

## Revelation and Mercy

It is a pity that the word Apocalypse is so associated with death and destruction. It really means 'revealing', a word which has come to have these associations from the book of Revelation. That book takes its name from the first word of the first verse, 'The revelation of Jesus Christ' where the Greek word for 'revelation' is Apocalypse, more or less. The word does not mean the end of the world, it has nothing to do with destruction as such. The fact that the Book of Revelation reveals the end of the world, and the final judgement of the world, is merely incidental. There are many other things which Our Lord wishes to reveal, and indeed some of them are in the Book of Revelation.

Revelation too does not need to be through the medium of strange visions. In last Sunday's Gospel, Matthew 10:26, Our Lord says, 'There is nothing covered up, which will not be uncovered, nothing hidden which will not be known.' The word uncovered is another form of that same Greek word, Apocalypse.

Revelation is said by theologians to have ended with the death of the last of the Apostles, but this is revelation is a special technical sense, the sense in which God reveals to us those things which we could never find out by human reason. These are not just the things which transcend human reason, but also certain decisions about how the Church is to live in this world. So a church, no longer bound by the Ancient laws of Israel, and with a life which is to be shared with all peoples throughout the world. This technical sense of Revelation should not blind us to that continual revelation which happens in the world and will continue to happen in the world. Every day we learn more about the truths which Christ reveals, every day we are to learn more about the implications of his teaching. That which he spoke in the darkness has to be spoken in the light, what he speaks in the ear of the Apostles, has to be preached from the rooftops - Matthew 10:27.

Speaking in the light is a strange phrase. After all, we can hear just as well in the dark as the light. What is different is that speakers in the light cannot hide. The truth that they proclaim is a truth which they are willing to stand by themselves. The revelation will happen anyway. Truth reveals itself eventually. What matters is whether we are willing to be part of that Revelation. Will the revealing, the Apocalypse, which Christ began happen in a way that builds up society? Or will it happen through humanity learning the bitterness of a life without goodness, a life which lives on lies and hatred. That sort of revelation leaves no room for mercy. This is because mercy is not a truth which we can learn but a gift we have to receive. We can learn the truth for ourselves but we cannot give ourselves mercy. This is why in the Beatitudes, Christ says, 'The merciful will receive mercy.'

This then is the purpose of the Apostles, and of the Church as a whole. To reveal the truth, but to make sure that along with that truth, the mercy of Christ is revealed too. It is with Christ that we are to speak in the light, and to proclaim from the rooftops.  
Fr Euan Marley O.P

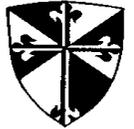
Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles

Year A (Weekdays II)

29 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 1501 For home visits: 255 3856

Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
7:30pm Vigil	Fr David	For vocations	Fr Isidore
8:00am	Fr Isidore	John Irwin, RIP	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr David	For vocations	Fr Leon
11:00am Solemn	Fr Leon	<i>Pro Populo</i>	Fr Fabian
7:00pm	Fr Leon	Joe Corley, RIP	Fr Euan

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 on 15 August. Books for recording your petitions and thanksgiving are in the Lady chapel.

Sunday Evening Services	28 June	Confessions	5 July
5:45 Rosary	Fr Fabian	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Isidore
6:15 Sung Latin Compline	Fr David	4:00 - 5:00pm	Fr Euan
6:40 Benediction	Fr Euan	7:00 - 7:20pm	Fr Leon

### Ss Peter & Paul: Texts for the Vigil Mass (see over for the Mass of the Day)

Entrance	Peter the apostle and Paul the teacher of the Gentiles have brought us to know the law of the Lord.
Antiphon:	
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading:	Acts 3: 1-10
Psalm Response:	Their span extends through all the earth (Ps 18)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading:	Galatians 1: 11-20
Alleluia:	Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.
Gospel:	John 21: 15-19
Communion	Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these? Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.
Antiphon:	

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last Weekend: Offertory Collection £973.13; SVP £7.27; St. Martin's Missions £6.54; Holy Souls £15.57; Grenada £4.52.

There is a retiring collection today for Peter's Pence.

There will be a retiring collection next week for the Day for Life.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Ss Peter & Paul: Texts for the Mass of the Day	
<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	These men, conquering all human frailty, shed their blood and helped the Church to grow. By sharing the cup of the Lord's suffering, they became the friends of God.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	Acts 12: 1-11
<b>Psalm Response:</b>	The angel of the Lord rescues those who revere him (Ps 33)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	2 Timothy 4: 6-8.17-18
<b>Alleluia:</b>	<b>You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it.</b> At 11:00 - You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.
<b>Gospel:</b>	Matthew 16: 13-19
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	Peter said: You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus answered: You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church. At 11:00 - You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church.

The week ahead...		
Monday:	The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church - <i>optional</i>	
Tuesday:	St Oliver Plunkett, bishop, martyr	
Wednesday:	Feria	
Thursday:	ST THOMAS, APOSTLE	
Friday:	St Elizabeth of Portugal, wife and mother, queen, secular tertiary or Bl Peter George Frassati, lay Dominican - <i>both optional</i>	
Saturday:	Saturday Mass of Our Lady or St Anthony Mary Zaccaria, priest - <i>both optional</i> . Novena to Our Lady at 6:45pm.	
Next Sunday:	14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday <i>per annum</i> . Readings:	
	Zechariah 9: 9-10	Romans 8: 9.11-13
		Matthew 11: 25-30

Churches Together in Leicester City Centre will meet on Thursday 3 July at 12:30pm at the Salvation Army, Kildare Street. All are welcome.

**First Friday Coffee Morning: This coming Friday**, at 10:30am in the Church Hall. Tea & scones or coffee & cake, a chance to chat with other weekday Mass-goers and members of the Community; and, of course, a raffle. Money raised goes towards the care and maintenance of the church fabric.

We are very pleased to welcome Br Robert Verrill, OP, a Dominican student spending a month with us on his pastoral placement. He will be seconded to the chaplaincies at the Royal Infirmary and the Prison. Fr Leon points out that he came to Holy Cross on his placement eight years ago, so Robert could well be our Prior in eight years' time. Please make him feel at home!



Ss Peter & Paul

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.

**I was walking down New Walk one day...** On Wednesday 9th July, Richard Gill (Local historian) is going to lead a gentle stroll around the vicinity of Holy Cross, pointing out things of interest in his own inimitable style! Please gather at Holy Cross for 7.15pm. Cost: adults £2.50, under 16's free. Those who joined Richard's last stroll up New Walk will know that this will be a very interesting evening.

**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.

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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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