



# HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

## LENT 2022 NEWSLETTER

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

### POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO US AT LENT

The Lord says: “Beware of practicing your piety before others; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven”. Within our hearts there is a thirst, a desire for a reward, which attracts and motivates us. The Lord speaks of two kinds of reward to which our lives can tend: a reward from the Father and, on the other hand, a reward from others. The first is eternal, the true and ultimate reward, the purpose of our lives. The second is ephemeral, merely an illusion; it leaves us unfulfilled. Those who seek worldly rewards never find peace or contribute to peace. They lose sight of the Father and their brothers and sisters.

The rite of receiving ashes on our heads is meant to protect us from the error of putting the reward received from others ahead of the reward we receive from the Father. This austere sign, which leads us to reflect on the transience of our human condition, is like a medicine that has a bitter taste and yet is effective for curing the illness of appearances, a spiritual illness that enslaves us and makes us dependent on the admiration of others. Even prayer, charity and fasting can become self-referential. In every act, even the most noble, there can hide the worm of self-complacency. Lenten ashes remind us of the emptiness hiding behind the quest for worldly rewards. They remind us that worldliness is like the dust that is carried away by a slight gust of wind. Lent is the time granted us by the Lord to be renewed, to nurture our interior life and to journey towards the reward we are to receive from the Father. Prayer, charity and fasting are aids to this.

Prayer, humble prayer, prayer “in secret”, in the hiddenness of our rooms, becomes the secret to making our lives flourish everywhere else. Prayer is a dialogue, warm in affection and trust, which consoles and expands our hearts. During this Lenten season, let us pray above all by looking at the Crucified Lord. Let us open our hearts to the touching tenderness of God, and in his wounds place our own wounds and those of our world. If prayer is real, it necessarily bears fruit in charity. And charity sets us free from slavery to self. Lenten charity brings us back to what is essential, to the deep joy to be found in giving; our hearts rejoice more at giving than at receiving (cf. Acts 20:35). Fasting makes us appreciate things for their true worth. It reminds us that life must not be made dependent upon the present world. Nor should fasting be restricted to food alone. We should fast from anything that can create in us any kind of addiction. Prayer, charity and fasting are the principal ways for God to intervene in our lives and in the world. They are weapons of the spirit and, with them, we implore from God that peace which men and women are incapable of building by themselves.

### 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.

### 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.

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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).*

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

The liturgies are at these times: **Maundy Thursday** 7.30pm, **Good Friday** 3pm and **Easter Vigil** 7.30pm and on Easter Sunday there are masses at 8am, 10.30am, and 12.30am. You do ***not*** need to book a seat for any of these liturgies.

## UKRAINE APPEAL

We are collecting money to buy food and medicine for the victims of the war unleashed by Vladimir Putin on the people of Ukraine. Our priests & sisters work in various towns and are giving shelter and providing transport.

## 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.
- **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:** Families are welcome. For more info & to confirm attendance contact Ellie on 07961297228.

Fr Richard will be giving 5 brief Lenten talks at the Friday 12.30 Masses, beginning on Friday 11th March 2022.

Visit <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Statement-on-Marriage.pdf> to read the **Statement on Marriage** by Bishop Patrick McKinney, Bishop of the Diocese of Nottingham.

## CHURCH HEATING

We apologise for the Church being cold. Engineers are now working to replace the boilers so you should not have to suffer much longer!

## VACANCY

The Parish Office Administrator role is now vacant. More details will be found on the website in due course.

## LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Bookings are now open for the **Nottingham Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage** – under the leadership of Bishop Patrick, from Mon. 4th until Fri. 8th July. See full details on <https://www.tangney-tours.com/nottingham>, or contact Father Simon Gillespie ([simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk](mailto:simon.gillespie@dioceseofnottingham.uk)).

## CAFOD – LENTEN OFFERING

Envelopes are available on the table in the narthex/repository to donate to CAFOD from the savings made on our Lenten Fast Days. CAFOD are also helping those in need in Ukraine, so you can also give to Ukraine through them.

## CATHOLICS IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Catholics in Health & Social Care are invited to 3 events on ethics in health and social care - questions such as the care of the dying and conscientious objection. For more information, email [marianne.rozario@stmarys.ac.uk](mailto:marianne.rozario@stmarys.ac.uk)