



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

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

A WORD FROM THE PRIOR ...

Holy Cross is very quiet as I sit down to write to you this week. The situation is very worrying for all of us, and yet we need to take these measures to keep everyone safe, especially the most vulnerable people in our community. All of us can do a little bit to get ahead in these circumstances.

Our community is now going online! All of our Masses are being celebrated, behind closed doors, and broadcast on our Facebook page. This allows you to interact with us and with one another. Please sign up for Facebook and like our page, introducing others to it where appropriate, and encouraging new people to come on board.

Our church remains open for private prayer at the times advertised below, for the time being. It is vital that you follow social distancing when in church, so that we can continue to be open and be safe and uninfected. Please respect these arrangements, and particularly regarding our closing times. Please also keep in touch with us and with one another. I'm trying to get round the parish by telephone.

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

Fr David

CORONAVIRUS EPIDEMIC – A DEVELOPING SITUATION

The Conference of Bishops (CBCEW) has now suspended the public celebration of Masses and other services with a congregation. We are now celebrating our Masses behind closed doors, and broadcasting them **on our Facebook Page**. Please visit **[Holy Cross Priory Leicester \(Dominicans\)](#)**

CORONAVIRUS – WHAT ARE WE DOING AT HOLY CROSS?

The main thing to note is that we are following the up-to-date statutory advice, and not acting on privately held opinions, professional or otherwise. To that end, the principal **restrictive measures** we have in place are as follows:

- **Masses are celebrated without congregations present, and all Masses are livestreamed at the usual times. The Faithful are asked to make a spiritual communion, formulae for which are provided;**
- **The church remains open during the day from 8:30am to 12 noon, and from 1pm-5:30pm, for private prayer and devotion;**
- **At the present time, Confessions are available at the usual times only.**

In the meantime, the following things will remain in place:

- **The Dominican Fathers continue to offer pastoral care of the dying, and chaplaincy support to the LRI and other hospitals, in collaboration with the arrangements made by the University Hospitals of Leicester (UHL) NHS Trust.**
- **Provision for other ordinary sacramental support that falls within the guidelines, such as baptisms, marriages, funerals are subject to guidance and can be discussed with us by email leicester@english.op.org – this is by far the best way to contact us**
- **Our Facebook page is the principal vehicle for communication at present.**

NOTICE BOARD

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Baptism preparation is now subject to considerations in relation to the coronavirus epidemic. Arrangements for baptisms of newborn children can be discussed with the Parish Priest.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CONFIRMATION

Arrangements for catechesis and instruction of our children and young people is subject to considerations in relation to the coronavirus epidemic. Please await announcement.

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.

VISITING THE SICK

The Faithful who are sick and housebound cannot receive Holy Communion for the time being. The Parish Priest and his assistants are keen to remain in touch by telephone for the time being.

FAMILY VISITS

Families who would like to stay in touch with us by telephone or virtual contact can let us know. Please use our email address: leicester@english.op.org

CORONAVIRUS – KEEPING IN TOUCH – USE FACEBOOK PLEASE!!

Now that public worship has been suspended we would hope to broadcast Masses and our community prayer via our Facebook page. We would encourage everyone to sign up to Facebook (even if you don't usually approve!) and to "like" our page, **Holy Cross Priory Leicester (Dominicans)**. Please ask us if you need assistance with this! But this is how we will keep in touch should we arrive at a 'lockdown' scenario.

MOST IMPORTANTLY!!!

CORONAVIRUS – CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

As cases increase and anxiety rises, it is more likely that the more vulnerable members of our faith community may experience symptoms and have to self-isolate. This is especially the case for the elderly and for students, and also for those who might be outside this category, but living alone for whatever reason. ***Please let us know at the Priory if it becomes necessary for you to self-isolate, so that we can keep in touch and provide assistance as and when appropriate and necessary.*** Please also be ready if possible to offer assistance, in a safe and appropriate way, to anyone who might require our assistance. Keep an eye on our facebook presence and also communicate with us as necessary.

DEVELOPING THE FRASSATI CENTRE

Unfortunately, the apostolate of the Frassati Centre as it is being developed currently falls under the category of "extra-curricular" pastoral gatherings, and as such are suspended. Therefore, we will not have the planned scripture sessions during Lent, nor any Frassati young adult groups. Provision for sacramental catechesis is under consideration in the short term. However, the good news is we have been able to start some low-level works in getting the building project going. So onwards!

ENGLAND – THE DOWRY OF MARY IN 2020

We are preparing as a nation to rededicate England to Our Blessed Lady in March of 2020. This is an excellent opportunity for all of us to reconsider our devotion to Our Blessed Lady. We will be celebrating this in our church on Sunday 29 March, so please join us online!

ARRANGEMENTS FOR HOLY WEEK

We are delighted that Fr Bruno Clifton OP will join us to celebrate our Holy Week Retreat. This will all take place online now. We will announce the times soon.

MICHAEL DOWNEY RIP

Michael's funeral will be celebrated on Wednesday 25 March in private. A memorial service will take place at a later date, when the crisis is over.

PLEASE TAKE THIS NEWSLETTER AWAY WITH YOU AND RECYCLE IT OR DISPOSE OF IT IN SOME OTHER MANNER. DO NOT LEAVE IT IN THE CHURCH!! #CORONAVIRUS #HXFACTOR

THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

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

Office Administrator: *vacant*

Lay University Chaplain: *vacant*

Director of Music: *Mr Thomas Keogh* – keogh.thomas@hotmail.com

For the Office Administrator, please call **0116 255 3586**

Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW. Tel: 0116 255 3586

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

***Holy Cross:
please give
some
consideration
to how you
might still be
able to help us
financially, as
we rely on your
support to keep
going!***

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!***