



# HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

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

## POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO US

### VALUES AND LOVE FOR THE POOR

This is a time to recover values, in the proper sense of the word: to return to what is authentically worthwhile. The value of life, of nature, of the dignity of the person, of work, of relationship – all these are values key to human life, which cannot be traded away or sacrificed. It amazes me when I hear people talk of “non-negotiable values.” All true values, human values are non-negotiable. Can I say which of the fingers on my hand has more value than the others? If it is of value, it has a value that cannot be negotiated.

Jesus gave us a set of key words with which he summed up the grammar of the Kingdom of God: the Beatitudes. They begin in the hope of the poor for fullness of life, for peace and fraternity, for equity and justice. It is an order of existence in which values are not negotiated but sacrosanct. Reflecting on the Kingdom of God, in response to the way we live in the modern world, the Church has developed a series of principles for reflection, together with criteria for judgement that also offer directives for action. It is known as Catholic Social Teaching (CST). While they are drawn from reflection on the Gospel, its principles are accessible to all, seeking to translate and set in motion the Good News in the here and now.

The criteria are truly expressions of love, that is, they seek to set in motion dynamics that allow people to feel loved, especially the poor, who are able to experience their true value. When the Church talks of *the preferential option of the poor*, it means that we need always to keep in mind how any decision we make might impact the poor. But it also means we need to put the poor at the center of our thinking. By means of that preferential option, the Lord gives us a new perspective on value with which to judge events.

Similarly, when the Church speaks of *the common good*, it asks us to have regard for the good of society as a whole. It is not enough to adjudicate between different parties and interests, or think in terms of the greatest happiness of the greatest number, as if the interests of the majority trump all other interests. The common good is the good we all share in, the good of the people as a whole, as well as the goods we hold in common that should be for all. When we invest in the common good, we amplify what is good for all.

Another principle of social teaching is *the universal destination of goods*. God meant the goods of the earth for all. Private property is a right, but its use and regulation need to keep in mind this key principle. The goods of life – land, lodging and labour – should be made available to all. This is not altruism, or goodwill; it is what love demands. The early Church fathers made clear that giving to the poor is just giving back to them what is theirs, for God intended the goods of the earth for all, without excluding anyone.

– from Pope Francis ‘Let us dream’

## 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

## ADORATION TIMES

**Sunday:** 6pm – 6.40pm (with Rosary)

**Saturday:** 10.30am – 12.15pm

**Wed. & 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.

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## 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; **Music Director & Organist:** Mr Thomas Keogh – [keogh.thomas@hotmail.com](mailto: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).**

## UPDATE REGARDING COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

**Receiving Communion:** Please place one palm over another. **THEY NEED TO BE FLAT.** Those who prefer to receive on the tongue should wait until the end of Communion.

- Please use the hand sanitizers. Continue to keep a safe distance from others.
- Masks are still worn, including when singing and please do not hold conversations in church.

## 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!

**Scripture Study:** Tuesdays at 7.45pm on Zoom. See more at: <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/scripture-study/>

**Rosary prayer group** is being held every other Thursday at 10:30am in St Clements Hall. Families are welcome. For more information and to confirm attendance contact Ellie on 07961297228.

**Ash Wednesday** is on 2nd March 2022. In Lent, Fr Richard will be giving 5 brief Lenten talks at the Friday 12.30 Masses, beginning on Friday 11th March 2022.

**Vacancy:** There is a vacancy for a parish administrator. More details will be found on the website in due course.

## CHURCH HEATING

We have been informed by two heating engineers that our church heating boilers need to be shut down due to the presence of cracks in the heat exchanger. The 35-year-old boilers have been maintained over the years & were due to be replaced, but this has come sooner than we hoped. We will be unable to restart the heating system until it has the necessary work done to it. The temperature should be warmer going into spring, and we had already started the process of looking at a replacement system which should help. More information will be given as we have it.

## RACHMANINOV VESPERS CANCELLED!

Due to the need to replace the Church boilers, we have sadly had to cancel this event.

## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREATS

The Diocese is organising retreats **for women on Saturday 12th March (at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Nottingham)** and **for men on 19th March (at the Briars in Crich)**. Email [adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:adult.formation@dioceseofnottingham.uk) for more.

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

This is a Christian campaign group whose purpose is to save the lives of unborn children through prayer, fasting and community outreach. With the support of Pope Francis and Bishop Patrick, we are running our next campaign in Nottingham during Lent 2022. The aim of our prayers is simple – for an end to abortion. We also offer real support – moral and practical – to women who may be under pressure to have an abortion which they do not want, and which they may come to regret. Our vigil is prayerful, peaceful, and non-judgmental. If you care about abortion, and the terrible harm it is doing to families, friends, and our community, sign up now to pray with us, **between Ash Wednesday (2nd March) and Palm Sunday (10th April)** on [www.40daysforlife.com/Nottingham](http://www.40daysforlife.com/Nottingham) and/or **come along to our launch event on Wednesday 16th February from 7.30pm in Cathedral Hall, Derby Road, Nottingham.**