

The Newsletter of
HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH, LEICESTER
Serving Leicester's Catholics since AD 1247



WE have this wonderful Gospel each year to tell us how Jesus, back from the dead, blessed His followers, then left them, moving up into the sky, where a cloud hid Him. 'Angel' figures appeared, to promise that He would return, to rule us all, in 'justice, love and peace'; forever.

It is what every good person longs to hear. It gives the hope that we need, to live by. If we don't want to hear, and believe, there may be something wrong with the way we want to live. St Paul will mock it: 'Eat, drink and be merry – for tomorrow we die'. Or, are we just sad, 'living lives of quiet desperation'?

Especially today; when we all learn Science at school, with the picture of tiny 'planet earth' in the vast open universe; and no 'heavens above' it at all; only endless, cold, dark space, sprinkled with burning stars, lifeless planets.

We may then wonder. Where has Jesus really gone? Where is He, now?

A good question, which may help us to see everything in a different way.

Scientists themselves are talking very strangely today; of 'relativity' in time-and-space, past-and-future together; of it all with more-or-less 'probability'; and how, by looking, we give 'reality' reality; everything really being made, around us; just as we see it. When we say in the creed: 'through Him all things were made' it may involve our humanity; and His – infinitely more of course.

In our old churches we 'pictured' this all very strikingly. Angels wore wings. Saints wore haloes, and sat on clouds. Blazing gold showed that it was all well above this 'earth'. That dark, 'valley of tears', was left, far, down below. We can't feel like this now. We understand earth. We love beauty in nature. We can't, and won't, fly away from it. Jesus remains; not up 'above' us, now – we were told not to look up to the sky – but where our lives take us: 'ahead'.

fr Duncan OP

Sunday Masses	This week	Mass Intentions	Next week
6:00pm Vigil	Fr Isidore	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Isidore
8:00am	Fr Isidore	Avelino Colaço	Fr Duncan
9:30am Family	Fr Duncan	Sheelagh O'Connell's intentions	Fr Fabian
11:00am Solemn	Fr Leon	Mary Cullen, RIP	Fr Peter
12:30pm Old rite	Fr Thomas		Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	Fr Euan	Mass for students in the Lady Chapel	Fr Peter
7:00pm	Fr Fabian		Fr Leon

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	23 May	Confessions	30 May
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Leon	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Peter
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	Fr Fabian	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr Duncan

Monday is a Bank Holiday so there will only be one Mass, at 10am, after which the church will be closed.

An Evening with St Paul: to mark the end of the Pauline Year, a lecture will be given by Fr Richard Ounsworth OP and music provided by David Cowen and choir, at 7pm on Wednesday 24 June, St John the Baptist's day.

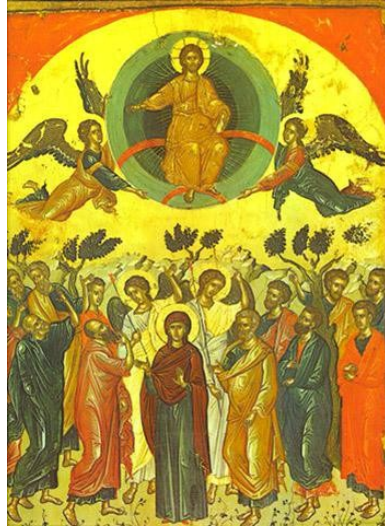
Entrance Antiphon:	Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking in the sky? The Lord will return, just as you have seen him ascend, alleluia.
1st Reading:	Acts 1: 1-11
Psalm Response:	God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. (Ps 47)
2nd Reading:	Ephesians 4: 1-13
Alleluia:	Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. <u>At 11:00</u> – The Lord has come from Sinai to the holy place. You have gone up on high; you have taken captives.
Gospel:	Mark 16: 15-20
Communion Antiphon:	I, the Lord, am with you always, until the end of the world, alleluia. <u>At 11:00</u> – These are the signs that will be associated with those who believe in me: they will cast out devils; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover, alleluia.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections: Offertory Collection: £1014.39; SVP £8.43; Friends of Holy Cross £9.94; Holy Souls £8.69; Crib restoration £8.34.

Could the Gift Aid donor using envelope no 112 make him or herself known to one of the community, as a Gift Aid form needs to be filled in. Many thanks!

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

COULD YOU SPARE AN HOUR to help defend an unborn child? On Saturday 20 June the Leicester pro-life group (based here at Holy Cross) intends to hold an information stall in the city centre to collect petitions to protest about abortion referrals in schools and proposed abortion adverts, and to collect money to help run pro-life events locally. We are in desperate need of people willing to offer an hour (even half an hour) of their time to help. If you think you could support us please contact me, Sica Martinez, on my mobile 0775 88 44 918. There's very little on the street to make young pregnant women think of alternatives to abortion – your help could redress the balance!



“And so the Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven.”

Win a one-week trip to Rome for two! There are just 300 tickets @ £10 and they are selling like hotcakes, so hurry, buy now! The draw will be on 14 June. All proceeds to Blackfriars Market. See Tim Challoner or one of the friars after any Mass.

This is National Family Week – please see handbills on the tables by the doors. Home is a Holy Place: Christina Mottram would be happy to bring the DVD to a family/group of people when they wish in their own homes. You just need to contact her on 221 3066 and to arrange a convenient time. It does work across a range of ages, as most people have some connection to caring in a family.

If you are interested in the ecumenical scene, the Diocesan Ecumenical Commission is holding its annual conference at Swanwick from Friday to Sunday, 12 - 14 June. Please contact Fr Duncan.

There will be a Corpus Christi procession at the end of the 11am Mass on Sunday 14 June.

The National Grandparents Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 25 July. See noticeboard.

Please join us in the Parish Hall after the 9:30am and 11:00am Sunday Masses for tea, coffee, fruit-juice etc. There is the opportunity for a chat with members of the Dominican Community and with parishioners. We particularly welcome newly-arrived people and other visitors to our Parish.

Year 1	The week ahead...	Psalter Week 3
Monday:	THE TRANSLATION OF OUR HOLY FATHER DOMINIC, FRIAR, PRIEST, solemnity. A plenary indulgence is granted for piously visiting a Dominican church or oratory and devoutly reciting an Our Father and a Creed there. But please note that today is a Bank Holiday, so the church is closed after the 10am Mass.	
Tuesday:	St Philip Neri, priest	
Wednesday:	St Augustine of Canterbury, bishop, apostle of the English	
Thursday:	Easter feria	
Friday:	Easter feria	
Saturday:	Easter feria	
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. This week, Fr Thomas will say Mass in the older form on Monday at 7:15am and Saturday at 8:15am. All welcome, especially a server. If you would like to learn to serve this Mass, please contact Fr Thomas.		
Next Sunday - Pentecost. Prayers are recommended for the Church and for the Holy Father as a focus of peace and unity. A plenary indulgence is granted for the devout recitation or solemn singing in a church or oratory of the hymn Veni, Creator. Readings:		
Acts 2: 1-11	1 Corinthians 12: 3-7.12-13	John 20: 19-23

Our friends Coro Nostro will again visit us on Pentecost Sunday, 31 May, at the 11am Mass. They will sing Byrd's Mass for Five Voices, one of the Mass Propers and some motets by Byrd, including his Ave Verum.

An organ recital will be given by David Cowen, the choir's director, on Monday 8 June at 8pm. The programme will include music by J S Bach, Franck and Reger. There is a handbill with more details by the church doors. Proceeds will go towards the maintenance of the church.

CQ Lyfe, the City Centre Churches' ecumenical ministry to the Cultural Quarter around the Curve theatre, is back in action. See noticeboard.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers – Leicester, City of Sanctuary. The Red Cross remain desperate for food and personal goods – please be as generous as you can and leave gifts after any Mass. No clothing or alcohol please but tins, rice, soup, pasta &c as per lists in previous Newsletters. For info, please email rosi_leivas@o2.co.uk.

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
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