



# HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

## MARCH 2024 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

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

Dear brothers and sisters,

I hope you are enjoying a happy and holy Lent. If things haven't started as well as you hoped, please don't give up: it is never too late to start again. The whole of Christian life is about the possibility of a new start thanks to the extraordinary mercy of God. On which subject, we are going to make sure that you have extra opportunities to go to Confession before Easter, including a Service of Reconciliation on the afternoon of Saturday 23 March, the day before Palm Sunday. Please see the separate leaflet for more details and for the times of all of our Holy Week and Easter services.

It is also not too late to book for our fundraising buffet supper, which is a great opportunity to help the parish and to make new friends. See the other side of this newsletter for more details.

Finally, look out for our new contactless donation machine – coming soon to the Wellington Street entrance!

Yours in Christ,

Richard OP

***e-mail me: [leicester@english.op.org](mailto:leicester@english.op.org)***

### 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 – 2pm 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

*Livestreamed Masses on YouTube @ HolyCrossTV  
Leicester, Sunday 10.30 a.m., weekdays 12.30 p.m.*

### PRAYER FOR LIFE AND WALK FOR LIFE

40 Days for Life are continuing their witness outside the BPAS abortion centre in Aylestone, Leicester from Wednesday until Sunday 24th March, and it is not too late to join in. You will never be on your own and you can sign up for one hour or two, whenever you are available (even weekends and evenings). For more information call Sica Martinez on 07943 711549 or email [leicester40daysforlife@gmail.com](mailto:leicester40daysforlife@gmail.com). See [www.40daysforlife.com/en/leicester](http://www.40daysforlife.com/en/leicester) for more information. Also, on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March we will have an extended Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 5 p.m. to pray for Life, with silent prayer, chants and meditations led by students from our congregation, followed by Benediction at 6.45. Come and pray with us for Life!

Andy Betts, a member of our congregation since 2007, is walking 5k every day in Lent as part of the CAFOD, 'Walk For Life' to raise money to fight world poverty. If anyone would care to donate you can access Andy's *Just Giving* page by searching for 'Andy Betts CAFOD walk for life'. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## SHORT TALKS

The friars are giving a series of short talks on the Catholic Faith at 11 a.m. on Saturday mornings in the Frassati Centre. They are just 10 to 15 minutes long, with time for questions afterwards. The next will be Fr J Benedict on Purgatory on 2 March. A full list is posted on the noticeboards in the church entrances and there are some fliers by the doors too. Do come!

## SACRAMENTS

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 or talk to one of the priests.
- **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 have begun for children who are not receiving catechism at school, so it is now too late to enrol new children. But there will be more classes next year, so please let one of the priests know.
- **Confirmation:** once the First Communions have taken place, we will start Confirmation classes for any children who need them – this will probably be in the autumn. If you are an adult and have not been confirmed, please speak to one of the priests and we will arrange for you to receive the sacrament.

*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 is continuing to read from the Book of the Apocalypse, which is proving very interesting. We meet in the Frassati Centre 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 parish website.

**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.

**FRASSATI GROUP:** Our group for young adults has been relaunched – please contact Christopher or Luisa Dillon if you are 18-35 and would like to be more involved in the life of the Church. Phone 07960 384449 or email [cjdillon@live.co.uk](mailto:cjdillon@live.co.uk). The group meets on Saturdays after the 12.30 Mass, in the Frassati Centre.

**MEN'S GROUP:** If you are interested in joining the men's group, Mr Chinedu Megwa would be very glad to hear from you if you are interested. Phone 07541 004298, or email [megwachinedu@gmail.com](mailto:megwachinedu@gmail.com). The first meeting takes place on Sunday 3 March at 5 p.m. in the Frassati Centre.

## FUNDRAISING BUFFET SUPPER

This will take place at the Chef and Spice Restaurant, 1 Andrewes Street LE3 5PG, at 7 p.m. on Monday 18 March. You must book in advance: tickets are £20 per person for all you can eat! Of this, £10 will go to parish funds. Please see the posters or flyers by the doors for more information, and contact Tony (07940 906510) or Liz (07984 147109) to book or find out more. A great opportunity not just to help the parish but to get to know each other too.

## REPOSITORY

The repository has been restocked *again* with lots of lovely new items! Do please go and have a look at the back of the church – and 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.