



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

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

FR ISIDORE'S REFLECTION

CHRIST'S MISSION: THE CHURCH'S MISSION

In 2002 Pope St. John Paul II added five 'Luminous Mysteries' to the Most Holy Rosary. These were intended to throw light on key events in Christ's public ministry from His baptism to His instituting at the Eucharist. Only the third luminous mystery embraces the whole of Christ's public ministry – 'The Proclamation of the Good News and Repentance.' That was Christ's mission; that is the mission the risen Lord gave to the Church, just before He ascended to heaven. That is the mission each of us Christians received at our baptisms. That is the theme of this reflection.

According to Luke's Gospel, Jesus' mission began in the Nazareth synagogue when He quoted the prophet Isaiah in His Mission Manifesto, *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim deliverance to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,"* (Lk 4. 18-19).

In the 2nd volume of his Gospel, the Acts of the Apostles, Luke parallels Christ's mission and that of the Church. Both Jesus and the infant Church prayed for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who would enable them to proclaim the Good News with courage, zeal, and eloquence. The descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus is paralleled by His descent upon Our Lady and the apostles at Pentecost. Then Church was commissioned and enabled to continue Christ's work of 'Proclaiming the Good News and Repentance.' That is still the Church's mission, and always will be – until Jesus finally returns in glory to claim His Kingdom. The Church will always need our prayerful support, asking the Spirit of Truth to assist both those who proclaim the Kingdom, and those who hear its call to repentance.

This mystery sums up the vocation of members of the Order of Preachers, popularly known as 'Dominicans.' We have been called to follow Jesus, the wandering preacher. This mystery has a special appeal to us Dominicans, since in 2021 we celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Dominicans coming to England. It strikes me that there's a danger of the second part of this mystery, 'Repent,' being either overlooked or underplayed. If so, the whole point of Christ's preaching mission would be lost. He proclaimed the Kingdom precisely so that it would touch our hearts and transform our lives. This change in direction is what we mean by 'Repentance' or 'Conversion.' It's not a once-in-a-lifetime response to the Good News but involves our constant renewal and rebirth. That's as necessary for the preacher as for those who hear him.

Before we presume to tell anyone else how to live the Gospel each of us must begin with ourselves, by first hearing the word of God and doing it. No matter what our age, strength or weakness or walk of life, each of us has a vital role in living the Third Luminous Mystery – 'THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOOD NEWS AND REPENTANCE.'

– 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

Open 10am – 2pm Tues. to Fri., & 30mins before evening and weekend Masses
Closed all day on Mondays

Confessions: Saturdays 11am – 12pm

Holy Hour: Sunday 6pm (Open 5.30pm)

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 & 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, Marriages, Becoming Catholic:** Please apply to the parish office.
- **Funerals:** These can be held in church.
- **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

Receiving Communion: Please place one palm over another. **THEY NEED TO BE FLAT.** A few people are still cupping their hands which makes it difficult to avoid touching them.

- Hand sanitizers continue to be used when coming into the church.
- And when inside the church (**These rules may be changed**):
 - Face coverings should still be used (except by the medically exempt).
 - Continue to keep a safe distance from others.
 - The congregation are now encouraged to sing during the Mass while wearing a mask.

PARISH NEWS!

Students: Please fill in the students from and return it to one of the Priests.

Private Prayer: The Church is now open from **10am till 2pm on Tuesdays to Fridays** for private prayer.

Scripture study: On a summer break till September! <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 in order to pray together and receive the Eucharist. Livestream is useful if you are confined to your home.

COVID JABS

The Pope is urging us all to get a covid vaccine jab - so if you still have not had one then do contact your GP.

MARCH FOR LIFE – SATURDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2021

The **March for Life** takes place on **Saturday 4th September 2021**. Indoor events for children, teens and adults will take place **from 10am until 1pm in The Emmanuel Centre, 9-23 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 3DW**. The March to Parliament Square starts at **The Emmanuel Centre at 1.30pm**. For more details see: www.marchforlife.co.uk

RIDE & STRIDE – SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

This is the principal annual event to raise funds for repairs and improvements to historic churches, chapels and meeting houses throughout Leicester and Leicestershire. All you have to do is to get sponsors beforehand and then, on the day, visit as many of the churches in the scheme as you can, by bike or on foot. Holy Cross is one, and a number of them will be in the city centre, so it's not difficult.

Half the money you raise goes directly to one church that you name, and the rest goes to the Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust for giving grants to historic churches and chapels. Over the years, Holy Cross has received a number of grants from the Trust. Please pick up a sponsorship form, and a list of the churches which are open, from the table by the exit door, or visit the Trust's website (<https://www.lhct.org.uk/>) for more information.

FAMILY FAST DAY – FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2021

This is an opportunity to fast & donate the money saved to CAFOD for helping poor communities around the world.

ROOF REPLACEMENT

Thanks to your generosity towards the Priory roof replacement through cash, cheques and online payments, we have raised **£3,795** which is **37%** of our target sum of **£10,000**. We continue to appeal for your generosity. Please contact Fr Luke if you would like to discuss a Gift Aid donation. To donate to our priory roof fund, you can pay by cheque ('**Holy Cross Priory**') or make a BACS transfer or visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/holycrossroof>
Please post cheques to: **The Bursar, Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, (New Walk letterbox), LE1 6HW**

For Mass intentions, sanctuary lamps sponsorship, donations to the Holy Cross 200th anniversary campaign and regular giving by standing order, please visit <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/donate/>