

Useful website addresses

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.

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

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/

Father George is offering Holy Mass from Mother of God Church Presbytery chapel through live stream during lockdown days. Available at <http://Facebook.com/gchelackal> <http://motherofgodleicester.co.uk>

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><i>Mother of God Greencoat Road Leicester LE3 6NZ</i></p> <p>☎(0116) 287 5232 ✉mogparish@gmail.com www.motherofgodleicester.co.uk</p> <p><i>NRCDT- Registered Charity</i></p>	<p><i>Parish Priest: Fr. George Thomas gchelackal@gmail.com il.com</i></p> 
<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/</p>		
	<p><i>16th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></p> <p><i>19th – 26th July 2020</i></p>	

MONTH OF JULY 2020

Monday to Saturday: 9am Holy Mass (Malayalam)
5.30pm Holy Mass (English)
Sunday: 10.30am Holy Mass (English)
4pm Holy Mass (Malayalam)

Pope Francis July Intentions: Our Families. We pray that today's families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

Feasts of the week:

Wednesday, St. Mary Magdalene. Saturday, St. James, Apostle.

All liturgies, parish activities and meetings are postponed until further notice. Leicester Churches previously opened for private prayer only, have been closed in line with the local lockdown.

Lockdown in UK parishes: CAFOD's support: Through our network of volunteers, young CAFOD leaders and our staff, we are keen to support, in whatever way possible, the opening up of churches. We are offering various online resources to help your parishioners and schools to pray and to engage:

our online [children's liturgy](#),

our programme of [online talks, prayer and Masses](#)

our [Summer of Hope](#) ideas for families and parishioners to transform lockdown and cancelled summer events or things they've been missing into some fun fundraising and easy ways to brighten up lockdown

www.cafod.org.uk/coronavirus

Readings and Gospel for Sunday 19th July

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly; Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85(86):5-6,9-10,15-16

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call. Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. **R**

All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. **R**

But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. **R**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words. The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus put another parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

He put another parable before them: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

An Act of Spiritual Communion can help us and the priests we see online celebrating Mass in empty Churches frequently encourage us to ask for Our Lord's guidance by offering prayers like this one written by St. Alphonsus Liguori in the 18th century. It seems particularly appropriate at this time.

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.

Let's stay connected to each other! 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.

Coronavirus Information for Leicestershire:
<https://www.leicestershirecommunities.org.uk/coronavirusinformation.html>

Congratulations and best wishes to Chris and Netsai Mukopfa who will be celebrating their 23rd Wedding anniversary on Sunday, 19 July 2020.

This week we pray especially for all the people of Leicester, for all the sick and housebound people of the parish. We also pray for our NHS Staff, the cleaners, the supermarket workers and all the people who are supplying us with food during this period. All the people who are keeping the country going during this lockdown. Let also pray for each other. Please also remember in your prayers Father John Daly while he is in hospital. We hope that he will recover soon.

Churches Together in Leicestershire

A PRAYER FOR THOSE WITHIN THE LEICESTER LOCKDOWN ZONE offered by the Church Leaders of Churches Together in Leicester and Leicestershire

Loving God, ever-present with your people
through the highs and lows of life, we cry out to you for Leicester
in the face of prolonged suffering and hardship as a result of lockdown.
Grant us peace in our frustration; strength to our NHS
and all who are called to care and help; wisdom to our city leaders;
and discernment for our churches in offering the medicine of your gospel.
Bless all caught in the grip of Covid-19 and comfort the grieving.
In the name of the One who gives us hope, Jesus Christ. Amen.

300 Club Results: 12th July to be announced next week.

The Briars & NDCYS. We are thrilled to say that applications for Team 20-21 remain open! Based in Derbyshire at our retreat centre (The Briars), successful applicants will live together in community for 11 months, working across the Diocese of Nottingham with young people in Schools and Parishes and providing Digital Ministry and content via our YouTube channel, thus carrying out the mission of NDCYS. Applicants should be ages 18-25. August 2020 - July 2021. For more information or for an application pack, please email director@ndcys.com.

LACY Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth: will be celebrating the feast of The Assumption on line, via Zoom, on Sunday 16th August at 4pm. We warmly invite all young people, their families, friends and parishioners to share this exciting liturgy with us. We will be remembering especially in our prayers those young people receiving their exam results in August. Fr. Simon Gillespie will be leading us in our prayer and reflection. We are also looking for people to share in the liturgy and this could be YOU! We will enjoy to hear from you as we are looking forward to another AMAZING celebration! Contact us via e mail at paulinepayne@hotmail.com. Please ensure that all under 18 years of age do ask parents/guardians to make the contact and when sharing the celebration should be on line with the young person. On the Solemnity of the Assumption, let us remember our Mother Mary who is in Heaven and who loves us very much.

Grapevine 5 - What is mine to do?

This edition of Grapevine offers a menu of ministries - just a selection of the opportunities coming to our notice as we develop Caritas in the diocese.

If you're in Derby, volunteer with Padley, the city's homelessness charity. In Nottingham, could you host a refugee? If you're in Leicestershire, why not join an ecumenical group responding to the ecological crisis? Or you could sign up to the Lincoln-based Active Faith Network.

'I am a mission', says Pope Francis in *Evangelii Gaudium*, speaking not just for himself but for all of us. But amid all the world's needs and opportunities it's not always clear what that mission is. For this in-between time we can do worse than pray with St Francis: 'I have done what was mine to do', he said, 'May Christ teach you what is yours'.

And we're delighted that Joe Hopkins has been appointed to accompany us on that journey as the diocesan Director of Adult Formation for Mission. Welcome, Joe!

Featured in this issue:

New Director for Adult Formation and Mission announced
Help people return to Mass - booking volunteers sought
Derby charity seeks a Catholic trustee - could it be you?
Nottingham Hosts sought for refugees and asylum seekers
European citizens: Time to apply for Settled Status

We extend a warm welcome to our New Formation Director, Joe Hopkins with whom we look forward to a great working relationship. He will do a great job in bringing the Diocese alive. Congratulations, Joe!!

Bishop Patrick writes: 'I'm delighted to announce that, following interviews of some great candidates, **Joe Hopkins** has been appointed as our **Diocesan Director of Adult Formation for Mission**. Joe is currently Lead Lay Chaplain to the St. Ralph Sherwin CMAT and he will take up his new post in August. He brings theological expertise, a variety of catechetical experience and great zeal for mission in our diocese. I look forward to working with Joe to make my three themes of 'Encounter, Discipleship and Missionary Discipleship' a living reality across the diocese. I'm sure that you will join me in both welcoming and supporting Joe as he begins this important role. I leave you with a few words from Joe: 'I'm really excited about taking up this important post. I'm looking forward to working with the clergy and laity in our parishes in enabling a culture of 'Encounter, Discipleship and Missionary Discipleship.' My desire is that every person in our diocese will experience afresh, an encounter with God and his life changing love that they will grow as faithful and fruitful disciples of Jesus Christ, and feel equipped and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be missionary disciples; people who witness to their faith by word and action in the Church and the world.'

Help people return to Mass

We're building a small team of computer-using volunteers to help people who don't have internet access book for Mass in their parish church. Could you help?

As we ease out of lockdown, our churches are gradually opening up again for Mass. For some time the capacity will be reduced so that we can keep each other safe. In most cases parishes will need to take bookings in advance. Thanks to the generosity and expertise of a parishioner in the diocese, an [online booking system](#) is now available for parishes to use.

Of course not every parishioner has access to a computer, particularly our most socially-isolated and elderly parishioners. Indeed a few parishes may themselves need help, at least for a while.

If you can spare a little regular time each week, could you join, or indeed help to co-ordinate, a rota of volunteers? Volunteers would take calls from parishioners who have no other means of contact, and log them on the system, particularly for parishes without the means take computer bookings for themselves. We're setting up a single phone number which can be routed to your phone for a morning or afternoon each week.

Whether you're the volunteer co-ordinator, or are taking calls yourself, full training will be given. The Safeguarding office can help with gaining any necessary clearance for working with vulnerable people. For either role, [please email us](#) if you'd like to find out more, without obligation.

IMAGINE Parishes of welcome, listening and hope

"Prepare the future: parishes of welcome, listening and hope" A workshop for renewing local outreach after lockdown Wednesday 22 July 2020, 3.30 - 5.00 p.m., meeting via Zoom.

"Let us welcome this time of trial as an opportunity to prepare for our collective future, a future for all without discarding anyone" - Pope Francis

For many the pandemic is a time of trial, and there is more to come. But now is also the moment to lay foundations for a more compassionate, just and

sustainable society. Our parishes too will have been changed by lockdown: and we can choose that the change is for the better.

Prepare the future is an online workshop in the Imagine... series through which we are developing Caritas locally around the Diocese - and there are more dates for your diary at the end of this newsletter. Prepare the future, on 22 July 2020, will help you:

- Develop a vision for your parish as a place for listening to 'the joys and hopes, fears and anxieties' of the people we are called to serve after lockdown
- Learn from 'listening centres' and 'places of welcome' run by other churches in the East Midlands, and by Catholic parishes in Europe.
- Lay foundations for a new diocesan Caritas ministry to tackle social isolation and vulnerability as we emerge from the pandemic.
- Explore how your parish could safely open a place of welcome, listening and hope to local residents, when the time is right.

We have invited Julia Terry and Sian Rigby, who are working ecumenically to support [Places of Welcome](#) in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire respectively, to introduce their work. Do join us! [Click here to book your place.](#)

Parish Finances

A letter from the Diocesan Finance Secretary has been received by all parishes in the Diocese. The letter has been sensitively written, aware and empathising with many Parishioners, whose jobs may not be there for them, and the resulting consequences for many in the future. He also writes about Parish income at this time, with our Church doors closed and no public services, no Masses on Sundays, no Parish income.

He is fully aware that Churches and Church property has to be maintained, that bills will have to be paid etc. etc., and all this despite no regular parish income at this time. He realises that many parishes may struggle.

He has suggested that perhaps Parishioners, who are regular givers to the Church plate, either by weekly envelope or by cash directly into the Collection basket, might consider, if they are in a position to do so, of paying by direct debit from their bank account. This would ensure a continuous income for the parish on a weekly basis, and would help to alleviate the current financial income for the Parish. For those who might like to do so, or to consider that possibility.

**Our Account Name: MOTHER OF GOD LEICESTER RCP -
Account number: 01538822 - Sort code: 30-94-97.**

Please include your name as a reference so that we know where the funds have come from and what they are for. Thank you for your attention and consideration to this possibility.