



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

LENT 2 2022 NEWSLETTER

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

POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO US AT LENT

Lent is a favorable time for personal and community renewal as it leads us to the paschal mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. St Paul (Gal 6:9) evokes the image of sowing and reaping, so dear to Jesus. He speaks to us of a *kairos*, an opportune time for sowing goodness in view of a future harvest. Lent is such an opportune time but so is our entire existence. All too often in our lives, greed, pride and the desire to possess have the upper hand. Lent invites us to conversion, to a change in mindset, so that life's truth and beauty may be found not so much in possessing as in giving.

The first to sow is God himself, who with great generosity continues to sow abundant seeds of goodness in our human family. During Lent we are called to respond to God's gift by accepting his word which is living and active. What about the harvest? Anyone who sows generously will reap generously as well. But what kind of harvest are we talking about? A first fruit of the goodness we sow appears in ourselves even in our little acts of kindness. When we sow for the benefit of others we share in God's own benevolent love. The word of God broadens and elevates our vision. Those who are intimately united to him in love will also be united to his resurrection for eternal life. Then the upright will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father (Mt 13:43).

Let us not grow tired of doing good. Bitter disappointment, deep concern for the challenges ahead and the poverty of our resources can make us tempted to seek refuge in self-centeredness and indifference to the suffering of others. Yet God gives strength to the weary and powerless. Those who hope in the Lord will regain their strength and soar on wings like eagles. Let us not grow tired of praying. No one reaches salvation without God. Faith does not spare us life's burdens but it does allow us to face them in union with God in Christ and his Holy Spirit. May the corporal fasting to which Lent calls us, fortify our spirit for the battle against sin. Let us not grow tired of asking for forgiveness in Confession, knowing that God never tires of forgiving. During this Lent, may we practice giving joyfully to the poor. Lent is a favorable time to seek out those in need, those who need a sympathetic ear and a good word, to visit those who are lonely, to love those abandoned and rejected, those discriminated against and marginalized. Let us persevere in doing good one step at a time. If we fall let us stretch out our hand to the Father who always lifts us up. May Our Lady accompany us with her maternal presence, so that this Lent may bring forth fruits of eternal salvation.

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.

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.

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!

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.

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.

A film ***Easter in Art*** will be shown at the Phoenix cinema on 5th April 2022 at 6.30pm and on 10th April 2022 at 3pm

CHURCH HEATING UPDATE

We are estimating the cost of the heating system replacement will be in the region of £65,000 but we are awaiting another quotation.

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).

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.