



Social Activities

We aim to have three coffee mornings a year, usually in the Community Room. There is a raffle and activities for the children. They are combined fund raising and “getting to know you” events. There is a fish & chips quiz night in the autumn and a Christmas lunch in a restaurant. We have barbecues and organised walks on a more ad-hoc basis.



Weddings

We have an organised arrangement between the RC Bishop and the Anglicans that we can have RC weddings in our church for members of our congregation. There are two scheduled for this year.



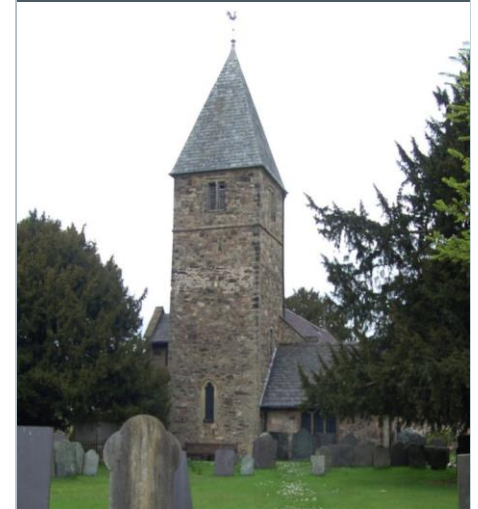
This Church

Records suggest that this church was built just before the Reformation in the 1400's. From about 1540 until 1973 the Anglicans used it exclusively. The then Rector, Reverend Rankin, offered the Catholics (who had been meeting locally in various halls for about a dozen years) a 9am slot at St Mary's for their weekly Mass. Since then the RC community has continued and flourished (apart from a brief while 10 years ago). The Dominican Friars at Holy Cross Priory, Leicester provides priestly supply on a weekly basis.

The church, therefore, belongs to the Anglicans and we are exceedingly grateful for their letting us use it each Sunday. In return we pay them an annual amount, and the rest of our donations (offertory plate and regular gift-aided payments) goes to the Friars at Holy Cross.

Contact the Friars:
Holy Cross Priory,
45 Wellington Street, Leicester
LE1 6HW.
0116 255 6902

St Mary In the Elms Woodhouse



Welcome to our RC
congregation!



Sunday Worship
9.00am RC Mass
11.15am Anglican Service



We collect the Friars from Holy Cross each Sunday at 8.15am (and take them back again after Mass). Meantime others of our congregation open the church, getting out our stand-alone small altar (made by the brother of one of us) and sort out the Mass books, etc.

Please take: A Mass Book: A Hymn Book; and a white laminated card (that covers the recent changes to the liturgy). If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please put a host from the glass dish into the silver dish. If you didn't realise this before the Mass starts, don't feel embarrassed at getting up to go and do it: none of us will mind! We do have a gluten-free option, just ask.

We have a Children's Sunday school run by parents. The children are invited by the priest to leave for the vestry at the start of Mass. They have their school there and are invited back for the Offertory when they bring what they have been making to the altar, to be received by the priest as their gifts to sit beside our money. If you have young children with you, just take them along. Being late doesn't matter!

At Communion everyone is invited to come up. If you don't wish to receive Communion, just cross your hands over your chest and the priest will give you a blessing.

There are real bells in the belfry and the bell ringers come to ring them some Sundays at 11.05am prior to the Anglican service.

Community Room

The modern hall on the opposite side of the main Beacon Road is built on church land and is supported by the Anglicans, but is a separately run entity. It contains a single large room, WC's and a fully equipped kitchen. It is suitable for events for up to 80 people. We are encouraged to use its car park during services rather than the road outside the church.

Ecumenical Activities

We join with the Anglicans in the *9 Lessons & Carols* before Christmas fielding a scratch choir (volunteers welcome). We invite the Anglicans to our Quiz and lunch and they invite us to their harvest lunch. There is an ecumenical Choral Evensong each year on the Name-day Feast

Joining Our Congregation

If you would like to join our congregation, please make this known to someone around you who will direct you to one of our organisers. We would like to know your details and add you to our emailing list.

If you are an occasional visitor, please be assured of a very warm welcome any time you can join us at Mass

Michael Kelly
01509 890173

Chairman St Mary's RC Group
michaeljohnkelly7@gmail.com



There is a WC inside, more or less opposite the main door. Don't feel embarrassed about using it: it is meant to be used and it cost a fortune to build!