**OCTOBER 2023 newsletter**

∙ a roman catholic parisH ∙ the dominican presence in leicester since 1247 ∙

### **members of the dominican community**

Very Rev Fr Richard Ounsworth OP *Prior*; Fr John-Patrick Kenrick OP *Subprior*; Fr Benedict Jonak OP *University Chaplain*; Fr Anthony Rattigan OP *Bursar;* Fr John Farrell OP; Fr James Claffey OP.

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

**A MESSAGE FROM THE Parish Priest**

# **mass times**

**LS = Livestreamed**

**Sunday:** 8am, 10.30am (LS), 7pm

**Saturday:** 10am, 12.30pm (LS) &6.10pm (Vigil)

**Monday – Friday:** 12.30 (LS) & 6.10pm

Church open 10am – dusk Tuesday to Friday, 30 minutes before evening and weekend Masses.

Later opening on Mondays at 12 noon.

**Holy Days of Obligation**: 12:30 (LS) & 6:10

**Confessions:** Saturdays 11am – 12pm

# **adoration times**

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

**Saturday:** 10.30am – 12.15pm

**Wednesday & 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.

Dear brothers and sisters,

We are halfway through October already! Time flies when you’re having fun. Advent will be upon us before we know it, and this newsletter contains the date of the Advent Fair, as well as a day for readers and more information about the Scripture Group. I also wanted to tell you about two other things coming up: once we have finalised the programme, we will be beginning a series of short talks every other Saturday on basic aspects of the faith, with lots of opportunity for questions. They will take place between 10 and 12.30 Masses on Saturday, and we look forward to seeing you there. Listen out for announcements!

Even more excitingly, on 17 December (‘Gaudete Sunday’), our Bishop Patrick will be coming to Holy Cross to celebrate the 10.30 Mass. I was telling him what a lively and joyful congregation we have, and he wants to see it for himself, so let’s make sure we don’t disappoint him. I hope lots of you who normally come to other Masses will be able to come to the 10.30 that day and sing your hearts out! We will also be joined by Br Bede from our community in Oxford, who preached at the 10.30 and 7 p.m. Masses a few weeks ago and said how very impressed he was by our active and youthful congregation.

And as always, if there is anything we can help with, please don’t hesitate to ask.

Yours in Christ,

Richard OP

*Livestreamed Masses on* ***YouTube @*** [***HolyCrossTV Leicester***](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbm4YdzJqADccSKgFzswHgA)*, Sunday 10.30 a.m., Weekdays 12.30 p.m.*

# **RECEIVING COMMUNION**

**Please kneel or, if you cannot kneel, stand at the rail to receive Communion, placing one hand on top of the other and keeping your hands *very flat*. If you wish to receive on the tongue, please open your mouth and put your tongue out!**

# **PARISH NEWS & DATES**

**ADVENT FAIR** – The Parish Advent Fair will take place this year on Sunday 10th December. We would be very grateful for raffle prizes and bottles for the bottle stall – please hand these to any member of the community, or Nick the Sacristan.

**MISSION PREACHER –** On the weekend of 28-29 October, we will receive a visit from **Fr Clifton Harries OP** from our Dominican Community in Jamaica, who will preach at all Masses to tell us about the work of the Order on the island and appeal for financial help.

Please let Fr Richard know if you have some church-related, interesting or happy news to share with the Parish.

**DAY FOR READERS –** Fr John will give a day for readers on Saturday 2 December. If you read at Mass, either on Sundays or weekdays, or would like to start, please put this date in your diary and watch this space for more details or listen for announcements.

# **SACRAMENTS**

**The Wednesday Word (For Children):** [**http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm**](http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm)

Please contact the office by email, which is [**leicester.admin@english.op.org**](mailto:leicester.admin@english.op.org)for any of the following:

* **Infant Baptisms, Marriages, Becoming Catholic:** Please apply to the parish office by email.
* **Visiting the Sick:** If you would like a visit, either send an email or leave a telephone message with your name, tel. no. & address.
* **First Communion**: classes will begin soon for children who are not receiving catechism at school. Please ask one of the priests for a green form, or e-mail as above. Once the classes start, it will be too late to enrol new children, so please do this by the end of the month.

*The Dominican priests continue to offer* ***pastoral care 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 GROUPS**

**SCRIPTURE STUDY:** the group has started up again and is going very well, but new members are always welcome. This autumn we have begun reading from the Book of the Apocalypse.We meet on Tuesday evenings at 7.45 for about an hour, and all are welcome, including older children if accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please bring a Bible! Also please be on time – the door to the street will be shut at 7.45. For more information visit the website: <https://www.holycrossleicester.org/scripture-study/>

**STUDENTS:** if you are a new or returning student at the University of Leicester or De Montfort University, it is not too late to get involved with the Chaplaincy group – please ask for a form or make yourself known to Fr Benedict.

# **finance matters**

**GIFT AID**: information is available by the church doors about **how you can make the money you give to Holy Cross increase by 25% without any further expense to yourself.** Please read this information carefully or talk to one of the priests to find out more. It will make such a difference. Thank you for your continued financial support.

**STANDING ORDERS**: if you would like to give regularly by standing order instead of cash or cheque, this makes things easier for us and is very easy for you – please ask one of the priests for a form.

# **REPOSITORY**

The repository at the back of the church is about to be stocked with lots of lovely Christmas items, so do pop in and have a look. There is a machine for making credit card payments as well as a cash box. But please ensure that your children do not touch items for sale and any moved items are put back neatly in the correct place. Thank you.