



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

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

FR ISIDORE'S REFLECTION

PRIDE BEFORE A FALL!

A week's holiday cruising in a canal barge is, or should be, very relaxing. Your maximum speed reduced to 4mph. At that speed, our whole approach to life slows down. You have time to observe the beautiful countryside with its fascinating wildlife.

We were a motley crew of five middle-aged men. Since one of them designed and sailed ocean yachts he decided he was the only one qualified to be in charge of a canal barge. The first sign that he could not adjust to the difference between an ocean yacht and canal barge was when he immediately asked for a compass – as if he could decide the direction we would travel. That, of course, had been determined by the designer of the canal. Next, he wanted every pot and pan to be filled with fresh water, not realizing there would be a filling station every few miles.

'Captain Marvel' really came into his own when mooring the barge. With a flourish he grabbed the rope and leapt, only to find it was too short. He came to an abrupt halt, disappeared under the murky water and surfaced. After a shower he sat in the bows, consoling himself with a whiskey. But there was more to come. A wasp settled on his nose! Angrily he brushed it away, sweeping his spectacles into the canal, never to be recovered. His initial pride had led to his fall, from aspiring to being our natural leader to his making a fool of himself, with everything going wrong.

At a much more serious level, that is what happened when Adam thought he knew better than God, and flagrantly disobeyed Him. That disrupted his loving relationship with his Maker. Since God alone could repair the damage caused by Adam's rebellion, the Son of God Himself became man, emptied Himself of glory, and suffered the indignity of a crucified slave. Because He refused to seek glory for Himself the whole of creation honors Him as 'Lord.' Perhaps we would have shown 'Capt. Marvel' more respect if he had not been such an arrogant know-all!

– Fr Isidore Clarke O.P.

CORONAVIRUS – WHAT ARE WE DOING AT HOLY CROSS?

Our church will be opening on Wednesday the 12th of August and the following weekend for all Masses except the 12.05, which we can no longer say because of shortage of priests. It is compulsory to wear a mask in church and to maintain a safe distance. We will continue to livestream the main Mass of the day (Sundays 10.30 and other days 12.30) on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/holycrossleicester/>). This is why we need to fundraise to improve the present livestreaming and audio system (<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/holycrosstv>).

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.***

MASS TIMES

Sundays:

6:10pm (*Vigil Mass on Saturday*)
8am; 10:30am (sung); 7pm

Weekdays:

12:30pm; 6:10pm

Saturdays:

10am; 12.30pm

CONFESSION

Resumed, please see notice board

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

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

Interim Office Administrator: Mr Kelechi Ebirim – leicester.admin@english.op.org

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

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

For more details, visit: www.holycrossleicester.org

NOTICE BOARD

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

First Holy Communion Preparation: 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.

Funerals: These can now be held subject to regulations.

Confessions: We are now allowed to hear confessions subject to certain rules. You must wear a face mask and the confession has to be very brief. So, for now we have to limit the time for each confession to just 3 minutes which is plenty of time if you have prepared. For now, [please check the website and Facebook for dates and times.](#)

PARISH NEWS!

We warmly welcome Fr John Farrell OP, our former Provincial, as a new member of our community. Fr John is a well-known lecturer and retreat-giver and has also served as Student Master in our Oxford community.

Guidelines while in church for Mass:

- The church will open half an hour before Mass begins. **Please remember to wear a mask.**
- At present, we are instructed to keep Mass as brief and simple as possible and there will be no hymns.
- Please enter through the Wellington Street door and exit through the New Walk door.
- You can make your offertory donation as you enter or as you leave the church.
- Communion will be distributed after Mass.
- Please occupy alternate rows.
- Please do not hold conversations in church, and if you chat outside, maintain social distance.
- Please note, toilets are not available at present.

Stuart McCullough of The Good Counsel Network: Stuart invites us to join him in praying & fasting on bread and water for the end of abortion in this country on Friday 14th August, the Vigil of the Feast of the Assumption.

Scripture study resumes: Fr Richard Ounsworth OP will be leading the weekly scripture study online, from Tuesday 18th August 2020 from 7.45pm–8.45pm. Visit <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/scripture-study/> for more details.

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: Gift Aid envelopes are available in the church for collection.

If unable to come to church and would like to request or to donate by cheque, contact Fr Luke Doherty:

Postal address: 45 Wellington Street, Leicester, LE1 6HW; **Email:** luke.doherty@english.op.org

LIVESTREAMING AND AUDIO SYSTEM UPGRADE

Many of you have benefited from the Facebook livestreaming of Mass which we have set up. As we reopen for Mass, we must continue livestreaming for those yet unable to come church. In order to do this, we are looking to upgrade the live streaming and audio system, to improve quality and ease of use. For this, we need to raise £5000. Please donate towards our crowd funder for this using the link below:

- <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/holycrosstv>