



HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH

APRIL/EASTER 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,

Easter is approaching! The times of the services for Holy Week and Easter are on separate notices, and there are copies for you to take home – one for you, and perhaps one for a friend who might think about coming with you this year...

I will be looking for volunteers to read at the various services, and above all to have their feet washed on Holy Thursday. Please don't be shy – say 'yes' if I ask you, as a service to the Christ and his Church.

Easter is an extremely busy time for everyone who gives so much of their time to make our church and our liturgies beautiful, and I would like to thank our cleaners, our readers, Dorothy who does the flowers, all of our altar servers, but above all Nick, our Sacristan. If you knew how much work went into it all, you would be amazed.

On behalf of myself and all the Dominicans at Holy Cross, a very happy Easter!

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

Easter cards are now available, 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. Also, please do not close and lock the doors – people must be able to enter the church through them!

CANDLE LIGHTERS

The candle lighters are refilled every week. If one doesn't work, it is probably because it has been stored the wrong way up – that is, with the handle downwards. Please put them away with the handle upwards, so that the fuel stays at the business end and doesn't drain towards the handle. Thanks!

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, address and contact details.
- **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.

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. We are on a break for April but will start again on the first Tuesday in May. 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

CAN WE DO IT?

The parish Summer Fair will take place on Sunday 22 June – if enough people offer to look after stalls. Please see Fr Richard to volunteer so that we can confirm the date.

LAST MONTH'S COLLECTIONS

There were five Sundays in March. During the month, you gave Holy Cross £8,172.07 in cash; £2,933.75 by standing order; and £1,954.60 via the card machine or online, a total of £13,060.42. Out of all of this, £5,259.25 was Gift Aided, so we can claim another £1,312.31 back from Government. We are very grateful for all your support.