



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

CHRISTMAS 2021/NEW YEAR 2022 NEWSLETTER

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

'ON THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY' BY ST LEO

Our Saviour, dearly Beloved, was born this day. Let us rejoice! Sadness is not becoming upon the Birth Day of Life Itself, which, now that the fear of death is ended, fills us with gladness, because of our own promised immortality. No one is excluded from sharing in this cheerfulness, for the reason of our joy is common to everyone. Our Lord came that He might bring deliverance to all.

Let the saint rejoice, for he draws nigh to the palm of victory. Let the sinner too rejoice, since he is invited to grace. For the Son of God, in the fullness of time, has taken upon Himself the nature of our humanity, in order that the devil, would be overcome by the very same human nature which he had defeated.

And in this contest that was undertaken for us, the Omnipotent God engaged in combat with His most bitter enemy, not in the strength of His own Majesty, but in our human infirmity.

The Word of God, therefore, Who, in the beginning was with God, by Whom all things were made, became Man, that He might free us from eternal death, bending down to the taking of our lowliness, without diminution of His own Majesty.

Such a Birth, dearly Beloved, befitted Christ, the Power of God, and the Wisdom of God; whereby He would be joined to our lowliness and yet remain far above us in His divinity. For unless He were true God, He could bring us no aid; and were He not true man, He could offer us no example. The exulting angels, therefore, sing to the new born Lord, **Glory to God in the Highest**, and they announce peace on earth to those of good will. With what joy should we rejoice over this indescribable act of divine compassion.

O Christian! Acknowledge, the dignity that is yours! Since you now share in God's nature, do not by an unworthy manner of living fall back into your former way of life. Do not, by evil deeds, drive out from you the One dwelling within you or submit again to the bondage of the devil. Because the price of your redemption is the Blood of Christ.

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. Those who prefer to receive on the tongue should wait until the end of Communion.

- Please sign the register when you come into the church and Hand sanitizers continue to be used when coming into the church. Continue to keep a safe distance from others.
- Entrance is through the Wellington Street door and exit is through the New Walk door.
- Masks are still worn, including when singing and please do not hold conversations in church.
- **Please Note:** From Fri. 10th Dec, face coverings in places of worship became mandatory by government law.

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; Thomas Crean 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

Mon. 27th Dec. 2021 – Fri. 31st Dec:
12.30pm Mass **only** (LS)

Normal times below resume afterwards.

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

ADORATION TIMES

Sunday: 6pm – 6.40pm (with Rosary)

Saturday: 10.30am – 12.15pm

Tues – Friday: 11.45am – 12.15pm

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.

COVID AND FLU JABS

The Pope is urging us all to get a covid vaccine jab, and it is useful to have a flu jab too to protect others as well as ourselves - so if you still have not had one then do contact your GP.

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, contact the parish office.
- **Infant Baptisms, Marriages, Becoming Catholic:** Please apply to the parish office.
- **Funerals:** These can be held in church.
- **Visiting the Sick:** If you would like a visit, leave a tel. message with 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. If someone is dying, ask the duty Nurse to call the Catholic chaplain – do not call yourself.***

PARISH NEWS!

Students: Please let us know if you are staying in Leicester for Christmas.

Scripture Study Group will resume on Tuesday 1st February 2022. Audio recordings of previous study group meetings can be listened to, using the following link: <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/scripture-study/>

Raffle Tickets: Do take some booklets to sell to your friends, and please remember to return the stubs and the cash.

FRS FABIAN & ISIDORE MEMORIAL APPEAL

Fr Fabian and Fr Isidore were very keen on the refurbishment of the parish centre and were involved in the planning from the onset. Fr Isidore always asked about the progress made when we visited. In their memory, we are appealing for the final £7,000 needed to pay for audio-visual equipment in the Frassati Centre. So far, we have spent roughly £425,000 including grants and donations. A plaque will be installed in the hall in their memory.

You can donate on the card machine or online by donating towards the Frassati Centre. Alternatively, cheques can be made to **Holy Cross Parish** and sent to: **The Bursar, Holy Cross Priory, 45 Wellington Street, Leicester 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/>

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY (UCW)

UCW announces the launch of a new online newspaper with the full support of Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order by going to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call Michelle on 0743661 7650. **Special offer:** Only £20 for 3 months.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Fri. 24th Dec (Christmas Eve): Christmas Vigil Mass at 6.10pm & Midnight Mass at 10pm.

Sat. 25th Dec (Christmas Day): 8am, 10.30am, 12.30pm (an extra brief Mass). **No evening Mass.**

Sun. 26th Dec (Feast of the Holy Family): No Vigil Mass. Sunday Mass: 8am, 10.30, 7pm.

Note: No confessions on Christmas day. You do not need to book a seat for Christmas MASSES. From Monday 27th Dec. till Friday 31st Dec. 2021, there will only be one Mass at 12.30 midday each day.

“HAVE YOUR SAY: SYNOD 2021/2023”

This previously advertised Synod will now take place online via Zoom on 9th January 2022 at 4pm due to the rising number of infections with COVID. **Zoom details** will be sent out at the beginning of January. **All aged under 18 years should be present with an adult.** Contact: paulinepayne@hotmail.com or claudiacoxon@googlemail.com

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING FOR LIFE

Do join The Good Counsel Network UK in praying and fasting for the end of abortion and euthanasia on **Wednesday 12th January 2022.** For more information on monthly prayer and fasting days, visit www.goodcounselnetwork.com

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Prior and Community of Holy Cross Priory wish you all a very **HAPPY CHRISTMAS!** God bless you in this season and throughout the year ahead! Thank you for all your Christmas cards and gifts.