

'ORDINARY' TIME?

YOU will notice that the Christmas Crib is still in place. It's not that we have forgotten to take it down; but we have left it there to emphasise that Christmas is not just a day or a shopping season, but a time to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, a time which does not really end until the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, 2 February. Nevertheless, we have entered that part of the Church's year which is called 'Ordinary' Time, and today is the second Sunday in Ordinary Time. If that sounds a bit plain and dull, well, we remember that life is bound to vary, and we cannot always be on the heights. Genuine human life involves feasting and fasting; tension and relaxation; the special and the ordinary.

Still, this Sunday is special in several respects, anything but 'ordinary'. First of all, it is a World Day of Prayer for Peace – and heaven knows we need peace just now more strongly than ever. The bombardment between Gaza and Israel is pitiless in its destruction of innocent people, on both sides. Negotiation rather than violence is the only way to justice and a lasting peace. So today especially we pray intently for the change of heart that will make that peace possible.

Secondly, today is also a Day of Prayer for Education. The Catholic Church has always put a great emphasis on education, not just as a process of imparting information, but of forming values and character. Wisdom is more important than any amount of knowledge. So today too we should pray for Catholic Schools, remembering especially our primary and secondary schools in this city; but we must also pray for all the other schools and universities, for their staff and students, because the education given there is preparing those students for life, here and hereafter.

Thirdly, this Sunday is the first day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Jesus prayed that all who believed in him would be united, as the Father and Son are united perfectly in understanding and love. And yet the reality is that we are tragically divided. There are profound differences in belief and practice between the various Christian bodies. And there are historic problems of fear, suspicion and hostility, for which we are all guilty. But many Christians are united with us in baptism, or at least have faith in Jesus as Saviour, even if the way they express their faith differs from ours. It is only through the Spirit of God that the prayer of Jesus for unity can be realised. So today, and for the coming week, we should pray also for the Holy Spirit to bring together in faith and love all those who worship Jesus and see in Him the only salvation for us all.

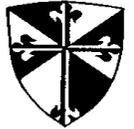
Fr Fabian OP

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

18 January 2009

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	James Henry, RIP	Fr Duncan
8:00am	Fr Fabian	Joseph Johnstone, RIP	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Leon	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Fabian
11:00am Solemn	Fr Euan	Maria de Govveia Goncalves	Fr Leon
4:00pm Old rite	Fr Thomas	Peace in Colombia	Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	Fr Peter	(Mass for Students in the Lady Chapel)	Fr Peter
7:00pm	Fr Duncan	Delicia Noronha, RIP	Fr Euan

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	17 January	Confessions	24 January
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Fabian	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Peter
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	Fr Euan	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr Thomas

Today is World Day of Prayer for Peace. Prayers are encouraged for peace and justice on earth. It is also a **Day of Prayer for Education** and prayers are encouraged for Teachers, Catechists and Students.

The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins today and you are asked to pray this week for the unity of Christians.

Entrance Antiphon:	May all the earth give you worship and praise, and break into song to your name, O God, Most High.
1st Reading:	1 Samuel 3: 3-10. 19
Psalm Response:	Declare the Lord's marvellous works among all the peoples! (Ps 96)
2nd Reading:	1 Corinthians 6: 13-15. 17-20
Alleluia:	God has called us through the Gospel, to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. <u>At 11:00</u> - Praise God, all his angels, praise him, all his host.
Gospel:	John 1: 35-42
Communion Antiphon:	<u>At 11:00</u> - Andrew said to his brother Simon, we have found the Messiah, which means the Christ, and he took Simon to Jesus. <u>Otherwise either</u> - The Lord has prepared a feast for me: given wine in plenty for me to drink. <u>Or</u> - We know and believe in God's love for us.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections: Offertory Collection £955.28; SVP £14.22; Friends of Holy Cross £3.88; Holy Souls £7.98; Crib restoration £45.18.

200 Club. Last month's winners were: M Vivian £150, C Kamera £100, and P Bailey £50. Congratulations!

Next week there will be a retiring collection for the Diocesan Quota.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity - this week. This year's services will include a joint service on Wednesday 21 January at the Salvation Army in Kildare Street at 7pm. And on Sunday 25 January, Bishop Malcolm will preach at Choral Evensong at Leicester Cathedral at 4pm. Everyone is invited to both these services.

Pilgrimage to Ireland - 10 to 15 May. If you would like to join the Blessed Sacrament Parish's Pilgrimage this year, the cost will be £350 (single supplement £50). Travel is by coach and ferry with daily outings, including Knock. Please ring 285 8795 for a booking form, or speak to Fr Maloney.

Month's Mind Mass for Fr Frank McCarthy. Fr McCarthy died recently and was brought up in Melton parish. This Mass will take place on Wednesday 28 January at 12 noon at St John the Baptist's, Melton, and not as previously announced.



Today's Gospel: Behold the Lamb of God

The Leicester Theological Society, founded in 1959, is an ecumenical organisation aiming to provide a platform for serious theological debate which is both challenging to those with theological training and intelligible to the thinking lay person. The two remaining talks this season are:

- ◆ Richard Gill, local historian and presenter of the 'Lead Kindly Light' CDs on the life and thought of Cardinal Newman, on "English Newman or Jane Austen's High Catholic Ethos" on 13 February; and
- ◆ Fr Peter Hunter, OP, on "What is it to be alive? Scientific and theological perspectives" on 13 March.

All are welcome. Meetings are held at Christchurch, Clarendon Park Road (near Queens Road) at 7:30pm. Cost is £5 (students no charge).

Year 1	The week ahead...	Psalter Week 2
ORDINARY TIME - WINTER BEFORE LENT The weeks in Ordinary Time do not celebrate a specific aspect of the mystery of Christ. Rather, especially on the Sundays, they are devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its aspects. During Ordinary Time (before Lent) we are asked to pray for these intentions: Peace on Earth; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Students and Teachers; The Unemployed.		
Monday:	St Wulstan, bishop - <i>optional</i>	
Tuesday:	Bl Cyprian Iweni Tansi, priest, religious (who was once a monk at Mount St Bernard's and died in the Royal Infirmary)	
Wednesday:	St Agnes, virgin, martyr	
Thursday:	St Vincent, deacon, martyr - <i>optional</i>	
Friday:	Feria	
Saturday:	St Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor	
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. This week, Fr Thomas will say Mass in the older form on days and times to be announced. There will be a sung Mass on the evening of 2 February, Candlemas.		
Next Sunday - The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle. Readings:		
Acts 22: 3-16		Mark 16: 15-18

What have these saints in common? - St Martin de Porres, St Theresa of Lisieux, St Joseph, Our Lady, St Dominic, St Patrick, St Helena. Answer: we have statues of them here in Holy Cross. Want to know more about them? There is a set of leaflets (20p each, please) available in the Wellington Street transept giving some details of their lives and works. So you can discover who was apprenticed to a man who was both a barber and a surgeon; who, when invited to choose a toy from a box, said "I'll have the lot"; who sold his precious theology books to buy bread for the hungry; and who lived to a ripe old age, excavating the site of a pagan temple.

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 opportunity for a chat with members of the Dominican Community and with parishioners. We particularly welcome newly-arrived students and other visitors to our Parish.

REGULAR 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) / 16.00 (summer)
WEDNESDAYS 10.30 Exposition until 12.30 11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & 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.
HOLIDAYS 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