

HOLY CROSS PRIORY CHURCH



JUNE 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,

Habemus Papam! We rejoice with the whole Church at the election of the new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. As you may know, the new Pope is an Augustinian Friar, and they are close cousins to us Dominican Friars who live and work at Holy Cross. You may have noticed, in fact, that one of the cardinals who elected Pope Leo was not dressed quite the same as the others: this is because Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP, a member of the English Dominican Province, was encouraged by the late Holy Father to continue wearing his Dominican habit. I am hoping to have Cardinal Radcliffe come here and talk to us about his experience at the Conclave – watch this space, and pray that he has some spare time!

This Sunday you will have the opportunity to meet a new – and much younger – friar, Br John Church, who will be making our formation funds appeal after the three Masses. Do come and say hello, and let him persuade you to sign up to make a monthly donation to our formation funds...

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.*

FORMATION FUNDS APPEAL

Beginning on the first weekend of this month, we are making an appeal for help with **St Dominic's Formation Fund**. The Dominican Friars, officially the 'Order of Preachers', have served Holy Cross parish since it was founded, and are currently blessed with many vocations, with eight novices expected to join in September! So this weekend we are appealing for your support to help us with the costs of forming new friars (around £19k a year per friar). Watch our appeal video and find more information at www.english.op.org/formation.

There is an option to make a one-off donation in cash or via our credit card machine, and we invite you all to take a leaflet and a prayer card. What would be most helpful would be pledges of monthly donations, and we are offering a free fridge magnet to everyone who signs up for this. There will be an appeal after Sunday Masses by Brother John, who is to be ordained this summer after his long years of study, and it is expected that he will come to Leicester to work in our parish in the autumn. Welcome, John!

SACRAMENTS

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

- **Infant Baptisms, Confirmation, Marriage, 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.

*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. If you would like to be involved, please speak to Fr Richard or Fr Benedict.

MEN'S GROUP: If you are interested in joining the men's group, Mr Chinedu Megwa would be very glad to hear from you. Phone 07541 004298, or email megwachinedu@gmail.com.

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

SUMMER FAIR

The parish Summer Fair will take place on Sunday 22 June. As always, gifts of bottles, books, raffle prizes of all sorts will also be very much appreciated, and please take some raffle tickets to sell to your friends and family.

PARKING

We are advised that the cheapest local parking, if you cannot find a free space, is just round the corner at East Street NCP: 95p/hour if you download their app and pay through it. The app displays a QR code which you scan at the barrier on entry and exit.

APPEAL FOR HELP - CROCHET

The **University Hospitals of Leicester Chaplaincy Team** is looking for volunteers to help us make small crochet crosses (approximately 10cm long). These handmade crosses offer comfort and spiritual support to patients during their hospital stay and are a cherished part of our chaplaincy outreach.

To get involved or find out more, please contact Theresa Taylor-Brookes: theresa.c.taylorbrookes@uhl-tr.nhs.uk, 0116 258 5487

SAFEGUARDING

Holy Cross Priory and Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the Safeguarding Policies of the Catholic Church in England and Wales at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mrs Virginia Astill. She can be contacted at on 07513 725413, or at Virginia.AstillPSR@dioceseofnottingham.uk. The Local Safeguarding Friar is Fr Benedict. He can be contacted at benedict.jonak@english.op.org. Alternatively the Religious Life Safeguarding Service can be contacted on 0151 5562311 or safeguarding@religioussafeguarding.org if you have any concerns.