

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AND MASS TIMES

Carol Singing Practice: Sunday 22nd after the 10.30am Mass.
Christmas Eve: Carol Singing at 5.30pm - Vigil Mass at 6pm
 Vigil Mass (Malayalam) at 9pm
 Christmas Day Mass: 10.30am

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass, the children of the parish are invited to dress up in nativity costumes for this mass, angels, shepherds, kings, Our Lady, St Joseph...older children could dress as carol singers. We look forward to seeing you all. Thank you.

A Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father

Help us to remember the birth of Jesus,

That we may share in the song of the angels,

the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

*Let kindness come with every gift and good desires
with every greeting.*

*Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings,
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.*

*May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children,
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.*

Amen.

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<p>Our Schools: Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctlk.org/p_Home.ikml English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/</p>		
<p>Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914</p>		



Fourth Sunday of Advent

22nd – 29th
 December 2019

Sunday 22.12	10.30am 2pm 4pm	Bridie O'Grady RIP 3rd day retreat (Malayalam) Malayalam Mass	Isaiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-17 Matthew 1:18-24
Monday 23.12	No Mass		
Tue 24.12	5.30pm 6pm 9pm	Carol Singing Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Eve Mass (Malayalam)	2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-11,16 Luke 1:67-79
Wed 25.12	10.30am	The Nativity of the Lord Tom Joseph ints	Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-6 John 1:1-18
Thu 26.12	10am	Jacob Vincy Thanks	Acts 6:8-10-7:54-59 Matthew 10:17:22
Friday 27.12	10am	Isabel Dickinsons recovery	1 John 1:1-4 John 20:2-8
Sat 28.12	10am	Kate Doherty RIP	1 John 1:5-2:2 Matthew 2:13-18
Sunday 29.12	10.30am 4pm	Holy Family Michael Reginald Hardy RIP	Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 Coloss 3:12-21 Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 1 hour each day before weekly Mass.
Sacrament of Reconciliation after Mass on Saturday, or whenever required.

Wednesday: Nativity of Our Lord. Thursday: St. Stephen. Friday St. John Apostle.

Pope Francis December Intentions: Universal - The Very Young
 That every country resolutely commits to taking the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

Fourth Sunday of Advent.

On the **fourth week of Advent**, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Saviour. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men." The Christ candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day reminding Christians that Jesus is the light of the world.



Encounter: Celebrating God's Word; enriching our worshipping and spiritual community. 'The God who speaks' initiative serves to teach us how important the scriptures are in helping us to encounter God: to hear afresh what he asks of us in our daily lives, and to share with Him our joys, sorrows and anxieties.

We are encouraged to discover, or deepen still more, a love for the Word of God in the Bible, so that we may strengthen our relationship with Christ, whom we meet there. This theme fits so well with our own diocesan emphasis on helping each other to encounter God's love, so that we might become more and more personally convinced of the living relationship that Christ wants with each of us.

As we begin with this Season of Advent, I pray that our engagement with the daily scriptures will help us to reflect on these three great truths: Christ has come; Christ will come again in glory; and Christ is now truly present amongst us. Let us remember the first with gratitude, look forward in hope to the coming again of Christ in glory, and try our best to respond generously to our daily encounters with Christ, truly present among us. -Bishop Patrick

Matthew's Gospel—a sample is in each parish. A suggestion is that all parishioners have a copy of this gospel book. It's a handy size to keep in your pocket or handbag and to get out at any time. It's also a great opportunity for people to create a relationship with Jesus through scriptures written by St Matthew and to encourage further reading of the bible. Why not order some for your parish—bought in bulk it costs £1.20 per copy! Biblesocietymatthewsgospelcatholic.

Delaine Takunda Mukopfa (DTM) - Memorial Mass at 11am on 11/01/2020 at Mother of God Church, followed by refreshments in the hall Courtesy of DTM Foundation. All invited. RSVP - Chris Mukopfa - 07722801274

Charity Donations

In his Pastoral letter of last October, Bishop Patrick reminds us of how many homeless people there are in England and how we can help, not only with our prayers but also with practical things. In Leicester there are a number of hostels, which are trying to do their best with the little money they have. They rely very much on donations and need all our support to provide them with a bed for the night and food. They need toiletries and warm items for them, such as gloves, socks, hats and perhaps, at this time of the year, when we celebrate Christmas, with a few luxury items such as biscuits and chocolates.

Please help if you can. There will be a box in the church porch for your donations.

Thank you so much.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Nevers by Coach June 13th - 20th 2020. (Pick up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester). The cost is £595 per person. This price includes Coach and Ferry travel, overnight stay with Bed and Breakfast at the Welcome Break hotel in Orleans on the way out, full board at the Hotel Irlande in Lourdes, half board at the Kyriad Hotel in Nevers on the way back. In addition to this there's an optional excursion to Gavarnie, a Ski Resort in the Pyrenees. For more information and a booking form please contact Fr. John McCay at jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk or 0115 9810320

Parish Pilgrimage to Lisieux by Coach March 2nd - 5th 2020. Pick up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester). The cost of the Pilgrimage is £345. We will begin our Pilgrimage with a Guided visit to the Cathedral in Lisieux and then to the Basilica dedicated to St. Therese, to the house where she grew up and to the Carmel where she lived and died. In addition to this there'll be an optional excursion to Hon Fleur. For more information and a booking form please contact Fr. John McCay at jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk or 0115 9810320.

Financial details: Loose Plate £152.20. Envelopes £145. Donations £45. Thank you very much for your generous donations.

300 Club: 15th December £50 L Hempenstall (298). £25 H Smith (261), J Cawley (197).

Thought for the week: May every sunrise hold more promise, every moonrise hold more peace. **Anon**



Please keep in your prayers all the sick and housebound people of the parish. If you know of anyone who would like a visit from Father Gabriel, please let him know.

CAFOD World Gift - The true spirit of Christmas giving. Choosing a world gift is a great way to rediscover what it really means to share the love, peace and joy of Christmas. Catalogue available at the back of the Church.



To all Parishioners and our Supporters, a wish of a very joyful and peaceful Christmas with God's Blessings from Fr. George.

