



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER 2019

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

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

A WORD FROM THE PRIOR ...

It is now actually beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Wandering round our schools, hospitals, universities, there is a real festive feel! While of course we don't want to be over-focused on the material side of Christmas, there is a lot to be said for the feeling of good will that characterises this time of year. Let's try to spread it!

Certainly a great reason for seasonal cheer is that we have overreached our ambitious target for the Market, making a massive 12,399.22! I should never have doubted that we would, but I did! This really is good news, as it helps to make our dreams a reality as we seek to develop things!

Now it is time to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord We can do that in a real spirit of thanksgiving! Please do avail of our Advent opportunities.

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

Fr David

BLACKFRIARS MARKET – AN ASTOUNDING SUCCESS!!

Celebrating our 200th year, Blackfriars Market has been an opportunity to make a solid effort to develop our ministry and outreach for the future. And we have all excelled ourselves! Working hard over the weekend, **we have now raised a total of £12,399.22** from our efforts over the last number of weeks. We will also be able to claim significant gift aid on some of the donations.

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 IS MAKING THINGS HAPPEN!!

The many steps forward that we have been able to make in our buildings over the last number of years have been amazing! From relighting the church to upgrading the living and working facilities in the priory, to tackling the deficit, these things have only been possible because of your efforts and generosity. As we go forward, our dreams and ambitions are within reach because of our achievement as a community. **We have managed to raise over £40.5K since we launched the appeal in June.** Many thanks to everyone!

CATHOLIC PAPERS

It has now become too expensive to stock a supply of Catholic papers in our repository, as we will begin to make a loss in the new year. We have therefore decided to discontinue these. We apologise for any inconvenience.

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

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ON MONDAY 9TH

The transferred Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception takes place on Monday 9 December. Solemn Mass will be celebrated at 12:30pm. Please do join us to celebrate this important feast day

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

We have had further comprehensive discussions this week with various contractors, architects, and collaborators. We are now coming towards agreement on pricings and getting the works moving across the church and priory. Please pray for our continued success with this as we seek to make our dreams a reality!

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT HOLY CROSS

We have a number of things happening to celebrate Advent and prepare for Christmas, as detailed below ...

ADVENT RETREAT – "AS WE AWAIT THE BLESSED HOPE"

Led by three of our student brothers from Oxford, from 20 – 22 December we will hold our Advent recollection. An important opportunity to get some spiritual time out from the Christmas rush.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SOCIAL – 19 DECEMBER

From 5:30pm – 9pm on Thursday 19 December we have our Advent to Christmas Social with carols in St Clement's Hall. There will be refreshments and an 'international festive snacks' theme for bring and share, plus mulled wine. Entrance free – please bring family and friends

CONFESSIONS

Next weekend at all Sunday Masses there will be an opportunity to celebrate the sacrament with three names – confession, penance, reconciliation.

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!*