

## AVE VERUM CORPUS

ONE of the most sublime pieces of music ever written is Mozart's 'Ave Verum Corpus', 'Hail, true body, born of the Virgin Mary'. It is very brief, less than fifty bars, in simple four-part harmony and with merely a string accompaniment; but it has an intensity of feeling and a depth of devotion that is unsurpassed, to my mind at least. The words are traditional, 14th century, and express the catholic belief that in the consecrated bread and wine in the Eucharist Christ is truly present in all his bodily reality, in the body 'that truly suffered, that was offered on the cross for our sake, and from whose pierced side blood and water flowed'. If you don't know Mozart's 'Ave Verum', try to get hold of a CD which includes it, usually with other short pieces of sacred music. And if you are like me, you will find yourself listening to it again and again, both for its prayerful words and for its heart-rending music.

It is the reality of Christ's bodily presence in the Eucharist that is emphasised; but though the stress may seem to be on the suffering and wounding of that body, it is not the dead Christ who is present, but the Risen Christ, the One who said: 'Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive for ever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades' (Apocalypse 1: 17-18).

It is also the reality of Jesus' body that the disciples needed to be assured of, in the Gospel story today. They had heard he was alive again, for they said 'the Lord has risen indeed and has appeared to Simon', and they had heard of the experience of the two disciples going to Emmaus. But they still found it nearly impossible to accept that it was the real Jesus who was present in the room with them. They were 'alarmed and frightened' even though he said 'Peace be with you' – like we do to one another at Mass. They thought they were seeing a ghost. But no, ghosts do not have flesh and bones, as he said; and he showed them the wounds on his hands and feet to emphasise the point. And then, to make them certain, he asked for something to eat and they gave him some grilled fish. Whoever heard of a ghost eating fish?

It took time for them to get minds round the reality of what they were seeing. And it takes us time, too, to deepen our belief that Jesus truly died, and is truly risen, in a real glorified human body that no longer has the limitations of our present mortality; that he is truly present with us, though still invisibly but really so, especially in the sacraments; and that he will share his risen glorified life with us.

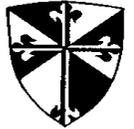
Fr Fabian OP

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Year B

26 April 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	Evelyn Dixon, RIP	Fr Thomas
8:00am	Fr Isidore	St Anthony's intention	Fr Duncan
9:30am Family	Fr Leon	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Peter
11:00am Solemn	Fr Peter	Anne Potterton (welfare)	Fr Duncan
12:30pm Old rite	Fr Duncan	John Kane, RIP	Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	---	NO Mass today. Next Mass 3 May	Fr Peter
7:00pm	Fr Fabian	James & Bridget Finnegan, RIP (anniv)	Fr Euan

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	25 April	Confessions	2 May
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Isidore	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Thomas
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	Fr Leon	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr Euan

**Parish Fund Raising** – Do you like walking, running, cycling? If so, why not raise funds for the parish by carrying out your own sponsored event. Information from Stephanie on 01530 249802.

**Calling all cake and jam makers:** A group of parishioners are going to start selling home made jam and cakes after the 9:30 and 11:00 Masses on the last Sunday in every month. Please start cooking now!

<b>Entrance Antiphon:</b>	Let all the earth cry out to God with joy; praise the glory of his name; proclaim his glorious praise, alleluia.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading:</b>	Acts 2:14. 22-28
<b>Psalm Response:</b>	Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord. (Ps 4)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:</b>	1 Peter 1:17-21
<b>Alleluia:</b>	Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn with love when you speak to us. <u>At 11:00</u> – It was ordained that the Christ should suffer and rise from the dead, and so enter into his glory.
<b>Gospel:</b>	Luke 24:13-35
<b>Communion Antiphon:</b>	Christ had to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day. In his name penance for the remission of sins is to be preached to all nations, alleluia. <u>At 11:00</u> – O sing to the Lord, alleluia; O sing to the Lord, bless his name. Proclaim his help day by day, alleluia, alleluia.

**MONEY MATTERS:** Last week's collection figures will be available next week.

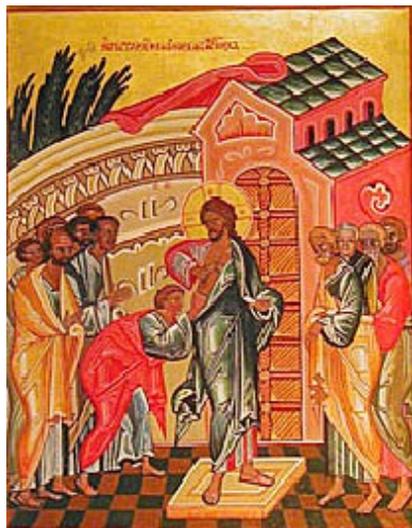
There will be a retiring collection today for contributions towards Blackfriars Market from those who were unable to attend. *Next week* there will be a retiring collection for the Clergy Formation Fund.

Gift Aid Boxes for the new financial year are available from the table by the Wellington Street door. Please collect your box - they are in alphabetical order by surname - after Mass.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

The Prior and Community cordially invite you to the **2009 HOLY CROSS LECTURE** on Friday 8 May at 7:30pm in Blackfriars Hall. This year's speaker is Mr James Mawdsley, human rights activist who spent 14 months in prison in Burma for pro-democracy protests, and he will speak on 'The Joy of Being Crucified'. He is the author of *The Heart Must Break*. Come along and hear this engaging young man speak about the Cross and its blessings in his life.

Come to an evening of song and dance in aid of the **British Red Cross** on Friday 15th May at 7.30pm, at the Ukrainian Social Club, corner of Fosse Road South and Hinckley Road. Hosted by the Red Leicester Choir, and dancing to the Greenshoots Ceilidh Orchestra. Licensed bar. Tickets £6/£4. Tel 0116 270 3143 to reserve.



"Touch me and see for yourselves: It is I indeed."

**Challenging Talks from a Catholic Perspective** – On Saturday 9 May at Westminster Cathedral Hall, London, Family Life International is hosting a conference on the challenges of preserving the dignity of every individual from conception to natural death. For more information, please call 020 8857 9950 or visit [www.flionline.org](http://www.flionline.org).

**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.

**Absolute Beginners' Parish Salsa Evening** – an evening of entertainment and dancing. No partner needed, no previous experience required! 7.30pm, on Friday 8 May, at Holy Cross Centre. For tickets, please contact Jeff on 243 1289 or [jeffhenry@btinternet.com](mailto:jeffhenry@btinternet.com). Tickets are £8 (£5 concession).

Year 1	The week ahead...	Psalter Week 3
Monday:	Easter feria	
Tuesday:	St Peter Mary Chanel, priest, teacher, martyr, or St Louis Mary Grignon de Montfort, priest, Dominican tertiary - <i>both optional</i>	
Wednesday:	ST CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN, DOCTOR, LAY DOMINICAN, PATRONESS OF EUROPE. <i>Prayers are recommended for Europe, and for the nuns and sisters of the Order of Preachers.</i>	
Thursday:	St Pius V, pope	
Friday:	St Joseph the Worker. <i>By the intercession of St Joseph, workman and provider, prayers are encouraged for human labourers and their work: for just wages, the dignity of workers, and the prudent stewardship of the earth.</i>	
Saturday:	St Athanasius, bishop, doctor	
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. This week, Fr Thomas will say Mass in the older form on Monday at 7:15am, and on 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 - 4th Sunday of Easter. World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Readings:</b>		
Acts 4: 8-12	1 John 3: 1-2	John 10: 11-18

**STATUES** – The statue of *St Therese* is now located on a plinth on the third pillar in the nave, on the left side (Wellington St). She is balanced on the right side by a new statue of *St Anthony*. Memorial plaques will be set up under both statues in memory of the loved ones of benefactors who made this possible. Other plinths are already set up. The idea is to balance *St Patrick* with *St George*, and also to honour *St Michael* (our 1st post-Reformation church in Leicester). That leaves one plinth empty – perhaps for a female saint like *St Anne*. Ideas, suggestions welcome.

**The Dominican Pilgrimage to Walsingham** is on Sunday 17 May. The coach will leave from the Wellington Street side of the church at 8am sharp, and the cost will be £15 (£10 for students). Please let Fr Peter know on 252 1512 if you would like to go. You will need to bring a packed lunch.

**The Dominican Pilgrimage to Lourdes** is from 7 to 14 August. If you would like to go, please ask for the forms which are kept in the sacristy. The cost for full board and flight is £665.

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)
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
<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.	
Website for past Newsletters: <a href="http://holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk">holycrosschoirleicester.co.uk</a>	
<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>	
Holy Cross Priory	
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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	