



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

EASTER 2022 NEWSLETTER

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

EASTER REFLECTION

Very early in the morning they come to the sepulchre, the sun being now risen. The darkest hour precedes the dawn; and when he died there was darkness over the earth – for the whole history of a lost humanity, lost in the darkness of remoteness from God, had here reached its final moment, its final intensity and the dawn was at hand. All the events of the passion, the betrayal of Judas, the meeting of the Sanhedrin, the arrest of our Lord in the garden, his trial and torture: all these are in the dark world, the world of sin. But now the struggle between dark and light is over and the light is victorious. There is light again in the world, the dawn of a new day for humanity, the Sun has risen.

They came to the tomb and the sun had just risen. And they said one to another, 'Who will roll back the stone from the door of the sepulchre?' But looking they saw the stone rolled back. So it will be with us if we make our lives a real search for God, a real giving of our lives to God: when we come looking for the new life we shall find the way open to us, the stone rolled back. The opening prayer of the mass for Easter day begins with the words 'O God who on this day, through your only begotten Son, have conquered death and opened to us the path to eternity'. The way is now open to us, the dawn is ours to rejoice in.

Dawn is not an end but a beginning. The angel told them 'You seek Jesus of Nazareth...he is risen, he is not here'. Not for us yet the vision, the fulfilment. There is first the day's work to be done. When Mary Magdalene met him he was to say to her 'Do not hold on to me'. The agony is over but it is not yet time for the care-free joys of eternity. There is still work to be done. To us also the angel says 'he goes before you'. It is for us to follow and to go on working for as long as he wills.

We are to follow closely, not seeing but at least sensing his presence. The entrance antiphon says 'I rose up and am still with you'. In these words we see an affirmation of the continuing life of Christ, who is with us still today. So the journey through life takes on the appearance, not of a pilgrimage in the footsteps of a hero of long ago but of a journey in the company of Jesus, like that of the disciples to Emmaus. To share a journey with a friend is to halve its length and its hardships. 'Be not afraid' the angel told the holy women before sending them on their journey; the same assurance is given to us. (G.V.).

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

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

ADORATION TIMES

Sunday: 6pm – 6.40pm (with Rosary)

Saturday: 10.30am – 12.15pm

Wed. & Friday: 11.15am – 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.

CHRIST IS RISEN! A VERY HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL!

Many thanks to all those who helped with the Holy wee liturgies whether visibly or behind the scenes. Thank you too for your cards and gifts to the community which are much appreciated.

UKRAINE APPEAL IS DOING WELL – THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY

We are continuing to collect money to buy food and medicine, and to provide transport to help people in Ukraine. So far well over £3,000 has been sent to our sisters and priests who work all over Ukraine. Many thanks!

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!

See our parish website homepage for information from **Catholic Social Action** about *hosting Ukrainian refugees*.

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.

CHURCH HEATING UPDATE

We are now estimating the cost of the new boilers for the church heating system will initially be lower, in the region of £40,000 but at some point we will need new ceiling fans too.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

This post is still vacant. Please be patient if you are making enquiries – there may be no one to answer the phone.

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).

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.

WALSINGHAM

There will be a parish pilgrimage to the Walsingham shrine of our Lady on Sunday 15th May 2022. We will book a coach but we need to know numbers attending in advance. To cover costs of travel, we are charging £20 per passenger. The bus will depart from Holy Cross at 8am allowing for a stopover on route.

Mass starts in the Catholic shrine at noon. Confessions will be available before and afterwards. Following a picnic lunch, we will have the procession of the "Holy Mile" and then a handsome buffet reception in the village. Vespers will be sung at 16.45. We will depart from 17.30, after Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.