

[Please follow this facebook link to join the online Mass service](#)

We would like to let parishioners know, via our diocesan website and e-newsletters, details of any live-streaming Mass times and prayer in your church. St Barnabas Cathedral is live streaming Mass at 1 pm Monday-Friday and Sunday at 10 am. These services are also recorded.

A retreat service is attached for individual prayer for parishioners, which can be forwarded by email to those already on your list - downloadable at: <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/Flu/index.shtml> along with other prayer services.

Useful website addresses

St JOSEPH'S MASS: on YOUTUBE St Joseph Leicester live Weekdays @10am Sunday Mass @10.30 by Father John Daly.

St Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham or online @11.am

19th April Sunday—weekday 1.00pm - Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions by the Bishop@ 3.00—YouTube, or https://www.churchservices.tv/nottinghamcathedral?fbclid=IwAR3oip9dyr1x3jr2szOJZqhb0ld0T4EOJXNz5dlJ6pN7a_cPhpqWom_bAu8

Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham <http://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream>.

The TV channel EWTN also has a daily Mass as well as a large number of resources to keep us spiritually nourished over the coming weeks www.ewtn.com

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html> listen to podcast Sunday gospel truth.

www.cbcew.org.uk/home/news-and-media/news/ www.heavensroadfm.com/ listen-now/

Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,

who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection. Under your protection,
we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God.

Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial,
but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Amen

	<p>Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</p> <p>☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p> <p>NRCDT- Registered Charity</p>	<p>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com</p> 
Our Schools:		
Christ the King Primary - 0116 2857261 - www.ctk.ik.org/p_Home.ikml English Martyrs' Secondary - 0116 2428880 - www.emschool.co.uk/		
Parish Hall Bookings: please contact 07586700914		



Third Sunday of Easter

26th April - 3rd May 2020

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-28

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Father George is offering Holy Mass from Mother of God Church Presbytery chapel through live stream during lockdown days.

Monday to Saturday

09.00 a.m. Holy Mass (Malayalam)

05.30 p.m. Holy Mass (English)

Sunday

10.30 a.m. Holy Mass (English)

04.00 p.m. Holy Mass (Malayalam)

Available at <http://Facebook.com/gchelackal>

<http://motherofgodleicester.co.uk>

Pope Francis April Intentions: Freedom from Addiction. We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

Feasts of the week: Wednesday, St Catherine of Siena. Thursday, St Pius, Pope. Friday, St. Joseph the Worker.

Readings and Gospel for Sunday 26th April

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-33

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy; my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason - so that you would have faith and hope in God.

The Gospel: Luke 24:13-35.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him.

He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.'

'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free.

And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?'

Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself. When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them.

Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true.

The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and long for You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come,

I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Prayer of St Alphonsus My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen



This week we continue to pray

for several of our retired priests who have died in the last few weeks, including Fr. Stephen Foster, former priest of St. Mary's, and St. John Bosco. Fr. Stephen spent some of his early days at Mother of God. His funeral will take place at St. Barnabas Cathedral on 27th April with Bishop Patrick and a small group of invited people.

We pray for Eileen Dunn, who died in London, whose memorial mass will be held at MOG in the hopefully, not too distant future.

We also pray for Gerry Ennis who is temporarily in a nursing home where there are a few cases of Coronavirus.

We also pray for all the sick and housebound people of the parish. Let also pray for each other.

Let's stay connected to each other!

As we face the next coming months together, staying indoors to keep safe, we must stay connected. We must keep our spirits up and support each other mentally and spiritually.

Community Help: Apologies, but we are not allowed to do anything collectively as a parish. It has been suggested by the diocese that anyone wanting to help should contact the government led initiatives in their area. Leicester City Council - Contact and Response Team if needed. Telephone 0116 454 1004 or email: contact-response@leicester.gov.uk. VAL (Voluntary Action Leicestershire) - visit <https://www.volunteerleicestershire.org.uk/> 0116 257 5050

- a) Listen to the God who Speaks in a profoundly radical way.
- b) Deepen our faith in God and in each other through increased Scriptural reflection.
- c) Build on our relationships across all dioceses and create a renewed Church community together spiritually and scripturally.
- d) Explore, learn and be more creative in the use of all digital media, reach people in new and dynamic ways, and maintain good communication with local Scripture Champions.

e) Enable more Catholics to listen to the God who Speaks throughout the Bible at all times and in all places, and not just in a crisis or in 2020. Keep well! Let us know about your live-streaming Mass times.

A Message from CAFOD: We are hosting a live online **children's liturgy** for families, on **Sundays at 10am**. It has proved very popular with families over the last two Sundays.

We pray for the Church and for the world: that God may grant us the gifts of courage, compassion and wisdom as we face challenging circumstances together. Lord, in your mercy... More prayers, for liturgical use or private prayer, are available at cafod.org.uk/Pray

VACANCY: Director of Adult Formation for Mission: The Diocese of Nottingham seeks to appoint a Director of Adult Formation for Mission to work with the Bishop of Nottingham and the Parishes of the Diocese to lead the creation and delivery of opportunities for adult formation, promoting the Diocesan Vision and Mission and the three themes of Encounter, Discipleship and Missionary Discipleship, and helping our people to grow in confidence as practical, engaging, Spirit-filled witnesses of Jesus Christ in their everyday lives. This would suit a committed Catholic, qualified in theology, catechetics, evangelisation or pastoral ministry, experienced in leading catechesis and evangelisation and with a passion for the mission of the Church. Salary: £45,000 - £50,000 dependent on qualifications and experience. For more information and an application pack email: office@dioceseofnottingham.uk. Closing date 25 May 2020. NB Post is not being collected during this time, please email or call 0115 9531162.

300 Club Results: 19th April £50 Sr S Perks (188). £25 M Rossa (105), P Fernandez (244).

300 Club: Please note that the draw for the 300 Club is currently at Mother of God and will continue each weekend during the lockdown with the results included in the newsletter as usual. However it may be some weeks before cheques are issued as issuing cheques from St Peter's office is hampered by social isolation. Members who pay monthly will not be excluded from the draw if payments are in arrears during this time. Thank you for your continued support.

Thought for the week: The effects of kindness are not always seen immediately. Sometimes it takes years until your kindness will pay off. And is returned to you. And sometimes you never see the fruits of your labours. But they are there, deep inside of the soul of the one you touched. ~ **Dan Kelly**

Pope at audience on Earth Day:

Celebrating the 50th Earth Day on Tuesday, Pope Francis pointed out that the tragic coronavirus pandemic has taught us that we can overcome global challenges only by showing solidarity with one another and embracing the most vulnerable in our midst.

Biblical origins: The Pope, who dedicated his 2015 encyclical, “Laudato Si”, to the care of the created world, noted that we are fashioned from the earth and that the fruit of the earth sustains our life. As the book of Genesis reminds us, we are not simply “earthly”; we also bear within us the ‘breath of life’ that comes from God. Thus, he said, we live in this common home as one human family in biodiversity with God’s other creatures.

As the ‘image of God’, the Pope said, we are called to care for and respect all creatures, and to offer love and compassion to our brothers and sisters, especially the most vulnerable among us, in imitation of God’s love for us, manifested in his Son Jesus.

Selfishness: However, because of our selfishness, we have failed in our responsibility to be guardians and stewards of the earth. We have polluted and despoiled it, endangering our very lives. In this regard, the Pope expressed appreciation for the various international and local movements who are appealing to our consciences. Our children, he said, have taken to the streets to teach us that “we have no future if we destroy the very environment that sustains us”

“Gospel of Creation”, “our garden-home”: By failing to care for “our garden-home”, the earth, and our brothers and sisters, the Pope said, we have sinned against the earth, against our neighbours, and ultimately against the Creator. Hence, we need to look at our common home, the earth, in a new way, in order to restore a harmonious relationship with the earth and with the rest of humanity. We should not regard the earth as a “storehouse of resources for us to exploit”. For believers, the Pope said, the natural world is the “Gospel of Creation” as it expresses God’s creative power in fashioning human life and bringing the world and all it contains into existence, in order to sustain humanity.

The Pope called on all to renew their sense of sacred respect for the earth, saying “is not just our home but also God’s home”, and that ‘we stand on holy ground’. In this regard, he held up the indigenous people as a model saying, “they teach us that we cannot heal the earth unless we love and respect it”.

Ecological conversion and common action: The Holy Father said that an ecological conversion with concrete actions is needed in order to avert the threats to our common home. In this regard, he asked leaders to guide the preparations for two important international conferences: *COP15 on Biodiversity* in Kunming, China [October 2020], and *COP26 on Climate Change* in Glasgow, UK [November 2020]. At the local and national levels, the Pope encouraged the creation of a popular movement “from below”, noting that the Earth Day was born this way. “We can each contribute in our own small way,” he urged.

You can watch a live Mass in Ireland, Scotland, England or even from the USA. lots to choose from on www.churchservices.tv/

Telephone

St Dominic’s Community, Hinckley, Earl Shilton & Market Bosworth have put in place a broadcast system where parishioners without internet access can telephone in and hear the audio of the Mass.

The Telephone number is **0330 998 1257** quoting access code: **759822#**

The Masses will be broadcast at the times below. This does involve making a phone call, the 0330 number is NOT a premium number it is charged at the normal landline rate and may attract charges depending on your telephone arrangements. (Probably best not to use Pay as You Go mobile!)

A Prayer for our Parish Community

Almighty God,

***we pray for your blessing on all who
share in the life and work of our Church and Parish:***

***In the ministry of word and sacrament,
in teaching and pastoral care,
in service to the Diocese and Deanery.***

***The community and those in need,
in ecumenical fellowship and co-operation.***

***We pray for all members of the congregation,
that in their life and work they may advance
your kingdom and bear witness to your love,
shown in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.***

Amen.

OFFERTORY & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

Some parishioners have asked how they can continue to make their offerings during the period our churches are closed. This is much appreciated; our Parish needs your continued support at this time. Coronavirus has raised some very particular financial challenges for us. Not only do we have no plate and envelope collection but we cannot hire out our parish rooms either. We must, however, continue to pay for essentials such as our priests' living expenses, the upkeep of our buildings and other ongoing costs. Of course, we realise that the current emergency is affecting many people's income and they may not be able to continue their level of offerings. If this is the case, we fully understand, and our prayers are with you. If you currently pay by standing order, this will continue as usual unless you tell your bank to change it.

If you usually give by envelope or via cash in the collection, you could now donate via your online or telephone banking. You can either make individual payments whenever you like, or you can set up a regular gift by Standing Order. This can be stopped at any time, for example, if you wish to resume giving by cash or envelope once Sunday Mass is resumed.

For the purposes of setting up a regular gift via your online banking, the parish bank details are:

Account Name: MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

Account number: **01538822**

Sort code: **30-94-97**

Please put your name (e.g. D SMITH) in the payment reference so we know the gift is from you. This is particularly important if we have a signed gift aid mandate from you. If you normally use numbered gift aid envelopes you should quote your envelope number as the payment reference (so D SMITH, the holder of envelope 19, would quote D SMITH ENV 19).

If you are a UK taxpayer, you also have the option of adding Gift Aid, whereby the UK government adds a further 25% to your donation. Anyone wishing to set up a new Gift Aid arrangement should contact the parish office via email **MOGPARISH@GMAIL.COM** as we are not able to process the usual paper applications at this time.

If you would like help to pay in this way, please simply email **MOGPARISH@GMAIL.COM**. Please provide your name and telephone number so that we can contact you.

Our parish relies on donations to stay open and provide care and support to everyone in our community. Now more than ever, please consider giving generously to support our mission and ministry. Thank you for your support.