



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

MARCH 2025 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,

Lent is here! I hope you have all thought about what extra things you're doing to do – remember, ideally we should do some more prayer, some extra fasting, and some additional acts of kindness. And do them all for love of Christ and his people. If you need advice, of course you can always ask: that's what we're here for.

I want to make a special appeal to you to come to the Jubilee Mass with the Bishop if you possibly can. It is at 7 in the evening on Thursday 13 March, and we hope to make it a grand occasion. Bring all your friends, and please make everyone welcome who comes from other parishes – especially the Bishop of course! There will be tea and coffee after the Mass.

Finally, please keep in your prayers the people currently preparing for Confirmation and First Communion. Confirmation classes for children start this Sunday, 2 March, at noon in the Frassati Centre.

Yours in Christ,

Richard OP

e-mail me: 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 and Sundays 6-6.45 pm

ADORATION TIMES

Sunday: 6pm – 6.40pm (with Rosary)

Saturday: 10.30am – 12.15pm

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

REPOSITORY

We now have St Patrick's and Mother's Day cards on sale, as well as a small selection of St Patrick's Day gifts. Easter cards will be available from next week, and we have some other new stock arriving soon.

Especially now that the west doors are open during the day, it is important to keep this area tidy. Please put chairs away neatly after Mass, and please keep a careful eye on your children. Children should only be taken into the area if they are under careful supervision, for their own safety.

WALSINGHAM

The annual Dominican pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham will take place on 25 May. There will be a coach, or maybe even two, going from outside the church – more details to follow, but again please put this date in your diary. I would like the Leicester contingent to be the largest group again this year...

SACRAMENTS

Please contact the office by email, which is leicester.admin@english.op.org for any of the following:

- **Infant Baptisms, Marriages, Becoming a 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:** First Communions will take place on the Feast of Corpus Christi, 22 June.
- **Confirmations:** The Bishop will be coming to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 10.30 Mass on Sunday 4 May. Classes for young adults have already begun, and classes for children begin this Sunday, 2 March. They will happen every Sunday in March and April (except Easter Sunday) at noon in the Frassati Centre, and children to be confirmed must attend them, along with at least one parent or guardian.

*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.***

CHOIR

If you are interested in joining our choir for the 10.30 Mass, please e-mail Tom, our organist: keogh.thomas@hotmail.com. We are now open to the possibility of children joining the choir, as long as at least one parent/guardian is also in the choir.

PARISH GROUPS

SCRIPTURE STUDY: The Scripture Group meets every Tuesday at 7.45 in the Frassati Centre. Please arrive in plenty of time, and bring a bible if you have one! We are currently reading the Gospel of John; new members are always very welcome.

STUDENTS: if you are a student at the University of Leicester or De Montfort University, please ask for a form or make yourself known to Fr Benedict. Students meet on Monday evenings for free food and discussion after the 6.10 Mass, and there is a special students' Mass on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

FRASSATI GROUP: Our group for young adults meets once or twice a month on Saturdays after the 12.30 Mass, in the Frassati Centre. 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.

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. The first meeting takes place on Sunday 3 March at 5 p.m. in the Frassati Centre.

JESUS YOUTH: The group for teens meets on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. in the Frassati Centre for praise and worship and Bible study. Please contact Teesha Miranda, 07458 360580, miranda.teesh@gmail.com

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL: If you are interested in helping to launch a St Vincent de Paul group, to help the parish look after the sick, elderly and housebound, please e-mail Fr Richard: leicester@english.op.org.

SATURDAY PRAYER GROUP: There will be a new group meeting in the Frassati Centre on the fourth Saturday of every month at 3 p.m. Please contact Fr Richard for more information, or just turn up!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During Lent, Stations of the Cross will take place after the 12.30 Mass every Wednesday and Friday. This is a very good way to make Lent a special season by joining Christ on his journey to Calvary.

LAST MONTH'S COLLECTIONS

There were four Sundays in February. During the month, you gave Holy Cross £5,223.12 in cash; £2,988.75 by standing order; and £1,692.70 via the card machine or online, a total of £9,904.57. Out of all of this, £4,814.55 was Gift Aided, so we can claim another £1,203.64 back from Government. We are very grateful for all your support.