

Holy Cross Parish Pastoral Council

PASTORAL councils are established under canon law and regulated by the diocesan bishop. The council is designed to provide a means by which Christ's faithful, together with the parish priest, assistant priests and the parish sister, help to foster pastoral care.

In September, six members of the congregation were appointed to the new council. Whilst the council is not a negotiating committee, members will be pleased to represent parishioners' concerns and wishes. You should feel free to raise any issue with a council member - soon you will be able to find our details and photos on the notice boards in the narthex (back porch).

Members of the council are appointed for three years and can serve for up to two consecutive terms. The current chair is Anthony Devereaux-Lacey. The council acts as a channel for members of the congregation, and also to assist the Parish Priest in carrying out his responsibilities. Decisions made by the council cannot be implemented without the parish priest's agreement.

We hope that all members of the family and parish of Holy Cross will feel able to support and use the recently appointed pastoral council. We plan to communicate with the parish from time to time through the newsletter so please look out for our updates. This communication, as a beginning, is to explain who and what we are.

It was good to meet so many of you at the Blackfriars Advent Market recently. Thank you to everyone who worked on or shopped at the market and helped to make it a very successful event. We hope to see you all at the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols (December 3), the Christmas lunch (December 7) and the Holy Cross Carol Party (December 21) during Advent.

We wish you a happy and holy Advent!

The Parish Pastoral Council:

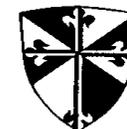
Keith Athaide, Andrew Barrett, Anne Chafer, Anthony Devereaux-Lacey, Stephanie Henderson-Barrett, and Pat Nutting.

1st Sunday of Advent

Year B

30 November 2008

The Newsletter of
HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER
Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247



Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
6:00pm Vigil	Fr Isidore	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Euan
8:00am	Fr Euan	Susan Donnelly, RIP	Fr Leon
9:30am Family	Fr Leon	John & Mary Pinto, RIP	Fr Fabian
11:00am Solemn	Fr Duncan	Terry & Dolores Clancy, wedding ann'y	Fr Peter
4:00pm Old rite	Fr Thomas	Isabel O'Reilly, RIP	Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	Fr Peter	(Mass for Students in the Lady Chapel)	Fr Peter
7:00pm	Fr Thomas	Quigley family	Fr Euan

Next Week's Mass for Students will be the last one for this term.

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	29 November	Confessions	6 December
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Leon	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Euan
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	Fr Euan	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr Thomas

There is a series of short Advent talks on 'The Poetry of Christmas' being given after both Masses on Fridays in Advent, apart from the last one. This week Fr Fabian will speak on 'The Oxen' by Thomas Hardy.

Please note that the new timetable is in effect from today, the first day of the new liturgical year. Please see the new noticeboards outside the church, or leaflets available within, for details.

Entrance Antiphon:	To you, my God, I lift my soul, I trust in you; let me never come to shame. Do not let my enemies laugh at me. No one who waits for you is ever put to shame.
1 st Reading:	Isaiah 63: 16-17; 64: 1. 3-8
Psalm Response:	Restore us, O God; let your face shine that we may be saved. (Ps 80)
2 nd Reading:	1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Alleluia:	Show us your merciful love, and grant us your salvation.
Gospel:	Mark 13: 33-37
Offertory (at 11:00):	To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. I trust you, let me not be disappointed; do not let my enemies triumph. Those who hope in you shall not be disappointed.
Communion Antiphon:	The Lord will shower his gifts, and our land will yield its fruit.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections: Offertory Collection £884.20; Grenada £5.90. Figures for the other collection boxes are not yet available. The retiring collection for Blackfriars Advent Market came to £213.50, to be used for church restoration.

There will be a retiring collection next week for new and poor parishes.

The 200 club: Members who had a Standing Order last year have paid for one extra month - you will receive an extra number in the December draw (or contact us for a refund, before 30 December). Apologies for the confusion.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Last chance to buy tickets for the parish Christmas lunch! It will be next Sunday, 7 December at 1:30pm, in Holy Cross Centre. Tickets are priced at £10 for adults, £5 for children, and £7 concession. Family tickets are available at £25. Get your tickets at the 200 Club stand after Mass!

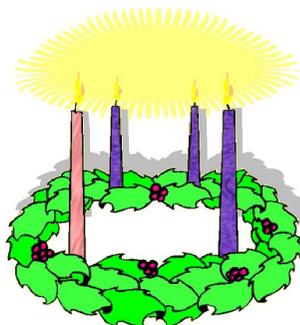
A service of lessons and carols will be held on **Wednesday** at 7:30pm here in the church, followed by refreshments in the hall. It is an Advent service, with a strong theme of looking forward to and yearning for the coming of the Messiah, based on the ancient 'O antiphons'. Car parking will be available in the gated car park.

Leicester Catholic Studies. The Autumn Talk will take place in Holy Cross Centre on **Monday** at 8pm when Fr Dominic O'Connor will speak on 'An Ongoing Journey'. All are welcome, and an interesting and stimulating evening is assured.

Churches Together in Leicester City Centre will meet here at Holy Cross this Thursday 4 December at 12:30pm. We will be singing some well-known Advent hymns, and looking at an 'O' Antiphon and the *Rorate caeli*, led by members of the Choir. All are welcome.

Music for Christmas 2008. Coro Nostro, the Chamber Choir which sang at the Requiem Mass on Remembrance Sunday, will have their next concert on Tuesday 9 December at 7.30pm at the Church of St John the Baptist, Clarendon Park Road. Tickets available from the Richard Attenborough Centre or the Tourist Information Bureau, Town Hall Square, and on the door (including mulled wine and mince pie).

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.



Today we bless the Advent Wreath. Wreaths date back to the Middle Ages. Lighting an extra candle each week symbolises the accumulation of light in growing anticipation of the birth of Our Lord.

<i>Year 1</i>	The week ahead...	<i>Psalter Week 1</i>
Monday:	Feria	
Tuesday:	Feria	
Wednesday:	St Francis Xavier, priest, religious. Migrants' Day. Prayers are recommended for migrants and refugees.	
Thursday:	St John Damascene, priest, doctor - <i>optional</i>	
Friday:	Feria	
Saturday:	St Nicholas, bishop - <i>optional</i>	
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. This week, Fr Thomas will say Mass in the older form on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday at 8:30am, and Saturday at 8:15am. On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Monday 8 December, there will be a Sung Mass in the older form at 7:30pm.		
Next Sunday - Second Sunday of Advent. Readings:		
Isaiah 40: 1-5. 9-11	2 Peter 3: 8-14	Mark 1: 1-8

Christmas Tree Star Appeal for Asylum Seekers & Refugees: After its outstanding success for the last two years, this is being repeated this year during Advent. The tree will carry stars, each star having the name of a gift, some cheap, others a little more expensive. You choose a star, or more than one if you wish, buy and wrap the gift(s) named and return it (them) to the church with the stars attached. Your star gifts will go to someone in need, and arrangements will be made to deliver them.

City of Sanctuary 'Seasonal Celebration' - this is planned for Monday 22 December, 12 noon till 6pm, at Trinity Life Church Hall (Tichborne St). It is an attempt to help asylum seekers and refugees and their children have a Happy Christmas; BUT there seems nothing but fun and games and no presentation of Christmas at all. Do you have any ideas about presentations of who Santa Claus is (Saint Nicolas) and why we give presents (the Magi)? If you can help, please contact Fr Duncan.

"The Saviour's Birth" Leicestershire Chorale will be performing music by Poulenc, Maxwell Davies, Vilette and others for Advent and Christmas alongside music for organ from Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur* played by David Cowen. Saturday 6th December, St James the Greater, 7.30. Tickets: £10, Concessions: £7.50, School Students: £1.

SERVICE TIMES
MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS 8.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers Old Rite Masses as announced. The church is open from 8.00 to 15.30 (winter) or 16.00 (summer)
WEDNESDAYS 10.30 Exposition until 12.30 12.00 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction
SATURDAYS 9.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass 10.30 Novena to Our Lady 10.30 Confessions until 11.30 12.30 Mass 17.00 Confessions until 18.00 17.45 Vespers 18.00 Vigil Mass for Sunday Old Rite Masses as announced.
HOLYDAYS 18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass 8.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers 19.00 Mass
BANK HOLIDAYS 8.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass, after which the church is closed
SUNDAYS 8.00 Mass 9.00 Lauds 9.30 Mass (Family) 11.00 Mass (Solemn: Latin on 2 nd , 4 th and 5 th Sundays) 16.00 Mass (Old rite in Latin) 17.00 Mass (for Students, term time only) 17.45 Vespers 18.00 Rosary 18.20 Sung Latin Compline 18.40 Benediction 19.00 Mass
Leicester Royal Infirmary Catholic Chaplaincy: For urgent visits, ask ward staff to bleep the Roman Catholic Chaplain. For non-urgent visits leave message at the Priory or the LRI Chaplains' Office. Messages may not be picked up until the end of the day.
Website for past Newsletters: holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk
CONTACT DETAILS Holy Cross Priory 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW Priory phone: (0116) 255 3856 Fax/recorded times of services: 255 5552 Parish Priest: Fr Leon Pereira: 252 1501 leon.pereira@english.op.org For home visits: 255 3856