do not desert me, my Saviour God.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	Exodus 19: 2-6
<b>Psalm Response:</b>	<b>We are his people, the sheep of his flock. (Ps 99)</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	Romans 5: 6-11
<b>Alleluia:</b>	<b>The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord, I know them and they follow me.</b> <i>At 11:00 - O Lord, your strength gives joy to the king; how your saving help makes him glad!</i>
<b>Gospel:</b>	Matthew 9:36 - 10:8
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. <i>Or (but not at 11:00) - Father, keep in your name those you have given me, that they may be one as we are one, says the Lord.</i>

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last Weekend: Offertory Collection £1091.18; SVP £11.98; St. Martin's Missions £3.81; Holy Souls £6.31; Grenada £3.90.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

The week ahead...		
Monday:	St Richard of Chichester, bishop, Dominican tertiary - <i>optional</i> Organ Recital given by David Cowen in the church at 8pm	
Tuesday:	Feria	
Wednesday:	Feria	
Thursday:	St Romuald, abbot, hermit - <i>optional</i>	
Friday:	St Alban, layman, protomartyr of Britain - <i>optional</i>	
Saturday:	St Aloysius Gonzaga, acolyte, religious. Novena to Our Lady at 6:45pm	
Next Sunday:	Twelfth Sunday <i>per annum</i> . Readings:	
	Jeremiah 20: 10-13	Romans 5: 12-15
		Matthew 10: 26-33

The 3rd and final reading of the Human Embryology Bill will take place on 17th June. This is our last chance to show opposition to the Bill. MPs may yet vote against it. Please look out for action leaflets by the doors of the church with information about contacting your MP, and help stop this act against humanity.

**Red Cross Appeal for Refugees & Asylum Seekers.** The Red Cross has issued a revised list of items needed to support these destitute vulnerable people:

- ◆ Dried items: rice, pasta, cous-cous, maize mealie-meal, sugar, salt, porridge, cooking oil, flour (self-raising), spices, palenta, mashed potato (Smash), tea, coffee, powdered milk, water, fruit juice, semolina;
- ◆ Tins: baked beans, soup, fruit, rice pudding, sauces, vegetables;
- ◆ Pre-prepared food: cereal bars, chocolate, biscuits, nuts, crisps, pot noodles;
- ◆ Baby items: nappies (sizes 2-4), baby wipes, food, milk, lotion, talc, clothing, equipment;
- ◆ Toiletries: toothpaste, tooth brush, soap, moisturiser, shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper.

Please leave these items at any Mass. We thank you for your continued support.

**Holy Cross Parish 2008 Assembly and AGM of the Parish Pastoral Council.**

Next Friday, 20th June, in the Church Hall at 7:30pm.

Everybody is welcome.

See the Notice for the Agenda; and please consider joining the Parish Council.

You'll need a nomination form, available after all Masses.

'THE MUSIC OF STILLNESS': Tuesday 17 June at St John the Baptist, Clarendon Park Road, at 7.30pm. Coro Nostro, who sang at the 11am Mass on Whit Sunday, 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. Admission £9 (unwaged £8, students £3). See [www.coronostro.com](http://www.coronostro.com).

**Treasures of the English Church: Sacred Gold and Silver 800-2000.** A couple of weeks ago we had a note about this exhibition in London. Our intrepid editor has been down there and visited what describes itself as the largest and most comprehensive exhibition ever devoted to Church plate. There are around 300 objects displayed: not only do they include our chalice of 1489, but also three exhibits from St Dominic's Priory in London. These are a brass processional cross, c.1500; a silver thurible of 1732; and Cardinal Howard's chalice of c.1700. Also on display is a bejewelled mitre made for Cardinal Wiseman, and a thurible designed by Pugin for Oscott. The exhibition is free and runs until 12 July, Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm, at Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane, London EC2, between Barbican and St Paul's stations.

**Organ Recital at Holy Cross.** Our Organist and Choir Director, David Cowen, will give an organ recital here of music by Bach and Mendelssohn at 8pm tomorrow, Monday 16 June.



Today's Gospel: Christ sends disciples to labour in the Lord's harvest

Proceeds will go to the upkeep of the church and refreshments will be available in St Clement's Hall afterwards. The full programme is on the noticeboard, and parking will be available in the gated car park just beyond St Clement's Hall. Admission will be £7 (£5 for the unwaged).

**Inter-faith football match to raise money for the LRI Children's Intensive Care Unit.** On Saturday 28 June at 9:30am at Judgemeanow Community College, Marydene Drive. See noticeboard.

**This week is Refugee Week.** There is a series of events taking place all week. Further details from [www.citizenseye.org](http://www.citizenseye.org) or [leicester@cityofsanctuary.com](mailto:leicester@cityofsanctuary.com) or 07716 073403.

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.

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.