



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

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

FR ISIDORE'S REFLECTION

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST – ('MISSION SUNDAY')

Not surprisingly, the feast of Pentecost is also called 'Mission Sunday.' Most obviously, it celebrates the Holy Spirit commissioning and empowering Christ's followers to continue and expand His mission of proclaiming the Good News to the whole world. Their mission was anticipated and foreshadowed by Christ's. When reading from the prophet Isaiah, He exclaimed, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim the Good News to the poor...' That was His mission manifesto, (cf. Isaiah 61, Luke 4, Acts of the Apostles 2). While the first of Luke's two volume work -the Gospel itself -is concerned with Jesus' mission, the second – 'The Acts of the Apostles' – shows their mission was to continue His work.

Today's Feast of Pentecost is marked by energy and movement. Jerusalem was bustling with pilgrims from Mediterranean lands. It was Buzzing with a variety of languages. 50 days after Passover Jews living outside the Holy Land had come to celebrate what had originally been a harvest festival but had developed into thanking God for the gift of His Law on Mt. Sinai, fifty days after He had delivered His people from slavery in Egypt. Meanwhile Christ's small group of followers prayed together in the upper room in Jerusalem. But then the Holy Spirit, promised by Christ, burst into their midst. As a rushing wind – a hidden source of energy, a powerful breath of life -God's life. Then the Spirit rested on their heads, in the form of tongues of fire, suggesting the light of truth and eloquence, burning zeal to share the Good News. In the power of Holy Spirit, the apostles left the upper room; the Church was born! Courageously they preached the Good News. The Gospel was understood and welcomed by people speaking a variety of languages. The Holy Spirit had not only given eloquence to the preacher but had touched the minds and hearts of those who heard him. The Church had embarked on its life-long mission to proclaim the Good News to the whole world. Already, at Pentecost, God's harvest was being gathered in.

Through the Holy Spirit the Law given on Mt. Sinai was now being fulfilled in the preaching of Christ's law of love and Mercy. At Pentecost Christ's followers became missionaries. That means each of us. Through baptism and confirmation, we have been given the privilege and responsibility of sharing the faith we have received. Obviously, we will do this in different ways, according to our abilities and the opportunities we have. But though we are so diverse the Holy Spirit unites us in the one body of Christ – the Church. The Holy Spirit, who came in such a dramatic way at the 1st Pentecost, is still with the Church – and always will be. Christ has guaranteed that. The Spirit still leads us into the truth of Christ, still touches the minds of people, in many unforeseen ways. We need to remember that when God gives us a task, He always commits Himself to giving us His help in doing it. We are not working alone.

– Fr Isidore Clarke O.P.

CORONAVIRUS – WHAT ARE WE DOING AT HOLY CROSS?

Please note the following:

- Entrance is through the Wellington Street door and exit is through the New Walk door.
- Please sign the register when you come into the church. Toilets are currently unavailable.
- Please do not hold conversations in church or chat in groups outside the church.

Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, LE1 6HW. Tel: 0116 255 3856 For more details, visit: www.holycrossleicester.org

MEMBERS OF THE DOMINICAN COMMUNITY

John-Patrick Kenrick OP *Prior*; Anthony Rattigan OP *Subprior*; Luke Doherty OP *Bursar*; John Farrell OP; Richard Ounsworth OP

Sacristan: Mr Nicholas Hoff; **Office Administrator:** Mr Kelechi Ebirim – leicester.admin@english.op.org;

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

The daily 12.30pm (10.30am Sunday) & 6.10pm Vigil Mass are livestreamed on YouTube @ [HolyCrossTV Leicester](https://www.youtube.com/HolyCrossTVLeicester).

MASS TIMES

LS = Livestreamed

Sunday: 8am, 10.30am (LS), 7pm

Saturday: 10am, 12.30pm (LS) & 6.10pm (Vigil, LS)

Tues – Friday: 12.30 (LS) & 6.10pm

Church opens 30 mins before Mass.

Closed all day on Mondays.

Confessions: Saturdays 11am till Noon

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.

SACRAMENTS

The Wednesday Word (For Children): <http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

Please contact the office for any of the following:

- **First Holy Communion:** If there is no programme in your child's school, the parish course begins in autumn.
- **Infant Baptisms:** Usually held on Saturdays at 1.30pm
- **Funerals:** These can be held in church (subject to regulations).
- **Marriages:** These can be held in church (maximum 30 people) after completing the marriage course.
- **Becoming Catholic:** This is for any adult wishing to become a Catholic or receive Confirmation.
- **Visiting the Sick:** If you are not 'extremely vulnerable', let us know your name, tel. no. & address.

*The Dominican Fathers continue to offer **pastoral care to the Prison, and to the LRI**, in collaboration with the University Hospitals of Leicester (UHL) NHS Trust. If you or a relative are in hospital, please ask the Nurse to inform the hospital Chaplain.*

UPDATE REGARDING COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Following the May 17th Covid-19 relaxations, the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales recommend that:

- Hand sanitizers continue to be used when coming into the church
- And when inside the church:
 - Face coverings should still be used (except by the medically exempt).
 - Appropriate social distancing measures should still be adhered to.
 - Singing by the congregation is still prohibited.

FROM THE DIOCESE

Complete the survey: How has Covid-19 Affected You and Your Faith? - Bishop Patrick would like to hear from you! Please fill out the short questionnaire: <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/whats-on/news/share-your-story-how-has-covid-19-affected-you-and-your-faith>. **The deadline for submissions is July 4th, 2021.**

Vocations Zoom Café: The Vocations Team are holding their next café on **Monday 24th May at 7pm** for those interested in finding out more about their calling, themed: '**God is calling. Are you listening?**' Do contact Diane at the Vocations Team: vocationsadmin@dioceseofnottingham.uk for the Zoom link or telephone the Vocations Centre on 0115 9501064 for more information. A warm welcome awaits you.

PARISH NEWS!

Students: Please let Fr JP know your contact details so that we can let you know about student events.

Scripture study: Continues every Tuesday 7.45pm – 8.45pm. <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/scripture-study/>

Coming back to Mass: Now that restrictions are being gradually relaxed, the Bishops are encouraging us to return to church for Mass if possible. Livestream is useful if you are confined to your home but when possible, Catholics should attend Mass in church to receive the Eucharist in an atmosphere conducive to communal praying.

Confirmations: Congratulations to Alice, Elizabeth, Giorgia and Onyinyechi on their recent confirmation.

Parish Frassati Centre: There has been much progress in different parts of the centre – walls are being painted and the facilities are being upgraded but there is still much to be done.

MONEY MATTERS

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: Masses are usually booked at least 2 weeks ahead. To book Masses online, please visit the website 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/>

Candle Stands: Please visit <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/sponsor-a-candle-stand/> for details.

Replacement Gift Aid Envelopes: If unable to come to church and would like to request Gift Aid envelopes or to donate by cheque, contact Fr Luke Doherty: **Email:** luke.doherty@english.op.org or send to the above address.

Cheque donations to the 'Parish' or 'Priory' should be made to 'Holy Cross Parish' or 'Holy Cross Priory' respectively.