



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER 2019

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

· A ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH · THE DOMINICAN PRESENCE IN LEICESTER SINCE 1247 ·

A WORD FROM THE PRIOR ...

The new church year arrives with the first Sunday of Advent, and we are all ready and set for the Advent Market. Over the last number of years, your amazing response and generosity has meant that we have been able to bring Holy Cross forward by leaps and bounds. It is a testimony to your generosity and commitment, and it is the future of your community that is being secured by these efforts.

A fresh start is always a welcome thing, and this year ahead promises to be a great opportunity for such a fresh start. We're all ready to get moving with our building renewal, and we're amazed at the generosity of all those who are helping to make it happen. We're looking forward to sharing the fruits in the year ahead.

In the next few weeks, we all need to take some time aside to prepare for the coming of Christ. Once the excitement of the Market has passed, that's the next thing!

Be intent on prayer, and whatever may happen will turn to our good.

Fr David

BLACKFRIARS MARKET IS HERE!!

The day has finally arrived, and as we celebrate our 200th year, we take this opportunity to make a solid effort to develop our ministry and outreach for the future. Please do whatever you can do to help contribute to the success of this important fundraising event. Each of us can make a real difference by just doing something small. Let's enjoy the day together also!

THE MARKET IS YOUR SUCCESS, YOUR FUTURE

Blackfriars Market does not happen by itself and so in advance we would like to thank all those who have made it happen! **It really is a cast of thousands!** From those who get things moving months before in the planning stages, to those who arrange the timelines of what needs to happen when, and those who co-ordinate the bringing of goods for the market and overseeing the various things that happen. We are grateful to every single person. Your contribution is vitally important to securing the future of Holy Cross and realising our ambition to make the place ready for the next 200 years of ministry. Many thanks!

THE MARKET AND ITS LEGACY

We are joined this weekend by Richard Brown, the Director of Development for our charity, the English Province of the Order of Preachers. He is here to explain the steps we need to take over the next few years to secure our presence in Leicester. Please see the leaflets and come along to his discussions during the day.

LETTER CONCERNING IICSA AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

IICSA is the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse and is working to establish the truth about the grave wrongs done to children in the past, and ensuring that best practice is in place to prevent this in the future. IICSA has been investigating the practices of the Catholic Church. **Please see copies of a letter from +Patrick our Bishop that outline his reflections on the matter.**

NOTICE BOARD

BAPTISM PREPARATION

If you wish to have your child baptised, please attend one of our baptism preparation sessions. The next will be Sunday 8 December (please note the change) after the 10:30am Mass in St Clement's Hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONFIRMATION

Please get in touch with the Priory Office if members of your family wish to celebrate these sacraments.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony should make an appointment with the Parish Priest in the first instance.

BECOMING CATHOLIC

Any adult who wishes to become a Catholic or receive Confirmation should join our RCIA programme, which will begin again in the Autumn.

VISITING THE SICK

The Faithful who are sick and housebound can arrange a visit from a priest or special minister by calling 0116 255 3856.

FAMILY VISITS

Families who would like a house blessing or a pastoral visit at home, can make arrangements by calling 0116 255 3856

SCRIPTURE STUDIES FOR THIS TERM

Fr Matthew continues the scripture study for this term on Tuesday evenings, beginning at 7pm in St Clement's. These last few weeks, we will be looking at the Book of Exodus, before moving to an advent theme. Please join us for these.

THE REPOSITORY – THE SHOP – CHRISTMAS!

The "Shop" is located behind the sacristy. Please do visit it! Now that it is beginning to look a lot like Christmas, we have restocked and have all you need for the Advent/Christmas season. Please help us to enlarge this apostolate through your support for cards and gifts, and devotional items. The shop is an important way of boosting income for the church and priory.

CONFIRMATION, FIRST COMMUNION, RCIA

We would like to meet with the people concerned at the following times:

- First Holy Communion children and their parents on Sunday 8 December after 10:30am Mass (c11:30am)
- Confirmation candidates and their parents on Saturday 14 December at 11:30am.
- RCIA candidates on Saturday 14 December at 1:15pm.

THE FRASSATI CENTRE – DEVELOPMENTS AND UPDATES

The drawings are now entering their final stages, and we look forward to the first round of site meetings with a view to getting things moving. The first of these meetings take place this coming week. An important step forward is the development of a vision for the apostolate of this new initiative.

PROGRESS WITH GRANTS AND MAINTENANCE

In recent weeks we have been grateful to receive grants for our works, for £7.5K from LHCT and £750 from the RJ Corah Foundation, we have also received two legacies amounting to £2.7K, so things are moving in the right direction. Please continue to pray for the success of our appeals.

YEAR OF THE WORD

Our Bishops have asked that this new liturgical year would focus on the Word of God. To this end, we invite you to join us for a celebration of evening prayer in the church this Sunday at 5pm.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

We will provide details of our Advent and Christmas plans when the Market is safely and successfully concluded.

SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend to swell the funds for the Advent Market. Please give generously.

THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Fr David Rocks OP PP *Prior*; Fr John Patrick Kenrick OP; Fr Tony Rattigan OP;
Fr Matthew Jarvis OP CC; Fr Luke Doherty OP *Bursar*

Office Administrator: *vacant* – leicester.admin@english.op.org

Lay University Chaplain: *vacant*

Director of Music: *Mr Thomas Keogh* – thomas@thomaskeogh.co.uk

For the Office Administrator, please call **0116 255 3856**

Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW. Tel: 0116 255 3856

For more details, visit: www.holycrossleicester.org

MASS TIMES

Sundays:

8am; 10:30am (sung);
12:30pm (old rite);
7pm

Weekdays:

8am (old rite);
12:30pm; 6:10pm

Saturdays:

10am; 12.30pm;
*6:10pm Vigil Mass for
Sunday*

CONFESSION

Saturdays:

10:30-11:30am
5:00-6:00pm

MONEY MATTERS

Last week's collections:

£ 1073.40

(Gift aided: £303.30)

Woodhouse Collection

£ 185.50

(Gift aided: £96)

*THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!*