

## You are dust and unto dust you shall return

In the Iliad, two men who are about to enter into combat address each other. One, Glaucus, says what are the best known lines in Homer's poetry.

'Men come and go as leaves year by year upon the trees. Those of autumn the wind sheds upon the ground, but when spring returns the forest buds forth with fresh vines. Even so is it with the generations of mankind, the new spring up as the old are passing away.'

The Prophet Isaiah says, All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people is grass. Isaiah 40:6-7.

The two quotations seem very similar but there is an unbridgeable distance between the two. For Homer mortality is just an inescapable fact but for the Prophet Isaiah, as he says immediately after this, 'The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.' The great passage concludes with the words, 'They who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31.

We begin our Lent by considering our own mortality. In biblical terms, we say, 'Remember that you are dust and unto dust you shall return'. It is easy to forget what we are, easy to let death come to us as a shock. Yet remembering is itself, not a work of dust and ashes, but a work of the spirit. It is our spiritual nature which enables us to consider our own mortality. In a way, we pity our own flesh, we are compassionate to our own weakness. This is a work of the human spirit, but there is another Spirit, the Spirit of God which shares his life with us. The human spirit can only grieve and mourn for our short weak lives but in the Spirit of God we can go beyond that.

Our journey which begins with Lent begins on Ash Wednesday by considering what we are, but the season does not end with Easter. Easter is only the half way point. There is something greater than Lent to be accomplished, which is to make our way to Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. Then we are beyond mourning, because we come to the climax, (in this world), of what God has done for us.

Then we will have reached a new understanding of the words of the Gospel of John, 'That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.' John 3:6.

Fr Euan Marley O.P.

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

Year B

1 March 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 Thomas Kathy Hume		Fr Peter
8:00am	Fr Isidore Nora Mullen		Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Leon Maria de Gouveia Goncalves, RIP		Fr Euan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Peter <i>Pro populo</i>		Fr Leon
12:30pm Old rite	Fr Thomas Holy Souls		Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	Fr Peter (Mass for Students in the Lady Chapel)		Fr Euan
7:00pm	Fr Euan Nan Young		Fr Duncan

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	28 February	Confessions	7 March
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Fabian	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Isidore
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	Fr Euan	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr Duncan

TO PREPARE FOR EASTER there is a series of Lenten Talks on 'Aspects of St Paul' after both Masses on Thursdays in Lent. This week Fr Duncan will speak on 'Paul's Missionary Journeys'. And, throughout Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross at 1pm on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Entrance Antiphon:	When he calls me, I will answer; I will rescue him and give him honour. Long life and contentment will be his.
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading:	Genesis 9: 8-15
Psalm Response:	All your paths, O Lord, are mercy and faithfulness, for those who keep your covenant. (Ps 24)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading:	1 Peter 3: 18-22
Verse before Gospel (Tract at 11:00):	Glory and praise to you O Christ. ✠ Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. At 11:00 - Whoever dwells with the assistance of the Most High will abide in the protection of the God of heaven.
Gospel:	Mark 1: 12-15
Offertory (at 11:00):	The Lord will overshadow you, and you will find refuge under his wings. His faithfulness is buckler and shield.
Communion Antiphon:	<u>Either</u> - The Lord will overshadow you, and you will find refuge under his wings. His faithfulness is buckler and shield. <u>Or (but not at 11:00)</u> - Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last Weekend's collections: Offertory Collection £1042.31; SVP £15.02; Friends of Holy Cross £15.23; Holy Souls £11.34; Crib restoration £2.67. There will be a retiring collection next week for the Lenten Fast Day and the proceeds will be given to LOROS for their hospice.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Churches Together in Leicester City Centre will meet at St Mary de Castro this Thursday at 12:30pm. All are welcome.

CQ Lyfe, the City Centre Churches' ecumenical ministry to the Cultural Quarter around the Curve theatre will meet at the Lallie Bella bar on Queen Street this Tuesday at 7:30 pm. All are welcome. See noticeboard.

**VACANCIES.** Christ the King primary school require three teachers. See noticeboard.

**Nurse Aid: A live concert.** Raising money to train a nurse in Nepal. This Wednesday. See noticeboard.

**Home is a Holy Place.** There will be a meeting on Friday from 7:30 to 9pm to watch a DVD, do activities and have discussions. For people of all ages. More details from Christina Mottram on 221 3066 or [cj.mottram@ntlworld.com](mailto:cj.mottram@ntlworld.com), and see noticeboard.



Today's Gospel: The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness.

Events for your diary!	
Saturday 25 April	Blackfriars Market - moved to this date by the Pastoral Council because of the two May bank holidays and school half term
Friday 22 May	Inaugural <i>Holy Cross Lecture</i> by Mr James Mawdsley, human rights activist, author of <i>The Heart Must Break</i> , who was imprisoned and tortured in Burma
Sunday 17 May	Dominican Pilgrimage to Walsingham; please contact Fr Peter OP on 252 1512
Wednesday 24 June	<i>An Evening with St Paul:</i> to commemorate the Pauline Year, a lecture by Fr Richard Ounsworth OP and music provided by David Cowen
Monday 29 June	Celebrations at St Peter's, Hinckley, of the 250th anniversary of the arrival of Dominican friar, Fr Matthew Thomas Norton
Friday 7 August – Friday 14 August	Dominican Pilgrimage to Lourdes; please contact Fr Leon OP on 252 1501
Sunday 13 September	Consecration of bells by Bishop Malcolm McMahon OP, and parish party for the Parish Patronal Feast
Monday 5 October	St Therese's relics arrive at Nottingham Cathedral

Year 1	The week ahead...	Psalter Week 1
	Monday to Thursday: Lenten ferias	
Friday:	Lenten feria. Prayers are recommended for the needs of all people, especially for the productivity of the earth and for human labour, and to give God public thanks. A Votive Mass for various needs and occasions that is best suited may be offered. <b>Women's World Day of Prayer.</b> Prayer for the upholding and protection of the dignity of human beings is encouraged.	
Saturday:	Lenten feria	
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. This week, Fr Thomas will say Mass in the older form on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:30am. All welcome - especially a server. If you would like to learn to serve this Mass, please contact Fr Thomas.		
<b>Next Sunday - Second Sunday of Lent. Readings:</b>		
Genesis 22: 1-2. 9-13. 15-18	Romans 8: 31-34	Mark 9: 2-10

**St Peter's Parish, Hinckley is 250 years old!** Next Sunday at 6pm Fr Isidore will be speaking to them on 'Dominican Spirituality'. All are welcome. See noticeboard.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Have you got an hour to spare during the week? Do you own a car? The Holy Cross SVP Conference is looking for some volunteers to collect food parcels from the Parish and drop them off at the British Red Cross offices on London Road. The food parcels are then distributed to destitute asylum seekers and refugees. If you would like to volunteer or require further information, please contact Rosi Leivas by phone on 07542 904154 or by email at [rosi\\_leivas@o2.co.uk](mailto:rosi_leivas@o2.co.uk). Many Thanks.

**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. Volunteers welcome.

**What's the point of theology - today?** To find out, come to the Catholic Studies Lent Talk on Monday at 8pm in Holy Cross Centre. The talk will be given by Timothy McDermott, former Dominican, retired professor of computer science and author/editor of several books on St Thomas Aquinas. Parking will be available in the gated car park above the Priory.

<p><b>REGULAR SERVICE TIMES</b></p> <p><b>MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS</b></p> <p>8.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers</p> <p>Old Rite Masses as announced. The church is open from 8.00 to 15.30 (winter) / 16.00 (summer)</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAYS</b></p> <p>10.30 Exposition until 12.30 11.45 Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary &amp; Benediction</p> <p><b>SATURDAYS</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>HOLIDAYS</b></p> <p>18.00 (previous day) Vigil Mass 8.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass 12.30 Mass 17.45 Vespers 19.00 Mass</p> <p><b>BANK HOLIDAYS</b></p> <p>8.00 Lauds 10.00 Mass, after which the church is closed</p> <p><b>SUNDAYS</b></p> <p>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) 12.30 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</p> <p><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.</p> <p><b>Website for past Newsletters:</b> <a href="http://holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk">holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk</a></p> <p><b>CONTACT DETAILS</b></p> <p>Holy Cross Priory 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW Priory phone: (0116) 255 3856</p> <p>Fax/recorded times of services: 255 5552</p> <p>Parish Priest: Fr Leon Pereira: 252 1501 <a href="mailto:leon.pereira@english.op.org">leon.pereira@english.op.org</a></p> <p>For home visits: 255 3856</p>
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