

**The Newsletter of**  
**HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER**

*Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247*



**T**HE Gospel raises many questions, as all gospels do. We spend our whole life trying to find the answers. What does it mean that Jesus 'taught with authority', and not like the scribes, the clergy of His day? And how did the spirit in the man possessed, first of all know who Jesus was, but then didn't follow Him? We make the excuse of ignorance, for the so many, who don't seem to take religion seriously. Could it be that, as with this 'unclean' spirit, there is no excuse of ignorance? They know who Jesus is? They just don't want to follow Him? In fact they find Him an enemy to all they want to do? There's room for lots of thoughts and questions, and even some actions here! Are we to 'teach with authority', like Jesus? Will people have any exercise of 'authority' these days? They think we are all free, each entitled to our own opinions and point of view; and all to be respected, in our 'civilised' society.

But if we conform to this way of thinking, we will be unable to do anything.

Is it that we are afraid of any 'convulsions', like the ones the man was thrown into, when the spirit was ordered out of him? The Gospel is, however, for us to hear, and act on, in any ways we can. We can learn (and the best way to learn, I have found, is to teach!) the truths: of God, His Glory; His Kingdom.

For this we have to keep coming to church; to pray; and learn for ourselves, and celebrate, and demonstrate; to each other, to Leicester and to the world!

fr Duncan, OP

Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
6:00pm Vigil	Fr Isidore	Paul Foster, RIP	Fr Peter
8:00am	Fr Fabian	Boyd, Ruane & O'Rourke families, RIP	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Leon	Boyd, Ruane & O'Rourke families int'n	Fr Euan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Peter	Tom Horan, RIP	Fr Leon
4:00pm Old rite	Fr Duncan	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	Fr Peter	(Mass for Students in the Lady Chapel)	Fr Peter
7:00pm	Fr Thomas	Patrick Hart, RIP	Fr Duncan

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	31 January	Confessions	7 February
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Thomas	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Peter
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	Fr Peter	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr Isidore

**"Come follow me" Jesus said.** Next weekend Fr David Cain, Vocations Director for the diocese, will be leading a Vocations Promotion in the parish of the Immaculate Conception, Oadby. Please pray for Vocations this week. If you would like to have a chat with Fr David, either about the Vocation to the Priesthood, or any ways in which you would like to be involved in promoting Vocations, please ring him on 251 9370, e-mail [frdavid@nrcdt.org.uk](mailto:frdavid@nrcdt.org.uk), or see [www.rucalled.com](http://www.rucalled.com).

Entrance Antiphon:	Save us, Lord our God, and gather us together from the nations, that we may proclaim your holy name and glory in your praise.
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading:	Deuteronomy 18: 15-20
Psalm Response (not 11:00):	<b>O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading:	1 Corinthians 7: 32-35
Alleluia:	<b>The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death, light has dawned.</b> <u>At 11:00</u> - I will adore before your holy temple; I thank you.
Gospel:	Mark 1: 21-28
Communion Antiphon:	<u>Either</u> - Let your face shine on your servant, and save me by your love. Lord, keep me from shame, for I have called to you. <u>Or (but not at 11:00)</u> - Happy are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Happy are the lowly; they shall inherit the land.

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last Weekend's collections: Offertory Collection £950.72; SVP £9.18; Friends of Holy Cross £9.42; Holy Souls £9.93; Crib restoration £13.39. The collection for the Diocesan Quota came to £332.01.

This week there is a retiring collection for Sick and Retired Priests (sorry there wasn't advanced notice of this in last week's Newsletter).

Please do not put foreign coins in the collection, as our counting machine cannot cope with them! Thank you.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

The parish is embarking on a project to collect a 'parish necrology', that is an easy reference to when (date and year) parishioners here have died - this is for people who worshipped and died here, and not simply for our own loved ones. This way we will have a handier access to whose anniversaries occur in any given week of the year - and can mention their names in the bidding prayers if need be. If you remember the anniversaries of any parishioners, please write them down and give them to Fr Leon.



Today's Gospel: Jesus teaches in the synagogue.

**CQ Lyfe does Film!** Conversations on Film, Faith and Life. Socialising, Reflection and Film. Tuesday 3rd February at 7:30 pm at the Lallie Bella, Queen Street, Leicester. CQ Lyfe is the City Centre Churches' ecumenical ministry to the Cultural Quarter around the Curve theatre. See the website: [www.cqlyfe.co.uk](http://www.cqlyfe.co.uk). All are welcome.

We would like to collect the memories of the church and priory, especially before these memories are lost! Many of you remember what the church and priory were like before the church was extended in 1953. Having said that, the project is to get glimpses of various eras and epochs in our history. If you have memories of coming to Mass here, what it looked like, and if you have photographs or pictures of this priory and church - or remember things you were told as a child about the OLD Holy Cross, please do let us have these.

**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.

**A Mass for Gay (LGBT) Catholics**, their families and friends will be celebrated here on Saturday 7 February 2009 at 3:30pm. This will be followed by refreshments in the parish centre. All are welcome.

**Religious Diversity in Health Care.** There will be a talk by Rev Mark Burleigh, Head of Chaplaincy, University Hospitals NHS Trust, at St Philip's Centre, Stoughton Drive North, on Tuesday 10 February at 7:30pm. More details on the noticeboard or from Clare Downing, telephone 273 3459, or [clare.downing@stphilipscentre.co.uk](http://clare.downing@stphilipscentre.co.uk).

Year 1	The week ahead...	Psalter Week 4
Monday:	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD. There will be an extra Mass, in the older form, at 7:30pm, preceded by the Blessing of Candles and Procession.	
Tuesday:	St Blaise, bishop, martyr	
Wednesday:	St Gilbert of Sempringham, priest, religious	
Thursday:	St Agatha, virgin, martyr	
Friday:	SS Paul Miki, subdeacon, religious, and Companions, martyrs of Japan	
Saturday:	COMMEMORATION OF OUR DECEASED PARENTS	
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. This week, Fr Thomas will say Mass in the older form on Monday at 7:30pm, on Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 8:30am, and on Saturday at 8:15am. All welcome - especially a server. If you would like to learn to serve this Mass, please contact Fr Thomas.		
<b>Next Sunday - Fifth Sunday <i>per annum</i>. Readings:</b>		
Job 7: 1-4, 6-7	1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23	Mark 1: 29-39

The Holy Cross SVP conference provides emotional and practical support to a variety of people in need. If you would like to find out more about the SVP work within the parish or become a member of the conference, please contact Rosi Leivas by phone on 07542 904154 or by email [rosi\\_leivas@o2.co.uk](mailto:rosi_leivas@o2.co.uk).

**Red Cross Appeal for Refugees & Asylum Seekers.** The Red Cross list of items needed to support these destitute and vulnerable people has been updated, with changes underlined:

- ◆ Dried items: rice (RICE IS URGENTLY NEEDED), 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: fish, meat and pulses; 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.

**VACANCY** for a cleaner - Holy Cross School. See noticeboard and call 283 3135 for more details. Closing date 4 February.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES
<b>MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS</b> 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)
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> 10.30 Exposition until 12.30 11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary & Benediction
<b>SATURDAYS</b> 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.
<b>HOLYDAYS</b> 18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass 8.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers 19.00 Mass
<b>BANK HOLIDAYS</b> 8.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass, after which the church is closed
<b>SUNDAYS</b> 8.00 Mass 9.00 Lauds 9.30 Mass (Family) 11.00 Mass (Solemn: Latin on 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> 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
<b>Leicester Royal Infirmary Catholic Chaplaincy:</b> 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.
<b>Website for past Newsletters:</b> <a href="http://holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk">holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk</a>
<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b> 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 <a href="mailto:leon.pereira@english.op.org">leon.pereira@english.op.org</a> For home visits: 255 3856