

CHILDREN often ask me, Why did Jesus have to suffer, so much, and die?

Difficult to answer! Even more difficult than, Why do we have to suffer and die? I have been taught in theology that there is a whole rainbow of reasons for Jesus' suffering and dying. One is – it may be strange for us to think like this about Our Lord – that He showed necessary virtues on the Cross. These virtues help us. We imitate them. They save us. He shows we need them – Faith in God, Patience, Forgiveness, Concern for others.

He begins it all today with a dramatic entry into Jerusalem, acting out old Prophecies, that a mild 'king on a donkey' would take over Jerusalem for God. Children seemed to understand something of this. They were taught to throw sacred boughs of palm at the altar, but instead threw them at His feet. They shouted out, to Him, the holy Prophets' words of praise, to God. When the priests summoned Him to answer for all this He reminded them of other Prophecies, when a Man God would come in might and majesty. He so disturbed them, that they couldn't face the implications of this, and condemned Him to death for blasphemy. He submitted. Again, to act out more and more Prophecies. He showed us how God works, and wins, in ways we can imitate, to be saved – Faith, Patience, Forgiveness, Concern.

fr Duncan, OP

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 Duncan	Irene Olszewska, RIP	---
8:00pm Easter Vigil	---	(No 6pm Vigil Mass next Saturday)	Fr Leon
8:00am	Fr Isidore	Vocations	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Peter	Chris Liggins, RIP	Fr Duncan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Leon	Maria de Gouveia Gonçalves, RIP	Fr Peter
12:30pm Old rite	Fr Thomas	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	---	NO Mass today. Next Mass 3 May	---
7:00pm	Fr Leon	Henao Valencia Family	Fr Euan

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	4 April	Confessions	11 April
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Peter	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Isidore
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	---	1:00 - 2:00pm	Fr Thomas
On Easter Sunday there will be Solemn Vespers at 6:20pm.		Fr Thomas	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr Duncan

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICE TIMES are given on a yellow sheet, available by the doors. Please take as many as you need, and please do not phone the Priory for this information...

Entrance Antiphon:	Six days before the solemn passover the Lord came to Jerusalem, and children waving palm branches ran out to welcome him. They loudly praised the Lord: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are you who have come to us so rich in love and mercy.
1 st Reading:	Isaiah 50: 4-7
Psalm Response:	My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (Ps 21)
2 nd Reading:	Philippians 2: 6-11
Verse before Gospel:	Glory and praise to you O Christ. ☩ Christ became obedient for us unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him: and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.
Gospel:	Mark 14:1 - 15:47
Communion Antiphon:	Father, if this cup may not pass, but I must drink it, then your will be done.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections: Offertory Collection £684.49; SVP £10.74; Friends of Holy Cross £9.95; Holy Souls £12.62; Crib restoration £5.10.

There will be a collection on Good Friday for the Holy Places of Palestine.

BLACKFRIARS MARKET will be on **Saturday 25 April**. We are starting to collect items for sale at the Market. In particular we hope for saleable items: please do not send us books or videotapes though, as these are hard to sell. **If possible, please donate Fairtrade items (available in most supermarkets) – chocolate, biscuits, wine etc, for the Tombola. Thank you.**

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

Maundy Thursday - Watching until Midnight at the Altar of Repose. Please sign the sheet to volunteer to guarantee to watch for a specific 15-minute 'slot'. We must have at least two people watching at all times. The sheet is on the table by the Wellington Street door. **Carrying the Canopy in the procession:** We need four people to carry the Canopy - if you can assist please see Nicholas Hoff, the Sacristan, or contact Fr Leon.



The Passion: "Ride on, ride on, in majesty!"

'An Easter Reflection'. Saturday 18 April, in the church, from 11:15am until 12:30pm. A quiet time of prayer and meditation on the Resurrection. Scripture, poetry, hymns and readings, led by the Holy Cross Lay Dominicans. **EVERYONE WELCOME.**

Please pray for the Pope's intentions this month. "General: That the Lord may bless the farmers with an abundant harvest and sensitise the richer populations to the drama of hunger in the world. Mission: That the Christians who work in areas where the conditions of the poor, the weak and the women and children are most tragic, may be signs of hope, thanks to their courageous testimony to the Gospel of solidarity and love."

CQ Lyfe. The meeting due to take place on Tuesday has had to be **CANCELLED** as the Lalli Bella has closed. More news when it's available.

WE STILL NEED SOME HELP PLEASE. Have you got an hour to spare during the week? Do you own a car (especially one you already bring into the city centre)? The SVP Conference is looking for someone 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 are able to volunteer or require further information, please contact Rosi Leivas by phone on 07542 904154 or by email at rosi_leivas@o2.co.uk. Many Thanks.

Year 1	The week ahead...	Psalter Week 2
Mon-Wed:	Days of Holy Week	
Thu - Sat:	THE SACRED TRIDUUM. Times of all services are given on the yellow sheets by the church doors, and can be seen on the choir's website holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk under 'Services'.	
Tenebrae: On the three mornings of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, the normal service of Lauds is given the special name 'Tenebrae' meaning 'darkness', referring to the darkness that fell when Jesus was crucified. We warmly encourage you to join us to share in these prayers at 9am each morning of the Triduum.		
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. This week, Fr Thomas will say Mass in the older form on Wednesday 8:30am. All welcome, especially a server. If you would like to learn to serve this Mass, please contact Fr Thomas.		
Next Sunday - Easter Sunday. Readings:		
Acts 10: 34. 37-43	Colossians 3: 1-4	John 20: 1-9

Christ in the Centre. This year's depiction of the trial and crucifixion of Jesus will take place as usual on Good Friday, starting at 10:30am at St Peter's Square, in the Highcross Centre. The procession will go along High Street and arrive at Humberstone Gate at 11am. It always attracts large crowds - do come and join them.

GAP YEAR OPPORTUNITY - ALL EXPENSES PAID!! *Challenge Team UK* trains young adults (18-28) and sends them to schools with a prepared presentation. The team explains to pupils why saving sex for marriage is so important and presents chastity as a realistic and positive option. *Challenge* is currently looking for new volunteers from September 2009 to Easter 2010 in term times. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Debs on 07749 440 110. For further info, see noticeboard or visit the website www.challengeteamuk.org.

Midland Leg is part of the Student Cross pilgrimage which walks for up to 7 days, carrying a wooden cross, starting in Leicester and finishing in Walsingham on Good Friday, where the Easter Triduum is celebrated with other pilgrims. It has been a pilgrimage for 60 years, including several Dominicans as chaplains. Please pray for them, as they witness to Christ throughout Holy Week on their journey.

Don't forget the Twinclarke's Blog. Have a look at the weekly blog created by Peter and Isidore Clarke OP. The blog address: <http://mywaygodsway.blogspot.com>.

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)	
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	
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	
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