

WE can be so familiar with this gospel story about Jesus walking on the water that we may not realise just how very weird and wonderful it is. In fact, this can be true of all the gospel stories, but that is a matter for another sermon - in fact a lifetime of sermons! The first thing to realise is how very frank an account it is. We are told that Jesus' friends were quite terrified; and that Peter failed the test he himself had offered Jesus; he 'woke up' to what he was doing, then just couldn't do it any more.

We learn from this that we can all have the same strange experience, of wondering about our faith, and asking ourselves if it isn't all a dream we should wake up from?

Or, is our daily life the dream we should wake up from, to be able to walk, with Jesus over all our uncertainties and fears? How to decide this question-of-all-questions? I'm sure I can't answer it in the few lines left here; in fact I don't think I can answer it at all, for you. You have to find the answer for yourself. I may only help. The answer will be deep inside you. How much do you know and feel about yourself? Have you ever met yourself, as you really are? It might be a strange and even painful experience! Or, was it - pleasant? Have you had it, and dealt with it?

Then, in your religion, have you ever 'met' Jesus at all?

Or have you just been in religious habits since childhood, which you didn't of course understand at all then, and so may not understand at all, now? Hearing this gospel, with real imagination and honesty, could help us to waken up, and meet the real person He is; with such terrifying and tremendous, and re-assuring power. A power, not only over things, like wind, and waves, but over our lives, of sin and sorrow; as to be able to bring us such peace and calm that we couldn't even imagine, until we meet Him, and walk to Him, ourselves; in faith, and hope, and love.

fr Duncan OP

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A (Weekdays II)

10 August 2008

The Newsletter of
HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER

Served by the Dominican Order: website www.torch.op.org



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Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
7:30pm Vigil	Fr Peter	Anne Downey, RIP	Fr Isidore
8:00am	Fr Isidore	Mary McGoldrick	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Peter	Pat Griffin	Fr Euan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Leon	Peter Crump, RIP	Fr Peter
7:00pm	Fr Euan	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Fabian

This Friday, 15 August, is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION. Mass times are given at the end of the Newsletter.

Sunday Evening Services	9 August	Confessions	16 August
5:45 Rosary	Fr Isidore	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Leon
6:15 Sung Latin Compline	Fr Peter	4:00 - 5:00pm	Fr Isidore
6:40 Benediction	Fr Fabian	7:00 - 7:20pm	Fr Fabian

Entrance Antiphon:	Lord, be true to your covenant, forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Rise up, O God, and defend your cause; do not ignore the shouts of your enemies.
1st Reading:	1 Kings 19: 9. 11-13
Psalm Response:	Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help (Ps 84)
2nd Reading:	Romans 9: 1-5
Alleluia:	Blessings on the king who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! At 11:00 - O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.
Gospel:	Matthew 14: 22-33
Communion Antiphon:	The bread I shall give is my flesh for the life of the world, says the Lord. Or (but not at 11:00) Praise the Lord, Jerusalem; he feeds you with the finest wheat.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend: Offertory Collection £907.02; SVP £10.15; St. Martin's Missions £9.48; Holy Souls £10.64; Grenada £12.56.

There will be a retiring collection this Sunday to go towards our diocesan quota.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Correction: I'm very sorry that last week's list of feasts was a couple of weeks out of date. I had just returned, refreshed, from holiday, and was obviously still in a reverie... - ed

The week ahead...		
Monday:	St Clare, virgin, religious	
Tuesday:	St Jane Frances de Chantal, wife and mother, religious - <i>optional</i>	
Wednesday:	SS Pontianus, pope, and Hippolytus, priest, martyrs - <i>optional</i>	
Thursday:	St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, priest, religious, martyr. Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Assumption at 6:15pm.	
Friday:	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, solemnity, and a Holyday of Obligation. Mass times are given at the end of the Newsletter.	
Saturday:	Saturday Mass of Our Lady or St Stephen of Hungary, husband and father, king - <i>both optional</i>	
Next Sunday:	20 th Sunday <i>per annum</i> . Readings:	
	Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7	Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32 Matthew 15: 21-28

St Paul's School and the development of the adjacent Leicester Grammar School site. The Grammar School has moved to a new site and is in the process of selling the site adjacent to St Paul's. They have applied to the City Council for the site to be used for residential development. This is not in the interests of St Paul's who want to buy the land themselves in order to improve the facilities for the students and families of St Paul's, and the local community. If you wish to object to the application, please take one of the letters on the tables by the New Walk and Wellington Street entrances.

Holy Cross SVP. The SVP, founded by the Blessed Frederic Ozanam in 1833, and bearing the name of the great St Vincent de Paul, has been active as one of our leading lay organisations for many years. We have a conference here of seven members and a spiritual director. Members carry out a lot of visiting in people's homes, residential and nursing homes and hospitals, in and out of the parish. The SVP is an ecumenical organisation and visits Catholics, other Christians and non Christians. Members are also represented on the Inter-Faith Asylum Seekers Support Committee in Leicester and carry out the weekly Red Cross collection here which has been so generously supported, and they collect money for two parishes in India. You can help by placing contributions in the collecting box in the church, by joining the SVP, or by becoming a Friend of the SVP for a small annual donation. For more information, see Fr Isidore or Bernard Hawcroft at the 8am Mass, or Stephanie or Martin Tacey at the 11am Mass on Sundays. Otherwise please phone Bernard Hawcroft on 210 9077.

A parishioner is going on a pilgrimage to the Divine Mercy Shrine at Kraków in Poland on 28 August. She is willing to take prayers and petitions with her on this pilgrimage. A book for recording your petitions and thanksgiving is available alongside our ordinary parish book of prayer.

Please note that the **Children's Liturgy** will not occur during the summer until 31 August. More information about it will be available in a leaflet nearer the time (please look out for it). In the meanwhile, a trolley with religious books and stories will be left by the door of the church for children during the 9:30am Family Mass.

The annual pilgrimage in honour of Our Lady Queen of Peace takes place in Walsingham on 25 August. For information and transport details, phone Kath on 0116 234 0103 a.s.a.p.



Today's Gospel: Jesus walks on the water

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.

Missed last week's Newsletter and want to catch up? Back copies of the Newsletter are available, technology permitting, on the Choir's website <http://holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk/> on the 'Links' page.

Services at Holy Cross during the week:

Mass: Monday to Saturday, at 10:00am (with sermon) & 12:40pm.

Friday 15 August, the Feast of the Assumption, is a Holyday of Obligation, and Masses will be at 6:15pm (vigil), 10:00am, 12:40 and 7:30pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday 10:30am - 12:30pm with Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary and simple Benediction at 12noon.

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