

‘Ordinary Time’

FOR most of us there are times of excitement and celebration, followed by long periods of the humdrum routine of our daily lives.

The prayer life of the church – the liturgy – reflects this rhythm of preparation for celebration, then the celebration itself, and this being followed by a long period when nothing dramatic seems to happen. Advent and Lent prepare us for the celebration of the birthday of our saviour and for the Paschal Mystery of his death and resurrection. These festivals are followed by what is known as ‘Ordinary Time.’ That has just begun, now that we’ve completed Paschal-tide.

‘Ordinary Time’ sounds dull and unimportant. Dull it may be, unimportant it certainly is not. To think that would mean that most of our time didn’t really matter, because it’s so humdrum and routine, with our achieving nothing spectacular.

But let’s remember that was true of most of Jesus’ short life. For about thirty of his roughly thirty three years he shared the same life as any working class person in the provincial town of Nazareth. He was accepted as the son of Joseph the carpenter to such an extent that, when he began to preach, his neighbours thought he was getting above himself and needed to be cut down to size. During those long years of ‘Ordinary Time’ Jesus did nothing dramatic.

And yet that time was not wasted. During those years of his ‘hidden life’ Jesus grew from childhood to becoming a mature adult. He learnt about his Jewish faith and experienced what it meant to be human. Like any child he discovered the wonder of the world in which he lived. He would draw on all that experience when he began to preach. And in the routine of his domestic and working life he expressed his love for his heavenly Father and for people. That was how he served God during that period. For him ‘Ordinary Time’ was sacred time.

The same is true for us. It’s precisely in the routine of our daily live that God approaches us and we draw close to him. We don’t need to do anything spectacular to express our love for God and each other. Even the trivial and mundane have eternal value when blessed by God. Our constancy in loving service in our humdrum lives is what really matters. That proves our real Christian commitment. That’s what makes our ‘Ordinary Time’ sacred time.

During the ‘Ordinary Time’ of the liturgy we have continuous readings from one of the Synoptic Gospels. This year we will reflect on Mark’s Gospel. His insights about Christ and his teaching will help to deepen our understanding of what it means for us to be real Christians. This should assist us in transforming our dull, prosaic ‘Ordinary Time’ into sacred time.

Fr Isidore O.P.

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

21 June 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 Duncan
8:00am	Fr Duncan	Relatives & friends of Ashberry fam, RIP	Fr Isidore
9:30am Family	Fr Leon	Keith Newton, RIP	Fr Duncan
11:00am Solemn	Fr Fabian	Mr & Mrs D’Silva, RIP	Fr Leon
12:30pm Old rite	Fr Thomas	Stephanie Sévellec	Fr Thomas
5:00pm Students	– –	No Mass now until next term	– –
7:00pm	Fr Thomas	<i>Pro populo</i>	Fr Fabian

OTHER SUNDAY SERVICES	6:00pm Rosary	20 June	Confessions	27 June
9:00am Lauds	6:20pm Compline	Fr Thomas	10:30 - 11:30am	Fr Duncan
5:45pm Vespers	6:40pm Benediction	Fr Fabian	5:00 - 6:00pm	Fr isidore

An Evening with St Paul: to mark the end of the Pauline Year, a lecture will be given by Fr Richard Ounsworth OP, including some extracts from famous sermons about St Paul, and musical illustrations provided by David Cowen and choir, at 7pm, this Wednesday, 24 June, St John the Baptist’s day. Car parking will be available in the gated car park just beyond Blackfriars Hall. This is our Deanery event for the Pauline year and a Plenary Indulgence may be granted to all who attend.

Entrance Antiphon:	God is the strength of his people. In him, we his chosen live in safety. Save us, Lord, who share in your life, and give us your blessing; be our shepherd for ever.
1st Reading:	Job 38: 1. 8-11
Psalm Response:	O give thanks to the Lord, for his mercy endures for ever! (Ps 106)
2nd Reading:	2 Corinthians 5: 14-17
Alleluia:	A great prophet has arisen amongst us, and God has visited his people. At 11:00: In you, O Lord, I take refuge. Let me never be put to shame. In your justice set me free and rescue me. Hear me and speedily rescue me.
Gospel:	Mark 4: 35-41
Communion Antiphon:	<u>At 11:00</u> - I shall offer within his tent a sacrifice of joy. I will sing and make music for the Lord. <u>Otherwise either</u> - The eyes of all look to you, O Lord, and you give them food in due season. <u>Or</u> - I am the Good Shepherd; I give my life for my sheep, says the Lord.

MONEY MATTERS: Last Weekend's collections - Offertory Collection £1072.48; SVP £8.89; Friends of Holy Cross £9.40; Holy Souls £8.57; Crib restoration £2.87. The raffle for a week in Rome raised £2500 and was won by no 244, Mr & Mrs Marlow. There is a surprise bonus prize of a weekend in London, and this was won by no 267, Isabel Fong. Congratulations!

Next week there will be a retiring collection for Peter's Pence, 'a practical and symbolic expression of the participation of all the faithful in the charitable initiatives of the Bishop of Rome in favour of the universal Church'.

The Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust has recently given us a grant of £500 towards the restoration of our Christmas crib figures, for which we are most grateful.

LOROS have written to thank us for the £372.03 raised on the Lenten Fast Day.

Very many thanks for your continuing generosity.

The 250th anniversary of St Peter's parish in Hinckley, the oldest in the diocese, is being celebrated this month. On 29 June 1759, Fr Matthew Norton OP arrived, during a dangerous time for Catholics, some 30 years before the first Catholic Relief Acts. There will be celebrations at St Peter's, Hinckley, on Monday 29 June with Mass at 7pm and all are invited. Dominicans will be coming from all over the country - come and meet them!



Today's Gospel: They woke him and said to him, "Master, do you not care? We are going down!"

Leicester East Deanery Music Day will be held this Saturday, 27 June. Making Music, Talking Music, Praying Music. A day for parish singers and musicians to share experiences and music at St Joseph's Church, Goodwood. The day is open to all who are involved in providing music for the Mass, whether as leaders, instrumentalists, choirs or enthusiastic congregational singers. More details from: Jane on 07927 699732 or Alison on 220 7881. See noticeboard.

First Anniversary of Divine Mercy Prayer Group at Holy Cross Church. Please join us in singing the mercies of Our Lord, as we gather together to celebrate our first anniversary of the Divine Mercy Prayer Group at Holy Cross. Come and pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet with us at the usual time of 11:45am, this **Wednesday 24th June**.

A date for your diary. On Sunday 13 September, our patronal feast, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Bishop Malcolm will preside at the 11:00 Mass, after which he will consecrate our new bells. This will be followed by a Parish Party. More details in due course.

Year 1	The week ahead...	Psalter Week 4
Monday:	SS JOHN FISHER, BISHOP, AND THOMAS MORE, HUSBAND AND FATHER, MARTYRS	
Tuesday:	St Etheldreda, abbess - <i>optional</i>	
Wednesday:	THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, solemnity	
Thursday:	Feria	
Friday:	Feria	
Saturday:	Saturday Mass of Our Lady or St Cyril of Alexandria, bishop, doctor - <i>both optional</i>	
WEEKDAY MASS IN LATIN. This week, Fr Thomas will say Mass in the older form this week on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 8:30am. All welcome, especially a server. If you would like to learn to serve this Mass, please contact Fr Thomas.		
Next Sunday - Ss Peter & Paul, apostles. A Plenary Indulgence is granted to those who visit a minor basilica or cathedral and piously recite an Our Father and a Creed, or who use, in a spirit of devotion, any object of piety blessed by the Sovereign Pontiff or by any other bishop. Readings:		
Vigil: Acts 3: 1-10 / Galatians 1: 11-20 / John 21: 15-19		
Day: Acts 12: 1-11 / 2 Timothy 4: 6-8. 17-18 / Matthew 16: 13-19		

The SVP Mablethorpe Girls' Camp is looking for some female volunteers aged between 20 and 30 to help on the camp with the outdoor activities. Dates 15-22 August. For further information, please contact Monica on 277 7669.

The Docherty Academy of Irish Dancing has sessions in Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, Braunstone, for children aged 4+ each Tuesday and Thursday. See noticeboard.

The Year of Priesthood began last Friday. It is a year of prayer by priests and with priests. "May this year be an occasion for a period of intense appreciation of the priestly identity, of the theology of the Catholic priesthood, and of the extraordinary meaning of the vocation and mission of priests within the Church and in society." (Benedict XVI). More next week.

A Day with Mary - Pilgrimage to Italy from 3 to 11 September. See noticeboard.

Noticeboards are situated in the New Walk and Wellington Street entrances and at the back of the church in the Narthex. If you don't see what you are looking for, please check the other boards.

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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