



# HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

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

## A WORD FROM THE PRIOR ...

*This is my first opportunity to send you a personal message as the new Parish Priest of Holy Cross. I would like to thank Fr David Rocks for all he did in his two terms in office. We will miss his energy and sense of humour. He has achieved an enormous amount on which we can build and we wish him all the best in London. We will also be saying a fond farewell to Fr Matthew who moves to France, and to Fr Gregory who is moving to Cambridge. In the near future, we will be welcoming Fr John Farrell our former Prior Provincial, and then a little later Fr Richard Ounsworth who has been the Provincial Bursar.*

*As you may know, I only arrived Leicester in November and so, I am still new to Holy Cross but I already feel at home in this beautiful city which is so ethnically diverse and I feel privileged to be asked to serve you as Parish Priest. Please keep our parish in your prayers as we look forward to restoring worship in church. It may be a little while before everything is back to normal but please be patient and continue to observe the government's advice on social distancing which is there to help keep us all safe.*

*Do keep in touch - mass is still streamed on Facebook and we hope soon to be allowed to open for Mass, initially on one weekday and then gradually moving to opening for Mass on Sunday too. Over the summer, when we are reduced in numbers, there may be a reduced 'service'.*

*God bless you all and keep you in good health!*

*Fr John-Patrick OP*

## MASS TIMES

### Sundays:

6:10pm (Vigil Mass on Saturday)

8am; 10:30am (sung);  
7pm

### Weekdays:

12:30pm; 6:10pm

### Saturdays:

10am; 12.30pm

## CONFESSION

Suspended for now

## CORONAVIRUS – WHAT ARE WE DOING AT HOLY CROSS?

Our church is closed to the public but Masses are celebrated and livestreamed at the usual times on our Facebook page (No Facebook Account needed):

- <https://www.facebook.com/holycrossleicester/>

The Faithful are asked to make a spiritual communion during Mass as follows:

- ***My Jesus, I believe that You are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and passionately desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul, so that I may unite myself wholly to You, now and forever, Amen***

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

- ***The Dominican Fathers continue to offer pastoral care to the Prison, and to the LRI and other hospitals, in collaboration with the University Hospitals of Leicester (UHL) NHS Trust. Please contact the on-call Catholic Chaplain through the ward staff if you require assistance.***
- ***At this time, funerals are subject to guidance and can be discussed with us by email [leicester.admin@english.op.org](mailto:leicester.admin@english.op.org)***

## THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

Fr John-Patrick Kenrick OP PP Prior; Fr Anthony Rattigan OP Subprior; Fr Luke Doherty OP Bursar

Interim Office Administrator: Mr Kelechi Ebirim – [leicester.admin@english.op.org](mailto:leicester.admin@english.op.org)

Director of Music: Mr Thomas Keogh – [keogh.thomas@hotmail.com](mailto:keogh.thomas@hotmail.com)

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

For more details, visit: [www.holycrossleicester.org](http://www.holycrossleicester.org)

## FR ISIDORE'S REFLECTION

### WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD!

'Look at the glorious sunset behind you!' I eagerly exclaimed to my brethren, as we stood on the veranda of our priory in Grenada, W.I. We were 'chilling out' as we chatted in the cool of the evening, glass of iced rum in hand. Instead of turning, he ignored my invitation and in a bored tone replied, 'I've seen sunsets before!' As if all sunsets were the same and didn't change with every second!

I felt sorry for that brother. He'd lost his sense of wonder. This is what Jesus urges us to recover, when he tells we must become like little children. During lockdown, the TV programme 'Spring Watch' has opened our eyes to the fascinating beasts which inhabit even the smallest back garden. Another intriguing programme took us to the very depth of the oceans, inhabited by weird and wonderful beasts, which could generate their own beautiful colours.

Filled with awe, with Louis Armstrong let us sing 'What a wonderful world.' But let us not stop there. With the Psalmist, let us exclaim, 'The heavens (and earth) proclaim(s) the glory of God.' Or as Pope Francis wrote, 'Everything that exists is an expression of God's creative love and should be respected as such.'

*P.S. So far, I've only spoken about our need to appreciate the goodness of God and His creation. Later I will have to tackle the only too obvious problem of evil. – Fr Isidore Clarke O.P.*

## NOTICE BOARD

**Baptism Preparation:** Baptisms are currently suspended. Preparation is now subject to considerations in relation to the coronavirus epidemic. Baptisms can be discussed with the Parish Priest.

**First Holy Communion:** Please await announcement.

**Marriages:** Couples who are hoping to marry in 2021 should write to the Parish Priest stating when they hope to marry and providing an address and phone number.

**Becoming Catholic:** Any adult who wishes to become a Catholic or receive Confirmation should email the office about joining our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) programme.

**Visiting the Sick:** The Faithful who are sick and housebound cannot receive Holy Communion for the time being. But please let us know your name, telephone number and address for when the lockdown ends.

## PARISH NEWS!

**A New Prior:** Fr John-Patrick Kenrick is the new Prior and Parish Priest, and Fr Anthony Rattigan is the new Subprior.

### Priests Moving On:

- Fr Matthew Jarvis OP will be leaving Holy Cross at the end of July. He has enjoyed three full years here in his first pastoral assignment, working in the parish, the university chaplaincies and with various groups such as the Lay Dominicans and the Leicester Theological Society. The Scripture Study group has persevered online every week even throughout the lockdown! He returns to full-time study to begin a Master's in Theology and Patristics in Lyon, specialising in Scriptural interpretation.
- Fr Gregory Pearson OP will also be moving on this month. Over the last three years he has contributed enormously to the community and parish during the vacations whenever he has been back from his studies in Rome. Having achieved his Licence in Canon Law (with flying colours!), he is now being assigned to our Cambridge Priory as Master of Novices and Director of Vocations.

We wish them both well and keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

## MONEY MATTERS

Many of you have donated online or have set up standing orders – thank you for your continued support! Compared to last year, our cash income has dropped by an estimated £28,000 over the lockdown period. We are waiting for quarterly accounts (April to June 2020) to help us better assess our situation.

We rely on donations for our ministry and upkeep of the church. To donate, visit:

- <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/200-campaign/200th-anniversary-campaign-donate-now/>

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to book a Mass, please put an envelope with your intention, donation and telephone number through our letter box or visit this page:

- <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/donate/request-a-mass/>

**Sanctuary Lamps:** If you would like a sanctuary lamp to be lit for your intention, visit:

- <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/donate/sponsor-a-sanctuary-lamp/>

**Replacement Gift Aid Envelopes:** To request or to donate by cheque, contact Fr Luke Doherty:

**Postal address:** 18 New Walk, Leicester, LE1 6HW; **Email:** [luke.doherty@english.op.org](mailto:luke.doherty@english.op.org)